

son, and J. S. Saunders, London; Alex. Gillies and J. G. Cloke (J. Eastwood & Co.), Hamilton; H. F. Sharp and J. P. Rice, St. Mary's; G. B. Fotheringham, Ingersoll; J. G. McCrae, Sarnia; Chris. Dickson, Clinton; E. S. Warne, Brampton; A. D. Weeks, Uxbridge. Representatives of the *Toronto Mail*, *London Free Press* and J. J. Dyas, publisher **BOOKS & NOTIONS.**

Mr. T. J. Day was chosen chairman, and Mr. J. J. Dyas Secretary.

A very full report of the meeting was given in the *Mail and Free Press*, so we need not here give a detailed account.

The Secretary stated that 614 dealers in school books, in 432 villages, towns and cities of Ontario, had signed the petition to the Minister of Education asking for 30% discount on school books to the trade, and 15% extra to jobbers. This list was afterwards swelled to over 700. A large number of letters were received accompanying the petitions.

The publishers were invited to be present at the meeting. Mr. Gage and Mr. Clark presented themselves, when having been heard, it was moved by Mr. Weeks, seconded by Mr. Sharp and unanimously resolved.

"That in view of the terms imposed by the publishers of the new series on the retail trade as per their circular, and having listened to the explanations from the representatives of the firms in question, we deem them unsatisfactory and insufficient, and will proceed to organize the retail trade so as to secure united action in resisting the ruinous exactions on our fair and legitimate profits."

Messrs. Day, Bryce, and Weeks were named as spokesmen in the interview with Hon. Mr. Ross.

The meeting resumed at 4.30 p.m., the interview with Mr. Ross not having been satisfactory, except that he hoped to be able to place the retailers on a 25% basis.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—it first having been stated to the meeting by Mr. Bryce that the publishers refused any compromise—

Moved by H. F. Sharp, seconded by J. G. McCrae, "That the members of this association pledge themselves to withdraw their accounts from the three publishers of the new readers, until such time as we can get better discounts than at present offered, 20%, and that the Secretary forward copies of the above to the *Globe and Mail*, and also that copies of the above resolution be sent to all the Ontario booksellers for their co-operation."

The meeting resolved itself into the "Ontario Booksellers' Association," when the officers were elected as follows:

President—T. J. Day, Guelph; *1st Vice-President*—Thomas Menzies, Peterborough; *2nd Vice-President*—E. A. Taylor, London; *Secy-Treasurer*—J. J. Dyas, Toronto; *Executive Committee*—James Bain, sr., Toronto; John Hart, Perth; H. Fred Sharp, St. Mary's; W. Middleton (John Henderson & Co.), Kingston; John G. Cloke (J. Eastwood & Co.), Hamilton; A. Scott, Barrie.

Mr. Bain had been elected Secretary-Treasurer, but resigned when the present officer was named to the position.

The membership fee was fixed at \$1 per annum, and wholesale dealers were declared eligible as members.

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