

ments, and, as on former occasions, took care to publish the fact that the people of Manitoba were only desirous of getting roads to the International Boundary to meet connections that would give lower freight rates to the eastern provinces, so that greater purchases might be made there, and a closer business connection established. A circular letter on this subject, which was mailed to the principal newspapers of Canada, was widely read and commented on—especially that portion drawing attention to the fact, that under the high customs tariff now in force, it would be impossible for us to import most lines of goods from the United States, even if they were carried free of freight charges.

About the first of October your Council were called upon to answer an open letter addressed by Sir George Stephen, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, to the shareholders of that Company. Many of his statements were so utterly devoid of fact and so many misquotations from the terms of the Canadian Pacific Railway contract were made, that your Council had no difficulty in preparing an answer that was so conclusive, that the eastern press, with the exception of a few papers, acknowledged the justness of our contention. Four thousand copies of this pamphlet were printed by the Manitoba Anti-Disallowance Association, the Board of Trade of Brandon joining with our Board in publishing it over their names, an answer of itself to the untrue statements made by wire pullers, that the agitation was confined to Winnipeg. Copies of these pamphlets were mailed to all the Shareholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

VACANCIES.

A fortnight after the annual meeting, Lieut.-Colonel Mackeand, a member of your Council, died suddenly. The Board attended the funeral as a body, in token of their respect for the deceased. At a subsequent meeting, Mr. F. B. Ross was elected to fill the vacancy in the Council, caused by the death of Lieut.-Colonel Mackeand.