NEED OF CANADA IN EDUCATION SET FORTH BY DR. ROBERTSON

Intensely Practical and Interesting Address on Technical Education and Industrial Training at Ottawa Canadian Club—Chairman of Technical Education Commission Tells of Work and Partly Anticipates Report—Importance of Conservation Strongly Urged—Word of Praise for the Doukhobors—Duty of Canada Towards Her New Settlers

The importance and real meaning of conservation and the needs of Canada in technical education and industrial training were handled in a brilliant and forceful address to the Canadian Club, Ottawa, by Dr. James W. Robertson. Dr. Robertson is chairman of the royal commission on technical education and industrial training and of the lands committee of the conservation commission. His address was of a high and patriotic tone, dealing with citizenship and character as well as Canada's wealth in natural resources. The dining hall of the Grand Union was filled to capacity and the address was one of the most enjoyable of the many splendid ones the club has had. Among those present were His Excellency Earl Grey, members of the technical commission and representatives of the school boards, educational and industrial institutions. Mr. Gerald H. Brown, president, in introducing the guest of the day, referred to him as one of the makers of the new Canada.

The theme chosen, said Dr. Robertson, was in line with what Canadian clubs stand for, the development of intelligent patriotism. In Canada, we have great pride of race. That finds manifestation in many ways. And that is worth conserving.

After dilating at some length on the qualities of the men from whom Canadians are descended, Dr. Robertson continued:

"We ought to do more, be more, and behave better. (Loud applause.) We are the heirs of all the ages. Streaming across our face come men of leisure, men of talent, men of great outlook; statesmen from Japan no less than from England. France and Germany, streaming across our face to see what we, a young people with immense resources and a great heritage in blood and ideals, are going to make of ourselves and to become among the peoples.

Stream of Settlers.

There is a great stream of foreign blood flowing into our citizenship. I do not see any risk from a pretty large stream of foreign blood flowing on to our fields or into our factories; but are not we a little shortsighted in thinking that because a man removes his body from one place to another, therefore he should at once come into the rights of onship without being quite sure that he is worthy of the blood of the breed and wants to live up to it? (Applause.) Of the 301,000 who came to us last year, we run no risk in that respect from most of them. Of every 100 who came, 37 were from the British race—like ourselves in ancestry, aspiration and concepts of citizenship. And 41 were from the United States—like ourselves with the limitation that they have not yet had personal experience of the rights of self-government in such full measure as we have. They are facing that way, but they have not attained to the full stature of liberty and respect for law to which Canadians have attained. Then, 22 came from other countries. Of the whole stream of immigration, 57 out of 100 went west of the Great Lakes, and 43 remained on this side. When they go west of the Great Lakes and when they stay east they are not merely with us, but become of us. Of those who came from other countries than Great Britain and the United States, 54 out of every 100 remained on this side of the Great Lakes and 46 went west. Of those that come from these other countries the best go west. The Galicians, the Doukhobors, and those others of the best classes go west. These are fine streams of blood worth having.

The Doukhobors.

Nothing gives us more reason to be proud of the enrichment of our blood than the stream that came with the Doukhobors. (Some applause.) A good many of you do not believe that. Well, it is Saturday afternoon, and it may be worth while to follow that idea for a moment. We have received about 12,000 Doukhobors. I saw 400 of them the first winter they were in Canada, living in a shed not much bigger than this room. There were bunks on both sides, and a common table in the middle. The place was absolutely clean; there were no bad smells; there was no foulness or disorder. The people had clean clothes and fine faces, and the women were women of modesty and good demeanour.

How did they gain the reputation for craziness they acquiesd? There are sillies in every village, poor fellows to whom the Lord did not give a full chance here. Some thirty-five of the Doukhobor folks like that, pushed off the base of what we call propriety by religious enthusiasm, traversed the western plains, in some cases going about naked, and never stole a chicken or harmed a baby. They were foolish by our standards, immensely so,—they went to look for Christ in Winnipeg. (Great laughter and applause, again and again renewed). I would rather be one of the Lord's fools in that Doukhobor pilgrimage than have my bones bleaching on the wastes as evidence of one who was on earth chiefly to get gold from the Yukon.

