

towns had this privilege. This relieves them from taxation for county purposes, but renders them liable for administration of justice and other services rendered by the county. Eight Ontario towns are in this position.

City Councils.—City councils were at first composed of one alderman and two councillors for each ward, the mayor being chosen from among the aldermen. A second alderman for each ward was soon added, and the right to elect a mayor was transferred to the municipal electors. The Act of 1866 abolished the office of councillor, increased the number of aldermen to three for each ward, and restored to the council the right of choosing its own mayor. This system of selecting a mayor was abolished in 1873. Except as varied by an occasional Act, this was the constitution of city councils until 1903, when provision was made for reducing the number of aldermen to two for each ward, subject to the approval of the electors. The councils of cities with less than fifteen thousand population were at the same time authorized to provide by by-law for a council composed of a mayor and one alderman for each one thousand of population, and in cities with over fifteen thousand population, the optional principle of having the aldermen elected by general vote was introduced.

Board of Control.—The exigencies of municipal administration in the City of Toronto led to an innovation in the general law, providing for a cabinet, or board of control, to administer the affairs of the city, in connection with the council.

The board, as at first constituted in 1896, consisted of the mayor and three aldermen appointed by the council, who could be removed at any time on a two-thirds vote and others appointed. The salary of aldermen on the board was limited to seven hundred dollars, and it was their duty to prepare estimates, award contracts, inspect work, nominate and dismiss officers, and fix their duties.

Three years later the law was made applicable to all cities of over forty-five thousand population, except Hamilton, with a salary limit of four hundred dollars. In 1900 the number of controllers to be appointed was increased to four, and in 1903 the salary limit in cities of one hundred thousand was increased to one thousand dollars, and a change was made providing that candidates for the position of controller were to be elected by the city at large. A system of cumulative voting was at first adopted. This, however, was changed in favor of one vote for each controller in 1905, when the salary limit was again increased to two thousand five hundred dollars. Candidates for the position of controller