

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR

Was Submitted to the Legislature Last Week by the Chief Inspector—The Intoxicating Liquor Act Was Well Enforced During the Year—Numerous Violations Dealt With—The Attitude of Doctors and Druggists Criticized.

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 31st, 1919.

To the Hon. Robert Murray,
Provincial Secretary-Treasurer
Province of New Brunswick

Dear Sir: I have the honor to submit this my Third Annual Report as Chief Inspector under "The Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1916," for the year ending October 31st, 1919.

Strength and Distribution of the Staff

The Officers consist of:

- 1 Chief Inspector,
- 1 Stenographer and Clerk,
- 1 Stenographer (temporarily),
- 22 Inspectors.

(1) The number and description of licenses and the names of applicants to whom licenses were granted are given in Schedule "A".

(2) The number of prosecutions conducted by the Department was:—Convictions, 578; Dismissals, 96.

Twelve appeals by defendants have been taken to the Supreme Court against magistrates' decisions. One of them was an appeal called Ex Parte Crawford case which was decided by the Court of Appeal sustaining the magistrate's decision, showing that Jamaica Ginger having been sold and used as a beverage was an intoxicating liquor and came under the provisions of "The Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1916."

(3) The number of Licensees convicted under the Prohibition Act was four, one wholesale and three Retail.

(4) General remarks as to the working of the Law within the Province.

Since the first of November, 1918 we have experienced in the Province of New Brunswick, as elsewhere, an abnormal condition. Great crime waves have been sweeping over the world and in this Province we have felt them more or less. "The New York Evening Post" says: "It is the condition that has followed all wars. It is the back-wash of the military tides. The psychology of it may be the suspension of the civil law by the military or the suspension of the moral law by the irregularities of war. Another possible reason is the confusion in the period of reconstruction which emboldens the criminal to seek an advantage."

Another condition hard to overcome was that which was created by the Influenza Epidemic. This covered a period of several months and was accentuated with a recurrence of the "Flu." Some doctors asked that provision be made so that liquors for medicinal purposes might be obtained much more readily. This request, in the face of stern necessity, was granted and it is only fair to state that in some quarters the measures taken were greatly appreciated, while on the other hand it is only fair to set forth that there were many who did not scruple to take advantage of the occasion to obtain liquors for other than medicinal purposes.

The conditions created by the Epidemic were intensified by the ending of the War and the return of the soldiers. The influences operating during the years of tension and trial being suddenly withdrawn a changed condition was immediately noticeable. Every province in the Dominion has had this same problem which has been described by John Garrihy, Chief of Police in Chicago, as "the inevitable after-math of the War."

The many restraints throughout that have held men for four years were relaxed and many things that were considered unlawful during the days of War are now considered lawful. When these restraints were lifted and the period of relaxation had come a changed condition was inevitable. This change found expression by a great many returning to old habits and to old haunts.

A serious cause for complaint is found in the attitude of some few of the doctors in the Province of New Brunswick, twenty-four of whom have been before the courts in various sections and have been convicted. We have had some doctors who have freely resorted to the issuing of prescriptions and the number issued by several of them appear to be altogether beyond reason. During the last few months we have been keeping a record of the number of prescriptions written by the different medical men, which record is most illuminating showing that contrary to expectations the senior doctors or the leading doctors in the community do not prescribe liquors freely, but that the juniors do. This constitutes a problem that is worthy of very serious

consideration and adequate means ought to be sought and found to deal with doctors who persistently and flagrantly violate the Law.

Throughout the year it was suggested that an advantage might be found in increasing the number of Licensees under "The Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1916." It was felt that where there were one or two druggists in a city holding a license that they not only had a monopoly of the business, but that there was an unfair discrimination against those who had not obtained a license. From the view-point of sobriety the move was unfortunate, as no sooner was the number of Licensees multiplied than drunkenness increased. Our experience has taught us that wherever the greatest facilities for drinking are made there we shall have the greatest amount of drunkenness.

The enforcement of the Act has gone on quite steadily, the various Inspectors facing their difficult tasks as best they could under the adverse circumstances that confronted them during the abnormal period of the "Flu," the ending of the War and throughout the year. The officer's task is not an enviable one at the best of times and has been exceedingly difficult these last twelve months. The strange mentality operating and the very nature of their tasks making it at all times hard, quite often risky and seldom pleasing. Possibly no class or set of officers is so beset with temptation or opposition as a Prohibition Inspector and yet the work of enforcement has gone along in this Province fairly free from the embarrassments and impediments that usually hamper and hinder officers of the Law. One difficulty experienced here, as elsewhere, is to obtain the class and type of men who will make efficient officers and that class when obtained are usually hard to hold.

We have found it necessary to have an interchange of officers throughout the Province during the year because of so many holidays, exhibitions, horse races, joy days and picnics. That method was suggested as several of the committees had asked for help to control the large crowds that came to the different places of entertainment. Many requests came from clergymen who were having church picnics or some other series of attraction requesting that men be sent to assist in keeping order. Many places where the men went their help was greatly appreciated by those in charge.

