

### 10 PER CENT. ENOUGH ON HOUSE RENTALS

#### Legislation Committee Pass Resolution to Memorialize Government.

The legislation committee of the city council favor the Dominion and provincial governments being memorialized to enact legislation to prevent profiteering in house rents in the province. A motion to this effect put by A.M. Ball was yesterday adopted by the committee. The opinion was that a fair revenue should be 10 per cent.

On the subject under discussion a report was submitted by Assessment Commissioner Forman regarding a communication from H. A. Ashmead, complaining of extortionate rentals for dwelling houses in Toronto. In the course of his report Commissioner Forman says:

**Like Money Lenders.**

"In the communication from Mr. H. A. Ashmead, it seems to me that he has presented a remedy, when he states as follows:

"The government, either of Ontario or the Dominion, should treat landlords on the same system as money lenders, making 10 or 15 per cent, the limit allowed. This would do much to relieve the distress at present prevailing also the overcrowding of people must divide up their houses to provide for the payment of rent."

"This seems to me the crux of the situation and the remedy can however only be applied where assistance is obtained which might provide for all complaints on the ground of overcharging in rents to be first made to the police magistrate who could thereupon order a report say from the court of revision or other special body to be appointed for that purpose who would examine into the complaint, ascertain the amount of taxes and secure all necessary information and having done so return their report to the magistrate who would then be in a position to pass judgment in accordance with the legislation to be provided. It seems to me that the criminal code must be invoked in order that some measure of justice may be achieved. My present feeling is that after one or two complaints have been dealt with by the magistrate there would be almost an immediate cessation of the more extravagant rents now being obtained.

**Requires Consideration.**

"The question would require serious consideration so that no injustice would result to property owners as it must not be forgotten that at present the fat years are on, that succeeding the deflation of the boom in 1930 hundreds of houses were vacant and remained vacant in this city and property owners had a very difficult time in carrying the same. Therefore a reasonable and perhaps generous percentage should be allowed to property owners. At the same time, the present object is to prevent undue advantage being taken by house owners."

Mr. Forman presented figures regarding certain housing conditions taken in different districts in the city which showed total gross rents in 1914 of \$871,225; of \$315,821 in 1916 and \$284,256 in 1919, or an increase in 1919 over 1914 of 3.5 in these particular apartment houses.

### APPEAL TO GRADUATES

Toronto University Issues Personal Requests for Endowment Memorial Subscriptions.

Personal appeals for funds are to be made to all graduates and former students of the University of Toronto during the course of the campaign to raise half a million dollars to perpetuate the service record of the men and women of the big school who played their part in the world war and behind these appeals Mr. Justice C. A. Maestri is a dominating figure.

R. A. Casady, a graduate of 1901, and an expert in campaigns of this kind, has come over from New York to take the helm in the struggle and in his work he is being ably assisted by Justice Maestri, who is president of the U. of T. Alumni Association and chairman of the campaign executive. His lordship is sending a letter to all former students and in this communication he points out that it is the duty of every alumnus and alumna to carry on the work so well started by the men and women who helped to beat the Hun.

Five thousand and six hundred graduates and undergraduates enlisted for service in the titanic conflict and it is to give to future generations a reminder of this sacrifice on the part of the big school that the present campaign is being undertaken.

As the "drive" gets under way an organization will be set up in every county and on the county basis the appeal will be made, each county stipulating, providing it raises enough money, where it wants its scholarships to go. Two-thirds of the money collected will be set aside for scholarships and the remaining three will constitute the fund for the erection of the memorial tower and chapel, which is to connect Hart house with the eastern wing of the university.

### DINNER TO LT.-COL. MARSHALL.

A complimentary dinner was held last night at the National Club to honor Lt.-Colonel Noel Marshall, his son, Lieut.-Colonel Kenneth R. Marshall, G.M.C., D.S.O., and Captain Francis Burns, as a recognition by the coal trade of Toronto of the services rendered by these gentlemen to the country during the late war. About fifty persons were present, including D. B. Hanna, the president of the Canadian National Railway, who pointed out that the coal dealers should, as far as possible, give their patronage to the National Railway as it is the property of the general public and therefore part of their own property. E. L. Couzens gave a short description of the work that was being done by the Harbour Commission which would tend to make Toronto one of the great distributing centres of this country. A fine musical program was provided and all present agreed that a most enjoyable evening for a very worthy object had been spent.

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**CONTRACT LOWER THAN LEAST COST**

Property Committee Register Tie Vote For and Against Tender.

Quite unique was the high misdemeanor of which a public school contractor was yesterday afternoon alleged to have been guilty of. He wanted to get a contract, according to the architects, and certain trustees, at a lower figure than the work could be done for. Dr. John Noble, chairman of the property committee of the board of education, was strong for acceptance of the lowest tender without quibble as to whether the contractor would make or lose.

