

Mr. J. W. Little paid a high tribute to the efficient service of Post Office Inspector R. W. Barker, lately removed to Toronto. He referred to Mr. Barker's great kindness and courtesy in his official relations, and the vast improvement in the district postal service in his term. Mr. Little then moved "that Mr. R. W. Barker, late P. O. Inspector of this district, having been moved to Toronto, this Board desires to express their appreciation of the faithful and efficient manner in which he performed his duties here, especially his readiness at all times to assist business men in affairs connected with the postal service. Mr. Barker carried with him to his new home the best wishes of the merchants of London for his future success." Mr. J. R. Minihinnick seconded the motion, and Messrs. Parker, Clark, F. S. Jarvis, and the president concurred in the sentiments of the mover. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The annual report was then submitted. It first referred to railway switching arrangements suggested by the board; the G. T. R. and C. P. R. are now trying to effect reciprocal switching facilities of the kind. As to insolvency legislation, a delegation of the London board went to Ottawa with members of other boards of trade to interview the Senate committee respecting changes in the draft bill. The changes recommended by delegates from six leading cities have been made, and the bill is likely to become law as altered.

The lease of the London & Port Stanley Railway, the car shops bonus, the question of a two cent postage rate and insurance of registered letters, and the beautifying of the parks were amongst the matters discussed or acted on by the board during the year. On freight matters the report says: "The railways, in arranging new freight rates, invariably overlook London's claims as a distributing centre, and discriminate in favor of Toronto and Hamilton. We have experienced some difficulty in getting them to place us upon a fair competitive basis with other places. The council were appointed by resolution of the board to nominate committees for the ensuing year. Their report will be before you to-night for consideration. Your council would again urge upon the members a better attendance. Twelve new members were admitted during the year; there were four resignations and one death."

The president said the Port Stanley R. R. of itself was an important advantage to London, giving that city for the next twenty years an independent line to the lake, and also connection with two or three lines of railway. He referred to the changes made at the instance of the boards of trade. One was raising the amount that an estate must pay before a debtor can get a discharge, from 33 to 66 cents in the dollar. Another was placing in the hands of the creditors the appointment of the liquidator, instead of allowing the official receiver to act in that capacity.

The report was adopted, and then the officers were re-elected as follows:—

President—Mr. John Bland.

Vice-President—Mr. T. S. Hobbs.

Secretary—Mr. J. A. Nelles.

The various committees of the board were elected by adopting the report of the council, and the committee on parks and other improvements to the city was also re-appointed.

—An effort is being made to have the Government dredge out the Wolfe Island channel, to allow the passage of the ferry steamers running between Cape Vincent and Kingston. The canal was built thirty years ago, and for several years has been filling up with sand.

KINGSTON BOARD OF TRADE.

The Kingston Board of Trade met on Tuesday of last week in the Council Chamber, with Mr. G. Richardson, president, in the chair. Some fifteen members were present.

The usual routine business having been transacted, a vote of thanks was tendered the retiring president, Mr. G. Richardson. The new president, Mr. Hewton, took his seat, and in thanking the members for his election, expressed the hope that the Board would continue to grow in usefulness.

On motion, it was resolved that the Council of the Board be composed of the following named members: President J. Hewton, first vice-president A. Chadwick, second vice-president L. B. Spencer, and Messrs. Minnes, Gas-kin, Robinson, Carson, Hague, Muckleston, Richardson, G. Y. Chown and R. J. McKelvey.

A railway committee was next chosen, composed of the following named members: Messrs. Richardson, M. Shaw, Minnes, Robinson, Redden, Muckleston and Hewton.

The president and Messrs. Chadwick, Gas-kin, Minnes and Richardson were appointed to represent the board on the industrial committee, and act in conjunction with the city council.

Before the meeting separated, Mr. A. Chadwick addressed the members "on the best methods of extending the usefulness of the board of trade, and of arousing such an interest in its proceedings among the citizens as would increase the membership."

BELLEVILLE CHEESE BOARD.

