

Tuesday, Feb. 14th

NEW PEDDLERS BILL, WITH MANY CHANGES, BEFORE LEGISLATURE

Authority of Township Councils to License Is Abolished, Maximum Fee Fixed and Fairly Wide Range of Exemptions Provided

**SPONSORED BY M.P.
FOR WEST HAMILTON**

A new bill respecting the licensing of hawkers, peddlers and transient traders, is before the Ontario Legislature for "yes!" or "no!"

It came down yesterday representative of the joint wisdom of the Special Committee appointed last session to tackle the peddlers' problem, and it is sponsored by Fred T. Smye, Conservative member for West Hamilton, and one of the committee members.

The new piece of legislation is an extensive modification of Mr. Smye's ill-fated measure of a year ago. In effect, it abolishes the authority of Township Councils to license; establishes a maximum fee to be charged by towns and municipalities, with a general shading down of the fees set forth in last year's bill; and fixes a fairly-wide range of exemptions.

Passing of By-Laws.

Under its terms, by-laws to license may be passed "by the Councils of counties and towns, in unorganized territory having a population of not less than 2,000, and of separated towns, and of cities having a population of less than 100,000, and by the Board of Commissioners of Police of cities having a population of not less than 100,000."

Except in the case of persons who have resided continuously in the municipality for at least a year prior to the application for a license—and whose fee, the by-law may provide, shall be one-half of that fixed by the by-law—license charge must not exceed the following scale:

For a two-horse wagon or a motor vehicle of over one-half ton capacity or a boat, vessel or other craft, \$50, in towns; and \$100 in other municipalities. For a one-horse wagon, etc., \$25, and \$50; for a pushcart, \$10, and \$20. For a person travelling on foot carrying a pack or basket or otherwise carrying goods, \$10 and \$15; for a person going from place to place or to other men's houses to take orders for goods to be delivered afterward, \$10 and \$15.

Exemptions Provided.

No by-law shall apply to the selling of: (1) goods to a wholesale merchant or, except as provided by Paragraph 2, to a retail merchant; (2) goods which are the manufacture of Ontario, if the same are sold

by the individual who manufactured the same; (3) goods by a retail merchant occupying premises other than his residence in the municipality for the purpose of his business who goes around to take orders for goods forming part of his stock in trade; (4) goods by a farmer, market gardener or nurseryman which are the growth or produce of his farm, market garden or nursery in Ontario, if the same are sold by him or by his bona fide servants or employees having written authority to do so, which authority shall be carried by such servant or employee, and exhibited when required by any municipal or peace officer; (5) goods to a farmer, market gardener, nurseryman, or person assessed in respect of business in the municipality, which are required by such farmer, market gardener, nurseryman, or person in carrying on and promoting his business, and are not intended for resale; (6) goods classed as newspapers, magazines, medical and scientific books, pianos, organs, sewing machines and motor vehicles.

Penalty for failure of a peddler to produce license when demanded by an officer has been cut from \$5 minimum and a \$25 maximum, as suggested in last session's bill, to \$1 and \$10, respectively.

The fee to be paid by wholesale merchants or farmers who deal in fruits which are not the growth of Ontario is fixed by this bill as not to exceed \$150. Under the old bill the corresponding charge was set at \$250.

New Definition.

According to the new bill, the definition "transient traders" shall include any person occupying premises for the purpose of offering any goods, wares or merchandise for sale, at retail, for present or future delivery by auction, by sample or otherwise, who has not resided continuously in the municipality for at least three (formerly six was suggested) months preceding the time of his commencing such business therein, and whose name is not entered on the assessment roll in respect of business or income assessment for the current year.

Fee to be paid by transient traders shall be not less than, in a city or town, \$200; in a village or unorganized territory, \$200; and in other villages and townships, \$100.

This is the same schedule as set forth in the bill of a year ago.

LEGISLATURE IS TOLD PROBE IS TO BE MADE INTO MINING TRAGEDY

Mining Department Not Likely to Conduct It, Premier Intimates

REPORT FROM INSPECTOR

Smoke First Noticed 8.15 a.m. Friday. Says Messa

An inquiry into the Hollinger tragedy will be conducted "at the earliest possible date," as soon as reports from Government officials indicate what the nature and scope of the investigation should be.

This Premier Ferguson told the members of the Legislature and the public yesterday afternoon. With his announcement he coupled the reading of a telegram that he had just received from Thomas F. Sutherland, Chief Inspector of Mines, a message which states that smoke was first reported at 8.15 a.m. on Friday.

Government in Touch.

"The Mines Department officials," said the Premier, "have been on the scene since the outbreak of the fire. The department and the Government has been closely in touch with everything that has transpired."

He then read the latest report coming from Inspector Sutherland. It was as follows:

"Fire zone reached late yesterday afternoon and water from two line of hose turned on at 6.30 p.m. Fire appears to have been confined to small area in 55-A stope east and west of 12 crosscut between 550-foot level and 675-foot level. Apparently material burned was refuse from underground thaw in fifth level. If this is correct such material would quickly generate tremendous volume of smoke, and fumes heavily charged with carbon monoxide gas. Carried by the ventilation current these fumes rapidly filled the central portion of the mine in vicinity of No. 12 shaft.

"The mine records show that 921 men were underground at 9 a.m. Friday. This number included foremen, samplers and surveyors. Smoke was first reported at 8.15 o'clock Friday, Feb. 10, and the area affected localized at 8.45 a.m. by Mine Captain Johnson, who finding it impossible on account of gas to reach the fire with the water hose, sent

word to all foremen to get their men out of the mine. Final check-up on Friday afternoon showed 51 men unaccounted for. Most of these men were in a district adjacent to the fire and under the supervision of Mine Captain Pont and Shift Boss Graham, who were overcome by gas while attempting to reach their men. Graham died; Pont was resuscitated on surface.