BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ANNO TRICESIMO SECUNDO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

* *

No. 20.

An Ordinance to enable the Municipal Council of the City of Victoria to establish a permanent fund for the support of the Fire Establishments of the said City.

[13*th March*, 1869.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that a permanent fund should be raised for the support of the Fire Establishments of the City of Victoria, and that the Mayor and Council of the said City should be empowered to levy a Rate for that purpose, in addition to the powers of taxation conferred under the "Victoria Municipal Ordinance, 1867." Preamble.

Be it enacted by the Governor of British Columbia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:

I. There shall be raised, levied, and collected, in each and every year, during the continuance of an efficient Fire Establishment, upon or in respect of each Building or Erection within the limits of the City of Victoria, except as hereinafter provided, a Rate not exceeding One-quarter of One per Cent. on the value thereof, as laid down on the Municipal Assessment Roll of the said City, for the year next preceding the annual levy. Levy of Fire Rate.

II. Such Rate shall, in the first place, be paid and payable by the tenant or occupier of any such erection or building, and in case such building or erection is vacant, or if such tenant or occupier shall neglect or fail to pay such rate when due, then by the owner of the land on which any such Building or Erection shall be situate; and when paid, the amount paid with Interest thereon at Twelve per Cent. per annum shall be recoverable by such Owner from the Owner or Occupier of such Building or Erection, by distress, or otherwise, in like manner as if the amount due were owing for rent in arrear. Provided, always, that no Rate shall be levied, collected, or paid on or in respect of any Building or Erection on which a substantial insurance against loss or damage by fire is in existence to one-half of the assessed value of the building or erection, if such insurance be effected by or through an Office having an Agent carrying on business within the limits of the said City of Victoria; nor upon any place of public worship; nor upon any Buildings used for Government, Public, or Charitable purposes. By whom payable. Exceptions.

III. There shall be levied and collected upon and from all Agents of Fire Insurance Companies, who shall be carrying on business within the limits of the said City of Victoria, an Annual Rate not exceeding One-eighth of One per Cent. upon the amount of Insurance upon all real and personal property situate within the limits of the said City of Victoria, insured by them respectively, within the year next preceding the 31st day of December, immediately preceding the declaration of such Rate. Rate on Insurance Companies.

IV. All Agents of Fire Insurance Companies shall, in the month of January in each year, make a Return to the Clerk of the Municipal Council of the City of Victoria, at the Council Chambers, in the Form marked B. in the Schedule Compulsory Returns of property Insured.

hereto,

hereto, of all real and personal property situate within the limits of the said City of Victoria, insured by them respectively, within the year next preceding the 31st day of December then last past, and the amount of Insurance thereon respectively; and shall, within Three Months after the passing and publication of this Ordinance, make a like Return to the said Clerk of all such Insurances effected by them respectively, within the year next preceding the 31st day of December, 1868; and if no such Return be made, the said Mayor and Council shall determine the amount to which they shall be respectively liable to pay; and every Agent who shall fail to make such Return shall incur a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Dollars.

Rates when due and payable.

V. All Rates declared under this Ordinance, shall be deemed to be due on the 1st day of April in each year, and be paid to the Clerk of the said Council, in equal quarterly payments, at the Council Chambers in the City of Victoria, or to a Collector duly appointed, who shall keep an account thereof, and the same shall be paid into some Chartered or Colonial Bank carrying on business within the said City of Victoria.

How recoverable.

VI. All rates to be levied under the authority of this Ordinance shall be paid quarterly, and if not paid within thirty days after the times they shall respectively become payable, a sum equal to five per cent. upon the amount payable shall be levied, collected, and paid, in addition to the amount so payable; and if the amounts so payable be not paid within an additional period of thirty days, the amount so payable, with costs, shall be recovered in a summary way before any Justice of the Peace.

Limit of total rate.

VII. The sum to be raised by virtue of this Ordinance shall not exceed the annual sum of Three Thousand Dollars.

Accounts to be kept by Corporation.

Moneys to be paid over to Fire Cos.

VIII. An account of all moneys raised by virtue of this Ordinance shall be kept by the said Clerk in a separate book, and such book shall be open at all times for the Managing Committee or Delegates of the several Fire Companies of the City of Victoria aforesaid; and all moneys raised by virtue of this Ordinance shall be paid over in the first week of the months of January, April, July, and October, to the Managing Committee of the said Companies, to be applied for the efficient maintenance and support of the said Companies.

Victoria Municipal Ordinance incorporated with this Ordinance.

IX. The "Victoria Municipal Ordinance, 1867," save so far as the same may be repugnant to this Ordinance, shall be deemed to be incorporated in and form part of this Ordinance.

Interpretation Clause.

X. Words importing the singular number, or the masculine gender only, shall be understood to include several matters as well as one matter, and several persons as well as one person, and bodies corporate as well as individuals, and females as well as males; and words importing the plural number shall be understood to apply to one matter as well as more than one, unless such construction shall be repugnant to the context.

Short Title.

XI. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as the "Fire Companies' Aid Ordinance, 1869."

Passed the Legislative Council the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1869.

CHARLES GOOD, *Clerk of the Council.*

WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG, *Presiding Member.*

Assented to, on behalf of Her Majesty, this 13th day of March, 1869.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR, *Governor.*

SCHEDULE B.

Name of Company and Agent.	Description of Property Insured.	Amount Insured.

I, hereby declare, the above return to be a faithful and true Return of all Real and Personal property situate within the City of Victoria, Insured by me within the year next preceding the 31st day of December, now last past.

(Signature.)

VICTORIA, B. C.:
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