Throughout the year several of the Inspectors have been subject to severe punishment inflicted upon them while in the performance of their duties. One Inspector on account of injuries received was on the sick list for several months. Another was severely beaten and assaulted while the third had his hand badly bitten by a violator of the Law whom he was trying to arrest.

The Inspectors have disclosed in their investigations considerable illicit manufacture of spirits and several prosecutions have been brought by the officers of the Inland Revenue Department, conviction following as the result of the work of the Inspectors.

The outstanding affair in the history of the Province, however, was the visit of the Prince of Wales to the City of Saint John in August last. Tremendous crowds gathered to welcome the heir apparent to the British Throne. Never before have we had such a concourse of people assembled on one occasion and yet the testimony of the Chief Commissioner of Canada, R. G. Chamberlin, was to the effect that the crowds were easy to handle because of their sobriety and that it would have been a much more difficult task if liquor had been in evidence.

It is recognized that at certain times and certain places there are waves of intemperance occasioned by a supply of liquor arriving in these communities, but these occasions have been reduced as near to the minimum as possible. The testimony of those best qualified to speak concerning conditions throughout the Province is that improvements are noticeable in practically every sphere of life. It has even been suggested in well informed circles that the reason for the abundance of money being spent throughout the Province is because that less money is being spent on liquor and more on the necessities of life.

The Collector of Customs for the Port of Saint John is our authority for stating that before the adoption of Prohibition the amount of duty collected on spirituous liquors here was from \$35,000 to \$40,000 per month, but that since the adoption of Prohibition the amount collected has been from \$2,000 to \$2,500 per month. This may be one explanation of why so much money is available in the country.

Before closing this report I beg to submit for your consideration the following recommendations:—

(1) That in view of the many serious, flagrant and continued violations of "The Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1916," that Sections 31 and 46 be changed so that the maximum quantity a doctor may prescribe for a patient in a town, village or city may not exceed more than eight ounces of intoxicating liquor, this not to include Alcohol for external purposes. This recommendation comes because of conferences and discussions with doctors in this Province.

(2) That in view of the fact that drug stores are increasing and that the proprietors of said drug stores are making application for a license I would recommend that no license be granted to any druggist, but that it be given to parties whose only business is attending to that one particular affair and that the Government regulate the price of liquors.

(3) I would also suggest that for the more efficient working of the enforcement of the Prohibition Act that the Province be divided into five separate districts and that each district be supervised by a senior officer who would be responsible to the Chief Inspector for the carrying on of his duties and that in each district there be junior officers responsible to the senior. This would mean a somewhat larger expenditure than at present, but it would enable the officers to much more efficiently enforce the Law and then it might be possible to make some arrangements for these officers to have some other duties and to be related to some other department. I would propose that the Province be divided into districts as follows:

- (1) Saint John and Kings Counties with headquarters at St. John.
- (2) York, Sunbury, Queens and Charlotte Counties with headquarters at Fredericton.
- (3) Westmorland, Albert and Kent Counties with headquarters at Moncton.
- (4) Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche Counties with headquarters at Bathurst.
- (5) Madawaska, Victoria and Carleton Counties with headquarters at Edmundston.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. WILSON,

Chief Inspector.

SCHEDULE "A"—LICENSES GRANTED

Wholesale—

- Hudon, Hebert & Co., Ltd., Montreal, Que.
- Lawrence A. Wilson Co., Ltd., Montreal, Que.
- Laporte, Martin, Ltd., Montreal, Que.
- The Canadian Drug Co., Ltd., St. John, N. B.

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EXTRA TO AVERAGE	EXTRA TO AVERAGE	EXTRA TO AVERAGE	EXTRA TO AVERAGE	EXTRA TO AVERAGE

MINK

Fine, Dark	40.00 to 32.00	28.00 to 22.00	20.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 13.00	15.00 to 8.00
Usual Color	30.00 to 25.00	20.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 13.00	12.00 to 10.00	12.00 to 6.00
Pale	22.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 13.00	12.00 to 10.00	8.00 to 7.00	8.00 to 4.00

RACCOON

Black,	30.00 to 25.00	22.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 12.00	10.00 to 8.50	10.00 to 6.00
Heavy Furred,	20.00 to 16.00	14.00 to 12.00	10.00 to 8.50	8.00 to 6.50	8.00 to 5.00
Ordinary	15.00 to 12.00	10.00 to 8.00	7.50 to 6.50	6.00 to 4.50	6.00 to 4.00

RED FOX

50.00 to 40.00	35.00 to 30.00	28.00 to 22.00	20.00 to 16.00	20.00 to 10.00
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These extremely high prices for New Brunswick Furs are based on the well-known "SHUBERT" liberal grading and are quoted for immediate shipment. No. 3, No. 4 and otherwise inferior skins at highest market value. Ship your Furs now—when we want 'em. You'll get "more money" and get it "quicker" too.

