

from the harmful influence which everybody admits is incident to the indulgence of liquor on the part of the youths of our country.

On page 6 will be found an altogether new provision which makes it impossible to erect a tavern hereafter within any 300 feet of a church or school. There may be no specific virtue in 300 feet, and it may be the committee will say 350 or 400 feet; but, I argue, the provisions will be found not only to be one in response to the appeals of temperance advocates, but it will be such a response as will commend itself to the masses of our people.

I deal now for the moment with the penalty clauses of the bill, which will be found on page 8 of the amended bill. Under section 79 of the existing law we have penalty clauses which may result in the cancellation of a license if it be found that the licensee is allowing gambling or riotous conduct to be permitted in the hotel. In section 91 of the existing law a county judge under certain conditions can cancel the license. We go further in the provisions of this bill, and make it law that if a licensee knowingly allows liquor to be sold during prohibited hours, and if he be three times convicted on three different days within two years, the License Commissioners not only may, but shall revoke his license. I am sure you will agree with me that this provision will have a healthful, deterrent effect, and that hereafter it will be easier for the Department and for the Commissioners in the districts to enforce our Sunday clause, or any clause dealing with the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. And further, not only shall the license be cancelled but the licensee shall not be allowed to get a license for three years thereafter. He is disqualified from holding a license during that time.

Saloons.

On page 6 there will be found a clause dealing with the saloon licenses. We have in this province 34 saloons—10 in Toronto, 10 in Hamilton, 4 in London, 4 in Ottawa, 2 in Peterboro, 2 in Windsor, 1 in St. Catharines and 1 in Stratford. On the first day of April, 1898, half of them are wiped out, and on the first of April, 1899, the remaining half disappear. So that in two years from the opening days of the ensuing license year every saloon in the province will be wiped out. There are 34 of them; and some say that this is not doing very much, but if there happened to be a line in this bill which would permit of the granting of 34 new licenses we