

## NOISE CONTROL IS RECOGNIZED AS CITY RIGHT

By-Law Approved by Private Bills Committee in Legislature Despite Attack on 'Censorship Power'

### J. J. GLASS OPPOSES

Sweeping aside opposition, the Legislature private bills committee yesterday recognized "home rule rights" for Toronto and validated the city council-approved anti-noise by-law. The committee also endorsed Toronto's agreement with the harbor commission to operate the Malton and Island airports.

The legislation passed with but one amendment, proposed by Attorney-General Conant, who claimed the city should have the right to change the anti-noise by-law if it were found in experience that some of the clauses were unworkable. This right was granted by vote of the committee with the proviso that changes, if any, should be approved by the Ontario Municipal Board.

J. J. Glass (Lib., St. Andrew) attacked the section of the by-law which required written assent from the police commission for the use of sound amplifiers at "public election meetings or public celebrations." "Why should the board of police commissioners be given power of censors?" he asked, charging that the commissioners in cases in the past "have acted in a very peremptory manner and may do so again."

Mr. Glass believed that consent, if any, should be obtained from an elective body.

Allan Lamport (Lib., St. David), in opposition to the claim, charged that the provision was designed to give authorities power to control situations "like those down on Parliament Street, where every Saturday night there was an amplifier blaring forth and a man going around with a tin cup collecting for the campaign expenses of the candidate."

"I would sooner have that than to choke them off," retorted Mr. Glass.

Hon. Eric Cross, Minister of Municipal Affairs, supported Mr. Glass, holding that "it is an erroneous delegation of powers and an infringement of public rights" to place within the power of the police commission the right to say whether or not a person or a group had the right to hold an election meeting.

Besides, he claimed, there was adequate authority vested in the preceding section of the bill to control the noise-by-amplification problem.

Mr. Glass moved and Mr. Cross seconded the motion that the clause be struck out, but their amendment was defeated after Alderman Mrs. Plumtree, early proponent of the anti-noise legislation, explained that it was only after careful investigation that the city council decided to place the restrictive authority with the non-political police body.

The airport agreement was sharply opposed by J. E. McMillan, who said he represented the Toronto Property Owners' Association.

The association, he said, was opposed on the ground that the harbor commission would be certain to incur a deficit in the operation of a property on which the city had spent \$1,755,000 and had leased to the Department of Transport, Ottawa, for \$1 a year.

The committee gave the city authority to exempt the former home of William Lyon Mackenzie, first Toronto Mayor, at 82 Bond Street, from taxation, and to exempt from taxation a private dwelling from the time of the erection of the dwelling until the time it was occupied, provided that time did not exceed two years. C. M. Colquhoun, city solicitor, said the legislation was designed to encourage building.

## PLAN TO REVIEW SCHOOL TAXES

Case for Roman Catholic Institutions to Go Before Caucus; Delegation Calls Upon Premier Hepburn

### NO LEGISLATION SEEN

The separate schools tax question will, it is understood, be fully discussed in caucus by Premier Hepburn and the Liberal members of the Legislature before the present session of the Ontario Legislature ends.

Representatives of the Catholic Taxpayers' Association and the French-Canadian Educational Association conferred with Mr. Hepburn for half an hour yesterday but declined afterward to discuss the reasons for their visit. It is understood, however, that they pressed for some assurance from the Prime Minister that their petitions be given party caucus consideration at the earliest opportunity.

There is very little likelihood, it is reported, of the government ever again attempting further aid to the separate schools through the medium of special legislation as was tried once before. Special grants, it would appear, are to be the medium employed to provide any further assistance that in the government's opinion is required.

Albert H. Murphy, K.C., of London, president of the Catholic Taxpayers' Association, headed yesterday's deputation. Other members of it were J. A. McNeven, K.C., Chatham; Rev. F. J. Brennan, London, and Edmond Clothier and E. C. Desormeaux, Ottawa.

## TRUCKING CURB ON CATTLE HIT

Holding that regulations forbidding truckers to transport cattle more than 100 miles were adversely affecting farmers' marketing, the Legislature Agriculture Committee yesterday recommended abolition of the 100-mile limit on trucking licenses in this category.

By motion of J. W. Freeborn (Lib., Middlesex North) and Farquhar Oliver (U.F.O., Grey South), it was suggested that licenses be issued for trucking cattle to any place in Ontario.

Compulsory inspection of potatoes was advised by J. T. Cassin, marketing expert, as a means of raising the quality of the Ontario-produced crop and for stabilizing market prices. Morgan Baker (Lib., York North) charged department stores used potatoes as loss leaders and "the farmers take the rap."

Hon. P. M. Dewan, Minister of Agriculture, agreed unregulated trucking had upset to some extent the orderly marketing of potatoes and he advised a campaign of education to precede compulsory grading "within a reasonably short time."