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## FIRST REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

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*Mr. Speaker :—*

Your Committee appointed to enquire into the best measure to adopt to provide for further extension of the Municipal system, beg leave to submit a short Act embodying certain amendments they consider advisable to be made this Session, and intend submitting a further report based upon the conclusions arrived at upon the general question.

ROBERT BEAVEN,

*Chairman.*

6th March, 1879.

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## SECOND REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

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*Mr. Speaker :—*

Your Committee appointed to consider Municipal matters, beg leave to submit this, their second report.

Your Committee are of opinion that it is not practicable to prepare, and fully consider a complete Municipal Act during the present Session, but would recommend that a Bill be prepared before the next session of Parliament, embodying, amongst others, the following provisions :

That the County Council and Municipal Council systems, as laid down in the Revised Statutes of Ontario, should be adopted in sub-dividing the electoral divisions of the Province, and should be applied in the first place to the following portions of the Province ;

That the electoral district of Victoria District be divided into two Municipalities, one composed of the present Districts of Victoria and Lake, as defined on the official maps, and the other to be composed of North and South Saanich and James Island ;

That the electoral district of Esquimalt form one municipality, the town of Esquimalt forming one ward therein ;

That a County Council be formed to include representatives from the municipalities included in the electoral districts of Victoria District, and the electoral district of Esquimalt ;

That the electoral district of Cowichan be divided into four municipalities,—the Island of Salt Spring to be divided into two, and the other portions of the electoral district on Vancouver Island be divided into two municipalities, the Cowichan River to be the boundaries between them ;

That the electoral district of Nanaimo be divided into four municipalities,—the city and district, as defined on the official map, to be one, the districts of Cedar and Cranberry another, Mountain and Wellington districts another, and Gabriola Island the fourth ;

That a County Council be formed to include representatives from the municipalities in the electoral districts of Cowichan on Vancouver Island, and Nanaimo ; and that a separate County Council for Salt Spring Island be formed if so desired ;

That the district of Comox, as defined on the official map, form one municipality ;

That the district of New Westminster, from the Gulf of Georgia to the boundaries of the district to the east, be divided into twelve municipalities ; six on the south side of the river, extending from the Gulf, to the east side of Township Thirty ; four municipalities on the north side of the Fraser River to the south side of Burrard Inlet, and to the south-east quarter of Section twenty-eight, Township twenty, north side of the river ;

One municipality to include Lulu and Sea Islands ;

One municipality on the north side Burrard Inlet, commencing at the North Arm of the Inlet, running west to the Gulf of Georgia ;

That there shall be two County Councils for the north side of the Fraser River, and two for the south side ;

That the other portions of the Province could be left at present to organize into municipalities in the manner laid down in the present Statutes ;

That any portion of an electoral district divided for municipal purposes should be incorporated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council by letters patent, issued under the public seal of the Province; provided such municipality contains, resident within its boundaries, thirty male inhabitants over twenty-one years of age, and that a number, not less than twenty, may be so incorporated upon a petition of a majority of such residents;

That County Councils be formed in the manner provided in the Revised Statutes of Ontario, and should be empowered to borrow money on the security of the united municipalities, and that a separate municipality be empowered to borrow money on its own security;

That the presiding officer of the County Councils should be designated the Warden, and that the presiding officer of a Municipal Council in rural districts be designated the Reeve;

That the Municipal Councils should consist, in electoral districts named, of four Councillors and a Reeve, the Reeve to be elected by the general vote, and the Deputy Reeve from one of the four Councillors at the first meeting of the Council in each year;

That the qualification for Reeve shall be his being the owner of real property to the value of five hundred dollars, free of all incumbrances, for at least three months next preceding the day of election, and being otherwise duly qualified; and the qualification for a Councillor shall be his having been the owner of real property to the value of two hundred dollars, clear of all incumbrances, for at least three months next preceding the day of election, and being otherwise duly qualified;

That the qualification of a voter at the first election shall be the same as in the existing Act, except that a freeholder, householder, free miner, and pre-emptor should be a resident of the municipality not less than six months previous to such election;

That the qualification after first election shall be the same as in the present Act, except by amending sub-section A of section 23, C. S., by inserting in the second line, "after the last revised";

That after the first election the nomination for Warden or Reeve and Councillors, in township, village or city, shall be held on the first Monday in each year, the nomination from 12 m. to 2 p.m.; the polling, if any, on the Monday following from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.;

That the limit of taxation upon real estate and improvements should not exceed one and one-third of one per cent., with the additional power of imposing the special taxes on land as mentioned in Act No. 5, of 1873, section 5, and Act No. 1, of 1876, section 20;

That the power be conferred upon the County Councils to fix the rates payable, and that the collection of such rates be carried out through the Municipal Councils in the same manner as laid down in the Ontario Revised Statutes;

That the Municipal Councils should be empowered to pass by-laws regulating the granting of liquor licences within any Municipality;

That the Provincial Statutes, dealing with the assessment of property, the collection and retention of revenue, as laid down in the Assessment and Municipal Acts of the Province and in the Assessment of Property Act of Ontario, be, as far as practicable, incorporated in the new Municipal Act;

That the same provision be provided in the Act for incorporating villages, towns and cities as provided in the Ontario Act.

ROBERT BEAVEN,  
*Chairman.*

7th March, 1879.

## REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO VISIT THE GAOLS AND ROYAL HOSPITAL.

*Mr. Speaker.*

Your Committee beg to report that, taking into consideration the limited room and the number of prisoners, the Gaol premises are in very good order.

It is impossible to suppose that there can be sufficient fresh air in a cell 12 by 6, 8 feet high, when occupied by five prisoners; and therefore, from a sanitary point of view, it is strongly recommended that new buildings should be erected as soon as possible. Notwithstanding the overcrowding, the prisoners were found to be in a cleanly state.

The debtors' room, being used as a drying-room for newly washed clothing, and having no ventilation, is unhealthy. It is therefore urged that some alteration should be made in this ward. It is also the place where religious services are held.

Your Committee are pleased to be able to report, that under the present Administration the affairs of this institution have been carried on in a much more economical manner than heretofore, as will appear on examination of the books.

The total expenditure for food and clothing during the quarter ending 31st December, 1877, three months, was.....	\$1,287 64
During the quarter ending December, 1878, three months, was...	\$484 85
Average number of prisoners during quarter ending 31st December, 1877.....	59
Average number of prisoners during quarter ending 31st December, 1878.....	45 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cost per man for quarter, 1877.....	\$21 83
Do. do. 1878.....	\$10 61 $\frac{3}{4}$
Daily cost per man, 1877.....	23 $\frac{3}{4}$
Do. do. 1878.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

All of which is respectfully submitted to your honourable body.

J. S. DRUMMOND,  
*Chairman.*

Your Committee, also, have the honour to report as follows:—

Your Committee consider the Royal Hospital to be in a state of thorough order and cleanliness, and that the patients appear to be very well cared for.

The Committee visited the Hospital on the 27th February, 1879, and beg to make the following remarks:—

1st. That the amounts heretofore placed upon the Estimates would be sufficient to maintain the Hospital, *provided* due diligence be shown in obtaining such further public aid as so worthy an institution is entitled to.

2nd. That the Government subsidy has—under the Committee system, and with Government appointees on the Hospital Board—been very judiciously expended.