

NO RAISE FOR ALDERMEN.

CIVIC FATHERS OF TORONTO MUST APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE.

Two-year Term Proposition Also Voted Down—Municipal Committee of the Legislature Cuts Out Many Clauses of the City of Toronto's Bill.

Before the Aldermen of Toronto can increase their salaries to \$600 they must submit the question to the vote of the ratepayers. This is the effect of the action of the Municipal Committee yesterday in striking out the clause in the city's bill referring to salaries. Mr. McNaught's measure, introduced for the city of Toronto, was taken up in the Municipal Committee. Mayor Coatsworth, several Controllers and Aldermen, and City Solicitor Chisholm and other civic officials were present. Mr. E. B. Ryckman, who addressed the committee on behalf of the city, dealt first with the clauses as to annexation of other municipalities or portions thereof. These give the Government power, on a two-thirds vote of Councils of cities or towns, to proclaim annexation of any territory on such terms as may be considered fair by the Government and the Councils.

Hon. Mr. Hanna, Chairman of the committee, said these provisions would enable the city to acquire territory without permission of residents of the districts to be brought in. Mr. Ryckman said annexation should not take place without the consent of both municipalities affected. The clauses were held over to be redrafted to make that point clear.

There was a long discussion on the clauses providing that the Council should be elected for a two-year term instead of one. Mr. Ryckman strongly urged the adoption of the measure. Ex-Ald. R. H. Graham, representing the West End Property Owners' Association, opposed the measure, so also did Mr. Crawford, M.P.P. The latter opposed the idea of Councillors coming and asking for this measure. He held that the people should be given a chance to say whether they favored a two-year term. The question should be submitted to the voters at the next municipal election. Mr. H. Passmore also upheld these contentions.

The committee took a vote at this point on the principle of a bill introduced by Mr. Thompson (Simcoe), making a two-year term general throughout the Province, and only Mr. Thompson voted in favor of it.

Mr. McNaught, who did not vote on Mr. Thompson's bill, suggested that the clause in Toronto's measure be redrafted so as to make it clear that the election of Councillors for a two-year term should be dependent upon approval of the principle by the voters. The committee, however, did not approve, and the two-year clauses were struck out of the bill.

The clause wiping out the two-year qualification in Council for Controldership was approved. The clause prohibiting the distribution on polling day of cards, leaflets, circulars and other devices, framed with a particular view to prevent annoyances to lady voters, many of whom do not care to run the gauntlet of card distributors at polling booths, was referred to the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. T. H. Lennox argued that the clause increasing the salaries of Aldermen from \$300 to \$600 per year be submitted to the ratepayers.

Mayor Coatsworth supported the proposed increase. If it was submitted to a vote of the people he doubted if they would give the Aldermen anything, although the Aldermen were an earnest body of men, attentive to their work and fully deserving of the increase.

Mr. Crawford, although he thought there should be an increase, contended that the people should have a chance

PORT HOPE'S GOOD FIGHT.

TOWN GETS AUTHORITY FOR MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT.

Private Bills Committee in Session — School Taxes Not to be Exempt in Bonuses—Another Solicitor by Special Privilege—Must be the Last.

Port Hope and the Port Hope Electric Light & Power Company, Limited, failed to come to an agreement, as Chairman Carscallen of the Private Bills Committee had notified them to do on the previous day, and when the bill authorizing the establishment of a municipal lighting service was ordered amended and reported his warning that some one would get hurt had evidently found warrant. The light company has been doing business in the town for a number of years, but without any franchise. Recently, through a quarrel over assessments, payment of accounts and some other trifling matters, the company stopped its light and left the town in darkness. The town gave a franchise to another company and gave the Electric Light Company notice to remove its poles and wires from the streets. Before the committee the company relied on its moral right to procure a franchise, but the committee had no consideration for the plea, and, providing for submission to the electors and the restriction of lighting powers to the streets and municipal buildings, approved the bill.

Bruce Mines agreed to give "the Copper Mining & Smelting Company of Ontario, Limited," a fixed assessment of \$35,000 for ten years. The committee objected to the restriction for school taxes, but otherwise approved the bill.

William Walter Pope has been managing clerk for the late John Bell, the Grand Trunk solicitor. In 1889 an act was passed to permit him to practice law on his passing the final examination of the Law Society. He was unable for want of time to do this, and asked for authority to practice on passing an examination to be set by the society. The proposal developed strong opposition from the Benchers, but the committee, with the understanding that the case would be the very last of the kind, and Messrs. May and Ferguson voting nay, reported the bill.

The new rule about not exempting school taxes in the case of tax bonus by-laws was put into practice in the case of St. Catharines' fixing the assessment of the Y. M. C. A. at \$3,000 and the Roman Catholic Canadian Lyceum and Athletic Club at \$1,500. The exemption was also limited to 15 years.

Fort Frances obtained power to consolidate a floating debt of \$14,000, debentures at 5 per cent. to be issued.

"It is a gigantic bonus proposition, and nothing else, and it looms bigger every time we look at it," was Chairman Carscallen's comment on the agreement of the city of Stratford with the Stratford Improvement Company, which came up again for consideration.

"We want to encourage and assist," he continued. "No city or town or village has ever gone away dissatisfied when we got through with them. We want to have uniform legislation. I must refuse that proposition," he declared. "And, as I have intimated, the Attorney-General has a very decided objection to it."

Mayor Ferguson said the Council would be quite willing to agree to any amendments the committee would suggest. It was the principle of the bill, however, that was objected to, the delegation of the powers of the city to a company, and the building up of the tract of land which the company desires to annex to the city at the expense of the rest of the corporation. The bill will be withdrawn and the fees returned.

BREWERS OBJECT TO BILL.

DEPUTATION INTERVIEWS PREMIER AND HON. MR. HANNA.

Protest Against Increase in Hotel License Fees and Other Provisions, Which, They Contend, Restrict and Hamper the Liquor Trade.

A deputation of the brewers of the Province expressed to Premier Whitney and Hon. Mr. Hanna yesterday their objections to many clauses of the Government's new license act. The spokesmen protested against the increase in the hotel license fees; the clauses framed to put a stop to the tied house system, and other clauses, which they contend unduly restrict and hamper the interests of the liquor trade.

Among those on the deputation were: Messrs. Eugene O'Keefe, A. Ballantyne, W. Hawke, W. T. Kernahan, Toronto; J. Labatt, London; R. Bowie, Brockville; T. H. Carling, London; H. J. Taylor, St. Catharines; S. A. Griggs, Walkerville; E. N. Huether, Berlin; Alex. Turner, Hamilton.

A deputation of the license holders of Ontario, which will number probably 1,000, will wait on the Government on Wednesday morning next, to express their views on the new license bill.

MUST SUPPLY ONTARIO.

Hon. Dr. Reaume Takes a Stand Regarding Ontario Fisheries.

Fishermen who fish in Ontario waters must first supply the Canadian market. After that the Government is indifferent as to where the surplus is disposed of, but they must insist that residents of the Province are first supplied. The foregoing was the effect of the reply made by Hon. Dr. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, to a deputation of commercial fishermen from Bronte, Port Dalhousie and Winona, which waited on him yesterday, and asked for the power to sell fish where they pleased, and for some other privileges in regard to the size of meshes in nets.