

UNION OF PROVINCIAL MUNICIPALITIES CONVENE

Stirring Addresses--Premier's Message--Resolutions Cover Large Scope of Municipal Work

The first annual convention of the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities was held here on Tuesday. President McAra in the chair.

There were present, P. McAra, Jr. (president), Mayor J. W. Scott, W. S. Ball, W. D. Cowan, P. Gillespie, L. L. Kramer, L. T. McDonald, F. X. Kusch, W. A. Thomson, and city clerk Hunter, Regina; councillor J. H. Sissons, town clerk Stewart, Rouleau; Mayor R. S. Cook, Ald. G. Baker, Prince Albert; Mayor J. H. Gregory, North Battleford; Ald. H. Bradbrook and town clerk R. H. Lock of Yorkton.

Civic Welcome Mayor Smith, in delivering the civic address of welcome, said: "Mr. President and Gentlemen, I believe the reason ex-Mayor McAra has asked me to speak is that I might have the privilege of extending the civic welcome, which I have great pleasure in now doing. I do not intend to take up too much of your valuable time because I quite understand the importance of your work. While I have great pleasure in extending a welcome from the citizens of this city, I can quite understand that your work will be of far more importance than anything I might say."

Expresses Regret I want to express regret that we are not able to house you in a better hall. When ex-Mayor McAra invited you here last year, he did so in the expectation that our new city hall would be ready for occupation. It is not, however, owing to some changes which we are making to improve the building, but next year we will have the hall in good shape and will be able to entertain you much better than on the present occasion if you should decide to come back again. I am prepared on behalf of the city and citizens to extend a hearty invitation to you to meet here next year. There are other reasons for your meeting here, as well. You deal with legislation in regard to civic problems, and here we have the seat of government, and the premier, who is to give us an address during this convention. When you come to the capital city you can be in touch with the government and be in a better position to deal with the questions which come up. For that reason as well as for others I extend a hearty invitation to you to meet here again next year.

Mayor Cook Replies Mayor Cook, of Prince Albert, replied as follows: "Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen, On behalf of the visiting municipalities permit me to express our appreciation of the kind welcome given us by the city of Regina. We are here as a convention of municipalities for our mutual protection and advancement. We are face to face with the question of financing this great country. We require money to develop this country which was not required to develop other countries, and the eastern financiers do not understand the situation. It is up to us to try and dispel this wrong impression. We must have cheap money to develop this country, and we are now at a time when we must have a

standing by which we can reach the financiers of the world, and not only of Canada. The only solution I see is that the bonds of the municipalities should be guaranteed up to a certain percentage of the assessment, and this would place them on a par with other securities, and we would be able to place them before the financiers of the world. Then we will be able to get the money we require to meet the development going on. If anything should happen to check the development of Regina it would redound on the whole country, and would be a check to the whole country. Therefore united action is needed on this question. Again on behalf of the visiting delegates permit me to express the appreciation we feel for the kind welcome extended.

Annual Address President McAra then delivered the following address: "Gentlemen, It gives me great pleasure to again welcome you in convention, and it is now my desire to present to you a summary of the work done since we last met. I may be permitted to state here that owing to the government of the province having appointed a commission to go into the whole question of municipal government, that this step has to some extent limited the work of the executive, until such time as the report of this commission will be put in print, and an opportunity had to study out the recommendations contained in such report. Whatever assistance possible was rendered by your secretary, Mr. Hunter, and myself who attended the several sittings held by this commission at Regina. We have been of some assistance to the Canadian Union of Municipalities in connection with details re the Bell Telephone Co., and we have also joined in protest against the bill presented at Ottawa for Radial Railway privileges and which bill threatened the principle adopted by this Union at its last convention to the effect that 'municipalities should have full control of their streets and roads,' this joint action resulted in a satisfactory explanation of the bill and the assurance of the premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the minister of railways that in this respect the municipalities would be protected."

Matters Dealt With Your executive have dealt with the following matters which you left them to deal with: 1. In the selection of an official organ, this selection fell on the Canadian Municipal Journal. 2. The basis on which this union should affiliate with the Canadian union, the decision arrived at was that 25 per cent. of the total cost should be paid to the Canadian union, and that this union should have at least two members on the Canadian executive board, my own name appears as last vice-president along with that of ex-Mayor White of Mooseomin as second vice-president. Before voting reference to the Canadian union I would ask the approval of this convention of the nomination of ex-Mayor White as your delegate to attend the annual convention of the Union of Canadian Municipalities to be held at the Twin cities of Fort William and Port Arthur the second week of August. It was considered that in view of the large experience gained by ex-Mayor White on the work of the municipal commission that he was best fitted to represent this union.

