

NO DEDUCTIONS THIS SESSION

But Members' Absences Will
be Noted Next Year.

PAY WHILE TRAVELLING.

Further Amendments to Consolidated
Municipal Act With Respect to
Local Improvements — Favorable
Reception for Mr. Donovan's Bill.

The members of the Legislature will not suffer reductions in their salary checks this session, no matter how seldom their countenances appear in the Chamber. Sir James Whitney's bill to amend the Legislative Assembly act by fixing a penalty for non-attendance was advanced a stage in the House yesterday when the Prime Minister made a number of suggestions to fill in the blanks left when the bill was introduced. The final suggestion was that it would scarcely be fair to bring the change into force this session, and July 1 was named, leaving things on the old footing this session.

In explaining the bill Sir James took up the first clause, which fixes the payment of members where the session lasts less than thirty days. He considered that \$20 a day was a fair indemnity.

Deduction for Absences.

The deduction suggested by Sir James for each day's absence was either \$10 or \$15. This clause, he said, contained a departure from the act governing the Federal House, since it provided that a member who did not appear in the House on a certain day, but was travelling bona fide on his way to the Legislature, should not suffer a deduction. Where the member was in the city in which the session was being held, or was within ten miles, and was prevented by sickness from attending, it should be reckoned as a day of attendance.

The Prime Minister suggested that five or six days be allowed each member on which he might be absent on necessary business without having a deduction made in his indemnity.

Advances to Members.

The new bill also provides for the payment of members from time to time as they become entitled to their indemnity, and in this connection Sir James thought that \$15 for each day would be sufficient, the remainder to be paid at the end of the session.

The bill was allowed to stand over and will be taken up again and the blanks filled in.

Make the Counties Pay.

Mr. A. E. Donovan's bill to make counties and rural municipalities shoulder the expense of patients sent into city hospitals received a favorable reception from Hon. Mr. Hanna. The Provincial Secretary, while questioning the advisability of allowing some details of the bill to become law, considered that the bill had the right principle and should go on to the Municipal Committee.

Scope of Board Widened.

The limit of cost of local improvement works for which the approval of the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board is required, as provided by Hon. Mr. Hanna's bill to amend the consolidated municipal act, is fixed at \$50,000, not \$30,000, as printed in the first drafts of the bill, the amendment having been made in Committee of the Whole.

LIQUOR MEN COMPLAIN OF NEW LICENSE BILL

DEPUTATION TELLS PROVINCIAL
SECRETARY THAT GOVERN-
MENT IS GOING TOO FAR.

A number of prominent hotelmen waited upon Hon. W. J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, yesterday to voice their opposition to the new License Act amendments introduced in the Legislature last week.

The hotelmen objected to the placing upon them of a tax of five per cent. on all bar receipts over \$40 a day, but their chief complaint was about the clauses giving officers of the License Department the right to examine the books of hotelkeepers in order to check up returns to the Department. They declared that such power was dangerous, and questioned the Government's right to put such legislation into effect.

Hon. Mr. Hanna gave them little comfort. He pointed out that the liquor act was in one sense a revenue act, and as a revenue bill the Government had the power to make such regulations respecting the new measure as were considered necessary.