

U. C. M. CONVENTION—Continued.

(Mr. A. D. Shibley, the new secretary-treasurer of the Union, was for a number of years secretary-treasurer of the City of Westmount, P.Q., so that he enters his new duties with municipal experience behind him. This same experience is now standing him in good stead in organizing the protest against the demands of the Bell Telephone Company for increased rates.)

On the recommendation of the Committee on Resolutions the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved,—that the Union of Canadian Municipalities most earnestly call the attention of the Federal Government to the fact that, although Canadian ports are considerably nearer to Europe than American ports and are well equipped, that a very large proportion of Canadian grain passes through American ports, and that, in the opinion of this Union, measures should be devised that would enable all Canadian grain to be shipped through Canadian ports.

A resolution presented by Mayor J. A. Clarke of Edmonton urging representations to the Governor-General for the pardon of the Winnipeg strike leaders was presented, and subsequently withdrawn, it being the opinion of a large majority of the Convention that the introduction of politics or related matters into the discussions of the Union should be avoided.

It was moved by Alderman J. P. Dixon of Montreal, seconded by Mayor Prieur and unanimously resolved:

That the Union of Canadian Municipalities in Convention assembled hereby records the deep regret of all its members and its sincere sense of the loss sustained in the death of the late L. A. Lapointe, Alderman of Montreal—one of our former Presidents, and an indefatigable worker in the cause of municipal advancement and reform.

Resolution on Housing:

On motion of Mayor Bouchard, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

WHEREAS there is a need more pressing than ever for sanitary homes to accommodate the working people, and to prevent overcrowding of houses actually existing;

WHEREAS the abnormally high cost of building has practically stopped the erection of workers' houses by private enterprise;

WHEREAS municipalities are ready to undertake without expense the supervision of the building of such homes and the administration of rentals in connection therewith and to guarantee the reimbursement of capital loaned by the governments;

WHEREAS there is grave danger that the excessive cost of building such homes will necessitate their being offered for purchase or rental at prohibitive figures:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Government be asked to bear one per cent, and the various Provincial Governments one per cent each of interest charges for housing purposes, the total of two per cent so contributed to be applied to the redemption of the capital sums loaned.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the thanks of this Union be proffered to the Federal Government for having given an impulse to the construction of sanitary homes for workers by loaning twenty-five million dollars to the Provinces and that this policy be continued by further loans made according to the present recommendations.

The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to communicate the foregoing resolution to both the Federal and Provincial Governments.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Mayor, the City Council and the citizens of Quebec was adopted on motion of D. D. McDonald, seconded by Mayor Beaubien, and was acknowledged in fitting terms by Mayor Samson of Quebec.

An appreciation of the assistance rendered by the daily press was recorded by the adoption of the following resolution, moved by C. W. McCrea, of Sault Ste. Marie:—

"RESOLVED that the Union of Canadian Municipalities, feeling itself under a deep sense of gratitude to the press for the splendid support always given to its deliberations, and in particular at this Convention held at the ancient and beautiful City of Quebec, takes this opportunity to thank the gentlemen of the press for their very efficient and faithful reports of the proceedings.

Controller Plante, of Ottawa, in seconding the resolution, spoke in glowing terms of the services rendered to the cause of municipal government in Canada by the Canadian Municipal Journal. He pointed out that the members of the Union of Canadian Municipalities were under a special debt because of the valuable and varied information they received each month from its columns.

Mr. Frederick Wright, Editor of the Canadian Municipal Journal, in thanking the convention for the resolution, briefly referred to the work that the Journal, as official organ of the Union, was doing. "Many people," he said, "were under the impression that the Canadian Municipal Journal was receiving a subsidy from the Union, whereas outside a small sum for printing the convention report, the Journal depended on its income from subscriptions from the councils direct and from advertisements, though every urban counsel throughout Canada received copies."

President-elect Roberts having taken the Chair, referred in complimentary vein to the benefits derived by the Union from the untiring efforts of the ex-Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. D. Lighthall, K.C., and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. G. S. Wilson, whereupon it was unanimously agreed that the Executive Committee draft a resolution recording the warm appreciation of the Union and that his be engrossed and a copy forwarded to Mr Lighthall and Mr. Wilson.

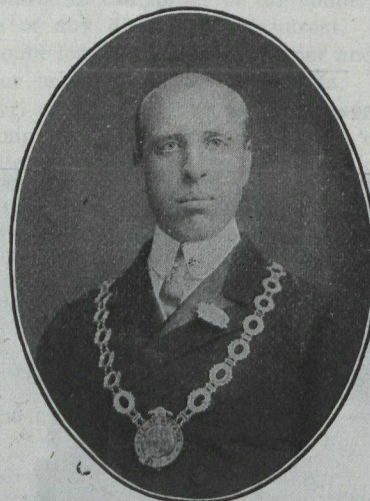
Messrs. Clarke and Martin extended to the Union an invitation to hold the next Convention at Edmonton, and this was referred to the Executive Committee for its decision in March next.

The Convention was brought to a close by President Roberts in a brief address, congratulating the former President, Mayor Fisher, on his valuable services and activities on behalf of the Union, followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

Visit to Spencerwood.

On the afternoon of Thursday, July 29th, through the kindness of Mayor Samson and the City Council of Quebec, the delegates were conveyed to the residence of His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Fitzpatrick at Spencerwood, and spent an enjoyable hour there.

SOME PAST PRESIDENTS OF UNION.



Ex-COMMISSIONER SCOTT, Canadian Railway Board.



L. A. LAVALLE, K.C., ex-Mayor of Montreal.