

Safety on Railways.

Copy of Bill No. 2, as amended in Committee of the Whole House.

No. 2.]

BILL.

[1897.

An Act further to secure the safety of railway employees and passengers.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. All cars fitted with air-brakes shall, within two years after it is made to appear to the Railway Committee of the Privy Council that a satisfactory device of this kind is in existence, be provided with an automatic device in the hose-coupling of such air-brakes, or in the train pipes, so arranged that, after the cars are coupled, the connection between such brakes and the air pump on the locomotive cannot be broken, or the coupling deranged, accidentally or otherwise, without the knowledge of the engineer. Cars fitted with air-brakes to be provided with certain device.

2. All box freight cars built for use on Canadian railways shall, after the passing of this Act, be of a uniform standard height of drawbar from the top of the rail, and shall be provided, for the security of railway employees, with outside and end ladders, on opposite corners of each car, projecting below the frame of the car, and with one step or rung of the ladder below such frame. As to box freight cars.

2. Such standard height and such ladders shall be subject to the approval of the Minister of Railways and Canals. Approval of Minister.

3. Every such car already built, which is the property of Canadian railways for use in Canada, shall, within two years after the passing of this Act, be fitted with the foregoing attachments, except as provided in section one. As to cars already built.

4. The penalty for building such cars not fitted in accordance with the provisions of this Act, after the date herein mentioned, shall be twenty five dollars for each car. Penalty.

5. The penalty for using any car not fitted in accordance with the provisions of this Act after the date herein provided, shall be five dollars a day for every day or trip lasting less than a day, during which it is so used. Penalty.

6. The Minister of Railways and Canals shall proceed against any railway company or car builder handling, using or building such cars contrary to the provisions of this Act, on the information of any credible person; provided, however, that any other person may institute any proceeding for the recovery of any penalties provided by this Act. Prosecution.

7. Every employee of a railway company injured while in the discharge of his duty shall, for every day during which he is thereby unfitted for duty, be entitled to compensation from the railway company at the rate of not less than 60 per cent of the current rate of wages for men similarly employed by the company, at the time the injury occurs, to be paid for not more than fifty-two weeks. Compensation if employee is injured.

2. Every such employee permanently disabled while in the discharge of his duty shall be entitled to compensation from the railway company to the amount of not less than four years' wages at the rate thereof at the time of he accident. If permanently disabled.