

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF CANADA.

the first time after Confederation, the municipal corporations of the province comprised 36 counties, 399 townships, and 104 cities, towns and villages. The law respecting municipal institutions in Ontario was revised in 1913 by the Municipal Act (3-4 Geo. V, c. 43), and is included in the Revised Statutes of Ontario 1914 as chapter 192. It has been further amended by Acts of 1914 (4 Geo. V, c. 33), 1915 (5 Geo. V, c. 34) and 1916 (6 Geo. V, c. 39). Under these Acts the local municipalities of the province consist of townships, villages, towns, counties and cities. The townships consist of an area varying in extent from six to ten miles square.

The territorial division of the province for municipal and judicial purposes is governed by the Territorial Division Act (R. S. O., 1914, c. 3), and section 11 of this Act provides that, subject to the provisions of the Municipal Act, the Lieutenant-Governor may by proclamation constitute new townships in those parts of Ontario in which townships have not been constituted and may fix the boundaries thereof.

**Townships and Villages.**—The procedure for the erection of townships is laid down in the Municipal Act. Where found convenient two or more townships may unite for municipal purposes and become incorporated as a Union of Townships. Each township is governed by a chief executive officer styled reeve, and four other members who may be either deputy reeves or councillors, according to the number of deputy reeves to which a municipality may be entitled. This is determined by the number of municipal electors. Where a township has more than 1,000 and not more than 2,000 municipal electors, it becomes entitled to a first deputy-reeve, where it has more than 2,000 and not more than 3,000 to a first and a second deputy-reeve, and where it has more than 3,000 to a first, a second and a third deputy-reeve. These provisions apply also to incorporated villages and towns. The council of a township in "unorganized territory," that is to say, any part of the province which is not organized by counties, consists of a reeve and four councillors. New villages may be incorporated by the county council out of districts or parts of townships under conditions laid down by the Act as to area, population and other matters. Provision is also made for the constitution of police villages by the county council on the petition of freeholders and tenants in localities having a population of not less than 150 and an area of not more than 500 acres. Police villages are administered by three trustees whose powers and duties are defined by the Act. The trustees of a police village may be created a body corporate where the population is not less than 500.

**Towns.**—New towns may be incorporated under conditions prescribed by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, which was constituted in 1906 under the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board Act (R. S. O., 1914, c. 186); their governing bodies are differently constituted from those of the smaller municipalities. In unorganized territories the town council is composed of a mayor and six councillors elected by general vote. Towns with a population of not less than 5,000 may be composed of a mayor and nine councillors. Towns in counties having a population of more than 5,000 are composed of a