Why did these people come? Because this is a land of liberty and not of coercion. This is a land not of mere tolerations, but of appreciations. A land of wide liberty, a land of respected law, a land of opportunity for property and recognition of manhood, and, above all things, a land with chances for the children. (Laud applause.) That is why they came to us in swarms, and the thing we most need to stand for is that all the children, theirs and ours, shall have a chance to thrive and rise.

The Commission.

The commission of conservation is to enquire into what we have and how we can best conserve this estate for this growing people. Twelve cabinet ministers serve on the commission ex officio, and twenty other fellows. Our business is to enquire to consider and to make recommendations to the people as to how they can conserve forests, minerals, fisheries, waterpowers, land and public health. Conservation does not mean keeping out of use. The conservation of seed grain is putting it on the best field over as wide an area as possible. That applies to forestry also. I have no sympathy with the people who would keep the forests for our descendants; you only multiply the risks of fire and insects. Conservation means taking the largest toll out of these resources now and leaving them not only unimpaired but extended and improved by wise use—using the annual production, but not destroying the source of supply.

Farm Conservation.

I happen to serve as chairman of the committee on lands. Let me tell you of two instances that came out in our investigations. On 100 farms surveyed in Manitoba, every man reported that the wild oats were bad and getting worse. There is a how-d'ye-do—wild oats in the land where grain growing is the staple occupation of the people.

You must conserve the land by intelligent methods. I offer two instances of conservation. One farmer came before our commission who was working a farm settler from 68 to 72 years ago under old Col. Talbot. He told us that he had 103 acres which he had been farming for 23 years, and his crop now was more than twice as much in a year as when he began. He told us, if he could get the right kind of labor, he could again double the production in ten years. There is conservation. (Applause.) Then in Prince Edward Island a farmer from near Summerside testified. We asked this farmer how long he had been on the place he then held. Twenty-two years. He had 97 acres. Twenty years ago he had a mortgage of $1,100 on the farm. For ten years he just held his own. Then he learned to grow clover, keep cows and make butter. There is conservation—land, cattle and the family. The previous year—1909—he had sold $900 of butter and $300 worth of pork, and he sold a horse every second year. There was no mortgage on his farm.

Technical Education.

The commission on industrial training and technical education was appointed to enquire into the present equipment of Canada in respect to those matters and what Canadians say their needs are and how their needs can be met. We are a commission to enquire, not to propose and not to advocate. The commission does its work under the direct supervision of the minister of labor. There is no encroachment on provincial rights, and no awakening of provincial hostilities or suspicions. We began our sittings at Halifax, N.S., and crossed the Dominion to Nanaimo, B.C. These two commissions work for Canada with the best men of both parties and all parties.

Many Examined.

We began our work of enquiring into the present equipment of Canada for industrial training and technical education, our needs in respect thereto and how our folks thought their needs could be met. We visited one hundred cities, towns and important localities. Our course was usually first to visit the industrial establishments and educational institutions, then to hold a session to receive testimony under oath. We held 173 such sessions. We have in our records the testimony of over 1,500 of the leading men and women of Canada as to what we now have, what we need and how these needs can be met. Educationalists, capitalists and employers and workmen gave their evidence. Women testified in regard to the needs of women in technical education, and men in public life as to the needs from their point of view. It is all important that our facilities for industrial training and technical education should be better than they are.

We are doing a great deal, doing most of it well compared with former days, but badly compared with what we might and should do. The field crops of Canada last year produced $507,000,000. If all the farmers had farmed as well as the man at St. Thomas or the man in Prince Edward Island or many others whom I could name, without using more land and without greater expenditure, except for labor, chiefly in threshing and marketing, crops might have been made to represent $500,000,000 or more.

Intelligent Labor.

