

# ANNUAL CONVENTION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

### Jas. Smith Again President--Moose Jaw Next Meeting Place--An Attack on Regina--No Union with Municipal Association--Demand Government Rail Insurance--Want more Money for Roads and Bridges.

Saskatoon, March 16--The annual convention of the Saskatchewan Improvement Districts Association opened this morning. The annual address of the president was delivered after which adjournment was made for the commencement of the regular business of the convention. Eighty-five delegates registered at St. John's hall this morning, and some fifty late arrivals were recorded.

President Smith occupied the chair, accompanied by vice-president Hewson, and members of the executive, including E. Hingley, secretary; A. H. Salmon, H. E. Clinite, H. R. Blyth, W. S. Chambers, J. Bell, R. S. Blackmore, T. McCloy, H. J. Mitchell, A. F. Dickson, H. Webb, T. J. McGuire, P. J. Russell, Fred Black, J. L. Tooke and R. M. Johnson.

Mayor Hopkins, in an address of welcome, suggested that the convention consider the advisability of joining with the union of Saskatchewan Municipalities, so that instead of two organizations there would be one. Such union would add to their influence and power, with the government and railway companies.

W. C. Sutherland, also addressed the convention, referring to the enlarged powers conferred by the new Municipal Act, and thanked them for their invitation to address them.

Wright, on behalf of the convention, extended an invitation to the convention to meet at Regina next year.

At this afternoon's session the delegates listened to addresses on various subjects connected with the local improvement districts from many well-known provincial speakers and delegates, and government officials, and the convention passed a number of resolutions bearing on the municipal and public affairs. These referred to telegraph lines, the doing away with old trails, prairie fires, nomination of councillors, obstruction of roads, C.P.R. taxes, and several other matters. Tonight a hundred or more delegates were tendered a complimentary banquet at the Clink's Cafe, over which Mayor Hopkins presided.

Saskatoon, March 17--Moose Jaw has been selected as the meeting place of the Rural Municipalities convention next year. On the first ballot Regina topped the list with thirty-four votes, Moose Jaw thirty-two, Saskatoon twelve. On the second vote Moose Jaw was selected by a vote of fifty to thirty-five. The general idea of the convention is that the cities should be visited in turn.

Vice-president Hewson attacked Regina at last night's banquet and this morning for not treating the convention properly in regard to accommodation. His statements were resented by President Smith, Mr. Fitzgerald, of Grenfell, the Indian Head delegates and others. It was pointed out by the president that the members of the executive had themselves selected a smaller hall last year, as the auditorium was found too large for the previous year's convention. When it was found that there was an unusual large attendance of delegates last year, every effort was made by Regina to accommodate them with a larger hall than they themselves had selected, and Mayor Williams secured the city hall auditorium for the second day's sessions, although engaged by the Fat Stock Show board for agricultural meetings.

New Constitution Adopted. The new constitution, already outlined, was read over to the convention by the president and adopted without discussion.

It was decided not to join the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities, but to ask the executive of each association to meet together and form a council to discuss matters of mutual interest and for lighting purposes. The mover of the resolution, F. Conlan, of Moose Jaw, said that an acre of potatoes would give enough alcohol to supply a family with light and fuel.

The convention was brought to a close by a meeting of the new executive, who reappointed E. Hingley, Radiason, secretary-treasurer at \$250, with a bonus of \$100 for extra services. The following committees were appointed: Finance--Messrs. Thompson, Hamilton, Mitchell and Black. Reception--Messrs. Clinite, Conlan, Stansfield, Williamson. Resolutions--Messrs. Potts, Salmon, Chambers, Flower.

GAZETTE APPOINTMENTS. The following recent appointments appear in the current number of the Saskatchewan Gazette:-- Notaries Public--E. M. Bill, of Saskatoon; David McKenzie, of Wadena; James Simpson Dick, of Ladstock; William Norman Evans, of Shoeb; John D. Brown, of Rossmore; Norman Robertson Hoffman, of Regina; Chas. Seth Chappell, of Frohisher; Franklin John Stent, of Carlyle; Russell Ethebert Coupland, of Foam Lake.

