

## OPENING UP TRAILS.

The council in following up the work of making trails which have so materially assisted business in former years by diverting trade to Regina, laid out a trail and built two bridges and several culverts in a south easterly direction, with the result that the trade of a large and prosperous settlement has been brought to do most of their dealing in Regina, which formerly was all given to neighboring towns. I may state here that we were materially assisted with funds by J. Secord, M.L.A., out of Government funds at his disposal for which the council of the board feel very much indebted to him.

## IMMIGRATION AGENTS.

The various delegates to the eastern provinces this winter have been liberally supplied with immigration literature by the board.

## DON'T PAY THEIR DEBTS.

The council have had under consideration the advisability of having a book kept for the information of the members of the Board of all the names of all parties in the town and district who have been in the habit of getting credit and not paying their debts promptly and in some cases not at all. A committee has been named to look into the matter and to report as to the advisability of establishing such a system and to recommend in what way it should be carried on.

## C.P.R. FREIGHT RECEIPTS.

As an evidence of the progress of the town below is given the receipts of the C.P.R. at the station and a comparison of receipts for the year 1888 and 1889:

Grand total of earnings:

1888.	1889.
\$107,005.80.	\$415,732.88.

This does not include excess baggage or telegraph receipts.

(Signed)

W. C. FOWLER, Agent.

A committee appointed have reported that the following is an estimate of the live stock and their value in this district which is a very fair showing considering that as yet we have few individuals who devote themselves entirely to stock and even those who do, have not as yet gone into it largely:

5500 head of cattle at \$35 .....	\$192,500.00
4700 " horses at \$100 .....	470,000.00
1450 " sheep at \$5 .....	7,250.00

Total.....\$669,750.00

DANIEL MOWAT, President.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

D. Mowat was unanimously re-elected president, F. Lamont vice-president, R. B. Ferguson treasurer, and R. J. Steele secretary. The following council was elected: Jos. Jackson, H. LeJume, R. Martin, J. A. MacCaul, J. W. Smith, C. H. Bayne, W. C. Asprey, J. J. Young, R. J. Tinning and J. T. Stemshorn.

Mayor MacCaul said while in Winnipeg the other day he saw Mr. Whyte, from whom he learned that an amount had been placed in the estimates for a new station at Regina this year, but headquarters had not yet been heard from. Mr. Whyte thought the station would be built this year.

The secretary's salary was raised from \$60 to \$85 per annum.

The question of a recent change in freight rates was discussed and a committee appointed to consider the matter.

A resolution was passed regretting that D.

W. Role was going to leave town, thanking him for his many services to Regina and wishing him success in the future.

## Board of Trade.

At a meeting of the Winnipeg board of trade on Tuesday last, a committee consisting of R. J. Whittle, A. Macdonald, D. Fraser, G. F. Galt, W. Georgeson, J. H. Ashdown, J. Redmond, Thos. Ryan, W. D. Pettigrew, G. F. Stephens, G. R. Crowe, S. Mairn, F. W. Stobart, J. H. Housser and S. R. Parsons, was appointed to extend to the delegates attending the Retailers Convention, the courtesies of the Winnipeg board of trade.

The secretary made the following report: The President and Council, Winnipeg Board of Trade:—

GENTLEMEN,—As requested by you when in Ottawa two weeks ago, I obtained interviews with several ministers regarding matters which the board has brought to their notice, and beg to report as follows:—Accompanied by Messrs. Scarth and Ross, M.P.'s, I interviewed the Hon. Mr. Tupper, minister of Marine and Fisheries regarding weather reports for Manitoba. The minister informed us that the petition of the board had been acceded to and the service would be rendered as soon as the signal officers could arrange the details.

In answer to Mr. Ross, Mr. Tupper intimated that the Government would probably at an early date, establish a fish hatchery at or near Lake Winnipeg. Referring to the contradictory statements that have been made regarding the depletion of the lake fisheries in Manitoba, the minister said it was decided to send up a thoroughly competent officer to examine into the matter and his report would guide him in taking action in the premises.

