

BILL

No. 80 of 1913.

An Act for the Protection of Persons Employed in the
Construction of Buildings and Excavations.

(Assented to 1913.)

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

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Building Trades Protection Act*." Short title.

2. In this Act—

- (a) "Building" shall include any structure roofed in or intended to be roofed in, and capable when completed of affording protection and shelter; Interpretation. "Building"
- (b) "Excavation" shall mean any trench in the ground at a depth of more than four feet; "Excavation"
- (c) "Inspector" shall mean an inspector appointed by a municipality or by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Act. "Inspector"
- (d) "Municipality" means and includes any incorporated municipality, whether a city, town, village or rural municipality. "Municipality"

3. Every municipality shall appoint an inspector or inspectors to enforce this Act within the limits of the municipality. Appointment of Inspectors.

(2) The Lieutenant Governor-in-Council may appoint an inspector or inspectors to enforce this Act in territory outside of municipalities.

4. Where any inspector appointed under this Act finds that any provision of this Act is being violated in the case of any building or excavation he may give such orders in writing as may, in his opinion, be required to secure due compliance with such provision, and upon any such order being made and until the same is carried out the work upon that part of the building or excavation in which the default occurs shall be suspended. Inspector may order compliance with provisions of Act. Work to cease until orders obeyed.

(2) Every person to whom the order of the inspector is directed who disobeys or knowingly permits any person under his direction and control to disobey any such order or to carry on work in violation of subsection (1) hereof before the order is complied with shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to payment of a penalty not exceeding \$50 for every day upon which such default occurs. Penalty for disobedience to order.

5. In the erection, alteration, repair, improvement or demolition of any building, no scaffolding, hoists, stays, ladders, flooring or other mechanical and temporary contrivances shall be used which are unsafe, unsuitable or improper, or which are not so constructed, protected, placed and operated as to afford reasonable safety from accident to persons employed or engaged upon the building or excavation. Unsafe apparatus not to be used.

6. The following regulations shall be complied with in the erection, alteration, repair, improvement or demolition of every building: Regulations with regard to floors of scaffolds.

(1) The floors of all scaffolding suspended from overhead shall be at least two and one-half feet wide and the floors of all standing scaffolding shall be at least four feet wide; all such scaffolding shall, unless the same is dispensed with by written authority of

the Inspector, have a railing or guard not less than three nor more than four feet from the flooring on the outside of the scaffolding for the protection of persons working thereon.

(2) Where scaffolding or staging is "swung" or suspended from an overhead support it shall be so secured as to prevent its swaying to and fro. Swing scaffolds.

(3) Where poles are used in scaffolding the poles shall be securely lashed at every point of contact, and where square timber is used in scaffolding, the same shall be securely spiked or bolted at every point of contact. Poles.

(4) No lumber or timber shall be hoisted in a single sling. Hoisting lumber.

(5) Where hoists are used for raising materials for use in buildings, the shafts or openings shall be protected at each floor by a barrier not less than three feet nor more than four feet from the level of the floor, and the barrier shall be placed not less than two feet from the edge of the shaft or opening in which the hoist is operated; provided that upon the level or floor in actual use by such hoist such barrier shall not be placed across the openings used for entrance or exits to or from such hoists. Openings for hoists.

(6) All ladders shall extend at least four feet above any scaffold, staging or floor. Ladders.

7. Where the plans and specifications require the floors to be arched between the beams thereof, or where the floors or filling in between the floors are or filling in shall be completed as the building of fireproof material, the flooring or excavation progresses to not less than within three storeys below that on which the iron work is being erected. Flooring to be completed to certain extent as building progresses.

(2) Where the plans and specifications do not require filling in between the beams of floors with fireproof material or brick work, the contractor for the carpenter work, in the course of construction, shall lay the under flooring of the building on each storey as the building or excavation progresses to not less than within two storeys below the one to which the building has been erected. Under-flooring to be completed to certain extent as building progresses.

(3) Where double floors are not to be used, such contractor shall keep planked over, with planks properly secured, the floor two storeys below the storey where the work is being performed. Floors to be planked over.

