

# . IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REFERENCE SERIES

## IDAHO'S RATIFICATION OF EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT REPEAL

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Late in President Herbert Hoover's administration, Congress approved a constitutional amendment to repeal an earlier amendment prohibiting manufacture, transportation, and sale of intoxicating liquor. But instead of submitting that proposal to state legislatures, ratification by special conventions elected by state voters was employed. In anticipation of such a federal action, Idaho's legislature enacted a statute--referred to as Idaho's Constitutional Convention Act of March 11, 1933--to require each county to elect delegates who either favored or opposed any such change. Such elections were nonpartisan, and were to be held when a governor's proclamation prescribed them. Governor C. Ben Ross opposed repeal, but state and national events forced his consent to proceed with that arrangement, June 19, 1933. Elections followed on September 19, with a convention that unanimously approved ratification of a repeal amendment, October 19. Total votes were 56,652 for repeal and 40,977 against. County voting results (with some allowances for incomplete returns in some counties) were as follows:

	<u>For</u> <u>Repeal</u>	<u>Against</u> <u>Repeal</u>		<u>For</u> <u>Repeal</u>	<u>Against</u> <u>Repeal</u>
Ada	5,678	4,191	Gem	843	548
Adams	353	119	Gooding	918	916
Bannock	4,376	2,489	Idaho	1,168	360
Bear Lake*	826	1,656	Jefferson	1,054	770
Benewah	702	204	Jerome	868	756
Bingham*	1,703	2,046	Kootenai	2,381	1,608
Blaine	882	162	Latah	1,504	770
Boise	461	57	Lemhi	767	121
Bonner	1,617	784	Lewis	633	262
Bonneville	2,272	1,386	Lincoln	556	250
Boundary	628	260	Madison*	607	886
Butte	326	201	Minidoka	917	883
Camas	223	206	Nez Perce	2,666	1,046
Canyon*	3,503	4,484	Oneida*	357	440
Caribou	334	97	Owyhee	250	51
Cassia*	1,170	1,320	Payette*	976	993
Clark	168	43	Power	333	142
Clearwater	638	222	Shoshone	3,251	368
Custer	478	82	Teton	496	491
Elmore	1,015	295	Twin Falls	3,210	2,947
Franklin*	454	1,946	Valley	292	45
Fremont*	876	927	Washington	831	691

\*counties that voted against repeal

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