

people in regard to the war is its continued vigorous prosecution.

"1.—By conferring with the British government for the purpose of definitely ascertaining the scope and character of all the services that can best be rendered by Canada in the conduct of the war.

"2.—By the maintenance in unimpaired strength at the front of our fighting forces and the taking of all steps necessary to secure the required reinforcements for this purpose.

"3.—By organizing the production of our other contributions to the war—food, munitions and other war necessities—upon lines of the greatest efficiency.

"4.—By the complete extinction of profiteering in all business having to do with munitions and the necessities of life; if necessary, by the nationalization of these industries or by adaptation of the British system of controlled establishments.

"5.—By the recovery for the public treasury of undue profits obtained since the beginning of the war by the exploitation of the necessities of the people or the urgent requirements of the state.

"6.—By the application of a combined system of sharply-graduated taxation upon incomes and excess profits, which shall ensure that every citizen shall bear his or her full share of the war burden according to his or her means.

"7.—By thoroughly organizing the nation and carrying out this program by whatever means may be necessary for its accomplishment."

National Government

"Resolved, that this convention expresses the hope and hereby declares the desire of its members that in the impending election the discussion of issues should be kept on a plane free from all appeals to passion and prejudice in matters of race and creed, and further, that whichever party is returned to power the business of the government of Canada should be carried on by a truly national government composed of representatives drawn from the different elements and industries of Canada."

Ownership of Press

"Resolved, that all newspapers, magazines, trade journals and other periodicals publishing articles designed to influence public opinion shall be compelled from time to time to publish sworn statements setting forth the names of the owners, managers, editors, stockholders, bondholders and of any other persons having an interest in such newspaper, magazine, trade journal or other periodical."

C.N.R. Deal

"Resolved, that in view of the fact that the Drayton-Acworth commission showed that the equity of Mackenzie and Mann was of no actual value, the arrangement recently submitted to parliament whereby it is proposed to pay an arbitrated price for sixty millions of common stock of the Canadian Northern Railway Company is indefensible from any point of view."

National Cold Storage

"Resolved, that as the private ownership of cold storage lends itself to an extortionate manipulation of food prices, thereby greatly increasing the cost of living in Canada, and as producers of foodstuffs, by reason of such private ownership, are usually absolutely at the mercy of the food manipulators, we believe that the state should own and operate cold storage plants throughout the Dominion."

Opposed to Titles

"That this convention is opposed to the granting of all hereditary titles in Canada, and to all other titles for other than military or naval service."

Land Settlement

"Resolved, that as the general progress and prosperity of our people depends in a very large measure upon our agricultural development, and as the obligations assumed by Canada by reason of the war and of our existing railway situation can best be taken care of by increased production, it is imperative there should be inaugurated without delay a comprehensive scheme of immigration and land settlement; such scheme to be evolved and carried into effect by the co-operation of federal and provincial authorities, and to embrace the principle of state assistance in the direction of making available for suitable settlers the vacant land now owned by speculators, railway and land

companies, and located in existing well-organized communities within easy distance of railway and marketing facilities."

Homesteads for Women

The Homestead Act at the present time gives to male British subjects of 21 years and widows with minor children 160 acres of free land, providing they fulfil certain specified conditions. "Be it resolved, that this convention go on record that the act be extended to permit women to file a claim, and upon fulfilling similar conditions to receive their patent."

Prohibition

"Resolved, that as a war measure, and with the object of utilizing to the fullest extent the food values within the Dominion, the federal government should take possession of all stocks of alcohol, and the federal government should absolutely prohibit the manufacture, importation, exportation, storage or sale of intoxicating liquors within the Dominion of Canada."

Cost of Machinery

"Resolved, that as the present high cost of farm machinery is one of the great factors in the increasing cost of producing foodstuffs, the Canadian farmer is paying more for such machinery than does the farmer of most other countries—we believe that the Dominion government should immediately provide for an enquiry into the different factors which constitute the price to the farmer, such an enquiry to embrace the cost of manufacture, cost of transportation, distribution, collection and any other factors, with a view to such action as may be possible to bring about reduction when the facts are ascertained."

