

by the parishes, constitute the county council. Elsewhere in New Brunswick the town is given representation in the county council to the extent of three or four councillors. Two of these are elected by the parish within which the town stands, in some cases by the ratepayers outside the town limits, in others apparently without such restriction; and one or two, as the case may be, are selected by the town council.

The New Brunswick Act gives any town the right to expropriate the property of the lighting or water and sewerage companies if a majority vote of the ratepayers is recorded in its favour. While municipal ownership of the water supply is practically universal and has proved an unqualified success in the cities and towns of the Maritime Provinces, only about twelve, and these are not the larger cities or towns, have undertaken the lighting of the towns. In every case the lighting plant is for electric lighting, not gas. In Fredericton the town does the municipal lighting. An examination is now being made of the water powers of Nova Scotia available for the development of electric energy. Thus far no city or town owns or operates a street railway. In Halifax the operating company gives a certain percentage (four per cent.) of the gross receipts to the city and pays taxes on its real and personal property. Three or four companies operate an intertown service, for example, between St. Stephen, Milltown and Calais; Sydney, Glace Bay and adjacent towns; North Sydney and Sydney Mines; New Glasgow and surrounding towns. In Yarmouth and Moncton street railways have been operated and abandoned.

#### *Local Problems*

Revision of electoral lists, liquor license control and assessment are responsible for most of the local municipal conflicts. As the burdens of taxation increase, the inequalities of the systems become more galling, and the demand for reform more insistent. The control of the sale of liquor has divided the community into two factions, while the revision of the electoral lists opens and keeps open the door to party politics and determines whether a road shall be ditched or a sewer laid according to the great principles of rival national policies.