

*Improvements in the License Act.*

Electors who can look back to the wholesome effect of the assumption by the Province of the supervision of the liquor traffic will remember the general feeling of relief which followed; and, notwithstanding the steady opposition of the Conservative party, the educated public opinion which rallied behind the Liberal Government has sustained it to the present hour—the Government having consistently improved the legislation as necessity arose. The following are some of the amendments enacted from year to year:—

*Act of 1877.*

The amendments of 1877 provided for the placing of:

- Restrictions upon sales by druggists,
- Restrictions upon sales in vessels,
- Increased penalties for second and third offences,
- And searching in unlicensed houses were provided for.

*Act of 1878-81.*

In the amendments of 1878:

Provision was made for the enforcement of the Dunkin Act, and for paying the costs thereof.

In the amendments of 1881:

- Provision was made for the issue of beer and wine licenses.
- Further increase was made of penalties for second and third offences.
- The actual seller of liquor was made liable.
- Increased facilities for searches and confiscation of liquor were provided.
- Provisions for enforcing the Scott Act were made, and Police Commissioners and Chiefs of Police were especially charged with the duty of enforcing the License law.

*Act of 1884.*

The amendments of 1884 provided:—

That the number of saloon licenses be limited in cities and be refused altogether in towns having less than 6000 of a population.

Provision was also made for publication of names of new applicants for licenses and description and location of premises proposed to be licensed.

Privileges were granted to electors to oppose by petition the granting of licenses—the majority of electors may prevent the issue of new licenses.

No new shop licenses to be granted to premises in which other goods are sold; and in 1888 no shop license whatever is to be granted to premises in which other goods were sold.

No appeals allowed except to the County Judge in Chambers.

Appeals permitted to the Court of Appeal from the decision of the County Judge.