AMENDMENTS TO LIQUOR ACTS

Stringent Regulations Introduced in Bill Consolidating the Existing Laws—Its Provisions

PROVIDES SLIDING SCALE OF LICENSE FEES

Additional Protection of Dipsomaniacs and Various New Features Are Incorporated—More Power for Police

One of the most important items of legislation that has yet been presented to the house during the present session is the bill respecting liquor licenses and the traffic in intoxicating liquors, which Finance Minister Bowser offered for introductory reading yesterday, after it had been formally presented by message from the Lieutenant-Governor, involving as it does very material variations in revenue collection throughout the province. This new legislation repeals in their entirety the Liquor License Act of 1900 and all amending legislation with reference thereto, the Liquor Traffic Regulation Act and amendments in respect to it, and the Commercial Travelers Act of 1907, the present legislation, the principle of which will be discussed by the minister in moving the second reading today, dividing the act into six several parts respectively relating to the diverse subjects and having application as follows:

The first part relating to the granting for the sale of liquor and to the mode of sale of liquor under such licenses, and being applicable with the force of law in all unorganized districts of the province;

The second part relating to the granting to commercial travelers and agents, of licenses to sell liquor for import, and for the sale of liquor on trains and steamships, and being applicable with the force of law throughout the whole of the province;

The third part defining civil rights in respect to sales and purchases of liquor, and being applicable with the force of law throughout the whole province;

The fourth part relating to the prevention of the sale or use of liquor on Sunday and during prohibited hours, and being applicable with the force of law throughout all the province;

The fifth part relating to the sale of liquor and its use by persons inclined towards dipsomania, and being applicable with the force of law throughout the province; and

The sixth part relating to offences and penalties generally, to procedure and to repeals of former enactments in the same regard, and being generally applicable throughout British Columbia.

As under the old act, the superintendent of provincial police is constituted as the sole licensing authority for the province, and is required to make an annual report to the Attorney-General of all licenses dealt with during the period in review. An inspector of licensed premises is provided for, to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, while every chief constable is to be ex-officio a deputy inspector. The duties of these inspectors, reports, conditions of brewers' and distillers' licenses, and wholesale licenses are dealt with in other sections of this Part 1 of the bill, as well as provisions for cancellations or suspensions, renewals, wholesale licenses, etc., etc.

Principal Changes

The principal changes to be noted in connection with this first part or section of the bill are those wherein it is provided that the fee for a wholesale liquor license shall in future be $300 per annum, with a further minor fee of $15 to cover the cost of investigating the application by the inspector, which fee shall not be required in case of subsequent renewal applications. As to hotel licenses, the fees—as forecasted in these columns several days ago—are on a sliding scale, being computed on the basis of the certificate of the inspector fixing the number of adult male inhabitants of Caucasian race who form the population of a district within a radius of one mile from the hotel proposed to be licensed, as follows:

Where the population exceeds 1,000—$300 per annum.

Where the population exceeds 500 but is less than 1,000—$200 per annum; and

Where the population is less than 500—$125 per annum.

Licenses empowering commercial travelers and agents to solicit liquor orders in British Columbia for non-resident wholesale firms, are placed at $200 each, every such license being terminable on the last day of the year;

Railway car and steamship licenses are similarly terminable with the end of the year, and are to cost $50 in each case.

A new feature in respect to civil rights as to sale or purchase of liquor is contained in section 73 of the bill, the first section of what may be styled the third book of the law, this section reading thus:

