

the country over which they had been placed to govern. It gives us a compensation Act, the administration of estates, agricultural societies, arbitration, assignments, bills of sale, brands, coal mines, joint stock companies, controverted elections, insurance, irrigation, liens, liquor license, herding, partnerships, public health, schools, succession duties, Lord's Day, telephones, local districts and so on. The Municipal Telephone Act also went through that year, 1906. Under it Alberta has come to possess several hundred miles of long distance wires and a net-work of rural or domestic lines. It is the purpose of the government to bring, eventually, all parts of the province into touch with one another. Alberta prides itself on being the first province in Canada to adopt a system of government owned telephones.

Perhaps the greatest of all the legislation handed down to us has been the Judicature Ordinances. The Act provides a complete machinery, and save in the Small Debt procedure, it remains unchanged. The English practice is followed with a weather eye on the Ontario procedure. The best results have thus been obtained. The District Court and the Small Debt Acts place the administration of justice within easy reach of every section of the province. In the eastern provinces clients must come to justice; in Alberta, justice goes to the clients. In Nova Scotia, for instance, magistrates have almost wholly to do with the trial of small debt cases. In Alberta this function is discharged by the District Court judge, and this explains why court sits one week at Edmonton and the next, maybe, in a frontier village or away four or five hundred miles in the north country. A few weeks ago there was a sitting of the court at Fort McMurray, where the Athabasca and Clearwater rivers join streams to flow on to the Arctic ocean. It was the first occasion upon which the majesty of the law was exercised in those regions by a constitutionally appointed judge. The gold lace of the Royal Mounted Police was the wig of judicial authority to which the people there had been accustomed, but in these itineraries we see the beginning of the end. A quarter