

Prosperity Predicted Here At Board of Trade Meeting: Maritimes Seen Get Demands

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is a man of unusual ability and dynamism and his judgment is sound. The destinies of the new National body may be confidently left in his hands.

NEW DAY OF UNITY IN TRADE

"Up to this time, while much splendid work has been done by individual Boards of Trade in all the important centres throughout Canada, there has been no channel through which they could articulate with a national voice."

"In the Maritime Provinces, the Maritime Board has likewise failed to furnish such a channel due to inadequate service being available and its sponsors lacking the support of important local Boards in any program proposed."

"Consequently the local Boards of Trade have confined themselves very largely to matters of local concern. Each Board has occasionally had recourse to its local representative to bring some matter to the attention of the Federal or Provincial Government, but these representations were frequently feeble and ineffective."

"If the new Canadian Board of Trade realizes its possibilities, every local Board of Trade will have the opportunity to take on an entirely

new significance in our future national developments.

"We sometimes fail to appreciate that the Parliamentary system of government first evolved in Great Britain, and with but minor variations, adopted by all of the democracies of today, is but a child of yesterday in the light of the thousands of years of human experience. No one will claim that the last word in efficacy has been said in any of these systems of Government. No one can view the proceedings of any legislature without feeling that the Party system fails to reflect the constructive spirit of co-operation that men are more and more feeling is essential to progress in any field. There must be some solution to be found to effect or bring into balance the tremendous waste of time, energy and resources so evident in party strife."

"Men are becoming increasingly impatient over the futile strivings that occupy such a large place in partisan maneuverings. It is safe to predict that a representative system of government which, whether it be Civic, Provincial or National, involves the yielding of such a large degree of initiative to a small group of men, for a protracted period, must and will be supplemented in some adequate way that will bring the immense latent resources of constructive

thought possessed by men of responsibility in various walks of life to bear continuously on the economic, social, and political problems of the day. It is obvious that with rather rare exceptions, we have failed to induce men of large capacity and administrative experience to become representatives in the local or larger fields, and that therefore there are many more men of this calibre without than within the circles of government."

GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS

"There are still to be found those who would have Government assume responsibility for every last function in human relationships which voluntary agencies can be induced or compelled to relinquish. The trend today, however, is rather back to the principle advocated in the middle of the last century by John Stuart Mill that 'nothing which can be done by the voluntary agency of individuals should be left to the state.' Under this conception the chief end of government, whether Civic, Provincial, or Federal is to insure security and stability for the community. Subordinate to this is the provision of services for the commonwealth. With economy and efficiency as the dominant notes of government in arranging for the provision of these services, the application of these principles, subordinate to this is the provision of private or public ownership theories should determine its course."

"The government that has the clearest conception of its responsibilities, will be one who will keep its machinery at the irreducible minimum, consistent with its commission and will inspire its citizens to an active sense of responsibility by challenging them to their highest exertion of initiative, co-operation and self reliance in caring for all community interests that are not fundamentally a necessary government function."

"On the other hand, this conception puts to the test the spirit existing in each community and throughout the nation as to their ability to work together, to arrive at a common mind and give effect to their conclusions. Herein lies the opportunity in the future for the Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, first in the local fields and in co-operation, throughout the length and breadth of Canada."

CONCEPTION BROADENS

"We have conceived of the terms trade and commerce in too narrow a sense in the past. If such a board or chamber consists of a little coterie of men who entertain a sense of possession of an organization that they have built up for expediting the grinding out of dollars in their respective enterprises or where they may air their empty and irresponsible views on problems they do nothing to forward, then such men should be swept aside and others selected who realize that in a very real sense a Board of Trade belongs to a whole community, holds in trust a stewardship that concerns not its membership alone but the possibility to influence for good or ill every citizen of the territory in which it operates. Its activities should be big and broad enough to win the confidence and co-operation of every organized body, having as their object the promotion of the economic or social welfare of any section or class in the community."

"If each and all communities can demonstrate their ability to thus work together, enlisting the best thought of

their most capable citizens to reach ripe conclusions, can any one imagine that legislation will be denied them where enactments are needed or that a much greater program on constructive progress will be realized by their united endeavor than all the laws of Christendom could accomplish without such a spirit."

"You have heard the theory propounded in regard to our Maritime situation that the continuous drain of emigration has caused our human stock to run out. All will agree as to the seriousness of the drain and the desirability of stopping it by every possible means."

"This theory falls down, however, by attempting to put humans in the same category with poultry and cattle, forgetting that the spiritual transcends the physical and that history is replete with instances where regeneration came to human stock, inbred and drained by emigration for many times the period ours has been, through the inspiration of a new hope, a new vision and purposefulness."

"Who will doubt that in the humble homes of these provinces there dwell hundreds of youths with undreamed of potential capacity who, if we are possessed of that spirit of courageous vision and belief in our heritage to the point of contagion, will catch our enthusiasm and remain with us to carry on."

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will solve the problem of immigration for the Maritime Provinces."

F. MacLure Scandlers, as commissioner, spoke as follows:

THE NEW SPIRIT.

"During the past eighteen months—as the President has said—the whole Maritime situation has brightened materially; and this brightening has induced an evident general hopefulness which I have named The New Spirit."

It is new because so happily different from the old spirit—the discouraged, somewhat pessimistic spirit.

"And, why this new spirit? Simply because, for the first time for almost three score years, there is substantial hope of better things for us—hope for the removal of our artificial handicaps so that we may be free to win for the Maritimes their proper participation in the progress and prosperity of the Dominion. This new spirit was stirred into being by the very hope of better things; and, already, its cheering ray touches our agricultural life, our industrial and commercial life, and the patient hearts of our splendid people."

"Let us examine briefly a few of the reasons for hopefulness from which the new spirit has sprung:

FARM RESURRECTION.

"In the first place, my confident belief is that we now stand upon the outer threshold of an agricultural resurrection throughout this province. The new spirit has probably touched our agricultural community more than any other, so far. Toward this, the statistics compiled by your board about a year ago have not been without influence. These demonstrated to the farmer that our province was annually importing some seven million dollars worth of products which we could and should grow, and thus provided the actuality of an exceedingly

important local market. Further thoughtful study of the whole situation led to the conclusion that our main agricultural problem was one of marketing and distribution, and upon its solution, I am glad to say, some of

our brightest minds are now concentrating. Solve that problem for the farmer and the matter of production is likely to take care of itself. This, the

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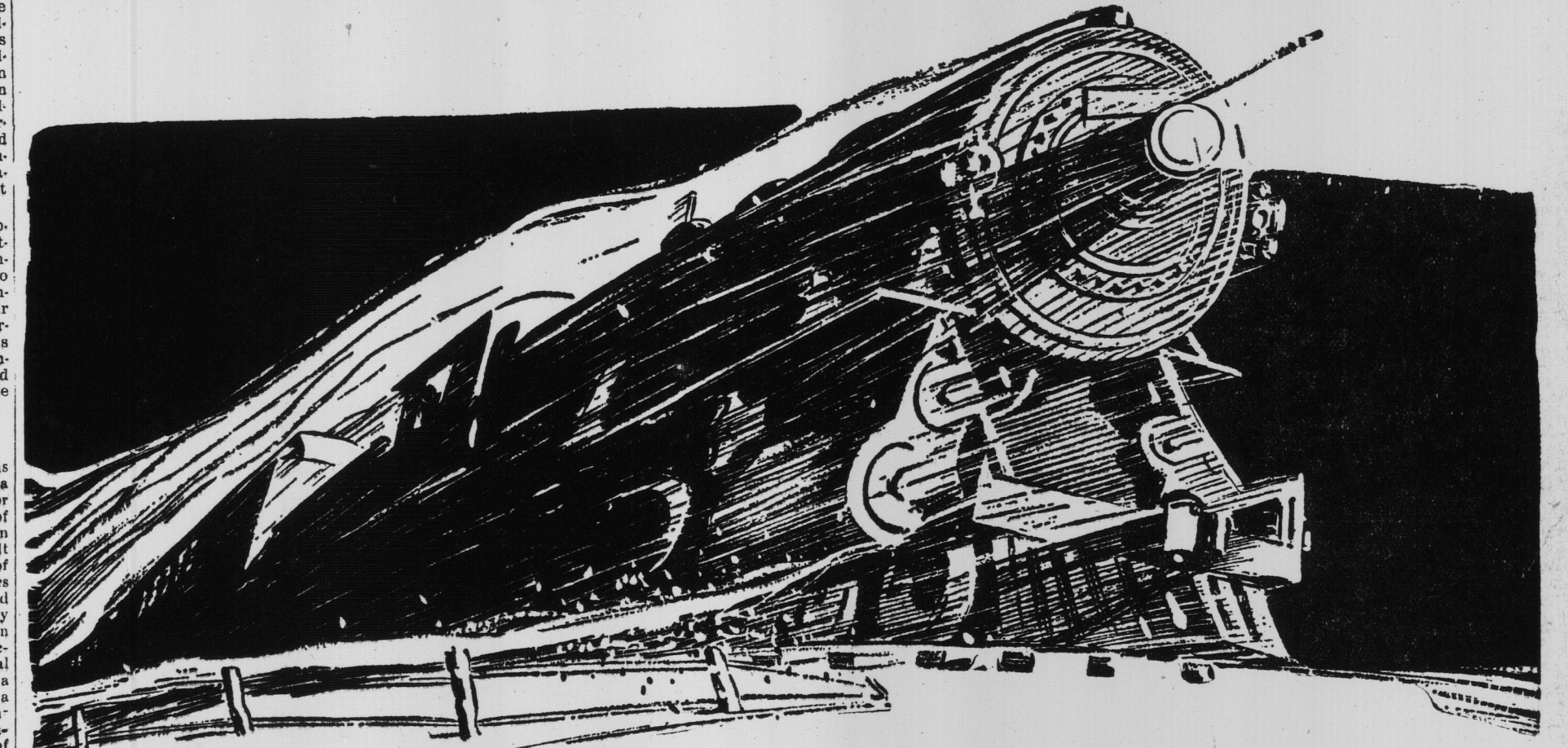
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