WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 13—[Special. ]—Watch your breath or the "nosing committee" may get you.

The "nosing committee" is the newest adjunct of national prohibition: a committee to spy on the drinker of intoxicants through olfactory expertness that can sense liquor a yard away.

Such committees, it has been reported here, are now being used by some of the district attorneys in the south. Attorney General Champlin of Chattanooga, Tenn., says that in Jacksonville, Fla., indictments have been based on the testimony filed by "nosing committees" at social functions. The Chattanooga attorney general's office, during Christmas week, gave out this statement to the local press:

"It is getting to be a frequent occasion for young men, said to be from the best families, to go or come from dances in an intoxicated condition. If young men—or the old ones, either—haven't sense enough to profit by the sad occurrences in New York and Massachusetts, when seventy-one died from poisoned liquor, then I will take drastic steps and make them do so."

Men reported to the district attorney general's office are summoned before the grand jury and compelled to tell where they got it.