

fied in municipal offices, yet they were men fit to lead any body.

Mr. Ferguson thought the bill somewhat radical. He knew of no municipalities asking for it. He warned the Government not to rush into new fields, but to educate public sentiment before it crystalized this thing into legislation. He admitted that there was much in the argument of brains versus wealth, but a man might have property and brains, too. The trouble was that men without brains could get into municipal bodies by this act.

"Won't you trust the people?" asked Mr. MacBride.

"Not always," said the Conservative Leader, amid laughter.

He thought it dangerous to insert the thin edge of the wedge into the principles underlying municipal government. If the bill were proceeded with he would be reluctantly compelled to fight it, he said.

Thinks It Logical.

J. W. Curry thought the bill quite logical. If qualification for the candidates for the Legislature was reduced, why should the qualification for an inferior body be higher. The Legislature was the parent body, and the qualification should not be greater for other bodies than for it.

J. MacNamara (Riverdale) advanced the case of the returned soldiers. These men had shown that they could look after the Empire. Could they not, he asked, be trusted in its Municipal Councils? The only way to get them there was to let the bill pass.

Mr. Raney explained that the bill got back to two principles. The candidate must be a householder either by ownership or lease. The other was that he must be a voter. The basis was the home. The new voters' qualification did not apply to money by-laws.

The resolution that the Provincial Treasurer be given power to guarantee bonds of municipalities raised for housing purposes passed the House. The new Housing Bill will be submitted for a second reading in the near future. Sergt.-Major MacNamara was informed that the Government had nothing to do with the appointment of a Theatre Censor in Toronto. He had protested that a returned soldier had not been given the position.

Money No Criterion.

Dr. Stevenson of London declared that money was only a matter of degree; that it should not be taken into consideration in the examination of a man's right or competency to represent his townsmen in the Municipal Council.

Hon. Thos. Crawford, while agreeing with the argument that it was not always money that represented force and ability in the man, maintained that "generally speaking, they are likely to be found in possession of the same individual." In discussing municipal matters with Labor men, he had found that, for the most part, they had not the time to devote to municipal government. Nor had he ever heard any demand from municipalities for the removal of property qualifications. He advised delay and consultation with men of municipal knowledge and experience.

Surely, though Mr. Homuth of South Waterloo, when an aspirant to municipal office secured the names of twenty-five petitioners endorsing his candidature, that was more indicative of his ability to perform the function of office than the amount of his property holdings.

Thinks Principle Wrong.

Mr. Wellington Hay advocated laying the matter over until another session. He believed the members ought to have the opportunity of consulting their constituents.

Mr. J. B. Johnston, U.F.O. member for Simcoe, supported the bill.

Mr. R. R. Hall, Parry Sound, felt that it was a wrong principle that a man with no property upon which taxes are levied should be permitted to enter Municipal Councils and bond the municipality for amounts to which he would not have to contribute.

Hon. Harry Mills ridiculed the argument that Labor men themselves were not favorable to the removal of property qualifications.

Premier Drury ended the discussion by proposing adjournment of the House until Tuesday next. In the meantime, he said, the members could digest and meditate on the

proposed legislation. He reminded members on the other side, however, that only the other day they had spoken against the advisability of requiring property qualification for a voter, and now they were advocating property qualification for an office-holder.

STATES QUARTS IN MOST CASES NOT NECESSARY

J. D. Flavelle Accuses Some Physicians of Abusing Their Privileges

HUGE CHRISTMAS TRADE

The Toronto Dispensary's Business on December 24 Amounted to \$38,000

That eighty or ninety per cent. of the prescriptions issued for quarts of liquor were issued where the liquor was not necessary for medicinal purposes was an assertion made by J. D. Flavelle, Chairman of the Ontario Board of License Commissioners, before the Public Accounts Committee in the Legislature yesterday. The great majority of doctors, he said, were obeying the law, but about ten per cent. were "bedevilling" things. The board, he declared, was trying to restrict the number of prescriptions issued.

It was also brought out in evidence that the board was willing to pay "whisky informers." Mr. Flavelle said the board had practised paying informers. The amounts averaged about \$25, and the board in giving this compensation took into consideration the size of the fine which was imposed. Under examination by H. H. Dewart, Liberal Leader, the Chairman of the board admitted that \$200, or a tenth of the fine, had been paid to an informer in Peterborough. This, said the Chairman, was an exceptional case.

No Slump in Sales.

There had been no slump in dispensary business when importation was again permitted. Business had kept up to normal. Mr. Flavelle defended Mr. Cleland, the general manager of the dispensaries. He maintained that he was worth his \$10,000 salary as manager of a four-million-dollar business. He was worth every dollar he was getting and more. He pointed out many times where Mr. Cleland had saved the Province large sums of money; where he had laid in stocks before increases in prices. Mr. Cleland, anticipating the rise in exchange, had also saved money to the Province then by his buying. The purchase of 100,000 gallons of alcohol from Cuba which was being made available for industrial purposes would, he said, save the manufacturers of the Province half a million at least, as compared with the prices of distillers here.

One doctor, he asserted, gave 2,005 prescriptions in a month, getting \$3 each from outsiders and \$2 from city residents. Another doctor gave 487 prescriptions in one day. The greatest day in the dispensary business was the day before Christmas, when \$38,000 worth of business was done in Toronto. Practically all of it was on the sale of quart bottles.

Thinks Profit Necessary.

Examined by Mr. Dewart, Chair-