

the St. John Board that they would be glad to co-operate in taking any action that would have the effect of reducing transportation rates whether by sea or land.

CUSTOMS MATTERS.

The Hon. N. Clark Wallace, Comptroller of Customs, met your Council on the 4th December for the consideration of a number of matters connected with Customs regulations at this port, which the Council laid before him in detail, with the result that the Comptroller promised to arrange if possible that the Customs offices should be moved from the present inconvenient situation to the Post Office building. He stated that he had considered the representations before made by your Council regarding this matter, and had almost completed arrangements whereby the Land Commissioner's staff might be removed to the present Customs offices and their rooms utilized by the Customs Department.

The matter of the detention of a foreign consignment by the officers until any packages selected by the Appraiser were returned to the railroad warehouse, was submitted to the Comptroller, and he assured the Council that he would at once give instructions to immediately deliver the balance of a consignment when the Appraiser had chosen such packages as he required for examination.

The inconvenience and delay experienced by importers in having their postal packages removed from the Post Office to the distant offices at the Customs House, was represented to the Hon. Mr. Wallace, and he agreed to place an officer in a convenient place in the Post Office building to deliver packages direct to importers on the postal entry being made thereof.

Some minor details regarding Customs regulations at this port were also satisfactorily arranged.

DUTY ON DAIRY MACHINERY.

Representations having been made to your Council that the duty imposed on most dairy utensils and machinery was at the

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