

LIQUOR CAN'T BE SOLD

Under the License at One Time
Issued for the Standard
Theatre.

The Licensing Commissioners Hold
an Unusually Interesting
Session.

On and after January 1st, 1892, the saloons of Victoria will, by the new liquor law, close their doors upon the stroke of twelve, and all out after the midnight hour will be forced to go unrefreshed to their homes. This will be the arrangement for all days of the week, excepting Saturday and Sunday. The hour for Saturday closing will be eleven o'clock; and no saloon is to open on Sunday.

The fact of these changes coming into existence with the death of 1891 was referred to at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Licensing Commissioners—Mayor Grant, Mr. A. L. Belyea, P. M., and Mr. Robert Ward, J. P.—and the city hotel men will be notified during the present month to prepare for the new order of things.

Introducing the most interesting business of the day came a number of applications for transfers, which were dealt with in the following order:

Mr. C. J. Delmonico, hotel, to W. Jackson, P. M., Caledonian saloon, to Joseph Menner, Joseph H. Brown, and Henry Fox. Granted.

Close and Johnson, Monarch saloon, to Wm. Wolf. Granted.

Close and Johnson, Monarch saloon, to Manger and Black. Withdrawn.

C. W. Brewster, Gordon hotel, to George Doughty. Temporary license granted; application to be made in due form.

The Janitor hotel and the Rock Bay house, both new, well furnished and creditable to the proprietors, asked for licenses, but as the conditions of the law in regard to petitions had not been complied with, the Court could not consider either application, and both stand over until the next sitting of the Commissioners.

The business of the day being completed, and the Court being about to adjourn, Mr. H. C. Hall, who had been the intention of the Commissioners to hold an enquiry into the case of the Standard theatre. A charge had been laid three months ago that it was not a fit place for the sale of liquor, and the license of the theatre had been refused, liquor was still sold. By what authority the sale of drinks was continued, Mr. Grant inquired into that matter some time ago. The license is still held by Mrs. Hemans, and cannot be taken from her, except for cause, as she remains a partner in the business.

Mr. Hall—Judged the complaint to which I now refer three months ago. Mrs. Hemans, or Hemans, parted with her interest in the place, and the license was a very important part of the Standard theatre. Her right to the license therefore lapsed, and the only one who could possibly lay any claim to it would be John Carr, to whom she sold out. Carr was refused a license, and the house is still in the name of the Standard theatre.

The Mayor—The Act does not say that a license can be taken from the person who has it, unless for cause.

Mr. Hall—My contention is that Mrs. Hemans, who has had her interest in the license after she relinquished the house. The house is one which should not be licensed. If the Court will appoint a day, I am prepared to show that the character of the Standard theatre is such as to deprive it of holding a license.

Mr. Ward—When does the license expire?

Supt. Sheppard—On the 31st of December, and the lease dies in March, when the buildings are to be torn down.

Continuing, the Chief of Police remarked that the recent row which was said to have occurred in the Standard was outside, not inside, the house, of which there were no recent complaints.

Mr. Hall—I am ready to substantiate that the house is a disreputable character, notwithstanding the statement of Supt. Sheppard that a recent row was outside.

Chief Sheppard remarked that this was pretty strong language. He would inform the Court that there was no law on the statute books to prevent women from selling drinks. It was done in London, it was done in all parts of the colonies, and it could be done here, and there was no law to prevent it. If Mr. Hall intimated that the theatre was a house of prostitution, he would have something else to say.

Mr. Ward—When would you like to have your charges investigated? I suppose you have witnesses? (This to Mr. Hall).

Mr. Hall—I have; I am ready at any time.

Belyea suggested that a copy of the charges be placed in the possession of the defendants, to save time; and in this suggestion Mr. Ward concurred.

Mr. Hall—The charges are of a general nature, showing that the house is not fit to hold a license, and I have evidence to satisfy the Court, I think.

Mr. Belyea—Another point—against whom are your charges laid?

Mr. Hall—There are so many changes of proprietorship it is hard to say. The complaint is against the house—the premises.

Mr. Belyea—We can only consider charges against license holders.

Mr. Ward—How long would you like to prepare your case?

Mr. Hall—Say a week; that will give plenty of time to the other side to reply. I can put in my charges in a day or two.

Mr. Belyea—Mr. Hall's view of this case as he originally stated it. The license is given to a person and to premises. The moment the license passes with the premises, the occupant parts with the right to sell it. The license is given to the premises. It is not fit for the purpose of either man or beast. It is really too wet to walk through and too dirty to sit on. I shall treat the matter as a preliminary, for during the past two or three weeks I have made that awful pass night after night. I deserve the Victoria Cross.

Mr. Hall—If I have sold now, it is sold now. If I have sold now, it is sold now. If I have sold now, it is sold now.

Mr. Hall—That is the correct view. Mr. Belyea—The Court will now charge in writing, and we will meet again in a fortnight to consider them.

Mr. Hall expressed himself as agreeable to this arrangement, and Mr. Belyea then enquired of the mayor if he had granted any permits since the last sitting of the board?

His worship replied that he had, among others, having granted a temporary transfer for the Standard theatre, from Mrs. Hemans to Close & Johnson.

A VICTIM OF THE GALE.

The Bark "Dominion" Comes out of the Valley of the Shadow After a Terrible Experience.

The Captain's Official Declaration Made Before the Consul for Norway and Sweden.

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The bark Dominion, a staunch vessel of 1,250 tons register, Capt. Erickson, cleared from Vancouver for Adelaide, S. A., on Nov. 28th with 980 tons of lumber and 100,000 lbs. She called in at Esquimalt, and left there last Friday morning, on a voyage to the south.

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TWO IMPORTANT LETTERS.

Discussed at Yesterday's Meeting of the Board of Trade Council.

Merchant Shipping will be Treated with all Courtesy at Esquimalt.

President T. B. Hall, Vice-President A. C. Flinn, Mr. D. R. Ker and Mr. Joshua Davies, members of the Council of the Board of Trade, met at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and waited almost half an hour for a quorum. Then the quorum was secured in the person of Mr. C. E. Renouf, and the Council proceeded to the important matters of business before it.

Messrs. R. P. Rithet and Co., Ltd., addressed to the Board the following communication, which was productive of a long debate, in which Mr. E. Crow Baker, by invitation, took part:

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 1st, 1891.
The Secretary, B. C. Board of Trade, Victoria.

SIR:—We beg to say that you will, as early as may be convenient, lay the following before your Council:

On the evening of the 22nd November the steamer San Pedro was stranded on Brodie's ledge, and on the 23rd November and following days every newspaper on the Pacific Coast, many throughout Canada and the United States, and no doubt many also in Europe, contained a more or less correct account of the mishap, all, however, agreeing that the vessel lay low.

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