

prohibition extended to the sale of beer and wine except in Quebec. Native wine, however, could be sold in Ontario.

In aid of provincial legislation prohibiting or restricting the sale of intoxicating liquors, the Dominion Government, in 1916, passed a law making it an offence to send intoxicating liquors into any province to be dealt in contrary to the law of that province. In 1919 this Act was changed to read that "on the request of the Legislative Assembly of a province a vote would be taken on the question that the importation and the bringing of intoxicating liquors into such province be forbidden"

During 1921 Quebec and British Columbia discarded the existing prohibition laws and adopted the policy of liquor sale under government control. The same course was followed by Manitoba in 1923, Alberta in 1924, Saskatchewan in 1925, Ontario and New Brunswick in 1927, and Nova Scotia in 1930. Thus Prince Edward Island is the only province still adhering to a policy of prohibition.

The provincial Liquor Control Acts have been framed to establish provincial monopolies of the retail sale of alcoholic beverages, with the practical elimination of private profit therefrom. Partial exception is made in the retail sale of malt liquor by brewers, which certain provinces permit while reserving regulative rights and taxing such sales heavily. In all the provinces, however, spirits may be bought only at government liquor stores. The provincial monopoly extends only to the retail sale of alcoholic beverages, the manufacture being still in private hands but under the supervision of the Liquor Boards or Commissions. The original Liquor Control Acts have been modified from time to time as deemed advisable. Brief summaries of the legislation are given in the Bureau's annual report on the Control and Sale of Liquor.

Sales by Liquor Control Boards.—In connection with the figures on gross sales shown in Table 35 it is essential to note that for Quebec, Manitoba, and Alberta (prior to Apr. 1, 1936), the sales of beer made directly by the brewers to the licensees are not included. The proceeds from such sales do not pass through the Boards, but the purchasers must pay through the brewers to the Boards a tax equal to 5 p.c. of the purchases in the case of Quebec, and 12½ cents per gallon in Manitoba. In Alberta purchasers from the brewers paid a tax of 12½ cents per gallon prior to Apr. 1, 1932, and 15½ cents per gallon thereafter to Apr. 1, 1936.*

It should be noted that the values, as given, do not represent the sales values to the final consumers as, in most provinces, the sale of beer by the glass is permissible. Further, all the liquor sold in any province is not consumed by the residents of that province. The tourist traffic is an important factor in this connection.

All the revenue resulting from the Liquor Control Acts is not paid to the Liquor Boards. In certain provinces, permit fees are paid directly to the Governments and do not pass through the Boards.

The reports of the Boards do not in all cases show the quantities of liquors sold; in comparing values for a series of years or between provinces it should be borne in mind that price variations may be an important factor.

Apparent Consumption of Liquor in Canada.—It is not possible to obtain accurate figures on Canadian consumption of liquor. Except in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, and Alberta, the Liquor Boards do not publish figures to show sales on a gallonage basis, and even were such data on quantity sales available for all provinces they would not necessarily represent total consumption. For example,

* An amendment to the Alberta Liquor Control Act passed at the 1936 session of the Legislature provides that "brewers who manufacture beer in Alberta may sell only to the Liquor Board". All sales, both to beer licensees and to permit holders, are now made only through the Board. Under the new arrangement the gallonage tax is no longer levied.