Accompanied by Messrs. Scarth and Ross, M.P.'s, I waited on the Minister of Public Works regarding the improvements to the navigation of the Red river. After a short conversation the Minister requested me to talk over the matter with Mr. Coste, acting chief engineer. Mr. Coste kindly gave me the substance of several reports prepared by the engineers of the department for the Minister and informed me that the Minister was now in possession of all the information necessary to decide on the extent and character of the work to be undertaken to give various depths of water between Lake Winnipeg and this city.

In the afternoon, accompanied by Senator Girard and Messrs. Scarth, Ross, Watson and LaFiviere, I had another interview with Sir Hector Langevin. The importance of the improvement of the river was fully gone into and the Minister was urged to provide in this year's estimates for a sum sufficient to at least remove the boulders from a wide channel. It was represented that this would have to be done no matter what plan of operations was ultimately decided on. The Minister fully concurred on this latter point and stated that a lengthy report from his engineers was awaiting his consideration, and this he would go into in a few days. He also said he would bring the matter before the council and endeavor to secure an appropriation. The deputation were impressed with an understanding that Sir Hector was favorably inclined to go on with the work as soon as possible. His attention was drawn to the fact that all the Manitoba members were as a unit in this request. The Minister stated

that he had given an order to have the additional number of locked drawers, etc., asked for by this board placed in the Winnipeg post office.

I had several interviews with the Minister of Inland Revenue and the Commissioner, Mr. Miall. The appointment of a board of arbitrators to act in cases of dispute between grain inspectors as to the true quality of grain, was consented to without hesitation. The matter of appointing public weighmasters for inter-provincial trade was discussed, and the proposition was very favorably entertained. It was suggested that the board draw up a memorial giving details as to the necessity and utility of public weighing at large shipping and storing points. Unfortunately circumstances prevented the Postmaster-General from receiving a deputation on the subject of increased mail facilities on the Glenboro branch of the Canadian Pacific railway. Mr. Scarth, however, informed me that Mr. Daly and himself had seen the Minister and hoped that the board's request will be granted. The Postmaster-General was considering a report from his officials and desired to give a third mail if the cost was not too great.

C. N. BELL.

## The Cotton Trade.

The mills are experiencing a brisk demand for white cotton and are kept busy on hand-to-mouth orders alone. This is accounted for by the advance in the price of the grey cotton product last year, which threw the demand at once upon the finer and comparatively cheaper material. Travellers state that consumers in the country who formerly used grey cotton exclusively, are now running largely on white goods, so that the serious disadvantage to the grey cotton trade caused by the advance in values has been of immense benefit to manufacturers of white goods, for now that a new class of consumers have become accustomed to wearing them it will be difficult to win them back to the coarser grey material, even at reduced prices. It is fortunate, however, for the grey cotton trade that only the larger mills have laid in a full stock of raw material, for had all the smaller mills laid in their complement, nothing could have prevented a glutted market in grey cottons during the present year. But now the steep advance in raw cotton has precluded further importations, as at present prices they cannot be manufactured except in small quantities. The chances therefore are that several of the smaller mills will have to close down, which will be a good thing for the whole trade, and in all probability prevent a severe crisis in the cotton manufacturing interests of the whole country.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin.*

THE Brandon Times has the following: "Farmers are warned against buying oats which have been brought in from Minnesota as they are said to contain mustard, wild oats and thistle seed." The Times is evidently misinformed in this matter. As a rule, Minnesota oats are very much more free from weeds than oats brought in from Ontario. Winnipeg grain dealers, who are handling car lots of both Minnesota and Ontario oats every day, all state that the Minnesota oats are better for seed, on account of their greater freedom from weeds. Minnesota is a younger country than Ontario, and the farms are freer of weeds.