The live stock of our farmers last year was worth about $600,000,000. Our dairy products amount to $100,000,000. That is wealth gathered out of chaos by labor. It is not the exchanging of property from one pocket to another, but the actual enrichment of the people by intelligent labor. There are people who, still, farmer "a clod-hopper" or "hay-seed." If you call a boy down to a low standard of behaviour or character he will grow that way. I have patted enough boys on the head to know that. And it is a damaging thing to Canada that men in cities have so little knowledge of the meaning of agriculture. What is growing crops anyway? It is the finest application of human power to the creation of wealth from nature's resources.

Our revenues in round figures are $90,000,000 a year from minerals, $69,000,000 from forests and $29,000,000 from fisheries. There might be enormous increases in the two latter without destroying or reducing the supply, just in proportion to the efficiency of our people. Those who represent the manufacturing industries put the value of their output at $1,000,000,000 annually. The need for industrial training and technical education for the wise development of our vast resources in land and industries is very evident.

Some of the matters which came to the attention of the commission were instances of the starting up of comparatively new industries calling for highly skilled labor, the rapid growth of small towns as industrial centers and the satisfactory conditions under which workpeople live in such places.

What Has Been Done.

What are we dong for technical education? We are getting a whole lot of men for the higher occupations. In technical education we are doing fine things for these higher branches. The bulletin published reecntly by the Carnegie Foundation—and I had the happiness of discussing that not long ago with Dr. Pritchett in New York—places Toronto university, in regard to physics and in measure the whole department of engineering, in front rank for the whole continent. Toronto University has 4,000 students, many of them in the faculty of applied science. These young men are looking toward leadership in the development of our natural resources by intelligent management. McGill is also good, and the Polytechnic school of Laval University, Queen's also is good; Halifax and New Brunswick, not so large—also good. We have made a beginning in secondary technical education in Toronto, Hamilton, Sault Ste Marie and Halifax, but but not much in the way of secondary technical education in day classes for the young man or woman who does not intend to go on to a professional course. New technical schools have been established at Montreal and Quebec, but classes have not yet begun. Winnipeg is erecting two new technical schools at a cost of $700,000. We have very good night schools for the workers in places like Montreal, Quebec, Toronto and Vancouver, but not very much in the small town, where man who already has begun to earn his living by craftsmanship can get a further training.

There is a general discontent over Canada with the product of the schools—that is the testimony of the witnesses, especially the industrial workers among them. I think—if I might put in a personal word, and not as chairman of the commission—that one of the great mistakes we have made is in asserting that the three essentials of a common school education are reading, writing and arithmetic;; for a child can learn these subjects more quickly and better as part of its general training than if and when they are taught as separate subjects. oYu find that the schools in which children learn to read about the things they are doing and to write concerning what they have seen and to figure on the things coming up in the school, learn reading, writing and arithmetic in half the time. If we give our attention to the other essentials, to observe closely, to think clearly and to manage without waste, these tools for further education will come easy to the child. We find this also: the lure of high wages for the boy at fourteen takes him out of school. And, there being no apprenticeship, he gets into a blind alley—he drives an express wagon or is a messenger boy. At eighteen, he is too big for his job and yet not willing and qualified to go into any calling that will make him a good workman with command of a trade.

What is Needed.

Some evidences of our urgent needs have emerged into clearness from the evidence. One is the need in all schools—all schools—of some opportunity for boys when they are past twelve, whereby the boy will reveal to himself and his teacher and parents the bent of his ability, in some experience in hand work as well as book work before the boy leaves the common school, that will give an indication of how he should prepare for his life's work. Another is the need, in the case of the boy from fourteen to sixteen who intends to go into some skilled trade to get a chance to learn in school the meaning and use of common tools and the qualities of common materials. Another is the need of schools with an equivalent in educational content and training of our high schools for the boys who are going into industrial life. Such schools of courses should give them help equivalent to that which the high schools give to the boy going into a profession.

There is need of some opportunity for secondary education to make up to the boy for what he does not now get through lack of an apprenticeship system. The apprentice is not trained as he used to be. We need some forenoon, afternoon or evening school to give him the knowledge of principles as well as the skill that the apprentices formerly got by their long and careful training.

