

danger to the community, and the penalty meted out to such an one could be none too severe.

Mr. Wilson said he believed that a grave objection was taken to the word "informant" consequently it was not used. However, he was of the opinion that in the case of the wanton setting out of fires no stigma could be attached to the name of the party bringing such a man to justice.

The motion was then put and carried.

OPENING OF THE CONVENTION.

The Convention opened on the afternoon of Monday, August 10th, in the Opera House, Vernon, when Hon. F. J. Fulton, President of the Association and Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the Province of British Columbia, delivered his presidential address. In this he referred particularly to the proposed irrigation legislation for the province, a draft of which had been published and widely distributed, and appealed for the support of all, irrespective of politics, in the formation and enactment of legislation which should be in the best interest of the province.

Mayor Timmins, of Vernon, then spoke briefly, welcoming the delegates to the city. Mr. J. S. Dennis, of Calgary, First Vice-President of the Association, responded.

Mr. R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, was elected Chairman of Sessions.

MR. J. S. DENNIS'S ADDRESS.

The Monday evening session was taken up by an address from Mr. S. J. Dennis, of Calgary, President of the C.P.R. Irrigation System, on the law relating to the use of water for irrigation. He asserted that the Northwest Irrigation Law was the best irrigation law at present in existence. In the fifteen years it had been in force there had been no litigation over irrigation rights. British Columbia, if all available water were used, could irrigate twenty-five to thirty per cent. of her irrigable lands. They must be careful in their legislation, so that the result would not be, as was the case in some of the United States, that more money was spent on litigation than on irrigation.

The "miner's inch," as a unit of measurement, must be replaced by some other recognized unit, such as the acre-foot, or the cubic foot per second.

The Provincial Government must go beyond laying down the basic principle of Crown ownership of water, and make clear-cut enactments in regard to the use of water. He commended Hon. Mr. Fulton's course in drafting his law and having this published and distributed.

He believed practically every stream in British Columbia was over recorded, some of them ten times. He advocated the cancellation of all unused claims and the appointment of a