

Gouernment Gazette. Bomban

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FRIDAY, 16TH DECEMBER 1898.

F Separate paging is given to this Part, in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART V.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT, BOMBAY.

(To be translated into Maráthi, Gujaráti and Kanarese, and the translations to be published in the "Bombay Government Gazette." To be translated also into Sindhi, and the translation to be published in the "Sindh Official Gazette." The dates of publications to be reported.)

The following Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying it, is published in accordance with Rule 22 of the Rules for the conduct of business at Meetings of the Council of His Excellency the Governor cf Bombay for making Laws and Regulations :---

Bill No. VI of 1898.

A Bill to amend the Bombay Abkári Act, 1878.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend Bo. V of The Bombay Abkári Act, 1873, in manner 1878. hereinafter appearing; It is enacted as follows :--

> 1. This Act may be cited as "The Bombay Abkári Act Short Title. Amendment Act. 1899."

2. In the Bombay Abkári Act, 1878, Bo. V of 1878. hereinafter called the Amendment of headsaid Act, for the heading to Part 1V ing to Part 1V. thereof there shall be substituted the following, viz. :v.-111

"IV .- Cultivation and Manufacture."

Amendment of sec-

3. In clause (9) of section 3 of the said Act after the word "bhang," there shall be inserted the

word "charas" and after the figure "1878", there shall be inserted the following, viz. :--

"and

tion 3.

"hemp" means any variety of the hemp plant from which intoxicating drugs can be produced."

4. In sections 9, 10, 11, 13, 37 and 40

Amendment of sectio..s 9, 10, 11, 13, 37, an1 40.

of the said Act after the word " liquor" wherever it occurs there shall be inserted the word "hemp."

THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, DECEMBER 16, 1898.

In line 1 of section 12 of the said 5 Act after the word "liquor" there shall Amendment of section 12.

be inserted the word "hemp."

6. In section 14 of the said Act for Amendment of section 14.

the first word thereof there shall be substituted the following, viz. :-

"No one shall cultivate hemp and no".

New section after section 14.

7. After section 14 there shall be inserted the following section, viz. :--

"14A. Government may from time

Power of Government to prohibit, &c., culti-vation of hemp and preparation of intoxicating drugs.

to time by notification in the Bombay Government Gazette, in respect of the whole or any

part of the Presidency of Bombay, prohibit absolutely or except under and subject to the terms and conditions of a license granted under section 14,

(a) the cultivation of hemp,

(b) the production or preparation of intoxicating drugs from hemp so cultivated ;

and may, in like manner, cancel or vary any such notification."

8. Amendment of section 16.

In section 16 of the said Act after the words "no liquor" there shall be inserted the following, viz.:-

"No hemp";

and for the second proviso to the same section there shall be substituted the following, viz. :--

"Provided, further, that no such license shall be necessary for the sale-

(1) by a person holding a license under this Act for the possession or cultivation of hemp and making such sale in accordance with the terms of such license, or

(2) by a cultivator or owner of any plant other than hemp from which any intoxicating drug is produced, of those portions of the plant from which such intoxicating drug is manufactured or produced, to a person holding a license under this section for the sale of intoxicating drugs, or to a person

licensed under this Act to duly manufacture or to export intoxicating drugs."

9. For section 27 of the said Act there Amendment of sec- shall be substituted the following, viz. :tion 27.

" 27. (1) A duty shall, if Government so direct by notification in the Bombay Government Gazette, be levied, at such rates and subject to such rules as Government may from time to time prescribe on intoxicating drugs-

(a) produced or manufactured within, or

(b) imported into, or

(c) exported from, or

(d) transported from place to place within the Presidency of Bombay ;

and Government may, in like manner, alter or abolish any duty imposed under this section.

(2) Whenever a license is granted under this Act for the manufacture or sale, whether wholesale or retail or both, of any intoxicating drug, such duty shall be levied in consideration of the privilege granted as the Collector acting under the general or special orders of Government thinks fit."

After section 27 of the said Act as 10. herein amended there

following

viz. :-

New sections after section 27.

