

Bruce, such a division of assets would be unfair to the senior county.

Hon. Mr. WOOD said the clause merely made it legal for the senior county to pay over such a proportion, if it saw fit to do so. It gave no compulsory power.

Mr. OLIVER wished to know from the Attorney-General, whether he was to allow this Bill to become law this session. Like the member for South Ontario, he was much surprised when it came up for discussion. He (Mr. Oliver) thought it was too late a period of the session for the House to do justice to such a measure.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD was glad to find the hon. gentleman opposite looking to his (Mr. McDonald's) sayings, as if they were oracles. The Assessment Bill proposed changes that were vital, as regarded people's pockets, and he had therefore thought it well to postpone it for more mature consideration. As regarded this Bill, he had carefully gone over the amendments proposed, and as a rule he agreed with them. The member for Lincoln submitted these amendments to the calm consideration of the House, and, if strong objections were shewn to any of them, he was not so wedded to them as to insist on their being carried. He (the Attorney-General) would have himself something to say as to one or two of the clauses, of which he did not approve.

Clause 5 was then agreed to.

Clause 6 being moved,

Mr. OLIVER said that instead of one councillor for each ward retiring annually, he wished the three to retire annually. He moved to amend the clause in accordance with this suggestion.

Mr. PARDEE thought the plan of only a portion of the Council retiring each year had worked admirably.

Mr. HAYS concurred in Mr. Pardee's view.

The amendment was negatived, and the clause agreed to.

Clause 7 was agreed to.

Clause 8 being moved,

Mr. GOW opposed the exclusion of County Attorneys from Municipal Councils.

Mr. McLEOD said the objection was that the County Attorney, if a councillor, might be reeve, member of the County Council, a member of the Bench of Magistrates, and might in that capacity audit his own accounts.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said the proper course would be to disqualify the County Attorney from being reeve. He would add the Clerk of the County Court to the list of disqualifications.

Dr. BAXTER moved to strike out the words, "no Sheriff, no Deputy Sheriff, no County Attorney, no Clerk of the Peace." He said these parties would, of course, not sit on the Board of Audit.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said the Sheriff might have a writ to execute against a municipality, of which, under this amendment, he might be reeve or warden.

Hon. Mr. WOOD said he supposed, if these officials were excluded, Cayuga, which the hon. member represented, would not have any left to make councillors of.

The amendment was negatived.

Mr. HAYS moved to strike out the words "deputy clerk of the Crown."

This also was negatived, and the clause was agreed to.

Clause 9 being moved,

Mr. McCALL (Norfolk) moved that the word "male" before the word "freeholders" be struck out. Lost.

The clause was agreed to.

Clause 10, giving the franchise to persons having incomes over \$600, being read,

Mr. CURRIE moved that it be struck out. (No, no.)

Mr. McKELLAR supported the clause. He said a person, assessed as the tenant of a property valued at \$500, had a vote, although he might be away all the year, and only come back to reside in the municipality a month before the election. But if a man was not a householder, he could not vote. The franchise, he thought, should be exercised by men of intelligence and good moral character, and an income of \$600 was as good a test of those qualities as being assessed for a house at present. A professor in one of our universities, who happened to board, had no vote; while the scavenger who scraped the mud off the streets had the franchise. He would prefer \$500 as the standard. This would include a large class of intelligent clerks, salesmen, workers in factories, machine shops, &c.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD characterized the hon. gentleman's remarks as buncombe. This was the first time in a British colony that such a thing had been proposed. If his hon. friend were on the treasury benches, he would not be there twelve months before he introduced a measure of