We need evening schools for workmen in the smaller cities and towns, for men who have learned their trade, to fit them for advancement and promotion.

We need intimate correlations between those who manage industries and factories, the men most skilled in their trades, and the managers of the schools and classes where workers are trained.

We need training for women and girls to give them fundamental concepts of sanitary conditions making for the safety of the home, hygienic nutrition making the economical maintenance of the family, and domestic are that will enable them, to further enjoy their love of the beautiful by ability to make beautiful things for the house.

These are some of the needs we have learned from testimony in Canada. We will soon go abroad and learn what other peoples have in systems or methods that help to make their people fit for their jobs, not merely as makers of things but as citizens and members of the race. We will make a report to the minister of labor, presenting with as much fulness and clearness as possible what we have learned in Canada of our equipment, or our need and of how our needs can be met; we will also report what we have learned in the United States, in the United Kingdom, in Germany, France, Switzerland, Denmark and Belgium. We will learn as much as we can, as much as diligent, conscientious men qualified for this job are able to learn and then put it all together, with any opinions we may find it expedient to express as to how the information we have been able to gather may be used to advance the interests of Canada by means of industrial training and technical education.

What Stand For.

We stand for the conservation of our natural resources by the application of the most scientific methods administered by highly trained, skillful, and honest workers, conservation that the people may be more powerful and have more possessions. We stand for the development of trained ability from native talent inherited from a long line of forerunners who learned to make good things that lasted and beautiful things that pleased. We stand for the conservation of the quality of life and of standards of living that do not tend downward to the Central European level. We stand for the conservation of our ideals and the sanctity of family life. "Our folks don't do things that way," should be enough to keep us from taking the wrong path.

We stand for conservation of opportunities for the children. That is the most important thing; that is the mark and measure of every nation's progress and attainment. Not sky-scrapers, not even beautiful public parks, not even the best material things that wealth can provide when skill and art bring into existence, but opportunities for the children—where they have the best chance, where they have the cleanest footing and the loftiest outlook with much help from the grown people—these mark our progress, these determine our worthiest attainments. If the children have less, we are going down; if they have more, we are going up. The aim of these commissions is that they may have more and have it abundantly.

Partners in Empire.

We stand for the conservation of partnerships. We have not found any province making progress to the hindrance of the others; the advancement of one province adds to the prosperity of all the others. We cannot have a going concern, we cannot do business safely, if the partners looking after the different departments of each business, each strenuously seeking success for his department and credit for his work, end up the month with feelings or words of hostility and cancorous bitterness. But we can conserve all the elements of strenuous personal activity for the good of self with a fine sense of partnership in and service of the community and the country. We have found a growing sense of partnership between provinces, between institutions, and between occupations. I am sure that when His Excellency the Governor-General, our beloved Lord Grey, returns to England, he can carry with him this assurance and conviction, which, I believe, will be a satisfaction and solace after the years of strenous public service for him are over—and I hope that may be a long time distant—(loud applause)—that, somehow, since his coming amongst us, while we have lost none of the sense of individual responsibility for doing for oneself all one can, we have acquired a better working knowledge of the value and advantage to each of being partners—partners in Canada and partners in the Empire—(loud applause). I hope we will continue to do what we have been learning to do better under his leadership; and follow the course as laid out in the words,

"Build on resolve and not upon regret
The structure of thy future: grope not
Among the shadows of past sins; but let
The light of truth shine on the path of hope
And dissipate the darkness: waste no tears
Upon the blotted record of lost years,—
But turn the leaf and smile, Oh, smile, to see
The fair, white pages that remain for thee."

The cheering as Prof. Robertson concluded was loud and prolonged. The president briefly conveyed to Professor Robertson the appreciation and thanks of the members for his inspiring address. The meeting then closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

BAD FIRE ON THE ISLAND.

Village of O'Leary Threatened With Destruction—Loss $25,000.