> Establishment and licensing of bonded and other warehouses and levy of duty on intoxicating drugs on issue therefrom.

"27A. The Governor in Council may from time to. time by notification in the Bombay Government Gazette.

shall be inserted the

sections.

(a) establish or license bonded or other central warehouses for the storage of intoxicating drugs, and

(b) direct that, subject to such conditions (if any) as he may from time to time impose, the levy of the duty (if any) payable under section 27 on intoxicating drugs in transit to or from or stored in, such warehouses, shall be postponed until such time as may by rule be fixed in this behalf.

Provided that the Collector may, with

Temporary licensing of village warehouses.

the previous sanction of Government, temporarily license suitable buildings as village warehouses

421

for the storage of intoxicating drugs, pending the establishment and licensing of central warehouses in the manner hereinbefore stated, and subject-

(i) to the general or special orders of Government regarding the postponement of the levy of the duty (if any) payable under section 27 on intoxicating drugs in transit to or from or stored in such warehouses, and

(ii) to such rules as may be made in this behalf by the Commissioner under clause (f) of section 35.

"27B. (1) If intoxicating drugs be Payment of warehouse-dues.

lodged in a wareestablished house under the last fore-

going section, the owner shall pay monthly, on receiving a bill or written demand for the same from the Collector or other officer deputed by the Collector in this behalf, warehouse-dues at such rates as the Commissioner may fix.

(2) If any bill for warehouse-dues presented under this section is not discharged within ten days from the date of presentation, the Collector may in discharge of such demand (any transfer or assignment of the drugs notwithstanding), cause to be sold, in such manner as he may think fit, such sufficient portion of the drugs as he may select.

(3) Out of the proceeds of such sale the Collector shall satisfy, first, the duty payable in respect of the drugs sold and, next, the demand in respect of which the drugs were sold, and shall then pay the surplus (if any) to the owner of the drugs on his application :

Provided that, if the drugs fail to produce a sum sufficient to satisfy the said duty and demand, the same shall not be sold, but shall be destroyed by, or by order of, the Collector :

Provided also that the application for such surplus (if any) as aforesaid be made within one year from the date of the sale of the drugs, or that sufficient cause be shown for not making it within such period.

"27C. Any intoxicating drugs ware-

Period during which intoxicating drugs may remain warehoused.

housed under this Act may be left in the warehouse in which they are de-

posited, or in any warehouse to which they may in manner hereinafter provided be premoved, till the expiry of two years from the date on which they were so deposited. The owner of any drugs remaining in a warehouse on the expiry of such period shall forthwith clear the same :

Provided that, when the license for a warehouse licensed under this Act is cancelled and the Collector gives notice of such cancellation to the owner of any drugs deposited in such warehouse, such owner shall, within seven days from the date on which such notice is given, remove such drugs to another warehouse or clear them.

"27D. Any owner of intoxicating

Power to remove intoxicating drugs from one warehouse to another.

drugs warehoused under this Act may, at any time within two years from the date on which the

drugs were so warehoused, with the permission of the Collector and on such conditions and after giving such security (if any) as the Collector may direct, remove the drugs from one warehouse to another, whether established or licensed by the same or another Local Government and whether under this Act or under any other enactment for the time. being in force.

"27E. The Governor in Council may

Power of Government to make rules.

from time to time by notification in the Bombay Gov-

ernment Gazette make rules consistent with this Act-

(a) to regulate the time, place and manner of payment of the duties (if any) imposed under section 27;

b) to carry into effect the provisions of section 14, and

(c) generally to carry into effect the provisions of this Part."

11. After section 31 of the said Act there shall be in-Amendment of secserted the following, tion 31. viz. :--

"And every person taking out a license to cultivate hemp under this Act shall, if called upon by the Collector so to do, give such security for the observance of the conditions of such license as the Collector may require."