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NOTICE OF LEGISLATION.

Public notice is hereby given that application will be made at the next session of the Legislative Assembly, by the City of Fredericton, for the passage of a bill or bills for the following purposes:

(a) To amend the City of Fredericton Assessment Act, 1907, and in particular section 46 thereof, so as to provide that tax notices may be mailed to ratepayers or delivered personally, as the City Treasurer may decide, under the direction of the Finance Committee.

(b) That the said Assessment Act be further amended so as to provide that all females assessed on income or property, real or personal, within the City of Fredericton, and who shall have paid their taxes within the time limited thereby by the said Act, shall be entitled to vote at City elections.

(c) For authority to make a grant for a Memorial in memory of soldiers who lost their lives during the Great War, either by way of assessment or by borrowing, as the City Council may decide.

(d) For authority to grant to the John Palmer Company, Limited, exemption from taxation for a period of twenty years from and including the year 1920; free sewerage for the same period of time under such limitation as the City Council may decide, and water for all purposes at the fixed rate of ten cents per thousand gallons, for the said period of twenty years.

Dated the second day of March, A.D. 1920.

G. R. PERKINS,
City Clerk.

NEWS AGENTS IN CITY.

THE DAILY MAIL IS ON SALE
in the City of Fredericton at the
places of business of the following:

- D. LENIHAN, 522 King St.
- D. H. CROWLEY, 612 Queen St.
- ALONZO STAPLES, 100 York St.
- MISS QUINN, 147 Westmorland St.
- E. A. EARDLEY, 704 King St.

CITY ELECTION

An Election for Alderman, for Kings Ward, to serve the unexpired term of Alderman J. A. Reid, who resigned as Alderman, to accept a nomination for Mayor, will be held on

MONDAY

THE 29TH DAY OF MARCH, 1920,
AT THE POLLING PLACES

AS FOLLOWS:

DIVISION No. 1—For all voters residing or owning property above the northwest centre line of Carleton Street prolonged, at or near the City Hall in the said City.

DIVISION No. 2—For all voters residing or owning property in the remainder of the said City, at or near the County Court House in said City.

NOMINATIONS

Every candidate for the office of Alderman shall be qualified to vote at the election for which he is nominated, and shall be nominated in writing by at least TWO ratepayers residing in the City of Fredericton, and qualified to vote at the ensuing election for which such candidate is nominated.

Every nomination paper with the certificate of the City Treasurer shall be filed with the City Clerk or at his office and not later than four o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, the 22nd day of March, 1920, and the City Clerk, before receiving such nomination paper, shall ascertain from the same that the requirements of the Election Act have been complied with.

No candidate is qualified to be nominated for Alderman unless at the time of the nomination he is a resident of the Ward for which he is nominated.

The acceptance of each candidate and the signatures of at least TWO resident qualified voters, who must sign the nomination paper, shall be proved by a witness by affidavit attached to the nomination.

In case of a contest, each elector shall be entitled to vote for ONE candidate for Alderman for King's Ward.

Dated this 13th day of March, A. D. 1920.

G. R. PERKINS,
City Clerk.

The National Drug Co., Ltd., St. John, N. B.

The Brayley Drug Co., Ltd., St. John, N. B.

Retail—Restigouche County.

Thomas Wran, Campbellton.

Alexis C. Roy, Campbellton.

Felix Ultican, Jacquet River.

Retail—Gloucester County.

Sylvestre Vienneau, Bathurst.

Hubert Arseneau, Tracadie.

Louis P. Dughay, Caracquet.

Retail—Northumberland County.

Patrick J. McEvoy, Newcastle.

Clifford P. Hickey, Chatham.

J. D. B. F. McKenzie, Chatham.

W. J. C. Scott, Loggieville.

Moses Schaffer, Blackville.

Retail—Kent County.

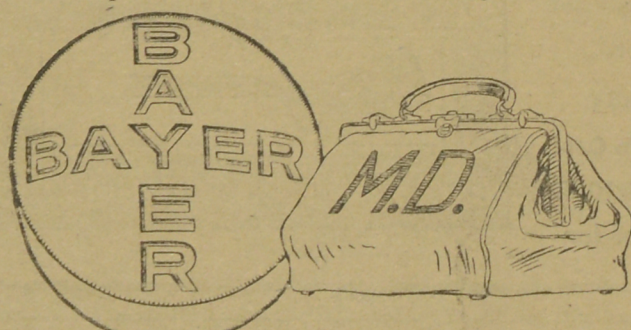
Neil J. Ross, Buctouche.

Continued on Page Seven

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There is only one Aspirin—"Bayer"—You must say "Bayer". Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada) of Bayer Manufacture of Monoclonal Aspirin of Salicylic Acid. While it is well known that Aspirin means Bayer Manufacture, to assist the public against imitations, the Tablets of Bayer Company will be stamped with their registered trade mark, the "Bayer Cross."