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Mar. 16—Fire last night did damage to the extent of $ 25,000 in the village of O'Leary, near Summerside. Wm. Boulter's grocery store, the dry goods store of Wm. Kennedy and the dry goods store of Robert Ellis, were all destroyed. After a hard fight by the village brigade, the fire was extinguished. For a time the whole place was threatened.

Form Big Sporting Association.

Toronto, March 16.—Tom Flanagan has, with four associates, launched the "National Sporting Association of Canada Limited." Charters have been secured from the Dominion and the Ontario governments authorizing the holding of any and all forms of amusement and sport not, of course, against the law, barring horse-racing. The Dominion charter embraces the cities of Halifax, Montreal, Toronto Winnipeg and Vancouver, but whether any other centre than Toronto will be taken advantage of has not yet been declared.

CALGARY INVENTIOR IS PLACED BEHIND BARS

B. F. Baden, Inventor of a Flying Machine, is Alleged to Have Passed a False Money Order Telegram With Which to Secure Funds to Complete Invention.

Calgary, Mar. 15—A young man named B. F. Baden, who is the inventor of the Calgary flying machine, and is employed as an operator with the C. P. R., is now in serious trouble and is behind the bars at the police court, accused of passing a false money order telegram on the Bank of Commerce for $750.

For some time past Baden has been occupied finishing an invention which consists of an airship consisting of the combined principles of the dirigible balloon and the aeroplane. Several times he has approached prominent men in the city in an endeavor to secure sufficient funds to pay for the material and the building of the flying machine, but he failed and it looked to the unfortunate inventor that his efforts to secure money were fruitless and that there was no chance of getting the amount. He required about three thousand dollars to complete the machine and day after day he called upon monied men of the city, explained his invention, but in every case was turned down.

Baden is employed at the C. P. R. telegraph office as an operator and it is alleged that finally becoming desperate, and deciding to get the money in spite of everything, he contrived a scheme to secure it. It is alleged that he made out a false telegram as follows:—

Minot, N.D.

Bank of Commerce, Calgary.

On identification please pay to B. F. Baden (address) $750. Draft for amount sent today.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

It is also stated that Baden took the telegram to the bank and they gave him the money, but he was afterwards arrested and put in the cells.

People of Calgary will remember the reports received from all over the west in regard to strange lights being seen at night in the air, and later B. F. Baden came out with the statement that the lights were carried on a flying machine which he had invented and in which he had made several trips to different parts of the country. Mr. Baden later visited Portland and there made arrangements with a company to build his flying machine for him, but they quoted a sum which was beyond his means. He at once returned to Calgary and called upon certain parties to obtain the money and intended to hold exhibitions in the spring with the machine and in that wav secure the necessary amount to pay them back. Baden also applied to several exhibition committees in the west asking them to secure his services for flying machine exhibitions for this year's fairs. He will be tried this week and B. W. Collison will defend him.

RAILWAYS SUED FOR $3.15.

United States Government Takes Action for Overcharge.

Washington, Mar. 16—Demanding reparation from several railroads, aggregating $3.15, the United States of America, by the department of justice, today instituted before the interstate commerce commission a complaint against the Pennsylvania railroad, the Southern railway, and Norfolk and Western railway, and the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington railroad.

While the amount is insignificant, it is estimated that the cost of collecting it from the roads through the proceeding instituted will be at least one hundred times the sum demanded.

The petition of the United States alleges that it w as overcharged $1.30 on the fare of one employe from Brooklyn, N.Y., to Morristown, Tenn.; that an overcharge of 65 cents was made on the transportation of one passenger from New York city to Knoxville, Tenn.; and that an overcharge was made on each of two passengers from Philadelphia, Pa., to Chattanooga, Tenn., of 30 cents. The total overcharge was $3.15.

Experts of the commission estimate that the value of the time of the attorney who drew the petition and the clerk who transcribed it was worth commerckilly $50.

SASKATOON ORANGE LODGE.