12. For clause (f) of section 35 of the said Act there Amendment of secshall be inserted the tion 35, following, viz. :-

"(f) for placing the cultivation of hemp, the preparation of intoxicating drugs, and the storage, import, export, transport or removal of liquor, hemp or intoxicating drugs under such supervision as may be deemed necessary for the purposes of this Act, and for carrying into effect the provisions of section 27A or any part thereof."

13. In clause (a) of section 36 of the Amendment of section 36. inserted the word "warehouse," and after the word "liquor" wherever it occurs there shall be added the word "hemp."

In clause (b) of the same section after the words "believe that liquor" there shall be inserted the word "hemp."

In clause (d) of the same section after the word "liquor" there shall be inserted the word "hemp."

14. In clauses (a) and (b) and (g) of Amendment of section 43. be inserted the word "hemp," and after clause (g) of the same section there shall

clause (g) of the same section there shall be inserted the following, viz.: —

" or

(h) cultivates hemp."

15. In section 53 of the said Act after Amondment of sec- the words "any tion 53. liquor" there shall be inserted the following, viz. :---

" or hemp."

" 54. All

16. For section 54 of the said Act Amendment of section 54. Section 54 of the said Act there shall be substituted the following, viz. :--

ing, viz. :-liquor, hemp, mhowra

What things liable to cating confiscation.

flowers, or intoxicating drugs im-

transported, removed, manufactured, sold, or had in possession, and all hemp cultivated, in contravention of this Act or of any rule or order made under this Act, or of any license, permit or pass obtained under this Act, and

all toddy drawn from any tree in contravention of this Act, or of any such rule, order, license, permit or pass as aforesaid, and

all liquor, if any, all hemp, if any, all mhowra flowers, if any, and all intoxicating drugs, if any, lawfully imported, exported, transported, removed, manufactured, sold, or had in possession, and all toddy, if any, lawfully drawn, along with or in addition to, any liquor, hemp, mhowra flowers, or intoxicating drugs, imported, exported, transported, removed, manufactured, sold, or had in possession, or along with or in addition to any toddy drawn as aforesaid, and

all stills, utensils, implements or apparatus whatsoever for the manufacture of liquor or of any intoxicating drug used, kept or had in possession in contravention of this Act, or of any rule or order made under this Act, or of any license obtained under this Act, and

all materials collected, or had in possession for the purpose of unlawfully manufacturing liquor or any intoxicating drug, and

the vessels, packages and coverings, in which any liquor, hemp, mhowra flowers, intoxicating drug, still, utensil, implement, apparatus or material aforesaid, is found, and the other contents, if any, of the vessel or package, in which the same is found, and the animals, carts, vessels, or other conveyances used in carrying the same,

shall be liable to confiscation."

17. After section 58 of the said Act New section after there shall be inserted the following section, viz. :--

"58A. In the case of alleged illegal

Procedure in case of illegal cultivation of heap. cultivation of hemp, the crop shall not be removed, but shall, pending the

disposal of the case, be attached by an Abkári officer duly empowered in this behalf, and such officer shall require the cultivator to give bail in a reasonable amount (to be fixed by such officer) for his appearance before the Magistrate by whom the case is to be disposed of, and such cultivator shall not be arrested, unless within a reasonable time he fails to give such bail." PART V]

FORM A.

Form of License to-cultivate Hemp.

| not exceeding | acres 🌒 gunthas | is hereby authorised to cultivate hemp within an area during the season of 18 , that is until the | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| day of of Táluka | 18 , in Survey No in the district of | Pôt No. , of village (Peta, if any) , subject to the following conditions - ' | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

- (a) that he shall not cut the crop before it has been measured by such officer as the Collector may appoint in this behalf;
- (b) that he shall not remove or suffer the crop to be removed except under the provisions of a permit to be granted by the Collector or such officer as he may appoint in this behalf;
- (c) that he shall not sell the crop except to a person holding a license to manufacture under Section 14;
- (d) that before removal, the crop shall be weighed in such manner as the Collector shall appoint.

Dated this day of

1

Scal.

189

Collector.

N.B .-- In measuring the above area an excess of 5 per cent. will be allowed for error.

FORM B.