In view of the fact that the provincial and Dominion governments appeared to have overlooked the resolution adopted and submitted to them, asking that all measures affecting the rights and privileges of municipalities be submitted to the secretary of this union before being dealt with, in view of this apparent oversight it may be considered advisable to reaffirm our attitude on this particular question. It will be acknowledged that the first year of existence of any organization is to a large extent devoted to details of organization and for this reason the work may not be considered large, yet I submit that the year has not gone by altogether barren of results to the municipalities of the province. Before closing I wish to acknowledge the receipt of a work entitled 'Public Utilities in Canada,' by J. G. Harvey, Esq., Mayor of Daupin, it is a strong publication in the interests of the public and well worthy of the consideration of all interested in public utilities. I also wish to acknowledge the good done for the municipalities of Canada by the Canadian Municipal Journal and the Western Municipal News, these papers should be carefully read by all interested in municipal matters.

Mr. Scott's Message In the afternoon Premier Scott was to address the convention but owing to asthma he was unable to be present. However, in his absence a short paper written by him, expressing the government's approval of the objects of the Union, was read by the attorney general. It was as follows: "Gentlemen: Nothing is further from my intention than to attempt any discussion of methods of taxation, the advantages or durability of particular kinds of street paving, whether government of cities and towns by commission or by the usual method of elected council, is the better plan, or projects for beautifying cities—before a body of men who have gained insight into these questions of civic administration by hard practice, and who would not be further enlightened by anything that I know about these

subjects or anything which I could say. My single purpose in agreeing to come before you at all was because by coming I thought I could best show my appreciation of your courtesy in giving me the invitation to come, and to show by the deed of coming rather than by words the fact that the government of this new province appreciates your organization and wishes to work hand in hand with you for the good of the province. We view your organization—the fact that men, widely scattered over the great area of an immense province, men with business and many cares of their own, show a willingness to sacrifice time and money to help work out civic problems as you are doing, we view your organization as evidence of the existence within the province of a growing public spirit which is not only admirable in itself but which is an assurance that in a public sense Saskatchewan is going to make the most of her splendid opportunities. It is only the development and maintenance of healthy and active public spirit in the province that can produce and equip a sufficient number of the right kind of public men for the public work that such a rapidly growing province requires, the men to be sent to parliament, to the legislature—the army of men needed to do the work of government in the cities, towns and villages, and in the rural municipalities. Only three years ago the country now comprised in Alberta and Saskatchewan was represented at Ottawa by only six men—four in the commons and two in the senate. In 1907 fourteen men had to be sent to Ottawa—four in the commons and four in the senate. In a couple of years from now at the longest, according to the population and according to the Redistribution Act passed at Ottawa this year, no less than 39 men will be needed for our representation at Ottawa, in the Commons ten from Saskatchewan and seven from Alberta respectively, and in the senate six from each province. An increase within five years from six to practically five times six is striking enough evidence of the country's growth. If the legislatures grew at the same rate each of these new provinces might expect its legislature to consist of about eighty seats, because the Territorial house five years ago held thirty-five members. But there has necessarily been growth of legislatures too. The area in question has two houses with a total membership of fifty, in comparison to the one house with its thirty-five members three years ago and within another three years an addition of at least ten members to each legislature will be advisable. There were three members of the executive of the Territories three years ago. The same area has now eight executive members, and even this number finds its time taxed to maintain even a speaking acquaintance with the local districts in which they work and in conditions that they ought to be intimately conversant with, so extraordinary has been the growth of new communities. To recapitulate: Whereas five years ago our parliamentary and legislative representatives all told numbered 41, and at present number 65, these will within a short couple of years number at least one hundred. The mere statement of these items shows very clearly how exceedingly important is the establishment of all events the rudiments of public spirit, because when the required men are found and installed only the beginning has been made. The British system of government requires a constant and active public sentiment. The moment there develops a lack of hearty community of sympathy and alert co-operation amongst the great public and the representative bodies, that moment our system begins to fail. There is the most substantial system therefore, why any organization such as the Saskatchewan Municipal Union, which signifies the growth of public spirit, should be looked upon with favor by everyone concerned in any capacity with public affairs, and the government of Saskatchewan is especially pleased at this juncture when it is itself confronted with the heavy task of helping to frame a general municipal system to meet the special requirements of existing conditions in the province, to have the invaluable assistance and co-operation in the work which you have been giving and can continue to give. From the list of your officers we obtained a well qualified member for the commission we appointed to report, especially upon the urban end of the municipal problem, and I may assure you that the government with a high degree of confidence look to your present and future deliberations for a great deal of inspiration to aid in the solution of problems which confront the government and legislature. I have briefly outlined a phase in relation to government and legislation regarding which the Municipal Union, if it fulfills its possibilities, cannot fail to be of immense public value. I make no reference to the more immediate objects for which you have been organized, that is to say, to the discussion and solution of the many details and problems of town and city government which are already demanding attention and which in our rapidly growing towns and cities will be constantly arising. Mr. Lamont went on to say that he thought the province was very fortunate at the time when the government was endeavoring to solve the telephone problem, and ascertain the advantages and disadvantages of various systems, in having the advice of an expert, Mr. Dagger, in being able