Twenty-Nine Lodges Organized in Sister Province

Saskatoon, March 15—At sessions of the Grand Lodge of the L.O.A., an address of welcome was made by the mayor who welcomed the delegates to the city, tendering them the freedom of the borough. The country and city lodges also tendered addresses. The report of Grand Organizer Armstrong showed that splendid work had been done during the year in the province.

Twenty-nine new lodges have been organized, seven reorganized, two county lodges and one red chapter have been formed The increase in membership for the year exceeds a thousand.

Cobalt Drill Runner Killed.

Cobalt, Mar. 16—After charging and firing a round, in the bottom of a winze at the Temiskaming mine, Albert Sullivan, a drill runner, did not get away in time and was instantly killed this morning. It is thought he was overcome by gas and was unconscious when killed.

Beat Hackenschmidt With Weights.

Montreal, Mar. 16—In a weight-lifting contest last night Hector Decarie, of St. Henri, defeated George Hackenschmidt, the famous wrestler and former champion weight-lifter, by 17 pounds, in the aggregate of 1208 pounds.

Mixing Grain Charge Dismissed.

Winnipeg, March 15 — The case against the Thunder Bay Elevator Company of Port Arthur, charged with mixing grains was dismissed in the police court today. The prosecution had been instituted by C. C. Castle, warehouse coommissioner on behalf of the Dominion government.

SUSPECT A CONSPIRACY.

Chinaman Named Hock Dock Arrested at Toronto from Moose Jaw.

Toronto, Marc 16.—Charged with having opium in his possession for sale, a Chinaman named Hock Dock was arrested tonight. Dock says that he just came from Moose Jaw, Sask., and pleads utter ignorance of having anything to do with the opium traffic. His story is that after reaching Toronto, he did some gambling, losing nearly $300. He discovered a man cheating and complained, whereupon he was told to keep quiet.

He says that he was given a parcel today to take to the Union station and did so. The parcel was addressed to a Chinaman in London, Ontario, and contained opium which was smuggled into Canada by way of Victoria. When he appears in court tomorrow he will likely be remanded for a week. The police suspect a wholesale conspiracy. c rA o-o(KS ETA ETA ETA ETAOIR

TOWN DEMOLISHED BY A POWDER EXPLOSION

Laflin-Rand Powder Company's Plant at Pleasant Prairie, Wis., Blew Up—Lives Reported Lost—Many Persons Injured and the Property Loss is Estimated at $1,500,000.

Chicago, March 16.—An explosion that wrecked the plant of the Laflin-Rand Powder Company in Pleasant Prairie, Wis., tonight, caused the loss of at least one life, destroyed the town in which it was situated and created a vibration that was felt for a radius of fifty miles. The property loss is estimated at $1,500,000.

Chicago was shaken from its most western suburbs to the shores of Lake Michigan and from north end to south end. Belief that an earthquake had been experienced was almost universal for a time. Windows were shattered and houses shaken throughout the thirty miles of Chicago's length. Almost simultaneously a building of the John M. Smyth Company, at West Madison and Halsted streets, was almost destroyed by an explosion. The cause of this explosion had not been learned at a late hour, but is believed to have resulted in some way from the other explosion.

Although Pleasant Prairie is six miles west of Kenosna, Wis., which is sixty miles due north from Chicago, the concussion was heard and the vibrations felt not only in all this city, but at Indiana Harbor, and other points 20 miles south and southwest of here. Two shocks were felt, one extremely severe, one at 8.20 o'clock and a slighter one three minutes later.

People in the county building in this city felt the huge granite structure shake, and many of them ran to the street fearing other an earthquake or that the building had been shaken by some explosion. The suburbs of Chicago along the lake shore all felt the quaking, and in Evanston, Winnetaka, Glencoe, Wilmette and Highland Park, to the north of Chicago, many windows and store fronts were shattered. Direct communication with Pleasant Prairie was cut off by the explosion, and no particulars were available from there by wire. It is known, however, that the town was almost demolished. There were alarming reports that the number of dead was large, but later it was reported from Kenosha that only seventeen men were at work in the plant at the time of the explosion and twelve of them had been accounted for.

