

Municipal Amendments, 1900.

THE ONTARIO VOTERS' LISTS ACT.

By section 1 of chapter 3 of 62 Vic. (Ontario Statutes) section 6a was added to section 9 of the Ontario Voters' Lists Act. The added section provided that in the case of any city in which the assessment roll is not returnable by the 30th day of September, the clerk immediately after the return by the assessor of the roll, etc., shall prepare his voters' list, and shall cause 200 copies of the same to be printed within 30 days after receiving the roll and post up and deliver copies in the manner provided by section 8 of the Act.

Chapter 2 of 63 Vic. (Ontario Statutes 1900) makes the said section 6a applicable to *towns* where the roll is not returnable before the 30th September as well as cities. In towns, however, the clerk is required to cause to be printed 100 instead of 200 copies of the voters' lists.

Chapter 3 section 1 provides that any person otherwise qualified to be entered or registered on the voters' list prepared under the Ontario Voters' List Act or on the list of Manhood Franchise Voters' to vote, shall not be disentitled to be entered or registered on any such list or to vote, etc., by reason only of the absence of any such person from the Province of Ontario while serving Her Majesty in any Military capacity or while acting as a war correspondent in the present South African War.

Section 2 of the last mentioned act amends the oath set out in form 9 in the schedule to the Manhood Franchise Registration Act in accordance with the requirements of section 1.

MAINTENANCE OF MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY LINES IN DISTRICTS.

Section 33 of chap. 17, applies to the Districts of Muskoka, Parry Sound, Nipissing, Algoma, Manitoulin, Thunder Bay and Rainy River, and provides that where a highway forms the boundary line between Municipalities situated in any of the said districts, it shall be maintained by the respective townships bordering on the same, and all bridges upon such highway shall be maintained in like manner.

Sub-section 2 of this section authorizes the councils of the respective municipalities adjoining such highway to enter into agreements for the maintenance and repair of such highways and bridges for a term not exceeding 10 years.

Sub-sec. 3 enacts that in case any agreement has not been entered into in accordance with sub-sec. 2, etc., the portion of such highway to be maintained for its whole width by each of the municipalities may be determined by arbitration under the provisions of Mun. Act and provides for registration of the agree-

ment or award in the registry office of the district. Sub sec. 4 provides that in case no agreement is entered into, and no award made under the provisions of the section the municipalities between which such highway forms a boundary shall be jointly and severally liable for all damages incurred by reason of neglect to maintain and keep the same in repair.

PROVINCIAL AID TO DRAINAGE.

The provisions of chap. 8 apply to that portion of the trunk channel constituting the outlet of any drainage work as defined by The Municipal Drainage Act and of any drainage works now constructed or hereafter to be constructed for effecting drainage by embanking, pumping or other mechanical means and also to the reconstruction of any such drainage work. The council of the initiating municipality shall be the applicant for aid to the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario where assistance is sought, and the application shall be by way of petition setting forth the engineer's report on the proposed work after adoption by the council initiating the work, the assessment upon the lands interested or effected and the cash value of the lands so assessed, such petition to be verified by a statutory declaration of the engineer employed and a field plan of the proposed work shall accompany it. In case the report and field plan show that the proposed work is being undertaken for (a) To provide or improve that portion of the trunk channel constituting the outlet for the drainage work; (b) To furnish capacity over intervening high lands to a natural or other outlet; (c) To render more effective the operating of the drainage work by embanking, pumping or other mechanical means; then the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may cause an examination of the drainage work to be made by an engineer of the Public Works Department who shall report fully upon the work and all matters connected therewith. On receipt of his report the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may assume and pay such proportion of the costs of the undertaking as may seem just and reasonable and in the public interests and as may be approved by the legislative assembly. Any investigation or enquiry respecting the drainage work and any claim for damages or compensation arising therefrom may be referred by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to the referee under the drainage laws whose powers shall be the same as those conferred on him by The Municipal Act.

MUNICIPAL COLD STORAGE BUILDINGS.

Chapter 9 authorizes the council of any municipality to pass by laws for acquiring land as a site for buildings and for erect-

ing buildings thereon for cold storage purposes, for the management, control and operation of such buildings and for prescribing fees to be paid by persons using such buildings for storage purposes, such fees being subject to an order of the Lieutenant Governor in council fixing the maximum fees to be charged. Two or more municipalities may enter into an agreement for the purpose above mentioned. The Lieutenant Governor in Council is authorized to direct by order in council that a sum of money not exceeding \$500 out of money voted for the purpose by the legislative assembly be granted to any municipality or municipalities which have erected or may have erected or may hereafter erect buildings for cold storage purposes subject to the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of the Act. The site selected for the erection of such buildings need not be within the municipality or municipalities issuing debentures for the purpose of same, but it must not be within five miles from any other cold storage buildings erected by private capital or under any Act of the legislature.

ENFORCEMENT OF MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS.

Chapter 35 enacts that where duties, obligations and liabilities are or have been heretofore imposed by statute upon any person, company or corporation in favor of a municipal corporation or the inhabitants, or a portion of the inhabitants thereof, or where contracts or agreements are or have heretofore been created, enacted, or validated by statute which impose such duties, obligations or liabilities, every such municipal corporation shall have the right by action to enforce such duties, obligations or liabilities either in favor of the corporation or the said inhabitants, and to obtain as full and complete relief, and to enforce the same remedies as could have been maintained, obtained and enforced therein by the Attorney-General had he been a party to the said action as plaintiff or as plaintiff at the relation of any person or corporation interested.

GRANTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF CANADIANS ON MILITARY SERVICE.

Chapter 35 authorizes grants of money heretofore and hereafter to be voted by any municipal council by way of contribution in aid of members of the Canadian forces sent to South Africa for service during the present war to supplement the pay of such parties, to make provision for their equipment, or to provide maintenance or other requisites for them or their families or persons dependent upon them or by way of contribution to the Canadian Patriotic Fund or British Red Cross Society or any local patriotic association. Any such grant may be paid out of the general funds of the municipality or by laws may be passed issuing debentures to raise the amount required payable within 10 years, such by-laws to be passed in the manner provided by The Municipal Act with