

FOR THE INFORMATION OF WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND OTHERS CONCERNED.

Under the amendment to the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, which was passed at the recent session of Parliament, it is provided that the same shall come into force on a date to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor-in-Council.

It is the intention of the Department to have this Act proclaimed and come into force on or about September 1st, next.

Under the new Act, all wholesale druggists, manufacturers or dealers are required to obtain a license to deal in these drugs, for which an annual fee of Twenty Five (\$25) Dollars is charged. All retail druggists who manufacture narcotic drugs, or preparations containing the same, are required to obtain a license, for which an annual fee of Five (\$5) is charged. All druggists, other than those who manufacture, and every physician, veterinary surgeon and dentist is required to make a declaration that they are engaged in the sale or distribution of these drugs. Forms will be supplied by the Department on application to be filled in and returned as required under the Act.

The Act also requires all druggists, whether wholesale or retail, and all manufacturers to keep a record of their receipts, together with a record of the quantity manufactured, and a record of their sales. These records are required to be kept in a special book kept for this purpose, and after a prescribed form.

Another important change under the new Act is the limiting of the number of ports in Canada at which these drugs may be imported or exported, and the provisions whereby opium and other drugs intended for export must be packed and marked in such a manner as to denote the contents of the packages.

Provision is made under the Act for the sale of preparations intended for internal use which do not contain more than two grains of Opium, or more than one-fourth of a grain of Morphine, or more than one-eighth of a grain of Heroin, or more than one grain of Godeine to the fluid ounce. Provided, however, that such preparations must be medicated to sufficiently preclude the possibility of their being purchased simply to obtain the narcotic effect, and further that such preparations must have printed on the label or wrapper in a conspicuous place the following warning: "IT IS UNLAWFUL TO ADMINISTER THIS PREPARATION TO A CHILD UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE AS IT CONTAINS OPIUM AND IS DANGEROUS TO ITS LIFE."

The maximum penalty for infraction of the Act has been increased from Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars to One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars,