

LEAD BOUNTY

(From Friday's Daily.)

The principal business transacted at the annual meeting of the Nelson board of trade was the election of officers and a discussion of the lead bounty. The resolutions emanating from other boards were not brought before the meeting, not having been received from the secretary of the Associated Boards. These will be considered at a special meeting, to be held at a later date.

There were present: F. A. Starkey, in the chair; H. G. Goodlove, H. E. Douglas, J. E. Annable, J. Johnstone, W. A. Macdonald, A. Lean, L. Hill, S. S. Fowler, A. D. Emory, H. Byers, T. G. Procter, I. G. Nelson, E. W. Wicowson, J. M. Lay, L. Pratt, R. S. Lennie, D. E. McMorris, A. W. Dyer, F. J. Deane, W. H. Jones, F. L. Hammond, L. A. Kelly, and P. G. Ebbutt, secretary.

After the reading of the minutes, a somewhat lengthy proceeding in view of the large amount of business transacted at the previous meeting, the address of the president was read upon the conditions and work of the year. This will be found on another page. The accounts showed the board to be in a much better condition than at this time last year, to be precisely the same, to have a small surplus on hand.

J. M. Lay moved a hearty vote of thanks to the president for his excellent and comprehensive report of the year's work and further moved that the report be printed and distributed. This resolution was seconded by I. G. Nelson, and carried unanimously.

On the election of officers being then proceeded with, F. A. Starkey was elected president for his third term, there being none other placed in nomination. P. G. Ebbutt, secretary, and H. G. Goodlove, treasurer. The executive were elected as follows: J. M. Lay, T. G. Procter, Leslie Hill, L. G. Nelson, F. J. Deane, W. A. Macdonald, H. Byers, W. Annable, W. A. Anstie, F. L. Hammond, R. S. Lennie and H. E. Douglas.

R. I. Lawrence was elected a member of the board. The Toronto Monetary Times asked for statistical information as to Nelson, in answer to which a copy of the new year's edition of The Daily News and Advertiser was moved and sent. W. A. Macdonald moved and seconded that a copy of the president's address be sent to the Monetary Times also. This was carried unanimously.

The correspondence between the railway commission and the board of trade here with reference to the freight rates and the sitting of the railway commission at Winnipeg were then read. Other business transacted was the retaining of the American consular agency here was also read. "These matters have already been published in the columns of The Daily News."

A copy of the postmaster-general's letter to the request for a house-to-house postal delivery here saying that the matter would be taken under the consideration of the department.

S. E. Fowler urged, with reference to the resolution as to the lead bounty going before the Associated Boards, that the matter be taken under the lead under \$216, many lead producers were in favor of raising this figure up to \$218. Many properties could not ship at this price, but as it is and moreover, the British Columbia mines, even at that price, did not get as high a price for their product as the United States. The trail board had endorsed the resolution as coming from Nelson on this matter, recommending, however, that a bounty on lead under \$118 instead of \$216 be asked for. He therefore moved that the modification of the Nelson resolution made by Trail be endorsed.

L. Pratt, in support, said that the raising of the limit did not tax the people inasmuch as the amount set apart had never been expended. Furthermore, that, whereas, when the lead bounty had originally been granted, it was a market for a by-product, zinc, in the United States, that market no longer existed.

T. G. Procter seconded the motion. S. S. Fowler went on to explain that the Blue Bell mine had been developed at a great cost by French capital. It had some zinc, for which it entertained no hope of a market for some years, and was not to be operated unless wages and the cost of supplies were reduced. It was for this reason that he had asked for an extension of the lead bounty limit to \$218.

Leslie Hill endorsed the remarks of the preceding speakers.

The motion then passed. S. S. Fowler said the lead miners were sending J. L. Rettallack and L. Pratt of Kelso and Sandoz respectively, to Ottawa as their representatives. He would ask, if the board saw fit, to accredit these representatives as delegates also from the Nelson board of trade and further, that the board instruct its representatives to the Associated Boards to obtain, if possible, a similar endorsement from that body. Mr. Rettallack was leaving for Ottawa on Sunday next, and Mr. Pratt would follow shortly afterwards.

W. A. Macdonald coincided with these views, and after some further discussion, the matter was put in the form of a motion and passed. This board approves of a general publicity campaign and information bureau as started by the 20,000 club and the every effort should be made by the citizens of Nelson to support the same.

J. Johnstone seconded and the resolution carried. Delegates were then appointed to the convention of the Associated Boards at Moyle, being S. S. Fowler and T. G. Procter, with I. G. Nelson and F. L. Hammond as alternate delegates. The president explained that he had held brief for the present the resolution for the Associated Boards with regard to rates on a mileage basis from gear points until such time as there were

further developments as to the railway commission enquiry.

The meeting then adjourned.

