

subjects and to urge such investigations and legislation as may be desirable in the interests of agriculture by irrigation methods.

The following representatives were present: W. Pearce, Calgary; W. Cousins, Medicine Hat; W. Huckvale, Medicine Hat; J. A. McDonald, Medicine Hat; J. T. Hall, Medicine Hat; Albert E. Ashcroft, Vernon, Edward M. Carruthers, Kelowna; R. M. Palmer, Victoria; H. L. Tweed, Medicine Hat; H. A. Greeley, Maple Creek; J. T. Child, Calgary; Chas. E. McHardy, Nelson; Martin Woolf, Carleton Place; T. J. O'Brien, Raymond; D. E. Harris, E. J. Wood, Carleton Place; P. N. Skanson, G. D. Fox, Raymond; F. A. Taylor, Kelowna; Arthur Venables, Vernon; A. E. Meigher, Kamloops; R. B. Bennett, W. E. Brooks, Calgary; W. H. Gaddes, Kelowna; Price Ellison, Vernon; Thos. H. Woolford, Carleton Place; R. H. Campbell, Ottawa; J. Stewart, Calgary; W. H. Fairfield, Lethbridge; Frank Leavitt, Carleton Place; Chas. W. Peterson, Calgary; J. L. Lauder, Kamloops; V. D. Curry, Kamloops; Alderman White, Calgary; H. H. Owens, Calgary; Hon. Fred J. Fulton, Victoria; J. T. Robinson, Kamloops; Dr. M. S. Wade, Kamloops; Hon. W. H. Cushing; J. A. McKelvie, W. R. Megaw, Vernon; A. D. Shore, Gleichen; J. J. Young, Calgary; M. S. McCarthy, M.P.; J. H. Woods, Calgary; C. A. Fleming, Punjaub, India; Wm. Leavitt, Leavitt; H. H. Stepney, G. H. Stepney, Gleichen; J. C. McDonald; J. L. Skeen, Gleichen; Geo. S. B. Perry, Vancouver, B.C.; D. McDougall, Morley; A. M. C. Crane, Medicine Hat; C. H. Webster, Calgary; J. R. Wheeler, Calgary; and G. R. Cottrell, Toronto.

The meeting was opened by His Honor Lieut.-Governor Forget, who considered it their duty as a convention to make known to the country what has been accomplished in the direction of this most important subject. He congratulated Calgary on being not only the most suitable place for the holding of the convention, but on being the great city of the West, established in that position without help on the part of governments.

The nucleus of the convention was embodied in two resolutions: The first urged upon the Dominion and Provincial governments the importance of making topographical and hydrographical surveys to deter-

mine the location and quantity of the water supply of the West, and the proper methods of conserving it.

This resolution was supplemented by another calling upon the Federal Government to co-operate with the Provincial Legislature in making sufficient appropriations towards the construction and subsidizing of such irrigation projects as shall prove feasible. Further that the said districts in the three provinces comprising the lands of the C. P. R., over which the Federal Government have jurisdiction, are capable of enormous development by the installation of extensive irrigation works which are beyond the reach of private enterprise.

The former resolution was submitted to a lengthy discussion, and many of the delegates were of the opinion that something in the nature of statistics should be sent to Ottawa before calling upon the Government to take action.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE LOCATION.

Among other important things the convention turned their attention to the location of the agricultural college for Alberta, and the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"Whereas, arrangements are now being made for the establishment of a University in the unirrigated part of the Province of Alberta; and,

"Whereas, a proposal has been submitted to locate the Provincial Agricultural College in conjunction with the said University; and,

"Whereas, the far-reaching importance of agriculture under irrigation demands imperatively that proper attention be paid to this subject in the curriculum of the said Agricultural College; and,

"Whereas, such would be impossible if the college farm were not so located as to make it possible to conduct demonstration work under irrigation, thus giving students an opportunity to study the practical side of the artificial application of water; and

"Whereas, under the climatic conditions of the Province of Alberta, agricultural demonstration work without the aid of irrigation may be successfully prosecuted in almost any portion of the Province, thus making the location of the Agricultural College an immaterial one as regards the interests of non-irrigated lands; and

"Whereas, the gravest objections also exist to the principle

of associating too closely the administration of agricultural colleges and universities devoted to general educational work:

"Therefore be it resolved: That this convention emphatically places itself on record in favor of the policy of having the Provincial Agricultural College for Alberta located in a district where irrigation by gravity may be practised."

IRRIGATION AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

A paper was read by Mr. C. W. Peterson dealing with the industrial development following in the wake of irrigation.

Irrigation, he said, means small holdings, a dense rural settlement, and a prosperous and heavy consuming population. Such being the case, the industrial development of any irrigated section is by no means confined to branches of industry requiring for raw material the products of the soil. From the economic side of irrigation, Mr. Peterson claimed that the backbone of a successful farming community is the feeding and finishing of live stock, and owing to the fact that the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta will probably never lend themselves to fruit growing on a large scale, while conditions are almost perfect for live stock husbandry, it is reasonable to suppose that the extension of irrigation enterprises will simply revolutionize the live stock business. Instead of sending cattle and sheep to market half finished, they will be grain fed when marketed.

This will also insure the marketing of live stock during every month of the year instead of, as at present, confining it to two or three months in the autumn. Immense numbers of hogs will also be raised and fattened, and the western prairie section will become a ham and bacon exporting instead of importing country.

THE CULTURE OF SUGAR

Another point he maintained was that sugar beet culture is rightly considered a leading feature of irrigation farming. The northerly latitude of Canadian irrigated lands, with its long cloudless days is conducive to the production of saccharine matter in beets. Alberta has, therefore, a climatic or geographical advantage over southern competitors in sugar beet culture.

Other enterprises mentioned as familiar adjuncts to irrigated sections included textiles, woolen mills, malting, cereal milling, vegetable canning and starch making.