

aptness than the speaker himself, who was candid as well as brilliant and humorous, and acquitted himself worthy of a great and generous people on a really great occasion.

At the meeting of Canadian delegates already referred to, the question of reorganizing the Dominion Board of Trade was talked over, and it was finally agreed that the Toronto Board of Trade should take the initiative. When this matter comes before the Winnipeg Board of Trade, as I think it will in due course, I bespeak for the proposition your best consideration, and if reasonable and practicable, your final sanction. A central trade organization, properly organized and conducted and qualified to speak for commercial Canada, would be of great service to the country. The need of such an organization was forcibly illustrated at the Congress of Commerce, when Canadian delegates assembled without definite concerted purpose, and when a splendid opportunity was lost of bringing to the attention of the commercial world the resources of our country. A Dominion Board of Trade would also, I believe, have great influence with the government. I believe the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa should be the premier department of our government, instead of a bureau of statistics, as at present. The products of our forests, fields, ranges, mines, fisheries and factories should be pushed beyond the borders of our own country, where there are millions of people ready to use them if intelligent effort was made to place them in new markets ; but this cannot be done by private enterprise, it is a duty that should be assumed by the government.

* I made it a point to meet privately delegates from countries whose foreign trade showed large increases in recent years, especially Germany, Japan and the United States, and from their statements and from official documents some of them