Form of License to munufacture, store and sell Intoxicating Drugs by Wholesale.

of is hereby authorised by the Collector of to manufacture, store and sell gánja (or bháng, &c., as the case may be) by wholesale at his warehouse situated at in the village or town of táluka, Collectorate, during the term of one year commencing on the 1st August 180 , and ending on the 31st July 189 , both days inclusive, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, that is to say—

1. That he shall have paid such fee of Rs. as the Collector may prescribe.

2. That he shall not sell the said drug (or drugs) to any person other than a licensed whelesale or retail vendor or a licensed exporter thereof, and shall not permit the same to be transported or removed from the place of sale except under a permit duly obtained after payment of duty under the Bombay Abkári Act, 1878.

3.* That he shall not sell the said drug (or drugs) in smaller quantities than

4. That this license may be recalled by the Collector in the event of the infringement by the licensee, or by any of his servants or agents, of any of the conditions hereof, or of any provision of the law relating to Abkári revenue, or of any rule or order framed under any such raw for the time being in force.

(Signed)

Dated this

day of 189 . Seal of the Collector

Collector.

* To be inserted only when the license is granted to a merchant or dealer for wholesale read, v_1 , -112

THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, DECEMBER 16, 1898.



License for the wholesale vend of Intoxicating Drugs.

, of

, having deposited

with the Collector the sum of Rupees (, being, as required by Section 31 of the Bombay A'bkari Act, 1878, the security for the performance of the counterpart agreement executed in conformity with

the security for the performance of the counterpart agreement executed in contoninty while the tenor of this license as required by the said section, license is hereby granted to the said and subject to the provisions of the Bombay A'bkári Act, 1878, conferring upon him the

privilege of selling by wholesale gánja (or bháng, &c., as the case may be) in the district (or taluka, mahál, &c.) of taluka, mahál, &c.) of the let August 189 and ending on the 31st July 189, both

of one year commencing on the 1st August 189, and ending on the 31st July 189, both days inclusive, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, that is to say-

- 1. That he shall have paid the fee of Rs. , if any, prescribed by the Collector.
- 2. That all risks of loss from failure of seasons or from any other cause whatsoever shall be borne by him, without any excuse or claim for compensation whatever.

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3. That he shall keep a shop (or shops) only at the place (or places) noted in the margin or at such other places as the Collector shall from time to time permit; and that he shall keep his shop or shops open daily during authorized hours.

- 4. That he shall, subject to the Collector's approval, make his own arrangement for obtaining supplies of the intoxicating drugs which he is hereby licensed to soll; provided always that he shall not purchase the same from any person in the Presidency of Bombay who does not hold a license for the wholesale vend thereof, and that if he wishes to import or to transport or remove any intoxicating drugs, he shall be subject in doing so to all the provisions of the Bombay A'bkári Act, 1878, and of the rules and orders in force thereunder; that he shall always maintain in his shop (or in each of his shops) such minimum stocks of intoxicating drugs of such kind as may be directed by the Collector.
- 5. That he shall forthwith destroy or dispose of in any manuer open to him otherwise than by retail sale in his farm any intexicating drugs in his possession which, in the opinion of the Collector, may be of bad quality and likely to be obnoxious to the health of the consumers; and that if so required by the Collector, he shall remove all stalks and refuse before permitting any intexicating drug to be removed and shall destroy such stalks and refuse in such manner as the Collector may prescribe.
- 6. That any stock of intoxicating drugs which he is hereby licensed to sell which may remain unsold in his hands on the expiration of this license on 31st July 189, or if it should be in the meantime recalled, on its being so recalled, shall, unless in the former case the licensee obtains a fresh license for the wholesale veud of gánja (bháng, &c., as the case may be) during the year then next ensuing, be the property of Government, and may be taken possession of by the Collector on 1st August 189, or immediately upon the recall of the license, as the case may be.
- 7. That he shall sell intoxicating drugs in virtue of this license only at the shop (or shops) hereinbefore specified and, unless with the previous written sanction of the Collector, shall keep such drugs only at the said shops.
- 8. That he shall from time to time submit to the Collector, for his approval, the name, age and address of any person whom he proposes to employ at his shop (or shops), and shall forthwith supply each person with a nokarnama or certificate of appointment, which shall be countersigned by the Collector, and shall have annexed to it a copy signed by the Collector of the several clauses of his license relating to the keeping of shops, and shall forthwith dismiss from his service any person so employed on being required so to do by the Collector; and shall not employ any female to sell intoxicating drugs.
- 9. That he shall not sell intoxicating drugs in less quantities than gánja bháng , and that he shall not sell to any person other than a licensed wholesale or retail vendor of intoxicating drugs.

