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## THE WHEAT SITUATION

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A Regular General Meeting of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange was held in the Board Room on Wednesday, August 20, 1919, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. John E. Botterell, Vice-President, in the Chair. The meeting was called for the purpose of hearing the report of the Secretary, Dr. R. Magill, on his trip overseas taken on the instructions of the Exchange in February last. The report was as follows:

Your instructions to your delegates were clear. There was no ambiguity about them. You wanted an open market for the coming year. By that you meant an open cash market and an open market for trading for future delivery. In that sense I understood your instructions, and it was because I understood your instructions in that sense that I was willing to go.

I was one of those who believed then (and I still believe it) that the sooner we could get back to commercial methods in handling our business, the better it would be for our country, ourselves and everybody concerned.

I went ahead, and was followed at a later date by your President, Mr. F. J. Anderson, and Mr. A. P. Stuart, of Montreal, who had the same instructions. At that time the Canadian ministers were not in London. They were at the Peace Conference in Paris. The High Commissioner for Canada and Dr. Robertson and Mr. Harris of the War Trade Mission were the only officials for Canada in London. I went to the High Commissioner. He said it was not in his hands to negotiate with the Imperial authorities. I then went to Dr. Robertson. Dr. Robertson saw me every day for about two hours a day for a considerable number of days. He discussed the whole business of handling wheat. He got our point of view as thoroughly

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