

DRIVE PIRATES OUT OF THE LIQUOR BUSINESS

Hotelmen Who Do Not Obey Law Will Get Little Consideration From License Board.

INDEPENDENT OF CRITICS

Object Not to Knife License-holders, But Protect Them—Consider Renewals.

Toronto hotel keepers and licensees conducting shops where spirituous liquors are sold may be congratulated on the conduct of the hotel business in Toronto, judging from the remarks of Chairman J. D. Flavelle of the license commission, which met at the city hall yesterday afternoon, the occasion being the opening of the board's sittings in Toronto and York County.

The meeting was scheduled to be held in committee room No. 1, but so many temperance advocates and licensees attended that the room was found to be far too small, and it was moved to court room No. 2, and even there all the available standing room was occupied.

Those present to urge upon the board the desirability of reducing the number of licenses in the city were headed by Ben. H. Spence, while J. P. Haverson, K.C., and several well-known hotel men spoke for the liquor interests.

Mr. Spence occupied considerable time in advocating the closing of taverns, and had with him representative citizens from various parts of the city, asking that the licenses of certain hotels be either cut off, or transferred to some other location. The one request made was that the board consider the question of segregating the liquor business in the downtown district, the boundaries named being Queen street, subway on the west, Queen street on the north, with the exception of Yonge street, on which street the district is open, and high as Severn street, Sunach street on the east and south to the Bay front.

Want Hotels Removed.
W. A. Lamport asked for the removal of the Ocean House and Parkdale House.

Geo. T. Lee asked for the removal of the Brockton Club Hotel, as did David H. Ward of Chalmers Church, and W. T. Stone of College Street Methodist Church. A. S. Milne asked for the removal of the Brunswick Hotel; H. B. Resnor, the Rosedale Hotel; John McDonald also thought the Rosedale Hotel should be transferred. Dr. W. F. Bryans appeared against the Winchester Hotel; E. Wallace against the Gerrard; Rev. A. H. Walker against the Royal Hotel, and H. W. Curtis against the Shamrock.

Protests were also entered against the Duke of York, the Norway, Ben Lamond, Empringham, Edmund Broadview and O'Rourke.

In replying to Mr. Spence and his delegation, J. P. Haverson, solicitor for the liquor interests, stated that as no specific charges had been made, he was only prepared to defend the general interests of the liquor business. He did not think that ten hotels were necessary to provide accommodation in Toronto for the traveling public. "No man could stand up and say that such was actually the case," he thought, however, that the people who did not wish to take a drink in their homes, but who desired a drink, should be considered and that some provision should be made for the drinking public of the city.

In a somewhat lengthy address George Wright of the Walker House endeavored to explain the position of the hotelkeepers in the city, and urged upon the board that it was unfair to wipe out the hotel business without some remuneration. This statement causing the chairman to later state that the board would not consider remuneration where they thought it necessary and wise to cut off a license.

Passage at Arms.
At the close of the discussion, Mr. Spence and Mr. Haverson had a passage at arms, the latter having admitted that the smaller hotels were simply "saloons." "They are nominally hotels, but practically saloons," said Mr. Spence, "and Mr. Haverson agrees with me that they are to accommodate the drinking public."

In summing up the argument that had been presented, and informing the hotel and shopkeepers of the city what was expected of them, the chairman stated that he gathered from what the temperance workers advocated, that they desired the cutting down of licenses in the city; the segregation of the hotel business to the downtown area; closing of the licensed clubs on Sunday, and the removal of all hotels from residential districts.

He declared that Mr. Haverson had admitted that as far as hotel accommodation was concerned, 110 licenses were not needed in the city, but had thought it desirable and necessary in the public interest that provision should be made for the drinking public. The remarks of George Wright of the Walker House, he characterized as applying to the government, declaring that the changes Mr. Wright thought advisable were so radical and so different from the License Act that the proper place for them to be presented was before the government.

In advising the hotelmen as to the commission's object and intentions, Mr. Flavelle said that they proposed visiting every licensed place in Toronto and the County of York. He told them not to go away with the idea that because no specific charges had been laid, licenses were to be granted or renewals made. "We will use our own discretion in granting or cutting off as we see fit in the public interest."

Powers Are Many.
"I want to speak in plain language," said the chairman, in outlining the policy of the board, "so that there will be no misunderstanding. Our powers are exceedingly broad. The board may by resolution at any time cancel or dispose of any license issued by the board in any case where it is thought expedient, and subject to any condition the board may see fit to impose. We can say to you tomorrow morning that your bar must be closed up. No matter what adverse criticism may be made we purpose using that power to the utmost in trying to compel license-holders to obey the law. But the mistaken impression has got into the minds of license-holders that it is the special object of this commission

to knife them, and to kill the man who is a licensee at this time. We are not opponents of the man who keeps the law, but we are unalterably opposed to the man who makes a contract and deliberately violates it. The license-holders will have the protection of the present board, and I think the license-holders will agree that the men who injure the trade are the law-breakers, who have entered into an obligation and deliberately paid no attention to that contract.

