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## PETITION.

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*To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia:*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURABLE BODY:—

The petition of the "Woman's Christian Temperance Union" of Victoria, B. C., representing a membership of over two hundred, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, being sincerely solicitous for the best interests of this Province, whilst they would not assume to pronounce upon the question, regarding which the most eminent authorities in the Dominion are divided, as to whether the Federal or Provincial Government has jurisdiction in the matter of legislation relating to Saloon and Tavern Licences; they would nevertheless, respectfully submit that, to assert, as does the resolution upon this question brought forward by a member of Your Honourable Body, that the "Dominion Licence Act of 1883 is inapplicable to this Province and unjust to its inhabitants," is a reflection upon the morality of our people that would be as unworthy the dignity of Your Honourable House to make, as it is uncalled for by the facts, and is calculated to bring this Province into disrepute not only with the rest of the Dominion but also throughout the civilized world.

Your petitioners therefore earnestly pray that, at least, the obnoxious clause referred to may be struck out from the resolution, and if possible, consistently with the duties and dignity of Your Honourable House, the question of jurisdiction be left to the decision of the Courts where it is sure to be finally carried, lest any action of Your Honourable Body should be construed into a protest against vigorous and progressive legislation in relation to the monster evil domesticated amongst us indeed, but which we cannot fail to deprecate as the dreaded foe of our sacred homes and institutions:

And your petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed) Mrs. A. J. McLELLAN,  
*President.*  
,, Mrs. D. JENKINS,  
*Secretary.*

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