(4) If the floor beams are of iron or steel, the contractor for the iron or steel work of a building or excavation in course of construction, or the owner of such a building or excavation shall thoroughly plank over the entire tier of iron or steel beams on which the structural iron or steel work is being erected, except such spaces as may be reasonably required for the proper construction of such iron or steel work and for the raising or lowering of materials to be used in the construction of such building and such spaces as may be designated by the plans and specifications for stairways and elevator shafts. Iron floor beams to be planked over on which structural work is being erected.

8. In the case of what are known as skeleton steel frame buildings, compliance with the following regulations shall be sufficient, and it shall not be necessary to comply with the requirements of section 7: Regulations as to skeleton frame buildings.

(1) As soon as the steel frame of a building is erected to the first column splice above the first floor level, a flooring of two-inch planking shall be laid over floor beams on the floor immediately below the first column splice, making a temporary floor over that part of the area of the building or excavation inside columns at that level, except in places where it is necessary to have openings for the passage of material for building above that point. When erection has reached a point level with the next column splice the planking used as a temporary floor at first column splice shall be removed and placed as before at second splice, and so on to the top of the building. Each floor to be planked as the frame-work reaches floor above.

(2) A double flooring of two-inch planking shall be laid down immediately under any derrick for a sufficient space about the derrick to protect workmen on the floors below that on which the derrick is working and to hold with safety the materials hoisted by the derrick. Double planking under derricks.

(3) Riveters' staging shall be so constructed as to secure the reasonable safety of the riveters and a temporary floor must be provided on the girders and floor beams immediately below the portion of the floor upon which the riveters are working, sufficient for the protection of workmen engaged below that floor.

Riveters' staging to be safe and temporary floor provided.

(4) The steel work may be carried on in advance of the construction of permanent floors.

Steel work may be done in advance of permanent floors.

9. In cities and towns the following regulations shall be complied with in erecting, altering or repairing any building, provided such city or town has not by by-law made regulations applicable to itself regarding such matters:

Regulations in cities and towns having no by-laws.

(1) When the work is located on the line of any street or within three feet of the inside line of the sidewalk of any street, before any of the work above the sidewalk or footway is commenced, there shall be erected over the sidewalk or footway of the street a covered passageway or independent structure not less than eight feet high at the lowest side above the level of the sidewalk or footway and of sufficient strength to protect the public using the sidewalk or footway.

Covered passage to be erected over sidewalk.

(2) If a building or excavation is to be erected or made within seven feet of the inside line of the sidewalk on any street, a strongly constructed close-boarded fence or barricade, not less than six feet high, shall be erected along the inside line of such sidewalk.

Barrier to be erected on inside line of sidewalk.

(3) No person shall place any stone, brick, lumber or any building material, fence, barricade or temporary sidewalk so as to obstruct the free passage of water in the drains, gutters or water courses; and the roofs of all covered ways shall be kept clear of any material whatever.

Drains, etc., not to be obstructed and roofs of covered ways to be kept clear.

(4) All sewers, ditches, drains or any other excavation of whatever nature shall be properly shored up, so as to prevent the caving in of the ground, after a depth of four feet has been excavated from the ground level.

All excavations to be shored up.

10. The provisions of this Act shall be read and applied as supplementary to the by-laws of every municipality in this Province, where any such exist, but where no by-law has been passed dealing with the matters covered by this Act then the provisions herein shall apply.

Act to be supplementary to municipal by-laws.

11. Sections 6, 7 and 8 of this Act shall not apply to any building not more than two storeys in height or to any excavation less than four feet deep, nor to any farm building or excavation, nor to any work being done upon a building or excavation by the owner or occupant thereof in person.

Limit of application of certain sections.

12. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any way decrease or lessen the liability or obligations of any person or corporation under "The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1908."

Act not to affect liability under "Workmen's Compensation Act."

No. 80

FOURTH SESSION
SECOND LEGISLATURE

3 GEORGE V
1913

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An Act for the Protection of Persons
Employed in the Construction of
Buildings and Excavations.

Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time.....

HON. C. R. MITCHELL

EDMONTON :
J. W. JEFFERY, Government Printer
A.D. 1913