

to the care of this board, and through the medium of your board of examiners these have been carefully looked after. Two of their number were sent to Toronto, in October last, to look after Manitoba interests in the fixing of grain standards for the present season. They have also examined and recommended a candidate for deputy inspector at this city, the ratification of which will be asked from this board. Applications for similar officers at other points have been made, and the work of examining and recommending such will have to be attended to and the results brought before you for ratification.

Numerous other matters have received the attention of your board and council during the past year, among which may be mentioned the efforts put forth for securing reduced freights on grain on the Canadian Pacific Railway by all rail to the East; the efforts late in the season for the organization of an elevator company, and construction of a storage elevator, which, while unsuccessful for the time, had the effect of causing the work to be taken by another party, a member of your board, to whom is due the credit of supplying the first storage elevator for Winnipeg; also the efforts for the establishment of a system of daily trading meetings of the board, which, if not yet reached, promises to be in the very near future.

These and other efforts have contributed to make a year of activity for your board, and a year in which the good work of organization has made great progress; so that in entering upon 1886 with the prospect of the commencement of construction of the Hudson's Bay Railway and other great public works, and the certainty of open railway communication to the Pacific as well as the Atlantic, the machinery of your board stands in order to enable you to grapple with questions affecting the city's trade interests in connection with these great undertakings.

In looking back over the events of the year, your board will find much cause for congratulation, but also some cause for regret, and among the latter the most powerful is the fact that 1885 supplies this board with a death roll.

Early in the year Mr. James Sutherland, of Sutherland & Campbell, wholesale grocers, passed from among us after a severe and lingering illness. Near the close Mr. William Higgins wholesale boot and shoe dealer, was numbered among the unfortunate victims in the wreck of the steamship "Algoma." Both were active members of this board and enterprising business men, who had made their way forward to a front place in Winnipeg's mercantile ranks. Their loss is much felt in a growing city like our own, and all the more so when we consider that neither were taken from the number of our own aged veterans, but were both among our young, energetic and ambitious business men. Let us hope that at the close of 1886 we shall have no such record to look back over.

Your council and officers desire to express their gratitude for the implicit confidence reposed in them while acting for the board during the past year, and have pleasure in submitting this report for your approval.

The treasurer's report for the past year was also read and unanimously approved and was as follows:—

By balance on hand from 1884.....	\$ 23.77
Fees from 116 members at \$10.....	1,160.00
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	\$1,183.77
To rent of board rooms.....	175.00
Printing and postal cards, including annual report.....	254.00
Advertising.....	40.25
Extra services employed.....	36.50
Legal services.....	50.00
Postage and miscellaneous.....	30.25
Secretary's salary balance from 1884..	30.00
Secretary's salary in full, 1885.....	500.00
Balance on hand January 26th, 1886..	67.77
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	\$1,183.77

The Treasurer's report being unanimously adopted, the Secretary read a statistical report of the city for 1885 which will be found on another page.

Mr. Whittle moved and Mr. Matthewson seconded that a vote of thanks be given to the Secretary-Treasurer for his labors in compiling the reports just read. The motion was cordially responded to by the meeting, and Mr. Steen returned thanks for the encouraging expression.

On motion of Mr. A. Strang, seconded by Mr. Alex. Woods, it was decided to have 2,000 copies of all these reports printed, along with other facts and figures which the council of the board might approve.

The president then declared the election of officers for 1886 in order.

Mr. Whittle moved and Mr. J. B. Mather seconded that Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie be re-elected president.

Mr. W. F. Henderson as chairman proposed the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. J. Redmond proposed and Mr. P. Gallagher seconded Mr. J. H. Ashdown for vice-president, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Strang proposed and Mr. Bertrand seconded James E. Steen as secretary-treasurer, and the motion on being put was unanimously carried.

The balloting for twelve members of council was next proceeded with, and resulted in the election of Messrs R. J. Whittle, G. F. Galt, A. Mackeand, L. M. Jones, S. A. D. Bertrand, W. F. Luxton, Jas. Redmond, G. R. Crowe, G. J. Maulson, G. F. Stephens and W. A. Hastings.

