

Ottawa, who paid Winnipeg a visit at that date. The guests comprised Sir Henry Wrixon, Hon. Simon Frazer, Hon. Mr. Fitzgerald, of Victoria; Hon. F. B. Sutor, New South Wales; Hon. A. J. Thynne, Queensland; and Mr. Lee Smith, New Zealand. A large gathering assembled around the tables in the Manitoba and after dinner the President, on behalf of the Board, warmly welcomed the visitors, who, in reply, made interesting and eloquent speeches.

The treasurer's statement showed receipts of \$1,733.71, and expenditures of \$1,186.58, leaving a balance on hand of \$547.13, which is a few dollars less than the balance carried over from the previous year.

After the annual report had been disposed of the election of officers for 1895 began and resulted as follows:

President—R. T. Riley (acclamation).

Vice-President—F. H. Mathewson (acclamation.)

Treasurer—Andrew Strang (acclamation).

Secretary—C. N. Bell (acclamation).

Council—D. W. Bole, S. A. McGaw, K. McKenzie, G. T. Stephens, W. B. Searth, H. Miller, F. W. Stobart, J. H. Ashdown, W. Georgeson, T. A. Anderson, J. E. Steen, J. Y. Griffin, D. K. Elliott, F. W. Thompson, A. Bethune, G. H. Webb.

Board of Arbitrators—K. McKenzie, E. L. Drewry, G. F. Galt, G. J. Manson, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, R. T. Riley, S. Spink, John Galt, W. Hespeler, J. E. Steen, W. B. Searth.

WINNIPEG JOBBERS' UNION.

THE annual meeting of the Winnipeg Jobbers' Union was held on Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 13. After the opening routine business had been disposed of, President Bole, who presided, presented his annual address as follows:

To the Members of the Jobbers' Union.

GENTLEMEN:—

In retiring from the chair I desire to review in as brief a manner as possible the work of the past year. I wish first to congratulate the Union upon the fact that the important matters of the previous year which were pushed forward to success impressed the entire wholesale trade of the usefulness of such an association as ours, and induced into membership representatives from every wholesale interest in the city; I am also happy to state no inroads have been made into our ranks by death or removal from the city; and that all the meetings during the past year have been harmonious, and will, I hope, result in lasting good to the mercantile interests of this city and province.

During the year the question of chattel mortgages and other forms of preferences has been the subject of much discussion. It might not be out of place to record here a report submitted by Committee and adopted Jan. 5th, 1894, as embodying the policy of this Union, on this important subject; the report reads as follows:

(1) That preference be given to the abolition of chattel mortgages except for the purchase price or any portion thereof upon the articles sold at the time of sale, and further that it is thought in the interests of the public that reservation of the title in the Vendor on a conditional sale shall not continue longer than two years.

(2) That liens shall be filed in the same manner as chattel mortgages.

(3) That no order or other documents shall have the effect of creating any lien or mortgage on land unless the same on the face of it shall be designated in large type as "A LAND MORTGAGE," nor shall any document be accepted for registration unless complying with said conditions.

(4) That no chattel mortgages or liens be valid unless filed within 30 days of making thereof.

(5) That no real estate mortgage shall be valid unless registered within 30 days of execution thereof.

(6) That the fee for filing chattel mortgages or liens shall not exceed 25c.

This declaration is certainly in the interest of honest trading, and while it is to be regretted that the legislature did not crystalize into law the principles embraced in all the foregoing clauses, the country is to be congratulated upon the act passed suggested in clause 3 which declares null and void orders, lien notes and such other like instruments in so far as they bind land.

Early in the year committees were appointed to consider the question of the establishment in the city of a wollen factory, tannery and cold storage warehouse. While valuable reports were received and adopted no very active steps were taken by the Union on these subjects. Perhaps this want of interest is due to the fact that they are matters of only indirect interest to the wholesale trade; they are, however, important to the city and province as a whole and I would recommend that the reports and other information now in possession of the Union be placed in the hands of the the Board of Trade.

By far the most important subject under consideration last year was that relating to bankrupt stocks; and the resolution passed March 14th declaring in favor of establishing in the city a bureau for the reception and disposition of bankrupt stocks, has favorably impressed not only the retail trade of the country but other jobbing centres in the Dominion, and called forth favorable editorial comments from the leading trade journals of Canada.

The system heretofore existing of selling bankrupt stocks at so much on the dollar in the town where the failure took place, and the subsequent slaughtering of goods, resulted not only in demoralizing trade but in driving honest traders to ask favors if not into bankruptcy. Under the new system stocks are moved into the city, assorted and sold to dealers in parcels to suit. During the past season thirteen stocks have been received and disposed of and dividends amounting to about 50 per cent. of the liabilities have been paid to the creditors. I am happy to inform members of the Union not present at the last regular meeting, that a resolution was unanimously passed recommending a continuance of the Bureau, which will be done under Mr. Bertrand's able management with such improved methods as experience has shown to be desirable.

During the months of May and June our sister province of British Columbia was overrun with devastating floods, resulting in great loss and suffering to the people; an emergency meeting of the Union was called for the 7th of June, and a hasty purse of \$1,200 was subscribed by members and despatched to the Governor of that province for distribution.