

FRIDAY, April 7, 1922.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization met at 11 o'clock, the Chairman, Mr. W. F. Kay presiding.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, your sub-committee has met and makes its report.

"Your sub-committee beg to recommend that Mr. Watts and Mr. Rice of the Dominion Milling Association be heard on Tuesday next at 11 o'clock."

Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt this report from the sub-committee.

Motion agreed to.

We will have the pleasure of listening to Mr. Maharg this morning. To many members of the House who were here since 1917 Mr. Maharg is well known and probably to the western men he is equally well known, and he does not need any introduction.

Mr. J. A. MAHARG: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I wish to assure you that it is really a pleasure to mingle with the committee again although in a different capacity. In regard to the matter before the committee it would almost seem as though the subject had been exhausted. I am sure personally I appreciate very much the attitude of the committee and the intelligent questioning that has taken place. And if there is anything further that I can add I will be only too glad to do so. There seem to be two or three main points, at least that seemed to be the opinion of members yesterday and if they can be satisfied on these main points the objection would be almost if not entirely removed, towards the re-establishment of the Wheat Board. The points as I remember were first of compulsion and next as to the representatives of the consumers, that is if they were satisfied that the consumers were not complaining, and also that the cost to the consumer would not be increased. Those seemed to be the three main points.

In regard to the first one, the matter of compulsion that was fairly well dealt with but a case was instanced yesterday of a gentleman that was living close to the railroad who was situated under very favourable circumstances to get his crop to the market early. Now, if the committee will pardon me for making a personal reference to that, and also a community reference to it, I think I can show that that argument is not very widespread. In so far as I am situated myself and the surrounding community we are probably in as fortunate, if not more fortunate position than any other point in the West except that it may be Saskatoon. We can deliver our grain and get a Government certificate within an hour after it is threshed. We can have a negotiable certificate at once by delivering our grain to the Government elevator, the interior terminal located at Moosejaw and Saskatoon or in a similar position. We have a local of our provincial organization situated within a mile or so of this elevator. The members surrounding this elevator and the majority of them can deliver and do deliver to that elevator, and yet being in a most favourable position, they in that local have passed a unanimous resolution asking for the re-establishment of the Wheat Board. Now, there is a community that could not be more favourably situated. They can get their negotiable documents with their grade and weight almost immediately, and yet they are convinced that they themselves will be in a

[Mr. J. A. Maharg.]