

GAZETTE TO CARRY FEWER, CHEAPER SALES TAX NOTICES

Some Supervisors' Boards Practically Dictators, Hon. Dr. Poisson Asserts

AMENDMENT APPROVED

A solution of the Ontario Gazette problem and the assertion of Hon. Paul Poisson (Conservative, Essex North) that, in certain municipalities, "we've appointed a Board of Supervisors, and they're practically a board of dictators," featured a meeting of the Legislative Committee on Municipal Law at Queen's Park yesterday. Dr. Poisson added: "Down in our district we have certainly gone too far and we pay the whole shot," but other members reminded him that the supervisors were in command at the invitation of the municipalities, and would leave when debts had been paid. The member for Essex North commented wryly that such payment was not always easy.

Argues Fixed Place.

The Gazette measure, sponsored by W. E. N. Sinclair (Liberal, Ontario South), was debated at length. Hon. William Finlayson, Chairman of the committee, admitted that "we can't justify making \$13,000 on the Gazette and take it from municipalities in times like these," but contended that there should be a fixed place in which interested parties can always find information. By three resolutions, the committee approved an amendment requiring only three advertisements of each sale in the Gazette; recommended that the fee for Gazette advertising of tax sales should be reduced approximately by half, and decided to leave the matter of local advertising under the present rulings, with a single technical change.

W. H. Alderson, veteran worker in Red Cross and Northern relief activities, appeared before the committee to advocate improved accounting of local government finances. "There is very little dishonesty but a great deal of ignorance of accounting," Mr. Alderson stated, citing a number of instances of tangled municipal and School Board books. Members of the committee objected to the solution, entailing an advisory board of auditors, offered by Mr. Alderson, but commended the principle of better municipal accounting. At the instance of Mr. Finlayson, it was suggested that future work along that line should be considered.

Licensing Extended.

Bills extending to townships the heretofore limited right to license hawkers and peddlers were introduced by Clifford Case (Conservative, York North) and W. G. Willson (Conservative, Niagara Falls). Both measures being practically identical, the committee approved the more comprehensive act permitting all townships to exercise the privilege.

The amendment to the Assessment Act, proposed by Mr. Sinclair, which would permit municipalities to bring certain classes of property to sale for taxes, was supported by Mr. Finlayson, but opposed by W. A. Baird (Conservative, High Park). The measure received general assent in the committee and was approved.

Legislation presented by T. A. Blakelock (Liberal, Halton) authorizing a reduction of the statutory tax penalty in smaller communities, was described by Mr. Finlayson as "technical and wide-reaching" and finally referred to a specially appointed subcommittee. Bills designed to permit exemption of farm lands in the municipalities from certain taxes and to give the cities power to regulate lumber and particularly wrecking yards, received approval.

GAME FARM OPERATION LEGISLATION IS LIKELY

Challies Discusses Problems in Raising of Wild Geese — Predicts Bill Soon

Bears, wolves, otters and the announcement of an amendment permitting the establishment of game farms, featured a meeting of the Game and Fish Committee in Queen's Park yesterday.

A letter from Jack Miner, stressing the advantages of the domestic raising of game, was read by T. V. Lancaster (Conservative, Peterboro'); and Hon. George Challies, Provincial Secretary, after mentioning the problems and benefits involved in the legitimate raising and selling of wild geese, wild ducks and pheasants, stated that permissive legislation might be brought in this year.

The committee recommended open seasons on the otter, which was denounced as something of a pest, and approved a measure authorizing the department to grant permits for bear hunting in certain areas. On the other side of the ledger, the protection of the moose, which members stated were reappearing in Victoria, Peterboro' and Hastings County and Haliburton, was provided by approval of a closure ruling in the CC zone, which includes most of the territory south of French River, for the next five years.

No changes in the duck and deer season were approved, but the committee discussed at length the problem of duck "baiting." Correspondence from Ottawa, introduced by the Provincial Secretary, bore out his statement, "that every restriction that we put on duck hunting provides more hunting in the United States." It was finally agreed that as an experiment duck blinds should be restricted in Hamilton Bay, where the most serious difficulties have been reported, to an area within seventy-five yards of the shore.

The committee unanimously approved the proposal that badges should be issued with hunting licenses, T. H. Bell (Conservative, Bellwoods) suggesting that the badges should be worn conspicuously. After lengthy comment it was decided that no change in non-resident licenses should be recommended. Petitions for an increase in wolf bounties were countered by reports that the wolves are unusually scarce this year, and no action was taken.

A letter from Morris Ackerman, Cleveland angler and publisher, was introduced by Mr. Challies as unbiased evidence of the quality of Ontario angling. Mr. Ackerman, after reporting a summer's fishing activity in the Province, declared: "Summed up, I believe 1933 offered 'the angling Ontario fishing comparable with 'the good old days.' I hope you will continue to afford present protection to your fishing. It should get better each season."

NO COMMISSIONER NAMED FOR PROBE

Martin Answers Nixon Query on York County Society

No Commissioner has been appointed to investigate the York County Children's Aid Society, Hon. W. G. Martin, Minister of Welfare, admitted at the close of the legislative session yesterday.

To a query made by Hon. Harry C. Nixon as the Premier was moving adjournment, asking whether the investigation announced a week ago was proceeding, and whether the Commissioner had been duly empowered, the Minister of Welfare replied that the matter was under consideration, but the appointment of a Commissioner had not been made. Mr. Nixon also asked if proceedings would be open or in camera, but the Minister did not refer to this portion of the question in his answer. M. A. Sorsoleil, Deputy Minister of Welfare, is to investigate the York County Society, according to the announcement made by Mr. Martin last week.