

ed, the initiative to be taken by three of the municipalities within the county. The County Judge will then take the necessary steps to bring about the erection, subject to the site, plans, etc., being approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. One or more counties will be allowed to unite for this purpose where the necessity is not great enough for each to erect a separate one.

AGRICULTURE IN SCHOOLS.

Address by Mr. Cowley—Mr. Taylor is Chairman.

The Legislature's Committee on Agriculture and Colonization organized yesterday. Mr. W. H. Taylor of North Middlesex was unanimously elected Chairman, on motion of Hon. Mr. Dryden and Mr. Pettypiece. The committee was addressed by Mr. R. H. Cowley, M.A., Public School Inspector of Carleton County, who advocated that agricultural topics be more practically taught in the public schools, and suggested that the committee ask the Minister of Education to cooperate in the work. It was decided to ask Prof. Robertson, Dairy Commissioner, to address the committee on the subject on Tuesday next at 1 p.m. A large number of representatives of the Farmers' Association will be in town on that day, and they are invited to attend.

NIAGARA FALLS LIMITS.

TOWN AND VILLAGE ORDERED TO FORM UNION.

A Bill Before the Legislature to Extend Village Boundaries—Listowel Electric Light Bill.

An hour and a half was consumed by the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature yesterday with a bill submitted by W.M. German, M.P., on behalf of the village of Niagara Falls, for the purpose of extending its boundaries to take in the sites of the three big electric power companies. The territory asked for comprises 245 acres, lying partly in the township of Stamford and 30 acres in the present town of Niagara Falls. The town and the village have thus far failed to agree upon terms of amalgamation. The committee thought that a city would eventually grow up around the big power plant, and deemed it best that the present two municipalities should be united. The matter was adjourned till next Wednesday to afford them an opportunity to agree upon terms of union.

In 1901 the town of Listowel made a contract with a private individual, granting him an electric light franchise, on condition that the town have the right to take the plant over at a fair valuation. Later, the Electric Light Company amalgamated with the Gas Company. The town now seeks to take over the electric lighting plant, and submitted a bill to further their intention under their contract. The Gas Company opposed the bill to the extent of prohibiting the municipality from engaging in any other than public lighting. The bill was adopted by a vote of 15 to 12.

COPIES OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Members Want More Printed—Shannon Timber Limit Sale.

On motion of Col. Matheson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature yesterday passed a resolution authorizing the committee to recommend to the House that in future 5,000 copies of the public accounts be printed instead of 2,000, as at present. Orders for the attendance next Tuesday of Crown Timber Agent Garrow of Webbwood and the cutter who supervises the cut, and Capt. Sullican, in connection with the Shannon timber sale, have been issued.

ONLY FOR EMERGENCIES.

MUNICIPALITIES AND THE FUEL BUSINESS.

Attorney-General Provides a Clause to the Municipal Act For This Purpose—Automobile Regulations Transient Traders—The City's Bill To-day.

The Municipal Committee of the Legislature yesterday took up the question of allowing municipalities to go into the fuel business, as proposed in bills by Messrs. Preston (Brant), Powell (Ottawa) and Hendrie (Hamilton). Colonel Gibson proposed a clause which would enable the municipalities to go into the fuel business, subject to the consent of the Lieut.-Governor in Council and a two-thirds vote of the Municipal Council. He thought they could depend upon the criminal law to prevent any combination of dealers holding up prices.

Mr. Frank Mackelcan, City Solicitor of Hamilton, said that the bills as outlined by the Chairman, Hon. Mr. Davis, did not go far enough.

Mr. Powell (Ottawa) said that his city did not want to enter the coal and wood business. They only wanted to protect the citizens, and he was prepared to drop his bill if the Attorney-General would be prepared to give the citizens power to do so in cases of emergency.

Mr. Trowern, for the Retail Merchants' Association, said that the municipalities should have come to the coal merchants and offered to recoup them for their losses if they would keep their prices down during an emergency, instead of going into the business themselves at a loss.

