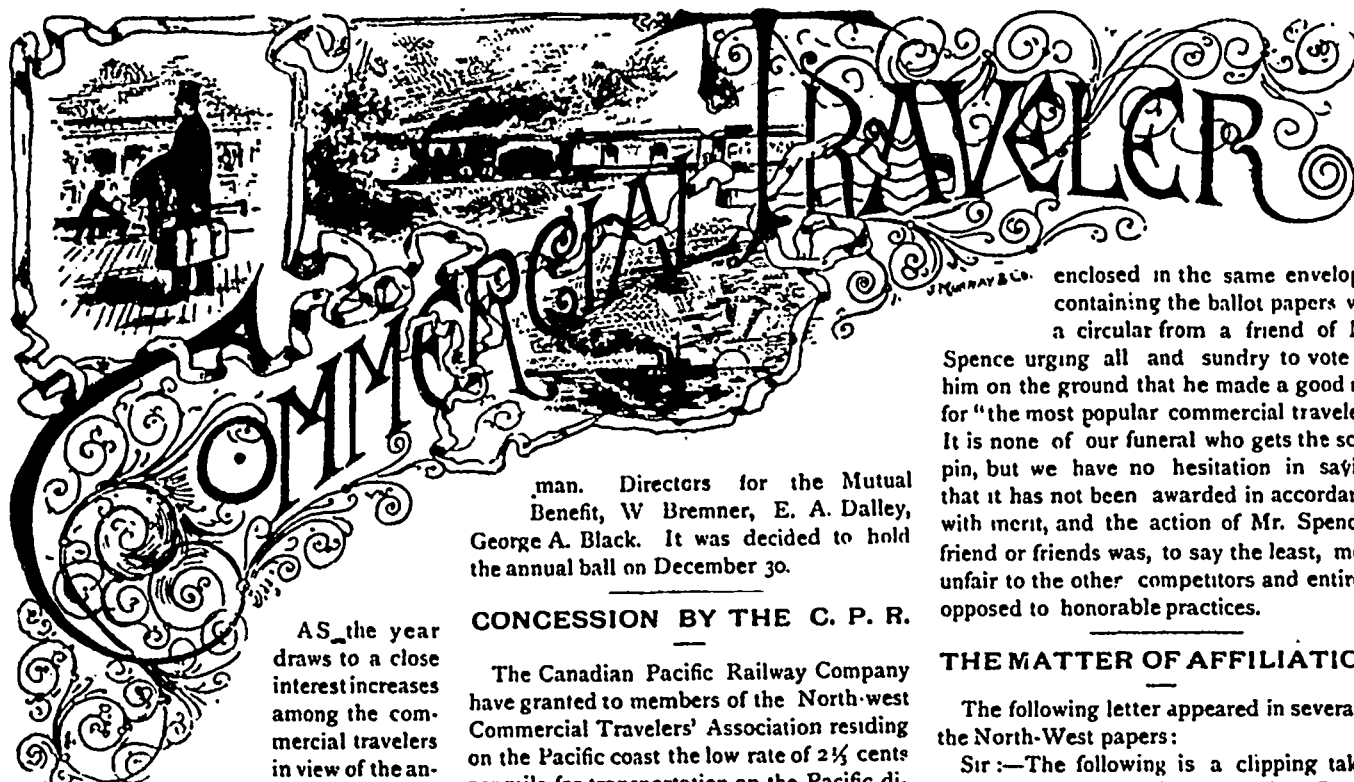




AS the year draws to a close interest increases among the commercial travelers in view of the annual meetings and elections of officers. Preliminary meetings for nominations have already been held in Montreal and Hamilton, and Toronto will hold its meeting on December 5th. The nominations for the Mutual Benefit Society will take place November 21st and the annual meeting will be held on December 22nd.

THE PRESIDENT'S SORROW.

Mr. John Burns, President of the Commercial Travelers' Association of Canada, met with a sad blow on Thursday, Nov. 12, by the death of his wife at their home, 20 St. Vincent street, Toronto. The funeral took place on the following Saturday to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, and was attended by a large number of the brotherhood, among them being Messrs. Warring Kennedy, Hugh Blain, Capt. W. F. McMaster, James C. Black and A. A. Allan, past presidents of the Association; C. C. Van Norman, first vice-president, R. J. Orr, second vice-president, James Sargent, secretary, the Board of Directors, and a deputation from the Hamilton branch. The floral tributes were many and beautiful. The President has the deep sympathy of all in his great affliction.