"73. No person or persons whatsoever shall be entitled unto, or maintain any cause, action or suit for, or recover, either in law or equity, any sum or sums of moneys, debt or demands whatsoever, for or on account of any liquor, unless such debt shall have really been and bona fide contracted at one time to the amount of five dollars and upwards, nor shall any particular article or item in any account or demand for liquor be allowed or maintained where the liquor delivered at one time, and mentioned in such article or item, shall without fraud or covin, and where no part of the liquor so sold or delivered shall have been returned or agreed to be returned, directly or indirectly; and in any case any retailer of liquor, with or without a licence, shall take or receive any pawn or pledge from any person or persons whatsoever, by way of security for the payment of any sum or sums of money owing by such person or persons for liquor, every such person or persons offending herein shall forfeit and lose the sum of ten dollars for each and every pawn or pledge so taken in or received by him or them, to be levied and recovered by warrant under the hand and seal of one justice of the peace where the offence is committed, and that one moiety thereof shall be to the use of the crown, and the other moiety to the informer or informers; and the person or persons to whom any such pawn or pledge doth or shall belong shall have the same remedy value thereof, as if it had never been pledged."

Drunkards Protection.

Radical innovations are contemplated in those portions of the bill constituting what are known as the drunkard's protection clauses, and which include the following:

"75. In all places where liquor is or may be sold by wholesale or retail within the limits of the Province of British Columbia, no sale, gift, barter or other disposal of liquor shall be made to, and no person and no licensee holding any licence for the sale of liquor shall sell, barter or give any liquor, or permit any liquor to be sold bartered or given to:

"Any dipsomaniac:

"Any person openly and notoriously of drunken habits:

"Any person openly and notoriously addicted to drunken debauches or sprees:

"Any person who openly and notoriously wastes his money in drinking liquor and in riotous living to the detriment of his family or those dependent upon him:

"Vagrants and tramps;

"Prostitutes: and

"Indians.

"76. When it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the superintendent of provincial police or inspector of licensed premises, or the chief of police of any municipality, that any person resident or sojourning within the Province of British Columbia, by excessive drinking of liquor, misspends, wastes, or lessens his estate or injuries his health or endangers or interrupts the peace and happiness of his family, the superintendent of Provincial police or inspector of licensed premises, or the chief of police in any municipality, shall issue a circular addressed to all persons holding licences for the sale of liquor in any district within the Province of British Columbia naming and describing such person and prohibiting the sale of liquor to him until further notice."

The last appearing clause is likely to be energetically opposed in the house by such members of the Legislature as do not agree that magisterial authority now exercised upon information under oath shall be transferred to chiefs of police and made wholly discretionary with such officials, no sworn information or other procedure apparently being required.

In the penalty sections of the new bill it is noted that the minimum fine under the act is made $100 and the maximum fine $300; while an important step toward facilitating convictions is taken by section 87, by which it is provided that:

"The magistrate trying a case shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary be at liberty to infer that the liquor in question is intoxicating from the fact that a witness describes it is intoxicating, or by a name which is commonly applied to an intoxicating liquor."

Against Rebottling.

Another specially interesting clause to the trade prohibits rebottling or refilling, which makes for the purity of liquors dispensed, and should be greatly favored by the wholesalers while cutting heavily into the profits of the smaller retailers. The clauses in this relation read as hereunder:

"90. All bottled liquors brought upon any premises upon which the sale of liquor is carried on under any license liquor is carried on under any license premises in the bottles in which such liquors are delivered to such licensed premises, and in no case shall any other liquor or substance or liquid be put into any such bottle, and no bottle, after being emptied of such bottled liquor, shall be refilled, either partially or wholly, and no person selling liquor under any license shall use or permit to be used, any sign or label upon any bottle, cask or other vessel in which liquor is kept for sale upon the licensed premises, which does not correctly and truly state the nature of the contents of such bottle, cask or other vessel, or which is in any manner calculated to mislead a customer or guest as to the nature, description or quality of such contents, or adulterate any liquor or permit any liquor to be adulterated.

"91. The Inspector of Licensed Premises may, and any police officer or constable may, at any time enter into and upon any premises upon which the sale of liquor is carried on under any license at any time in the exercise of his duty, and may take from the liquors there found sufficent quantities and samples for the purpose of analysis."

