

Winnipeg Board of Trade

A special meeting of the board of trade of Winnipeg, held last evening, had the members present were: G. R. Crowe, resident; P. Rimer, I. W. Fairchild, Jas. Russell, J. T. Gordon, W. Whyte, H. G. Peterson, A. H. H. P. Peters, A. H. H. P. Peters, W. G. Gordon, D. A. Clark, J. G. Baker, H. M. Belcher, C. A. Young, N. S. Taylor, H. G. Holston, G. V. Hastings, G. H. Kelly, K. McKenzie, H. Barclay, G. Jackson, A. R. Hargrave, J. H. Ashman, W. S. Evans, F. D. McKinnon, P. J. Lowry and C. C. Hall, secretary.

The president reported the items of business that had been dealt with by the board since the last meeting. The item of sending relief to the citizens of Frank had been raised, but so far no action had been taken. Circulars had been prepared and sent to wholesale men as requested by the delay of shipments of goods. It was reported that a committee had been had with the Montreal board of trade concerning the excursion of the members of the Congress of Chambers of Commerce for the empire. It was found that a bad time would be to get there in three different days, hence all that could be done would be to get there in one day to River or Elm park and give the excursion. In addition to the attention given to the excursion, it would show personally. The attention of the council referred in the west of the order passed at the last meeting on the subject of the tariff on goods imported from the west. Representatives had been made to the board covering the matter by extending the time to Sept. 30, and to reckon on the date of their arrival at any Canadian port, and the import entry in the city. The city of Winnipeg having a bill at Ottawa re the view that the navigation of the river. Mr. Lattiere had interested himself on behalf of the board. The attention of the board was called to the matter by the mayor. A meeting of the Assiniboine board of trade was called and a telegram was sent to Mr. Lattiere. It was suggested that a bill would be of advantage to navigation if a lock were provided for. The board of trade had a meeting with Mr. Bosworth and discussed several items of business. The committee had prepared a report on the presentation to the Congress of Chambers of Commerce which is to meet in Montreal in August. The results of their work to the council. This was passed. Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Belcher, reported on the actions of the council reported.

Freight Rates Condemned.
The following resolution in reference to freight rates was moved by Mr. W. Whyte, seconded by Mr. H. Campbell, and after discussion unanimously adopted. That this board express the opinion of its freight rates committee in submitting to the Canadian Pacific Railway company in rates against Winnipeg, recent increases in the cost of the carrier, terminal charges and changes in local rates.

Mr. F. W. Peters and Mr. Lanigan gave of the crowded condition of the city. The speaker said that the delivery of freight in less than cars, and the long lines of trucks, and that goods to lie in the warehouse, and that the larger cities which have larger quantities of goods; but elsewhere in the city warehouse where goods are stored at the expense of the owner, and that the goods that are used upon the government the expense of such a warehouse here. The speaker said that the goods that are in the company's warehouse are stored for six or eight months, and that for eight months. Mr. Lanigan said that the goods were held for fifteen days when sent to the King's warehouse, and that he had to be paid from the day they were received. Another committee was appointed to inquire into the power to make applications, and that he had offered to pay two men if they would act as a set of hand workers. This had been done, in order to settle the question as promptly possible.

A Significant Statement.
Mr. Whyte spoke of the strike of freight carriers which had increased the difficulty of handling freight. Trade was going ahead with such alacrity. He said he hoped the negotiations

with the city would be settled soon and provide additional facilities for handling the passengers. He also desired that the board of trade should urge the government the establishment of a government wharf.

The president said he was glad to hear that the board of trade had been negotiating with the city that was nearly on motion by Mr. Thos. Gilroy, seconded by Mr. W. G. Gordon, it was resolved: That this board represent the Dominion government the necessity and advisability of the customs department establishing and maintaining a King's warehouse in Winnipeg.

It was also moved by Mr. Belcher, seconded by Mr. Ashdown, and resolved: That there being more than a hundred goods business than can be attended to by the board, the board request of the board to once appoint a sufficient number of officers, a list of business being promptly attended to in the city of Winnipeg.

