

MR. C. A. BARBER

NEW PRESIDENT

Chilliwack Board of Trade Annual Meeting—Mr. W. L. Mackin Retires After Third Year.

**“LIVE-WIRES” ONLY
ELECTED TO OFFICE**

**Efforts Being Made to Arouse
Enthusiasm in Work of
Association.**

CHILLIWACK, March 2.—The annual meeting of the Chilliwack Board of Trade was held in the city hall on Wednesday evening with a more representative attendance than has been present for many months. So poor has been the attendance for some time past that grave doubts were entertained as to whether the board should be continued. This apparent lack of enthusiasm in the board's work has been attributed to the many other attractions going on during the winter, including the home guard training in the drill hall. But Wednesday night's meeting will probably mark the birth of a new life for this very important necessary organization—an organization which in the past did wonders toward the improvement of the city and the development of the valley in general. It was evident from their willingness to assist that those present did realize what the board had done in the past and what the consequences would be if it ceased to exist.

What was really needed, the outgoing president, Mr. W. L. Mackin, said, was the infusion of new blood into the machinery of the board and in this respect the utmost caution was taken in the election of officers, and none but "live wires" were proposed—men who had been tried and whose executive ability had been proved. Those elected were as follows: President, C. A. Barber, vice-president, E. H. King; secretary, J. Hillas; council, N. S. Mackenzie, W. L. Mackin, Joseph Burton, G. H. W. Ashwell, Mayor H. J. Barber, John Robinson and E. D. Barrow, J. L. Stark and J. Barten; board of arbitration, Charles Parker and W. E. Frost.

A communication was read from Martin A. Seymour, re the aviation school at Vancouver, where men are being trained in the naval air service, asking that the board arrange for public meetings to be held at different points in the valley, at which speakers would lay the scheme before the public in an endeavor to raise funds for the maintenance of the school. The communication also pointed out that helping along of the scheme, which was an endeavor to assist the mother country in her fight with the enemy in the air, was a patriotic duty. Instruction was being given in the use of both air and water machines.

Mayor Barber in proposing that the request be granted said that he had had an interview with Mr. Seymour, who told him of the good work that was being done at the school in the preparation of men for the fourth arm of the Imperial navy. Seven pupils were already fit to pass the examinations and enter the service in the old country. He contended that the school was worthy of every possible support. The president was authorized to co-operate with Mr. Seymour.

The copy of a resolution passed by the Penticton Board of Trade calling on the government to have interned aliens employed in road making in the province and suggesting that the road between Penticton and Hope might be rushed to completion in this way was read. After some discussion the resolution was endorsed on the motion of Mr. E. H. King.

In reply to queries as to how Duncans went about the securing of a detachment of troops for training there, the secretary of the Duncans Board of Trade wrote to the effect that they used no special means; they simply asked to have troops trained there and the request was granted. Barber explained that no real reason had been advanced for men not training in Chilliwack, but in his opinion neither officers nor men wanted to train here, as they preferred being attached to the regular battalion or regiment in a larger centre. Mr.

Barber also pointed out that in some cases the training of the small unit had not been a success, and cited Grand Forks as a case in point. In that city the authorities, after having a unit stationed there for some time, at the request of the officers and men, asked the military authorities to have the unit attached to some regiment.

On the request of Mr. King the report of the markets committee was left over until the special meeting of the board to be held on Saturday, the 12th inst., when the question of good roads will also be discussed. It is intended to have a mixed meeting of the farmers and business men on this date, when the two subjects will be thoroughly gone into.

The annual statement of the board showed a balance on hand of \$24.51, after all expenses.

In relinquishing his office after serving for three years in the capacity of president, Mr. W. L. Mackin said that he could see the most glorious future before the Chilliwack Valley. With the advent of the Canadian Northern Railway now linked up with the coast, the valley was brought in touch with an unlimited market for her produce. "At the present time the valley offers untold opportunities," said Mr. Mackin, "if we will only get ready and develop what is round about us." He urged all to rally round the new president and make the board a real live organization.