Again provision is made for prevention of dictation to licensees as whom they shall buy their stocks from, this section being presumably directed against the breweries and wholesale houses which are behind a very considerable portion of the retail trade. These sections read:

"92. No holder of any license for the sale of liquor by retail shall make or enter into, directly or indirectly, or be or become a party to, any contract, covenant, agreement, undertaking, stipulation or bargain, written or verbal, which has the effect of imposing, or is intended or purports to impose, any restriction whatsoever upon such license-holder as to the person from whom or the locality in which the liquor shall be purchased or supplied for sale to such holder of a license.

"(2) Every covenant, contract agreement, undertaking, stipulation or bargain, written or verbal, hereafter entered into by the holder of any license for the sale of liquor by retail, or by any other person acting for or on his behalf with any brewer, distiller, manufacturer or wholesale merchant, which has the effect of imposing, or is intended or purports to impose, upon any such license-holder any restriction whatsoever as to the person from whom or the locality in which liquor shall be purchased or supplied for sale, shall be absolutely void and of no effect to all intents and purposes whatsoever."

The new act is to come into force in August of this year.

Medal for Wrights.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The Langley medal of the Smithsonian Institution was presented today to the Wright brothers. The medal was created in 1906 in commemoration of Prof. Langley and his work in aerodromy. Orville and Wilbur Wright were both at the presentation, at which Chief Justice Fuller as chancellor of the institution presided.

Mr. F. de Math, from Grand Forks, is visiting in the Capital.

NOT TO PRESENT BILL THIS SESSION

Hon. Richard McBride Promises Local Option Delegation More Stringent Regulation of the Liquor Traffic

The complete official count of ballots cast in connection with the Local Option plebiscite, taken on the occasion of the November general election, has been formally filed in the Provincial Secretary's office, and with the allowance of every claim and contention put forward by Dr. Spencer in behalf of the champions of Local Option, still leaves the party favorable to the suggested change of system short 562 votes of the required fifty per cent.

Despite the adverse outcome of the plebiscite, a deputation of leaders in the Local Option cause yesterday afternoon waited upon the Premier and urged the presentation to the Legislature during the present session of Local Option legislation, holding that the plebiscite vote had shown a general desire for local control in matters of liquor traffic regulation.

The Premier, while assuring the deputation that their representations would receive very serious consideration, informed his visitors that the Government having carefully discussed the matter in all its bearings, had decided not to present to the House a Local Option law at the presnt time. It was intended, however, to improve and make more drastic the laws for regulating the traffic in liquor, and higher licenses would be introduced during the present session, the bill now before the House being indicative in many features of the determination of the Government to more carefully restrict and regulate the liquor business for the general good.

Included in the spokesmen for Local Option interviewing the First Minister were Rev. Dr. Spencer, Bishop Perrin, Rev. Mr. Carson, Dr. Sawyer, Rev. Mr. Smith, Mr. J. W. deB. Farris, Mr. W. N. Mitchell, Mr. T. Howell, Mr. F. S. Smith, Dr. Lipsett, and Mr. E. W. Stapleford.

GREAT NORTHERN RY. SEEKS LEGISLATION

Penticton Railway Company Seeks Charter to Build the Road, Giving it Further Connections

Significant of the intentions of the Great Northern Railway Co. to further improve its strategic position in interior British Columbia is the petition for a private bill presented to the Legislature yesterday by Mr. Shatford, of Similkameen, in behalf of the Penticton Railway Co., the chief promoters of which are found to be Mr. A. H. MacNeill, of Vancouver, solicitor for the Great Northern in this Province, and Mr. J. H. Kennedy, chief engineer in charge of the railways works in British Columbia.

The powers now sought include permission to build from Penticton, a terminal point of the Kettle River Valley road, to the lower end of Okanagan lake, and south from that lake to the Boundary, with a spur north from Oroville, Washington, to provide another connection. Construction of the proposed new line will give the V. V. & E. alternative routes through to the Coast, and also with the American system with which the V. V. & E. interests are affiliated.