425

PART V] THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, DECEMBER 16, 1898.

- 10. That he shall not receive grain, goods, ornaments, wearing apparel or other property in barter or pawn for intoxicating drugs or sell them on credit.
 - 11. That he shall not open his shop (or any of his shops) or make sales therein before sunrise; that he shall not keep his shop (or any of his shops) open or make sales therein after sunset or therein during the night.
 - 12. That he shall have constantly fixed up in a conspicuous part of the front of his shop (or of each of his shops) a sign-board bearing in legible characters in the vernacular language his name and the words "Licensed to sell by wholesale."
 - 13. That he shall keep in a book of paged sheets, stamped with the seal of the Collector or of the Mamlatdár of the Táluka, a daily account at his shop (or at each of his shops), showing the quantities and descriptions of the drugs purchased or imported, the place at which purchased or from which imported, the price paid for the same, the names of the persons from whom they are bought, the quantities and descriptions of drugs respectively manufactured and sold each day, and shall produce the said account for inspection whenever required by the Collector or by any subordinate whom he may depute for that purpose, and shall also furnish such returns and information as may from time to time be called for by the Collector.
 - 14. That if the Collector at any time requires, the weights or measures used in his shop (or any of his shops) shall be such only as may be prescribed by the Collector, and shall be tested and stamped, at his expense, at the Collector's or the Taluka Office.
 - 15. That he shall not, without the written permission of the Collector, sub-let, in whole or in part, the right of vend conferred upon him by this license, or admit partners into his business; and that if the whole or any portion of this contract be sub-let or any partners be admitted into the business, the sub-contractor and the said partners and his or their servants shall be deemed to be servants of the licensee and to be acting on his behalf, and shall be bound by all the conditions of this license as fully as the said licensee is bound.
 - 16. That this license may be recalled by the Collector in the event of default in the punctual payment of the fee stipulated to be paid in Clause 1, or of the infringement by the licensee, or by any of his servants, of any of the conditions hereof, or of any provision of the law relating to Abkári revenue or of any rule or order framed under any such law for the time being in force.

Should this license be so recalled, the right of wholesale vend for the unexpired portion of the period for which this license is granted may be again disposed of or not as the Collector thinks fit. In either case the licensee shall continue responsible for the instalments of fee stipulated for in Clause I of this license. If the right of vend is re-disposed of, he shall receive credit for all payments of duty recovered from the new licensee up to the amount of the duty still payable by him, but shall not have any claim to the profit, if any, realized by Government by such re-disposal.

Dated this

day of

189

(Signed)

Collector.

FORM D.



License for the retail sale of Intoxicating Drugs and for the manufacture and sale of *

, having deposited

with the Collector the sum of Rupees (), being, as required by Section 31 of the Bombay Abkári Act, 1878, the

N.B.- To be filled in by the Collector of the District if majum or any like preparation is to be manufactured and sold.



security for the performance of the counterpart agreement executed in conformity with the tenor of this license as required by the said section, license is hereby granted to the said

of under and subject to the provisions of the Bombay A'bkári Act, 1878, conferring upon him the sole privilege of selling by retail gánja (or bháng, &c., as the case may be) and of manufacturing and selling such preparation of the same as may be specially allowed by the Collector, namely in the district (or taluka, mahál, &c.) of during the term of one year commencing on the 1st August 189, and ending on the 31st July 189, both days inclusive, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, that is to say—

- 1. That he shall pay monthly in advance on the 1st day of each month, commencing on the 1st August 189, on account of duty a sum of Rs. into the Government Treasury at
- 2. That all risks of loss from failure of seasons or from any other cause whatsoever shall be borne by him, and he shall make all payments of duty as aforesaid from time to time as they fall due, without any excuse or claim for compensation whatever.

