

water as well as by rail we may be in communication with the other parts of the Dominion.

The resolution was carried.

THE PROPOSED NEW INSOLVENCY LAW.

Mr. WM. DARLING (Montreal)—It will have been noticed, that many of the suggestions made by this Board at its last meeting have been incorporated in the bill introduced at the recent session of Parliament by the Minister of Justice; other suggestions have been omitted, while a number of changes have been made which were not asked for by any of the Boards of Trade. These alterations and omissions ought, I think, to be taken into consideration, and I therefore submit the following motion:—

"That the Committee who made the report on Insolvency at the last meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade be again appointed to take into consideration the alterations in the Insolvency Law proposed by the Minister of Justice, and not suggested by any of the Boards of Trade; and also to consider whether any of the suggestions that were made by Boards of Trade, and which have not been introduced into the proposed Insolvency Act, should be again pressed upon the notice of the Government by this Board."

After a good deal of reflection, I feel convinced that many of the suggestions of this Board which were not incorporated in the Bill are equally valuable with those which have been adopted,—while some of the alterations proposed in the bill are objectionable. One of them is particularly so,—namely, the appointment of Official Assignees by the Governor in Council instead of by Boards of Trade (hear, hear). There are many other proposed changes that require consideration, but I need not advert to them now, because they will receive the attention of the proposed committee.

Hon. T. R. JONES (St. John)—I have great pleasure in seconding the motion. The special Committee on this subject performed a most arduous task at the recent annual meeting of this Board. Every section of the Dominion was represented, and it also had the benefit of some of the best legal talent in the country. Every clause of the Act was carefully examined, and I am sorry to find so many of the suggestions made by that Committee, and endorsed by the whole Board, not embodied in the proposed new Act. At the same time, if the Committee is re-appointed, and these matters again brought under the notice of the Government, they may be induced to accept many, if not all of the suggestions. It seems to be the opinion of the present Administration that a new Bankruptcy Act is necessary, whereas this Board, last winter, was in favor of amending the existing law. The fact is that bankruptcy legislation cannot be perfected at once; and is it not much better to improve our law gradually, than periodically to have everything turned upside down by the adoption of an entirely new act?

At the suggestion of Mr. HARTY, Mr. James Shannon (Kingston) was placed on the Committee instead of Mr. Carruthers, who was absent. Mr.