

SOLDIERS' WIVES' VOTES ENDORSED

Union of B. C. Municipalities in Favor of Principle—Would Intern All Alien Enemies.

VERNON, Oct. 13. — Gratifying support was given at the convention of the Union of B. C. Municipalities on Thursday to the recommendation from Burnaby Women's Forum that the power of the municipal ballot be granted to wives of soldiers on active service whose names are on the municipal voters' lists, and provision was further requested for single men similarly qualified by the recommendation that they be permitted to record their votes by proxy.

This suggestion was first mooted by Ald. Gale to the Vancouver city council.

Success of electrical plants under municipal ownership and control was illustrated by City Superintendent Blakeborough, from Vernon's experiment. There were few plants in British Columbia, he said, that had doubled their output in four years, increased their number of consumers 33 per cent, raised their revenue 35 per cent, and at the same time abolished the meter rent. He recommended Diesel engines burning fuel oil unless wood or coal was cheaper. Water power was best if accessible and not saddled by a high cost of initial installation. Vernon expects eventually to utilize the Shuswap Falls. A deficit in operating might arise if mismanaged by the civic board through ignorance. This might be prevented by the commission system of government or the election for a three-year term, thus leaving some experienced aldermen on the board.

Resolutions were considered calling for the internment of all alien enemies throughout the province, an amendment to the act regulating vehicular traffic, suggesting that all vehicles be compelled to carry, between dusk and dawn, a white light in front and a red one in the rear, and exemption of church property from taxation. The government was also asked to refuse any concessions to railways in the way of exemptions. Complicated questions regarding assessment brought up a long discussion and action was undetermined.

Recognizing the need of further provision for tuberculosis cases and the many soldier patients, the municipalities request the government to erect a sanatorium at Tranquille for advanced cases and to assume the complete management and operation.