

ORILLIA POWER SALE LIMITED TO HYDRO, OUTSIDE SET RADIUS

Bill Revised Eliminating Minden, Anson, Lutterworth Townships

AT COMMITTEE MEETING

Orillia's municipal power development, pioneer of public ownership in Ontario, can proceed with its new undertaking at Workman's Falls, near Minden, but must seek no new customers, other than Hydro, beyond the present 25-mile radius in which the law permits it to sell power. This decision was reached by the Private Bills Committee of the Ontario Legislature yesterday in accepting the report of a subcommittee headed by W. A. Baird (Conservative, Toronto-High Park).

Accordingly, the Orillia bill was revised to eliminate those clauses which had allowed the municipality to sell power to Minden, Anson and Lutterworth Townships, along the route of its lines from Workman's Falls. It can sell, instead, up to 300 horsepower to Hydro, which, in turn, will supply the other municipalities. In event of dispute, the price will be fixed by the Government.

By-Law Necessary.

A by-law must be submitted to the ratepayers on the new development, and subsequently to the Ontario Municipal Board, and a six-year time limit is allowed for commencement of the new development.

The bills of St. Thomas, Harriston and Southampton, all of which municipalities sought to guarantee bonds of private industries within their limits, were reported, subject to Municipal Board approval, on recommendation of a subcommittee under F. G. McBrien (Conservative, Toronto-Brockton). Generally speaking, the subcommittee favored adherence to the 1924 policy of preventing municipalities from pledging their treasuries in the interests of private industries, but abnormal unemployment conditions justified exceptional measures. Wilfrid Heighington (Conservative, Toronto-St. David), sponsor of the Southampton bill, objected to "delegation of committee powers to a board," and called for an immediate decision without the reference to the Municipal Board. "People are going about the Province making speeches about the wide powers given boards and commissions," reminded Mr. Heighington. Dr. G. A. McQuibban, sponsoring the Harriston bill, also wanted immediate consideration.

"To Safeguard Ratepayers."

Chairman W. H. Price reminded the objectors that the reference to the board was intended only to safeguard the ratepayers. Also, he said, the board might be able to arrange better terms with the banks. Mr. McBrien said: "We can't, without safeguard, vote \$40,000 or \$50,000, and throw it into the hands of company promoters for them to do what they like with it." The subcommittee's recommendation was accepted.

Cornwall Township's bill, introduced by Duncan McNaughton (Conservative, Stormont), sought a fixed assessment of \$800,000 for the great Court-auld plant on the outskirts of Cornwall Town. Reeve J. L. McDonald, appearing as a township ratepayer, opposed the assessment, as did also Warden J. D. McDonald of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. J. A. Sangster (Liberal, Glengarry) also considered the assessment too low. The committee, however, considered that the plant was a distinct advantage to the whole community, and gave its approval to the bill.

Agreement Approved.

An agreement between the Town and Township of Cornwall and Canadian Industries Limited was approved without opposition.

The Ottawa bill, calling for extensive expenditures on relief works, also was reported. Toronto committee members were interested in Mayor Nolan's assertion of the principle that not only those now on relief, but those approaching it, would be given employment on the projects involved.

WHITE PAINT PROPOSED ON POLICE MOTORCYCLES

Liberal M.P.P. Suggests Safety Regulation Following
Death of Traffic Officer on Highway
South of Kitchener

White-painted motorcycles for highway traffic officers were proposed in the Legislature yesterday by S. C. Tweed, Liberal member for Waterloo North. Before resumption of the debate, Mr. Tweed, speaking for the first time this session, drew the House's attention to the death of a traffic officer on the highway, south of Kitchener, last night. The tail-light of the constable's motorcycle had been out, Mr. Tweed understood, and so he had not been visible to the motorist.

Attorney-General Price said he had been shocked to hear of the tragedy.

It would appear, he said, that the motorist had been on the wrong side of the road, and the officer on the right. He commented, finally, on the fact that human nature, as displayed after traffic accidents, was "prone to get away from the scene of trouble." He would welcome any constructive suggestions on corrective measures from the House.

N. O. Hipel (Liberal, Waterloo South) raised the question of Hon. William Finlayson's refusal to permit Public Accounts Committee investigation of years prior to 1933. Speaker Kidd ruled Mr. Hipel must lay his grievance before the committee.