GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF PHONES ASKED FOR

CONVENTION ENDORSES PRINCIPLE OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF TELEPHONES WITHOUT DISCUSSION—MANY OTHER RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED WITHOUT A DESSENTIENT VOTE.

(Continued from Page 2.)

A large number of resolutions were adopted in the course of the afternoon and evening sessions without any discussion, the principle in each case being apparently accepted by the delegates as not being in dispute. Among these was one advocating government operated telephones, moved by F. W. Green and seconded by Walter Simpson. In moving this motion, Mr. Green said that no remarks were necessary, all were now practically agreed upon the subject.

The following were the motions passed:

10. Messrs. Green and Simpson: Resolved by the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association in Convention assembled, that the time has arrived for the installation of a Provincial Telephone System owned and operated by the Government.

Excessive Freight Rates.

11. Messrs. Gates and Fitzgerald: That this meeting places on record its opinion that existing freight rates on lumber and coal are excessive, and request the Executive to take such measures and make such representations in the proper quarters as may effect a reduction in rates on those indispensible commodities.

Hudson Bay Railway.

12. Messrs Simpson and Gates: Resolved that the building of a railway to Hudson Bay be pressed on the Provincial and Federal Governments.

Distribution of Cars.

13. Messrs. Washington and Sheppard: In view of the attempt by certain Grain Dealers to have the law changed respecting the distribution of cars that this meeting strongly opposes any such alteration in the Grain Act.

Motherwell-Partridge.

The following resolution, No. 15, was put from the chair by President Hopkins who said that he thought all would agree that it was not necessary to say anything in connection with the resolution. He would simply ask the delegates to vote. Upon being put to the vote the meeting carried it as one man amid ringing cheers, its passage being taken as the amicable closing of what was known as the Motherwell-Partridge incident. The following was the resolution:

15. Messrs. Motherwell and Partridge: That no Senator, or Member of either Federal or Provincial Government, or any member of the Executive Board of any company engaged in the grain trade shall be eligible as a director or to have a seat on the Executive of this Association.

Bridges and Engines.

16. Messrs. Green and Skeene: That the Provincial Government be asked to build bridges sufficiently strong to carry tractions of at least 15 ton weight, and that if planks be needed they be placed on the bridges rather than ask threshers to carry timbers and strengthen them.

Platform Loading.

Messrs. Kitson and Waddell: Whereas we, the members of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, in accordance with section 42, sub-section 5 of the Manitoba Grain Act of 1900 and amendments thereto, hereby agree that it is necessary to better enable farmers to load their grain at a loading platform do urge upon Mr. Castle the advisability of having additional platforms put in at any point that may be recommended by the Executive of this Association after investigating any application made by any sub-branch under this central association; also that if at any point where there may not be a sub-branch of this association and it can be proven that a platform or platforms are necessary that the Executive urge the Commissioner to have the same erected.

Car Requirement Notification.

Gates and Fitzgerald: That this Association recommends that the Warehouse Commissioner or other authority shall one month prior to the commencement of the shipping season issue to the railway officials a statement prepared on the basis of the amount of grain shipped from each point during the previous year setting forth the minimum number of cars the railway company will be required to place each day at each shipping point.

E. N. HOPKINS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT FOR PRESENT YEAR

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE ELECTED—DELEGATES ENDORSE SECRETARY-TREASURER MILLAR—SASKATOON TO BE THE NEXT PLACE OF MEETING—WINDING UP OF THE CONVENTION'S BUSINESS.

At the evening and concluding session of the convention, the first business taken up was the election of officers. Amid the greatest enthusiasm and to the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," E. M. Hopkins, of Moose Jaw, was re-elected president, while Levi Thompson, of Wolseley, amid equal demonstrations of warm approval was elected to the position of vice-president.

