

Board of Trade Dinner And Annual Meeting

HELD AT GOLDFIELDS HOTEL—TWENTY-EIGHT GUESTS PRESENT—SPEECHES BY PRESIDENT OSTROSSER, J. F. WHITSON, MAYOR WILSON—FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTED AND NEW OFFICERS ELECTED—NEED OF ROADS AND SIDEWALKS WAS EMPHASIZED.

The annual meeting and dinner of the Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening at the Goldfields Hotel, the following members and visitors being present. D. A. Ostrosser, President; Mayor W. H. Wilson; Ralph Robbins; J. F. Whitson; Dr. J. A. McInnis; H. J. Marshall; J. P. McLaughlin; T. F. King; P. M. Gallagher; K. C. Dryer; A. Brazeau; Charles Dalton; George Preston; W. Ellis; R. Warren; J. Sullivan; C. Pierce; F. C. H. Simms; George Drew; James Reed; H. Sanders; Frank Stockwell; H. Mulheron; H. Campbell Carson; F. Uttley; Len Newton; P. Petchersky, and W. Armitage.

The Dinner.

The first act of the company was to honor the toast of "King and Empire", proposed by the President. A bountiful feast had been provided by "mine host" Mr. Hugh Mulheron, and, needless to say, ample justice was done to these creature comforts. Dinner being over the company was resolved into the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trade, the minutes of the last Annual being first read by the Secretary, Mr. Simms, and adopted as read.

President's Address.

Heartily cheers greeted Mr. Ostrosser as he arose to deliver his speech. He said, in part,—

It is with great pleasure that I avail myself of this opportunity of addressing you at this, our second annual meeting. The Town of Timmins has made remarkable progress in the past year. I think you will all agree with me in saying that the Board of Trade has assisted in this progress, and has been of some help to the Council of the Municipality in having our Fire Insurance rates adjusted, our streets and sidewalks built and improved, and in voicing public opinion in regard to the needs of the town.

Since June 4th the Board has been in communication with the Northern

Ontario Light and Power Company, in regard to a reduction in telephone and electric light rates. I believe this matter will soon be adjusted, and a considerable saving to the citizens will be accomplished.

You also sent a deputation to Toronto to interview the Government in matters pertaining to the interests of the Town and District; among other things the clearing away of bush around the town, which has been a fire menace. This, I am glad to say has been accomplished.

We have entertained the Premier of the Province and various members of the Cabinet on their visits here, and have pointed out to them our needs. While all that we have hoped for has not been accomplished, we have their assurance that next year more work will be done, and new roads leading to the town, connecting up the mines, will be built.

The great struggle going on in Europe has curtailed expenditures all over the country, otherwise I feel sure that more progress would have been made this year.

The town of Timmins has reason to feel proud of the manner in which her citizens have responded to the call of duty in fighting for the Empire; also in the financial support she has given.

I might point out that the Board has on hand at the present time \$300 to be devoted to patriotic purposes.

In conclusion I might point out a few improvements that we should work for this coming year. First, the extension of our Water System. Second, the balance of our streets stumped and graded. Third, more sidewalks. Fourth, a road opened up between here and the Dome Mine, to enable the properties in between, that are soon to be developed, easy access to the town.

I also trust that the Board of 1916 will meet with even greater success than that of this concluding year.

Mr. Charles Pierce then spoke in

enology of the President's work, and especially emphasized the remarks relating to sidewalks and roads.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report.
The next item to occupy the meeting was a statement of receipts and disbursements, presented and read by F. C. H. Simms, as follows:

REVENUE	
Cash received from 63 paid-up members fees	\$315.00
Cash collected at supper held on 20th February	9.00
	\$324.00

EXPENDITURE	
Charter Fee and Expenses	\$ 5.05
Livery hire	13.00
Postages and Telegrams	20.50
Stationery and Printing	25.15
Secretarial fees for year	84.00
Public Dinner at Goldfields Hotel, Timmins	26.35
Delegates expenses to Toronto Messrs. Ostrosser, Garratt	66.00
Annual fee Associated Boards of Trade for Temiskaming and Northern Ontario	10.00
	\$250.05

Cash in bank, \$73.95.

Officers for 1916.
The election of officers for the ensuing year was then taken up, nominations for the office of President coming first.

Dr. McInnis offered the name of the retiring President for re-election, being seconded by Mr. H. J. Marshall and supported by Mr. P. J. McLaughlin and Mr. George Preston. Nominations were closed on the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Charles Dalton, and Mr. Ostrosser therefore became President for 1916 by acclamation.

For the office of Vice-President, Mr. McLaughlin nominated Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Pierce. No other candidates were presented, and Mr. Marshall was elected unanimously.

Mr. Simms was unanimously re-elected to fill the office of Secretary-Treasurer, on the motion of Mr. C. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Marshall.

The election of a new council was next proceeded with, the following members being elected: Messrs. McLaughlin, McInnis, Reed, Brazeau, Preston, Pierce, Sanders, Armitage, and Newton. Mr. Tom King was nominated, but in declining the honor he announced that he had determined to join the military forces, and was going into training immediately after New Year's day. His announcement

was received with cheers.

Speeches.
This concluded the official business of the meeting, but the company was not yet ready to disperse. Speeches were delivered by Mr. J. F. Whitson, Government Roads Commissioner, His Worship Mayor Wilson, Mr. J. Sullivan, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Len Newton, Mr. Dalton, Mr. Pierce, and Mr. Preston. Mr. P. M. Gallagher contributed a song in humorous vein, in his own inimitable manner, and presided at the piano during the frequent singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Mr. Whitson.
Mr. Whitson pointed out that the Government was doing its best with the means available to satisfy the people with reference to roads. Five hundred miles, he said, had been built since the special appropriation of five million dollars made by the Government for that purpose. Several large bridges had also been erected, and when the fund reached the point of exhaustion he had no doubt the Government would provide a further five millions to carry on the work. Mr. Whitson also put in a word on behalf of the farmer and agricultural pursuits, which, he said, was the real backbone of the country's prosperity. Increased cultivation was necessary, and his ambition was to see such a network of roads as would permit farmers to travel twenty miles to their nearest town and back again in the same day.

The Mayor.
His Worship made a running commentary on the work of the Town Council during the year, defending it from the charge that it had been negligent or dilatory in its duty towards the public. Timmins, he asserted, was in better financial shape than Toronto. He laid special stress on the need for more sidewalks and school accommodation. "Good water good sidewalks and good school accommodation were the three primary necessities of any town." He deprecated the building of board sidewalks as a bill of expense, and strongly advocated cement. His statement that the town's share of gold mine royalties for 1915, based on 1914 figures, was \$14,000, and that for 1916 the figures would reach \$20,000, was received with loud cheers. "The next Council, he said, would have easy financial sailing. A new fire hall could be built and the system improved. A new school was to be erected. Street grading could be undertaken, and the eradication of tree stumps dealt with in a satisfactory manner. The water works could receive necessary extensions, and other improvements essential to the well-being, convenience and comfort of the citizens could be undertaken.

The meeting concluded with the National Anthem.

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