

WINNIPEG BOARD OF TRADE.

THERE is no institution in Western Canada more widely known and more generally respected than the Winnipeg Board of Trade. And it might well be added, that there is no institution more entitled to the confidence and respect of the people of Western Canada. Too often a Board of Trade or Chamber of Commerce is to some extent an ornamental institution, not having much usefulness; but the Winnipeg Board is no useless ornament. It is a live, active and aggressive institution, with a membership of about 150, all men engaged in commercial pursuits, and what is most singular, they are nearly all comparatively young men. The Board has less than a dozen members over 50 years of age, and yet for honest shrewdness and well balanced enterprise, it would be hard to find on this continent an institution of the same number of members so gifted.

Many attempts had been made to organise a Board of Trade in Winnipeg before 1879, but it was not until that year that the present Board was chartered and organized, and with a true fitness the first president was the late Hon. A. G. B. Bannatyne, the father of independent trade in Manitoba, and the head of the first mercantile house which first entered into successful competition with the Hudson's Bay Company. From his name downwards the list of presidents shows a selection from the ablest business men of the city until we come to the present occupant of that position, Mr. F. W. Stobart, the local head of the firm of Stobart Sons & Co., wholesale dry goods merchants of London, England and Winnipeg.

The Board has a vice-president, a treasurer, secretary and a council of sixteen members; a board of arbitra-

tors twelve in number; a board of five grain examiners; a board of four meal and flour examiners; a board of hide and leather examiners, five in number; a general grain committee of twenty-one members, and a number of standing committees.

The quantity of work done by this institution in a year is astounding, the last annual report making a pamphlet of nearly 100 pages, and work done by the Board is always well done. The organization is one comprising plenty of aggressive enterprise, but it is one in which the demagogue can find neither place nor power. The policy of the Board is a broad one too, and one of the axioms on which it is based is that whatever affects the trade interests of the Northwest from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains demands the consideration of the Winnipeg Board. A sectional selfishness can find no place there. There are many influences at work for the progress and development of Manitoba, but none working more effectively than the Winnipeg Board of Trade.

Elsewhere in this issue we have the pleasure of publishing portraits as far as obtainable of a majority of the members.

In addition to the portraits of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, we also present to our readers the photos of the Brandon Board of Trade, which will prove of interest to MANITOBA readers.

WINNIPEG POLICE FORCE

Although not very large numerically the Winnipeg police force can in the matter of weight and height eclipse any other body of men on the continent. Probably no western city the size of Winnipeg, with only sixteen men, can show such a clear record from crime as the prairie city.