

The eighth section of the Bill as originally introduced was modified, after a conference on the subject had been held with a number of members on both sides of the House. With the exception of the tenth section the whole of the remaining sections of the Bill were submitted by the Chief Superintendent of Education and approved by the Attorney-General. They are as follows :—

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC AND HIGH SCHOOL LAWS OF ONTARIO.

(Sections 1 to 7 inclusive relate to the election of Members to the Council of Public Instruction.)

CITY, TOWN SEPARATED AND COUNTY TO BE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

8. From and after the passing of this Act, every city, every town separated for municipal purposes from the county in which it is situated, and every county and union of counties shall, for the purposes of the High School Acts and this Act, be high school districts respectively.

[NOTE.—The following clauses (A to G inclusive,) were under consideration for insertion in lieu of Section 8 of the Bill, as introduced into the House of Assembly.]

ALTERNATIVE : COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OR SUB-DISTRICTS.

A. The municipal council of every county (or union of counties) at its first, or June meeting, after the passing of this Act, shall by by-law either :—

(a)—declare itself, and be, a high school board for the management of the high school or high schools of the county, (or union of counties) within its jurisdiction ; or, it shall by by-law :—

(b)—assign to each of the high schools within its jurisdiction, as aforesaid, a sub-district, containing within the boundaries of such sub-district not less than seven hundred and fifty families, or equalized assessed property to the value of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

POWERS AND OBLIGATIONS OF COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BOARDS.

B. In case a county council, as provided in the next preceding section, prefers to declare itself to be a county high school board for such county, or union of counties, then the present high school board or boards, of the high school, or high schools, within the jurisdiction of such council, shall thereupon cease to exist ; and the county high school board shall succeed to all the property, rights, powers, duties and obligations of such high school boards in the towns (not separated), villages and townships within the jurisdiction of the county or union of counties : And such property, rights, powers and obligations shall pass to and become and be vested in the county council : And such council shall have authority to appoint annually or oftener a committee consisting of three or five persons, one or two of whom (as the case may be) may be members of such county council, for the special oversight of every such high school, under such regulations and with such powers as such council may think proper to authorize.

COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BOARDS TO LEVY RATES.

C. Every county council, on becoming a county high school board, as provided by the ninth section of this Act, shall from time to time, levy and collect rates in each town (not separated) and other parts of the county for the purchasing of a school site, the erection, enlargement, repairs and improvement and furnishing of a school-house and premises, and for the payment of the salaries of the masters and teachers and of all other expenses of every such high school.

PROVIDE FUNDS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS IN SUB-DISTRICTS.

D. In case a county council shall prefer to assign to each high school within its jurisdiction, a sub-district (as provided in the ninth section of this Act, such council, on an estimate laid before it by the board of any high school in the district or any sub-district within its jurisdiction, of the sums required by it for the maintenance and school accommodation and other expenses of its school, shall impose upon

the taxable property of such district or sub-district (as the case may be), a rate sufficient to meet such expenses.

INTERIM PROVISION BY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR HIGH SCHOOLS.

E. The county council shall (as provided in the ninth section of this Act), declare the council to be a county high school board, or until the county, or union of counties (as provided in the said ninth section) be divided into sub-districts, the council shall, out of the general funds of the county, or otherwise, provide such sums as any high school board in the county within its jurisdiction may by estimate, as aforesaid, require for the maintenance, school accommodation, and other expenses of its high school.

UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY BE FORMED WITH TOWN SEPARATED.

F. The council of any county (or union of counties), and the council of any town (separated for municipal purposes from such county or union of counties), may each pass a By-law providing for the formation, alteration or dissolution of a union high school district, composed of the separated town and of such parts of the county (or union of counties) as the county council shall determine.

And, in like manner, the councils of two or more adjoining counties may form, alter or dissolve the unions of a high school district, composed of parts of such adjoining counties as the councils respectively may determine. And such union high school district or districts shall, for the purposes of the High School Act and this Act, belong to the separated town, or the county in which the high school is situated (as the case may be) : And the council of such county or town separated shall (on the estimate of the trustees of the high school concerned) provide for the maintenance, school accommodation and all other expenses of such high school : Provided that no such dissolution shall take place except at the close of a civil year, or without the consent of a majority of the members of each of the councils concerned respectively, or without the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of any one of the councils concerned, as the case may be.

APPOINTMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL TRUSTEES.

G. High school trustees shall be appointed as follows :—

(1.) In every city and town (separated from the county in which it is situated) the high school trustees shall be appointed by the municipal council thereof ;

(2.) In high school sub-districts, one half of the high school trustees shall be appointed by the county council concerned, and one half by the council of the town or village in which the high school is situated ;

(3.) In union high school districts formed out of adjoining counties, one half of the trustees shall be appointed by each of the county councils which formed the union district.

(4.) In all cases the appointment of such trustees shall be made in the manner and for the periods prescribed by law.

ESTABLISHMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF HIGH SCHOOLS.

9. Every county council, at its June session in any year, but not at any other time, shall have authority (with the concurrence of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, on the report and recommendation of the Chief Superintendent of Education) to decide upon the establishment of any new, and upon the discontinuance, at end of the then civil year, of any existing high school in any part of the county within its jurisdiction.

ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO HIGH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGIATE INSTITUTES.

10. The thirty-eighth section of the School Act of 1871 (34 Vic., chap. 33), shall be amended so as to read as follows :—

38. It shall be the duty of the Council of Public Instruction from time to time to prescribe by regulations (to be approved of by the Governor in Council) the subjects, times and extent of the examinations necessary to qualify pupils for admission into the high school and collegiate institutes, and also to determine the standard to be attained by each pupil for such admission ;

(1) No pupil shall be admitted to, or continued in, any high school or collegiate institute who has not passed such preliminary examination for admission ;

(2) The council shall, from time to time, require the central committee (appointed by the said council for the examination of public school teachers) to prepare, under its direction, questions for the uniform examination, under the said prescribed regulations of pupils for admission to the high schools and collegiate institutes ;

(3) The examination papers so prepared, with the value assigned to each question, and directions from the Chief Superintendent of