The following nine directors were elected, pains being taken to make them so far as possible representative of every district in the Province:

R. J. Kitson, Weyburn.
Wm. Noble, Oxbow.
F. M. Gates, Fillmore.
Peter Daymon, Abernethy.
Andrew Knox, Colliston.
W. R. Casswell, Saskatoon.
F. W. Green, Moose Jaw.
H. O. Partridge, Sintaluta.
Walter Simpson, Regina.
Auditors—Messrs. Fitzgerald and Alex. Waddell.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

The annual report of the secretary-treasurer showed ninety sub-associations connected with the Association as compared with forty-seven at the beginning of last year, the number at the present time paid up being sixty-three and those in arrears twenty-seven.

Financial Statement.

The financial statement as given below showed the Association to be in an extremely prosperous condition with a balance on hand of over a thousand dollars:

Cash on hand at beginning of year	$352.49
Membership fees for 1906	980.25
Advance fees for 1907	157.00
Funds of defunct branch (Caron)	13.50
Contributions for lawsuit	23.85
Government grant	500.00
Total	$2,026.79

Expenditures

Printing	$244.35
Postage, etc.	68.75
Organisation and Executive meetings	253.95
Conference on grades	56.55
Special agent at Winnipeg	21.05
Salary of stenographer at Moose Jaw	18.00
Salary of sec.-treas.	150.00
Salary editor of Farm and Ranch Review	50.00
Sundries	36.15
	$898.80
Balance on hand	$1,127.99

To Meet at Saskatoon.

The next question for consideration was the place at which the next annual convention will be held. There were invitations from Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Weyburn and Regina. On a vote of the convention Saskatoon was decided upon, and the secretary was instructed to write the Mayors of the other places thanking them for their cordial invitations.

Loading Platforms.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Sanderson and seconded by Mr. Russell: That this Association reiterates its opinion that the Grain Act be amended to provide that, whenever it can be proved to the satisfaction of the warehouse commissioner that not less than 100,000 bushels of grain are grown within an area which would naturally be considered as tributary to any railway siding, not less than seven miles from any existing station, and that the bulk of such grain would be shipped from such siding. If shipping facilities were provided, he may order the railway company to place a temporary agent at such point for the space of three months beginning at the commencement of such season, when the amount of grain grown in the area aforesaid exceeds 200,000 bushels, he may order the railway company to erect a station and appoint a permanent agent at such point." Carried.

Mr. Millar Endorsed.

At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Millar, Secy-Treas. of the Association for the past year and Chairman of the Royal Grain Commission, took occasion to ask the convention whether his conduct in the past had been satisfactory to the Association. The executive alone could make the appointment but there were certain reasons why he should have an expression of opinion. In fact it had been stated by some that he should withdraw as an official in that capacity and he wanted to know where he stood with the organization, should he be asked to remain in office.

On motion, "That we approve of Mr. Millar's services as secretary of this Association," the delegates rose to their feet and sang with great enthusiasm, "For he's a jolly good fellow," and gave three hearty cheers. Mr. Millar thanked them in a very feeling manner for their vote of confidence. He had sought this expression because of certain statements that had been made regarding his conduct in office.

Cattle Guards.

The question of adequate cattle guards at railway crossings was brought up by Mr. Elson, who moved a motion dealing with this matter. E. A. Partridge, however, saw a weakness in the resolution and he moved: "That the Executive be instructed to look into the Dominion Railway Act and ascertain its provisions regarding whatever amendments they think necessary to meet the object of Mr. Elson's motion." This was adopted.

Experimental Farm.

"Owing to the nature of the soil in the more northern portions of the Province and to the fact that agricultural conditions are somewhat different from those further south, the Dominion Government be requested to establish an experimental farm in the northern part of Saskatchewan," was the motion moved by Andrew Knox, of Colliston, and which was heartily endorsed.

Matt. Snow Speaks.

