

Mr. BURPEE. In that case there will be no fund for the Inspectors.

Mr. McCARTHY. Unless from infractions of the law.

Mr. BRECKEN. I take it that there will be no duties for them to perform. While the Scott Act is in force this Act will be inoperative.

Mr. BLAKE. But if the Inspectors are to be appointed to see that the Scott Act is enforced they will not act unless they are paid.

Mr. BRECKEN. In the Province of Prince Edward Island the Scott Act is in force—nominally; and I can say that it has not had the desired effect that the advocates of temperance looked for. I think I am correct in saying that although the Act is in force from one end of the Island to the other, from all the information I can collect there is as much drinking as there was before the Act came into operation. I believe that in the town of Summerside alone, a small town of about 3,000 inhabitants, there are some thirteen places where intoxicating liquors are openly consumed; and I believe the effect of the Scott Act in Prince Edward Island has been to engender a feeling of disregard for the law, and to create deception and hypocrisy. It is true that the Act has been fairly brought into operation under the provisions of the law; but I believe that not one-half of the electors of the Island have recorded their votes, either against or in favor of the Act. The fact is there are many men, fathers of families and respectable men in society, who do not believe in the Scott Act, but at the same time have a feeling of reluctance about going to the public polls to vote in favor of the use of intoxicating liquors, when they remember the misery, the crime, and the trouble that flows from the too free use of that beverage. But I do not hesitate to say, from the experience we have had in Prince Edward Island, that the Scott Act has proved a failure. I may say that my partner in business is a stipendiary magistrate for the city of Charlottetown. I can say he has used every effort to carry out that Act strictly, by imposing fines as far as the provisions of the Act would permit. The advocates of teetotalism established a system of spies, but found it did not work, and I must say I do not believe the vice of intemperance has diminished in the Island, but that, on the contrary, the license law, or the system of local option, we had in operation before the Scott Act, worked much more efficiently in the cause of temperance. One of the effects of the Scott Act is, that respectable people who kept roadside inns, which were absolutely necessary for the accommodation of travellers, have left the business, and to-day you can travel distances of thirty or forty miles on the Island without finding a roadside inn at which you can water your horses or find shelter or receive a meal. Perhaps many who solicited me to return to Parliament may think I am going too far in expressing these views, but they are those I conscientiously hold and which are derived from an amount of information that few men in the Island have had an opportunity of obtaining. This Act will practically be unproductive in the Island. There will be no necessity to have Inspectors there, at any rate to supervise the carrying out of the machinery of the Act. From the experience we have had, I may say that whoever the Inspectors may be, whatever may be the mode of appointing them, whatever class of men they may be elected from, they will have a very difficult, if not impossible, duty in carrying out the Scott Act in its integrity.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I hope we will not be drawn into a discussion of the merits of the Scott Act, but keep within the merits of the Macdonald Act.

Mr. FISHER. That portion of the remarks of the hon. gentleman which bear on the working of the Scott Act, is certainly to my mind, the strongest reason that could be adduced that this Act should also include those districts or

Mr. McCARTHY.

counties in which the Scott or Dunkin Act may be in force. It is very necessary that in those districts a Dominion law should be enforced by some Dominion officer, and I am glad to see that, at the end of this Bill, there are provisions by which it will come into force in those districts. When those provisions are before the Committee, I shall say a few words in reference to that matter; but certainly the remarks of the hon. gentleman who has just spoken are confirmatory of the necessity of the clause.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). The question of the salary of the Inspectors is an important one inasmuch as it affects the success of the law when in operation. The last part of the clause says the salary of the Inspector shall be fixed by the Board, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council. As the duties of an Inspector are considerable and he is invested with a great deal of responsibility, it is desirable provision should be made fixing his salary beyond doubt. If he is to depend on the fees he will be placed in a very invidious position. They are not much—\$5 on first application and \$10 subsequent, or \$15 in all for the granting of licenses, besides a share in the fines which contribute to the license fund. There is another point. The power given to the Board of Examiners of regulating the salary of the Inspector, subsequent to the approval of the Governor in Council, may involve a serious charge on the public treasury. Can the Government give us any idea as to what the salary will be?

Mr. BLAKE. I understand there can be no charge on the public Treasury, or the clause will be out of order. I understood it was simply a salary to come out of the funds provided by the Act. These are of two kinds: the fees for the issuing of licenses and the fines. The Inspector will be placed in an invidious position if his salary will depend on the number of persons fined. The whole *morale* of the Act will thus be shaken.

Mr. McCRAVEY. Where the Scott Act is in force and no fees coming to the Inspector, he will receive no salary, and I trust the hon. Minister will see that provision is made to meet this point.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. In the first place this Bill will come into force the 1st January. The Government have not made any approximate calculation of the amount of fees, but between now and the 1st January it will be easy to ascertain the number of tavern licenses, for instance, that are issued, as well as the number of shop licenses that are likely to be issued, so that they can ascertain approximately what sum will be at the disposal of the Commissioners to pay expenses. If it is found insufficient, the Government would not hesitate to come to Parliament next Session—and I may here say, that in accordance with the anxious wish of the House, it is the intention of the Government, if possible, to meet not later than the 15th of January each year—so that we may be able, shortly after this Act comes into force, if there is not sufficient money to work it effectually, to come to Parliament and ask them to supplement any deficiency in that regard either by a direct vote, or by increasing the license fee. With respect to the observation of the hon. member for Halton, I quite agree with him, and the Government will take care that the whole machinery should be appointed in those sections of the country where the Scott Act is in force as well as elsewhere.

On section 7,

Mr. McCARTHY. This defines the number and the kind of licenses. They are divided into hotel, saloon, shop, vessel, and wholesale licenses, and the sub-sections of this section point out what the privileges conferred by these licenses are to be. Hotel and saloon licenses are the same, the only difference being in the accommodation. The shop license authorizes the licensee to dispose of his liquors, not to be drunk on the premises, differing in that respect from saloon