to consult with and obtain the opinion of men connected with the municipal government in several cities and towns of the province, for by this means he would gain more accurate knowledge of local conditions than perhaps he could obtain in any other way. The president thanked Mr. Lamont for his presence and Mr. Scott for his message. McAra Delegate Mr. McAra was appointed a delegate from Saskatchewan to the coming convention of Canadian municipalities at Fort William and Port Arthur. Taxation of Banks Messrs. Cook and Gregory submitted: "That the provincial government be requested to provide in the new municipal act for the proper assessing by the municipality of all bank, loan and financial institutions." Mr. Cook explained that the object of the motion was to ask the government to establish beyond a doubt the right of municipalities to assess the banks in the same way as they assessed other business concerns. Mr. Smith said that under its charter Regina had power to assess such institutions, but the law passed at the last session of the legislature left doubt as to the extent of its scope. He did not think the local legislature had the power to take away a source of income from the municipality. In any case the situation should be cleared. The motion was carried. Inspection Wanted Messrs. Cook and Baker submitted the resolution following: "That the provincial government be requested to have a rigid inspection made from time to time of slaughter houses in order to protect the public health." Mr. Ball thought the motion was all right so far as it went, but it ought to include dairies. With this addition the resolution was carried. Another proposal came from Prince Albert: "That the provincial government be asked to appoint an official auditor, whose duty it shall be to introduce a uniform system of book-keeping, and make a yearly inspection of the books of all towns and cities." The resolution was adopted. Distress of Taxes "The time for distress of taxes should be extended beyond the 30th of December, in each year. (In this country most of the taxes are payable and paid in the fall.) That the time for distraint of taxes be extended for (a year and for) three months beyond the 30th of December in the year they become one for distress of goods of the third party found on the premises." This resolution by Messrs. Locke and Broadbrook was adopted. Gillespie-Bail "That in the opinion of this convention all railways operating in the province should be subject to taxation for local improvements in the municipalities in which they operate, and that the Dominion government be requested to take this matter into consideration and bring about such legislation as will enable the municipalities to impose such taxes." This resolution carried. Municipal Loans It was agreed "That a special committee of this convention be appointed to interview the Hon. Premier and the Provincial Treasurer regarding the question of placing municipal bonds up to a certain percentage of the assessment, on a better financial standing and report to this convention." A deputation later waited on Premier Scott and the matter was laid before him by Messrs. Cook, McAra and Gregory, the proposal was that the government should guarantee the bonds of a municipality to at least a quarter of its assessment. The premier promised to have the government go into the matter.

Government Phones The following resolution was adopted: "This convention desires to place itself on record as objecting to the excessive rates charged for the use of telephones by the Bell Telephone company on the grounds that instead of decreasing charges with the increase of the volume of business done by them, they have increased just as soon as their business necessitated an increase in the capital expenditure, and urges on the Dominion and provincial governments that this convention is in favor of government ownership." F. Dagger, telephone expert for the government then delivered a lengthy address upon this subject and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for the solution of problems which confront the government and legislature. The annual election of officers was proceeded with and resulted as follows: President—R. S. Cook, Prince Albert. Vice-Pres.—J. H. Sissons, Rouleau. Sec.—Treas.—C. Davidson, Prince Albert. Executive—J. H. Bradbrook, Yorkton; W. P. Gillespie, Regina; J. A. Gregory, North Battleford; J. H. Bunnell, Moose Jaw. The next convention will also be held in Regina.

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PRIZE LIST REGINA

The Regina exhibition was to a close on Friday last with flying results, the total gate being to five thousand dollars. Weather conditions were during most of the week and early on citizens day was the phase in a congenial mood. In many respects a provincial or at least the foundation was laid for a provincial exhibition. The prize list complete is as follows.