At this juncture Matthew Snow, Assistant Warehouse Commissioner, asked permission to make a few observations. He urged some remedy for the present car order system. The style of book for the use of farmers should in his opinion be one having a stub like a check book and there should be a complete record of every order given for a car. This stub and leaf would contain the applicant's name, the number and size of the car, where to be spotted and other matters. There should be printed on this leaf the statement that every applicant must have in his own right enough wheat to load the car ordered.

Jos. Goodman, of Rocanville, asked Mr. Snow whether a man taking a car ordered by another could be punished at the present time. Mr. Snow replied that he was sorry to say there was no penalty provided for a case of this kind which in his experience he has found to be practiced far too often.

Government Elevators.

E. A. Partridge introduced a motion to get an expression of opinion as to whether the Association wished the Provincial Government to undertake the acquirement, construction and operation of a line of elevators in this Province. There was considerable discussion on this point and many delegates did not appear to realise the difference between this motion and the one moved earlier in the day by Mr. Green and adopted.

Government Policy.

Hon. W. R. Motherwell, who had been absent during the day attending the session of the Legislature, took occasion to make in a general way an interesting announcement of policy of the Government in the matter. He had been greatly interested in this question but before anything could be done the people ought to say what they wanted. The Dominion Government is the only body having jurisdiction over this subject under the present circumstances and if the people wished the Province to deal with the elevator problem, representation must be made at Ottawa regarding the equipment of the elevators which would have to be in charge of a weighman who would give force to the certificate issued for grain taken in these houses. This matter might cause some friction between the two Governments. He thought that there might be something important in the Provincial ownership project and for that reason he would like to have an intelligent expression of opinion from the convention. He knew of nothing that a government could do that vould assist the farmer more than the finding of a solution of this question. He would say to the convention: "If you show me the way, I will do the rest."

On the motion of E. A. Partridge it was resolved that the Executive address a circular to the sub-associations throughout the Province asking for an expression of opinion on this matter.

$50 Fine.

The last motion preceding the adjournment was moved by Arthur Crisp, of Moosomin, providing that when an applicant for a car takes a car other than his own, he be fined $50 for the first offence and $100 for each subsequent offence. This was adopted.

A motion to adjourn brought the largest and the most enthusiastic convention of Saskatchewan Grain Growers ever assembled to a close at a late hour. Before leaving the hall Mr. Knowles, of Emerson, Man., asked the delegates in the city in the morning to meet him and E. A. Partridge in the same place and they would discuss the policy, constitution, and operation of the Grain Growers' Grain Company.

Executive Meets.

At the close of the convention a meeting of the newly elected Executive was held at which John Millar was reappointed secretary-treasurer, the salary of which office was increased to $250 per year.

THE MEN WHO COMPOSED THE BIG CONVENTION

COMPLETE LIST OF THE MANY PROMINENT GRAIN GROWERS WHO ARE DELIBERATING IN THE CAPITAL TO-DAY ON BIG PROBLEMS.

The following are the accredited delegates in attendance at the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association convention as approved by the Credentials Committee:

EDMONTON, ALTA.—John Fletcher, President of the Alberta Farmers' Association.

MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS ASSOCIATION—Mr. Knowles, J. D. Scallon, Wm. Miller, S. C. Doran.

TREGARVA—R. Ramsey, James Russell.

DRINKWATER—S. H. Williams, A. Hockey.

HEWARD—J. M. Adams.

INDIAN HEAD—A. Hamilton, R. C. Sanderson.

MAYMONT—Geo. Langley, M.L.A.

FAIRVILLE—H. Keyes, J. R. Read, Wm. Swanson, J. McGillvray, Jos. Keyes, Wm. Underwood, Jas. Young, R. G. Keyes.

FILLMORE—L. McLean, F. M. Gates.

WAPELLA—W. Chase, W. Elliott, R. R. Hutchinson, J. Scott, G. W. Chase.

PASQUA—H. G. Glinour, Wm. Kaiser.

PROSPERITY—Jas. Goodman.