THE HAMILTON BRANCH.

The following nominations for next year were made at a largely attended meeting of the Hamilton branch of the Commercial Travelers' Association on Saturday, Nov. 14th.—First vice-president, George E. Hamilton; second vice-president, H. G. Wright, Directors, John Hooper, E. A. Dalley, W. G. Reid, W. E. Lachance, J. H. Herring, H. Bedlington, W. Croy, F. Johnston, R. Col-

man. Directors for the Mutual Benefit, W. Bremner, E. A. Dalley, George A. Black. It was decided to hold the annual ball on December 30.

CONCESSION BY THE C. P. R.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have granted to members of the North-west Commercial Travelers' Association residing on the Pacific coast the low rate of 2½ cents per mile for transportation on the Pacific division of the road.

MONTREAL ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travelers' Association was held on Saturday evening, Nov. 14th, President Fred. Hughes in the chair. After routine the following candidates were put in nomination: President, Col. C. T. Patton and Fred. Hughes; vice-president, R. C. Simpson, David Watson and F. Soole; board of directors, A. N. Brodeur, J. Craiston, Alfred Elliot, George Forbes, J. D. Gardner, F. X. DeGranpre, S. V. Haskett, J. B. Kerr, H. Lachance, N. D. McLaren, J. A. M. Carville, J. W. Palmer, Robert Stokes, J. E. Wright. The board to be elected will consist of five members. Mr. Fred. Birks was nominated for treasurer and elected by acclamation. The dinner question was then discussed, and it was decided that four socials be substituted for the annual banquet.

THAT SCARF PIN.

The Mail some days ago made the following announcement:—"The vote to decide in the opinion of commercial travelers whose names appeared in the recent contest which was the best story contributed by one of their number has declared in favor of 'Muskoka Mike,' written by Mr. Jacob Spence. Ballot papers, or blanks, were forwarded to all who were entitled to vote, that is to all commercial travelers who were voted for during the enquiry for the most popular man in the fraternity. Mr. Spence, therefore, will receive the scarf pin offered as a prize for the best story contributed." It is to be regretted that The Mail omitted to mention the fact that

enclosed in the same envelopes containing the ballot papers was a circular from a friend of Mr. Spence urging all and sundry to vote for him on the ground that he made a good run for "the most popular commercial traveler." It is none of our funeral who gets the scarf pin, but we have no hesitation in saying that it has not been awarded in accordance with merit, and the action of Mr. Spence's friend or friends was, to say the least, most unfair to the other competitors and entirely opposed to honorable practices.

THE MATTER OF AFFILIATION

The following letter appeared in several of the North-West papers:

Sir:—The following is a clipping taken from the October number of the DRY GOODS REVIEW, under the heading of "Commercial Traveler," page 18, and is as follows:—

AFFILIATION.

On October 5th, H. Bedlington of Toronto, representing the Commercial Travelers' Association of Canada, met the representatives of the Northwest association at Winnipeg, and submitted a scheme for affiliating the two associations, one advantage of which to the Northwest men would be that they would get three times more insurance than as separate bodies. After the Toronto delegate withdrew a private meeting was held, and after full discussion, the representatives decided to recommend the acceptance of the offer to the general meeting to be held shortly. The Winnipeg board of trade at a subsequent meeting decided to oppose the affiliation, which will it is thought have the effect of killing it, at least, for the present.

This piece of information, I can only assume, is being advertised for some particular purpose, as somewhat similar notices have appeared in many of the papers, notably, The Commercial, the Winnipeg Tribune, the Manitoba Free Press, the Montreal Witness, and many other prominent papers published throughout Canada, and I simply want to correct the inaccuracies contained therein, as well as explain some of the particulars connected therewith, for information, of the members of the Northwest Commercial Travelers' Association.

I might say that the negotiations for the purpose of amalgamation of the Northwest Association, with the Commercial Travelers' Association of Canada, were first opened by our friends in Toronto, who wrote to the secretary of our association, asking for certain