Commissioners for Oaths--William Reynolds Tripp, of Cupar; Joseph Thordur Paulson, of Leslie; Harold

could arrange with the bank for loans until the first assessment was collected. He advised the municipality to regard the interests of the school district as theirs.

It was stated that school districts were charged ten per cent on loans, and asked if the government would advance until the assessment became due. Mr. Bayne said the municipality could act as temporary guarantor for the school districts. There was no provision in the estimates for advancing loans of this kind. Rural school districts might on request become village school districts for assessment purposes, although having no village within its bounds. But this was not common. Village school districts did not come under the control of rural municipalities.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bayne.

Election of Officers. The election of officers took place at this afternoon's session. James Smith, of Yellow Grass, was re-elected president for the third time by a large majority. First vice-president, George Thompson, Indian Head; second vice-president, H. E. Clinite, Regina; third vice-president, H. E. Clinite, Regina.

Directors--John Stanfield, Red Deer Hill; C. J. Lutes, Tisdale; J. R. Mitchell, Grenfell; Fred Black, Wilkie; Thomas Conlan, Moose Jaw; C. M. Hamilton, McTaggart; A. M. Flower, Bond; W. H. Chambers, Douglass; E. C. Williamson, Lloydminster; G. H. Potts, Loreburn.

The auditor's report, which was submitted by G. D. Fitzgerald, showed total receipts \$1,974, and a balance on hand of \$249.28, and was adopted.

Hall Insurance Resolution. The Grain Growers' Association hall insurance resolution, proposed by J. L. Rooke, was adopted by a majority, it was as follows: "Whereas, the hall insurance companies now operating in Saskatchewan are not doing business acceptable to the farmers of the province, therefore, be it resolved, that a provincial hall insurance system be established, the revenue for the said system to be raised by a tax not exceeding two cents per acre, all land to be subject to the said assessment, providing that any resident ratepayer be allowed to register one section or less from assessment, and participation in benefits."

Other Resolutions. Resolutions were passed recommending more and larger grants by the government for road building, to be spent under the supervision of local councils; an amendment to the municipal act that each municipality may collect only such school taxes as are levied on land within its boundaries; asking the department of the interior to allow taxes not paid by non or partly resident homesteaders to remain registered against the land, thus preventing these lands becoming a dead loss to the district.

The convention endorsed the Prince Albert convention resolution that a charter or government aid be only granted to railway companies who build with a view to the development of new country. The government are to be asked to have the law changed so as to enable farmers to manufacture alcohol for heating, lighting, driving machinery, free of excise, and issue bulletins of the methods used in the manufacture.

The preamble of the resolution sets out that this was necessary in view of the high price and uncertainty of the coal and wood supply on the prairie, and the danger of trusts and combines raising the price of fuel used for driving internal combustion engines and for lighting purposes. The mover of the resolution, F. Conlan, of Moose Jaw, said that an acre of potatoes would give enough alcohol to supply a family with light and fuel.

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## HUMAN DERELICTS

### Awful Picture of London's Poverty Stricken--The Charity of the Poor--Poverty Increasing.

London, March 14--"Time, gentlemen, please," is the call that is heard when the lights go out in the restaurants of the west side and the gin palaces of the east, the great city hurries home to bed. After that there remain only the masterless men and rogues--and those who have no homes to which they can go.

It had been raining for forty-eight hours when that modern curfew sent us forth from Fleet Street. First, we went westward, the Irishman and I, there was yet life in the Strand, and the Haymarket was already deserted. The coffee staff at the Marble Arch was like a place of the dead save for a policeman, in his glistening cap standing in the lee of the arch itself. So we went back eastward again.

In Regent Street we met two women, fair haired Germans, one in white and one in grey, disputing a doorway. Leicester Square was like the Marble Arch corner save that there were two or three cabs yet on the rank. So far we had drawn a blank; but the Irishman shook his head as we turned down by Charing Cross station. "The embankment is too ghastly," he said.