ABERNETHY—Wm. Esmond, J. Teese, E. Stueck, Thos. Powell, P. Dayman.

SASKATOON—W. C. Sutherland, M. L. A.

YELLOW GRASS—Wm. Lennox.

COLLISTON—Mr. Knox.

HAZELCLIFFE—W. Gordon.

WEYBURN—H. Mooney, Mr. Shepherd, J. Hicks, A. Waddell, H. Washington, R. J. Kitson.

SINTALUTA—A. Quigley, A. T. Smith, Jas. Ewart, H. O. Partridge, E. A. Partridge.

BOHARM—R. Elson.

REGINA—R. Moore, T. Stubbings, R. Graham, W. Simpson.

FOXLEIGH—R. Cowan.

BALCARRES—G. Balfour, G. Stevens, W. Davitt, D. Balfour.

WOLSELEY—J. H. Rigney, E. E. Perley, Levi Thompson.

GRAYTON—J. G. Roy, R. D. Hill.

CATARAQUI—F. Moon, H. Milne.

GRAND COULEE—M. Wright, W. Niblock, A. S. Kene.

MUSKEG LAKE—Mr. Kalbfleisch.

MEOTA—W. Schaefer.

GIRVIN—W. A. Hazelton.

CREELMAN—T. D. Linster.

LUMSDEN—J. Martin, S. E. Armstrong.

RIVERDALE—A. R. Riglen, W. Rowland.

MOOSOMIN—A. R. Crisp.

WELWYN—R. Cail, J. McLean

OXBOW—W. Noble.

ROULEAU—W. Rennie.

SALTCOATS—S. J. Mugford, R. D. Kirkham.

MOOSE JAW—H. Dorrell, F. W. Green, J. Maharg, J. K. Rathwell.

TYVAN—S. Houston.

CARMELL—W. H. Beasley.

QU'APPELLE—Mr. Hanley.

GRENFELL—J. Mitchell, J. R. Mitchell, G. D. Fitzgerald.

SUMMERBERRY—R. Mills, W. P. Osler.

BELLE PLAIN—Mr. Reading, J. Hagerty.

PIONEER—Jas. Pascoe, V. Rothwell, A. Rothwell, Alex. Wilson.

LEGISLATURE FORMALLY OPENED BY LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LARGE ATTENDANCE DESPITE THE DISAGREEABLE WEATHER—SPEECH FROM THE THRONE OUTLINES BIG PROGRAMME OF IMPORTANT LEGISLATION INCLUDING CREATION OF JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND TAXATION OF CORPORATIONS AND RAILWAYS.

From Morning Leader, Feb. 22.

Despite the bitterly cold and cutting wind which prevailed yesterday there was a large attendance of Members and citizens at the opening ceremonies of the second session of the present Legislative Assembly of the Province. As usual there was a large number of the fair sex gowned most boomingly and giving to the dingy old legislative chamber a dash of beauty and color. Included in the big crowd of spectators were many of the Normal School students.

With the punctuality which is such a characteristic and highly commendable rule with him, His Honor arrived at the buildings promptly at three o'clock escorted by a troop of the R. N. W. M. P., under command of Inspector Church. His Honor was acompanied by Insp. Allard; A. D.C.: Commissioner Perry, Supt. Sanders, Dr. Bell and Insp. Ritchie, of the Mounted Police.

The great majority of the Members were in their seats when His Honor was announced. Immediately ascending the dias, he addressed the House in the following

Speech From the Throne.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the second session of the first Legislative Assembly of our province, and to congratulate you upon the year of prosperity vouchsafed to us by Divine Providence since we last met together.

I feel assured that you will join with me in an expression of sympathy with their Excellencies the Governor General and Countess Grey upon their recent and sad bereavement in the death of their daughter, Lady Victoria Grenfell.

