

Union of B. C. Municipalities (Continued)

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted.—Carried.

56. "That the thanks of the Convention be conveyed by letter to the Canadian Robert Dollar Company for their courtesy extended to the delegates in showing them over their mill at Dollarton."

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted.—Carried.

57. "That the Sabulite Company be written to conveying the thanks of the delegates for the demonstration of their Explosives, yesterday afternoon, during the drive." adopted.—Carried.

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be

58. "It was moved and seconded by Clerk Gordon, (Revelstoke) and seconded, That all resolutions dealing with the personnel and powers of the Local Government Board be reconsidered and that these resolutions be laid on the table for one year."—Carried.

59. "It was moved and seconded that whereas there are certain lands within corporate municipal limits owned by railway corporations and their successors, the Provincial and Federal Governments, which under provincial and federal charters are exempt from taxation.

And whereas a great proportion of such lands are unimproved and are not used for railway purposes.

Be it resolved that the Provincial and Federal Governments, be strongly urged to so enact that where such Railway lands are not actually used by said railways or their successors for railway purposes, such lands be subject to taxation by municipalities."—Carried.

60. SAANICH: "That the question of necessary amendments to the Municipal Elections Act" to bring it in conformity with the new "Municipal Act" be referred to the Committee to be appointed to revise the new draft Act. adopted.—Carried.

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted.—Carried.

61. "It was moved and seconded that Clerk Farmer, North Vancouver District) be heard on behalf of the Clerks of Municipalities who met last night."—Carried.

Resolutions Passed at a Meeting of Municipal Officials Held October 8, 1919.

WHEREAS at a meeting of Municipal Officials, held at North Vancouver, on Wednesday, October 8th, 1919, it was agreed that it would be to the advantage of the Province as a whole, if an association of Municipal Officials of B. C. were formed for the purpose of interchange of ideas and the more efficient performance of their duties.

And Whereas this idea can only be successfully carried into effect by recognition and approval of both the Municipal Councils and the Union of B. C. Municipalities.

Be it therefore resolved that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities now in conference assembled, be requested to place themselves on record as favoring such an organization, and that the various Municipal Councils who are members of the Union, be requested to facilitate the attendance of one or more of their respective officials, at the meetings of the Association.

It was moved and seconded that the Convention approve the above resolution.—Carried.

62. "It was moved by Coun. Irwin, (North Vancouver), seconded by Commissioner Gillespie (South Vancouver), That the matter of developing the water resources of this Province for developing electric power for manufacturing and lighting purposes, be left to the incoming executive for the purpose of formulating recommendations to the Legislature at the next session."—Carried.

63. "It was moved and seconded that the Convention expresses its appreciation of the presence of the Hon. Mr. Farris at its deliberations."—Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Farris in replying, in reference to the Local Government Board, said: "I think we should be clear on that question. Shortly after I became Attorney-General members of your Executive came to us making representations that the Act was in bad shape and should be changed. Following the late Mr. Brewster's suggestion they came to my office and we had a further discussion. In accordance with the suggestions of that Executive we engaged your Municipal Solicitor, Mr. McDiarmid and he had an entirely free hand in the drafting of the Act. One of the first things he did was to come to me and put up the suggestion of a Local Government Board. All the members of the Government felt that it was desirable to

have the powers of the municipalities as wide as possible within the scope of their jurisdiction, and to make it possible this suggestion was made, that we have a Local Government Board, it was not the Government's original plan.

The problem at this stage is, how is the Government going to deal with this situation at the next Session? The Government have great regard for your opinion, and great regard for your knowledge and experience, in dealing with this most immediate and vital problem.

I did not wish to convey the idea this morning, that I intimated we were going to put this Act through whether or no. What I suggested was—If we still thought it should be put through we would put it through whether or no. But in view of your opinions, which are of great weight, the Government will give itself serious pause before it does put it through, until it has had the opportunity of readjusting itself to the new conditions which have arisen. If, notwithstanding the views expressed here to-day, we come to the conclusion that it is our duty to have a Board of this kind, I have no doubt you will feel that we have not decided this without serious consideration.

There is this to be said, that the old Act as amended by the legislation of last session, has in many material points remedied some of the complaints that you have against the old Act in its old form. We can agree that the Municipal Act is in much better shape now than it was before these amendments were passed."

The Attorney-General then left the Convention.

It was moved and seconded that the Constitution be so amended as to abolish the office of solicitor.

Upon the question being put to the convention this resolution was defeated.—Lost.

It was moved by Reeve Bridgman, (North Vancouver District) and seconded, That a vote of thanks be tendered Mr. McDiarmid for his seven years' service to the Union.—Carried.

It was moved and seconded that the matter of appointment of a solicitor be left in the hands of the executive with instructions to secure the services of Mr. McDiarmid if possible.—Carried.

Place of Next Meeting.

Invitations were received from Port Alberni, Nelson, Vernon and Kamloops. Upon a vote being taken the decision resulted in the City of Nelson being chosen by the Convention as its next place of meeting.

Election of Officers.

President: Councillor J. Loutet of the District of North Vancouver was unanimously elected to the Presidency of the Union.

The following gentlemen were elected to fill the various offices of the Union for the coming year.

Vice-President: Mayor Mackenzie, Nanaimo.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mayor Gray, New Westminster.

Executive: Noble Binns, Trail; Reeve Simpson, Summerland; Alderman Ball, Vernon; Reeve Patterson, Delta; Alderman Kirk, Vancouver; Alderman Sargent, Victoria; Reeve Jones, Saanich.

Advisory Committee: Councillor Macfarlane, Oak Bay; Reeve Bridgman, North Vancouver Dist.; Clerk Cowper, Saanich; Mayor Porter, Victoria; Alderman Colley, Kamloops; Mayor Gale, Vancouver; Mayor Vance, North Vancouver.

Soldiers' Relief Committee: Comptroller Raymur, Victoria; Alderman Kirk, Vancouver; Councillor Sweetman, Agassiz.

British Columbia Anti-Tuberculosis Society: Reeve Bridgman, North Vancouver Dist.; Reeve Marmont, Coquitlam.

It was moved by Alderman Sargent (Victoria) and seconded, That the thanks of this Convention be extended to the retiring Executive Committee for their labors during the past year.—Carried.

It was moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be extended to the new president for the capable way in which he has filled the office of chairman of the convention.—Carried.

It was moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be extended to the stenographers, Mr. Thomas and the press.—Carried.

The Convention then adjourned to view the launching at the Wallace Shipyards.