

Thursday, March 4th

Private Bills in Legislature

A score of private bills having to do with the activities of communities in all parts of the Province were introduced in the Ontario Legislature.

F. G. McBrien (Con., Toronto S.W.) sponsored a bill respecting the Toronto Police Benefit Fund. This was to provide for a series of changes in the workings of the fund as planned and announced by police officials. Chiefly it was to provide for increased assessment and reduced pensions to the old members of the force, these proposals having been made at a meeting of the Fund Association members recently.

School Insurance.

A bill respecting the Board of Education of Toronto, introduced by A. R. Nesbitt (Con., Toronto N.W.), provides for a special grading of insurance rates for the schools in the city. Between 1898 and 1925 the amounts paid in insurance exceeded the money received in claims by \$165,315. It is noted that Toronto has built up a strong fire fighting system, and that the fire risks in Toronto schools and property, valued at \$22,020,000, are apparently less than in other buildings, and so the bill proposed a grading of insurance to take all this into consideration and lower the rates on the schools. Mr. Nesbitt also sponsored the bill to provide for a gas audit in Toronto.

New Hospital.

Other private bills included one by Wm. Keith (Con., North York), to incorporate the Toronto East General Hospital; a bill by M. McKnight (Con., East Elgin), authorizing the consolidation of certain indebtedness of the Town of Aylmer; a bill

by Hon. Dr. Jamieson (Con., South Gray), to ratify the amalgamation of the Grey, Bruce and Owen Sound Loan Companies. F. W. Wilson (Con., Windsor) brought in a bill to authorize the Town of Ojibway to separate from the County of Essex for municipal purposes. A. C. Garden (Con., West Hamilton) introduced a bill organizing the Association of Accountants and Auditors. Dr. R. N. Berry (Con., Haldimand) introduced a bill confirming money by-laws of the Village of Waterford, and authorizing the levy of certain rates. Dr. Monteith (Con., North Perth) brought in a measure submitting to the voters of Stratford for a second time a proposal to purchase a municipal gas plant. G. A. Elliot (Con., North Middlesex) sponsored a bill respecting the City of London to validate by-laws, fix certain assessments, and authorize the Housing Commission to sell certain properties there.

Northern Development.

Frank Keefer (Con., Port Arthur) introduced a measure to fix a pulp mill assessment for Port Arthur, and to confirm tax sales there and authorizing the consolidation of certain Port Arthur debentures. A. Gray (Con., Leeds) had a bill respecting the Town of Gananoque, which consolidated into one by-law the authority for paving various streets. W. Finlayson (Con., East Simcoe) introduced a measure to incorporate the National Council of the Y. M. C. A. of Canada in the Province of Ontario. Another bill sponsored by M. M. McBride (Con., Brant South) dealt with certain measures for the City of Brantford, and a bill relating to the City of Ottawa was introduced by J. A. Pinard (Lib., Ottawa East).

Measure Is Introduced To Amend United Church Act

An act to amend the United Church of Canada Act was introduced for first reading by Alexander Lewis (Conservative, Toronto), who explained the aims of the measure to the House. Under the present act a congregation which delayed too long in taking its vote automatically passed into Union. The amendment is designed to give certain congregations which looked upon this automatic action as a hardship the right to take another vote under the supervision of the Church Property Commission. By this measure the same Commission will be empowered to right grievances instead of merely recommending settlement as has been the case in the past.

Mum's the Word

Premier Ferguson last night was as "mum" as ever regarding the identity of the eventual successor to the portfolio of Minister of Lands and Forests, made vacant by the resignation of Hon. James Lyons. "I was sworn in yesterday," said Mr. Ferguson, "and shall carry on in the meantime."

NOMINATE COMMITTEE TO DISPOSE OF FUND

Suggestion Is Made to Have Every Canadian Unit Represented

A deputation of returned soldiers representing unattached veterans presented to Provincial Treasurer Price yesterday their views concerning the disposition of Ontario's share of the canteen fund, being the recommendations of the veterans' meetings held on Tuesday night. They urged that Col. Price himself, with Captain Norman Lambert and Gen. V. A. S. Williams, be the three soldier administrators on the Provincial Committee to disburse the fund. George Moore, prominent in soldier circles, conferred with the Provincial Treasurer on Tuesday, advocating the appointment of two representatives from every military unit which went overseas as delegates to a central meeting, from which a choice of four members to the Canteen Fund Distribution Committee could be made. The fifth member and Chairman of the committee should be appointed by the Government, Mr. Moore told Col. Price.