Whilst it must be a matter of much regret to all that my first Minister and the leader of your House is not with us today, yet, the knowledge that he has been safely brought through a long and serious illness, is a matter for much congratulation, as well to himself and his family as to the country at large. His early return to us from his sojourn in the South, with renewed vigor, may well be wished for earnestly by all.

During the last few months the inadequacy of the transportation facilities available in the province has been startlingly emphasized. The difficulties met with in moving the crop in the early fall were quite overshadowed by the failure of the railways to meet the demands from all quarters for fuel. While the rapid development of the country, the unusual severity of the weather and the scarcity of coal will doubtless be to some extent responsible for these conditions, still the rapid extension and proper equipment of our railway systems should be urged in every practicable way in order that the movement of population towards our province may not be checked, and that our people may not be hindered in their work by lack of those means of transportation without which no country can be prosperous.

The fact that a large percentage of the crop of last season is still in the hands of our farmers is a condition that cannot be looked upon with equanimity. I trust that the Grain Commission, appointed by the Dominion Government to inquire into the disabilities under which the grain trade labors, may be able to indicate a solution of the problem

The experience of the recent fuel situation in the province should never be allowed to be repeated if it can be avoided. In order to assist our people in their necessity my Government took prompt and energetic action to secure from every available source supplies of fuel, and it is a matter for congratulation that the combined efforts of all engaged in ameliorating the situation were successful in preventing general distress.

Last year my Government was invited to be represented at a conference at Ottawa with the Federal Government to take into consideration the financial relations of the provinces with the Dominion. The documents relating to the matter will be laid before you and it will be seen that if effect is given to the resolutions agreed to the annual subsidies of our province will be materially increased.

At another conference the views of the several provinces interested in the division of the territory adjoining Hudson's Bay on the south and west were presented to the Federal authorities. The documents setting forth the claims preferred by my Government to a considerable portion of the territory will be submitted for your consideration.

Your instructions to inquire into the question of providing adequate measures under which our people can better govern themselves with respect to their own local interests have been complied with. For the purpose of ascertaining the feeling of the country in the matter, I issued my commission to a number of gentlemen, selected for their experience and knowledge of the various phases of the subject, and who have been engaged in meeting representatives from all the various municipal organisations created under our laws. This work, although not yet concluded, is being proceeded with as rapidly as circumstances permit, and when completed it is hoped that the report of the commissioners will be of such a nature as to enable you to provide an inexpensive and comprehensive scheme of local self-government suited to the actual conditions and requirements of our province.

Measures will be submitted for your consideration providing for the establishment of a provincial judicial system; teh organisation and maintenance of secondary and higher educational institutions; and the taxation of corporations, including railway companies.

A number of other important measures will be presented for your attention, including bills relating to hail insurance, controverted elections, the devolution of estates, liquor licenses, mechanics' liens and absconding debtors.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: Although your meeting takes place before the close of the fiscal year, the public accounts, in so far as they can be prepared, will be submitted to you with the least possible delay.

Estimates of the expenditure contemplated for the forthcoming year have been prepared with a due regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

I now leave you to your deliberations feeling assured that they will, under Divine guidance, be marked by earnestness of purpose and by a sincere consideration for the public welfare.

Routine Business Transacted.

His Honor having retired, the House settled down to routine business, which, however, only lasted a few minutes. Hon. J. H. Lamont, in the absence of Premier Scottt, assumed the leadership of the House, and, before moving that the speech of His Honor be taken into con-

ATTORNEY GENERAL LAMONT
Who Will Lead the House During the Absence of Premier Scott.

sideration on Monday next, introduced the time-honored Oaths Bill, which was read a first time.