The boards of flour and meal examiners, hides and leather examiners, and Mr. McKenzie, it was carried that the number of delegates to the congress of boards of officers, a list of business being promptly attended to in the city of Winnipeg.

Trade in the Far East.
Whereas the opening her doors world, and there is every reason to believe that a great development will take place in her foreign trade.

Resolved: That there are in the British dominions colonies of the empire should be taken steps to encourage the opening of trade with that country, and should be prepared to receive the most satisfactory trade openings presenting their self.

Important Trade Resolutions.
The following resolutions, proposed by the council were adopted for presentation to the board of trade of chambers of commerce.
Resolved: That there are in the British dominions natural resources of the empire sufficient to provide the food supply for the continent.

Favor a Zollverein.
Whereas, the granting by Canada of a preferential tariff on British imports was done in a spirit of reciprocity, and a policy which it was hoped might be taken by the other countries of the empire, especially the mother country, and that by a certain measure of reciprocity between the countries of the empire, might be effected together of the commercial interests of the continent.

Resolved: That the codification of the commercial law of the empire would be of great advantage to the interests of traders in the conduct of their business throughout the empire.

Codify Commercial Law.
Resolved—That the codification of the commercial law of the empire would be of great advantage to the interests of traders in the conduct of their business throughout the empire.

Favors Cattle Embargo.
A memorandum concerning the embargo on cattle imported into England was submitted to the board. It was stated that there had been a division of opinion on the subject. Mr. Whyte, Mr. J. T. Gordon was asked to speak on the matter. He said that the members had to their very great detriment, instead of keeping their one year old stock in the country, they were three years old and utilize the land. He said that the embargo on tobacco not enough stock is raised for home consumption, and that the embargo on wool of fat cattle had been shipped from the country. He said that the embargo on cattle might net \$6 a head, and that it sold as yearlings they would not net

more than \$16 or \$16. The past season in Northern and Southern Alberta, Saskatchewan and Assiniboia at least 70,000 to 80,000 head of cattle were slaughtered. In this way the embargo had been having a serious effect on the west. Mr. Ashdown asked for the reading of a man which was read in the council which that it had been read, some added by the casting vote of the chairman. Mr. Ashdown said that the embargo was placed under false pretences, that been having a serious effect on the west. He did not believe that the restriction should be continued. The argument used by the previous speaker was based on the fact that the embargo did not know how to protect their own interests. He said that the embargo was most strongly against the closing of the market should be open to live cattle and to the west. He moved the motion the secretary lay it read.

Mr. Porter asked why the embargo should not be removed so that the embargo never existed.

Mr. Geoghegan would not agree with Mr. Gordon; he was not in favor of national legislation. He favored a resolution instructing the delegates to protest against the embargo on Canadian cattle.

Mr. Gilroy asked: Is this law to limit the number of cattle to be imported? The board ought to ask to have it changed. He said that he would like to see the question whether the delegates were to be instructed to take any active step in this country if instructed to do so. He asked: Is this an embargo? There had been sufficient advertisement to show that there is no disease. If as a result of the embargo, the market for 80,000 or 80,000 head of the best of the world, the absence of anybody in the west, reputation of the country, and the embargo would it be right to instruct the delegates to work against the embargo.

Mr. Belcher moved, seconded by Mr. Ashdown, that the embargo on cattle be a blessing in disguise. There was no doubt, he said, that the people of the country had been benefited. The delegates to move against the embargo which is a blessing in disguise; here; but they should take strong ground against the embargo, which is a blessing in the ground of disease.

Mr. Whyte agreed that there is no disease in this country; and that the cause assigned for the embargo is wrong. He said that the farmers that cattle buyers pay more for the cattle than they pay for the same. Mr. Ashdown could not understand how the removal of the embargo would prevent the cattle from being sold. The embargo was acknowledged to be unjust, and it should be removed. The farmer should be the judge whether he will make his money by feeding his own cattle; and he ought to be free to do so.

Mr. Ashdown moved, seconded by Mr. Geoghegan: That our delegates be instructed to protest against the embargo now placed by the British government on Canadian cattle. This was lost, 1 voting against, 10 in favor, 10 against. Messrs. Russell and McKinnon did not vote.