We did not receive in time for last issue any account of the annual meeting of the Belleville Cheese Board, which was held on 1st May, Mr. Hume, the president, in the chair. The treasurer's report, being unaudited, was held over to next meeting. A motion was carried that no one shall be allowed to board his cheese or vote who was not a member of the organization. On a motion to appoint a public weighman, Mr. Warrington said he had been robbed of several hundreds of pounds on cheese bought at the Campbellford board. Mr. Graham said if a weighman were appointed to weigh the cheese here, it would do away with a good deal of friction between buyers and sellers. A motion then carried that Messrs. Robinson, Hurley, Meiklejohn, Warrington, Brower, be a committee to consider the matter.

Nineteen factories boarded 685 boxes white and 190 of colored cheeses; total, 875 boxes, and the sales were: by Hodgson Bros., 190c. and 180w. at 10 7-16c.; J. T. Warrington, 505 at 10 3-4c. The above are the highest opening prices ever paid, says the *Intelligencer*, in the history of the board, which was organized in 1887. Mr. B. C. McCargar has been secretary for five years.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, resulting thus: President, John Tanner, Harold; 1st vice-pres., J. M. Hurley, Thurlow; 2nd vice-pres., John Stokes, Hungerford; sec. treas., B. C. McCargar, re-elected.

STRATFORD BOARD OF TRADE.

On the evening of Friday, April 27th, the annual meeting of the Stratford Board of Trade was held. Fifteen members were present, which was a disappointment to the secretary, Mr. McGregor, who had diligently sent out thrice that number of circulars. Mr. Plummer, the president, was in the chair.

His report for the year pointed out that the business of the city had not been very well represented at the meetings during the year, and urged increased activity and larger membership. The three matters of moment that had come before the board during the year all related to the G.T.R.: the alleged sending of engines from this division to Montreal to be repaired, the removal of the up-town ticket office, and the location of the car shops. As future questions for discussion there were mentioned the sewerage question, and, connected with it, the purchase of the water-works.

Ald. Youngs moved the reception of the report, with thanks to the president, which was seconded by Ald. Ferguson and adopted.

The secretary's report showed the paid-up membership of the board to be 35. There had been seven general meetings during the year. The treasurer, Mr. Maynard, reported a balance of cash on hand. When the election of officers was reached, Messrs. T. Plummer, W. J. Ferguson and John Welsh were nominated for the presidency, but the first and last-named retiring, Mr. Ferguson was unanimously made president. There were four nominations for the vice-presidency, all of whom withdrew but John Welsh and E. K. Barnsdale. The latter gentleman was elected. Mr. McGregor was chosen secretary again unanimously. The council consists of the members whose names follow: Messrs. Dutton, Young, Welsh, Maynard, Youngs, A. J. McPherson, J. P. McDonald, McLagan, Dow, Caven, Plummer and Duggan.

MARITIME PROVINCE ITEMS.

Among new vessels built or building we hear that Mr. J. B. North laid the keel at Hantsport last week of a brigantine of 130 feet keel, intended to ply between New York and Curacao. The new 60-ton schooner "Maritime" was launched from the yard of Albert McKean, at Pleasantville, Lunenburg, last week. Another is under construction. Two new schooners were launched from Peter Young's yard at Lunenburg last week. Their names are the "Dora" and the "W. H. Walter." The schooner built at Grand Lake by Thomas Ferris is of 103 tons register.

Imports at St. John for April were of the value of \$257,912, as compared with \$385,278 in the same month last year. Only \$55,000 of this amount was free goods, against more than double the amount in April, 1893. Exports from St. John amounted in value to \$197,259 last month, where \$327,085 worth was exported in the previous April. Three-fourths of the whole was forest products; next in order came manufactures and fishery products.

The Customs authorities at Annapolis, N.S., seized last week a large number of fruit and ornamental trees for under-valuation. The trees were shipped by H. H. Gurney & Co., of Connecticut, and were consigned to different parties in the Annapolis Valley.

A new dry goods store is about being opened in Summerside, P.E.I., by Mr. W. B. Mills, late with D. Rogers & Son of that place. It is in the Bearsto building, and has been very tastefully fitted up.

The shoe business of L. Higgins & Co., established some eight years ago in New Glasgow, N.S., has been sold to McDonald & Cook, who will continue the "Parlor" shoe store. Mr. Geo. E. McDonald was four years with Douglas & Co., of New Glasgow, and then travelled for a Montreal house; William