Having thus re-affirmed the right of the representatives of the people to legislate apart from the programme presented by the Crown, the House, on motion of Mr. Lamont, ordered that the Votes and Proceedings of the House be printed and distributed each day after having been first perused by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lamont further moved that select standing committees for the session be appointed for the following purposes: 1. Standing Orders; 2. Privileges and Elections; 3. Public Accounts and Printing; 4. Law Amendments and Municipal Law; 5. Agriculture; 6. Education and Library; 7. Private Bills and Railways.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Neeley, Stewart, Haultain, Gillis, Lamont and Calder was next appointed to prepare a list of Members to compose these select standing committees.

Mr. Lamont laid upon the table a memorandum with reference to the claim of the Province for an extension of boundaries to Hudson's Bay. He also presented minutes of the proceedings of the conference held at Ottawa between representatives of the Dominion and of the Provinces.

The House adjourned at 3.30 p.m.

House Committees for the Session.

From Morning Leader, Feb. 23.

Yesterday's sitting of the Legislature was a brief one, eight minutes by the clock sufficing for the transaction of business.

Mr. Garry (Yorkton) presented a petition from Mr. Lang and some 20 others praying for the incorporation of The Yorkton Club.

Mr. Calder for the special committee appointed to prepare lists of Members to compose the select standing committees for the session reported as follows:

Standing Orders — Mr. Speaker and Messrs. Stewart, Ens, Gillis, Brown, Wellington, Sutherland, Grant, Bole and Lamont.

Privileges and Elections—Messrs. Lamont, Calder, Ens, Haultain, Brown, Neely, Gillis, Garry, Champagne, Sheppard and Ellis.

Private Bills and Railways — Messrs. Sutherland, Motherwell, Neely, Haultain, Ellis, Lamont, Brown, Elliott, Stewart, Sheppard and Ens.

Public Accounts and Printing — Messrs. Motherwell, Langley, Garry, Champagne, Elliott, Calder, Sanderson, Ellis, Haultain, Bole and Gillis.

Agriculture — Messrs. Stewart, Sheppard, Elliott, Sanderson, Ellis, Wylie, Motherwell, Langley, Garry and Argue.

Law Amendments and Municipal Law—Messrs. Sutherland, Haultain, Brown, Argue, Lamont, Grant, Bole, Langley and Champagne.

Education and Library — Messrs. Elliott, Sanderson, Wellington, Lamont, Motherwell, Calder, Argue, Wylie, Grant and Neely.

Mr. Lamont gave notice that on Monday he would move for leave to introduce the following Bills: To establish a Supreme Court for the Province; to establish District courts and the practice and procedure therein; respecting the Surrogate courts; respecting Wills.

Mr. Calder gave notice of a Bill respecting the Treasury Department and the Auditing of the Public Accounts.

Upon Mr. Lamont moving the adjournment of the House, Mr. Haultain asked if it was the intention of the Government to bring down the correspondence with the Dominion Government relative to the various subjects upon which the Legislature had memorialised the Dominion last session. Mr. Lamont stated that this would be done.

The House then adjourned until Monday afternoon when the Speech of His Honor will be taken into consideration. The Address in Reply will be moved by Mr. Sutherland (Saskatoon) and seconded by Mr. Stewart (Cannington).

LEGISLATURE UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTS ADRESS IN REPLY TO SPEECH

ABLE SPEECHES BY MESSRS. SUTHERLAND, STEWART, HAULTAIN AND LAMONT—PROBLEM WITH WHICH PROVINCE HAS TO CONTEND—A YEAR OF UNPRECEDENTED PROSPERITY AND GREAT DEVELOPMENT—FIVE BILLS RECEIVE FIRST READING

From Morning Leader, Feb. 26

The Legislature settled down to business in dead earnest yesterday, and in the short space of three hours gave five bills a first reading and disposed of the debate on the speech of the Lieutenant Governor, the address in reply to which was formally adopted a few minutes before 6 o'clock. The address in reply was moved by Mr. Sutherland (Saskatoon) and seconded by Mr. Stewart (Cannington), both of whom made short but excellent speeches. Mr. Haultain followed with a speech of an hour and a half's duration, and Mr. Lamont replied, occupying about thirty minutes.

