

prove to be defects, which is very doubtful, they can be amended, and being matters of procedure, should, in all fairness, be amended when the principle has been approved by the electors.

SPECIAL MERITS.

The special merits of the Act are these:

(a) It follows legislation that has been tried and approved either in British Columbia or the other provinces.

(b) The changes are mostly in the direction of greater clearness and better drafting.

(c) In matters of procedure and evidence it largely follows the B. C. Liquor Licence Act, which is the best of its kind.

(d) The penalty for illegal sale is very severe, and should put a stop to illegal sales in the Province (see Sec. 28).

(e) Setting aside of the convictions on purely technical grounds by appeal or certiorari are impossible (see Sections 53 and 54.)

(f) Constables must do their duty (Section 44).

PROVISIONS.

Some fault is found with the Act because it is not all through a prohibition Act. These critics seem to think that every section should commence with "Thou shalt not." As noted in the heading above dealing with "Scope of the Act," the Act does not deal with the use or possession of liquor to any appreciable extent. When we come to the traffic, the Act takes the traffic out of the hands of all but Government vendors and druggists and puts a stop to the traffic of liquor intended as a beverage. In taking the traffic out of the hands of the present licensees, and giving it to Government vendors and druggists, provision had to be made for the sale of liquor for mechanical, scientific, medical, dental, veterinary and sacramental purposes. Stringent provisions were made that the liquor sold by vendors and druggists should be used for these purposes only. It would be wearisome to go through the provisions in detail. They are mostly contained in Sections 7 and 14 of our Act. Nothing but crooks and a combination of crooks could evade the provisions that liquor in this Province shall be sold only for the purposes above enumerated. Such crooks or combination of crooks will be deterred by the severe penalties and the sections on evidence, procedure and appeal that are found in this excellent Act.

OUR OPPONENTS' CRITICISM.

Many Prohibitionists pay altogether too great attention to the paid advertisements and literature of the liquor dealers. Since when did these people qualify themselves to become the moral leaders of the community and the only truthful interpreters of the law? The leading Prohibitionists are well satisfied with the Act. The liquor dealers are furious because of its provisions. The ordinary citizen ought to be able to draw his own conclusions. Their printed statements are frenzied.