

BAR HIDDEN WEAPONS ON SULLIVAN'S PLEA

Only Five Senators Vote Against
His Bill Making It a Felony
to Carry Them.

ALL BUYERS MUST REGISTER

Law Better Than Preachers as Soul
Savers, Declares the Bowery Senator
—Rockefeller, Jr., His Social Friend.

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, May 10.—In spite of opposition from manufacturers of firearms, the Senate to-day passed Senator Timothy D. Sullivan's bill restricting the sale and use of dangerous weapons. Only five Senators voted against the measure after the Bowery Senator had made a characteristic appeal in its favor.

The Sullivan bill makes the carrying of concealed weapons a felony, requires those using revolvers and small arms to obtain licenses from police Magistrates, and provides for the registration by dealers in firearms of all persons who buy revolvers or similar weapons. Senator Ferris, the only member who spoke in opposition, offered an amendment removing the licensing feature. This, he said, was unworkable and would prove a hardship to those who desired to have pistols in their homes for their protection.

"Have you a gun factory in your district?" Senator Sullivan asked of Senator Ferris, who represents Oneida County.

"There is a factory there," was the reply.

"Would you oppose this bill if that were not so?"

"That fact is not my reason for opposing the bill in its present form," Senator Ferris said. "Your bill won't stop murders. You can't force a burglar to get a license to use a gun. He'll get one from another State."

"I want to make it so the young thugs in my district will get three years for carrying dangerous weapons instead of getting a sentence in the electric chair a year from now," said Senator Sullivan.

"The manufacturers oppose my bill because they know that if we pass it other States will follow suit."

"But Alabama had a license law and repealed it," Senator Ferris said.

"Alabama is too far away from the Bowery for me to talk about it," Senator Sullivan replied.

"When I introduced this bill at the beginning of the session," he continued, "it applied only to the murderer, or would-be murderer—the bad man with a pistol. But I have amended it at the request of prominent organizations and persons who have indorsed my bill. They had meetings in New York City. They were attended by representatives of the Merchants' Association, the City Club, the Police Department, the Association of Magistrates, the Association of Coroners, and certain individuals. The only thing they found bad about the bill was that Tim Sullivan introduced it.

"I'll give you the names of some of the men who are in favor of my bill and who suggested amendments which I incorporated. They are District Attorney Whitman, who has organized an anti-gun club; Jacob H. Schiff, Herman Harfen, Henry Clews, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., a social acquaintance of mine, Nathan Straus, of whom we think very highly in our district for the work he has done for the poor; John Wanamaker, Hudson Maxim, Dr. W. H. Tillman, Judge Holt of the United States Court, Judge Foster, Judge O'Gorman, and in fact all the Judges of New York City.

"A great big fellow driving a truck in one of the crowded streets of New York City only four days ago ran over a little Italian boy and killed him. The father in a burst of anger lost control of his temper and shot the poor truckman dead. Now there's that man's family, and he had a lot of children, and the man who did the shooting had a large number of children. That ought to be enough to pass this bill without any one getting up and saying a word against it.

"I don't know anything about the Bible except what I've heard from Senator Brackett and others here, where quotations are continually made. It seems to me, though, that this bill, if passed, will help along obedience to the Commandment, 'Thou shalt not kill.' I think so much of this measure that if you pass it I believe it will save more souls than all the preachers in the city talking for the next ten years."

Those who voted in opposition were: Senators Bayne, Ferris, Heacock, Loomis, and Thomas.

Senator Sullivan to-night expressed the belief that the bill would be passed by the Assembly, although he declared there was vigorous opposition from interests directly affected by the restrictions of the bill.