

opposed to the Government taking up the fishing business in the way suggested, when the item for \$125,000 to erect docks, provide transportation, etc., was brought before the committee. While he wanted the people to have cheap fish, he thought there was a more adequate way whereby they could get it. He moved that several items be struck out. The amount was passed but it will be further debated.

Mr. Hartley Dewart (Southwest Toronto) wanted the Board of License Commissioners abolished and the work carried on by some department of the Government. He took exception to the amount of \$205,000 for the enforcement of the Ontario Temperance Act. He compared it with \$5,000 for the enforcement of the Canada Temperance Act, and he said that there was no need for its expensive machinery. The results didn't warrant it. He intimated that when the estimates came up for concurrence he would have something to say concerning the members of the board and its method of operation. Mr. Dewart compared the \$305,066 received in fines under the old municipal machinery with the \$184,704 received under the Ontario Temperance Act.

## CIVIC BILL IS STILL PENDING

Action Deferred on City's  
Measure Seeking Authority to Penalize T.S.R.

### OVERCROWDING CLAIMED

Representatives of City and Street  
Railway Presented Arguments to  
Private Bills Committee.

No action was taken by the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature yesterday on the request of the city for a bill giving increased authority to the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board to impose penalties on the Toronto Railway Company for not complying with the orders of the board. After hearing lengthy arguments of representatives of the Toronto Railway Company and the city, the committee left the matter over until next Monday, when the Attorney-General, Hon. I. B. Lucas, promised to have the legal officers make a report on the necessity of an amendment to the statutes.

The original bill asked that the Legislature penalize the company \$500 a day for every car that was not on the line, as ordered by the Ontario Railway Board. An amendment was offered by the city yesterday asking that the penalty be \$1,000 a day, and at the last moment the Chairman, Hon. Mr. Lucas, said he had been furnished with several other clauses which the city wished incorporated in the bill.

#### Overcrowding Complained of.

Mayor Church told the committee of the shortage of cars and of the existing conditions of alleged overcrowding on the Toronto street cars. Works Commissioner R. C. Harris asked that authority be given the Railway Board to impose a penalty without the privilege

of appealing from the decision of the board. He said he had just been informed that the Canadian Car Company had offered to build cars. He didn't think the city should be asked to accept the responsibilities of the company to secure cars for it. The city had secured delivery of 7 of its 15 cars; two of them are in operation and five others are being completed by the city. Had Mr. R. J. Fleming placed orders for the cars the city would not have asked the Legislature to take any action in the matter.

Mr. Mark Irish said there was no finer exponent of Vanderhilt's statement "the public be damned" on the continent than the Toronto Railway Company. There is only one way the company can be reached, and that is through its balance sheet.

Mr. G. H. Gooderham said the blame was on the city for not accepting the offer made a year ago that it be allowed to secure the cars.

There was a murmur of assent from the members of the committee when the Attorney-General asked if they didn't think it was right that authority should be given the Railway Board to impose a penalty if its orders were not complied with. It was suggested that the amendment should be a general one, and not particularly referring to the Toronto Railway Company. Mr. I. S. Fairty said that Chairman McIntyre of the board doubted if he had authority to impose a penalty under the act.

#### Bad Conditions Instanced.

Mr. Thomas Hook related an incident which occurred on a car at midnight Thursday, when a woman had fainted in a car because of the overcrowding. He suggested the Attorney-General should prosecute those responsible for such conditions and the crew of the car, who, he alleged, were incompetent.

Mr. Lucas replied that the Province had lost one case on overcrowding when it appealed to the Privy Council on a previous occasion.

The city finally consented to allow one appeal from the judgment of the Ontario Railway Board. They previously asked that no appeal be allowed.

Another city bill to allow the municipality to make a temporary loan to the Toronto Harbor Commissioners of \$1,725,000 and ratifying an agreement between the city and the Toronto Suburban Railway Company was passed.

*March 5<sup>th</sup>*

## BILL OPPOSED BY DRUGGISTS

Wish Removal of Clause Prohibiting Sale of Patent Medicines

Druggists are opposed to the clause in the Government's bill dealing with venereal diseases which prohibits their selling patent medicines for curing or alleviating such diseases. A deputation waited on Hon. I. B. Lucas, Attorney-General, and expressed the opinion that such a law would give the medical profession a monopoly in prescribing medicines. On the other hand the doctors contend that only by a proper diagnosis by a medical practitioner can the nature of the disease be known. Some understanding will probably be reached before the bill finally passes the Legislature.

The Attorney-General intimated that provision may also be made in the bill prohibiting the sale of American newspapers which contain advertisements of quack remedies. It is almost a certainty that papers in Ontario will be restricted from using any such advertisements other than those approved by the Provincial Board of Health.