

WHEN COUNTY COUNCIL TO PAY 80 % OF AVERAGE ANNUAL COST OF MAINTAINING COUNTY PUPILS IN HIGH SCHOOLS IN CITIES AND SEPARATED TOWNS.

1. Subsection 6 of section 34 of *The High Schools Act* is amended by striking out the word "the" immediately following the word "pay" in the sixth line thereof, and inserting the following words "a sum equal to eighty per cent. of the average annual," and by adding after the word "schools" in the seventh line the following words "provided that this subsection shall not apply to cities having a population of 50,000 or over."

2. Subsection 7 of section 34 of *The High Schools Act* and subsections 8, 9, and 10 of the said section as enacted by section 2 of the Act passed in the second year of His Majesty's reign, chaptered 42, are repealed and the following subsections substituted therefor:

MAINTENANCE OF COUNTY PUPILS IN CITY, TOWN, AND VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOLS.

(7) When the trustees of any High School in a village, township, town or city have notified the clerk of any county, adjacent to that in which the high school is situated, that such high school is open to pupils resident in such adjacent county on the same terms as to county pupils, the council of such adjacent county shall in all cases pay for the maintenance of pupils from such county attending such high school a sum equal to 65 per cent. of the average cost of the yearly maintenance of pupils at such high school, after deducting the amount of the Government grant to such high school, and the fees payable by such pupils thereat, but this subsection shall not apply to cities having a population of 50,000 or over.

ADDITIONAL AID TO HIGH SCHOOLS BY COUNTY.

(9) The council of any county may by a two-thirds vote give additional aid to any one or more high schools or Collegiate Institutes in the county without giving such aid to all the high schools in such county.

TIME FOR APPLICATION FOR GRANTS FOR PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS.

3. Section 36 of *The High Schools Act* is amended by striking out the words "made on or before the first day of August in each year" in the sixth and seventh lines of the said section.

An Act Respecting Municipal Houses of Refuge.

Section 1 of this Act makes it compulsory for every county or union of counties in this Province to erect a House of Refuge prior to the 1st January, 1906. With the consent of the Inspector of prisons and public charities, the councils of two or three contiguous counties may establish a joint House of Refuge. The plans for every such House of Refuge shall be submitted to the Inspector of prisons and public charities for his approval before its erection. Section 4 provides for the appointment of a Board of Management. By section 5, the Act respecting Provincial Aid towards the establishment of Houses of Refuge is made to apply to Houses of Refuge erected under this Act. The Act does not apply to any county or union of counties in which a House of Refuge has heretofore been erected. The following is the Act in full:

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

COUNTY HOUSES OF REFUGE TO BE BUILT BEFORE 1ST JANUARY, 1906.

1. The corporation of every county or union of counties, before the first day of January, 1906, shall erect and establish for such county, or union of counties, a house of refuge for the reception of persons of the classes described in section 526 of *The Municipal Act* and amendments thereto; provided that, in lieu of establishing separate houses of refuge, the councils of two or three contiguous counties may, with the approval in writing of the inspector or one of the inspectors of prisons and public charities, enter into an agreement for the erection and maintenance of, and may, before the said date, erect and establish a joint house of refuge for such county, and the erection and maintenance of such joint house of refuge shall be deemed a sufficient compliance with the provisions of this Act.

POWERS OF COUNTIES AS TO HOUSES OF REFUGE.

2. For the purpose of erecting, establishing, maintaining and governing such house of refuge, or joint house of refuge, county councils shall have and shall exercise the powers conferred upon the councils of counties by section 524 and following sections of *The Municipal Act* respecting the establishment, maintenance and management of houses of refuge and the commitment of persons thereto.

PLANS TO BE APPROVED OF BY INSPECTOR OF PRISONS &c.

3. The plans for every such house of refuge, or joint house of refuge, shall be submitted to the inspector of prisons and public charities for his approval before the erection thereof.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

4. (1) In case a county council establishes a separate house of refuge the council shall by by-law appoint two persons, who may be members of the council, who shall, together with the warden, form a board of management and shall have the management, regulation and control of the house of refuge.

(2) Where two counties agree to establish a joint house of refuge the council shall in and by the agreement provide for the appointment of one person who, with the warden of each county, shall form the board of management as aforesaid. In case three counties agree to establish a joint house of refuge the board of management shall consist of the wardens of the counties.

ACT RESPECTING PROVINCIAL AID TO HOUSES OF REFUGE TO APPLY.

5. Chapter 312 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, shall apply to houses of refuge erected under this act.

ACT NOT TO APPLY WHERE HOUSES OF REFUGE ALREADY ERECTED.

6. This act shall not apply to any county, or union of counties, which has heretofore erected and shall continue to maintain a house of refuge, either separately or jointly with a local municipality or some other county municipality.

At the session of Legislature now drawing to a close, the Municipal Act was consolidated. The consolidated Act contains all the amendments to the Municipal Act passed since the revision of the Ontario statutes in 1897 up to, and including those passed at the session now closing. The old numbering of the sections is retained. Where a clause or section of the Municipal Act has been repealed it is omitted, and a note inserted stating the reason for the hiatus in the numbering.

A Good Roads Report.

The seventh annual report of the Commissioner of Highways, just issued, is one of the most complete of these publications on road and street construction in Ontario that has yet appeared. The table of contents is unusually lengthy and covers every branch of the question of road management and construction that is applicable to conditions in this Province. County and township roads, city and town streets are all dealt with while numerous specifications are included. The report is fully illustrated. Copies have been sent to all municipal councillors, in Ontario, and to the officers and directors of farmers' institutes and horticultural societies. Others desiring copies may obtain them by writing the Commissioner of Highways, Department of Public Works, Toronto.

The following from the *Orillia Packet* in reference to road making in the county of Simcoe, is worthy of attention: Many of the most ardent advocates of the county system of building roads share the disappointment of the township council at the results that are being attained. But the very essence of the plan was given up when the county councillors resolved to dispense with the use of machinery and of skilled supervision. To use unscreened gravel, filled with sand and boulders; to break stone by hand, and to leave the roads to be rolled by traffic, is inevitably to waste money, and to have roads which in the end will not give satisfaction. The first cost of machinery is considerable, but, in capable hands we believe, it can be made to pay for itself by more and better work.

* * *

It is reported that the council of the township of Dawn is going extensively into the gravelling of its roads this year. The construction of three pieces of road to cost about \$10,000 is contemplated.

* * *

A by-law providing for the purchase of the electric light plant by the town, was recently carried by the electors of Palmerston by a majority of 154.

* * *

The electors of the town of Gananoque have carried a waterworks by-law by a majority of 28.

* * *

An action instituted by Mr. H. H. Burrows against the town of Galt for unstated damages for wrongful ejection from the building occupied by the Galt Carpet Company, has been decided by Mr. Chancellor Boyd in favor of the town.

* * *

The council of Barrie has shewn their appreciation of the services of Mr. E. Donnell, town clerk and treasurer, by increasing his salary to \$950.