3. That he shall keep a shop only at the place noted in the margin, and that he shall keep his shop open daily during authorized hours.

- 4. That he shall, subject to the Collector's approval, make his own arrangement for obtaining supplies of the intoxicating drugs which he is hereby licensed to sell; provided always that he shall not purchase the same from any person in the Presidency of Bombay who does not hold a license for the wholesale vend thereof; and that if he wishes to import or to transport or remove any intoxicating drugs, he shall be subject in doing so to all the provisions of the Bombay A'bkári Act, 1878, and of the rules and orders in force thereunder.
- 5. That he shall forthwith destroy or dispose of in any manner open to him otherwise than by retail sale in his shop any intoxicating drugs in his possession which, in the opinion of the Collector, may be of bad quality and likely to be obnoxious to the health of the consumers; and that he shall dispose of refuse and stalks in such manner as the Collector shall direct.
- 6. That any stock of intoxicating drugs which he is hereby licensed to sell which may remain unsold in his hands on the expiration of this license on 31st July 189, or if it should be in the meantime recalled on its being so recalled shall, unless in the former case the licensee obtains a fresh license for the retail vend of gánja (bháng, &c., as the case may be) during the year then next ensuing, be the property of Government, and may be taken possession of by the Collector on 1st August 189, or immediately upon the recall of the license, as the case may be.
- 7. That he shall sell intoxicating drugs in virtue of this license only at the shop hereinbefore specified and, unless with the previous written sanction of the Collector, will keep such drugs only at the said shop.
- 8. That he shall from time to time submit to the Collector, for his approval, the name, age, and address of any person whom he proposes to employ at his shop, and shall forthwith supply each person with a nokarnama or certificate of appointment which shall be countersigned by the Collector, and shall have annexed to it a copy signed by the Collector of the several clauses of this license relating to the keeping of shops, and shall forthwith dismiss from his service any person so employed on being required so to do by the Collector; that he shall not employ any female to sell intoxicating drugs.
- 9. That he shall not sell to one and the same person on any one day any intoxicating drugs exceeding in the aggregate five tolas in the case of gánja and charas and one-fourth Indian seer or twenty tolas in the case of bháng, unless under the authority and in accordance with the terms of a special order duly made in this behalf under Section 17 of the Bombay Abkári Act; that he shall not sell any intoxicating drugs to children or to any insame person.
- 10. That he shall not receive grain, goods, ornaments, wearing apparel or other property in barter or pawn for intoxicating drugs, or sell them on credit.
- 11. That he shall not open his shop or make sales therein before sunrise; that he shall not keep his shop open or make sales therein after sunset or o'clock P.M., and that he shall not harbour any person therein during the night.
- 12. That he shall not permit persons of notoriously bad character to resort to his shop; that he shall prevent gaming and disorderly conduct therein, and that he shall give information to the nearest Magistrate or Police Officer of any suspected person who may resort to his shop.

PART V

anilise .

