

ment and of the gauging of all streams. A definite stand must also be taken as to the use of water and its apportionment. He was not in favor of Government ownership in irrigation.

On Mr. Bennett's retirement, Mr. Wilson, K.C., was elected Chairman.

Hon. F. J. Fulton then spoke at length on the resolution. He gave much attention to the question of water records, to which other speakers had referred. In British Columbia a title to water might be brought into court ; in the prairie provinces the holder of a record was guaranteed in his title. No person should be allowed to hold records for more water than he could use. The duty of water would have to be defined, but not too rigidly. He scarcely thought the Government would take up irrigation as a government scheme. The question was a very large one, the northern part of the province needing irrigation as well as the southern.

Mr. Price Ellison, M.P.P., for the Kootenays, strongly urged the taking up of irrigation as a Government measure. The Government could carry on the works more cheaply than private individuals or companies, and the water-takers would be saved the company's profit. Government should go lightly in dealing with the vested rights in the water of the valley.

M. R. B. Kerr, of Kelowna, said the people of Kelowna and vicinity were in favor of Government management, and seconded by Mr. H. H. Matthews, of Nicola, proposed a resolution calling on the Government to take up the work.

Mr. Robinson, of Summerland, spoke in favor of the resolution. He had never had any trouble under the Provincial Act.

Mr. V. D. Currie, of Kamloops, favored a simpler law, and thought Government ownership would only complicate matters.

The resolution was finally referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

TUESDAY EVENING.

The Committee on Resolutions submitted the following resolutions:—

Moved by V. D. Currie, seconded by Mr. A. McLennan (Kelowna),

“That the Provincial Government be asked to pass legislation enabling municipalities to own and operate irrigation systems.” Carried.

Moved by Mr. A. S. Carson (Okanagan Landing), seconded by Mr. T. G. Speer (Kelowna),

“That this Convention endorses the principle of Government irrigation.”

After some discussion this motion was declared lost by a vote of twenty in favor to twenty-six against.