

loan company has its organization and head office in Great Britain or Ireland and employs only a part of its paid-up capital in Canada, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may direct that the tax shall be calculated upon the amount of paid-up capital that is being used or employed in Canada.

A modification has been decided upon in the case of natural gas companies. A company producing natural gas will be required to pay \$2,000, instead of \$5,000, as at first contemplated, and companies transmitting or producing, \$2,000. Every company, whether a producing or transmitting concern, or both, shall, in addition, pay a tax equivalent to 1 per cent., calculated upon the gross earnings of the company during the preceding year. In the latter case a percentage has been substituted for a specific tax.

A change is also likely in regard to brewers' licenses. The intention was to levy a minimum fee of \$250 where the amount of investment was \$10,000 or less. It is now proposed to strike this out, and make the minimum fee \$400 where the investment exceeds \$10,000 but is not more than \$20,000.

To Visit New Ontario.

The members of the New Ontario deputation have decided to invite the whole of the members of the Ontario Legislature to visit Sault Ste. Marie, Port Arthur and Fort William, and the invitations will be sent out shortly. The proposition is that the trip shall be a free one and take place some time towards the end of June. Three days will be spent at each of the three towns named, and the inhabitants will entertain their visitors in royal style.

Midland's Smelter.

In the Private Bills Committee to-day a bill authorizing the Town of Midland to raise \$50,000 on debentures as a bonus to the Canada Iron Furnace Company was passed. The money is to be expended in the erection of smelting works and charcoal kilns at Midland. By the agreement with the municipality the company guarantees to employ 70 hands in the direct process of smelting, and, with subsidiary works, 130 hands altogether, the year round.

The Town of Petrolea's bill to enter into agreement with the Carmen Natural Gas Company or any other company for the supply of light was passed.

A bill embodying an agreement between the Perth Waterworks Company and the municipality of Perth was approved of.

Municipal Committee.

Mr. Kidd's bill to compel the City of Ottawa to contribute towards the maintenance of the Carleton County Court House was up for discussion in the Municipal Committee, but was postponed until Thursday, in order to allow representatives of the city to be heard. Mr. Pattullo's anti-exemption bill went over until Friday. Opposition to the measure was expressed by Mr. Kribs, who took the view that it would interfere with industrial development at Galt, Preston and Berlin. Mr. Kribs'

bill to facilitate the granting of municipal aid to street railways, and Mr. Matheson's bill providing for the reunion to counties of separated towns were agreed to. The Toronto bill asking for power to enact by-laws in regard to the taxation of institutions of learning and churches, and limiting the Mayor to a single vote in the Board of Control, will be considered on Friday.

Toronto Elevated Thrown Down.

The Railway Committee threw out Mr. German's bill for the incorporation of the Toronto Elevated Railroad. The bill to incorporate the North Lanark Railway passed, as did also the bill for the incorporation of the Nepigon Railway Company.

The Speaker's Reception.

The House will sit until 9 o'clock tomorrow night, after which the members will attend the at home and "smoker" to be given by the Speaker.
