

upon this ground towards measures for the relief of the mining industry, and the fact that all demands for such relief during the past two years have been met by a counter-demand on the part of the Government then in power for a substitute whereby the revenues of the Province would not suffer loss:

Be it therefore resolved that this Association desires to re-assert that it has no wish that the mining industry be relieved at the expense of other industries, but, on the contrary is now, and has always been, ready to pay its fair and equitable share of the taxation necessary for the economical and businesslike conduct of Provincial affairs.

In the opinion of this Association, natural resources of the Province, and not industry, should bear the chief burden of taxation. The enormous areas of valuable land now held under a taxation which is practically insignificant should be made to pay its proper share of the burden, and thus relieve industry.

The Association therefore respectfully recommends to the Government the advisability of enquiring into and adopting the Australasian or some other equitable and uniform system of taxation on land, including mining lands, that will tend to increase the revenue, foster the settlement of the lands of the Province, and encourage the development of its great mineral and other resources.

In view of the vast areas of land held in this Province, it is believed that the revenues from such a system of taxation will more than meet the annual deficit of the Province, and will enable it to materially relieve the mining industry.

BUREAU OF MINES.

20.—Whereas there has long been an increasing dissatisfaction with the relation of the Provincial Bureau of Mines to the mining industry, the complaints most prevalent being to the effect that the conditions and resources of various districts have not been fairly or properly presented, and that all efforts made hitherto by mining men towards the betterment of mining conditions have met with opposition instead of assistance from this office, and that moreover, it is complained that the work of the Bureau has apparently been restricted to the collection of statistics, while the industry has not received that assistance in the way of expert scientific study and reports on mineral districts which was expected from the office, and which