

TO COLLECT SMALL DEBTS

An Ordinance Now Being Passed to That End.

Has Been Read Twice and Will Come Up on Final Reading Tonight—Protection of Game.

An ordinance to confer limited civil jurisdiction upon justices of the peace has been passed to its second reading by the commissioner in council, which is known as the small debt ordinance.

It provides for the collection of debts not exceeding \$300, and is a very lengthy and minutely detailed affair of 63 sections.

An act recently passed by parliament authorizing this enactment of legislation by the Yukon council looking to the further protection of game in the Yukon territory. This legislation may be wholly independent of, and aside from anything contained in the laws of the Northwest territories.

The act at present in force provides that:

5. Except as hereinafter provided, the following beasts and birds shall not be hunted, taken, killed, shot at, wounded, injured, or molested in any way during the following times of year respectively:

(a) Musk oxen, between the 20th day of March and the 15th day of October.

(b) Elk or wapiti, moose, caribou, deer, mountain sheep and mountain goats, between the 1st day of April and the 15th day of July, and between the 1st day of October and the 1st day of December.

(c) Minks, fishers and martens, between the 15th day of March and the 1st day of November.

(d) Otters and beavers, between the 1st day of May and the 1st day of October.

(e) Musk rats, between the 15th day of May and the 1st day of October.

(f) Grouse, partridge, pheasants, and prairie chickens, between the 1st day of January and the 1st day of September.

(g) Wild swans, wild ducks and wild geese, between the 15th day of January and the 1st day of September.

6. Except as hereinafter provided, no eggs in the nests of any of the birds above mentioned, or in the nests of any other species of wild fowl shall be taken, destroyed, injured, or molested at any time of the year.

7. Notwithstanding anything in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 of this act, the beasts and birds mentioned in those sections may be lawfully hunted, taken or killed, and eggs of any of the birds or other wild fowls so mentioned may be lawfully taken.

(a) By Indians who are inhabitants of the country to which this act applies, and by other inhabitants of the said country. But this exception does not apply to buffalo, bison or musk oxen during the close season for these beasts.

(b) By explorers, surveyors or travelers, who are engaged in any exploration, survey or other examination of the country and are in actual need of the beasts, birds or eggs for food.

(c) By any person who has a permit to do so, granted under the subsequent provision of this act.

9. None of the contrivances for taking or killing wild fowl, known as batteries, swivel-guns or sunken punts, shall be used at any time of the year, to take, destroy, or kill any of the birds mentioned in this act, or any other species of wild fowl.

10. None of the beasts and birds mentioned in this act shall be taken or killed at any time of the year by the use of poison or poisonous substances.

11. No dogs shall be used at any time of year for hunting, taking, running, killing, injuring or in any way molesting musk oxen, buffalo and bison, or during the close season any of the other beasts, or any of the birds mentioned in this act.

12. No one shall enter into any contract or agreement with or employ any Indian or other person, whether such Indian or person is an inhabitant of the country to which this act applies or not, to hunt, kill, or take, contrary to the provisions of this act, any of the beasts or birds mentioned in this act, or to take contrary to such provision any eggs.

The general feeling concerning the protection of game in the Yukon territory is that the principal matter to come within the scope of the proposed legislation is, that such laws as are enacted should look especially to the prevention of the indiscriminate slaughter of moose and caribou, and it is pointed out by many that unless something of the kind is put into effect soon those animals will be in danger of extinction except in remote parts of the territory.

The matter was referred to Justice Dugas, and will doubtless soon make its reappearance in the form of an ordinance.

Owing to the fact that yesterday was All Saints' day there was no meeting of the council last evening, the regular weekly meeting having been postponed till tonight.

The Czar's Courier.

There is one official in Russia whose post is not the object of any general scramble to occupy and on whose life it would be difficult to obtain a policy of insurance, says the New York Commercial Advertiser. He is the officer of police whose duty it is to act as advance courier when the czar travels by

rail and to ride in advance of the imperial train to see that the track is clear of obstructions, torpedoes or other elevating things in these days of anarchist plots. The courier stands a fine chance of being blown up, shot at, mobbed or otherwise maltreated every time the czar makes an excursion. As yet, however, he retains an unpunctured epidermis, and so does the czar—a natural sequence. Still it is on record that something like 20 attempts have been made to blow up the czar's train. In one case a mine was found to have been cunningly laid under the rails at the terminal point of a mile long tunnel, which the conspirators had dug from an obscure point. The officer frustrated the plot and was complimented for his vigilance.

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