- 13. That he shall have constantly fixed up in a conspicuous part of the front of his shop a sign-board bearing in legible characters in the vernacular language his name and the words "Licensed to sell "
- 14. That he shall keep in a book of paged sheets, stamped with the seal of the Collector or of the Mämlatdár of the Táluka, a daily account at his shop, showing the quantities and descriptions of the drugs purchased or imported, the place at which purchased or from which imported, the price paid for the same, the names of the persons from whom they are bought, the quantities and descriptions of drugs sold each day, and if manufactured into any preparation as above permitted the quantity so manufactured, and shall produce the said account for inspection whenever required by the Collector or by any subordinate whom he may depute for that purpose, and shall also furnish such returns and information as may from time to time be called for by the Collector.
- 15. That if the Collector at any time requires, the weights or measures used in his shop shall be such only as may be prescribed by the Collector, and shall be tested and stamped, at his expense, at the Collector's or the Taluka Office.
- 16. That he shall not, without the written permission of the Collector, sub-let, in whole or in part, the right of vend conferred upon him by this license, or admit partners into his business; and that if the whole or any portion of this contract be sub-let or any partners be admitted into the business, the sub-contractor and the said partners and his or their servants shall be deemed to be servants of the licensee and to be acting on his behalf, and shall be bound by all the conditions of this license as fully as the said licensee is bound.
- 17. That this license may be recalled by the Collector in the event of default in the punctual payment of the duty stipulated to be paid in Clause 1, or of the infringement by the licensee, or by any of his servants, of any of the conditions hereof, or of any provision of the law relating to A'bkári revenue or of any rule or order framed under any such law for the time being in force.

Should this license be so recalled, the right of retail vend and of such manufacture as may be specially above permitted for the unexpired portion of the period for which this license is granted may be again disposed of or not as the Collector thinks fit. In either case the licensee shall continue responsible for the instalments of duty stipulated for in clause 1 of this license. If the right of vend is re-disposed of, he shall receive credit for all payments of duty recovered from the new licensee up to the amount of the duty still payable by him, but shall not have any claim to the profit, if any, realized by Government by such re-disposal.

(Signed)

Seal of the Collector.

Dated this

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day of

189

Collector.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The object of this Bill is further to amend the Bombay A'bkári Act, No. V of 1878, so as to enable the Government to tax and regulate the traffic in hemp drugs in accordance with the recommendations of the Hemp Drugs Commission (1894), in so far as they have been approved by the Government of India. The general intention is to secure, as far as possible, complete control over the production and sale of hemp drugs and to tax them by the imposition of direct quantitative duties.

2. Taking the main provisions of this measure, it is proposed by sections 6 and 7 of the Bill to amend section 14 of the Act and to insert a new section so as to empower Government to prohibit, absolutely or except under license, the cultivation of the hemp plant and the production of hemp drugs. By section 9 power is also taken to impose a duty on the preparation, importation, exportation and transportation of intoxicating drugs.

v.--113

428

3. Section 10 will insert a number of new provisions (sections 27A to 27E) in the Act so as to establish bonded or other warehouses for the storage 27(E) In the Act so as to establish bonded or other warehouses for the storage of intoxicating drugs, postponing until such time as may be fixed by rule the levy of the duty (if any) payable on them when so stored. Provision is further made for the framing of rules by Government to regulate the time and place of payment of duty and, generally, to carry into effect the provisions of section 14 of the Act (cultivation of hemp and manufacture of intoxicating drugs under license). By section 12 power is also given to Commissioners to make rules (under clause (f) of section 35 of the Act) regarding the storage, import, &c., of hemps and the provisions of new section 27.

Section 11 of the Bill provides that every person taking out a license to cultivate hemp shall, if called upon, give such security for the observance of the conditions of his license as the Collector may require. Section 17 lays down the procedure to be followed in the case of alleged illegal cultivation of hemp.

5. Since several alterations have been made in section 54 of the Act it has been held advisable to redraft the whole section, which appears, in its new form, in clause 16 of the Bill.

6. The remaining sections purport to make consequential amendments, such as the insertion of the word "hemp" in several of the sections of the Act which dealt only with "liquor" and "intoxicating drugs."

Appropriate forms of license are appended to the Bill, e.g., Form A for 7. the cultivation of hemp and Forms B, C and D for the manufacture, storage and sale (both wholesale and retail) of intoxicating drugs. In Forms C and D, it is provided inter alia that no female is to be employed to sell such drugs (wholesale or retail) and in Form D that no such drug shall be sold to children or to any insane person.

6th December 1898.

(Signed) H. E. M. JAMES.

PART V

By order of His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

C. G. H. FAWCETT,

Secretary to the Council of the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations.

Bombay Castle, 15th December 1898.

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