



THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S OFFICE,

2 June 1911
PRINCE RUPERT, B. C.191

W. Owen Esq,
Chief Constable,
Prince Rupert B.C.

C O P Y

Sir.

In answer to Constable Forsythe's letter of the 27th inst., I would beg to report that I stayed overnight at Port Essington on May 26th. Whilst there, I met Sp. Con. Gay. About 11 p.m., Constable Gay and myself took a walk along the main street, and went into the Caledonia Hotel, and whilst there I asked the bartender whether he was supposed to close at 11 p.m. or not. He said that he was not aware that he was supposed to close at 11, but that he could keep open all night if he wished. This was more for my own information than for anything else. As regards the accusation re Pool Rooms, this is not correct. Gay asked my opinion as to the closing of Pool Rooms, and I told him that in one or two unorganised towns they were not allowed to remain open, but that was entirely at the discretion of the Constable in charge. As to windows &c of Hotels - Gay asked me my opinion of Hotels on Sundays, and I told him that the Act states that the windows of all bar rooms had to be so kept, that an unobstructed view of the bar room could be had from outside. As to wishing Gay to give me any information re Blind Pigs, all I can say is, that Gay has, at the very least, a very vivid imagination. With regards to this man Herron. Gay told me that this man was a special provincial Constable, and that he carried a badge and a gun. He also told me that he had received several complaints from people in the town, mentioning particularly the Boss Jap. I happened to see Bailey on the street, (whom I have known for some two or three years), and I asked him if this man Herron was a special Constable (Provincial), and he informed me that he was more or less of a disreputable character, an informer, who lived on the proceeds of the $\frac{1}{2}$ fine that he got. Later on, I discovered that Gay had a grudge against Herron and that they were both very antagonistic to each other. I saw Herron on the wharf, and I asked him if he was a special Provincial Constable and he said that he was. It would appear to me from Constable Forsythe's letter, that Gay has been spinning a very long yarn to him (for reasons best known to himself), and that his imagination ran riot in his description of certain events. If I have interfered with anything that happened to be in Constable Forsythe's jurisdiction, I am perfectly willing to apologise to him. But I am hoping that this explanation will be entirely satisfactory to him.

Yours Obediently
sgd. Wm. Godson