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ST. THOMAS, JUNE 1, 1894.

In preparing the voters' list the easiest way for the clerk to do is to revise a list for the previous year. By so doing he is less liable to make mistakes, has only the necessary changes to make in number on assessment roll, the addition of new names, striking off all names of persons not appearing on this year's roll and any other alterations that are shown by the roll to be necessary.

No voters' list of a municipality in which appeals have been entered against the assessment should be placed in the printers' hands until the expiration of the time of appeal to the judge, and within forty days in cities, and in other municipalities, within thirty, after the final revision and correction of the assessment roll, the clerk is required to have at least 200 copies of the list printed in pamphlet form.

High School Act, Amendments 1894.

Sub-section 1, of section 6, of the High Schools Act, 1891, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following words:

"Any change made as aforesaid shall not relieve the lands of a high school district or any portion thereof from any rates legally imposed for the issuing of debentures or for any other debts legally incurred prior to such change."

The section hereby amended refers to the power of county councils to change high school districts.

Section 30 of the said Act is amended by the addition of the following words:

"And shall pay the same without any abatement because of fees paid by county pupils."

This section refers to the payment of county grants to high schools.

The Assessment Amendment Act comes into force on the first day of August, 1894, except section seven, which is now in force and provides for the amendment of section 157, Consolidated Assessment Act, by adding thereto the following sub-section.

2. In every municipality where, by by-law, taxes are payable by instalments, and five per cent. has been added to such tax by reason of default in payment of any such instalments, the treasurer shall add to any balance remaining unpaid upon the first day of May in each year, five per cent. thereon, instead of ten per cent. as hereinbefore in this section provided, or a percentage sufficient to make not less than ten per cent. in all when less than ten per cent. has been added in the first instance.

Ditches and Waterworks Act.

The Ditches and Waterworks Act is the result of the labors of the drainage commission combined with the best efforts of our Local Legislators. It contains in all forty-two sections and numerous sub-sections against twenty-eight in the old act.

Section 3 explains the meaning of the words, "engineer," "judge," "owner," "clear days," "ditch," "non-resident," "maintenance," "construction," "written," and "writing." The most important of these is the definition of the word "owner," which.

"Shall mean and include an owner. The executor or executors of an owner, the guardian of an infant owner, any person entitled to sell and convey the land, an agent under a general power of attorney, or a power of attorney authorizing the appointee to manage, and lease the lands, and a municipal corporation as regards any highways under its jurisdiction."

Section 4 provides for the appointment of the engineer and the oath to be taken by him, the fees to be charged by the clerk and engineer are to be paid by by-law.

Sec. 5 provides that every ditch constructed under the Ditches and Watercourses Act, shall be continued to a sufficient outlet, but shall not pass through or into more than seven original township lots, exclusive thereof, on or across any road allowance, unless the council of any municipality upon the petition of two-thirds of the owners of all the lands to be affected by the ditch shall pass a resolution, authorizing the extension thereof through or into any other lots within such municipality, and upon the passing of such resolution, the proposed ditch may be extended in pursuance of such resolution, but that no ditch shall be constructed under the provisions of this Act, the whole cost thereof, according to the estimate of the engineer, or the agreement of the parties, will exceed \$1,000.

Section 6, defines what lands are liable for construction, as the lands of owners lying within a distance of seventy-five rods from the sides and point of commencement of the ditch, but the lands through or into which the ditch does not pass, and which lands also adjoin any road allowance traversed by the ditch shall not be liable except when directly benefitted, and then only for the direct benefit. It is also provided that the council of any county lying east of the County of Frontenac, may pass a by-law declaring that within the said county the lands lying within a distance of one hundred rods from the sides and point of commencement of the ditch, are liable, instead of those within the distance of seventy-five rods as above mentioned.

The proceedings to be taken by an owner requiring to construct a ditch under this Act are first to file with the Clerk of the Municipality in which the land is situated, a declaration of ownership. This may be taken before a J. P., a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits, or the Clerk.

The owner shall serve upon the owners or occupiers of the other lands to be effected, a notice in writing, appointing a time and place of meeting, to agree if possible upon the apportionment of the work desired. These notices are to be served not less than twelve clear days before the time named therein for the meeting. In calculating the number of days, the day on which the notice is served, or on which the meeting is held must not be counted. If an agreement is arrived at it must be reduced to writing and signed by all of the owners, and filed with the clerk within six days. If the land effected is in two or more municipalites, a duplicate of the agreement shall be filed with each clerk. A form of agreement is given.

A clerk, in giving an applicant blank notices for the first meeting should also give blank form of agreement, so that the parties will be prepared to execute it without further trouble on day of meeting, and it is made the duties of municipalities to keep printed copies of all the forms required by this Act. These may be procured as required, from the Blank Form Department of the Municipal World.

If at the meeting for agreement, it appears that no notice has been served, or has not been served in time, or on the proper person, the owners present at such meeting may adjourn to some subsequent day, in order to allow the necessary notices to be duly served. The reeve or other head of the Municipal Council is authorized to act on behalf of the council and his signature will be binding upon the corporation. This is an important change which will be appreciated.

When an agreement is not arrived at by the owners at the said meeting or within five days thereafter, the owner requiring the ditch may file with the clerk a request that the engineer will attend and make an examination. The clerk is to enclose a copy of the requisition to the engineer. The engineer is to notify the clerk when he will attend; which time shall not be less than ten nor more sixteen clear days from the day in which he received the requisition. The clerk is to file the notice of appointment by the engineer with the requisition, and send a copy of the notice to the owner making the requisition, who, at least four clear days before the time appointed, shall serve upon the owners the notice (form F) requiring their attendance at the time and place fixed by the engineer, and shall, after serving such notice, endorse on one copy thereof the time, and manner of service, and leave the same with the endorsements thereon with the engineer, not later than the day before the time fixed in the notice of the appointment.

Notices may be served by leaving them at the place of abode of the owner or occupant with a grown-up person residing therein, and in the case of non-residents, upon the agents of the owner or by registered letter addressed to the owner, at the post office nearest the last known place of residence, and when that is not known it