

1-2 GEORGE V., A. 1911

I would also like to put in the Minutes of the Executive of September 4, 1909, as follows:

Sederunt besides the President, Dr. Chown, Dr. Copp, Professor Keirstead, Messrs. Raney and Moyle, and the Secretary.

The following form of Petition to Parliament was agreed upon *re* Race Track Betting.

*To the Honourable the House of Commons of Canada,  
In Parliament Assembled—*

Whereas the courts have interpreted the clauses of the Criminal Code bearing upon gambling and betting, in such a way as to make lawful the negotiations of bets by bookmakers and handbookmen, if done on the streets, or if done on race tracks, while they move about, but unlawful if they remain in any building, booth or defined place, thus making the law absurd.

And whereas the states of New York, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Missouri, Illinois, California and Washington, and many others, as well as Japan, having recently put an end to all such professional gambling, leaving Canada almost alone in legalizing this vice, and making her race tracks the rendezvous of gamblers and other social parasites, from all over the continent.

And whereas our people are in consequence being publicly schooled in gambling and its attendant evils.

Therefore resolved that we the undersigned electors humbly pray your honourable body to enact without delay such amendments to the Criminal Code as will, under adequate penalties and by simple process, make pool selling, book making, and the business of gambling clearly unlawful, everywhere and under all circumstances, as well as the publication of information tending to aid in gambling, and in other respects to render the law effective for the suppression of gambling, your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.'

Dr. SHEARER.—I ask permission to put on the record certain additional extracts from the Minutes of the Moral and Social Reform Council, to demonstrate that the contention of Mr. Moss, that the language of the Minutes of the December 198 meeting implied that it was first intended to make all betting—betting in per se—a crime and not simply the business of betting and gambling, as the Miller Bill proposes.

The CHAIRMAN.—That is agreeable.

(Minutes afterwards handed in by Dr. Shearer, as follows):

'(1) From the meeting of December 26th, 1907, the meeting, at which the Moral and Social Reform Council was organized, pro tempore, reported 'Regarding an amendment to the Criminal Code, which would make the business of negotiating bets on race tracks or elsewhere, unlawful.' This was adopted by the Council.

(2) From the meeting of the Executive, 10th February, 1908, the minute reads:

On motion of Canon Tucker and Dr. Chown, it was unanimously decided to select the prevention of the business of gambling and betting for immediate legislative action and for concerted effort in co-operation with other interested organizations in informing and arousing public opinion in regard to the same.'

Captain J. FOULKES called, sworn and examined.

*By Mr. Powell:*

Q. What is your occupation?—A. Captain of the permanent force.

Q. You were stationed for some years in South Africa, were you not?—A. Yes.

Q. In what capacity?—A. I was a police officer.

Q. That is to say?—A. In the South African Constabulary.