

crops twenty in number, aggregating 132 ft. of coal, may be examined with some facility, and are as follows:—1, 5 ft.; 2, 3 ft.; 3, 4 ft.; 4, 2 ft.; 5, 4 ft.; 6, 3 ft.; 7, 2 ft.; 8, 4 ft.; 9, 5 ft.; 10, 6 ft.; 11, 4 ft.; 12, 15 ft.; 13, 7 ft.; 14, 6 ft.; 15, 30 ft.; 16, 20 ft.; 17, 5 ft.; 18, 3 ft.; 19, 2 ft.; 20, 2 ft. Nos. 1 to 10 and 17 to 20 are cannel coal.

The distance from the most easterly to westerly outcrops is two miles; the outcrops of nearly all the seams may be so traced, either on the ridges of the mountains or in the sides of the ravines which score the face of the hills, and it is estimated that this coal field 144 square miles in extent, stretching from the eastern summit of Crow's Nest Pass and 4,330 ft. above the sea level to the vale of the British Columbian river Elk, is at once one of the most valuable and unique coalfields of the world. Basing calculations upon a per square mile quantity of 49,952,000 tons, or even reducing such to 24,976,000 tons available, the stupendous quantity of coal here dormant is obvious and as it appears that the country is comparatively easy of access, its near future development is practically assured.

Many of the seams are of first class coking coal, others of them are good gas, but none are anthracite coals. The quality of the fuel is good, and the difficulties of mountain coal-mining not exceptionally abnormal; markets are increasing in the development of the native precious metals on the one hand and the spread of railway enterprise on the other, and if the Americans of the West, like the Americans of the East in Nova Scotia, can be tempted to assist in exploiting the country, or where willing—as in some instances they are—could be encouraged by the Federal Government by fair and impartial treatment, which unfortunately has been denied them of late, in these mountain fastnesses of the west, the most sceptical critic of Canada may speedily anticipate the inception of commercial and industrial activity."

### The Winnipeg Board of Trade.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

To Manitoba the most interesting business event of the month of February is always the annual meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, which is held early in that month. The Winnipeg Board is one of the most important in Canada, and consequently its deliberations and proceedings are watched with special interest by the business community of not only Manitoba, but of the whole Dominion. The meeting this year was held in the new Board rooms in the Grain Exchange building on February 7th. The first thing in the order of business was the address of the retiring President, Jas. E. Steen.

Mr. Steen mentioned in opening the Congress of Chambers of Commerce which was held in London last June, and to which the Winnipeg Board sent two delegates. Then he went on to review the trade affairs of the city for the year 1892, and the Board's connection with them. In speaking of the report of the Council he said:—

"The reports presented show also, that the home arrangements of Northwestern trade have received much attention, and that the policy of the Board has been broad and liberal, not confining its efforts simply to the immediate interests of the city of Winnipeg, but exerting its influence whenever opportunity afforded in the interests of the whole province and the territories west of here, with we are inseparably linked by mutual ties."

Continuing, he mentioned the efforts being made to promote the scheme for the development of the Assiniboine water power, and showed that the successful accomplishment of

that scheme was now almost assured. In the matter of the spread of noxious weeds in the province the Board has also lent its influence to secure legislation which would remedy the evil. Regarding the work before the Board the speaker said:—

"By far the widest field for thought, and careful thought, 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 this 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 complete in the work of the organization of the grain trade, when the last vestige of the meddling interference of eastern men is removed from the Dominion statute books, and the terms on which our grain shall be offered to the outside purchaser shall be dictated from this country."

The Board, it was shown, has already taken one step towards this completion of the organization of the grain trade, in the move towards the establishment of a storage elevator at Winnipeg, "large enough to clean up and store in a temporary way the grain required to be sold by sample, instead of by the grade fixed by law, and guaranteed by an inspector's certificate." Such an elevator will put an end to the practice followed by some eastern millers of refusing to accept shipments of grain at the purchase price after the cars have been delivered, on the plea that it is not up to sample.

Many other matters of importance were touched upon by the speaker.

The report of the Council was next taken up. This dealt specifically with the matters touched upon by the retiring President, and gave the details of the year's work.

After the reading of this report, the election of officers was proceeded with and resulted as follows:—

F. W. Stobart, president.

W. B. Scarth, vice president.

A. Strang, treasurer.

C. N. Bell, secretary, (re elected).

Board of Arbitrators—K. McKenzie, E. L. Drewry, G. F. Galt, G. F. Moulson, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, R. T. Riley, S. Spink, John Gault, William Hespeler, James E. Steen.

Council—C. C. Chipman, H. S. Westbrook, John Galt, J. H. Ashdown, K. McKenzie, J. Porter, R. J. Whitla, D. W. Bole, J. H. Hauser, W. D. Pettigrow, S. Nairn, W. Georgeson, G. R. Crowe, A. Atkinson, H. Miller, S. Spink.

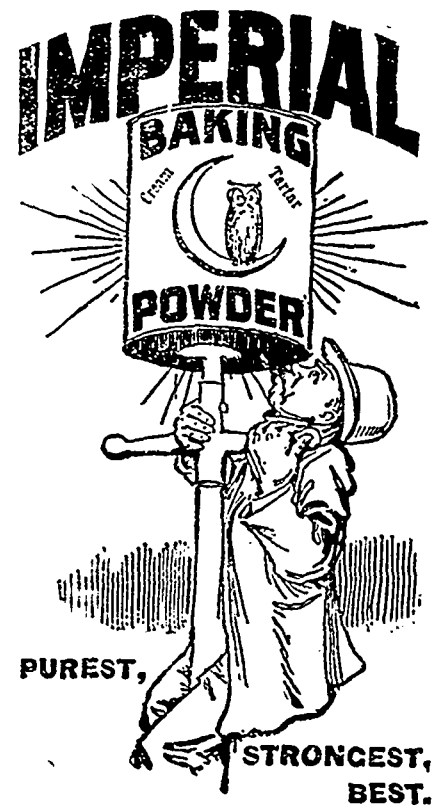
The following resolution regarding the fast Atlantic Steamship service was passed unanimously, and it was ordered that a copy be sent to the Dominion Parliament and one to the Toronto Board:

"The Board of Trade recognizing the importance of trade with Great Britain, and feeling assured that the steady growth of exports and imports to and from that country will be materially assisted by the improvement, both as to speed and capacity, of the steamers of the Canadian Atlantic service, and feeling that the development of the country will be largely pro-

moted by better means of transportation, and that the advantages that Canada possess from her geographical position are not at present fully availed of and that the resources of the country, and especially of this great agricultural district of which Winnipeg is the centre, will thereby be promoted. Therefore be it resolved that this Board of Trade desires to represent to the Parliament of Canada the necessity of the establishment of a fast Canadian Atlantic steamship service; they are of opinion that immigration and trade would thereby be improved, that the value of exports will be increased and the cost of imports diminished, and the general prosperity of the country will be promoted. They therefore urge upon Parliament the advisability of necessary assistance being given to secure the attainment of an adequate Atlantic steamship service."

The meeting then adjourned.

A copy of the *Western Workman*, the organ of the Manitoba branch of the Ancient Order of United Workmen came to THE COLONIST's table last month. This paper is very nicely arranged and well printed. It, no doubt, receives the hearty support of all Workmen in the province.



"It is worth the price to every person who even reads a newspaper."—Darlington Journal.

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