

### ANNUAL MEETING OF BOARD OF TRADE

(Continued from page 9.)

The crops during the past year in almost every portion of the province have again been large. While it is impossible to state as yet what the average will be per acre, from the reports which reach us from all sides, the yield will be at least as large, if not larger, than that of 1905. In conversation a day or two ago with an American settler located east of the city, he informed me that he broke and seeded to Alberta red winter wheat 300 acres of land on his farm, and that this yielded him 38 bushels to the acre, in all 19,000 bushels, and in a letter from George Hill, grain inspector, he states that he has carefully weighed this sample of Alberta red winter wheat, and finds that it goes 67 pounds to the bushel, and that it is a splendid sample of grain, being free from noxious weeds. In addition to the seed sown by this gentleman, he also raised 3500 bushels of potatoes; this on the first year's breaking, and without irrigation. This is only one instance of what the land in the Calgary district is capable of, land which heretofore has been looked upon as fit for grazing only. If this land produces such splendid crops without irrigation, it must be evident to the most casual observer what a great amount of good will result to the Calgary district through the gigantic C.P.R. scheme of irrigation, a part of which is now complete. The crops will not only be greater, but the land will be capable of supporting a very much denser population than in non-irrigated districts and the opportunities for manufacturing firms in Calgary will be greatly increased. The manufacturing at Calgary of beet sugar, condensed milk, etc., will naturally follow the settlement of these lands.

Special credit is due to the Dominion government seed branch and the C.P.R. officials for the good work done for the Canadian west through the medium of the seed grain special which was run through the western provinces about a year ago, and which undoubtedly did a great deal of good.

**Building Operations**

The past has been the banner year in the history of Calgary in the way of increased building operations. For the two years previous to 1906, the value of buildings erected each year was a million and a quarter dollars. While during 1906 the value of buildings erected was \$2,240,000, which compares favorably with cities three times its size.

**New Secretary Appointed**

In September last C. W. Peterson, who had acted as secretary of the board since March, 1903, found it necessary to sever his connection with the board. It was with regret that Mr. Peterson's resignation was accepted, as the board had accomplished a great deal of good through his efforts as secretary. Mr. Peterson was appointed a member of your council in order that the board might still have the benefit of his experience and valued co-operation. A committee was then appointed to

recommend the appointment of a new secretary, and E. L. Richardson was appointed acting secretary until the committee should report. As Mr. Richardson desired to give his entire time to other duties he was not an applicant for the position of secretary, but after the committee had been in communication with a number of applicants, your council asked Mr. Richardson to reconsider his decision and accept a permanent secretaryship. It was felt that as he had been assistant secretary since Mr. Peterson's appointment in 1903, that he was in a better position to successfully carry on the work than any of the applicants, and in deference to the wishes of your council, Mr. Richardson accepted the position and C. H. Webster, secretary of the Hundred Thousand club, was appointed assistant secretary.

**The Work of the Board**

The regular work of the board, as will be seen by the secretary's report, has greatly increased during the year and a large number of subjects have been dealt with in the interests of the city of Calgary and district. Among these may be mentioned the following: Adequate post office accommodation, street delivery of letters, railway mail service, telephone system, transportation facilities, all Dominion associated press news service, opening up a portion of the Sarcee reserve, the appointment of a U.S. consular agent at Calgary, appointment of a provincial commission of commercial legislation, spur track accommodation in the city, coaching and automobile roads between Calgary and Banff, the refund system of unused and partly used railway tickets, a sleeping car to start from Calgary on the west bound trains, a chair car between Calgary and Laggan, the taking of sunshine readings at the meteorological station at Calgary, etc.

Your board appointed a delegate to attend the congress of the chambers of commerce of the empire, held at London, Eng., the representative being T. J. S. Skinner.

Probably no institution has been the means of making it possible to bring Calgary's importance before the world at large than the Calgary clearing house, which was established in April last. It has been demonstrated that Calgary with a population of 17,000 shows greater commercial activity than many Canadian and American cities three times its size. Our postal, express, freight and customs returns also show what wonderful strides Calgary is making, and I venture to say that within the next ten years the growth of our city will be so great as to surprise those of us who think we are in a position to size up Calgary's future.

