

ment. The department will endeavor to take care of public institutions and thus set an example for private individuals. The Government will be prepared to change the apparatus in these institutions to provide for the use of wood fuel. The Government will superintend the cutting of the wood, and this year it is expected to take out about 50,000 cords.

Sir William Hearst said that the Dominion Government this year is promulgating a different policy than in the past. Each Province will appoint its own controller, and each municipality will do the same. The duty of distribution of fuel will rest upon these Provincial and municipal officials, once the Dominion Government delivers the fuel into the Province.

A clause was added to the bill by Hon. Mr. Ferguson that the bill shall not apply to oil, natural and artificial gas and electric fuel.

Assessment Amendments Withdrawn

At the request of the Government Mr. Proudfoot withdrew three of his bills that sought to amend the Municipal and Assessment Acts. The purpose of the amendments was to give farmers' daughters the right to vote at municipal elections, the same as farmers' sons, and that a married woman's housekeeping allowance and services should be fixed at not less than \$400, so as to give her the right to vote. The amendments will be considered by the Special Assessment Committee when it meets during recess. The same committee will consider Mr. J. C. Elliott's (West Middlesex) bill to give municipalities power to conduct tax sales.

The city of Toronto bill confining the franchise for Board of Education purposes to the same conditions as those of other municipal bodies was passed in committee.

VEHICLE TAX FROWNED UPON

Premier Asks Withdrawal of Toronto's Bill for In- creased Impost

The city of Toronto cannot count on increasing its revenue from an additional wheel tax. This was made clear in the Legislature yesterday afternoon, and while the bill introduced by Mr. Joseph Russell (Riverdale) for this purpose was allowed to go to committee, there is no expectation that it will come back. Mr. Russell said that the city felt it did not receive sufficient tax from vehicles at present, and a sliding scale of charges was desired. Then, too, the city wanted authority to tax transient contractors at one-half of one per cent. on work done in Toronto.

Hon. Mr. McPherson said that it would not be right to tax autos an additionality, since they now are taxed by the Province. He thought the bill should be allowed to go to committee.

Mr. William Proudfoot said that this clause of the act had been so recently amended that the line should be drawn somewhere.

Mr. Allan Studholme (East Hamilton) said the city should be careful, as Toronto contractors at the present time go outside of the city to do all kinds of work. If contractors coming to Toronto to do work have to pay a city tax they will make their customers pay for it.

Sir William Hearst asked that in view of the temper of the House the bill be withdrawn.

Mr. Russell said he would like to see the bill go to the committee.

Sir William replied that there were one or two clauses in the bill that were worthy of consideration, and he was willing to allow it to go on, therefore, but the House had already shown its feeling toward the bill.

SAY CORONERS ARE PREJUDICED

Hon. Thos. Crawford of West- ern Hospital Board Wel- comes Inquiry

That there is a general impression that the Coroners of Toronto have narrowed their circle until they are now a limited body, favoring certain institutions, and that their prejudices carry them so far that they cannot mete out fair treatment to other institutions doing similar work, was the emphatic declaration in the Legislature yesterday afternoon by Hon. Thomas Crawford (Northwest Toronto), Chairman of the Western Hospital Board. The member for Northwest Toronto was replying to a question of the Opposition Leader, Mr. Wm. Proudfoot, who, on a question of privilege, asked if the Government intended holding an investigation into affairs at the Western Hospital in view of certain allegations made surrounding the death recently of Henry Atkins. Mr. Crawford said that the testimony taken by the board went to show that the staff, the management of the hospital, and the house doctor, had treated the patient properly. He welcomed an investigation, and he was convinced that the Western Hospital would be found in as good condition as any in the Province.

Dr. Forbes Godfrey (West York) thought that the sooner the Government reorganized the Coroners' Court the better. He was not aware of any clique among the Coroners, and a good many of the Coroners are competent men. He thought that the Government should appoint one man to act as Coroner who had no other duties.

Mr. Hartley Dewart (Southwest Toronto) said that his experience had been that the Coroners conducted their work so far as the public and the profession are concerned.

Hon. W. D. McPherson replied that he had been requested to have an investigation held. However, with the pressure of other departmental business he had not given the matter full consideration, but would give his decision at an early date.