

## CONVENTION OF B. C. MUNICIPALITIES— (Continued) Wild Land Tax.

Moved by Mr. McQuarrie, seconded by Clerk Dickinson, that sections 49 and 50 be struck out.—Carried unanimously.

Moved by Alderman Sargent, seconded by Councillor Shallcross, that in the opinion of this Convention urban municipalities require other sources of taxation; other sources of revenue, than taxation of lands, and that this question be submitted to the Executive for consideration and recommendation to the Government.—Carried.

Moved by Councillor Loutet, seconded by Reeve Vinson, that section 51 of the draft memorandum be struck out.—Carried.

### Corporation Jurisdiction and Authority.

Moved by Mr. L. J. Ladner, seconded by Clerk Greig, that this Convention would ask the Government to grant the powers practically as outlined under this part of the draft memorandum.—Carried.

### Administration of Justice and Police.

Moved by Reeve Fraser, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, that this Convention adopt the principles set out in sections 99, 100 and 101 of the draft memorandum.—Carried.

Moved by Mayor Perry, seconded by Clerk Dickinson, that the question of the registration of by-laws by the Local Government Board, be referred to the special committee on the drafting of the new Act.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. McQuarrie, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, that the words in Section 76 regarding the appeal to the Local Government Board be struck out.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. McQuarrie, seconded by Mr. Crehan, that a vote of thanks be tendered to Messrs. McDiarmid and Baird for their work in connection with the drafting of the memorandum of the new Municipal Act.—Carried unanimously.

Moved by Reeve Fraser, seconded by Councillor Shallcross. Reeve Fraser: "I have very much pleasure in moving a very, very hearty vote of thanks to the Attorney-General and the Minister of Education, and our very, very great appreciation of their presence here just at this time."—Carried unanimously.

Thanks were expressed by the Attorney-General on behalf of himself and the Minister of Education.

Moved by Alderman McBain, seconded by Reeve Vinson, that a vote of sympathy be sent to the member of the community of Summerland who was hurt in the Stampede.—Carried.

### Election of Officers.

Nomination for President.—On the call for nominations for the office of President, Reeve Fraser, of Burnaby, being the only nominee, the President declared him elected by acclamation to the office of President for the coming year.

Nomination for Vice-President.—Reeve Borden, Mayor Wright, Councillor Loutet, Mayor Todd.

Upon a vote being taken Councillor Loutet was declared elected to the office of Vice-President.

Nomination for Solicitor.—Moved by Reeve Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Loutet, Mr. F. A. McDiarmid be re-elected as solicitor.—Carried unanimously.

Nomination for Secretary-Treasurer.—Moved by Mayor Miller, seconded by Alderman McBair, that Mayor Gray, of New Westminster, be re-elected.—Carried unanimously.

The Executive Committee was elected as follows:—Reeve Bridgman, North Vancouver; Mayor Gale, Vancouver; Mayor Perry, Prince George; Mayor Miller, Kamloops; Reeve Smith, Penticton; Reeve Fletcher, Point Grey; Reeve Borden, Saanich.

The Committee on the Municipal Act was elected as follows: Mayor Wright, Armstrong; Clerk Dickinson, North Cowichan; Councillor Shallcross, Oak Bay; Reeve Patterson, Delta; Auditor Floyd, Oak Bay; Mayor Ashwell, Chilliwack; Reeve Kidston, Goldstream.

Commissioner Gillespie and Reeve Bridgman, of South Vancouver and North Vancouver respectively, were unanimously elected as the representatives of the Union upon the Board of the British Anti-Tuberculosis Society.

### Next Place of Meeting.

Communications were received from Victoria and North Vancouver inviting the Union to hold its next Convention in these cities. Upon a vote being taken 49 votes were polled for North Vancouver, 16 for Victoria, and it was declared that the city of North Vancouver had been selected by the Union to hold its next Convention.

Moved by Clerk Dickinson, seconded by Reeve Borden, that the committees appointed at the commencement of the Convention be honourably discharged, and thanked for their services at the Convention.

## Town and Rural Planning in British Columbia

THOMAS ADAMS

(Town Planning Adviser to Commission of Conservation.)

### What We Mean by Town Planning.

What we mean by town planning in Canada is much more than the name implies. We mean the laying out and development for proper use of all land for the purpose of securing convenience, economy, health and agreeableness. In other words, we mean the planning of land so as to promote the conservation of the human and material resources of the country which form the foundation on which to build up production and wealth and not to promote speculation.

Whatever means we may employ, these objects must ever be kept in mind. To achieve them we must prepare our plans with due regard to three things, which I will name in order of importance. These are:

First—The health of the population.

Second—The best economic and productive use for which the land is adapted—whether for agriculture, manufacture or residence and whether for one or other of the different kinds of each.

Third—The efficiency of the means of communication for purposes of public convenience and ease of distribution of the products of our industries.

To attain these things it is essential as a means but not as an end in itself to make our plans fit the topography of the ground, but we will achieve little by doing so if we do not go beyond that one step in the preparation of our plans. Prince Rupert, as an example, was planned at great expense, but the want of regulations to secure the three objects I have named has resulted in Prince Rupert being no better and no worse than other un-planned cities.

The second question to be answered in advance is whether

or not the present system needs improvement. I think the answer given to the first question, if accepted as sound, may be regarded as disposing of the second, but I will assume you want me to answer it.

### Health and Land Development.

In a new country with ample spaces and with land costing nothing to begin with, apart from development costs we should have almost ideal conditions in regard to rural settlement, sanitation and provision of light and air to all dwellings. Your public health statistics show that this is not so. Many of the people in the rural districts of Canada are suffering from degeneration as a result of poverty and isolation, directly traceable to the settlement of bad land caused, originally by want of planning and classification. In parts of Ontario the social and health conditions of some of our rural territory are producing social diseases as bad as to be found in the most crowded of our cities. Scattered development makes education and social intercourse difficult and thereby injures young life. In British Columbia you are following in many respects the system of isolated, unplanned and unclassified settlement of land that has produced these evils elsewhere. In the cities there are insanitary conditions and overcrowding and an increase of the diseases caused by both in spite of the great progress made by municipal and public health administration. With the knowledge that we now have regarding the value of human energy as the chief factor in production it is deplorable that we have to acknowledge these things.

### Economic and Productive Use of Land.

The causes which produce unhealthy conditions in the rural districts are also a combined cause and effect of