

February 15

# Wards Safeguarded By New Amendments

## Continuance of Municipal and Parental Responsibility After Child Reaches Age of Sixteen —Stricter Supervision of Children's Aid Societies

Safeguarding of Children's Aid Society wards is the object of the amendment to the Children's Protection Act introduced in the Legislature by Hon. W. G. Martin, Minister of Welfare. One change in the statute is aimed at continuance of municipal and parental responsibility over wards after they have reached the age of 16. Accordingly, the word "child" in two sections of the act is taken to include wards of societies, no matter what their age.

The more important amendment is the addition of three subsections intended to establish responsibility for the children's care and welfare. They are:

"The constitution and by-laws of every Children's Aid Society shall contain such provisions for the proper care, treatment and inspection of all children of which it is the legal guardian, or which are in any way its charge, as the regulations may prescribe, and a certified copy of the constitution and by-laws of the Children's Aid Society shall be filed with the department forthwith after the same are adopted, and shall be subject to the approval of the Minister.

"It shall be the duty of the directors or members of the Executive Committee of a Children's Aid Society to ensure that the provisions of its constitution and by-laws for the proper care, treatment and inspection of all children of which it is the legal guardian, or which are in any way its charge, are observed, performed or carried out.

"The Lieutenant - Governor - in - Council, upon the recommendation of the Minister, may at any time dissolve a Children's Aid Society, or, without dissolving the society, may dismiss from office the Board of Directors or Executive Committee or any officer or officers thereof, and direct, in case of such dismissal, the election or appointment, as the case may be, of a new board, committee or officer in its or his place."

First reading was given also to the bill of Argue Martin (Conservative, Hamilton West) amending the Municipal Act, and permitting cities to revise their municipal governments along the English pattern.