

and yet who, notwithstanding the fact that things of practical and immediate import had to be threshed out, yet had sufficient imagination in their make-up to see that the present bears but little proportion to the future, and that therefore broad-gauge ideas were a necessity. As a rule, politics were kept out of the discussion, though the influence of the great event which takes place this month in the history of the North-West, naturally could not altogether conceal itself. Quite naturally, too, the feeling of resentment against the past comparative indifference of the East, could not altogether be obliterated. On the whole, the feeling of the meeting was altogether in favor of the Associated Boards continuing to represent the North-West in its present united form, though the proposal came up to divide the body into two, owing to the establishment of two administrations. Finally it was recognized, however, that for many years to come the interests of the two provinces would be practically identical, so that it would be best to continue the organization as it exists now.

Government ownership of telephones was one principle which the delegates present cordially endorsed. In the great distances and earnest, strenuous life of the West, telephones are peculiarly necessary to the well-being of the community. A suggestion which was received with much favor was that the Dominion Government should control the trunk lines, leaving to the respective municipalities the control of their own, and connecting the two if necessary.

An important resolution on the question of insolvency was put forward by Mr. A. L. Johnston, president of the Winnipeg Board of Trade. It called for the appointment of a committee to prepare legislation embodying the good points of Ontario and Manitoba statutes on the subject, for submission to the new governments, and it was carried unanimously. Another resolution by the same gentleman, however, was turned down. He moved that the Government be asked to enact that merchants who had made up their minds to sell out of their respective businesses should be compelled to give thirty days' notice to their creditors. The object of the motive was to secure the wholesale trade from attempts by dishonest traders to "skip out" and defraud them. It was recognized by the convention, however, that such legislation would bear most unfairly on the honest retailers. They would be under control of the wholesale houses, and would have no redress against such of their own customers as were dishonest. The motion had little support.

Probably the most important of the social functions in connection with the convention was the banquet tendered to the visiting delegates by the Regina Board of Trade, the chair being occupied by Mr. H. F. Mytton, the president. Mr. F. W. Peters, of the C.P.R., made the interesting statement that the railway company expected to move out no less than 28,000,000 bushels of wheat to Fort William between harvest and the close of navigation. They anticipated having 4,000 extra cars and 68 extra locomotives to meet the rush. A bright speech was made by the Hon. F. W. G. Haultain, Premier of the North-West Territories, who trusted that the new governments would deal with the questions of the future with the same lack of partisan feeling and the same zeal for the best interests of the whole country that had distinguished the old Assembly. The spirit of Mr. Haultain's remarks indeed may be said to have characterized the entire proceedings of this important congress that has now come and gone, and to be able to say this means much for the future of Canada.

FORESTRY MATTERS IN ONTARIO.

An important part of the 1903 report of the Ontario Director of Forestry, the issue of which was delayed through the great fire in Toronto, is where Mr. Thomas Southworth recommends the establishment of municipal forest reserves in the Province. His words on this point are as follows:

"As a preliminary and experimental measure looking toward the creation of small municipal reserves in settled districts possessing considerable areas of non-agricultural

or inferior land, I would suggest that the Assessment Act be amended so as to allow townships to hold, in perpetuity, lots purchased at tax sales. If it were considered advisable, the power to hold such lands for a longer period than seven years might be restricted to such areas as the municipal council might by by-law set apart as forest reserves, subject to such regulations regarding their management as might from time to time be enacted by the Provincial Administration. The small value attaching to such waste and partially denuded areas as the abandoned clearings which are sold for taxes, enables the community to reclaim at trifling expense a large portion of the territory which should never have been allowed to pass into the hands of private owners, and the communities more especially interested ought to be permitted to take advantage of the opportunity thus presented to restore to useful production by reforestation such lands as have proven unfit for agricultural development."

It may be remarked that even now, New Ontario is more or less rapidly being denuded of trees. Without a doubt the Province should retain control, if not the ownership, of the areas thrown open for settlement to ensure the preservation of an adequate proportion of wooded land so as to maintain favorable conditions of climate and water supply for the development of the districts in question. The ideal system to secure the maximum of productiveness, both as regards agriculture and the industries dependent upon wood as a raw material, would be the maintenance of a number of small local timber reserves interspersed throughout the cultivated districts under some form of efficient public control. While it might not, for various reasons, be possible to at once establish such a system on as comprehensive and scientific a basis as could be desired, a beginning should at least be made by the setting aside before the country is opened up for settlement such small tracts of land as are obviously better adapted for the growth of timber than for tillage. And this, as we understand it, is what Mr. Southworth proposes to do.

BUSINESS FAILURES IN CANADA.

The business failures in Canada for the first six months of the present year, as reported to Bradstreet's, number 674, involving \$7,239,384 of liabilities. This is an increase of 20 per cent. in number as compared with the first half of 1904, and an increase of nearly 40 per cent. in liabilities.

| Provinces and Territories. | No. of Failures. | | Liabilities. | |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------|--------------|-------------|
| | 1905. | 1904. | 1905. | 1904. |
| Canada—six months. | | | | |
| Ontario | 228 | 203 | \$1,588,994 | \$1,863,013 |
| Quebec | 243 | 224 | 2,944,798 | 2,002,996 |
| New Brunswick..... | 29 | 21 | 185,257 | 255,268 |
| Nova Scotia | 46 | 39 | 1,314,243 | 451,190 |
| Prince Edward Isl'nd | 5 | 1 | 94,900 | 10,860 |
| Manitoba | 48 | 31 | 461,506 | 151,417 |
| North-West Territories | 28 | 17 | 208,336 | 162,822 |
| British Columbia ... | 45 | 24 | 346,350 | 225,300 |
| Yukon Territory..... | 2 | 2 | 35,000 | 51,500 |
| Totals Canada .. | 674 | 562 | 7,239,384 | 5,174,366 |
| Newfoundland | 1 | .. | 4,000 | .. |
| St. Pierre et Miquelon .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1,000 |

THE COLD STORAGE PROBLEM.

The dairy branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture is going to investigate the cold storage question in a thorough and practical way. Anticipating the adoption of cold storage warehouses at local centres to preserve from loss the large crops of apples that frequently are not marketable at the time they are picked, the dairy branch will conduct a series of tests this summer as to the suitability of different forms of construction of cold storage buildings.

THE

Robert Reford
W. H. Duncan
DUNCAN COURT
Ontario
Toronto, 15 off
Allandale
Harrie
Brantford
Brookville
Cardinal
Cobourg
Coldwater
Collingwood
Copper Cliff
Banker
New York
Collections

Imp

Cap
Res

T. H.
D. H.
W. RAM
WM. HE

D.
E.
W.
R.

Arrowhead
Balgonia
Bolton, O.
Brandon,
Calgary,
Cranbrook
Essex, O.
Edmonton
Fergus,
Galt, Ont.
Golden, I.
Hamilton
Ingersoll

Quebec St.
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