DRIVEN BY REMORSE

Convict Who Escaped from Wright Island in 1907 Returns to Penitentiary Voluntarily

NEW WESTMINSTER, Feb. 10.—Walking into the office of the penitentiary this afternoon, William Brewer gave himself up. He was well dressed, and carried a suit case. He claimed that he had been driven by remorse to surrender himself.

Brewer, along with Louis Kelley, escaped from the penal station on Wright Island, in Pitt Lake, in August, 1907, about the same time that Bill Miner made his sensational escape from the penitentiary.

At the time of Brewer's escape there were thirteen guards on the island, but the two convicts succeeded in breaking open the boathouse and stealing the boat. They also showed remarkable foresight as they stole the carrier pigeons which are kept on the island for the purpose of warning the authorities at the penitentiary here. By stealing the pigeons they took away the only means of communication. They rowed to the mainland and found their way through the bush to the international boundary line.

Brewer had been sentenced to serve four years at the fall assizes held in Vernon in 1906 for stealing at Quesnel, B. C. He had served only a little over six months when he made his escape.

Of six men who escaped in August, 1907, at the time of Bill Miner's escape, three of them have come back and given themselves up.

Exclusion of Japanese.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A bill by Representative Hayes of California aimed at the exclusion from the United States of the laboring classes of Japan was reported favorably today to the house by the committee on immigration by an unanimous vote. At the present time Japanese immigration is restricted by an agreement by the United States and Japan by the terms of which Japan has prevented the laboring classes from coming to the United States. It has been expected that some exclusion law would be devised to take the place of the agreement.

MEICO CITY, Feb. 10.—All differences between the conductors and engineers of the National railways of Mexico and the management were settled this afternoon. Both the railway officials and the employees say they are satisfied with the agreement reached, the terms of which they refuse to divulge.

WHITEWEAR BARGAINS FOR TODAY

The Daintiest of Undergarments at Prices of Extraordinary Saving Interest

Ladies' Corset Covers

Ladies' Corset Covers, made of fine cambric, trimmed with lace. Special Sale Price ..... 40¢
Ladies' Corset Covers, made of fine cambric, trimmed with beading and ribbon. Special Sale Price .... 65¢
Ladies' Corset Covers, made of fine cambric trimmed, with eyelet embroidery and lace. Special .. Price 85¢
Corset Covers, made of deep embroidery, very fine, trimmed with lace and ribbon. Special Sale Price $2.25
Also a splendid assortment of all sizes, made in the latest styles, slightly soiled, to be sold at greatly reduced prices, from 35c to $2.50

Ladies' Drawers

Ladies' Drawers, made of fine cambric circular ruffles, nicely trimmed with lace or embroidery. Regular $2.00. Sale Price $1.50
Ladies' Drawers, fine cambric, flounce of French embroidery and insertion. Regular $2.35. Sale Price $1.75
Ladies' Drawers, fine cotton with embroidery flounce and tucks. Regular 60c. Sale Price ..... 40¢
Also a full assortment of Ladies' Drawers, made of the best cambric, in the best styles, prices ranging from 40c to $2.35

All going at greatly reduced prices.

Ladies' White Underskirts

Ladies' Underskirt, made of the finest cambric flounce of French Embroidery, with insertion and ribbon. Special Sale Price $7.50
Ladies' Underskirt, made of the finest cambric, with wide flounce of Val. lace and French insertion. Special Sale Price $6.75
Ladies' Underskirt, made of fine cambric flounce of Val. lace and insertion. Special Sale Price $5.50
Ladies' Underskirt, made of fine cambric with flounce of embroidery and insertion. Special Sale Price $5.00
Ladies' Underskirt, made of fine cambric with wide flounce trimmed with embroidery and insertion. Special Sale Price $3.25
Ladies' Underskirt, made of cotton with flounce of fine lawn, trimmed with lace. Regular 75c. Sale Price ..... 45¢