Agricultural Credits

"Resolved, that in view of the fact that several of the provinces of Canada have inaugurated governmental policies of long-term agricultural credits which being under provincial control permit, each province to deal adequately with the conditions which are peculiar to itself, and as it is desirable that in the development of these systems the money be obtained at the lowest cost; we believe that the federal government should make provision to assist the provinces in securing the cheapest possible long term credits for agriculturists by lending money to the provinces at cost for this purpose on the security of provincial bonds whenever an economy in the cost of money to the farmer can be effected by so doing."

Bust the Combines

"Resolved, that it is the duty of the government of Canada, in the interests of the people, to stamp out all combinations in restraint of trade or which have the effect of unduly affecting prices; our laws pertaining to the creation and operation of any and all combines and trusts should be revised, extended and strengthened and there should be established a federal court with a public prosecutor attached thereto entrusted with the responsibility of rigidly enforcing such laws in the general public interest."

Railway Nationalization

"Resolved, that this convention declares its approval of the principle of public ownership of railways, telegraphs and express systems and believes that this principle should be applied to all such Canadian systems as soon as financial and economic conditions of the country permit."

No White Flour

"Resolved, that in the opinion of this convention the government of Canada should, as an emergency war measure for the immediate conservation and production of foodstuffs—

"1.—Prohibit the manufacture of all high grade white flour in Canada, establishing a maximum grade that will add materially to the bread produced in Canada this year.

"2.—That an immediate organized effort should be made under the direction and management of the Dominion department of agriculture to prepare for next year's crop every available acre of land in Canada, not being tilled by private enterprise, and to make arrangements for breaking virgin prairie in the spring of 1918 sufficient to ensure a substantial increase in the possible grain production of Canada."

Cleaner Elections

"The election laws of Canada should be so amended as to prohibit contributions for election purposes by corporations or

officers thereof; so as to limit the total amount of money spent by or in behalf of any candidate in any election contest; to provide for full publicity of the source of all campaign contributions and the mode of expenditure of money for election purposes; and for a more speedy and simple procedure for the trial of election petitions."

Soldiers' Pay and Pensions

"We advocate pensions to widows that will enable them to live in comfort and educate their children; the increase of pay of our soldiers so that they will be on equality to those who have remained at home; the increase of separation allowance in lieu of patriotic fund and to eliminate all contributions that have a semblance of charity; the recognition of the democratic character of our army by placing all ranks on an equal and adequate basis in the matter of pensions; the securing of the re-entry of the returned soldier to civil life so that he shall not suffer because of his devotion to his country in its hour of great peril, and in the case of the disabled to provide them with vocational training by properly fitting them for subsequent employment and to fairly recompense them for partial disability."

Lowering the Tariff

Resolved,—
"1.—That the British preference be increased to 50 per cent. of the general tariff with the view of ultimate free trade with Britain.

"2.—That wheat, wheat flour and all other products of wheat be placed upon the free list.

"3.—That the following articles be placed upon the free list:—

"(1) Farm implements and machinery with repairs for same.

"(2) Farm tractors and internal combustion engines with repairs for same.

"(3) Mining, flour, sawmill and logging machinery with repairs for same.

"(4) Rough and partly dressed lumber.

"(5) Illuminating, lubricating and fuel oils.

"(6) Cement.

"(7) Fertilizers.

"(8) Fishing lines, cordage, swivels and metals for fishing spoons.

"4.—That staple foods, fruits and food products (other than wheat flour), domestic animals and food therefor, including oats, barley and flax, be admitted into Canada free of duty when coming from and being a product of any country admitting like Canadian articles into such country free of duty.

"5.—That substantial reductions be made in the general tariff on all articles imported into Canada, excepting luxuries.

