

[Thursday, ...]

PERSONAL LIABILITY.

An Act to amend the Criminal Code respecting Prevention of Fire.

HIS Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

R.S., c. 146.

1. Section five hundred and fifteen of *The Criminal Code* is amended by inserting the following subsection immediately before subsection two thereof:—

Negligently causing fire which results in loss of life or property.

“(1A) Every one is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to two years’ imprisonment who by negligence causes any fire which occasions loss of life or loss of property.

“The person owning, occupying or controlling the premises in which such a fire occurs, or on which such fire originates, shall be deemed to have caused the fire through negligence if such person has failed to obey the requirements of any law intended to prevent fires or which requires apparatus for the extinguishment of fires or to facilitate the escape of persons in the event of fire, if the jury finds that such fire, or the loss of life, or the whole or any substantial portion of the loss of property, would not have occurred if such law had been complied with.”

2. The said Act is further amended by inserting immediately after section five hundred and fifteen the following section:—

Refusing to make alterations, remove materials or supply apparatus when ordered by proper authorities.

“**515A.** When any Dominion, Provincial or Municipal fire officer or authority recommends to the owner, lessee or other person controlling or operating any building, structure, factory, shipyard, vessel, dock, wharf, pier, sawmill, or yard in which logs or lumber are stored or held, that any reasonable change, alteration or addition should be made in or to such building, structure, factory, shipyard, vessel, dock, wharf, pier, sawmill, or yard with a view to safeguarding life or property from destruction by fire, or that any material should be removed therefrom with such view, or that any apparatus should be supplied therefor with such view; and if such recommendation is approved by an officer in the service of His Majesty, thereto, authorized by the Governor in Council; and if notice of such recommendation and approval has been personally served upon such owner, lessee or other person; and if, after the expiration of thirty days from the receipt of such notice, such owner, lessee or other person refuses, neglects or otherwise fails to carry out such recommendation to the satisfaction of the officer in the service of His Majesty hereinbefore mentioned, such owner, lessee or other person shall be guilty of an indictable offence and shall be liable to a fine of not exceeding one thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.”