First Readings.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Lamont, respecting the establishment of a supreme court in and for the province of Saskatchewan; respecting the establishment of district courts and the practice and procedure therein; respecting the surrogate courts; respecting wills.

By Mr. Calder, respecting the Treasury Department and the auditing of the public accounts.

Mr. Calder gave notice that on Wednesday he would ask leave to introduce a bill to make provision for supplementing the revenues of the Crown, and further that he would move the House into committee to consider a resolution to provide for supplementing the revenues of the Crown for certain purposes which are outlined elsewhere in this morning's paper.

Mr. Haultain gave notice that on Wednesday he would move for a return showing all petitions, letters, telegrams, commissions, evidence, reports, orders in council and any other documents of any kind in any way relating to the removal of Thomas J. Agnew from the Commission of the Peace.

The Address in Reply.

Amid loud applause Mr. Sutherland rose to move the address in reply to the speech from the Throne. He did so, he said, with feelings of pleasure mingled with regret. He was sure every member of the House shared in the feeling of regret that the leader of the House had been afflicted for many weeks with a very serious illness, and they were glad to have the assurance that he was now in a fair way to complete recovery, and he hoped that in the course of a few weeks he would return from his journey in quest of strength to his place in the House completely restored to health.

The inability of the railways to cope with the transportation needs of the province was also a matter of anxiety and uneasiness and regret. Throughout the province, as well as in all the Western provinces and North-Western states, the fuel situation was such as to cause a great deal of uneasiness, to say the least. Dealing with the causes of the shortage, Mr. Sutherland pointed out that several things contributed to it. People had got into the habit of leaving the purchase of their coal supply until the winter instead of laying it in during the summer. Another habit was that of looking for their supply to the output of certain mines, principally the Galt mines. During the past summer the representatives of other classes of coal, equal in quality to the Galt, had endeavored to place orders, but were unable to do so, as the people, relying on getting Galt coal, would not buy. Coupled with this was the strike at the Galt mines during the summer and early fall, and people were waiting for it to end. During the fall the provincial government communicated with the federal government relative to the strike and steps were taken which led to a settlement. Later came the extremely severe weather, and the almost complete breakdown of the railways, and their utter inability to cope with the situation and transport the coal.

The Great Question.

This, said Mr. Sutherland, is the great question for Saskatchewan. There is plenty of fuel in these Western provinces to last our people for practically all time to come, but something must be done to make it available for the people when they need it. A conference might be arranged for between the owners of the mines, the railway companies, the coal dealers and representatives of the government, and in this way means might be devised by which a sufficient supply of fuel could be brought into the province before the coming winter. They might have a commission to inquire into the whole question. There was one reason alone which would justify the appointment of such a commission. It was reported that the Lethbridge mines would only sell their product to one general agent, and refused to sell at the mouth of the mine, thus placing the consumer in the hands of the agent. If this was so, it was in itself justification for the course he suggested.

A Banner Year.

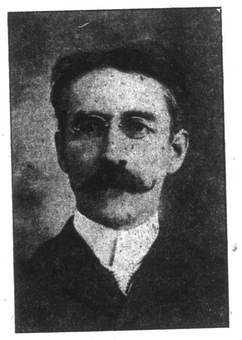
On the other hand, said Mr. Sutherland, there is cause for great gratitude on account of the unprecedented prosperity of the past year; the harvast was a bountiful one, teh rancher had a double crop. The number of settlers that took up their residences in the province was larger than in any previous year, and the number of homestead entries was correspondingly large. A great deal of railway construction had been completed. Another mile post had been passed that would indicate the accuracy of the forecast made by the wise staetsman who guides the helm of state at Ottawa, viz., that what the nineteenth century was to the United States the twentieth century would be to Canada.

