

YORK IS ANXIOUS TO OWN RADIALS

County Wants Special Act to Enable It to Operate Lines

DELEGATION SEES DRURY

If the long-talked-of "clean-up" deal fails to materialize York county will purchase the York radials and operate them itself. County officials are not very keen about Toronto owning radials outside the city limits, and would much prefer to have York purchase them.

Yesterday the Legislative Committee of the county waited on Premier Drury asking him to introduce legislation to make it possible for the county to purchase the Metropolitan, Scarboro' and Mimico divisions of the Toronto & York Radial Railway and operate them itself. Premier Drury stated that it had already been decided to bring down legislation giving authority to counties to go into the radial railway business.

Wants Operating Power.

At the present time the county has the power to purchase the lines, but has not the authority to operate them. Without the promised legislation the lines would have to be turned over to the Hydro Commission or some other body to operate. York is anxious to be in a position to operate the radials if it purchases them.

The three lines can be purchased by the county for \$2,300,000. Only the portions of the radials outside the city limits would be taken over by the county.

If York buys the radials the dream of ex-Warden W. H. Pugsley of Richmond Hill will be realized. Mr. Pugsley was Warden when the franchise was granted to the Metropolitan, and ever since he has been advocating that the county purchase this line. When Warden he endeavored to have the county introduce the radials itself, but other men were not so confident of the future of electric lines. Mr. Pugsley, though not now a member of the Council, was one of the delegation that waited on the Premier yesterday.

Those on Delegation.

The deputation was introduced by Col. T. H. Lennox, M.P.P., solicitor for York county, and consisted of: Reeve William Keith, Newmarket, Chairman of the Legislative Committee; Reeve J. M. Gardhouse, Weston; Reeve Charles Willoughby, North Gwillimbury; Reeve John Knowles, Aurora; Reeve George B. Padget, Markham township; Reeve Fred Miller, York township; Reeve W. J. Gardhouse, Etobicoke township, and Reeve A. E. Pugsley, Sutton.

All but three of those present were ex-Wardens, and the delegation comprised the strongest men in the County Council. When these ten men favor the proposal, there is absolutely no doubt of the stand the County Council will take on the matter.