

May Not Use Parking Lights For Driving, New Bill Declares

Several amendments to the Highway Traffic Act were introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. T. B. McQuesten, Minister of Highways, who said they were the result of the annual technical recommendations of the Registrar of Vehicles.

One prohibits the operation of motor vehicles on lighted streets with cowl or parking lights, and another permits ambulances and police vehicles to carry moveable spot-lights, the same as Fire Department vehicles.

Previously police were given authority to enter any place where motor cars are stored, and an amendment extends this authority to places where bicycles are stored. Careless driving, a charge hitherto confined to motor cars, is now ex-

tended to other vehicles besides automobiles. Bicycles are also recognized in another amendment, being classed the same as motor cars, in that no second-hand dealer may sell one from which the serial number has been removed or defaced.

Under the old act a speed limit of fifteen miles was set for parks and exhibition grounds, but an amendment authorizes Councils of cities, towns and villages to set a speed limit of from fifteen to thirty miles.

Parking on the highways is curbed by another section, which prohibits the parking of motor cars on the roadway unless there is good visibility for 400 yards beyond the parked vehicle. Previously a car could be parked on the top of a hill, but the amendment prevents this.

Cost of Highway Monument At Humber Bay Set at \$23,828

The cost of the monument erected near Humber Bay on the Queen Elizabeth Way was \$23,828, according to the answer given to T. L. Kennedy (Con., Peel), in the Legislature yesterday. The work was done by the Scott-Jackson Construction Company of this city and the main items were \$16,650 for the construction of the monument and \$4,834 for the construction of the base. The stone, cement and concrete for the piling and reinforcement, which were supplied by the Department of Highways, cost \$2,343, and the architect, W. L. Somerville, was paid \$844. There are no unpaid accounts in connection with this work.

In reply to a question presented by Leopold Macaulay (Con., York South), it was revealed there were six contracts let for grading, con-

struction or improvement of highways from April 27, 1939, up to the present without advertising for contracts, although invitation tenders were asked for all of these contracts. The largest was for \$57,979 for seven miles on Highway No. 90 west of Barrie and the next was for a 4.5 mile continuation to Camp Borden, which cost \$30,274. Both of these contracts were awarded to the Brennan Paving Co., Ltd. Altogether the six contracts totalled \$138,124.

Great Names, Silent Streets, Hepburn Grins

In opposing Opposition Leader Drew's motion in the House calling for the appointment of an Ontario Town and Country Planning Commission, Premier Hepburn yesterday cited Moosonee, the "sand-spit" town on James Bay at the head of the T. & N.O. Railway.

With a broad grin on his face, he recalled that two years ago he had flown into Moosonee, which was once planned "as a great metropolis of the North."

"There I found a leaning street sign and on it was Henry Boulevard and there was Macaulay Avenue and Kennedy Avenue too," he said as the three Conservative members, whose names identify Moosonee's silent streets, smiled back.

"It was inhabited by a few rambling Indians," continued the Premier, "and there is magnificent evidence of town planning that was ill advised."

WILL DISCUSS CHANGES IN ACT

May Need Ontario's O.K. in Naming Finance Chief

CONFERENCE TODAY

Appointment of a new Commissioner of Finance for Toronto to succeed Commissioner George Wilson, who is to retire on Aug. 31, cannot be made without the approval of the Ontario Municipal Board, it was learned yesterday, if a proposed bill amending the Municipal Act is passed at the present session of the Ontario Legislature.

Commissioner Wilson's resignation was accepted by the Board of Control yesterday. He had withheld his resignation, he said, so as to prevent the question of his successor from becoming an election issue, although he had made his decision to retire last summer.

City Hall officials were studying clauses of the proposed Provincial legislation which provide that no municipality in future can hire a city clerk, a city treasurer, or a city auditor unless the Ontario Municipal Board has first approved the qualifications of the man whom the municipality desires to engage.

Mayor Fred J. Conboy, accompanied by City Solicitor C. M. Colquhoun, will go to Queen's Park today to discuss the proposed Municipal Act amendments with Hon. T. B. McQuesten, Minister of Municipal Affairs. It was learned yesterday, however, that Toronto will not oppose passing of the clause affecting future appointment of municipal clerks, treasurers and auditors.

The city's chief objections, it was said, will be directed against the clause in the bill which says that the Ontario Municipal Board must approve of all by-laws covering restricted areas. It was believed that his Worship would seek some provision to protect presently restricted areas in Toronto in the interval until new by-laws could be passed and approved.

An additional clause to which Toronto is not objecting would enable members of the armed forces in Canada to have the right to vote at advance polls during future municipal elections. This right is at present confined to travelling salesmen, railwaymen, and bus and transport drivers.