

BOARD OF COMMERCE

REPLY TO THE PRESENTATION

OF THE WHOLESALERS

To the foregoing:—W. F. O'Connor, K. C., Vice-Chairman of the Board of Commerce of Ontario, replied:—

"It is essential that arguments should be made to the Board in public.....The Board must guard sedulously against any expression of opinion before the matters before the Board have been considered by the Board.

"I may go this far, however, and say that the Board has already acted on certain of the suggestions presented, but I must not even identify them.

"When criticism is rife about the Board, do not forget that there is a body of evidence which can be produced by the Board, and don't be surprised to learn any day that recommendations presented have been enforced.

"I am also free to express concurrence in the view that those who seek to set resale prices, should be forced to file with the Board of Commerce a statement of price and cost.

"In all likelihood rules to this effect will be laid down and I believe that they will be of the very greatest benefit to the trade and to the consumers.....

"The Board's greatest difficulty will be to resist the pressure of the consuming class—pressure for too early decision for wrong things and for unearned demands.

"The Board has sufficient enemies at its gates at all times as to make it exceedingly careful to avoid making mistakes, if it's good sense alone did not tend to this aim."