

side voted for it. Proceeding, Mr. Graham pointed out that there was no dismissal of commissioners; the appointments were yearly, and without salary. There was a vast difference, however, between appointing men to fill commissionerships when vacant and decapitating paid officials to make room for party friends. Even in relation to commissioners, however, enough had come out in the past few days to make it apparent that some boards appointed by the new Government were not shining lights. He agreed to the motion; the whole question should be ventilated.

A Serious Allegation.

Hon. Mr. Hanna contended that the Government could not be held responsible for commissions unless it could be shown that such had been retained in office after it had been clearly proven that they were not fit for the positions. He did not hold the late Administration responsible for all its commissions; some had been all that could be desired, and in this connection he particularly noted that of his own riding. Within the last few weeks a man had appeared in his office asking for a liquor license. This man said he had been a Liberal for years, but he was glad there had been a change in Government. He had said:—"I am here asking for a license at the price the act calls for. I have been selling liquor since 1897 or 1898. My first license cost me \$1,640. I had to pay it over to the commission. At that time I got it for a period of three months, and again and again it was renewed for a like period. I never got a license for less than \$450, and from that up to nearly \$700. I had to sell liquor seven days in the week, and practically 24 hours a day, to make the business pay. I am prepared to take a license for one year and to obey the law." Mr. Hanna, continuing, said all that could be charged against the West Kent commissioners was white in comparison with some of the things that had occurred in previous years. The new Government had decided upon its policy. It was going to accept the responsibility, and not have someone upon whom it could shoulder the blame.

Mr. Gamey desired one word to remind the House of a notorious case at Sault Ste. Marie, where a man named Kern made affidavit that a Provincial Secretary, not the last, had himself demanded a considerable sum for himself, and within a year the same Provincial Secretary had issued a license to the man who made the affidavit. If any member of the present Government did such a thing he (Mr. Gamey) would vote against his party.

Hon. Dr. Reaume's Explanation.

Hon. Dr. Reaume felt somewhat interested, as his department had been called into the debate. In inaugurating a new policy of issuing fishery licenses a circular had been issued without his knowledge. He had discussed the matter with his deputy, and in justification of himself would read a memorandum he had received from the Deputy Commissioner re the circular of March 20 to the fishery overseers. The following is the document:—

The practice of conferring direct with the members or defeated candidates representing the Government in regard to fishery applications had generally been followed since the inauguration of the department in 1898, and upon the change in the Administration I mentioned to you what the practice had been, and asked if I would continue the same course, and this you concurred in. You subsequently mentioned that it would be more expeditious to confer direct with the overseers, as there was a possibility of the members not giving the matter prompt attention, and I therefore addressed to the overseers the circular referred to, which covers the question of license fees as well, and in the desire to get the circular off I omitted the very important duty of submitting to you the draft.

The department had considered it wise to adopt this policy heretofore, with a view to more reliable information being obtained as to the propriety of issuing licenses for certain localities, the personnel of the men to receive the licenses, whether they were men proper to exercise the privileges, and to prevent friction, and in regard to other matters which might from time to time arise. To have relied wholly upon the overseers in the matter was thought to place too much latitude in their hands. The practice, I understood, was also the practice adopted at Ottawa. (Signed) S. T. Bastedo.

The motion as amended was carried.

Woman's Suffrage.

Mr. Smith (Peel), on moving the sec-

ond reading of his bill to place widows and unmarried women on the electoral register, said they had just as good judgment as men, and would not be bought with a dollar, or a glass of whiskey.

Hon. Mr. Foy—The widows might. (Laughter.)

"I have a good many lady friends," continued Mr. Smith. (Laughter.) He had promised them to bring up the bill, and he never broke his word. (Applause.) He would not like to have the bill voted down, and so withdrew it. (Laughter.)

Hon. Col. Matheson will introduce two new bills. One to amend the Algoma land tax act, 1903, extends the time for payment of the tax.

His bill to amend the act respecting circuses and travelling shows will permit a twenty-car show to be licensed for \$50, twenty cars being a standard train. At present the license fee is \$100 for twenty cars or over.

Mr. Jamieson will introduce a bill to amend the Ontario medical act.

Bills Read a First Time.

The following bills were read a first time during the day:—

Mr. Bowyer—Respecting the Windsor & Tecumseh Electric Railway Co.

Mr. Carscallen (Lennox)—Respecting the London, Aylmer & North Electric Railway Co.

Mr. Morrison—Respecting the Hospital and Home for the Friendless and the Woman's Christian Association, Belleville.

