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Western Irrigators Meet at Nelson

The Largest Gathering But One in Five Years

NE of the most important gath-erings having to do with food production in Wostern Canada has just come to an end at Neison, B.C., where the Western Canada Irannual convention on July 24, 25. -92 The selection of the city of Nelson for such a convention is in itself an indication of the growing interest an indication of the growing interest which Western Canadians feel in ir-rigation as a means of increasing agricultural production. Nelson is not in the arid or semi-arid belt, and yet, even with the generous rainfall which prevails there, frigation has been found to be of great value. The experience at Nelson seems to in-dicate that in years to come many districts which do not new recognize the need of irrigation will employ n extensively. Hon. T. D. Pattullo,

Hon. T. D. Pattullo, Minister of Lands, and President of the Western Canada Irrigation Association for the season of 1917-1918, presided over the convention for its first day, and Hon. Senator Bostock, of Ducks, B.C., vice-president, presided during the following days. Among the visitors following days. Among the visitors of note were Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, Alberta; Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, Saskatchewan; Hon. John Oliver, Premier of British Columbia; Hon. E. D. Barrow, Ministor of Agriculture, Vietoria; E. F. Drake, Superintendent of Irrigation, Ottawa; Don. H. Bark. Chief of Irrigation In vestigation Department of the C.P.R.: M. S. Middleton, Victoria; James White, Assistant to the Chairman. Commission of Conservation, Ottawa; A. Griffin, Supt. of Operation and Maintenance, Eastern Section, C.P.R. Irrigation Block; R. H. Campbell, Di rector of Forestry, Ottawa; J. A. Grant, B. C. Markets Commissioner: Dr. Ernest Thomas, Vancouver, and many local authorities from districts in British Columbia. The accredited delegates numbered 182, besides many visitors, which, with one ex-ception, is the largest attendance at a convention of the association in the last five years.

Although the purpose of the ass ciation is primarily to promote the production of food by means of irriga tion, it is also deeply interested in the twin method of agriculture dry farming. It is now generally recog-nized that irrigation and dry farming instead of being rival methods of agri culture, are really closely related, and in many cases both methods are practiced by the same farmer. One of the most interesting addresses at the convention was that delivered by Hon. W. R. Motherwell on the sub-ject of dry farming. Mr. Motherwell strongly deprecated the agitation to bring every possible acre under culti-vation. Quantity without quality was merely a waste of labor, and in some cases an actual loss of food, as seed was sown which never reproduced it-10019

Hon. Duncan Marshall in a stirring address appealed for greater inter est in live stock raising. The salva-tion of agriculture lay in good stock, and the best type of citizen which the country produced was the stock farmer. After the war there would be an inevitable slump in the price of grain, but the depletion which has taken place in the live stock supplies of the world would assure the stock man of continued high prices.

The necessity of making provision for meeting our national obligations which provision can be made only by increased production—was esized by Hon. John Oliver. empha Dry farming, irrigation, and every other method of production must be employed to this end. Financial prob-lems after the war would be greater than dur ng the war, and it was 'of

the utmost importance that the Omthe utmost importance that the dus dian people should produce more a consume less. Other addresses di consume less. Other addresses of high order were heard, the spans representing points from Ottan Victoria

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The Election of Officers Hon. Patron: His Excellence. Hon. Patron: His Excelleng a Governor General of Canada; in President, The How Minister of a Iniertor of Canada; Minister of President, Hon. W. R. Moare Minister of Azriculture, Moare Minister of Azriculture, Wang, The Hon. Vice-President, a Minister of Lands, Britister of President, The Minister of Apr President, and Minister of Apr President, The Minister of Aria ture, Alberta; 1st Vice-Pres., Sma H. Bostock, Ducks, B.C.; 2nd Via Pres., G. R. Marnock, President Sas of Trade, Lethbridge, Alberta Vice-Pres., Hon. Minister of Am Vice-Pros., Hon. Minister of Arm ture, Canada. Executive: here Minister of Agriculture, here Sask; G. Sterling, Kelowa, and Deputy Minister of Agriculture toria, B.C.; Jas. Johnstone, Me B.C.; Walte, Hackvale, Medica B.C.; Walte, H. Backwale, Medica B.C.; Warter Hackvale, Medicine in Alberta; F. H. Peters, Caigar, is berta; A. S. Dawson, Caigar, is berta; R. J. C. Stead, Caigar, is berta; F. E. R. Woolssion, Yesa

Invitations to the ass received from Brooks, Alberta; Ma che Hat, Alberta; and Lethin Alberta, to hold the 1919 convers at these respective centres. The vitation of Medicine Hat was are ed.

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The following resolutions m adopted:

That this convention desires ba vite the urgent attention of the he ish Columbia Government to the way spread feeling in the irrigate is tricts of the province that the ma tion systems in British Colmis should be brought under government ownership and control

That the Western Canada Inis tion Association respectfully man mend to the British Columbia (a ernment that, before passing any m posed legislation dealing with a water question, opportunity that be given to those interested is a familiar with the press come amendments.

Whereas-the Policy of the Gom ment of British Columbia in util the ranges on the interior dis province to a much larger extent in hitherto, necessitates an ince area of irrigated hands in order provide winter fodder. Without at increase much valuable brein stock must be slaughtered before a turity. Therefore, be it ratio that the British Columbia Gam ment be requested to consider min Immediately exhaustive enquiring to the location of ranges with a tiguous land suitable for irigin and steps be taken to bring such la under water either by the Gen ment undertaking the work of community work, or any other do tive organization, but always me the control of the Government. h cost of this work to be a charge us the land so irrigated.

That the association respe recommend to the British Coincil Government that enquiries be imp iately set on foot to discover when interior points wild grass can be of for hay and the best means to an It available for stock during them ing winter.

ibmitted by the Coaldaleid bridge water users associate Whereas in certain provinces as tion as now exists for esta ing an association of users of im tion waters requires that such an ciation be assented to by the co pany or individual holding the w That the We Hcense. Resolved: ern Canada Irrigation Association (Continued on page &)



Trade Increas VOL XXXVI

NE of the be Ont. is the 1 who lives or ford and Paris. times, usually dur formed the work we of man-powe form, with the exc workable, and inclu are grown if the work is all handle Milon to the prop not yet being old in the farm opera ille work is done. allcient equipment hyping bricks as a mover to my qu constders a good i "I have not yet decision as to the the size of this one ant the morter for seither opposed to

and at present my "Let us take th antiqued Mr. Good purpose walking ph more than one. The now plow will do With it, one man h job, and leaves me rere we depending For instance, while at a round I may be

"I have unother p I had it made speci principally for plow This plow cuts 16 f and I believe there mme type on farms what extensively.

The Spring-To

"For working up ould place the rid first in my estimatio bothed cultivator, w proference is still to an't imagine mysel sat. It works a while disk harrow. with the riding cultiv

with the riding cultiv has been left unev, ouch grass if there. Mr. Good parsed i for the next tier of by ad with a single disk the has had been r have a double disk b for four horses, but in a short time. If i tooffeed cultivator as tosthed cultivator an over, I believe f would we have a smoothing a good load for three "In cultivating the g

row cultivator an ex of hee crop, and wo