

Special Meeting of U.C.M.—Continued

resolution that might be put through. The municipalities must largely take the work on themselves.

Alderman Morley Wickett of Toronto moved that Provincial Governments be asked to set aside certain funds for purchase of suitable lands for market garden purposes as a means of solving the problem. The motion, which was seconded by Controller Fisher, was carried, but Alderman Blumenthal of Montreal objected, stating that "the scheme would be all right if the people wore white wings. Such a plant," he said, "would be an incentive to the greatest graft on record."—The resolution read as follows:—

"That each Province be memorialized to consider the advisability of setting apart a substantial sum of money to purchase cheap blocks of land near urban centres suitable for garden cultivation and settlement, open them on a favorable basis and develop where necessary in connection with such lands, roads and radials, as carried out successfully in other countries, such as Belgium and Massachusetts."

The discussion on unemployment was brought to a close by Secretary W. D. Lighthall, who pointed out that the time for "muddling through" with "unemployment solutions" is over. "Resolutions do not accomplish anything," He said "Action is imperative." He also stated that the problem was too big for any one authority. It should be handled by a joint committee of delegates from Boards of Trade, Municipalities, the Provincial and Dominion Governments. He thought the Union should urge the formation of such a committee. He moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mayor Thurber, and carried unanimously:—

"That this Executive Committee of the Union of Canadian Municipalities shall press for the organization by the City Council in each large city, and by the Provincial Governments, of a Joint Committee on Unemployment to consist of two or more special delegates from each of the following bodies: The Dominion Government, the Provincial Government, the City Council, the Board of Trade, the Manufacturers' Association, and representatives of Labor and the principal Charity Boards, with the object of working on a harmonious plan for dealing with this question practically during the coming winter."

Supplementary to the unemployed problem, Mayor Walters urged that the Federal Government take every opportunity to place orders for munitions for the troops in Canada. Mayor Stevenson suggested that the government facilitate the importation of the necessary machinery for the manufacture of munitions. His city (London) had received an order for 2,000,000 rifles, which could not be taken for lack of the proper machinery. He thought that the authorities by helping the local manufacturers, in allowing the machinery in free of duty, or even buying and loaning it, would not only be doing much in solving the munition problem, but the unemployment problem as well. The following resolution was moved by Mayor Walters and seconded by Alderman Blumenthal:—

"That in view of the question of unemployment in our municipalities, that the Dominion Government be respectfully requested to take such further means as may be within their power to obtain for Canadian Manufacturers the manufacturing of war material and equipment for the allied troops, and to make arrangements at as early a date as possible."

The other resolutions that were discussed and passed were:—

Moved by Mayor Church, seconded by Mayor Walters:—

"That the Executive of the Union of Canadian Municipalities assures the Government of Canada of the united support of Canadian Municipalities in the Government doing its utmost to assist the Mother Country and her Allies in the present war, so that it may be brought to a successful conclusion."—Carried.

"That we pledge our active aid and support to the military authorities to assist them in recruiting and all other necessary aid to the military authorities and our various contingents."—Carried.

"That this Union congratulates the men of Canada's contingents on their valor and heroism in their splendid achievement."—Carried.

"That we pledge our assistance in taking such measures in our various municipalities in providing means to assist the dependents of those at the front."—Carried.

"That the municipalities do put forth their best efforts to secure suitable employment for the wounded and dis-

abled soldiers who return from the war, in order that they may be amply provided for."—Carried.

Finance.

Moved by D. Wickett, seconded by Alderman Boyd:—

"In view of existing financial and war conditions, and of these as they effect municipal revenues, it is important that every such municipal expenditure should be entered upon as are really necessary, and, so far as may be feasible, these only when they will be sufficiently productive to meet their own interest charges."—Carried.

Late Mayor Rathwell, of Lachine.

Moved by Alderman Boyd, of Montreal, seconded by W. D. Lighthall:—

"That this Convention of the Executive and Members of the Union of Canadian Municipalities having heard with deep regret the death of the late Mayor Rathwell, of Lachine, do pass a vote of condolence to the family."—The resolution was passed with the members standing.

New Vice-President.

Moved by Alderman Wilfrid Bessette, and resolved:—

"That the name of J. B. St. Pierre, alderman of the City of Montreal, be substituted as Fourth Vice-President of the Province of Quebec for that of the late J. T. Rathwell, Mayor of Lachine."—Carried.

Municipal Representation on Proposed Commission.

Moved by Mayor Stevenson, seconded by Mayor Walters:

"Resolved that the Dominion Government be urged by the Union of Canadian Municipalities to select upon the Commission, which they have announced their intention of appointing, a representative of the municipalities, whose duty will be especially to study and advise upon the problems arising out of unemployment.

"Note.—in addition to those now proposed, viz., reports of agriculture, transportation and finance."—Carried.

Requested by Mayor Thurber, and resolved:—

"That the Executive Committee keep in touch with the Governments about the resolutions now passed and keep the municipalities posted about the progress made."—Carried.

The meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the Executive and Officials.

LONDON'S HYDRO-RADIAL RAILWAY.

The formal opening of the newly electrified London and Port Stanley Railway, and the first hydro-radial railway in Ontario took place on July 22. Six hundred delegates, representing practically every municipality in western Ontario, attended the function, while municipal ownership enthusiasts from all parts of the province were also on hand.

A banquet at Masonic Hall in the evening, under the presidency of Mayor Stevenson, took place. The guest of honor was Sir Adam Beck, ex-Mayor of London, Ont., who conceived the project of electrifying the road, and to whom the success of the venture is largely due. Mr. Philip Pocock, of this city, president of the Hydro-Radial Association of Ontario, presided, and among those delivering addresses were: the Hon. I. B. Lucas, Attorney-General, who represented the provincial Government; J. L. Englehart, chairman of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway; J. W. Lyon, of Guelph; Major J. C. Tolmie, M.L.A., of Windsor; and Sir Adam Beck.

Mayor Church, of Toronto, in behalf of the citizens of the Queen City, presented Sir Adam with an illuminated address, expressing Toronto's appreciation of his services to that city, while Mayor Stevenson read a similar address in behalf of the city of London, Ont.

The chairman of the Hydro-Electric Commission was also presented with a handsome cabinet of silver on behalf of the city of Guelph, while an electric motor car was presented to Lady Beck on behalf of the Ontario Hydro-Radial Association.