The issue was raised when the tenders were being dealt with for the addition to Carlton Public School. Trustee Bell, supported by Trustees Laxton and Douglas, wanted C. Beridge's tender thrown out. They quoted architectural opinion that the tender was too low, and objected to Beridge being given the contract, because of delay with his work at Perth avenue annex. He is the contractor who was arraigned at the last meeting of the board as an employer who had refused to pay union rates of wages.

The Berridge tender was \$18,000 for the masonry and plastering for the Carlton addition. The next tender was \$13,420.

The contractor, under fire, said that the gravel from the excavation could be utilized, and this would enable him to take the contract and make a profit at his tender.

Dr. Noble, Dr. Hopkins and Trustees McCrae were for the acceptance of the Berridge tender. As the vote was a tie, it will be fought out at a meeting of the board next Thursday night.

A report was presented, estimating the cost of protecting wall at Keele School at \$14,000.

### SCORE'S SEPTEMBER DISCOUNT SALE—EXTRA OFFERINGS FOR THE MONTH-END.

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### CIVIC EMPLOY SURVEY

Finance Commissioner Suggests Formation of Permanent Board Under Council.

Finance Commissioner Bradshaw in his report on the question of making a complete survey of all civic employees with the object of adjusting salaries, recommends that the heads of the various departments be constituted a permanent board or committee subject to the board of control and council. The functions of the board would be:

1. To make and report upon a complete survey of the civic services, embracing classification, plan of promotion and remuneration, etc.
2. To receive, consider and report upon all applications for employment, promotion, increase in wages, etc.
3. To consider and report upon a scheme of insurance and pension for civic employees.
4. To prepare and maintain a correct and accurate record of all civic employees.

The board of control agreed to forward the report to council.

### NO MODIFICATION.

Ottawa separate school board's motion, which asked for a modification of the injunction imposed on it by Justice Lennox, was refused by Justice Rose yesterday afternoon. The board sought leave to borrow \$75,000 for the payment of debts, repairs and coal.

### TWO MONTHS AT FARM.

Judge Coatsworth yesterday sentenced Philip Davis, a colored newsboy, charged with obtaining \$28.50 from William Rattray with intent to defraud to two months on the jail farm.

### POSTPONE INQUIRY

Probe into Affairs of Standard Reliance Loan Corporation Adjourned.

The inquiry into the affairs of the Standard Reliance Loan Corporation has been postponed for two weeks on account of the illness of J. R. L. Starr, counsel for W. S. Dinnick. Mr. Starr is suffering from hay fever. J. A. C. Cameron, master-in-chambers at Osgoode Hall, ordered that two missing cash books for the years 1905, 1906 and 1907, should be produced.

Mr. Cameron said that questions asked Col. Dinnick might have a distinct bearing on future proceedings, and he would not like to deprive him of counsel. Therefore, while Mr. Starr was ill, he thought it reasonable to enlarge the hearing.

Mr. Kilmer raised the point that there were two cash books, which the liquidators had not been able to find. These covered the years 1905, 1906 and 1907. As Col. Dinnick was manager of the company at that time, he asked Col. Dinnick to say where they were. Mr. Spence: "Col. Dinnick does not know they were missing. He will endeavor to do anything in his power to secure them. We are not endeavoring to hide anything."

### TO CONSIDER ABATTOIR.

A conference between the board of control and members of the city council will take place next week when an endeavor will be made to settle the questions whether or not to continue operation of the municipal abattoir. Commissioner Chisholm's recommendation to the board of control yesterday was against continuing the undertaking.

### ABETTING ESCAPE ALLEGED.

Peter Pbyrn of Collier street, was arrested last night by Acting Detective McIntosh on a charge of assisting a man named Haggitt to escape from the jail farm. Haggitt escaped from custody three weeks ago and was captured by the police a few days later.

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### PACKER PROBE TODAY

Commerce Board to Resume Inquiry—Milk Prices Still Conjectured.

Judge Robson, chairman, and W. F. O'Connor, vice-chairman, of the board of commerce, sit in Toronto today and tomorrow, when the inquiry into food prices will be continued. It is likely that further evidence will be heard from representatives of meat packing firms.

The fair price committee, which considered the price of milk again, sat in private yesterday. Major J. L. Duncan said there was nothing to give out as to the price. They were waiting word from Ottawa. It is understood the committee agreed on a price, but that it was sent to Mr. O'Connor for ratification. The price of \$2 per can of eight gallons has been mentioned.

### Local Improvements Proceed Despite Talk of Secession

Owing to the secession movement now under way in North Toronto, Commissioner of Works Harris asked the board of control to instruct if they considered it advisable to commence some local improvement works. The controllers decided that the work proceed.

