



HON. MEDERIC MARTIN, M.L.A.
Mayor of Montreal

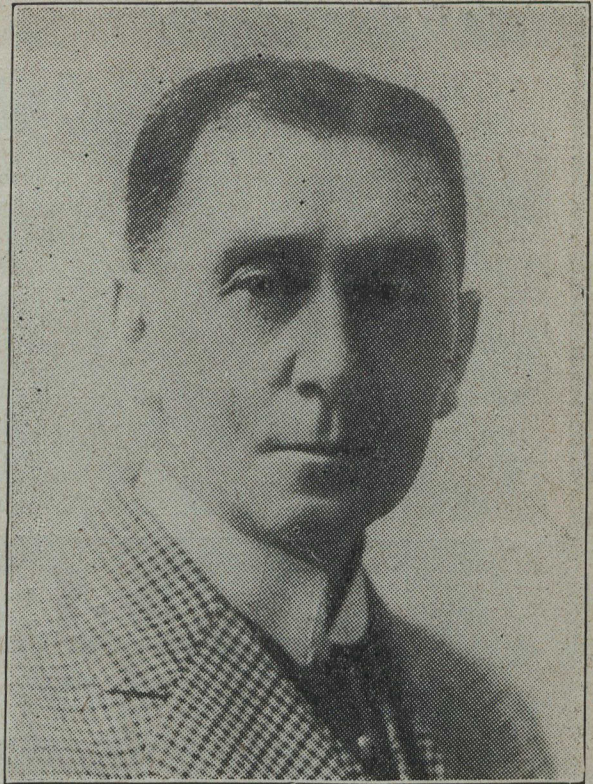
THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT

We have just been reading the annual report of the Editorial Committee, which under the chairmanship of Mr. Fred Cook has control over all Dominion government publications. The committee which was established in 1917 has undoubtedly done excellent work. It has not only saved to the Federal exchequer upwards of one and a quarter million dollars, but it has, through intelligent editorship, made the government blue books more intelligible to the average citizen. One of the misconceptions of our public service—whether it be Federal, Provincial or Municipal—is for the average official to assume that his ability is measured by the size of his reports. Fortunately the chairman of the Federal Editorial Committee is an experienced journalist who, knowing the exact values in a manuscript or a report, is able to cut out non-essentials without lessening its value as a whole.

The extent to which the cutting down process has been carried out is illustrated in the reduction of the number of printed pages from over two hundred millions to twenty-five millions. This is some cut and must have caused some heart-burning amongst some of the officials.

If we have any criticism to offer it is that in the cutting down process, illustrations have been eliminated altogether. We think this a mistake for illustrations are always helpful to the reader in understanding the letterpress. But that, by the way. In the establishment of the Editorial Committee the Government did a wise thing, and in the appointment of Mr. Fred Cook to the chairmanship they did another wise thing, because with all his official experience Mr. Cook has always kept mentally alert to news values, the main reason for government publications.

We note from the report that the government of the United States is following Canada's example by the establishment of a similar body to that of the Editorial Committee. This is a good reason for the existence of the committee and so long as Mr. Fred Cook is at the head of it good results are bound to accrue.



ARTHUR ROBERTS, K.C.
Past President of the U.C.M.
SECRETARY UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPALITIES

NEW YORK CITY

The city of New York has had the Mayor's salary increased to \$25,000.

The city's budget as finally adopted provides a total revenue of \$350,516,524.59, which includes \$14,430,513.24 state taxes. Although the state's share is about \$8,000,000 less than for the year 1921, the amount for city government is \$5,000,000 greater than 1921.

MUNICIPAL FORESTS

The latest municipality to announce its intention of reforesting a tract of land under the Ontario Government scheme is Ontario county, which is the first county east of York county, of which latter Toronto is the county town. This county extends from Lake Ontario on the south to the southern border of Muskoka district on the north, a distance of about ninety miles. At its last session the County Council decided to take up the reforestation of about seven hundred acres situated in the township of Uxbridge.

Canada's forest resources constitute one of the Dominion's most valuable assets. They contribute to the trade of Canada upwards of \$200,000,000 a year. They play an important part in our external commerce. With proper protection our forests can be made to produce timber in perpetuity.

Fifteen thousand lives and \$500,000,000 could be saved in this country annually through firesafe construction.