

whose valuable space is given to the doings of our craft.

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We would be pleased to hear from both advertisers and subscribers an expression of opinion as to the manner in which this journal has been conducted. Any suggestions to a change in any way will receive careful attention. The trade of Canada has so emphatically made it THEIR OWN by every means in their power, that we feel that they have a right to speak on the subject.

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THE BOOKSELLERS' AND STATIONERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

The Second Annual meeting was held in the Queen's Hotel Toronto on Wednesday, 20th October.

H. Fred Sharp, the President, called the meeting to order at 2 p. m. There were present during the meeting Donald Bain, W. Bryce, S. E. Briggs, J. J. Dyas, Joseph Fletcher, Henry Hutchison, S. R. Hart, A. S. Irving, H. L. Thompson, G. R. Warwick, Samuel Wallace, Toronto; B. H. Rothwell, Brantford; Isaac Huber, Bracebridge; Frank Metcalf, Blyth; Chris. Dickson, Clinton; T. J. Day, ex-President, J. A. Nelles, Guelph; E. A. Taylor, N. T. Wilson, London; R. O. Smith, Mitchell; H. Fred Sharp, St. Mary's; C. W. Papst, Seaforth; J. G. McCrea, Sarnia. There was also present Alex. Taylor of Winnipeg.

Letters of excuse for non-attendance were received from R. B. Andrew, Bowmanville; J. K. Cranston, Galt; J. Eastwood and J. G. Cloke, Hamilton; John Hart, Perth; Miss H. Karch, Peterboro'; W. Middleton, Kingston; S. E. Mitchell, Pembroke; and D. M. Brown, Strathroy.

The minutes of the half yearly meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's report showed the amount owing him \$3.80; it was adopted on motion of T. J. Day, seconded by J. G. McCrae.

The Chairman stated that objections had been raised by some members of the Association against admitting to membership the wholesale booksellers and stationers. He did not see why the wholesale and retail trades should not be represented in the Association. It was in the interests of the wholesale men that the retail trade throughout the Dominion should be placed upon as firm a basis as possible. He had not found since the formation of the Association that the wholesale men had attempted to rule supreme in its councils. They had been offered different positions in the society which they had always declined. At the same time they had been willing on all occasions to assist in everything tending to advance the interests of the Association. He saw no reason why they should not be admitted to the Association in the future as in the past.

Moved by H. L. Thompson, seconded by A. S. Irving, and resolved that B. H. Rothwell, J. Fletcher and T. J. Day be a Committee on Correspondence.

POSTAGE RATES.

N. T. Wilson brought up the question of postage on periodicals. He contended that the Canadian booksellers were entitled to receive the privilege of

remailing or else mailing at the same rate as the American booksellers, namely, one cent per lb. He thought the matter should be brought before the Postmaster-General. At the present time a bookseller in Buffalo or Detroit was in a better position to do business with the Canadian public than were the Canadian booksellers themselves. The Canadian dealers were obliged to pay postage at the rate of one cent for 4 oz. in remailing American publications to their customers, while the American booksellers could send them at a fourth of the cost direct to the subscribers in Canada.

William Bryce, thought the Government would lose nothing by allowing the trade to re-mail American periodicals in the same way as English publications of a like character.

On motion of N. T. Wilson, seconded by F. Metcalf, the following resolution was adopted: "That Wilson, Irving, Hart, Bryce and Taylor be appointed a committee to consider the question of postage on periodicals and report at the evening session."

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

The question of forming additional district associations was next considered.

R. O. Smith, secretary Huron District Association, reported that their association was in a flourishing condition, and that the trade had been considerably benefited by organization. Their Association had refused to countenance discounts to teachers and had not sustained any apparent loss therefrom.

The chairman stated that in St. Mary's the booksellers had abolished the discount to teachers without any difficulty.

J. J. Dyas stated that the Toronto Association had not received the support in the past which it merited at the hands of the trade. He was confident, however, that during the winter months the meetings would be largely attended and the membership considerably increased.

Samuel Wallace,* said there was a conflicting element in the trade in this city. The King street dealers said they could carry on business without an association. He thought it would be for the mutual interests of all that the entire trade should become thoroughly organized.

It was decided to form district associations wherever practicable throughout the province.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Correspondence, through Joseph Fletcher, Chairman, reported as follows:—"We have carefully considered the correspondence handed to us, and are of opinion that the communications of Messrs. D. M. Brown, Strathroy, and J. K. Cranston, Galt, contain matters of importance to this Association. Your committee are of opinion that it would be advisable to hold the annual meeting of this Association during the Toronto fair, as suggested by Mr. Cranston, and that the constitution should be so amended.

"As to the point raised by one of your correspondents to exclude the wholesale trade from the Association, your committee think this a matter that should be discussed by the whole Association.

"Your committee would suggest that the Association petition Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, to notify the trade through BOOKS AND NOTIONS