Ladies' Night Gowns

Ladies' Night Gowns, made of fine cambric tucked yoke, slip-over style, elbow sleeves nicely trimmed with fine embroidery $2.75
Ladies' Night Gowns, made of fine cambric with eyelet embroidery yoke and short sleeves. Slip-over style. Sale Price $2.50
Ladies' Night Gowns, cambric with yoke of fine Val. lace and French insertion. Elbow sleeves, newest style. Sale Price is $2.25
Ladies' Night Gowns, made of fine cambric. Slip-over style, nicely trimmed with fine embroidery and ribbon, ¾ sleeve. Sale Price $1.25

1123 GOV'T STREET **HENRY YOUNG & CO.** 1123 GOV'T STREET

FIT-REFORM

Genuine English Worsted Suits $20

See how well Fit Reform lives up to its reputation of giving the biggest, best values for the money.

These special $20 suits are genuine English Worsteds—made by the famous Fit Reform tailors and shown exclusively by us. The price does not tell the comparative value, because there is nothing else in Canada with which to compare them.

For downright values and satisfaction we guarantee these $20 suits to be unequalled at the price in Canada.

Allen & Co. **FIT-REFORM** 1101 Gov't St.

We Have a Complete Stock of Fish for the Lenten Season

FINNAN HADDIE, 2 lbs. ..... 25¢
KIPPERED HERRINGS, 2 lbs. ..... 25¢
SMOKED SALMON, lb. ..... 20¢
SALT OOLICHANS, 2 lbs. ..... 25¢
SALT LABRADOR HERRINGS, 6 for ..... 25¢
SPICED HOLLAND HERRINGS, each ..... 5¢
LARGE NORWAY MACKEREL, each ..... 40¢
SPICED ANCHOVIES, keg ..... 50¢
SALT SARDELLES, lb. ..... 60¢
DIGBY HERRINGS, box ..... 25¢
SWEDISH STOCKFISH, lb. ..... 25¢

OUR SPECIAL BARGAIN THIS WEEK
FANCY EVAPORATED PEACHES, lb. ..... 10¢

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Phones 50, 51, 52 Liquor Department, Phone 1590

NEW ERA IN THE GROCERY BUSINESS

Reasonable Prices

COPAS & YOUNG

ARE NOT UNDER THE CONTROL OF ANY COMBINE OR WHOLESALE HOUSE.

Try them for Price and Quality.

FRESH AUSTRALIAN BUTTER—3 pounds $1.00
CALGARY RISING SUN BREAD FLOUR—
Per sack $1.75
ROLLED OATS—20-lb. sack ..... 90¢
FRESH FINNAN HADDIE—Per pound ..... 12½¢
TRAVERS' ENGLISH PICKLES—Per jar ..... 15¢
JOHNSON'S FLUID BEEF—16-oz. jar ..... 90¢
MAGGIO'S SOUP —allkinds—
One pkt. sufficient for 2 persons ..... 5¢
JERSEY AND ST. CHARLES CREAM, just fresh in—
Large 20-oz. can ..... 10¢
NICE RED SALMON—2 large tins for ..... 25¢
SUGAR CORN, PEAS OR BEANS, Tartan Brand—
Per tin ..... 10¢
CHIVER'S ENGLISH STRAWBERRY OR RASPBERRY.
2 x 1-lb. glass jar ..... 35¢
4-lb. tin ..... 60¢
CHIVER'S ENGLISH MARMALADE—1-lb. glass jar 15¢
TETLEY'S LOOSE TEA—4 pounds for $1.00
PRIME ONTARIO CHEESE—Per lb. ..... 20¢

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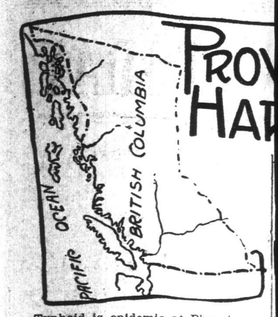

Typhoid is epidemic at Phoenix.

Rossland's thirteenth annual winter carnival is again in full swing.

