

property coming to a married woman subject to restraint on anticipation. Formerly every will was revoked by the marriage of the testator; now there is to be no revocation where it is declared in the will that the same is made in contemplation of such marriage, or where the husband or wife of the testator elects to take under the will within one year from the testator's death; and wills of married women are made to speak from their death, and do not need to be re-executed or republished after the death of the husband.

Goods and chattels which are sold subject to the provisions of "The Conditional Sales of Chattels Act," and which become affixed to any realty, are to remain subject to the conditional sale or hire receipt, notwithstanding that they are affixed to the realty; but the owner of such realty, or any purchaser, or any mortgagee or other incumbrancer on such realty, is to have the right as against the manufacturer, bailor or vendor thereof, or any persons claiming through or under them, to retain the goods and chattels, upon payment of the amount due and owing thereon; and this provision is made retroactive, and to apply to past sales, as well as future transactions. This will be welcome legislation to manufacturers of fixed machinery.

The operation of the Act to provide for the inspection of meat and milk supplies of cities and towns is suspended until the close of the next session of the Legislature. Hereafter notaries public, when taking affidavits, need not affix their notarial seal.

Where chattel mortgages given by companies to secure issues of debentures have a certified copy of the by-law authorizing the issue of debentures endorsed thereon, verified by the affidavit of the secretary of the company and the corporate seal, they need not be renewed annually a other mortgages require to be renewed.

No street cars are hereafter to run on Sundays except where it shall be necessary for the purpose of keeping the track clear of snow or ice, or for other acts of necessity or charity; but this provision is not to apply to companies who have before the first of April last regularly run cars on Sunday; nor is it to affect any company which has by its charter or any special Act the right to run cars on Sunday; nor is it to affect the right of the Toronto Railway Company to run their cars.

Wages due by deceased persons to parties employed at the time of the death or within one month prior thereto, are to take priority in administration of the estate to the extent of three months' wages, and as to the balance (if any), these wages are to be entitled to rank like other claims.

The Trades Disputes Act is amended so that when parties fail to recommend a member of the Council of Arbitration, the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council may fill the vacancy.

In future, Trust Companies can only be formed when three-fourths of the stock is held by residents of Ontario; and hereafter notice of application for incorporation is to be served on all other Trust Companies, and the capital stock of the company shall be paid up to the extent of at least \$100,000 before Letters Patent issue. The Provincial Secretary is to be satisfied respecting the fitness of the applicants for the discharge of the duties appertaining to the trust. Liability of the Trust Company to persons interested in the estate held by the company as executor, administrator, trustee, receiver, assignee, guardian or committee, shall be the same as if the estate had been held by any private person in the like capacity, and its power shall be the same. Power is given to the court into which money is paid by parties to direct the same to be deposited with any Trust Company, and they may agree to accept the same subject to an arrangement as to the payment of interest; and Trust Companies are authorized to invest any

trust moneys in their hands in any security in which private trustees may by law invest their moneys.

Cities and towns are empowered to carry on telephone business and service and to do all the works necessary therefor. Municipalities are authorized to permit areas or openings to be constructed under the sidewalks and streets and to make charges therefor. Power is given to municipalities to make temporary loans for current expenses, and to pass by-laws for granting aid by way of bonus to promote the establishment of grain elevators on the same conditions as govern the granting of aid for the promotion of iron smelting works. All local improvement by-laws are hereafter to be registered in the office against the lands affected.

Regulations are brought into force governing the immigration into Ontario of children from outside countries.

BOARDS OF TRADE.

The desirability and advantage of having a progressive Board of Trade in every city and town in Canada have before now been urged by THE MONETARY TIMES. And it is perhaps scarcely necessary to do more than call attention briefly to the subject. Boards of Trade offer an effective means of promoting the commercial and general interests of a city. Such a body always is or should be a recognized authority on all questions of trade that the community is directly interested in. It having the advantage of organization, may be instrumental not only in correcting abuses that may arise from time to time, but in bringing about reforms in the shape of public improvements of various kinds. In view of the many advantages arising from such combined influences, it is astonishing how indifferent the residents of some towns appear to be as to opportunities of promoting their own welfare.

Stratford, for instance, situated as it is in the centre of a magnificent agricultural district, and with railway facilities in every direction, is a notable example of this kind. If the facts are as stated, Mr. Buckingham was fully justified in pronouncing the Stratford Board a farce, which it had been for many years, and, he said, "no wonder its proceedings were sneered at by the newspapers." The secretary of the Board, it appears, had regularly sent out over fifty notices to members of each meeting to be held last year. During the year nine meetings were called, and at these the average attendance was only eleven persons. At four of the meetings there were not sufficient members present to transact any business, and at one of them only five persons attended. In view of these circumstances it was not surprising that the secretary should no longer desire the office. Two reasons he assigned for the deplorable condition of the Board were lack of interest among members and over organization. He thought that they were overweighted in that respect, and thus were handicapped. Says the *Beacon*.

An individual member would not bring forward a question, because it was the duty of the council to first consider such matters, and the council left the matter to the secretary, who does not seem to have considered it his duty to initiate discussion. So it came about that as it was nobody's business to prepare an agenda for the meetings, nobody came to them, and the Board of Trade thus became a byword and a reproach.

In a couple of weeks a meeting is to be held for the purpose of considering the future of the board. Doubtless a thorough reorganization is required and more life infused into the members. There are other places in Ontario whose merchants may well arouse themselves to keep their Board of Trade alive.

A notable evidence of such indifference in regard to public affairs as we mention, was manifest in Rat Portage a few days ago. We do not know the number of rate-