The president's annual address:

"Gentlemen: In looking back over the outcome of the work of last year in Nelson and the surrounding districts, I think I may safely be said that it has been a period of greater and steadier growth than has as yet been recorded in the annals of this city. This is in spite of the various and serious drawbacks—drawbacks that have called upon the best energies of our citizens to overcome, and I am happy to say that the board of trade has more than met the occasion in combating these adverse influences. The work that has been accomplished the board may well be proud of. It is looked upon, and rightly so, as the most active body in an active and energetic country. This state of affairs has only come about by the self-sacrifice and the patriotic devotion of the members of the board, and the citizens of the community, a public spirit which I hope will never die out in Nelson if Nelson is ever to fulfil its destiny, that of being Kootenay's capital."

"As I noted in my address of last year, 1906 was to be considered as the parting of the ways between the old and the new in the life of this portion of the province. It is in the coming into being again when British Columbia was spoken of Victoria was meant. Then came the development of the Mainland, and lastly, that of Kootenay. It is not more than a very few years since a traveler from the Kootenay would find his country unknown. Today the Kootenay is heard of not only from the coast of Canada to the other end of the world, but actually known in London. This has been due to the efforts at publicity by the press, the 20,000 club and the activities of our own board of trade. Various ways, still in this direction there remains much to be done. The merits of Kootenay cannot be too well advertised."

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expanding the lumber manufacturing will be in a position to take advantage of the fact of the large quantities realized by the northwest farmers for their crops, there is no reason whatsoever why with the spring the lumber market should not be as buoyant as ever.

FRUIT

"During the past year there has been less speculation and more settling on land. Not only has settling gone on steadily upon the West Arm and upon Kootenay river, but the settlements at Crowfoot bay and elsewhere along Kootenay lake, on the Arrow lakes, at Robson, at Dog creek, at Five valley, at Burton, are showing much strength. Similar conditions are to be noted on the Slokan river, and particularly in this case south of Nelson at Fruitvale. Hundreds of new families have come in. New communities are springing up. Many new post offices have been added, school buildings erected, shops and stores built, showing a sturdy growth generally. The acreage of land cleared during 1907 was much greater than in any year previous. There were more trees planted, and despite the badness of the season, owing to the late spring and wet summer, the total valuation of fruit for the year was much larger than the year before. This is due to the coming into bearing of many of the trees previously planted. A careful estimate of the value of the fruit—produced in Nelson and in adjoining districts gives \$48,000, which is a large figure. This was made up somewhat in the following manner:

"Strawberries, 15,000 crates; raspberries, 15,000; gooseberries, 10,000; currants, 10,000; plums, 10,000; cherries, 10,000; peaches, 200; pears, 500; apples, 5,000. These figures there have been produced 20 cars of potatoes and other vegetables valued at about \$10,000. These figures are nothing in comparison with the millions of the mining and the lumber, but the fruit industry is in its early stages and it is to be congratulated that it is so. The American consular agency in this city. An order was given to cancel this, but on the matter being taken up by the consular agent, it was found that the representations of the board had their effect and that order was rescinded."

"The principal special work lying before the board at the present time is the pressing of the agitation with regard to the freight rate into Kootenay. This question is too well known and understood to need further explanation. It is a question of large importance to the people of this city, and the price of success is unrestrained effort."

"During the year the board received a visit from Robert Grieg, representing the department of the board of trade of the imperial government, who sought information for the purpose of increasing trade between Kootenay and Great Britain. He attended one of our regular meetings and in a noteworthy speech expressed himself as highly impressed with the future prospects of this country."

"One regrettable feature is the lack of completion of the municipal power plant, for our minor industries cannot be expected to flourish unless they have a guaranteed supply of power at an economical rate. It is impossible for the city to furnish them this until the city itself has its power plant completed. It is sincerely to be hoped that this delay, which is militating against the best interests of Nelson in various directions, will not be of very much longer continuance."

BOARD'S WORK

"The board throughout the year has dealt with very many subjects—subjects which have had their direct bearing upon the growth of Nelson and its general interests. First in this connection may be mentioned the subject of the press. The publicity which Nelson seeks cannot become an accomplished fact until such time as the whole of Canada, nay, the whole of the world, is linked together by a network of telegraph lines, which will make us neighbors rather than strangers. Resolutions were passed in this regard by the board, and it is hoped that the views expressed to them. The matter is now of some considerable importance not only in Canada but also in the old world. It is probable that something will be done."

"Earlier in the year the question of the reclamation of the Kootenay river came up at the instance of Kelso. In this direction, the general board of trade convention at Greenwood were instructed against this point, but a compromise was arrived at in which there was no objection, provided the general level of the water in the West Arm of the lake was preserved."

"The board has agitated on more than one occasion during the year the public ownership of telephones, but so far with little success, although the subject has been agitated. It is now an accomplished fact in many towns of the Northwest territories. This has been partly due to the action on the part of the British Columbia government and partly to the present inability of Nelson, tied up as she is with an incomplete power plant, to accomplish much. Still as the matter is likely to add to the general revenues of Nelson, it certainly should not be forgotten by this board."

