

PROSPECTS GOOD FOR NEW INDUSTRIES HERE

NEW ERA IS SEEN AT TRADE BOARD MEET

Hopeful Words Spoken by L. W. Simms and Others at Annual Session; A. P. Paterson Tells of Forward Move

THE DAWNING of a new era of prosperity for the Maritime Provinces was predicted at the annual meeting of the Saint John Board of Trade held at the Admiral Beatty Hotel last evening.

Several speakers were heard during the evening and were unanimous in their belief that the disabilities of the Maritimes were at last being recognized and the people of Canada as a whole were determined that justice would be meted out.

The address of the president, L. W. Simms, was an exceedingly eloquent and forceful effort and created an impression on those present that will remain with them for years to come. At the conclusion of his remarks the vice-president, Lt.-Col. A. E. Massie, arose and expressed his opinion that those present should get behind Mr. Simms and bring before the people of the Dominion the fact that the rights of the East must be recognized, a thing that could only be accomplished by unsolicited labor.

WORK OF TWO PRAISED. A motion that the report of the Board, in speaking of the splendid accomplishments of the president, be referred to the untold labors of the Board at the present time and during the past year is carried with greater success than since its inauguration 101 years ago. This he attributed to the untiring efforts of the members, in concluding he said that the contribution of the Board to the movement of the Maritime demands made by the "Telegraph-Journal" and the "Times" should not be forgotten.

SURPLUS OF ABOUT \$3,000. The report of the treasurer, A. L. Foster, was a most encouraging one and showed a favorable balance of approximately \$3,000 for the year. The nominations for councilors were declared open by the president at 7:30 o'clock and closed at 8:30. Mr. A. L. Foster, J. G. Harrison, W. A. McKenna, G. B. Oland and H. C. Schofield were declared elected by the councilors. President Simms stated that it was the greatest privilege of his life to cooperate with every member of the Board.

A. P. PATERSON SPEAKS. A. P. Paterson, author of "The True Story of the Maritimes," has created a Dominion-wide impression which was then called on by the chairman. He outlined the events leading up to the appointment of the Duncan and Freight Rates Commission and the credit for this was due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Scandlers, he said. He referred to the statement of W. S. Fielding made in 1903 when that honorable gentleman stated that it was time that the Maritimes were accorded a fair treatment. The appointment of the two commissions was the first step that had been taken in the past century, that had been recognized not only in Saint John but throughout our three provinces, was strikingly demonstrated at the recent annual meeting of the Maritime Board of Trade at Truro, where his appointment as secretary grew out of a spontaneous desire on the part of all present that he should be thus placed in a position to the better continue that co-ordinating and inspiring influence that had played such an important part in crystallizing and motivating the successive efforts that led up to the action of the Dominion Government in the freight rate enquiry and the appointment of the Duncan Commission.

EXECUTIVE OBTAINED. "You will recall that those who were induced to make possible our forward movement by special subscriptions covering a three-year period were not promised any program save that we would endeavor to obtain the best executive to be had in the country and that under his direction we would spare no effort to first find and then remove the obstructions to the progress vital to our communities' very life."

BOUND UP WITH MARITIMES. "We have never lost sight of the fact that our first responsibility was to our own local community, but more and more it has come home to us that our welfare was inseparably bound up with that of our own province and only to a less degree with all the Maritime Provinces."

WESTERN REALIZE STORY. Mr. Wilson said that he had been well repaid for his trip across a continent to be present and hear such inspiring addresses. The people of the west are beginning to realize the immense problems that confront the Maritimes and his own understanding, he said, had been considerably enlightened after his

knowledge of our conditions through constant touch over many years and an understanding born of a remarkable love for New Brunswick and its people. Commissioner Scandlers had a faith in our potential possibilities that exceeded that of most, not only of our own citizens. It will be borne in mind, too, that he had acquired a deserved and firmly established reputation as a man of high character and integrity. He had labored for statehood and a thorough command of the vocabulary upon which community betterment must depend for success. He had also shown a firm grasp of the most tangible kind of accomplishments.

WORK OF MR. SCANDLERS. "As your president has watched the untiring devotion with which Mr. Scandlers spared not himself to labor in our cause, he has realized how little he has done personally to deserve the great honor you have conferred upon him in breaking a wise precedent of long standing to elect him for a third term. Probably the best compliment rendered was to impart to Mr. Scandlers at times when the task was heavier than usual, the confidence and faith that we all have in him."