He was quite right. Hungerford bridge in very wide, but from the underground station to Northumberland avenue they were lying along the pavement in a row, huddled together as closely as they could get for mutual warmth. It was like a bivouac--the bivouac of the army of the lost.

If you want to realize the horror of a great city you should take a walk after 2 a.m. At first in the dim light you may not grasp what those bundles are. Then it comes home to you suddenly and you feel sick. They are men and women, and children as well wrapped in newspapers and old contents bills and foul rags of sackings, with the wrecks of boots protruding from the bundles and bare flesh protruding from the boots. Most are lying still, but every now and then one does move restlessly, throwing off his covering, and you will see one of the half dozen watching policemen cover him up again, tucking the newspapers down over the rags, doing it half sheepishly--at any rate, if you are looking on. "The police are there every night, and I am not sure but what theirs is the worst task of all. Use has not hardened them, only made them infinitely sympathetic."

Round the corner, opposite the National Liberal club, were some more--all men--crouching against the wall. They were very unfortunate, they had had no newspapers or contents bills, and they had been too late to register out claims under the bridge. "The rain just caught them obliquely and their teeth were chattering," as though the sight of the cabmen's lanterns driving away from a function at the club was insufficient to warm and cheer them. All those I spoke to--and we brought coffee for as many as we could--were British born--somehow the alien seems to fare better.

It used to be the correct thing to write of the outcasts "on the seats of the embankment." Today the phrase sounds absurd, for the seats would not hold one-tenth of that ghastly, dying army. All along the embankment, in front of that splendid line of buildings--the Savoy, the Cecil, Whitehall court, and Somerset House--every doorway, every available nook, has its occupants, shivering, hunched up, doomed. Round Cleopatra's Needle they are packed like sardines, and when at 4 o'clock the police rouse them there, the flame from their burning paper blankets rises 30 feet in the air, licking the great obelisk, the morning sacrifice to the god of modern progress.

Close by the foot of the Savoy steps you will find a coffee stall, kept

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## RECORDS OF SHAKESPEARE

### American Professor Uncovers Interesting Matter About Great Poet--May have Seen John Milton.

Charles William Wallace, associate professor of English literature at the University of Nebraska, and his wife have made a discovery that will securely link their names with the very few whose success in Shakespearean research is of real and lasting value. They have unearthed in the Public Record Office in London several documents which, in the opinion of the New York Sun, give the world a vivid picture for the first time of Shakespeare as he moved and worked among men. These documents, if they concerned any other of the great dead, might well be considered insignificant even puerile, but since we know less about Shakespeare, the man, than about any other genius of the last five hundred years of all, and since he is almost universally conceded to be the greatest intellect that ever shone on earth, they have an appeal.

A Gigantic Task. The task of adding anything to the store of the world's understanding on Shakespeare, either as a man or as a poet, might well have daunted anyone but a young professor in a Western university. Mr. Wallace, however, learned that the Public Record Office in London is stored from top to bottom with countless documents on skins, parchments and papers of various size which constitute the chief record of England from Anglo-Saxon times down to the present. It occurred to him that among these millions of documents might be found something concerning the poet. It might also have occurred to him that hundreds of men before him had probably sifted these records. "But if this thought passed through his mind, he dismissed it. At any rate he determined to go over them for himself."

Where Shakespeare Lived. Accompanied by his wife, who was as much interested in Shakespeare as he was the professor, or else as much interested in her husband as he was in his quest, Prof. Wallace established himself in the neighborhood of the office, and methodically began his Herculean task. The reward was in proportion to the magnitude of the task, for presently they came across 28 documents in a case at court in which Shakespeare was concerned. The principals in the case were a family named Mountjoy, with whom Shakespeare lived for years while in London. The Mountjoys were French Huguenot refugees, the head of the house, Christopher, being a fashionable head-dress maker. He had an apprentice named Stephen Bellott, the stepson of an old friend in France, who lived with his employer, and was quite one of the family. The lad was apparently a good workman, and a likeable young chap. At any rate

## Records of Shakespeare

his employer's wife conceived the idea that he would make a suitable husband for her daughter, Mary.

