

## Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A general meeting of the board of trade was held Tuesday afternoon, with the following members present: Messrs. D. W. Bole, president; P. Gallagher, T. D. Robinson, Capt. G. F. Carruthers, C. A. Baskerville, S. J. McGaw, David Horn, T. McCaffry, D. K. Elliott, Andrew Straug, J. H. Ashdown, T. D. Anderson, E. L. Drewry, F. H. Mathewson, A. M. Nanton, R. J. Whith, Jas. Porter, S. Spink, F. L. Patton, Stephen Nairn, R. L. Richardson, M. P., D. G. McBean, D. S. Johnston.

The president reported the actions of the council at its various meetings as published from time to time, having reference to the garnishing of wages of civil servants, the excessive rates of the Dominion Express Co., the proposed limitation of the legal rate of interest to 6 per cent the representations to the city council on the subject of gas franchise, the inspection of electric and gas light metres, the St. Andrew's rapids, legal rate of interest on judgment debts, Bell Telephone Co's movement for higher rates, discrimination in rates to Winnipeg, against freight coming to Fort William by independent steamers, Rat Portage mining convention, collection of mail matter from postoffice boxes, and the Crow's Nest Pass railway rates.

In connection with the St. Andrew's rapids it was, Mr. Ashdown stated that, with the consent of the minister of the interior, Mr. Stephenson, of the crown lands department, was now preparing a report, which would be submitted at a later date, giving information as to the resources of Lake Winnipeg. He (Mr. Ashdown) had seen the plans prepared by Mr. Coste; an alternative plan and a system of berchings which appeared very complete. The department appeared to be very much in favor of the work going on but there seemed to be doubt as to deriving a revenue from the water power, and considerable additional expense would be required. Mr. Coste gave assurance that the damming of the river would not raise the water in Winnipeg on an occasion of a flood.

The president spoke of his invitation to the Rat Portage mining convention and his attendance; he said he considered the convention a great success, and a very representative body, gentlemen from South Africa, California, Colorado, British Columbia and elsewhere having been in attendance. After a full inspection, gentlemen capable of judging had verbally reported that the prospects were very bright indeed from a mining standpoint. In view of a proposed discrimination against Winnipeg in the arrangement between the government and the C. P. R. for the Crow's Nest Pass railway it had been thought desirable that a representative of the board should go and discuss the matter with the authorities. Mr. Ashdown had kindly consented to go, and had made a very favorable report to the council.

Mr. Ashdown went over the ground very much as he had done when he returned on his return from the west, telling how he had sought to obtain reduction of rates to apply to Winnipeg and points west. He found a strange misconception existing that the 15 per cent reduction made years ago had put Winnipeg in a preferable position, but he had been able to show that there

was a discrimination of 3 cents to 14 cents against Winnipeg. Mr. Shaughnessy had then written to Hon. Mr. Sifton stating that it was not intended that the relative position of Winnipeg should be affected. He (Mr. Ashdown) had tried to get them to go further, and at Mr. Shaughnessy's request had put his views in writing; these were now a subject of negotiation, and he did not think it best to give details.

Mr. Nairn asked that the high local rates on grain should be taken up. Mr. Ashdown said this matter had been overlooked. He suggested that the grain men should prepare a report to aid the committee.

The president announced the names of four new members who had been admitted by the council; Messrs. Henry Byrnes, cash and door manufacturer; D. B. Hanna, superintendent Dauphin railway; T. McCaffry, manager of the Bank; Geo. Brian, of Brian & Lee.

The following standing committees were re-elected:

Board of grain examiners—S. A. McGaw, J. A. Mitchell, S. Nairn, S. Spink, D. G. McBean.

Board of flour and meal examiners—S. Nairn, R. Muir, S. Spink, F. W. Thompson, C. H. Steele, G. V. Hastings.

Board of hide and leather examiners—E. F. Hutchings, P. Gallagher, H. Leadley, A. Carruthers, F. W. Reimer.

General grain committee—All the members of the board engaged in the grain and milling trade.

Mr. Straug asked about the mail service on the Dauphin road.

Mr. Richardson explained that some contracts had still a length of time to run before a change could be made.

Mr. Ashdown said the matter had not received attention, the department being a large one.

Mr. Whith desired an expression favoring the giving of a few months' pay at least, to officials of the land office, who after fourteen years' service had been thrown out of employment with no notice. He could not find a man in this way a man who had been with him for years and years.

The president sympathized to a large extent with the feeling expressed; but thought action had better be taken by individual citizens.

Mr. Ashdown said it had been published in the papers that the officials were to get three months' pay.

Mr. Richardson thought, from conversation with Hon. Mr. Sifton, that it was proposed to deal leniently. He thought it would be a mistake for the board to take action.

## WINNIPEG AND DULUTH.

Mr. T. D. Robinson moved a resolution respecting the Winnipeg & Duluth railway scheme. To the objection that the road would divert traffic into the United States, he replied that there are nine roads leading to the United States now. As to security that the agreement would be carried out, all that had to be done was to keep 51 per cent. of the stock, and incorporate the agreement in the charter. The motion was as follows:

Whereas the people of this province have long felt the need of an independent line to the great lakes; and whereas certain propositions have been made to the honorable, the premier of Manitoba, pledging the construction of a railroad from Winnipeg to Duluth and offering certain valuable concessions, notably a wheat

rate of 10c per 100 pounds from Winnipeg and 12c per 100 pounds from Brandon to Duluth; \$2 and \$2.45 per ton on coal and salt from that port to Winnipeg and Brandon respectively, and such reductions in lumber and other merchandise as promises to offset large savings to the people of this country in consideration of guarantee by the government of certain lands secured by first mortgage on said road; therefore, resolved, That this board commend to the government the earnest consideration of said proposals, and if it is found that the province can be protected in the maintenance of rates promised and that the obligations are not out of keeping with the value of concessions offered, that such arrangements be made as will secure to the province the benefits named.

Mr. Porter seconded the motion to bring it before the board. He said he was not sufficiently conversant with the subject to speak for or against the scheme. He had not made up his mind whether it was advisable or not to assist a road beyond our own province.

Mr. Drewry suggested that as the matter was one of great importance it be referred to the council. The motion was very indefinite, referring to some arrangement without clearly reciting what it was. There was a great question whether the province was in a position to assume the indebtedness that had been mentioned, though it might be a good bargain if the saving were as great as stated.

Capt. Carruthers seconded the amendment. He held that the question should be dealt with in a very full meeting. If the information were satisfactory the public would support the scheme.

The mover and seconder withdrew the motion, and gave notice that they would bring it up at the next meeting.

New York, June 28.—The visible supply of grain statement, as compiled by the New York Produce Exchange is: Wheat, 18,793,000 bushels, decrease 1,880,000; corn, 16,913,000 bushels, decrease 454,000; oats, 9,035,000 bushels, decrease 57,000 bushels; rye, 2,292,000 bushels, decrease 50,000 bushels; barley, 1,202,000 bushels, increase 90,000 bushels.

Montreal, June 28.—Canadian Pacific Railway company's earnings for May, 1897, were, gross earnings, \$1,980,295; working expenses, \$1,104,725; net profits, \$875,570. In May, 1896, the net profits were \$687,490; and for the five months ending May 31, 1897, the figures are as follows: Gross earnings, \$7,712,117; working expenses, \$4,931,051; net profits, \$2,781,066. For the five months ending May 31, 1896, there was a net profit of \$2,484,933. The increase in net profits over the same period of last year is, therefore, for May, \$188,080, and from January 1 to May 31, \$296,133.

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