

During the session of the Dominion Parliament it was sought to introduce an Act respecting Detective Corporations and Mercantile Agencies. Your Council, having had the Bill under careful consideration, resolved that the clauses therein relating to Mercantile Agencies were unnecessary and uncalled for, there being no demand on the part of the business public for legislation in this direction, and no apparent abuses that would be remedied by this Act. The Council were strongly of opinion that the passage of this Act would be highly detrimental to commercial interests and seriously affect business. Representations were accordingly made to the Government and the Bill was thrown out.

At the request of the City Council, a Committee was appointed to co-operate in promoting the success of the Deep Water Ways Convention, but without committing the Board to the support of any particular scheme. The following resolution was unanimously adopted and given to the delegates to present to the Convention:—

MOVED, SECONDED AND RESOLVED,—

“THAT this Convention would respectfully urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity for the speedy completion of the work of deepening the Canals in the St. Lawrence Channel to 14 feet between the Great Lakes and the Sea.”

On behalf of the Committee Mr. Blain submitted the following report:—

RE DEEP WATER WAYS CONVENTION.

To the Council of the Board of Trade:

Your Committee appointed to co-operate with the Committee of the City Council beg to report.

Your Committee were appointed on the assurance of the Chairman of the City Council Committee that the arrangements for the Convention would be managed exclusively by the joint Committee of the City Council and the Board of Trade. After the appointment and confirmation of your committee on these terms others were added to the joint Committee. This may account for the Board of Trade members not taking an active part in the affairs of the Convention.

I exceedingly regret this aspect of the case, because if the members of your Committee had taken an active interest in arranging for the Convention it would doubtless have been more creditable to the city. As it was, our visitors when they reached here, as stated by them, found matters in a very unsatisfactory condition, and were obliged to take hold of the Convention and run it. Fortunately for the credit of the city, Mr. Oliver Howland was placed upon the principal Committee.

A number of ably prepared papers and addresses were given the Convention, and by this means much valuable information has been collected having an important bearing upon the question of Deep Water Ways from the Great Lakes to the Sea. I regard this feature as the chief benefit to be derived from the Convention.

In accordance with your instructions, the following motion was presented to the Convention and referred to the Committee on Resolutions for its consideration and report.

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOARD OF TRADE OF THE CITY OF TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 1894.

Moved, Seconded and Resolved,

“That this convention would respectfully urge upon the Dominion