

YORK TOWNSHIP LOSES FIGHT FOR WATER SERVICE

THE PRIVATE BILLS COMMITTEE GIVES DECISION FOR THE CITY.

Toronto won out in the Private Bills Committee yesterday morning on the question of compelling the city to supply water to a portion of the township of York. By a vote of 11 to 10, Hon. Thomas Crawford's motion that the clause be stricken out and the matter stand for another year until the representatives of both municipalities had an opportunity to reach an agreement was adopted. An amendment by Mr. T. Herbert Lennox that the clause be passed and the matter of adjustment be left to the Ontario Railway Board was rejected.

Mr. J. R. L. Starr, solicitor for the township, stated that, by resolution of the City Council, Toronto supplied water to residents within 500 feet of the city limits, but they might change that any day. It was a law in favor of the rich man. When the city was required to put in a water connection, it was a case of "put up your money and we will put it in anywhere within that 500 feet." The poor man could not put up the money. The only thing they could do as a township was to make sure that they got water, for the problem was acute.

Mayor Hocken said the position the city took was that this was not merely a question of water, but of schools, roads, transportation and a lot of other things, and they had said to the township, "if you let this bill stand for one year we will undertake to cooperate with you in working out a plan, for which we will come to the Legislature next year and ask consent." By the end of the year they would have additional conduits laid, and with the improvement of their waterworks they would be able to serve those districts in the township which were asking for water.

Mr. George Syme, Reeve of the township, said something had to be done for the general health of the community.

Mr. McNaught thought if they agreed to this they would be adopting a vicious principle to compel the city of Toronto to finance such a thing outside its limits.

Mr. Geary, Corporation Counsel, said the city had no objection to supplying the water, but it could not do it. "We haven't been able to give water to North Toronto; it's a shame to put this on us just now," he said.

Mr. Lennox remarked that the Railway and Municipal Board could settle the point.