AGRICULTURE. "Our Board deems it of the highest importance that it should adopt a sincerely interested and helpful attitude toward agriculture, and this it has consistently done. Our conviction that the agricultural possibilities of our province are capable of remarkable expansion and that, upon such expansion, the general prosperity of the province depends, is a conviction that is shared by all who are interested in the interests of commerce and agriculture as inseparably interdependent."

INDUSTRIES SOUGHT. "While realizing that our chances for success in bringing important new enterprises to Saint John will be increased in a hundred fold when the relief we are confidently expecting from the movement for recognition of Maritime Rights and the Railway Commission enquiry will be realized, we have not been altogether idle regarding both actual and potential projects."

SHEEP FARMING. "Next spring we have arranged for a large and influential corporation to investigate the advantages of our province for the establishment of sheep farming on a large scale under the guidance of experienced Old Country shepherds. If we can show our conditions to be as favorable for the successful conduct of this industry as we believe we can, the corporation has undertaken to go ahead."

NEW PLANT OPERATING. "Local Packing Plant—This splendidly up-to-date plant of the British Canadian Packing Corporation is now operating. For those who have never looked it over a very pleasant surprise awaits. It is complete in every detail. So far most of the money represented by the plant has been subscribed by over two thousand farmer shareholders. Comparatively little has been contributed from urban centres. In other words, the farmers have courageously backed their faith in the proposition that they have put forward to recognize the need for such a plant. They look to it to provide a permanent market for their stock, which full current prices will prevail."

MINERALS. "For a long time our Board has felt that the mineral potentialities of this province were not receiving any serious consideration. That our province does possess mineral wealth in considerable variety and of real value, now seems beyond question. During the past year your officers have interviewed a number of mineralogists who have been quietly working in certain sections of the province, and, without exception,

sections, as was commonly the case. There is a new attitude on their part toward the newcomer—all of which is hopeful.

TRANSPORTATION BODY. "This faithful committee of which F. W. Roach is chairman, has kept a constant eye upon local transportation matters and has effectively dealt with a number of considerable importance. One of the main concerns at present is to secure a really good passenger service between Halifax and Saint John, and prospects of success seem favorable. The Halifax board is co-operating. The committee also contemplates that the suburban train service to this city is not adequate and could be increased with advantage to the railways and public alike."

MARINE INSURANCE. "As you are probably aware, Lloyd's and other British underwriters charge a premium of one-half of one per cent on hulls of vessels trading to Saint John. In the case of neither Halifax nor Portland is this premium applied. In the case of an extra tramp, it means about \$1,000 per voyage—a rather serious handicap, which we are endeavoring to have removed. The withdrawal by the C. N. R. of the Saint John-Saint-Rosalie Junction alternative routing privilege brought a strong protest from your committee, the privilege being of great importance to many New Brunswick shippers. I am glad to say

that on 22nd October, the Dominion Board of Railway Commissioners gave judgment in our favor. "Throughout the year, many minor transportation matters have been dealt with promptly and effectively. Your transportation committee is a conscientious, hardworking one, and I heartily congratulate Mr. Hoach upon its good and useful work."

SHIPPING OUTLOOK. "The outlook for this season is remarkably encouraging. The facilities of our port are certain to be taxed to the utmost—in fact, the need for additional facilities is likely to be completely upon us somewhat emphatically. "His Worship, Mayor White has already appointed a strong committee representative of the various interests to deal with this matter. The issue is one of the most important that has ever confronted us. The nationalization of our port will mean for us possibilities of general expansion which are now hopelessly beyond our grasp. Nothing could help us more. The matter is an intricate one, and wisdom of compromise in the case of all parties concerned. But success will depend more upon the solid unity of our own people than upon August

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WEST INDIAN SERVICE. The withdrawal by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company of the two steamers heretofore plying between Saint John and Halifax and the West Indian Islands of the eastern group, and Demerara, left but two steamers in the service, which was thus reduced from a fortnightly to merely a monthly one. For such reduction the substitution of two C. G. M. steamers does not compensate, as these provide no suitable mail and passenger service. The board has made strong representations to the government as to the seriousness of the delay in fulfilling the obligation to improve the service between Canada and the West Indies. Our West Indian committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. F. Blake, has also interviewed Hon. James Malcolm, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and gone thoroughly into the whole matter, and that general opinion. In our opinion, the West Indian service should be handled by a private shipping concern subsidized by

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