William McAllister of Victoria, has purchased the Alberni hotel.

An important chemical manure plant has been established at Steveston.

Snowslides are interfering with Great Northern service at Swinto.

The public road from Penticton to Keremeos is reported unsafe for vehicular traffic.

The first Canadian National Apple Show is to be held at Vancouver in November next.

The Provincial government will abolish the license fee of $100 on fish salteries under certain conditions.

Street cleaning and grading and sidewalk-laying have begun at Fort George.

Fort George expects to have a population of at least one thousand in another year.

Constable Frank Akin has been transferred from Cariboo to the Chilcotin, with headquarters at Hanceville.

The proposed fishing regulations of the Dominion are received with much disfavor among the salmon interests at New Westminster.

Tenders for the position of assessor of the city of Vernon will be received by the council of that city until the 21st instant.

The Canadian-Renard Road Transportation Co. expects to have its first engine and four cars in operation on the old Cariboo road by the 1st of May.

Edward Haney died at the Sisters' Hospital in Rossland a few days ago as a result of neglecting an ulcerated tooth.

The marriage of Mr. Charles Netherby and Miss Ella Pauline Forrest was celebrated at Vancouver on Wednesday last, Rev. C. C. Owen officiating.

The Presbytery of Kootenay has named a special committee to investigate the high cost of living in British Columbia.

Nanaimo will take advantage of the amended provisions of the school act for the encouragement of manual training, and has appropriated $2,000 for a beginning in this direction.

T. Taylor, an employee of the Pacific Coast Coal Co., at South Wellington, is suffering from severe scalds, received through the bursting of a steam pipe.

A piece of metal flew into the eye of F. H. Freeman, motorman at the Nickel plate mine, Hedley, while he was using a jack-knife to repair a typewriter. The eye will be saved.

Representatives of North Vancouver Council, Board of Trade and Ratepayers' Association have left for Ottawa to do what they can to advance the proposals for the bridging of the Second Narrows.

Vancouver's South African Veterans and Old Campaigners' Association members are preparing to honor Field Marshal Lord Kitchener when he passes through this province on his way from Australia to England.

Hubert G. Kent, a young man from Bellingham, is held by the police at New Westminster for having enticed two young girls of Chilliwack from their homes. The girls are aged respectively thirteen and sixteen.

W. J. Carpenter, a Vancouver photographer, has been committed for trial on a charge of criminal libel, he having allegedly endeavored to blacken the character of one Miss Dolly Mackendry, a former employee.

A lad engaged in railway construction work at Alberni last week had his wrist broken by a flying stone—sent whizzing in his direction in blasting operations. He was holding a stick of dynamite in his hand when injured, but the explosive dropped harmlessly to the ground, undischarged.

J. C. Johnnie, the Pitt River Chinaman, held prisoner at New Westminster for having threatened the life of the white schoolmistress unless she would accept his matrimonial advances, has been adjudged quite sane by the inquiry board, and must now face a trial. The verdict of the commissioners cannot but be accepted as complimentary by friends of the young lady.

One man was instantly electrocuted and two others seriously shocked by an accident at the Barnet power house of the B.C.E.R. Co., on Thursday last. A "dead" wire was being changed, when a live wire carrying 20,000 volts broke, a short distance away, and grounded. The current was communicated through the galvanized iron roof of the building.

How Rossland came to be so named is the text of a little story told by Milton Graves, an old-timer of the camp now revisiting it for the carnival. In 1894 Ross Thompson applied to the postal authorities to have the place named Thompson. Word came back from Ottawa that there was already one place in the province called Thompson and, therefore, a new name would have to be used. The news was discussed by a party gathered at the old Clifton hotel. Mrs. Stewart, who was running the hotel at the time, suggested that a name with Ross in it would be just right. After thinking a moment she said that Rossland would be just right for a name. The idea was at once adopted by Mr. Thompson, and an application was made to the proper authorities, and thus it is that the city received its pretty name from the ingenuity of a woman.