"Early in the year the shortage of coal led to an enquiry. The board took steps in this direction, the general consequences of which may be shortly stated to be a subsequent improvement and addition to the rolling stock of the railway."

"On two or three occasions during the year the board has had sharply to take to task the publishers of misleading advertisements re fruit lands. Knowing the boards' activity in this direction, the publishers have been deterred to a large extent, and it is now being generally recognized that while good Kootenay fruit land is not so rare as the continent yet, it is not so good as the fruit land of the Kootenay. It is still suffering in many directions from want of roads. There has been a good deal accomplished in this direction during the year, but the work is not done. It is a large sum of money, but for all that expenditure there is not today a continuous road leading from Nelson either to Procter or to Robson. If this board were to depend rather upon the efforts of the associated boards exercised for the good of the whole district than upon themselves in individual efforts, a better and scientific scheme of systematic road building might be accomplished."

"The board has succeeded in obtaining postal collection boxes for this city and not satisfied in this direction has gone forward and asked for a house to house delivery of mail."

"One of the most dangerous tie-ups of the year was that of the strike at the coal fields of Fernie. Here our board did not have the capacity to do more than to advise the citizens of the city, and to urge them to do what they could for the purpose and it may be said that the efforts of this board, with others have led to the greatest improvement of these conditions, especially relative to the shipping of coal and coal to the Montana smelters. During the present year the Crown's Nest Pass Coal company will double its capacity so that there will be plenty of coal and coal for the smelters of Kootenay and Yale and for those of the United States. Also it may be noted that the C.P.R. is opening up extensively at Homer, a mine which will supply all the fuel on its line westward. A coal and coke shortage is therefore no longer to be feared, and the citizens of this city and the Lemieux act, it is probable that serious strikes will be averted."

"Your board in midsummer took up the question of the railway strike at Kelso, at the request of the citizens of that district and by the united efforts of Slokan and Nelson, the Canadian Pacific was induced to reconsider the matter and to make a satisfactory compromise."

"Quite apart from the help afforded by the board to the 20,000 club, the work done by it in connection with the exhibitions at Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina and Moose Jaw has done much to advertise the Kootenay in the Northwest, but also in this connection I remind the board that it is their duty to do more than to help the exhibition that is coming on at Calgary in the summer, in which direction steps have already been taken, but to send a delegation to the exhibition which is taking place at Seattle this year. The last exhibition is planned upon the same scale as the larger exhibitions in the United States, and there should be the hundreds of thousands of visitors, a percentage which could easily be induced to visit the Kootenay on their return journey."

"Another reason for the retention of the American consular agency in this city. An order was given to cancel this, but on the matter being taken up by the consular agent, it was found that the representations of the board had their effect and that order was rescinded."

viner discloses the fact that liabilities in Quebec increased about two millions and in Ontario almost as much. Smaller increases occurred in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta, while liabilities were less than in previous years in British Columbia, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island. The largest increases in number were 75 in Quebec and 55 in Ontario, while the greatest improvement was a decrease of 33 in Manitoba.

RINK SKIPS ARE CHOSEN

MEETING OF NELSON CURLERS LAST NIGHT

FULL RINKS WILL BE SELECTED ON MONDAY NEXT

There was a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Nelson curlers last night at the rink on Vernon street at 8 o'clock, president Cavanaugh being in the chair. The principal business of the evening was the election of skips and the reception of a report from P. A. Starkey, president of the B. C. Curling association, which is holding its annual bannquet here on Jan. 20 next.

Mr. Starkey reported that all arrangements had been made for the rink on Monday night and that he anticipated that a most successful bannquet would be the result. The meeting resolved the report and it was made manifest that each and every one of the members present would do their best to make the bannquet the success which Mr. Starkey claimed it would be. The meeting proceeded to the election of skips, 23 of whom had to be chosen. Of last year's skip only 15 remained and the new and old skips were chosen by ballot. The remaining skip with the following result: W. A. Macdonald, W. H. Jones, R. M. Bird, C. A. Dill and Capt. Robert. The skip continued from last year are C. D. Blackwood, J. Fox, Judge Forin, J. G. Bunyan, J. H. Walker, R. W. Dwyer, N. J. Cavanaugh, A. Harris, H. Bird, J. H. Walker, B. Dwyer, F. A. Starkey, A. McIntyre and G. P. Wells.

A meeting of the skips and the membership committee will be held on Monday evening next at 8 o'clock at the rink to make up the rink for the year. This cannot be done until such time as the rink is completed. It is a question of large importance to the people of this city, and the price of success is unrestrained effort."

"During the year the board received a visit from Robert Grieg, representing the department of the board of trade of the imperial government, who sought information for the purpose of increasing trade between Kootenay