

respect to by-laws for the creation of debts, but no such by-law shall require the assent of the ratepayers to the passing thereof.

VOTING MACHINES.

Chapter 37 makes provision for the passing of by-laws by the councils of any municipality by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the whole council, providing for the discontinuance thereafter of the use of ballot boxes and ballot-papers at municipal elections and for the adoption of any kind of voting machine, that complies with the requirements of the Act, such machine to be used for voting, registering and counting votes cast at all municipal elections. A municipality passing such a by-law, may, at any time, by a majority vote of the whole council, repeal the same. Section 2 of the Act defines the construction of the machine, and section 3 the duty of the clerk of the municipality in reference to the same. Sections 4 and 5 define the duties of the clerk and deputy-returning officers for each polling subdivision at an election held where a voting-machine is in use. Section 6 imposes a penalty on the clerk of \$100 for every voting-machine which he has failed to furnish as the Act requires. Section 7 provides for the maintenance of secrecy in voting. Section 8, the procedure before opening the poll, and sections 9, 10, 11 and 12 the conduct of the poll. Sections 13, 14, 15 and 16, the conduct of the clerk and deputy-returning officers after the close of the poll with reference to the custody of the voting-machine and summing up of the votes cast. Section 17 imposes a penalty on any officer, clerk or agent or other person who interferes with or attempts to interfere with a voter when voting and to obtain information at polling-places, and section 18, upon any person interfering with the proper working of the voting-machine.

It may be observed that it is optional with municipalities as to whether they pass by-laws under this Act or not.

AMENDMENTS TO DRAINAGE ACT.

By chapter 37, the provisions of section 76 of the Drainage Act, R. S. O., 1897, chapter 226, are made to apply to drains constructed by statute labor or partly by statute labor and partly by the general funds. A new section (77a) is added to the Municipal Drainage Act providing for the passing of by-laws by the council of any municipality requiring the owners of every lot or part of lot assessed for benefit to clean out the drain and keep the same from obstructions and to remove therefrom all weeds and brushwood and to keep the banks of the drain in order to the extent and in the manner and proportion and for the distance determined by the engineer in his report. In case of default by any owner in so doing for thirty days after he has received notice in writing from the council of the municipality, the work may be done by the council or any

officer appointed by them and the cost of doing the work after notice to the person so making the default and liable therefor, shall be placed on the collector's roll against the lands of such owner and may be collected in the same manner as other municipal or drainage assessments.

Another new section (10a) provides that such by-law may further provide that the engineer or surveyor shall, in his report, state the portion of the said drain already or hereafter to be constructed, which shall be, by each one assessed for benefit, cleaned out and kept clean and free from obstructions and in good order, as prescribed by the above section 77a of this Act.

Section 83 of the Act is amended by striking out the words "payable within seven years from the date thereof" in the fifth line of this section and inserting after the word "debentures" in the eighth line, the following words "where such debentures are issued for the cost of repair, such as change of course, new outlet, improvement, extension, alteration or covering pursuant to the provisions of section 75 of this Act, such debentures shall be payable within twenty years from the date thereof, and where such debentures are issued for the cost of repairs pursuant to any other sections of this Act such debentures shall be payable within seven years from the date thereof."

MUNICIPAL ARBITRATIONS.

Chapter 39 adds a new section to the Municipal Arbitrations Act, R.S.O., 1897, chapter 227 (No. 15a), which is as follows: The council of any municipality which has passed a by-law under section 15 of this Act, may repeal the same by by-law passed at any time after the expiration of six months from the passing of such first-mentioned by-law and upon the passing of such repealing by-law this Act shall cease to apply to or be in force in such municipality.

LICENSING TRAVELLING SHOWS.

Section 2 of chapter 41 provides that no municipal corporation shall issue a license to any menagerie, circus, wild beast show, or travelling show whatever, until the applicant for such license produces a license from the Provincial Treasurer for exhibiting in the Province of Ontario, and any member or officer of the municipality who is a party to the issue of any license in violation of the provisions of this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$20, besides costs.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT.

The following sections are added to the Public Schools Act by chapter 53:

65a. Every urban school board shall have power to expend such sums as they may deem expedient, not exceeding \$200 in any one year, in promoting and encouraging gymnastics and other athletic exercises.

89a. Where any teacher retires after serving twenty years or longer, the board

of trustees may grant him an annual allowance not exceeding the salary which he was receiving at the time of retirement, or may in lieu of such allowance make a grant to such teacher by way of gratuity of such sum as will represent the present value of an allowance aforesaid for his life, computed on the basis of interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum.

Sub section 2, of section 88, is amended by striking out the words "thirty-five" where they occur in the fifth line thereof, and substituting therefor the word "thirty."

THE HIGH SCHOOLS ACT.

By chapter 54 the following sections were added to the High Schools Act, R. S. O., chapter 293.

30a. (1) The Board of Trustees of any High School or Collegiate Institute, upon receipt of any money bestowed by legacy, gift or otherwise, may agree with the person or persons from whom the same is received for the establishment of a permanent scholarship, provided such sum of money is sufficient when invested at a rate not exceeding four per centum per annum to yield an amount not less than the annual fee charged to pupils at such High School or Collegiate Institute.

(2) Such scholarship shall be awarded only to a ratepayer or to a child of a ratepayer of the municipality or municipalities contributing to the maintenance of such High School or Collegiate Institute.

(3) The Board of Trustees of any High School or Collegiate Institute shall have the right to invest any money received by them through legacy, gift or otherwise, and shall for such purpose have and exercise the powers conferred upon trustees by the Trustee Investment Act.

41a. When any teacher retires having reached the age of sixty years, or after having served for twenty years or longer, the Board of Trustees may grant him an annual allowance not exceeding the salary which he was receiving at the time of retirement, or may in lieu of such allowance make a grant to such teacher by way of gratuity of such a sum as will represent the present value of an allowance aforesaid, for his life, computed on the basis of interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum.

Section 9 of section 2 is amended by adding thereto the words "and shall also include gratuities and retiring allowances granted to teachers," and paragraph four of section 15 by inserting after the words "payment of" in the second line thereof, the words "gratuities or retiring allowances of teachers and."

Giles—"That boy over across the way saved sixty-three lives one day last week."

Miles—"Is it possible? How did he do it?"

Giles—"Rescued a cat and six kittens from a burning stable."—*Chicago News.*