

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Read 1^o 29 July, 1913.

MUNICIPAL RATING (UNIMPROVED VALUE) BILL 1913.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

1. This Bill is not to come into operation until the necessary valuations have been made by assessors in the Land Tax Office (clause 2).
2. Melbourne and Geelong are included as well as other municipalities (clause 3).
3. The Act may be adopted in any municipality (clause 4).
4. (a) If the council propose to adopt the Act they are to give notice of not less than two months; and within one month after the last publication of notice one-tenth of the ratepayers on the roll may demand a poll of ratepayers. If there is no demand for a poll the council may proceed (clause 5).
(b) Apart from action by the council one-tenth of the ratepayers may petition for a poll for the adoption of the Act (clause 5).
(c) In order to carry an adopting proposal at a poll there must be in its favour a majority of the valid votes recorded; and the number of valid votes must form at least one-third of the number of voters inscribed on the roll (clause 8).
5. Rescinding proposals are provided for (clause 10); and limitation of times within which proposals may be again submitted (clause 12).
6. Voting by post provisions are incorporated (clause 13).
7. On the adoption of the Act in any municipality, and so long as the adoption is not rescinded, all rates made after the date of adoption must be made on the unimproved capital values of properties, except in the case of the special properties mentioned hereafter (clause 14).
8. No valuation is to be made by the council, but they must adopt valuations made by assessors under the *Land Tax Act* 1910 (clause 14).
9. No appeal against valuation is to be permitted under the Local Government Acts, but all such appeals must be made and dealt with under the *Land Tax Act* 1910 (clause 14).
10. Clause 14 contains provisions to facilitate the adoption for local government purposes of valuations made under the *Land Tax Act* 1910.
11. Certain special properties, e.g., tramways, gasworks, &c., are expressly provided for. These will still be rated on the present basis (clause 15).