

your Council held several interviews with the general manager of that line, eventually laying before him, in a long memorial the excessive advance of the Canadian Pacific Railway rates upon even the winter rates of other Canadian lines. A copy of this memorial was also sent to the Minister of Railways, who acknowledged its receipt.

During the year several of the leading dealers in wheat and provisions formed themselves into a grain and produce exchange, and at the request of a deputation from that body, your council communicated with the Canadian Pacific Railway authorities on the question of elevators and the necessary accommodation required for the proper storing of wheat at different points along the Company's line. You are aware of the recent reduction which the Canadian Pacific Railway have made in the wheat tariff and that the Company are erecting elevators at Port Arthur for the shipment of grain. And in this connection your attention is also drawn to the fact that in response to representations made at Ottawa Red Fyfe wheat has been ordered to be graded as No. 1. This has proved of great advantage to the farming community. Your council joined in the petitions which were sent to the Federal Government, urging that a sum be set apart in the estimates for removing the obstructions which existed at the mouth of the Red River, which it is believed increases our floods in spring and hinders navigation in the summer months. Some dredging has since been done, and more is promised in the coming season.

Your council also petitioned the Government to defray the cost of a steamer which should be sent to Hudson's Bay for experimental navigation in a part of the country which is daily attracting more and more attention. Your Council recommend to their successors that the Government be again approached on the subject.

The Manitoba members in the House of Commons were urged to press upon the Government a reduction in the duty on agricultural implements. A slight Concession was made, but not as much as it seemed should be made in the interest of this country.

At the request of the Toronto Board, this Board has joined in petitioning the Federal Government for an act to provide for the equitable distribution of the assets of insolvent estates.

Quite recently a resolution was passed by the Board expressing sympathy with the farmers under the difficulties from which they suffered, and expressing the sincere hope that the causes would soon be removed.

These and many matters of minor importance have occupied the attention of the Board and Council during the past year. The Council trusts that an active membership will be made up for the present year, and thus enable the Board to deal effectively with all matters relating to the trade and commerce of the city of Winnipeg. The treasurer's statement, which is hereto annexed, shows that the Board is clear of debt, and has a balance of \$297.55 in the bank.

C. J. BRYDGES, President.

L. M. LEWIS, Secretary.

The financial statement was presented as follows:

RECEIPTS.		
110 members at \$10 ..		\$1,100 00
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Caretaker city hall for 1882 \$	10 00	
Furniture and signs ..	27 00	
Printing, advertising, telegrams, etc. ..	90 45	
Rent of Board room ..	175 00	
Secretary ..	500 00	
Balance in bank ..	297 55	\$1,100 00

Audited and found correct,  
(Signed) K. MACKENZIE.

15th January, 1884.

The reports were unanimously adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the following being the result:

President—Mr. Kenneth McKenzie.

Vice-President—Mr. S. O. Shorey.

Secretary—Mr. J. E. Steen.

The following twelve gentlemen were elected as members of the Council: Messrs. A. McKeand, G. J. Maulson, R. J. Whitla, Jos. Mullholland, J. H. Ashdown, D. H. McMillan, F. P. Galt, A. F. Eden, W. F. Henderson, F. H. Mathewson, N. Bawlf, and L. M. Jones.

Mr. MacKeand moved, seconded by Mr. Bell, that this Board expresses its sympathy with the movement towards extending the boundaries of Manitoba to the Hudson's Bay, and the building of the Hudson's Bay Railway at as early a date as possible, and hereby also expresses its confidence in the practicability of the Hudson's Bay.

Some discussion took place after which it was decided to leave further consideration of the question to an adjourned meeting to be held on the Thursday afternoon following. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Lewis for his services as secretary during the past year. The meeting then adjourned till Thursday, at 4 p.m.

#### THE ADJOURNED MEETING

was held on Thursday afternoon, at which there was a large attendance. The president, Mr. K. McKenzie having called the meeting to order addressed the Board as follows:

"This is an adjournment of our meeting of Tuesday when the lateness of the hour prevented us discussing the resolution of Mr. MacKeand respecting the boundaries of Manitoba and the Hudson's Bay Route.

