

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL TREASURERS AND ACCOUNTANTS.

Some little time ago the Institute of Municipal Treasurers of England, desiring to bring about a real *esprit de corps* between civic officials of the Old Country and Canada extended to Treasurers of the principal municipalities of this country an invitation to join the English Society. So that civic officials might have a better idea of the significance of the invitation we might say that the Institute is one of the hardest into which to secure membership, which to English officials is by examination—and a strict examination at that. . . . When a man joins the municipal service he at once begins to fit himself for membership, which takes from three to six years of close study. It is this same society which has raised the efficiency of the permanent municipal officials of Great Britain to such a high standard, and now that Canadian officials have the opportunity to become members without examination they should lose no time. It will mean to them an education in municipal work that would be invaluable not only to themselves but to their respective communities. Practically Canada, so far as municipal officials are concerned has never had any particular standard of efficiency, and though the English system might be a little different the fundamentals of municipal government are the same as in this country, so there is every reason why those municipal treasurers, etc., who have been invited to do so, should join the Institute.

OUR PREPAREDNESS NUMBER.

Our contemporary, the Calgary News-Telegram, takes us to task for the contribution on Alberta in our CIVIC AND NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS number; the special complaint being the supposed out-of-datedness of the figures. We would point out, in answer, that though we tried we were not successful in getting the information from the Provincial authorities, and had to depend largely on statistics published by the Federal Government in 1916. Most of the other provinces supplied their own figures, which enabled our statisticians to more accurately group them to the different zones. Our main purpose, of course, was to so show the statistics to the Municipal Councils and Boards of Trade in the different zones, as to better enable them to grasp the opportunities for expansion lying at their door, so that the mere figures in themselves would have no bearing on the object to be attained. In this we have been signally successful, as shown in the correspondence, since the Preparedness number was published, but we would suggest to our contemporary that it urges the provincial authorities to prepare up-to-date statistics of Alberta's progress, so that there will be no repetition of the figures that we were forced to publish for want of better. We know of more than one other national publication, requiring statistics of Alberta, in the same difficulty as we were, and no doubt unless the provincial authorities can give later figures, they will use the same source of information.

PRELIMINARY OUTLINE OF "WIN-THE-WAR," AND "AFTER-THE-WAR" PROGRAMME OF CONVENTION, 1917.

Monday, August 27th, 11.00 a.m.

Business Session.
Official Welcome.
President's Address.
Report of Hon. Secretary.
Report of Assistant Secretary—Finances.
Report of Parliamentary Agent.
Reports of the several Provincial Municipal Unions.

Monday, 2.30 p.m.

Win the War—Municipal Councils' Session.
Formal Opening of Convention.
Short Addresses:—
How Municipal Councils can help to Win the War.—Discussion and Resolution.
Short Address:—
Should the Federal Government seek the Co-operation of the Municipal Councils to help to put into practice all War Measures directly affecting the people?—Discussion and Resolution.
Short Addresses:—
High Cost of Living, and the Remedy.
(a)—Trusts and Combines—an influence.
(b)—Municipal Trading—as a remedy.
(c)—Food Controller—as a remedy.
(d)—Cost of Living Tribunal.
(e)—Fuel Questions.

Monday, 8.00 p.m.

Banquet—Tendered to the Delegates by the Mayor, City Council and Citizens of London.

Tuesday, 10.00 a.m.

Win the War—Preparation Session.
The Responsibility of Municipal Councils to prepare for the new economic conditions that will arise after the war, and how they can best be met.—Discussion and Resolution.
Report of progress on: Uniform Municipal Accounting and Statistics.—Discussion and Resolution.
The balance of this session open for the reception of any new business, or resolutions from municipalities.

Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.

After the War—Industrial Session.
Short Addresses:—
The Readjustment Period.
(a)—Municipal Revenue Difficulties.
(b)—The Munition Worker Problem.
(c)—The Returned Soldier Problem.
(d)—Federal Labor Bureaus.—Discussion and Resolutions.
Address:—Public owned Hydro-Electric Power as a factor in the material building up of a community.—Discussion and Resolution.
Address:—Hydro-Electric Radial Railways, and Municipally owned Street Railways.—Discussion and Resolution.

Tuesday, 8.00 p.m.

After the War—Patriotic Session. Public meeting and demonstration in some large hall, or in the open air.
Short Addresses:—
(a)—The Responsibility of Citizens in this War.
(b)—A National Highway Across Canada, to serve as a Monument of the fiftieth year of Confederation.
(c)—Memorials to our Fallen Soldiers and Sailors.
(d)—Provision of Work for Returned Soldiers.—Resolutions.

Wednesday, 10 a.m.

After the War—Educational Session.
Address:—A Canadian Bureau of Information.—Discussion and Resolution.
Address:—The Teaching of Citizenship in Schools.—Discussion and Resolution.
Election of Officers.

McGill University, Montreal, has recommended the founding of a Department of Social Service to the university governors. One argument was that the war had turned people's minds more than ever to the urgency of social and industrial problems. It was also pointed out that while the number of trained social workers in Montreal has greatly increased in the last few years, most, if not all, of these have received their training in the United States.