Amending Bank Act

"That in the opinion of this convention the time has arrived for the re-organization of the banking system of Canada, so as to bring it more nearly within the democratic spirit of proper regulation and control by the people, and with this object in view, be it resolved that—

"(1) The banking system of Canada should be placed under the control and regulation of a banking commission invested with plenary powers in all matters pertaining to banking, currency, coinage and credits, and, in particular, power to regulate and control—

"(a) The issue of public currency;

"(b) The coinage of gold and silver;

"(c) The purchase of bullion produced in Canada;

"(d) The amount of call money loaned outside of Canada;

"(e) Interlocking directorates;

"(f) The supervision of credits;

"(g) The capitalization of banks;

"(h) The payments of dividends;

"(i) The relations of subsidiary trust and money-lending concerns to banks;

"(j) And, generally, all such matters as are necessarily incident to the proper regulation and control of banking and currency."

"(2) Be it further resolved, in connection therewith there should be organized a national bank of Canada, as a central reserve institution, upon whose board of governors should also sit, amongst others, the members of said banking commission; the object of said national bank to include amongst other objects the primary responsibility of marshalling and mobilizing the gold and silver reserves of the nation and the ownership and control of the issues of public and national currency."

Community Banks

"Resolved, that the Bank Act should be so amended as to permit the creation

of rural community banks under proper government supervision, with provision for rediscount facilities under federal control; all such banks to have a minimum paid-up capital of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), with power to lend on chattel securities, but without power to establish branches."

Other Resolutions

A number of other resolutions were passed of which the following is a summary:—

"That the federal government should hand over to the provinces the natural resources of the provinces."

"That the government should also give the provinces the school lands with full power to manage them and dispose of them as the provinces saw fit."

"That the women of the Dominion should be enfranchised the same as the men."

"That the federal government hand over the title to lands in the Peace River district, together with timber, water and minerals, to the provincial government of British Columbia."

"That the federal government cause to be installed at once a permanent and efficient staff and materials to be assembled for the operation of the \$2,500,000 dry-dock and shipbuilding plant now lying idle at Prince Rupert."

"That the Borden government is no longer entitled to the confidence of the people."

"That a federal bankruptcy law be enacted."

"That the iron deposits be developed as a national enterprise."

"That during the war extra taxes be imposed on war profits in addition to all other taxes."

"That a national highway for automobiles and wagons be constructed from the Atlantic to the Pacific."

THE PERNICIOUS SOW THISTLE

At a large percentage of loading platforms and sidings, along the railways, behind stores and warehouses in cities, towns and villages where packing boxes shipped in with goods have been piled, and even on some farms, growing in a wide range on soils from high gravel beds to loams and heavy clays and land submerged in water, perennial sow thistle is becoming established in Western Canada. Quietly pushing on by an extending root stalk and its downy seeds that blow for miles in the fall, this weed is each year—yes, each day—gaining a firmer grip on the country. Now is the time when this weed, the farmers' worst enemy, is weak. Destroy the first plant you see. An ounce of prevention is worth tons of cure. A small patch of perennial sow thistle if allowed to mature can seed down a whole farm—yes, a whole neighborhood. Watch for it and report the size and exact location of every patch to your weed inspector.

This plant is a deep-rooted perennial, with large and vigorous milky root stalks, extending along about four inches below the surface of the ground. The young plant, as it first appears, consists of a rosette of notched leaves somewhat thicker and lighter green than the dandelion but having a similarity in outline and size. The root stalks send up numerous shoots, often less than an inch apart. The plant grows erect from two to four feet in height. The stem is smooth and hollow and the whole plant is filled with a bitter milky juice. The leaves are pointed, four to eight inches long, soft-spined and deeply cut, the divisions pointing backward. The base of the leaf clasps the stem. The plant is slightly prickly all over, although a perfectly smooth variety is found occasionally. The flowers resemble the flowers of the common dandelion, being yellow and from one to one-and-a-half inches in diameter. Five to fifteen flowers grow on a single stem. The seeds are dark reddish brown, about one-eighth of an inch in diameter and the surface is very deeply wrinkled with longitudinal ribs. Each seed bears at the top a tuft of white silky hairs which acts as a parachute and enables seeds to be carried long distances by the wind.

If you are in doubt send samples of the plant or seed to the Weeds and Seed Commission, Department of Agriculture, Regina, Edmonton or Winnipeg.

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