Racine received intelligence that the number of dead would run as high as 40, but this could not be determined with accuracy. It is known, however, that the number of injured is large and relief trains were at once sent from Chicago and Kenosha.

MANY RURAL REFORMS MOOTED AT MOOSE JAW

Sixth Annual Convention of Union of Saskatchewan Rural Municipalities Discusses a Large Number of New Measures, Rejects Many and Adopts Four—Delegates Attending Number 300.

Moose Jaw, March 15.—The sixth annual convention of the Union of Saskatchewan Rural Municipalities opened this morning at the city hall. Delegates present tonight numbered some three hundred.

The convention is one of the most business-like of all conventions, getting to work and dealing with nearly a score of resolutions in two sessions.

Mayor Paul warmly welcomed the delegates, expressing the hope that their deliberations might be productive of much good. President Smith, in a short address, spoke of the work and purpose for which they were gathered and told of his pleasure in seeing so many representatives in attendance.

Seven Resolutions Rejected.

H. Greenshields, of Alberta, a visitor, who came to gather information for his district, also gave a short address. The first seven resolutions were all defeated. They were to have municipal elections held in November, instead of December, as at present.

That in municipal elections a voter be entitled to vote for reeve and councillor at the nearest poll.

That ten per cent. discount for prompt payment of taxes be relugerted in the municipal act.

That municipal council meetings be authorized up to twenty if found necessary, instead of the present limit, fifteen.

That it is advisable to have all municipal books audited by chartered accountant at the end of the year.

A resolution to tax unoccupied land held by speculators was also lost, with several amendments.

An amendment to the rural municipalities act, to equally divide the expense of the boundary road between municipalities, was lost.

An amendment to the local option law to permit of the holding of booths by rural councils in incorporated villages when necessary, and to provide for a proportionate share of expenses in such election was turned down without discussion. A motion to include statesmen of

A STEP NEARER TO SECURING GAS

Committee Decides to Negotiate Contract For Artificial Gas With Cleveland Co.

The first forward step looking to the securing for the citizens of the city the convenience afforded by the manufacture and distribution of gas was taken yesterday when a committee of the council and the commissioners held a conference with C. S. Eaton, of the International Heating and Lighting company in reference to that company's application for a non-exclusive artificial gas franchise.

As a result of the conference the commissioners will enter into the consideration of the terms of an agreement between the city and the company. The city engineer will also be instructed to ascertain the cost of installing a plant as a municipal undertaking.

Correspondence Read.

The correspondence between the council, the commissioners and the company was read, as well as the letters received from other western cities where gas is being supplied. Letters were read from Vancouver, Calgary and Brandon, in all of which places artificial gas is manufactured and distributed by a private corporation. The price of gas in Vancouver is $2, with the discounts; in Calgary, $1.75, with discounts; and in Brandon, $1.75, with discounts. The net price offered in the tentative agreement submitted to the city by the company is $1.62.

Both Ald. Lundy, chairman of the committee, and Grindley, favored the immediate consideration of the question of securing gas for the city. Mayor Armstrong suggested that there was no undue haste in the matter in view of the fact that a supply of natural gas might be struck in this vicinity at any time. Ald. Grindley and Ald. Lundy contended that the striking of natural gas would have no bearing on the question. If the International Heating and Lighting company was willing to take this chance then the city should have no objection to offer. The company was not asking for an exclusive franchise, and it went without saying that if natural gas were discovered an artificial gas company could not hope to compete with the natural product and therefore would have to go out of business. A new contract would have to be negotiated by the city for a supply of natural gas, and such an application from a natural gas company would be considered on its merits the same as the application of the present company should be considered.

City Wants Gas.

"The city wants gas," said Alderman Lundy, "and I can not see what good end is to be served by this prolonged delay in negotiating with this company. The city commissioners have already outlined the conditions which a contract of this kind should contain and assurance was given this company before they sent their representative here that a contract based on the general principles outlined in the commissioners' letter would receive favorable consideration."