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### RETURNING SOLDIERS

It is announced that the following troops reached Quebec yesterday on the Melita, are now en route to Toronto, and should arrive this morning. Unless otherwise designated the soldiers named are for the city of Toronto:

Major Ridout, Major Rows, Capt. Rawson, C. S. M. Kiscock, S.-Sergt. A. J. Gibbs, S.-Sergt. C. Brownwell, S.-Sergt. T. C. Foot, S.-Sergt. J. Langridge, S.-Sergt. R. Lightbody, Pte. E. Allen, Dvr. A. Beard, Corp. Cracknell, Pte. D. Gibson, Gnr. H. Haycock, Humber Bay; Pte. A. Lea, Pte. W. H. Peart, Pte. F. J. Shaw, Pte. J. L. Tilley, Pte. A. Urie, S.-Sergt. Osborne, Corp. A. Blunt Hamilton; Corp. J. P. Hickey, Hamilton; Pte. D. McCarthy, Hamilton; Pte. J. Oxford, Hamilton; Lieut. W. W. Hickey, Brampton; Sergt. J. Kloch, Brampton; Lieut. H. Bradford, Orillia; Pte. A. Drury, Tomorden; Pte. F. Gibson, L.-Corp. Innes; Pte. J. Thomas, St. Catharines; Dvr. J. L. Lamonte, Pte. R. McCru, Chers; Pte. W. J. Newton, Pte. W. T. Wright, Lieut. H. W. Gainsbury, Weston.

Cassandra Troops.

The following officers, nursing sisters, cadets and other ranks for Toronto arrived on the S. S. Cassandra at Quebec yesterday: Pioneer Coughlin, Driver Drummond, Pte. Eldridge, Pte. James, Pte. Loback, Hamilton; Corp. Mitchell, Pte. Maxwell, Pte. Rush, Pte. Simson, Pte. Smith, R. Fleman Took.

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**WOULD EXEMPT EIGHTY THOUSAND**

Recommendation of Assessment Committee Means \$48,539,058 Decrease.

If the city council approves the recommendation of the special assessment committee, a bylaw will be submitted to the people at next municipal election providing for the exemption of dwelling houses between \$2,000 and \$4,000 to the amount of the percentage fixed in the legislation. No fewer than 80,953 dwellings in Toronto would be affected by this. Assessment Commissioner Forman, at yesterday's meeting of the committee, submitted an important report on the recent enabling legislation. He pointed out the proposed exemptions which run from 50 per cent. on a house assessed at not more than \$2,000, down to 10 per cent. on dwellings assessed from \$5,001 to \$4,000, and added:

**Enormous Exemption.**

"This bylaw, if submitted and assented to by the electors qualified to vote, will result in an exemption of \$48,539,058. The loss in taxes under this section would amount to \$99,904. To provide for this loss, an increase in the tax rate will be necessary equivalent to about 1.3-4 mills. As to its advisability, this is a matter for the council and the people to decide."

The following is a summary of the houses:

Houses assessed at \$2,000 or less, 64,098; present assessed value, \$20,285,780; amount of reduction, \$5,114,295.

Assessed \$2,001 to \$2,500, 8,764 houses; present assessed value, \$20,285,780; amount of reduction, \$5,114,295.

Assessed \$2,501 to \$3,000, 4,479 houses; present assessed value, \$12,670,295; reduction, \$2,801,088.

Assessed \$3,001 to \$3,500, 2,529 houses; present assessed value, \$7,271,075; amount of reduction, \$1,757,215.

Assessed \$3,501 to \$4,000, 1,855 houses; present assessed value, \$5,725,650; reduction, \$572,565.

**Would Add Millions.**

Referring to the refusal by the special committee of the legislature to assess the dividends of shareholders in incorporated mercantile manufacturing companies, the commissioner states that if what was proposed were adopted "there is no doubt whatever in my mind but that many millions of dollars would be added to the income column of the assessment rolls, particularly in all of the cities of Ontario. As I see it, there appears to me no good reason why such legislation should be refused. It is but an endeavor to place all those in receipt of income on a parity. At present, the assessment provisions that everyone in receipt of income or dividends arising from stocks in banks, insurance and loan companies, railways, gas companies, telephone, telegraph, electric light and power companies, etc., shall be assessable. These corporations are likewise assessed in respect of business assessment.

**Should Be Assessed.**

"In the case of incorporated mercantile and manufacturing businesses the same method of reaching the net income should obtain, and hence the amount to be set aside for the shareholders' benefit would be the net income devoid of all municipal taxes, and, to my mind, so long as income is to be assessed such income should not escape taxation. In the case of income from personal earnings, notwithstanding the exemptions allowed regarding such, it ceases at the death of the recipient or his inability to earn such income. My opinion is that we should continue to apply to the legislature, annually if necessary, for a change in the act, which would permit of such income being assessed."