

# WESTERN ONTARIO GAS MUST BE PURIFIED

## City of Toronto May Tax Wheeled Vehicles

## MORE PAY FOR ALDERMEN

### Municipal Committee of Legislature in Favor of Increased Remuneration if Electors Are—Other Matters Af- fecting Municipalities Disposed Of.

Mr. Brewster's bill to amend the public utilities act so that by-laws may be passed by the Councils of municipalities prohibiting the distribution within or through the municipality of gas containing sulphuretted hydrogen came before the Municipal Committee in the Legislature yesterday. It was set forth that if a company contravenes the provisions of any such by-law or neglects or refuses to furnish a supply sufficient for all public and private uses of gas not containing sulphuretted hydrogen the franchise rights of the company so distributing may be cancelled. Mr. Brewster's bill was passed with the proviso that the by-law must be passed upon by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

Mr. McPherson (Toronto) asked Mr. Brewster: Supposing a franchise were cut off how much better would Brantford and the other places be?

Mr. Brewster replied they could get another supply of good gas. That was all his bill provided for. If the company gave them a supply of good gas they could not do anything, but if the company did not furnish this they could go and get it somewhere else. So far as he was concerned, he would sooner have manufactured gas—and he was sure that was the feeling of the people of Brantford—than have "this filthy stuff being piped in there now."

Mr. Pattinson (South Waterloo) said scores of people, domestic servants and people working in shops, had been so affected by this gas that they had to give up their employment.

Mr. W. N. Ferguson, representing the Dominion Gas Company, declared it was possible to purify this gas.

Mr. J. W. Westbrook (North Brantford) supported the bill, testifying to the serious grievance which the people had.

### Licenses for Wheeled Vehicles.

Mr. W. K. McNaught's bill that by-laws may be passed by the Council of cities having a population of not less than 200,000 requiring all residents in the municipality using any wheeled vehicle to obtain a license therefor before using the same upon any highway of the city, and regulating the issuing of such licenses and the collection of fees, was passed with some amendments. It was decided that in no case should the fee exceed one dollar, nor the penalty on persons contravening the by-law exceed five dollars. The clause allowing any person owning or occupying any building or other erection which by inadvertence has been wholly or partially erected upon any highway to maintain and use such erection thereon, and for

fixing such annual fee or charge as the Council may deem reasonable for such owner or occupant to pay for such privilege, was carried, as was also that relating to the use of highway or boulevard for building purposes and the fixing of a fee or charge for such. The committee also concurred in the clause bearing on the registration of notice of intention to expropriate land with compensation to be paid to the owner or owners thereof according to the value at the date of the registration of the notice. It was provided that the municipality shall not be entitled to acquire any such land after the lapse of six months from the date of the registration of the notice.

### Aldermen's Salary Increase.

The committee approved Mr. W. K. McNaught's bill to amend the municipal act so that by-laws may be passed by the Councils of cities having a population of not less than 200,000 for paying an annual allowance not exceeding \$1,200 to Aldermen, and an additional allowance not exceeding \$100 to each Chairman of a standing committee, and to the Chairman of the Court of Revision and the local Board of Health. It was agreed to insert the proviso, subject to the consent of the electors.

Mr. McDonald's bill to amend the motor vehicles act was lost, although Hon. Mr. Hanna expressed approval of the clause stating that no motor vehicle while travelling upon a highway shall have attached to it and exposed to view any flag, streamer or similar decoration.

Mr. Mills' bill that the Council of a city or town may transfer cemeteries to board of parks management was approved.

A bill was also passed allowing any municipality that so desired to hold its election on New Year's Day.