

ONTARIO MAKES INCOME TAXES LIKE OTTAWA'S

**No New Levies Are
Involved in Move to
Reach Uniformity**

INCLUDE ANNUITIES

Attorney-General Conant in the Legislature yesterday introduced amendments to the Ontario Income Tax Act to bring it into conformity with changes made in Federal legislation in the past two years. He informed the House that no new principle nor any taxation was contained in the bill.

Annuities or other annual payments received under the provisions of any will or trust, irrespective of the time at which the trust became effective, and notwithstanding the fact that the annuity may be derived from capital funds, will be included specifically in the total of income assessable for taxation, under one of the amendment's provisions.

Another amendment provides for deduction from income of certain lump-sum payments made by an employer to an employees' superannuation or pension fund.

Extension of certain powers vested in the Law Society of Upper Canada is contained in another measure introduced by the Attorney-General, and given first reading. The society is given authority to suspend a barrister or solicitor who has been found to be mentally incompetent or mentally ill, or who has failed to pay his fees to the society for a period of one year. Reinstatement of any such barrister or solicitor is also provided for in the amendment.

A fine of not more than \$100 for the first offense and not more than \$200 for a subsequent offense is stipulated in an amendment to the Solicitors Act which sets up new penalties for those not duly qualified to act or practice as a solicitor.

Penalties for persons who sell, or offer for sale, trade school courses which have not been approved are contained in an amendment to the Trades Schools Regulation Act introduced by Hon. Dr. L. J. Simpson, Minister of Education. The penalties range from \$1,000 for the initial offense to \$2,000 for a second offense. In the case of a company, the magistrate may increase the penalty to \$25,000, the amendment declares.

Total capital expenditure on the Queen Elizabeth Way from Brown's Line to Hamilton in 1939 was \$108,341, according to figures tabled by Hon. T. B. McQuesten, Minister of Highways, in response to a question from T. A. Murphy (Cons., Beaches). Total maintenance cost for the same highway in 1939 was \$69,972.

5 P.C. PETITION TO BRING VOTE

Any municipality may vote itself out of the jurisdiction of the Government's bill extending the term of municipal councils to two years through a plebiscite initiated either by the Council or by petition of 5 per cent or 5,000 of the voters, as the result of an amendment passed in the Legislature yesterday while the House was in committee of the whole.

Hon. Eric Cross, Minister of Municipal Affairs, moved the amendment after members of both sides of the House had stated that it would be virtually impossible to obtain 10 per cent, or even 5 per cent, of the voters in any large municipality to sign a petition. Premier Hepburn said he supported the stand that a numerical total should be named and would support an even lower number than five thousand, "but that is for the Minister to decide."

Mr. Cross finally guided the bill through committee stage, and it is now ready for third reading. Criticism of the terms of the bill was voiced by J. J. Glass (Liberal, St. Andrew), and Leslie Frost (Conservative, Victoria).

"A numerical total should be named by the Minister," said Mr. Glass, "as it would be virtually impossible to get 5 per cent of the Toronto voters to sign a petition."

Mr. Frost said he agreed with this stand, and stated that it would be easier to check a definite numerical total, than a percentage of the voters.

At a previous sitting of the House in committee of the whole Mr. Cross proposed an amendment cutting from 10 to 5 per cent the total number of names needed on a petition to force an election. But the House rose before this could be voted on.

Would Classify Schools For Purposes of Grant

A clause which discriminates between continuation schools with a large county attendance and therefore a large county revenue, and schools with few county pupils and a very small county revenue, is contained in the School Law Amendment Act, 1940, which was given first reading in the Legislature yesterday.

The amendment introduced by Hon. L. J. Simpson, Minister of Education, clarifies the situation by basing the amount of the township grant on the net cost to the continuation school section concerned of running the school. An explanatory note points out that prior to Jan. 1, 1937, the counties were required to pay grants toward the salary of the principal and not more than two assistant teachers in a rural continuation school, on the same basis as they paid grants to the principal and teachers of a public school in the township.

An amendment adopted in 1937 took away this township grant from grade A and grade B continuation schools, on the ground that a number of schools in the Province, because of these township grants, were making money out of running the continuation school.

It was felt, however, that some schools suffered thereby, and in 1939 the township grant was restored to these grade schools where eight or more mills of the local taxes were required to pay teachers' salaries.

But as it did not deal with the net cost to the continuation school section concerned, the act failed to show the necessary discrimination between schools with large attendances and those with small enrollments.

Other amendments introduced provide machinery for the setting up of township school boards in unorganized districts.