Mr. Thompson (Simcoe)—To confirm a by-law of the Separate School Board of Wallaceburg.

Mr. Aubin—Respecting the town of Sturgeon Falls.

Mr. Lucas—Respecting the Ontario & Minnesota Power Co.

Dr. Jessop—Respecting the St. Catharines & Welland Electric Railway Company.

Mr. Jamieson—Respecting the town of Durham.

Mr. Neely—To amend the high school act.

Mr. Auld—Respecting the Y. M. C. A. of Orillia.

Dr. Jessop—Respecting by-law 201 of the village of Grimsby.

Mr. Lewis—To authorize J. Hamilton to practise as a veterinary surgeon.

The Third Readings.

These bills were read a third time:—

Respecting the London Street Railway Co.—Mr. Hodgins.

Respecting the Nipigon Mining Lands Co.—Mr. Carscallen.

To incorporate the Lake Superior, Long Lake & Albany River Railway Co.—Mr. Smythe.

To incorporate the Y.W.C.A. of London—Mr. Beck.

Respecting the Hermina Mining Co., Limited—Mr. Smythe.

Respecting the consolidated revenue fund and the raising of loans authorized by the Legislature—Hon. Mr. Matheson.

For raising money on the credit of the consolidated revenue fund of Ontario—Hon. Mr. Matheson.

To incorporate the United Nickel Co. of Canada—Mr. Carscallen (Hamilton).

Speed of Motor Vehicles.

Several members of the committee which has in charge the bills to regulate the speed of motor vehicles were the guests of a number of local automobilists yesterday afternoon in a run around the city, the object being to show that many dangers attributed to

CITY BILL IN COMMITTEE.

EXTENSION OF FRANCHISE TO MARRIED WOMEN REFUSED.

City Council May Increase the Pay of Controllers to \$2,500 a Year—Proposed Repeal of the Conmee Clauses Held Over—No Cumulative Voting.

Dr. Nesbitt's bill embodying Toronto's proposed amendments to the municipal act was the first measure taken up by the Municipal Committee yesterday. Mayor Urquhart and Ald. Jones spoke in favor of the clauses granting the municipal franchise to married women owning property. Mr. Preston (South Brant) said that such property was represented by the husband. He moved that the clauses be struck out, and this was promptly approved of. There was some opposition to the proposal that poll clerks be selected by the Council on recommendation of the City Clerk, and should not be selected by the deputy returning officer. The bill was amended to make this approval apply only to Toronto.

The clause providing that where the deputy returning officer has died or does not attend at nomination the polling clerk shall act in his place, and may appoint someone to act as poll clerk, was also restricted to Toronto.

Guarding Against Fraud.

The clause requiring deputy returning officers at the close of the poll and before the ballot box is opened to write a certificate in the poll book after the name of the last voter recorded therein saying that such person was the last to vote, the deputy, poll clerk, constable and agent all signing this certificate, was restricted to cities.

The following clauses carried without opposition:—Persons employed by candidates at municipal elections to act as scrutineers or for any other purposes not to be entitled to vote at such elections. Councils of a city of over 100,000 inhabitants may by resolution direct a recount of the ballots cast at the preceding elections.

Pay of Controllers.

Controller Hubbard, Mayor Urquhart and Mr. E. B. Ryckman spoke in favor of the clause to give Council the power to increase the pay of members of the Board of Control from \$1,000 to \$2,500, which carried after a brief discussion. Mr. Hubbard said he was not speaking for himself, as in all human probability he would not again be a Controller.

Clause 17, repealing the cumulative vote system and providing only one vote may be cast for candidate for Controller, was passed without comment. An amendment to the act providing that Controllers as well as Aldermen shall be Justices of the Peace was approved, as was also a clause allowing architects in cities of over 100,000 population to deviate in special cases from the by-laws regulating the erection of buildings. The clause requiring owners, contractors or master workmen to make proper sanitary provision for workmen engaged in erecting buildings carried, and the committee approved of the section giving the Council power to regulate in regard to the delivery or exposure for sale of meats and provisions.

On the suggestion of Hon. Mr. Hanna, Chairman of the committee, the clauses giving the Council power to make regulations in respect to the removal of poles and wires of street railways, etc., from the street and the placing of the wires underground was withdrawn for one year, pending the appointment of the Government's electrical commission, which will deal with all such matters. The clause seeking to repeal the Conmee clauses of the municipal act was held over until next week, as the question is to be dealt with in another bill then.