**Election of Officers**

It is also desirable to call the attention of the members who will form the council of the board for the current year to the fact that they should not consider their appointment as chairmen of sections and committees a name only. Many of the councillors who were appointed last year did not attend a single meeting. With the new system of election of officers which will be recommended to you this evening, considerable more thought will be given to the appointment of serious officers. If the interests of Calgary are to be looked after as they

should be every year, and particularly this year, it is necessary that every officer of the board should take an active interest in the committee at the head of which he is placed, and do not leave the entire matter in the hands of the president and secretary. It is the duty of the members who will be elected to fill the various positions to be prepared to give a reasonable amount of time to the work of the board. Let all work together for the good of our city and province and thus strengthen the usefulness and influence of the board. Let all remember that an ounce of push is worth a pound of pull.

**General Prosperity Prevails**

At no time in the history of our city has progress in every direction been so marked. Over two hundred commercial travellers now call Calgary home, and during the year a large number of wholesalers opened up in Calgary and several additions to our already extensive list of manufacturing concerns established in Calgary. Among these may be mentioned the Alberta Portland Cement works, the Alberta Biscuit factory, the Western Milling Co., and another large mill to have a capacity of 1000 barrels a day is in course of erection by the Calgary Milling Co. The Brackman-Ker Milling Co. has erected a mill for the preparation of breakfast foods and cereals, and two candy factories, a box factory, a brick manufacturing plant and a foundry have been established. This brings our list of wholesalers up to 85, and our manufacturing concerns now number 25, and the secretary is in communication with several others which he hopes to secure for Calgary.

No city in Canada of its size and age has such substantial wholesale and retail business blocks, churches, schools, bank buildings and residences. We can also congratulate ourselves on the class of manufacturing establishments located here. The output of these factories are well and favorably regarded by the retailers and consumers, and are shipped from one end of the province to the other, as well as to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. In the many natural resources of Alberta lies Calgary's strength; in the future she can never be left high and dry by the low price of any single commodity or class of commodities; the foundation of her prosperity is laid broad and deep.

The greatest need of the country is people with strong brains, muscle and energy to make good. All such will find plenty to do and will be rewarded. Men with money are welcome in Calgary and the province, and will find plenty to occupy them and their money, but men are needed more than the money and those who come with brains and money should remain to manage their own investments and all should become citizens of the country which shelters and rewards them.

The prosperity of 1906 shows no signs of waning, in fact shows considerable signs of increasing. This city as well as all parts of Canada is making gigantic strides forward. There are one or two regrettable things to notice, namely, that some of the cattlemen have been unfortunate during the past five or six weeks. Although the loss will be heavy, many of the ranchers are in a position to stand this loss. The

railways also have had a difficult problem to solve owing to the severity of the weather and the heavy snow falls during the last few weeks. Apart from this there is hardly a business of any kind in the district or in the Dominion that is not able to show a considerable balance on the right side of the ledger.

One striking feature is the great increase in the railway revenues, traffic, and the large amount spent on new lines and improvements for 1906 was, we believe, the largest on record, and it is estimated that for this year they will be even larger. The indications for 1907 point to a larger influx of British and northern European settlers than we have had in the past. Many will also cross the border from the United States. We must count, however, upon considerable opposition from the United States railways and land companies, as they are now using the United States press to a great extent by publishing false and malicious articles in regard to this country in order to stop the flow of immigration.

Immense industrial enterprises are projected for the coming year and the demand for increased capital will be greater for this purpose than it has been in the past. It may be a difficult matter to supply all the capital required and considerable care and forethought will be necessary to make the year 1907 as it promises to be the banner year of

industrial enterprises in the Dominion of Canada, and this city will no doubt have its fair share of prosperity.

A vote of thanks is due General Supt. R. R. Jamieson of the C.P.R. for his kindness in granting a site for the offices of the board, and also to the Calgary press for the publicity they have given the board during the entire year, and for their untiring support in every interest tending to the building up of Calgary, the grandest city of the Canadian west.

Although we started the year with a deficit of over \$550, I am glad to be able to hand over the reins of office with a balance of \$285.77 on hand, and assets including balance on loan of \$1794.26.

C. W. ROWLEY, President.

Report of the secretary of the Calgary Board of Trade for the year 1906.

Gentlemen:—

"I beg to submit herewith the report of the secretary for 1906. As the details of the work of the Board for the year have been dealt with at length in the President's report, I shall make my remarks as brief as possible. The financial statement attached shows that in spite of the very large expenditure of the Board of Trade during the year, the books

(Continued on page 11.)

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