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Union of Quebec Municipalities

The recent Convention of the Union of Municipalities of the Province of Quebec, although only technically a "regional" or district one, was so successful as to prove the value of these Provincial Unions, and the power they would be if only consolidated into a Federal Union.

It seems very sad that the proposed re-organization of the Union of Canadian Municipalities on the lines brought forward at the Convention in Kingston was not carried into effect. The failure to do so has led to the formation of a Western Union, which has just held its initial Convention in Victoria. And unless very careful and diplomatic means are used, there will be a split between West and East that will not lead to municipal strength and co-operation that are needed.

For while it is true that the conditions — and therefore the needs—of municipalities in the older-eastern part of the Dominion are somewhat different in some ways from those of the newer-western section, yet there are many questions and problems that are common to both. And the united efforts and study by both sides of Canada, would be favorable to both.

By far the most important problems of municipal rulers are common to all municipalities, wherever they may be situated; taxation, valuation, the collection of taxes—which are the basis of municipal activity—are common to all. Even the question of Single Tax has lost a good deal of its force in the West since hard times brought about the collapse of the land boom, created by unscrupulous

land sharks. The police force and the fire brigade are common subjects to all. The proper and economical methods of road building differ little in any place from the other. Practical book-keeping is a common problem, and the need of change is not confined to any section of the Dominion.

"Union is strength" in municipal matters, as it is elsewhere, and the strength of municipal men will be bounded and curtailed by the lack of a real all-Canadian union.

UNION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES

The **Twenty-Second Annual Convention** of the

Union of Canadian Municipalities

will be held in

WINNIPEG, MAN.,

from August 8th, to 10th, 1922

Full particulars can be had from Mr. A. D. Shibley,
Secretary, 10 St. John St., MONTREAL