CATTLE Shortborns, bull 3 years and Sir W. C. Van Horne, East 3; 2, J. G. Barron, Carberry; 3, Caswell; 4, Maty P. Raffenburg, Gosw; 5, J. Caswell. Bull, two years—W. H. English, Sir Van Horne; 3, J. G. Barron, P. Brett. Bull, sr., yearling—J. G. Barron, Sir Van Horne; 3, P. Brett. Bull, jr., yearling—1 and 3, Barron; 2, Sir Van Horne; 4, Brett; r. G. Caswell. Sr. bull call—J. G. Barron; Van Horne; 3 and 1, P. Brett. Jr. bull call—Sir Van Horne; G. Barron; 3, R. G. Caswell; 4, Brett. Sr. Champion bull 2 years and 2 years—W. H. English; r. Sir Van Horne. Jr. Champion bull under 2 years—J. G. Barron. Special by C. N. R., Grand Champion bull, J. G. Barron. Cow three years and over—1, r. Van Horne; 2 and r. J. G. B. 3 and r. W. H. English; 4, P. Heifer, 2 years—1 and r. Sir Van Horne; 2 and 4, J. G. Barron; W. Caswell; r. Brett. Heifer, sr., yearling—1 and 2, Van Horne; 2, J. G. Barron; 3, Brett. Heifer, jr., yearling—W. H. English; 2, Barron; 3, Sir Van Horne; 4, Brett. Sr. heifer call—1, 3 and r. J. G. Barron; 2, Sir Van Horne; 4, W. English. Jr. heifer call—J. G. Barron; 2, H. English. Sr. Champion female, under 2 years—Sir Van Horne, r. W. H. English. Special by C. N. R., grand champion female—Sir Van Horne. Herd bull and four females; 6 by one exhibitor—Sir Van Horne; J. G. Barron; 3, W. H. English; P. Brett. Three calves under one year owned and bred by one exhibitor—Van Horne, 3, P. Brett. Bull and three of his get—Sir Van Horne, 2, P. Brett. Cow and two of her progeny, bred by one exhibitor—1 and 2, J. G. Barron, 3, P. Brett. Two calves, under one year, bred by one exhibitor—Sir Van Horne; J. G. Barron. Herefords, bull three years and over—E. A. Purdy, Lumsdes. Bull, two years—R. Sinton. Bull, one year—R. Sinton. Bull call—R. Sinton. Bull any age, prize by Herefords' Association of Canada Sinton. Cow three years and over—1 and 2, R. Sinton; 2 and r. E. A. Purdy; Heifer, two years—1 and 2, R. Sinton. Heifer, one year—land 2, R. Sinton. Heifer call; under one year—1 and 2, R. Sinton. Best female any age, prize by Herefords' Association of Canada—R. Sinton. Herd bull and four females, any age—R. Sinton; 2, E. A. Purdy. Polled Angus and Galloways—two years and over—1 and 2, D. Cray, Guelph. Bull, under two years—1 and 2, McCrae. Cow, three years and over—1 and 2, D. McCrae. Heifer, two years and under—1 and 2, D. McCrae. Herd bull and four females, any age—D. McCrae. Pure bred dairy cattle, Ayers barred—J. O. Boyd, Regina. Ayershires, bull three years and over—J. C. Pope. Bull, two years—J. C. Pope. Bull, one year—J. C. Pope. Bull call—J. C. Pope. Cow, three years and over—1 and 2, J. C. Pope. Heifer, two years—1 and 2, J. C. Pope. Heifer call—1 and 2, J. C. Pope. Four of a get from any sire to be bred and owned by exhibitor, bred by the Canada Ayershire Breeds' association—1 and 2, J. C. Pope. Grade cattle—cow three years and over, best strain—1 and 2, J. C. Pope. Cow, three years, and over, best strain—J. C. Pope, 2, 3, and J. O. Boyd. Heifer, two years old, milk str.—1, 2 and r. J. C. Pope; r. J. Boyd. Heifer call, milk strain—J. C. Pope, 2 and 3, J. O. Boyd.

POULTRY The names of the prize winners arranged in order of merit. Plymouth Rock, Barred—M. W. Ton, Tregart; J. Crab, Regina.

NOT A SINGLE APPLICANT HAS EVER BEEN REFUSED ADMISSION TO THE MUSKOKA FREE HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTIVES BECAUSE OF HIS OR HER POVERTY. FORWARD STEP IN THE INTERESTS OF Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives. The National Sanitarium Association of Canada has undertaken to publish a monthly magazine devoted to the Outdoor Treatment of Tuberculosis, and the inculcation of Hygienic Methods of Living for the people generally. The first number was issued in November, 1906. All profits from this magazine—from subscriptions and advertising—will go to the maintenance of patients at the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives. Any one contributing one dollar a year, or more, to the funds of the Hospital will become a subscriber to CANADIAN OUT-DOOR LIFE for one year. No Father, No Mother, No Home—Worse Than a Prisoner. An Orphan, without Home or Means. "DO IT NOW" Is a business motto of this strenuous age that applies with tremendous force when it is a good act you should do. "A child's kiss set on thy sighing lips shall make thee strong." "A sick man helped by thee shall make thee strong." "Thou shalt be served thyself in every sense of service which thou renderest." "DO IT NOW" "I WAS SPECIALLY PLEASSED WITH THE ATTENTION PAID TO CONDUCT THE INSTITUTION CAREFULLY AND ECONOMICALLY."—Dr. R. W. Bruce-Smith, Government Inspector Hospitals and Charities.

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