Shakespeare the Matchmaker. When Stephen became a journeyman wig-maker, he left London and took a trip through Spain. This was in 1604. He returned shortly however, and it was at this point that Shakespeare came into the story. Mrs. Mountjoy confided in her lodger her hopes that the young couple would wed, and as they apparently cared for each other, she asked him to use his good offices in bringing about the match. As the New York Sun remarks, "One may imagine the willingness with which the creator of Romeo and Juliet listened to Mrs. Mountjoy's request that he assist in the unfolding of a love story in real life." Just why it was necessary to bring in a third party is not made plain; nor are the arts employed by Shakespeare to make the course of true love run smooth described. Suffice it to say that the wedding was duly celebrated, and Mrs. Mountjoy made a settlement upon the young couple.

Where Shakespeare Lived. The father took Stephen into partnership, and all continued to dwell in happiness in the house at the corner of Muggell and Silver Streets. After Mrs. Mountjoy died, however, trouble arose between Stephen and old Christopher. The former claimed that certain promises his father-in-law made had not been carried out, and he proceeded to "have the law of him. How the case turned out nobody cares and nobody knows. One of the interesting points is that the documents have enabled Prof. Wallace to locate the house where Shakespeare lived and wrote some of his greatest plays at the corner of Muggell and Silver streets."

Perhaps Saw Milton. Not far away lived Ben Jonson, Nathaniel Field, Thomas Dekker, Anthony Munday, William Johnson, the actor; and, in another direction, John Memings and Henry Condell--Shakespeare's friends, his associates in the Globe and Blackfriars, and the first editors of his plays. In the neighborhood lived John Milton, a child of twelve when Shakespeare died; and a study of a map of London suggests the possibility that as he passed to and fro Shakespeare went by the house where Milton spent his childhood and that perhaps he once saw and noticed the unusual face of the boy. Prof. Wallace has at least lent probability to what has long been a cherished fancy of admirers of the two great poets--that some time, somewhere, they met.

Burned to Death. Cobalt, Ont., March 18--Wm. Cope, aged 35 and his wife Edith, aged 33, were burned to death in a three roomed shack tonight. It is surmised that Cope, who had been drinking, upset a lamp in the front room, and that finding their exit cut off in that direction, Mrs. Cope attempted to drag her husband who was in a drunken stupor out by the kitchen door, only to be overcome by the flames. Mrs. Cope came from Toronto, while Cope hailed from Clarendon, Ont. He was a prospector. They were married two years ago.

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This benevolent trust been requested to suppl poor school children, to be borne by the London cil, and three cents is which the trust is fur meals a day to pupils schools. For this sum can choose from three first consists of meat pices and bread. Anoth of soup (containing n bread and fruit, while stewed peas, onions, m potatoes and bread. T three cents includes th meals to the schools. out in large, fat, b boxes, which keep the for hours. Forty spe daily employed to det at the schools, and pr schools in the Londoo visited. To perform t be considered quite a philanthropist. It is a remarkable when it is itself.

Feeding the school ly a side line, though tant one, for the A. Its real business is t men and women with cheap, and, accordi Lipton, the quality of er than its low cost, o so remarkable. "The success," he says, "that all the foodstuff of the very best. W such large quantities to get our supplies than they could be private individual, o by most restaurants 3,500,000 meals are from those supplied drem, so the enormo purchasing is done n Sir Thomas looks for when the trust will ply meals to the w Even now, he says, of families living on delivery vans get t the trust. It will cents a head a far b a workman's fat even in the city of o set soup, bread, o one vegetable and price.

The regular meal dining rooms, cost cents, according to food consumed, and mandated. For a ce plate of pea soup, a big slice of bra

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