

obnoxious bill, framed in the interests of Montreal, but which, if put in force in this province, the Northwest Territories or British Columbia, will be simply a bill to allow officials to eat up and squander insolvent estates, instead of dividing them up among creditors.

This Board has shown itself ever ready to use its influence in the interests of our farmers' and for the benefit of agriculture in this province, and in connection with no matter has it shown it so plainly, as regarding the growing evil of noxious weed spread. It is to be regretted that the efforts of the Board have not been productive of more practical action on the part of the Provincial Government, in order to reduce this evil to a minimum, if it cannot be entirely wiped out. To the incoming Council this will be a duty imperative, namely, that they continue to press upon our provincial rulers the necessity of prompt and effectual action for the mitigation of this agricultural pest. It is steadily spreading westward from the Red river valley, and in a few years it will become a much more difficult matter to grapple with than it is at present.

It is unnecessary for me to further refer to what this Board has accomplished during the past year, and it seems like vanity on the part of your retiring President to say much on this subject.

By far the widest field for thought, and careful though on the part of Winnipeg business men, lies in what this Board has not undertaken as yet, or has only commenced undertaking without as yet accomplishing anything practical.

Lying right in the gateway of this field are the projects yet to be carried out to make Winnipeg what it ought to be, the great grain centre of the western portion of the Dominion, in which not only the interests of trade in the limited sense, but also the interests of our agriculturists of the Northwest will be well looked after, and controlled so far as their marketing and commercial handling is concerned by men here, whose interests are also in this country, and so far identical with those of our farmers. The duties of this Board will be