

and the Board confidently trust that, when the facts of the case, as given herewith, come to your knowledge, you will see your way clear to give the necessary service asked for.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

C. N. BELL,

Secretary.

The Council is pleased to report that a week later they were notified that a sealed bag service had been inaugurated between Winnipeg, Keewatin, Rat Portage, Wabigoon, Fort William and Port Arthur.

Just after the action taken by the Council in this matter, a request was received from the Fort William Board of Trade, to co-operate with them in securing the above mail service, and the Council was pleased to be able to inform the Fort William body that the service had already been ordered.

MAIL SERVICE ON THE NORTHERN PACIFIC

(Portage Branch).

Numerously signed petitions from residents in the neighborhood of Blake, Newton, and La Salle Stations, on the line of the Portage Branch of the Northern Pacific Railway, were presented to the Board with the request that their influence would be exerted in securing for the petitioners post offices at the stations above-named, and that the mails should be carried by train.

The Board, on the 15th of May, 1897, forwarded the petition to the Post Master General with a hearty endorsement of the prayer contained therein, and under date of the 7th of