Alderman Mould wanted to know what it would cost the city to embark in a gas manufacturing and distributing project before he would feel that he could intelligently approve the proposition of the International Heating and Lighting Company.

It was finally decided that the commissioners should take up the terms of the agreement with the company, and also that information plant should be secured for presentation relative to the cost of a municipal plant to the council at the same time.

NINE MEN INDICTED CHARGED WITH FRAUD

Accused of Having Defrauded the U.S. Government Out of 100,000 Acres of Alaskan Coal Lands Valued at Ten Million Dollars.

Chicago, March 16—Nine men were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury today charged with having defrauded the Government out of 100,000 acres of Alaskan coal lands valued at $10,000,000.

The men indicted are: Albert C. Frost, Chicago, president of the A. C. Frost Company, former president of the Chicago Milwaukee Electric Road; George M. Seward, Chicago, receiver for A. C. Frost Co.; Pierre G. Bach, Chicago, secretary of the Frost Company; Frank Watson, King County, Washington, field agent of the Frost Company; George A. Ball, Muncie and Duncan M. Stewart, Sewart, Alaska; Henry C. Osborne, Toronto; Gwyn L. Francis, Toronto; Francis H. Stewart, Toronto.

The lands in question are in the districts attached to the United States Land Office at Juneau, Alaska.

taxes due with the assessment notice carried, as did a motion to have the assessment date fixed on or before June 1st, instead of August 1st, as at present. A motion for biennial terms for councillors, half to retire each year, was lost, as was one fixing the remuneration of reeve and councillors at $6 and $5 per day respectively. Resolutions to keep separate accounts of school tax arrears and general tax arrears were carried, as also one to increase the power of councillors to trace the origin of prairie fires and to prosecute and to be remunerated therefor. Another motion carried was one requesting the government to evolve a scheme whereby bullying districts should have telephonic communication.

A banquet is being tendered the delegates in the Y.M.C.A. gymnasium tonight.

TWELVE MILLIO C. N. I

Sir Wm. MacKenzie Ap Appropriations for E sions for This Yea

MAIN LINE WEST OF THI CITY THE BIG EX

Over Six Hundred Mil Work Will be Unde en During 191

Winnipeg, March 14.—Sir MacKenzie left for the Eas urday evening via St. Pau close consultation with the the Canadian Northern Ra Winnipeg for two days, he of appropriations for exten improvements for the comp way system in Western C the year to the extent of mately twelve million dolla

This enormous sum will buted in improvements a sions from the Great Lak Rocky Mountains and pro ployment to thousands of early spring until late in t fall.

Over six hundred mil lines will be constructed company's construction during the present year the three Western prairie alone.

This mileage of six hun applies to lines in the Pr Manitoba, Saskatchewan a and include the following branches of the Canadian system: Rossburn, Moose J Prince Albert to Battleford Lake, Thunderhill, Greenv ville, Calgary, Brazeau C and the main line west of

C. N. R. to Invade Min

Duluth, March 13—The invasion of the Vermilion the Canadian Northern ro ing much interest all over That the road will ultima

PONOKA.

Bulletin News Service.

Many in the town and be pleased to learn of th Staff-Sergt. Ensor, R.N.W has been appointed chief the City of Edmonton, was stationed here for and is well known as a m officer. The city of Ed certainly to be congratula choice.

Mrs. F.M. Lee and Mrs. son are visiting with M Turner of Vermilion.

E. Stevens, carpenter, is at present making a g improvements on the in M. Parks' house.

Mrs. Henry Dick an spent Sunday with her and Mrs. P. R. Stewart o

Messrs. Nausen, Vold, borg and John Hovey, o turned from Bassano where they had gone l lend.

Shultz Bros., of Bis pushing ahead with a v mence sawing. Those wh to run through the saw get a move on.

Mrs. F. M. Lee return trip from Chicago and States last week. She ha for some two months.

The Methodist church services were well atten day morning and evenin Mr. Barner, of Red De very appropriate discour

Mr. Haybeck of Aske cattle to Mr. Larsen of week.