

prises, is always to be found foremost in aiding and encouraging such measures and schemes as have for their object the advancement of its trade interests, and the welfare of its mercantile community.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed on behalf of the members of the B. C. Board of Trade, this 11th day of July, 1890.

ROBT. WARD, J. P., President.

THOS. B. HALL, Vice-President.

WM. MONTGITH, Secretary.

The President said that he did not think that it was incumbent on him to supplement with any remarks the exhaustive report which he had just submitted. During the year the council had encountered considerable difficulty in carrying on its business owing to the difficulty of getting a quorum. The reasons for this might be summed up. One member had been very ill during the year, and Mr. Rithet had been absent from the province a considerable portion of the time. Others, also had not been able to attend with regularity. For this reason the council had thought it better to alter the constitution so as to increase their number from eight to twelve. Not only must new members be elected, but they should be such only as were able and willing to take a lively interest in all that would further the trade of Victoria. All over Canada, in every city of 1,000 or 1,500 inhabitants, they had their incorporated Board of Trade, and, in this Province also, such boards paid great attention to commercial concerns. He thought that the Board in Victoria could in many ways extend its influence. It had at present 100 active members, and if every one of them would see it to be his duty to assume a larger share of the work of the Board, not only would they soon have double the membership, but a great deal would be done, not in the interest of Victoria alone, but in that of the entire province. The present secretary having found himself unable on account of other engagements to carry on his increasing duties, the council ought to take into their consideration the question of whether or not they should place the salary at such a figure as should enable that officer to devote most of his time to the work of the Board. He was its chief official, and was in a position to do a great deal to promote the trade interests of the city. He (Mr. Ward) was satisfied that the Board could be made much more useful and efficient than it was at present. If, too, the members of the different trade organizations would only join this Board and form their associations under the auspices of this board, he was satisfied that their work could be done more economically and much more satisfactorily, and at the same time all would enjoy a greater amount of influence. He had been much struck with a remark recently made by the Secretary of the Board of Trade of Toronto, which was the most influential board that existed in the Dominion of Canada, which exactly applied to the Board of Trade here. That remark was to the effect that what was wanted in the councils of trade bodies was more life and more interest on the part of men who were actively engaged in commerce, and who were quick to appreciate and act upon the suggestions and the experiences that were every day presenting themselves. As these remarks admirably fitted the case of Victoria, he trusted the members would keep them in view when they came to elect their president and council, and appoint no one to office who was not pre-

pared, energetically and faithfully to fulfil the duties that he had assumed.

Mr. Fell characterized the report as satisfactory and exhaustive, and meriting commendation and approval. He dwelt upon the reference to the non-attendance of members at committees, an experience he had had in numerous institutions, among them the Jubilee Hospital. Much depended on the Council of the Board, and if the Board were not a live institution the city would be left in the back ground. He anticipated great prosperity for Victoria, as one of the most influential and gigantic cities on the Pacific Coast. In fifteen or sixteen years such a city would be seen here as none of us had dreamed of. The city, in his opinion, would grow in the direction of Esquimalt. He trusted that all who accepted office would be ever found at their posts and do all in their power to help the city along. Referring to the exhibits which had been sent from this city to the Toronto exhibition via Vancouver, Mr. Fell observed that he could not see why they should not be sent from Victoria direct. This subject he trusted the incoming council would take up. He commended the change and increase in the membership of the council, and hoped the result would be the obtaining of better and more really representative men. He denounced the filling up of James Bay, saying that the experience of Liverpool and other parts had been that they could not afford to fill up their dock room. He trusted that the board would not allow the old fogies to fill up an inch of dockage space. It would all be wanted. He pointed out that at the gas works there was considerable filling in going on. Mr. Fell deprecated the existing system of drainage into the harbor, urging that the channel should be along Cook and Wharf streets, the other sewers being directed into them. The corporation were, in his opinion, a pack of fools for laying wooden drains, the result being the spread of disease.

Mr. H. C. Beeton said he had listened to the report with much pleasure and he assured the Board that he attached to it considerable value. He had been accustomed to look upon it as one of the most important documents that came to his London office. It gave a perfect stock taking of the province and was to him of extreme interest and value. It gave most reliable and detailed information, more than could be found in any government or official document. This board was undoubtedly one of the most valuable and useful institutions in the province. He should be glad to receive a good number of the reports in order to disseminate in England, by means of them, the fullest and most reliable information as to the resources and prospects of the province. The references to trade relations with the United States were sound and statesmanlike. The province required a market for her natural products, which could only be utilized when she was in the happy position of being able to exchange them with her greatest neighbor, who offered her the best market in the world. Literature, such as this report, could not be over estimated, and the more of it was issued from the province, and the more it was disseminated in England and on the continent, the better. Mr. Beeton dwelt upon the necessity of having a live secretary, and trusted that such a man would be obtained. It was his intention this year to make a longer stay than usual at his residence, Armadale, and he trusted to have the opportunity, before his

return to London, to meet members of the Board at his table.

The report of the auditors was received and adopted, the president remarking that the balance in the hands of the board was increasing, and a proper means of investing it should be found. The board was better off than similar institutions in the province, and he fully realized the importance of having a good shot in the locker.

Mr. Fell nominated Mr. Ward for re election to the presidency.

Mr. Ward said he thought that three years' service was sufficient. He believed the board would be better for a change, besides it would not be personally convenient for him to serve another year. He should, however, be happy to assist the council in every way in his power.

Mr. Flummerfelt proposed Mr. T. B. Hall as president, an honor which that gentleman absolutely declined.

Mr. Fell strongly pressed Mr. Ward to allow himself to be nominated.

Mr. Ward proposed Mr. Rithet.

After some further discussion the election resulted as follows:

President, Mr. R. Ward.

Vice-president, Mr. T. B. Hall.

Council and board of arbitration, Messrs. Rithet, Ker, Flummerfelt, Turner, Johnston, McQuade, Fell, Earle, Hoistermann, Bouchier, Gray and Bullen.

At a subsequent special meeting of the council of the board. F. Elworthy was selected from seventeen applicants for the position of secretary of the board. The annual report, confirmed at the recent general meeting, was ordered to be printed, and letters were read from the presidents of the Chambers of Commerce of San Francisco and Portland, acknowledging the receipt of communications from the Victoria board relative to mischievous and untruthful press dispatches against the Behring's Sea difficulty, and concurring with the sentiments expressed by the board in this matter.

Mission, B. C.

Special Correspondence to THE COMMERCIAL.

From all appearance and what we hear this place is soon to have a direct connection via the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railway with the "States." Contractor McGilvary will have an extra large force of men on the bridge work at once, as the water has receded at that point. The Railway Co. has commenced to lay rails from the townsite, and tenders have already been called to clear 80 to 100 acres at this point. The company's intentions are not known at present, but it is understood that J. W. Horne, of Vancouver, has a large interest here and is contemplating the erection of a large hotel and store buildings as soon as the land is cleared. There is also a proposition to put in a fruit cannery which I think will not only pay well, but give steady employment to a number of men. The fruit crop has been exceptionally fine this season and the prospects are good for a continuous supply, as the Mission lands are considered the finest fruit bearing district in British Columbia.

MATSQUI.

The Dundee block, Main street, Winnipeg, has been purchased by William Clougher, through Robt. Young, for \$65,000. It has a frontage of 73 feet.