"They are the pirates that should be hounded out and should not be allowed to keep hotel."

"We have found that the breaking of the law has been looked on very lightly all over the province, even in Toronto, during our regime. The board intend to deal with these matters exceedingly strictly."

"We don't intend to do away with police justice, but we may, if we see fit, form a court and bring any matter before the board in that way. There is no limitation to the time dating from an offence that delinquents may be brought before the board, and those who try to do this with the police court are only jumping from the frying pan into the fire, and will have no chance of retaining their license if anything is proven before the board."

When Is a Man Drunk?
In defining the term "drunk" the chairman said that any man who has taken sufficient liquor to act in a manner other than when he is sober is a drunken man. He wanted the license-holders to understand that this was the board's interpretation. He also informed them that agents of the board would visit the various hotels and report the number of intoxicated men found, and conditions regarding the soldiers.

In regard to drunken men he declared, "If licensees were a little more careful in not giving more liquor to men who had had enough there would not be the odium attached to the trade that there is at the present time."

Since they have been in the city the members of the board have visited four bars, at each of which they found approximately 150 men. They looked with exceeding favor on the way the businesses were being conducted, the chairman declaring that they were being run a great deal better than he expected them to be.

"I want to impress upon you, and I don't think there is any better way to further the interests of the business," said Mr. Flavelle, "than to take seriously the question of allowing men to become 'drunk.' One definition given me of a drunken man is 'when his pockets are empty,' but don't imagine that is going to modify the offence before this board."

Strict Regarding Soldiers.
The chairman was careful to give caution in regard to supplying soldiers with liquor. "We are vitally interested in anything that will tend to keep the men in the King's uniform as efficient as possible," he declared. "There is no intention on the part of this board to prevent a soldier from eating or sleeping in a hotel, but he has no right to drink except during the hours provided, and our course in regard to drunkenness is intensified in regard to soldiers. Soldiers cannot even enter a bar or pass thru it during prohibited hours."

Shopkeepers were also given some special advice in regard to soldiers, and they were warned not to sell to that class known as "bootleggers."

The chairman said that a licensee who gets drunk himself be given much consideration, as in the opinion of the board such a man is not a fit person to have a license. "The hotelkeeper at the present time must have all his wits about him, and if he has not he will be short-lived as a licensee under this board. We intend to protect the men who obey the law by driving the pirates out of business."

There are 178 licenses to be renewed, 110 to taverns, 50 shops and 18 clubs.

ISLES OF GREECE USED AS SUBMARINE BASES

Lord Hugh Cecil Corroborates Reports of German Misuse of Hellenic Territory.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The reports that Greek islands have been utilized in connection with the operation of German and Austrian submarines were corroborated in the house of commons today by Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs.

"We have reason to think that the enemy on several occasions endeavored to utilize Greek islands as bases for hostile operations," he said, "but it is hoped that measures taken by the Hellenic Government in conjunction with the British and French naval and military authorities will effectually stop this practice."

MONTENEGRO BEATEN THRU LACK OF FOOD

King Nicholas Says Little Grandson Summed Up the Situation.

PARIS, Jan. 27.—"My presence and that of my family and my government here," said King Nicholas of Montenegro, to a special correspondent of The Journal in Lyons, "shows my unbounded confidence that France will protect me from calamity. I do not need to make any apology. My grandson, Prince Humbert, Crown Prince of Italy, when I saw him in Rome the other day, asked me why I was said to be a beaten man."

"The child, saddened, then asked: 'You had nothing to eat in your country?' Thus my 11-year-old grandson summed up the causes of our defeat better than the diplomatists and the chancellors have done."

C. N. R. EARNINGS SHOW GOOD INCREASE IN NET

Gain for Three Months Approaches Two Million Dollars.

Canadian Northern Railway gross earnings for December, were \$2,426,600, an increase of \$1,625,000; expenses \$2,233,500, increase \$857,100; net earnings \$1,202,100, increase \$768,500. Mileage in operation was 8270, an increase of 1384.

Gross earnings for the last three months of the year were \$10,649,200, increase \$4,033,400; expenses \$9,978,800, increase \$2,198,200; net earnings \$5,670,500, increase \$1,925,100.

G.T.R. EARNINGS.

MONTREAL, Jan. 27.—The Grand Trunk Railway System's traffic earnings from Jan. 15 to 21 total for 1916 \$959,914, against \$795,830 for 1915, an increase of \$164,084.

