

# FIXED INCOME TAX- FOR ALL ONTARIO URGED BY M.P.P.

Would Stop Jumping From  
One Township to Another,  
Says McBrien

## NORTH YORK BILL CUT

Legislation to establish a fixed income tax rate for the whole Province to keep tax-dodgers "from jumping from one township to another" in search of low rates, was advocated by Fred G. McBrien, Toronto Conservative at yesterday's meeting of the Legislature's Committee on Private Bills. Mr. McBrien suggested a rate of 3 or 3 1-2 per cent.

The matter arose in connection with North York's Municipal Bill, from which two clauses were deleted, temporarily at least, by the committee. Under one of these, a fixed income tax rate would be set for all school sections of the township. Frank Moore, solicitor, explained that the present system was discriminatory, in that income tax rates for school purposes varied widely, and as a result residents were moving away from certain sections.

### Many Would Escape.

H. L. Cummings, Municipal Law Clerk, objected that if a 35-mill maximum were set, as proposed, many who owned no real property would be escaping school levy altogether.

The other clause to which Mr. Cummings objected was for transference to general account of a surplus accumulated through sale of debentures at high rates during more prosperous times. Mr. Cummings called the principle "vicious and unsound" and one that "might lead to a very carefully thought-out scheme for creating surpluses." He contended that the surplus should be used to benefit those people who had been charged with the improvement for which the debentures were issued. Further conferences between Mr. Moore and Mr. Cummings received the approval of Hon. Charles McCrea, Acting Chairman of the committee. The township received assent to creation of a Court of Revision independent of the Council.

The City of Oshawa's bill received committee approval. W. E. N. Sinclair, K.C., explained that it provided for: Confirmation of return of Collectors' rolls for the years 1927-32; validation of appointment of a City Administrator, who would co-ordinate all municipal functions; confirmation of the assessment roll of 1934; a staggered electoral system, with Councillors elected for two-year terms alternate years; and merger of the offices of Collector and Treasurer, a step contemplated, but not yet taken by the city.

### Other Municipal Bills.

Woodbridge Village obtained approval for a bill ratifying a settlement reached in a Supreme Court action, wherein Samuel Plunkett and others were plaintiffs against W. Robinson & Son, Converters Limited, and the village. The St. Catharines bill, also reported, provided for purchase of three acres of industrial site outside the city limits, and reduction from six to five in the membership of the Waterworks Commission, it was explained by City Solicitor M. N. Seymour. The City of Welland gained approval for a fixed assessment granted the Plymouth Cordage Company.

Merger of the Industrial Mortgage and Trust Company, Sarnia, and the East Lambton Farmers' Loan and Savings Company, Forest, was provided in another bill reported by the committee.