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c 237 Prevention of Accidents by Fire in Hotels Act

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CHAPTER 237.

An Act for the Prevention of Accidents by Fire in
Hotels and other like Buildings.

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as *The Prevention of Accidents by Fire in Hotels Act*. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 1. Short title.

2. In this Act,

Interpretation.

(a) "Hotel" shall mean and include any inn, tavern, public house or place of refreshment where lodgings are let, furnished or provided for the public; "Hotel."

(b) "Inspector" shall have the same meaning as in *The Liquor License Act*; "Inspector." Rev. Stat. c. 215.

(c) "License District" shall have the same meaning as in *The Liquor License Act*. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 2. "License District." Rev. Stat. c. 215.

3.—(1) Every hotel exceeding two storeys in height shall have at least one permanent outside stairway or ladder from each landing or floor above the first storey and extending to at least the first storey. Hotels to have outside stairways or ladder above first storey.

(2) The stairway or ladder shall be built of iron and firmly attached to the wall of the building, and shall be supplied with a hand-rail on each side, and shall be of sufficient strength to sustain a weight of at least one thousand pounds. To be of iron and firmly attached to wall and with hand-rail.

(3) It shall be unlawful to carry on the business of a hotelkeeper in any such building unless the provisions of subsections 1 and 2 are complied with. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 3. Contravention.

4. It shall be the duty of the owner of the hotel to erect and maintain such stairway or ladder, and of the keeper or proprietor of the hotel to keep the way or passage to the stairway or ladder at all times unobstructed and the access to it free. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 4. Duty of owner. Of hotel keeper.

5. If by reason of the default of any owner, after reasonable notice requiring him to erect the same, a keeper or proprietor is compelled to erect a ladder or stairway under the provisions of this Act the keeper or proprietor shall have a right of action or set-off against the owner for all actual Right of action or set off by keeper, etc., against owner.

necessary and reasonable disbursements made by him by reason of the default of the owner. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 5.

Fire escapes to be kept in all bed-rooms.

6.—(1) The keeper or proprietor of every hotel shall provide and keep in each sleeping apartment or bed-room above the ground floor a fire escape for the use of guests occupying the same.

What deemed a sufficient fire escape.

(2) Such fire escape shall be sufficient if it consists of a rope not less than three-quarters of an inch in thickness of sufficient length to reach from the room or apartment in which it is kept to the ground below, kept in a coil or other convenient position in the bed-room or apartment, with proper, secure and convenient fastenings or appliances at the outside window or opening to which one end of the rope may be safely secured or fastened. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 6.

Other outside fire escapes may be approved of by inspector.

7. If an hotel is provided with outside stationary or other fire escapes, differing from what is herein prescribed, by means of which, in the opinion of the inspector of the license district in which the hotel is situate, a reasonably safe and convenient means of egress from the sleeping apartments or bed-rooms is provided in case of fire, the same shall be deemed a compliance with this Act so far as relates to all sleeping apartments or bed-rooms from the outside windows or openings of which there is access to such fire escapes; but the keeper or proprietor of such hotel shall procure a certificate from the inspector certifying to the sufficiency of such fire escapes; and a copy of the certificate shall be transmitted by the inspector to the clerk of the municipality in which the hotel is situate. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 7.

Notice as to fire escapes to be posted in rooms.

8. The keeper or proprietor of every hotel shall, in addition to the notices which he is now required by law to keep posted up in each sleeping apartment or bed-room, also keep posted up therein a notice calling attention to the fire escapes and containing full directions for the use of the same, as well as a statement of the situation of the outside stairway or ladder and of the means of access to the same. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 8.

Penalty.

9.—(1) If an owner, lessee, keeper or proprietor of any hotel neglects to observe any of the provisions of this Act he shall incur a penalty for each offence of not less than \$20 or more than \$200, recoverable under *The Ontario Summary Convictions Act*.

Rev. Stat. c. 90.

Continuance of neglect to constitute new offence.

(2) A conviction for any such offence shall not be a bar to a prosecution for a continuance of such neglect subsequent to the conviction, but such continuance shall constitute a new offence. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 9.

Enforcement of Act.

10. It shall be the duty of the inspector for the license district in which the hotel is situate to take all necessary proceedings to enforce this Act. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 10.

11. Nothing in this Act shall affect any by-law relating to the matters mentioned herein lawfully passed by a municipal council, or the authority of a municipal council to pass any such by-law so far as such by-law imposes additional or more stringent requirements than those imposed by this Act.

3-4 Geo. V. c. 63, s. 11.