

cubic inches. That is the usual way of determining the weight.

On section 18,

Mr. BRODEUR. It has been represented to the department by some malt manufacturers that hours of work were too short. The old Act provided from 8 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon. We now provide that labour may be carried on from 7 in the morning until 6 in the evening. It is at the request of malt manufacturers.

Mr. BARKER. This affects only the government employees I suppose?

Mr. BRODEUR. They cannot work unless the official is there.

Mr. LENNOX. It becomes the duty of the official to be there for a longer time, that is all?

Mr. BRODEUR. Yes.

On section 20,

Mr. BRODEUR. This is only a verbal change providing for the substitution of the word 'initials' for the word 'signatures.' The last words of the original section read:

Such person shall also attest the correctness of the entry by his signature.

On section 21,

Mr. BRODEUR. This is because the malt measure has been replaced by the cubic inches.

On section 22,

Mr. BRODEUR. This is made necessary by the substitution of the guarantee companies for the bondsmen.

On section 23,

Mr. BRODEUR. The only change here is in section 1. It has been represented to the department that we could make methylated spirits not only with wood naphtha but also with some other articles. If such a system could be provided it would be cheaper than what we have to-day, and we simply take the power to use some other renaturalized spirit, than the one used to-day.

On section 24,

Mr. BRODEUR. This is simply a verbal change in the section.

On section 25,

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Does the minister know that there has been a commission appointed in England to inquire into the use of alcohol in the arts, and into the manner of making it in the cheapest form, so that it may take the place of gasoline, and that everything in that direction is an encouragement to develop engines to take the place of steam engines?

Mr. BRODEUR. Yes; the department is watching those developments very closely.

Mr. BRODEUR.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. At present the Americans have control of the supply of gasoline practically for the world. If alcohol can be made cheaply, and all the investigations go to show that it can be made cheaply, it is the coming material for use in these new engines; and if it is found that alcohol can displace gasoline, it ought to be made as cheaply as possible. I hope that the minister will keep that in view in framing his legislation.

Mr. BRODEUR. That is the reason why, in section 23 of the Bill, we have provided that if any other means can be found of denaturizing spirits we would be willing to accept it. So far we have nothing better to offer than the methylated spirits.

Mr. GALLIHER. Before passing from these sections that deal with spirits, I would like to ask the Minister of Inland Revenue if there is any minimum age limit under which spirits of different kinds come into Canada?

Mr. BRODEUR. There is no age limit regarding imported spirits; there is with regard to our own spirits.

Mr. GALLIHER. As I understand it, a distiller in Canada cannot place upon the market any of his products until it has been two years distilled or in bond. The Canadian distiller is under that restriction. Now, we can get in Scotch whisky, or what passes for such—some of it is all right and some of it is not—we can get in Scotch whisky, or Irish whisky, or any other kind, from foreign countries, that may not be a month old when it is brought in. Has the minister ever considered the advisability of imposing upon importers of spirits from outside countries the duty of showing to the satisfaction of the government that these liquors have been distilled as long a time as is required of the Canadian liquors?

Mr. BRODEUR. I may say to my hon. friend that this question does not pertain to the department of which I have the honour to be the head; it is a question to be dealt with by the Customs Department. In our department we simply take knowledge of the spirits which are manufactured under control of the department; that is to say, spirits manufactured in this country. There is much to be said in favour of the contention of my hon. friend, that foreign spirits should be put on the same footing as our Canadian products. That is a question which I will be glad to bring to the attention of the Minister of Customs.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Is it not a fact that spirits have been brought into Canada from the United States that have not been aged to the required period, and have been bottled here in Canada and have the inland revenue label put upon them, which would appear to guarantee their age, when, as a matter of fact, these spirits have not been aged as the law requires?