

BOOKS and NOTIONS

— ORGAN OF THE TRADES OF CANADA

THE BOOK, STATIONERY & FANCY GOODS TRADES OF CANADA

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{ ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
FIFTY CENTS.

ONTARIO BOOKSELLERS.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ASSOCIATION.—The first Annual meeting of the Ontario Booksellers' Association was held on Wednesday, the 4th inst., in Philharmonic Hall. The Association was formed on January 14th of this year at the Queen's Hotel, for the advancement of the interests of those engaged in the bookselling trade. The chair was occupied by Mr. T. J. Day, of Guelph. The following members were present during the meeting:—James Bain, sr., S. R. Hart, J. F. Ellis, S. G. Beaty, W. J. Gage, A. G. Lee, George Warwick, A. F. Rutter, George Spence, Chas. Robertson, A. R. Lorimer, C. W. Small, Alxr. Middlemiss, Saml. Wallace, S. E. Briggs, and J. J. Dyas, Toronto; T. J. Day, J. A. Nelles, Guelph; H. Fred. Sharp, St. Mary's; Chris. Dickson, Clinton; A. G. Elmslie, J. K. Cranston, Galt; T. Clappison, Hamilton; W. Bryce, London; D. W. Bixby, St. Catharines; Isaac Huber, Berlin; John Butler, Goderich; A. Robinson, Belleville; D. M. Brown, Strathroy; R. C. Burpee, Pembroke. H. J. Clark, of Copp, Clark & Co., and others, were present as visitors. Letters and telegrams were received from E. A. Taylor, London; J. Eastwood, J. G. Cloke and E. Overell, Hamilton; John Hart, Perth; W. Middleton, Kingston; B. H. Rothwell, Brantford; A. Scott, Barrie; Abel Land, Drummondville; and E. M. Law, Victoria Harbour, expressing regret at not being able to be present.

Mr. James Bain delivered an address of welcome to the representatives of outside places, to which the chairman made an appropriate reply.

Mr. J. J. Dyas, secretary-treasurer, presented his report, showing that the balance in the treasury was \$34.10. The report was adopted.

The following committee were appointed:—Constitution,—H. F. Sharp, A. G. Elmslie, John Butler, A. Robinson and James Bain. Finance,—J. K. Cranston, T. Clappison, and A. R. Lorimer. On Officers,—C. Dickson, Isaac Huber, and D. W. Bixby. On Resolutions (afterwards appointed),—D. W. Bixby, A. Huber, W. Bryce.

MATTERS AFFECTING THE TRADE.

Several matters affecting the bookselling trade were discussed. The first discussion was on the

policy of buying goods six months or more in advance. The general opinion was against the import orders which are, at present, largely given by the trade. Under that system goods are ordered from foreign countries, many months in advance by retailers, and if the fashion changes they have to suffer. This was thought to be injurious, as it also took the trade from local wholesale houses and prevented them buying in large quantities and at cheaper rates.

The necessity of having a uniform price for periodicals was then considered, and a committee was appointed to draft a standard of prices, and furnish each bookseller in the Province with a copy.

The association then adjourned till eight o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

The Committee on Constitution presented their report, recommending that the Association be named the "Booksellers' and Stationers' Association," and be composed of booksellers, stationers, and news-dealers, the annual meeting to be held in Toronto on the last Wednesday in October. The constitution was adopted, clause by clause, and left over for final action till the next morning.

A communication was read from Mr. N. T. Wilson, of London, stating that the Canadian postal laws injuriously affected the booksellers. American periodicals and publications were mailed to Canada for two cents per pound, while the Canadian booksellers had to pay four cents per pound. Under these circumstances it was unwise to do a mailing business in Canada as the American dealers had the advantage.

The Finance Committee report that they had audited the books and accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer, and found them correct. The report was adopted.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

The following Resolutions, submitted by the Committee on Resolutions, were adopted:—

Resolved, That it is the duty of the retail trade to discourage, as far as possible, the ordering of any goods in advance of the requirements of their trade.

Resolved, That the average profits should be from 30 per cent. to one third, and that we should discourage, as far as possible, the sale of all goods that do not carry a profit of at least 30 per cent. on the cost.

Resolved, That the retail trade in buying goods