The secretary brought forward a motion, of which notice had been given at the last quarterly meeting, to the effect that a treasurer be appointed who shall take charge of all monies, and ex-officio be a member of the council, adding that Mr. F. W. Stobart be the first treasurer. The motion was put to the meeting and unanimously carried.

The following gentlemen were put forward for membership of the Board, having been recommended for the same by the council: Messrs. W. B. MacArthur, Thos. Montgomery, Robert Maxwell, E. D. Moore, G. W. Girdlestone, J. E. Caldwell, D. Grant, — Hutcheson, Frank Anderson and Alex Taylor.

A ballot was taken and all the applicants were declared elected.

After some other informal conversation the meeting adjourned until Monday next at 3 o'clock p.m.

Building in Winnipeg in 1885.

The building business of Winnipeg during the year now closed has received very little attention from the press either of this city or the east, a fact which is due to the record being the smallest since 1880. But we have learned to be content with small things during

the past year, and small though the building operations of Winnipeg were during 1885, they furnish strong proof of the progress of legitimate trade in the city during that year.

The bulk of the building done in this city during last year was for mercantile and manufacturing purposes, and if we take out the new post office and a few modest residences, the balance was all for mercantile purposes. Among buildings of that class we have the fine new block of the Massey Manufacturing Co., at the corner of Princess and William Streets, a solid brick structure of three floors and basement with an area of 25x100 feet, which is now occupied by the company in their agricultural machinery business. The block is ornamental as well as substantial, and is a proof that its constructors are determined not to lose, but to extend the business footing they have secured in this country.

The Maycock Block on Main Street, at the corner of Alexander, is another solid structure, and quite an addition to the long range of brick and stone blocks which are now to be seen on the principal street of the city. It will be occupied partly by its owner in his business of dealer in fancy goods, and is now about completed.

But last year the buildings constructed were not on Main Street as a rule, showing that on the less noisy thoroughfares wholesale business concerns are beginning to centre, and that business of that kind will gradually move away from Main Street, and leave it to staple and fancy retail concerns. On Princess Street, at the corner of Bannatyne, we have another of those wholesale blocks, built by the Confederation Loan Association, which takes its place among the substantial and handsome business buildings of the city. It has three floors, and a frontage of some sixty feet on Princess and ninety on Bannatyne Street. It is occupied already by two of our leading wholesale concerns, Messrs. Hodgson, Sumner & Co. dry goods, small wares and fancy goods dealers, and Messrs. Sutherland & Campbell, wholesale grocers, and makes two spacious warehouses, well adapted in every way for wholesale mercantile business.

The manufacturing interests have had their share of the small total of building in 1885, and the most prominent addition in that way is the erected water factory of Messrs. Blackwood Bros. on Colony Street. This is another solid brick structure with a stone foundation, furnishing spacious cool cellarage, commodious bottling and packing rooms and a well in yard. The works altogether cover an area of about 150 feet square, and are being fitted up with the newest and most improved machinery used in the trade. Altogether these works will be, by the opening of the spring trade, the most complete and extensive in the Dominion. It has been decided that the water for manufacturing such goods of the best quality can be had here, and Messrs. Blackwood Bros. have shown that they can make full use of this as well as other advantages. Even with the facilities they formerly had, they have succeeded in competing with and entirely driving out of this market the fine goods of Belfast, Ireland, a thing which has not been accomplished in any city as large or larger than Winnipeg in Canada, or, in fact, the United States east of the Mississippi River.

We have no other important business buildings which were constructed during 1885, but quite a number of additions and improvements have been made upon several, so that of the \$100,000 spent in building last year \$125,000 were directed by the increasing demands of trade. Now that we have entered upon 1886, and that we have no prospect of trade interruptions by rebellion or other unpleasant causes, let us hope that the building record will show a heavy increase on 1885, and we have no doubt but the mercantile and manufacturing interests will contribute their share to architectural solidity and improvement.