The number of acres under cultivation was increased from less than two million acres in 1905 to 3,300,000 in 1906, an increase of nearly 60 per cent and the new land that was broken and brought under cultivation in 1906 will increase the acreage under crop this year at least 50 per cent over last year.

In 1906 the wheat crop amounted to 37,000,000 bushels, as against 26,000,000 bushels in 1905, and 16,000,000 bushels from the two new provinces, or rather from the whole of the North-West Territories, in 1904.

The best evidence of quality of grain is the price it brings on the world's market. The relative wheat values in the Liverpool market are: Canadian No. 1 northern, $1.14; No. 2 northern, $1.11; best Russian, $1.05; Argentine, 99 cents, and India, 91 cents, which means that Canadian wheat is the best in the world. The average wheat yield in Minnesota, the largest in the United States, is 12 bushels per acre, while the average in Saskatchewan for 1905 was 23.09 bushels to the acre, and in 1904, 21.40 bushels per acre, and 20.28 for the last nine years. With at least 40,000,000 acres of wheat land, our province is capable of producing 800,000,000 bushels annually.

This is more than the entire wheat crop of the United States at the present time. We are rapidly approaching the time when Saskatchewan will be the bread basket not only of the British Empire, but of the world. (Cheers.)



W. C. SUTHERLAND
(Saskatoon)
Who Moved the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne in the Legislature Yesterday.

In 1905 there were shipped from the Western provinces 55,000 head of beef cattle, while in 1906 the number shipped amounted to 86,000 head. The late rains caused a fresh crop of grass to grow, and cattle that otherwise would have to be carried over till this year were fattened and placed on the market.

The population of the Province in 1901 numbered 91,279 souls. In 1906 it amounted to 257,763 persons.

An ever increasing number of immigrants were from the United States, which was most gratifying, as they were particularly well adapted to this country, as they were accustomed to conditions very similar to those existing here. It was also gratifying that a large proportion of the other immigrants were of British origin.

Railway Construction.

Another pleasing feature of the past year, continued Mr. Sutherland, is the amount of railway construction that has been performed. Two new lines have been advanced well across the province, constructing 400 or 500 miles of road. The C.P.R. will have their line in operation to Edmonton by August of this year, while the G.T.P. will be in operation during the next year. The value of these roads in opening up the country and inducing settlement will be very great. The territory through which they run is agricultural land from side to side of the province, and will be practically settled when the first train runs.

It is interesting to recall prophecies of two great British statesmen made twenty-five years ago. Labouchere, the merciless critic of London Truth, published it as his opinion that the C.P.R. would run, if ever it was finished, through a country frost-bound for seven or eight months in the year, and would connect Eastern Canada with a province which is as forbidding as any on the face of the globe. This opinion deprives him of all honor as a prophet. Today this railway company has thousands of miles of track in the West and is pushing construction in Saskatchewan of extensions and branches to the utmost limit of their ability.

The other prophecy was made by that prince of statesmen, W. E. Gladstone. He said that in fifty years the population of Canada would consist of 50,000,000 people, half of whom would live west of the Great Lakes. Minnesota is not thickly peopled, but when the Canadian West contains as many people to the square mile we will have a population of 8,000,000 people.

The Telephone Question.

Another matter that requires serious consideration, is the question of telephones. Some time ago a royal commission was appointed to look into this question and from the evidence it does not appear to be in the best interests of the public to allow a large corporation to secure control of the telephone system of a province because, as in the case of the Bell Company, they are big and strong enough to enter into agreements with railway and other companies, and having control of the long distance lines are able to kill out all competition and to fix rates at a figure which they may consider fair but which the public do not. This is a matter I have no doubt will be taken up by the Government.

Mr. Sutherland touched briefly on the conference at Ottawa re provincial subsidies and also the second conference on the extension of boundaries towards Hudson's Bay. In regard to the latter he said that in view of the recent debate in the House of Commons he hoped that when the Hudson's Bay railway is built it would be part of a great

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