
THE BOARD'S INFLUENCE

It has been a great pleasure to the Executive and Council of the Board as well as to your President, to realize that throughout the year the influence of the Board in matters civic, provincial and national has not in any sense lessened. I came into office at a time when the Board's standing in this regard was at a very high point in public estimation and I believe I am leaving office with that public estimation not in any way lowered or lessened, and I would like to state to the membership generally that I believe this is due to the magnificent work that has been done by the chairmen and members of the various committees as well as the Executive and Council of 1911.

A WORD OF WARNING

I trust that as your retiring President, I may be permitted without giving offence, to personally sound a note of warning against the evil of circularizing members or of entering into an organized election campaign on behalf or in the interest of any candidate or candidates for positions on the Executive and Council of the Board. This practice has already made it difficult to get some outstanding man to stand for office on the Executive or Council of the Board—men who firmly believe in and desire that in connection with Board of Trade matters "the office should always seek the man and not the man the office." In my judgment this reason alone is sufficient to condemn the practice.

Let every member exercise his franchise for only those he personally believes to be eminently fit for the office, even if he knows but a very few of the