It is gratifying to see such a good attendance to-day of the representative men of Winnipeg, as it evinces their deep interest in these schemes. If we are to be shorn of territory east of us it is essential to the prosperity and power of this Province that we lay claim to that territory north and west of us and territory doubtless more valuable. We must endeavor to make this a strong and a wealthy Province, of importance to ourselves, an aid and assistance to Provinces around us.

Regarding the Hudson's Bay Route, to me it appears that the undertaking is of the most vital importance to the interests, advancement and full development of the great Northwest. Geographically it appears to be the natural highway of this country—a highway entirely and solely our own, and to which no one else has any right or can interfere with.

The same determination and resolution that fixed themselves in the minds of the eastern people a few years ago to build our great national and continental highway, the Canadian Pacific, appear to be fast taking hold of the minds of the people of the Northwest to undertake the Hudson's Bay Route. Who cannot

remember how wild a scheme the C. P. R. appeared to be to the minds of many good men? Who to-day doubts its ultimate success? It was a great step. We are called upon to take another great step forward; that step is the establishment of the shortest route to Europe via Hudson's Bay. Let that route be the outcome of their confidence in their country; of the energy and pluck of the people of the great Northwest.

I shall not trespass further on the time or subjects of the gentlemen who are to address you. We expect to receive a great deal of information on the subject and to be deeply improved."

The secretary then read the resolution of which notice had been given on Tuesday, moved by Mr. MacKeand, seconded by Mr. C. N. Bell: That this Board expresses its sympathy with the movement towards extending the boundaries of Manitoba to the Hudson's Bay, and the building of the Hudson's Bay Railway at as early a date as possible, and hereby also expresses its confidence in practicability of the navigation of the Hudson's Bay.

A lengthy discussion took place on the resolution in the course of which able and eloquent addresses were made by the mover and second, and Messrs. Luxton, R. D. Bathgate, A. Strang, Wm. Clark and Capt. Carruthers. The resolution was unanimously carried. On motion of Mr. Luxton, seconded by Mr. R. D. Bathgate, the following resolution was put and unanimously carried: "That whereas it is understood that much popular interest in the proposed Hudson's Bay Route scheme is felt in Dakota, Minnesota, and Northwestern States and Territories; and whereas a convention is to be held at Grand Forks on the 24th inst., to consider the question of transportation generally; resolved, that this Board send a delegation to said convention to discuss the question with, and secure the moral support of, our neighbors in this scheme in which the Canadian and the United States Northwest have a common interest.

Mr. Mathewson moved, seconded by Mr. Whitla, that whereas it has come to the knowledge of this Board that the Hon. the Attorney-General has given orders to withhold from Dun, Wiman & Co., the information contained in their semi-monthly Mercantile Test, this Board hereby expresses regret that he has seen fit to do so, as the information the Test contains is of great use to the mercantile community and moreover similar information is supplied to business men in the Eastern Provinces, and that a deputation consisting of Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Shorey, Mr. MacKeand, Mr. McKenzie and the mover be appointed to meet the Hon. Attorney-General and request him to rescind the order in question.

Several members expressed themselves very strongly on this subject, and the motion passed without a dissenting voice.

On motion of Messrs. Luxton and Whitla, Mr. W. Clark and the secretary were appointed as the delegation to go to the Grand Forks Convention on the 24th inst., the expense to be defrayed out of the treasury of the Board.

Mr. C. N. Bell brought up the question of appointing a committee to compile all obtainable information regarding the navigation of Hudson's Bay. On motion of Mr. Strang, seconded by Mr. Bathgate, Mr. Bell was appointed to undertake the compilation suggested.

On motion of Capt. Carruthers, seconded by Col. Kennedy, it was resolved: That this Board desire to place on record their entire sympathy with the object of the Hon. Mr. Norquay's mission to Ottawa relative to the extension of the boundaries of this Province to Hudson's Bay, and that the secretary be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Hon. gentleman.

The question of a bankruptcy law was brought up by Mr. Higgins who stated that he had prepared certain resolutions in regard to the matter. On motion of Messrs. Shorey and MacKeand the resolutions were read and referred to the Council of the Board for their consideration. The meeting then adjourned.