

The Drummers.

The annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers Association was held in Winnipeg on Wednesday evening last. President Jos. Campbell occupied the chair. Secretary J. M. O'Loughlin read the annual report, as follows:

"In presenting this the fifth annual report, your directors have much pleasure in reporting the gratifying increase in the membership of the association, 190, as compared with 160 for last year. The increase being represented by active members.

"We have arranged for insurance for the coming year with the London Guarantee and Accident Company, on more advantageous terms than heretofore, which includes not only a reduced premium but also increased benefits to our members. We particularly draw your attention to the fact that should any of our members desire extra insurance for any sum up to four thousand dollars, our arrangements with this company will give them the benefit of a greatly reduced premium, for such extra insurance. Our constitution and by-laws, which we hope to hand you in a few days, will contain full particulars of our contract with the company.

"In accordance with instructions given at the quarterly meeting held on the 2nd of April last, circulars were sent to hotels and livery stables, and the revised list will also appear in the book of by-laws.

"According to arrangement R. D. Richardson, bookseller and stationer of this city, will allow 10 per cent reduction on all books and stationery and subscriptions to newspapers and magazines purchased by members of the association.

"In response to telegrams received from the Montreal and Toronto associations, requesting that a delegate be sent from here to attend a joint meeting of the various Railway Corporations and Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada, to be held in Montreal, on the 12th instant, your board deemed it advisable in your interests that we should be represented, and accordingly a resolution was adopted authorizing the secretary to attend said meeting and there to present the claims of this association. We have much pleasure in stating as a result that we have obtained a special rate of eighty dollars for a round trip ticket from Winnipeg to the Pacific Coast, thereby effecting a saving to our members of about thirty dollars, the rate being about 2.6 cents per mile. This ticket is unlimited, and includes stop over privileges both ways; also giving the holder privilege of returning from Kamloops, if so desired. We have great hopes in the near future of obtaining still further concessions.

"Arrangements have also been made with the Grand Trunk railway, that our certificates shall be honored at any of its stations east of Sarnia at 2½ cents per mile.

"In furtherance of the resolution passed at the general meeting held on the 3d of December, your board is having prepared a bond indemnifying the transportation companies from loss or damage to baggage, for the signature of travellers, and firms whose travellers are members of this association.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL, President.

JOHN M. O'LOUGHLIN, Secretary.

Reference was also made to the proposed formation of a library and other minor matters.

Treasurer Wm. M. Ronald presented his report showing as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
To cash balance on hand Dec. 15, 1895	\$1,273 82
Balance to credit dinner fund	0 00
Subscriptions—189 active members	1,690 00
" 15 Honorary members	75 00
" One, life to active member	5 00
Donation to library from Geo. E. Tuckett & Son	100 00
Accrued interest, Commercial bank, to Oct. 31	26 08
Total	\$3,176 80
DISBURSEMENTS.	
By secretary's services for 1895	\$ 215 75
Grant Winnipeg General Hospital	50 00
Grant Maternity Hospital	25 00
" Infants Home	25 00
Jas. E. Steen	8 00
Wm. Clougher, balance of dinner account	53 90
Printing and stationery, dinner account	21 55
Printing and stationery, general account	41 55
Manitoba Free Press	6 00
Manitoba Printing Co	4 50
W. R. Mulock, solicitor, cost of Act of Incorporation	1887
Sun Life and Accident Co, Premium on Accident Policies, 190 members	535 34
Telegrams during year	5 22
Secretary's services for	265 50
" on account expenses to Mon-	
" Montreal and return	100 00
Balance on hand and in bank	1,531 89
Total	\$3,176 80

In the annual financial statement, your treasurer takes great pleasure in calling your attention to the steady progress made during the year just closed. Our last statement showed a membership of 160, with assets of \$1,273.82, while this year we report 190 members on the roll and a surplus of \$1,531.89. The total receipts, including balance from last year, amounted to \$3,176.80, and expenditure to \$1,644.91. Of this amount \$455.25 belonged to last year's business. Our total liabilities at the present time amount to \$50. At the directors' meeting, held in January, it was unanimously resolved to procure an act of incorporation, and application was made to the Legislature of Manitoba at its last session, and a special act was passed and assented to on May 23rd. The expenses of incorporation amounted to \$283.60, which is considered a judicious expenditure, as the association has now a legal standing and can speak and act as a corporate body. In July last our bank account was transferred to Commercial Bank of Manitoba, from which institution we receive interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum, thus furnishing an additional source of income to the association.

Your treasurer acknowledges with thanks the receipt from Messrs. Geo. E. Tuckett & Son of a cheque for \$100, as a donation to the library fund of the association.

WM. M. RONALD,
Treasurer.

Phil. Armour, the famous Chicago beef packer, has been for some time past contemplating Duluth as a northwestern distributing point. Plans have been drawn for an eight-story refrigerator 80x170 feet to be erected on Railroad street. The plans embrace a new system of cooling, which has met with the approval of Mr. Armour. The work will begin early in the spring.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

Wm. Ellis, baker, Alvinston, has sold out. J. H. Hodgins, tailor, London, has assigned. Tovell & Smith, fancy goods, Paris, have assigned.

C. F. Cliff & Son, woolens, Durham, have assigned.

John. E. Smith, hardware, St. Thomas, has assigned.

Wm. Young, general storekeeper, Tara, has assigned.

Pettit Bros. & Co, stoves, etc., Combor, have dissolved.

Alex. Fair, cigar manufacturer, Brantford, has sold out.

Jas. Kirkpatrick, general storekeeper, Forest, has assigned.

Mrs. Connor, grocer, Peterboro, has retired from business.

Raymond & Thorne, hat dealers, London, have assigned.

John Vogan, grocer, Vankleek Hill, has assigned in trust.

Mrs. A. Jackson, grocer, etc., Georgetown, was burned out.

Mrs. R. McMaster, fancy goods, Georgetown, was burned out.

F. A. Richardson, general storekeeper, Trout Creek, has assigned.

Noel & Chevrier, clothiers, Ottawa, have held a meeting of creditors.

F & M. Thompson, general storekeepers, Mount Forest, have assigned.

W. H. Field, druggist, Pickering, has sold out and removed to Toronto.

S. Ray, hotelkeeper, Ashburnham, has sold out and removed to Peterboro.

Braundon & Robson, general storekeepers, Fenelon Falls, have dissolved.

J. L. Murphy, general storekeeper, Carleton Place, is advertising to sell out.

Simpson, Ross & Co., real estate Toronto,—Arch. McKinley, of this firm, dead.

Geo. Murray, general storekeeper, Hensall,—stock advertised for sale on 23rd inst.

Benjamin Grennan, general storekeeper, Richmond Hill, has removed to Aurora.

G. H. Hansler & Co., general storekeepers, Tilsonburg, are offering compromise of 50c in the dollar.

QUEBEC.

Corbeil & Frere, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.

L. N. Miller & Co., grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Racette & Bousquet, contractors, Montreal, have dissolved.

Armstrong & Co., photographers, Montreal, have dissolved.

John Baird & Co., commission merchants, Montreal, have assigned.

T. F. G. Day, jeweler, Montreal, advertises stock for sale by auction.

Frank Sauve, saloonkeeper, Montreal; has held a meeting of creditors.

F. C. Ireland & Son, mill owners, Lachute Mills, have removed to Toronto.

Fournier & Co., general storekeepers, Magog,—demand of assignment made on them.

O. Lemire & Co., general storekeepers, St. Isidore,—demand of assignment made on them.