

of a century hence, perhaps not so long, and the barracks of the Mounted Police will be mementoes of the past. Indeed the prancing sceed has already been turned toward his last trail.

The first year of the legislature put into force much legislation that was creative in character. Statutes were passed providing for the administration of justice by police magistrates, commissioners and notaries public were provided for, the Torrens system of land transfers was introduced and a Mechanics' Lien Act passed. Important statutes were also enacted with respect to the public services. In these we get the machinery for the government of the province, the conspicuous feature of which is the centralization of power at the Capitol. The Governor-in-Council and the Ministers do business direct with the remotest school district in the province. This is an arterial service quite unique in the administration of provincial affairs in Canada.

Alberta is primarily an agricultural province, and it is only natural that a good deal of the country's legislation should be directed in the interests of the farmer. The second session saw such measures enacted as made for the establishment of government creameries, an industry which has had remarkable success. The farmer was protected against noxious weeds, and his burden of taxation shifted to the railway corporations. The local improvement district Act was amended and so modified as to bring it into harmony with the growing requirements of the rural sections. The third year was devoted to what might be called "industrial" legislation. We have an Act respecting compensation to workmen for injuries sustained in connection with their employment. The coal mines Act was amended to provide for an eight hour day from bank to bank. The mechanics and literary institutes Act was passed to provide means for the intellectual improvement of men engaged in industrial pursuits. The drainage Act makes it possible to reclaim vast stretches of country now useless for farming purposes. Land thus obtained becomes the property of the local government, the public domains being vested in the federal authorities.