Insolvency Law Suggestion.
The following resolution as repeating the previous action of the board was passed: Resolved: That Mr. Geoghegan, seconded by Mr. Belcher—that our delegates to the fifth congress be requested to support all such measures as may be introduced as provide for the liquidation of estates by the insolvency law with the costs reduced to the minimum. Mr. Whyte proposed a motion but did not press it. He said that the vital importance of proper provision for naval defences should be urged to the council by the empire. Mr. Ashdown opposed the motion. He said that the board expressed his opinion that Canada should increase her contribution toward the naval defence of the empire. Messrs. Russell, Porter, Campbell and Gilroy, Messrs. Russell and McKinnon did not vote.

PHONES FOR WINNIPEG.
In an interview with Mr. L. B. MacFarlane, general agent-in-charge of the Bell Telephone company for Canada, a Free Press representative was informed recently that Winnipeg holds the record in Canada for the use of telephones by subscribers.

"There are more subscribers in Winnipeg than any other city in Canada," said Mr. MacFarlane. "By this I mean that each telephone is used a greater number of times in a day than elsewhere and consequently there is more talk. It is not a matter of length of time it takes to get a connection. This, of course, could be obtained by wiring a second or third telephoning, getting a second or third instrument."

Asked for statistics as to how Winnipeg compares with other cities in this respect Mr. MacFarlane stated that there are 20 calls per day per subscriber in Winnipeg, 15 in Montreal and about the same number in Toronto. He takes this as an indication that the growth of business over the telephone in Winnipeg is such that the western people are consequently more progressive.

In order to show the growth of the telephone business in Winnipeg Mr. MacFarlane has had statistics shown for a year ago was 26,855 and the corresponding figure for this year, 43,773. There are now 200 subscribers in Winnipeg and Mr. MacFarlane says that the company has made immediate provision for an additional 1,000 telephones.

Even with this increased accommodation further facilities will have to be made inside of two years and it is this latter phase of the matter which is receiving his attention at present. He is undecided whether it would be better to build a new building or to change next to the present building and thus have two exchanges, or move to some other place. He is to erect a large building which will be sufficient to take care of all the business of the city for the next 15 years. An engineer will be sent up to look over the ground and the committee will report thereon in its report. When the present building was erected Mr. MacFarlane said they were provided with all the requirements for many years, but additional room is already reserved.

"The company's long distance business has practically doubled since last year," said Mr. MacFarlane, and we have already two long distance lines in Winnipeg, one south to southern Manitoba and the other to the boundary. We shall immediately commence construction of a third and probably a fourth line, as we are now negotiating with the United States for lines to the United States via Emerson. The first through line was built for "long haul" business, but it is the line to theneapolis and Wisconsin points, but the bulk of the business done over it has been between the Minneapolis and North Dakota points, showing that there is more business intercourse between these points than there is between points further south."

To Killarney in Two Months.
"There are gangs of linemen now out in southern Manitoba and we expect to have them in eight or ten intermediate points will be in connection with Winnipeg within the next two months," said Mr. MacFarlane, and Rosebank, and other points in that section will be ready for operation very shortly."

Mr. MacFarlane also said from that another line is being completed to Brandon, Souris, Alexander, Kenney and other places south of Brandon. Considerable work is being done in securing cars for carrying poles, and it was intended to build a line this year connecting the city with the Carleton place and Wawanesa, but the difficulty of obtaining transportation may prevent this work being done until next year.

In addition to the work outlined above the company will be shortly to open exchanges at Grtina, Morris and Emerson. West of Winnipeg lines are being built from Lethbridge to Cardston and from Calgary to Edmonton, and exchanges are being put in at a number of places between the points mentioned.

Underground Work.
In Winnipeg the company intends doing a lot of underground work and after construction of the main trunk line will be continued up Portage avenue to Colony street together with branches from Portage avenue to the corner of Main street to Graham avenue.

The underground conduit on Main street will be finished from the corner of Market street, and when the C. P. R. line will be carried over the bridge through north of the track, it will result in the removal of a large number of cars from the city's streets. Mr. MacFarlane said that the company will conduct a regular annual inspection trip, and in case of a fire, returning to the city in couple of weeks.