

such employees affected with phosphorus necrosis?

He said: An asterisk was put on this question, but there is no asterisk in the printed notice. If the Minister of Labour (Mr. King) has the answer, I would ask him to give it, because the subject may come up this afternoon.

Mr. KING:

1. The government is not in possession of information as to the number of persons employed in the match factory at Hull, Quebec, for the years mentioned. It is understood that the number of employees in the factory in question is at the present time about 200.

2, 3 and 4. This has not been definitely ascertained. I may say, however, that the government has instances of necrosis, and I will give information to the House on that subject when we come to the discussion. But it was impossible to ascertain the exact number of cases. That is why the answer is not more complete.

YUKON—REPEAL OF BEER IMPORT TAX.

House went into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, that the ordinance made by His Excellency the Governor General in Council in virtue of the provisions of section 16 of the Yukon Act, chapter 63 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, on the 9th day of December, 1909, and intitled: 'An Ordinance to rescind an Ordinance respecting the imposition of a tax upon ale, porter, beer or lager beer imported into the Yukon Territory,' a copy of which was, on the 13th day of January, 1911, laid before this House for its approval under section 17 of the said chapter 63, is now so approved.

Mr. OLIVER. Provision is made in the Yukon Act that the commissioner in council may make ordinances for the control and regulation of the sale of and traffic in liquor in the territory, subject to the provisions of any ordinance of the Governor in Council. In accordance with a resolution of the Yukon Council requesting the passage of an ordinance by the Governor in Council, an ordinance was passed in 1908 levying a tax of 50 cents a gallon on beer imported into the Yukon Territory. After an experience of one year of this tax, the Yukon Council saw fit to change its mind and pass a resolution asking that the tax be repealed. In accordance with the wish of the Yukon Council, an ordinance was passed by the Governor in Council repealing that tax. It is this ordinance of repeal to which the assent of parliament is now asked.

Mr. HAGGART (Lanark). Does the minister intend to found a Bill on this resolution?

Mr. OLIVER. No. The Yukon Act requires that when an ordinance of this nature has been passed by the Governor in Council it shall be placed before parliament for its consideration and approval. If parliament disapprove of it it falls to the ground, but, if parliament approves of it, it remains effective.

Mr. SCHAFFNER. Is this the first time the Governor in Council has placed a tax on these liquors in the Yukon?

Mr. OLIVER. I think this is the first occasion on which a tax was placed on beer imported into the Yukon.

Mr. SCHAFFNER. What led the council to ask that this be done in 1908?

Mr. OLIVER. It pleased them to do so.

Mr. SCHAFFNER. They very soon found they wanted it changed.

Mr. OLIVER. That is true. But, of course, I cannot hold myself responsible for the forming of opinion of the Yukon Council or for the change of that opinion. But, we thought that as it was a matter pertaining to local revenue we were warranted in following their resolution.

Mr. SCHAFFNER. Did not the government receive a revenue a number of years ago from liquors going into the Yukon?

Mr. OLIVER. From spirituous liquors. That remains; it has not been interfered with.

Mr. FOSTER. I had supposed that a Bill would be founded on this motion, but the minister tells us that is not the case. This, I understand, is to rescind a tax which has been, up to this time, leviable and levied, the proceeds of which have gone into the revenue of the Yukon.

Mr. OLIVER. No, we passed an ordinance in 1908 to levy such a tax; but, in 1909, at the request of the Yukon Council, we passed an ordinance repealing the ordinance of 1908, thereby repealing the tax. Now, it is the repeal of the tax that we ask the House to approve of. As soon as the ordinance was passed by the Governor in Council, the tax was thereupon and thereby repealed. It remains repealed if parliament approves of that order; if parliament does not approve of that order, then the order in council of 1908, establishing the tax, would, of course, again become effective.

Mr. FOSTER. Then, it is a question whether we leave this tax on or not?

Mr. OLIVER. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. That affects their revenue?