

PROHIBITION OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

House resumed consideration of proposed resolution of Mr. Stevens, 2210.

Bennett, R. B. (Calgary)—2210.

Used as a stimulant, it has, as this war has indicated, a valuable place; used as a drug, it also has a valuable place, but it has no place as a beverage when human effort is considered from the standpoint of human efficiency, 2211. Having regard to these results in the various provinces, we have to consider what our attitude should be as a Parliament, representing not one province but all the people of the Dominion, 2212. Most men object to being told what they should eat and what they should drink. There is no man so bold in this House as to say that the liquor traffic should not be restricted and regulated, 2213. Let me ask this question of the House, which seems to me after all, the crux of this whole issue: Within what area and to what extent shall the will of the majority prevail over the will of the minority with respect to the tastes and appetites of the people, 2214-22. Amendment moved, 2222.

Davidson, A. L. (Annapolis)—2223.

The evils of the liquor traffic are so inherent that to-day they are appreciated both by the user and by the non-user of alcoholic liquors. But this was not always so. It has taken a long time for this evil to be viewed in its proper light. The role which alcohol has played in the human drama has been the role of the gay deceiver, 2223. The difficulties prohibitory legislation referred to, 2224-6.

Edwards, J. W. (Frontenac)—2233.

But if we take for granted the hon. member's statement, that the overwhelming sentiment in every province is in favour of prohibition, what does it mean? It means that if each of the nine provinces go to the full limit of its powers in passing legislation, this Parliament, by this Act, is going to make that legislation absolutely effective—and so you will have prohibition from one end of Canada to the other, 2234.

Hughes, J. J. (Kings, P.E.I.)—

Gives reasons for supporting resolution, 2235-6.

McCraney, G. E. (Saskatoon)—2236.

It would be better for the provinces themselves, and for the temperance cause which I support, if the people in each of these provinces should have their contests out and should come to their own conclusions so that we might later on act upon these results, 2236-7.

Marcil, Hon. Charles (Bonaventure)—2231.

Believes that the public opinion of Canada is in favour of a Dominion wide prohibitory law, 2231-3.

Martin, W. M. (Regina)—2226.

Temperance legislation of Saskatchewan referred to, 2226-7. Thinks prohibition will not be a success until the Dominion Government enacts legislation, 2228.

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—*Con.*

Seguin, P. A. (L'Assomption)—2228.

I protest against the attempts at coercion which have been used in certain localities to force upon the people this measure which is pompously labelled prohibition and which prohibits nothing except the licensed and consequently legal, licit and controlled traffic in alcoholic beverages and substitutes the secret traffic with its long train of immoralities, 2229.

Stevens, H. H. (Vancouver)—2230.

I submit that if ever there was a matter of supreme national importance, it is this problem above all other problems with which this Dominion is faced. Therefore, I think that under the provisions of the British North America Act it can be and should be dealt with by this Parliament, 2230-1.

Turriff, J. S. (Assiniboia)—

Thinks motion of Mr. Stevens should be adopted and accuses the Government of sidestepping, 2235.

Amendment carried on division, 2237.

PROHIBITION OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

House again in consideration of proposed resolution of Mr. Stevens, 2352.

Remarks:

Bennett, R. B. (Calgary).

Boivin, G. H. (Shefford), 2356.

Buchanan, W. A. (Medicine Hat), 2357.

Devlin, E. B. (Wright), 2359.

Graham, Hon. G. P. (Renfrew South), 2356.

Guthrie, Hugh (Wellington South), 2356.

Macdonald, E. M. (Pictou), 2359-60.

McCoig, A. B. (Kent West), 2357.

McMillan, J. A. (Glengary), 2357-8.

Nesbitt, E. W. (Oxford North), 2360-1.

Proulx, E. (Prescott), 2358.

Sinclair, J. H. (Guysborough), 2356-7.

Turgeon, O. (Gloucester), 2358-9.

Motion as amended agreed to, 2361.

PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

House in committee on Bill No. 66.—Mr. Doherty, 2479.

Remarks:

Doherty, Hon. J. C. (Minister of Justice), 2479-86, 2488-9, 2490-1-3.

Edwards, J. W. (Frontenac), 2494-5.

Lemieux, Hon. R. (Rouville), 2491-3.

Pugsley, Hon. Wm. (St. John City), 2486-8.

Sinclair, J. H. (Guysborough), 2489-90.

PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

House in committee on Bill No. 66.—Mr. Doherty, 2549.