

keenly felt, and your Council asked the co-operation of the Winnipeg Board of Fire Underwriters, which was cheerfully accorded, and arrangements are now being made, by which the desired information can be secured.

Through a communication from the Saint Paul Chamber of Commerce upon the subject, your Board have recently been asked for an expression of opinion upon the desirability of reciprocity with the United States. Your Council, while agreeing that the Board should express its opinion upon this subject, have deemed it unwise to bring the matter up for discussion in the Board during the present state of political excitement preceding the Dominion Elections.

There have been numerous other matters, which have engaged the attention of your Board and Council, and among the number that of securing permanent offices for the Board. Through application to the City Council, the Council have secured the present quarters, so that for the first time the Board meets in rooms which are exclusively its own.

While the year has been one of activity and perseverance on the part of your Board, it has also been one of progress, prosperity and reward. The report of the Treasurer for the year will show that financially the Board never was in a better position. The roll of membership has been steadily lengthening out, and now carries one hundred and forty-eight (148) with their fees paid up to date; while the proposed changes in the Winnipeg Custom House, the concession of reduced freight rates on the C.P.R. to all points west, and the fact that in the present political contest, no candidate for parliamentary honors in this province dares to differ from the views of the Board on the question of railway disallowance, all combine to show, that the labors of your Board during the past few years are now beginning to bear fruit. The statistical report of the city's trade which the Secretary has prepared goes to show that there has been no small degree of prosperity in trade circles of the city, so that altogether the Board has good reason for congratulation, while it has during the year received much encouragement to persevere in its good work. In closing, your Council find special cause for congratulation in the fact that the Board's record for the year furnishes no death roll of members. All of which is respectfully submitted for your approval.

KENNETH MACKENZIE,
President.

JAMES E. STEEN,
Secretary.