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VOL. 9 NO. 14

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The West.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1907.

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EXEMPT RURAL DISTRICTS OR TAX TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Executive of Improvement District Association Meets and Deals With Revenue Tax--Resolutions Passed--Premier Scott Talks to Committee

The voice of the farmers of the province with respect to the supplementary revenue act was expressed at a meeting of the executive of the Saskatchewan Local Improvement Districts Association recently, when almost a full representation of members adopted a resolution calling upon the government to amend section four of the supplementary revenue act by exempting rural school districts from the cent an acre tax, and by providing that the money paid this year be refunded to the respective districts. It was also decided to ask the government to keep the cent an acre tax separate and distinct from the L.I. District tax, for at present the direct tax has precedence of the other and where the Local Improvement tax is paid and the supplementary revenue tax is unpaid the latter is deducted from the former, and the districts are consequently crippled by a shortage of funds to carry out their road improvement schemes. The various districts want assessment and collection of the supplementary revenue tax operated from the government offices and not by the Local Improvement districts.

Mr. Scott promised that

Mr. Morton (Kishy) cited a case in his rural district where land companies in rural districts refused to pay the direct tax and \$1.00 an acre was taken out of the local improvement tax, which they did pay, for the purpose of the supplementary revenue tax, and the district was short that amount for road improvement. The courts would eventually have to take up the collection of the direct tax and the district could not afford to pay it to this expense and they cannot afford to lose the money taken by the government for other purposes when it is really the duty of the local improvement districts.

Mr. Scott said that this was a practical objection to a detail of the new legislation and he could see the force of the argument used by Mr. Morton. In his opinion the law will of course have to be amended, but he would not rush in and change it immediately. The government would provide machinery to make land companies pay their taxes. The premier said that to the best of his knowledge the money provided under the supplementary revenue act will be distributed among the districts this year.

Mr. Fitz-Gerald asked Mr. Scott if

it would make a definite statement to them regarding the exemption of the rural districts or the taxation of village districts.

Mr. Scott replied that he was not

familiar with many features of the new law as he was absent owing to ill-health, but he could promise that the government would take the matter up when the opportunity arises, and they will be glad to hear representations from the executive of the association. He would not like, in the absence of colleagues, to bind them by a promise on the important points mentioned.

Mr. Salmon (Riga) said that that was too evasive an answer to suit his district as they wanted something to depend on, and government promises to "consider" are not always very reliable.

Mr. Scott said that they would set a good example in this respect.

Mr. Salmon said that this question is most important for the railway extensions are responsible for many new village districts and this together with the rural districts being formed is quickly reducing the taxable area. Something must be done at an early date.

This practically concluded the audience with Mr. Scott but before leaving he received a vote of thanks for his presence and attention to the various matters brought to his notice. He thanked the members for their courtesy and promised again the serious consideration of the government to these very important matters.

Constitution.

The executive then got down to work on the constitution and bylaws for the association.

The members of the executive present were J. S. Chivers Wilson, president; G. D. Fitzgerald, Grenfell, secretary; and D. K. McLeod, Francis; A. H. Salmon, Riga; D. Larkin, Douglaston; J. B. Morton, Kishy; D. W. Paul, Macdonald; W. P. Oster, Wolseley; A. J. Bradley, Milestone, and W. H. Chambers, Douglaston.

Mr. Scott—What about the act of the legislature?" It appeared to him that this is a question for the attorney general's department.

Mr. Salmon insisted that it was

certainly a grievance if men appointed to do certain work could be made subject to another law.

BIG DROP IN LUMBER

Six Dollar Cut in Prices announced—This is the time for Builders to Get Busy

The Canadian Elevator company has made a big reduction in the price of lumber and have sent out a new price list to consumers. Their prices are: 2x4, 2x6 and 2x8, per M \$25; 2x10 and 2x12 \$26; timbers \$28; Common boards \$25; Cull \$20; Ship-lap \$25. This represents an all round cut of about six dollars.

The Independent Lumber Co. have informed The West that they will meet all competition in reduced prices but that they are not necessarily accepting the lead of any other company.

The above prices as will be seen do not affect the higher grades of lumber and the finishings, doors, windows, etc. The man who wishes to put up a machine shed, granary or rough stable will, however, find quite a saving by reason of the cut.

every confidence in the yield and expect a bountiful harvest. The settlers in that district have broken a great deal of land this summer and next spring there will be a largely increased acreage.

RED TAPE CAUSES DELAY

Mr. Trant's Appointment as Police Magistrate will Soon be Confirmed—Official Notice Required

Red tape is the cause of delay in the appointment of Wm. Trant as police magistrate for Regina city. The Arcola Star in its last issue made the following comment:

We note from a Regina dispatch that Mr. Trant, of Arcola is to be offered the position of police magistrate of Regina. As Mr. Trant had official notification of his appointment by Regina council he is not in a position to state what steps he intends taking.

After reading the above, The West communicated with the city clerk and was informed that the city was supposed to do nothing further in the matter than make the necessary provision for a certain salary by passing a bylaw. This had been done and the attorney general's department notified accordingly.

In the absence of Mr. Lamont we then communicated with Mr. Ford, deputy attorney general, and was

Summer Hats of Every Kind

Cash and Linen Hats at 40c, 50c, 60c, 75c and \$1.00. Straw Sailor Hats, a very nice hat at \$1.00. Soft Crush Felt Hats in wide and narrow brims. Cheaper grades of Wide Brimmed Straw Hats at 10c and 15c. Panama Hats, at \$10.00 and \$15.00. Every popular shape in Stiff and Soft Felt Hats.

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rehearsal, the committee have commenced active organisation work, so that no delay will occur once these practices commence. An earnest invitation is extended to all the musical people of Regina to join the society, so that as representative and strong an organization as possible may be selected to take part in the competition. The final selection of those chosen to represent the province of Saskatchewan at Ottawa will be made by a musical committee to be appointed for that purpose, and although no definite plans have been made for that purpose, it is probable that the society will give two or three performances in Regina and one in Winnipeg, before the date fixed for the competition. Notices will be inserted in the local press later announcing the date of the first practice, and the name of the piece selected, but in the meantime the secretary will be pleased to receive the names of those desirous of joining the society. Address all letters to Box 184, Regina.

Whether the secretary has been notified or not, however, all musically inclined persons are invited to attend the first practice, the date of which, as intimated above, will be announced later.

Will all members who took part in the Sorcerers please return their costumes and scores to the Mason and Tiach Music store, Scarth street, with their names written legibly on the outside of the parcel containing the costume, and cover of the score. It is particularly requested that the scores be returned at the earliest possible date, as a heavy rent is being paid for them.

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20 doz. men's summer hats in straw, linen and felt. To clear lines up to 1.50 at each 50c and 75c.

See Our Bargain Tables

In the Men's Section

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See Window

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