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The spectacular work of the average Board of Trade is done by its publicity committee, and the secretary is expected to keep the outside world as well posted as to such advantages that the city or community may offer to intending citizens, settlers, wholesalers, jobbing warehousemen and manufacturers, etc. This is done by advertising and issuing attractive literature in large quantities. This is performed by a separate body in Winnipeg.

The obtaining of just and reasonable fire insurance rates, freight rates, tax rates, etc., are amongst the most important functions of a Board of Trade. If successfully handled, they will save to the merchant and individual citizen many a dollar, and will show in dollars and cents why a Board is necessary and why it should receive generous financial support.

Other functions of a Board of Trade are to collect statistical information relating to the city and country, to be in a position to direct where certain information may be obtained, to keep on exhibit the natural resources of the district, as well as samples of the grains, grasses, vegetables, etc., grown in the district; to influence legislative action for the best interests of all, to obtain good roads, satisfactory mail service, cheap freight rates, to advocate the construction of railroads, public buildings, the establishment of parks, forest reserves, etc., and everything, in fact, that is for the benefit of the present and future generations.

A Board of Trade in Western Canada has all these matters to attend to and has become a medium through which individuals or communities can obtain a hearing from large corporations or governments which they might not be able to obtain as individuals.

Once a year the Boards of Trade of Saskatchewan and Alberta hold a Convention and unite in dealing with certain questions of the day affecting the two provinces.

This Convention is looked upon as an important event. The governments and railways send representatives to attend the meetings in order to keep themselves in touch with public thought, and occasionally to give information on matters affecting their interests that are being dealt with by the Convention.

The motor car or automobile, says Mr. A. MacLean, Canadian Trade Commissioner for Japan, is very gradually coming into appreciation in Japan, but doubtless its usefulness will be limited by many considerations. A low percentage of the roadway mileage of the country will be found available for car travel, because of the narrowness and pathlike form into which usage has brought them.

ACCOUNTANTS.

John I. Sutcliffe
Chartered Accountant
Telephone M 420 TORONTO. 13 Adelaide St. East

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