Mr. D. E. Thomson, K.C., on behalf of the city dealers said they were willing to accept the Attorney-General's clause and hoped this would be recognized by the committee as an evidence of their good faith.

Mr. Caswell, City Solicitor of Toronto, said that he had been instructed to ask for full power to go into the fuel business. After hearing the discussion, however, he would not do so, as he thought the city would be content with the Attorney-General's clause.

The committee favored this view, and the three bills were dropped. The Attorney-General's clause will therefore be included in the municipal act.

Mr. Powell, on behalf of the City of Ottawa, proposed an amendment providing for the payment of a license by traders of a transient nature who do not rent premises and cannot now be charged for a license. They wanted to get at the traders who took rooms at a hotel or boarding house and sold in a retail manner. This would not touch commercial travellers who sell to merchants. The clause was not a suitable one, however, and will be re-drafted.

Mr. T. H. Preston (Brant) brought up his bill to regulate the speed of motor vehicles upon public highways. The Automobile Club had representatives present. They were not opposed to many of the provisions of the bill, but hoped that any money raised from taxes should be used for the improvement of roads. They also thought that, so long as a motor driver was the only occupant of the road, i.e., not within one-eighth of a mile of any other occupant, the speed limit of fifteen miles an hour should not be enforced. They wanted also a right to set aside a stretch of road upon a special occasion to hold speed trials, upon condition of putting the road in shape for racing. They objected to the clause providing that large numbers be displayed across the back of the vehicle, for the purpose of identification, as it would be easy to identify the vehicles in case of accident.

Hon. Mr. Davis thought that for a time, at least, every safeguard should be given to the public.

The bill was taken up clause by

clause. The fine for going at a speed faster than 15 miles an hour was reduced from \$50 to \$25. The bill will come up again.

The City of Toronto's bill will be taken up first this morning, all except the gas company and the electrical energy clauses.

The City of Ottawa's bill before the Private Bills Committee asked for power to issue debentures for \$10,000 for twenty years for police station extensions, \$20,000 for thirty years for main drainage construction, \$60,000 for thirty years for a smallpox hospital, and \$50,000 for forty years for extending water mains. The \$10,000 for police station extensions was struck out, and the \$60,000 for smallpox hospital made for twenty instead of thirty years. A clause was included allowing the city to issue debentures for \$10,000 for twenty years for a Fat Stock Show building. The Council of Ottawa was also given power to devote \$10,000 for the relief of the fire sufferers. The bill was adopted, with these amendments.

NO TEMPERANCE LEGISLATION.

Premier Lays Bill Over Till Next Session.

GAMEY CASE THE CAUSE.

Too Late to Give It Proper Consideration.

Temperance Legislation League Protests Against Delay, but Sees in it Justification of Their Own Aims.

A deputation from the Dominion Alliance waited on Premier Ross on Wednesday to ask what the Government proposed to do about the promised legislation dealing with the liquor trade. The Premier replied in part as follows:—

"The Government had intended to introduce a measure of advanced and useful legislation. It would be desirable and necessary to have such a measure before the House long enough to allow of its receiving the fullest consideration by the members and the country. There had been prepared a bill, which the Government had expected to introduce early in the session. The Gamey charges, and the discussion and action resulting therefrom, had interfered with the Government's plans and with the business of the House. The temperance bill was one of the measures delayed. He did not consider it practicable now to bring down the bill and have it as fully discussed by the Legislature and the country as it ought to be before being passed. It had, therefore, been decided to hold over the proposed measure and introduce it early at the next session."

Alliance Convention.

In view of this reply, the Dominion Alliance has called a convention of all temperance workers, which will be held in Toronto on Wednesday, May 28th, at the Guild Hall, McGill street. The plan of representation to this convention is as follows: Every church and society is entitled to two representatives, and each church and society having more than fifty members is entitled to an additional delegate for each additional fifty. The following organizations are entitled to representation on the basis named: County, City and