SUEZ CANAL FORTIFIED IN ELABORATE MANNER

British, Indians and Canadians Reported Taking Part in Work.

BERLIN, Jan. 27.—A despatch from Naples to The Cologne Gazette-transmits a description of the extensive fortifications and other works along the Suez Canal, as told by travelers arriving at the Italian port aboard the steamship Montebello from Bombay.

The work of constructing the fortifications is said to be in the hands of British, Indians and Canadians. Trenches and several rows of forts parallel the canal and a road is being built from Suez toward Ismailia, an Egyptian town equi-distant from the Red and the Mediterranean Seas.

Winter Tours to Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, California, Etc.

The Canadian Pacific Railway offers particularly good service to Detroit where direct connection is made for Florida, via Cincinnati and Atlanta, Ga. Jacksonville, Florida, is reached second morning after leaving Detroit. Excellent connection for Florida is also made via Buffalo.

The Canadian Pacific-Michigan Central route will be found the ideal line to Chicago, where direct connection is made for the Southern States; New Orleans is reached second morning after reaching Toronto. Excellent connection is also made at Chicago for points in California, Utah, Nevada, Texas, Arizona, etc.

The dining, parlor and sleeping car service between Toronto, Detroit and Chicago is up-to-date in every particular. Connecting lines also operate through sleeping and dining cars.

Those contemplating a trip of any nature will receive full information from any C.P.R. agent, or write Mr. G. Murphy, District Passenger Agent, Toronto.

KAISER'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED.

BERLIN, Jan. 27. (by wireless to Sayville).—Flags were out everywhere in Berlin today in celebration of the 57th birthday of Emperor William. The daily formal observance consisted of religious services.

SHAUGHNESSY'S NEW TITLE.

MONTREAL, Jan. 27.—"Lord Shaughnessy of Montreal, Canada, and Ashford, County Limerick, Ireland," is the title that the newly created peer president of the Canadian Pacific Railway will assume.

BRITISH HARD PRESSED AT ADEN, SAYS BERLIN

Combined Arab and Turkish Forces Are Reported Attacking Strongly.

BERLIN, Jan. 27.—Twenty thousand British troops defending the Arabian seaport of Aden are under heavy attack by combined Arab and Turkish forces and in a dangerous position, according to reports received here today.

Quoting from Volks Zeitung the Overseas News Agency says: "A wounded British major declared that at the beginning of the war the British were in possession of 250,000 square kilometers in southern and southwestern Arabia all of which has been lost. All the Arab chiefs joined the Turks, and are now using successfully against the British the arms supplied by them."

The Zeitung publishes a despatch from Cairo stating that the British in southern Arabia are in a dangerous position as a result of fierce attacks by Arabs and Turks. It is stated the British casualties up to Dec. 30, amounted to 15,000 killed and 20,000 wounded.

Aden, near the entrance to the Red Sea, must be held if the southerly approach to the Suez Canal is to be protected. A situation quite similar to that outlined in the foregoing despatch was reported thru German agencies several weeks ago, but London then announced officially that no apprehension was entertained of the outcome of the operation, which had been merely in the nature of skirmishes.

FEDERAL PARLIAMENT DEBATE INOPPORTUNE

Bonar Law Intimates, However, That He Is Considering Subject.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—Andrew Bonar Law, secretary for the colonies, was asked in the house of commons today if during the approaching visit of the Premier of Australia to London the question of a federal parliament would be discussed.

"I may be considering it," replied the secretary, "but I do not think the time has come for debate on the subject."

A Record Revenue

In 1915 the Canada Life income was \$9,333,632. This marks a new record in the Company's history.

The Canada Life funds are largely invested in Bonds, Debentures and Mortgages, a good rate of interest being assured for a term of years, with the safety of the principal carefully guarded.

The large interest returns, together with economical management and careful selection of lives are the principal factors in the earning of the record surpluses of recent years. In 1915 the surplus earned was \$1,480,866.

The full Report of one of the most successful years in the Canada Life's history is being printed and will gladly be sent you.

Herbert C. Cox,
President and General Manager.



MONSTER MASS MEETING

MASSEY HALL
TONIGHT, 8 O'CLOCK
Doors Open 7.30

CHAIRMAN--SIR WILLIAM MULOCK
SPEAKERS:

Mr. Justice Riddell, Sir William Mulock,
Hon. T. W. McGarry, Mayor Church,
Hon. N. W. Rowell.

109th Regimental Band. Soloists—Miss Marjorie Dennis, Mr. Douglas Stanbury.
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Complete Results of Campaign Will Be Announced. All Are Welcome. No Collection.

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