

THE BOARD OF RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS.

The Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada has been increased to six members under the authority of c. 62 of the statutes of 1908. The *Canada Gazette* of September 19th announces that His Excellency, the Governor-General, has been pleased to make the following appointments: James Pitt Mabee, James Mills, M. E. Bernier, D'Arcy Scott, Thomas Greenway and S. J. McLean, to be members of the Board; J. P. Mabee to be Chief Commissioner and D'Arcy Scott to be Assistant Chief Commissioner thereof.

The three first named were already members of the Board, and we need not refer to them further now. The new Assistant Chief Commissioner is a son of the Secretary of State, who has resigned from the Cabinet. Mr. Scott has been, for some years, the Ottawa solicitor of one of the large railway companies, and, during the past two years, has occupied the important position of Mayor of Ottawa. As such he has had to do with questions between the municipality and the railways. He is known to be fair and practical, and, in time, will, no doubt, become a valuable member of the Board. Without, however, in any way reflecting on his capabilities, it might have been desirable that a lawyer of riper years and maturer judgment should have been chosen as Assistant Commissioner. Mr. Scott might very properly and reasonably have served, for a time at least, as an ordinary member of the Commission, rather than, as he usually will be, the acting Chief Justice of one division of this Railway Court, which is now enabled to sit in two divisions simultaneously.

Mr. Greenway has had large experience in public life, but was, undoubtedly, put on the Board to represent the West and its farming interests. If it is necessary that the farmers should be represented, Mr. Greenway will, no doubt, fulfil the expectations of his friends. The appointment of Prof. S. J. McLean will also be acceptable, for though rather a theorist than having had an experimental training, his intimate knowledge of the