

and completed when once commenced. The economy with which it has been handled under the new Government is most gratifying and stands in strong contrast to what happened before Mr. Borden came into power.

The Government has reason to be proud of the present transportation facilities of the West, and the railways are to be congratulated upon their handling of the 1913 crop. We all remember the deplorable conditions attaching to the shipment of the 1911 crop and the difficulties which remained over into the next year. The western press teemed with severe criticisms of every one concerned, though the trouble was largely due to causes which no Government or transportation agency could at that time meet. Now, the railway companies, acting apparently with the Railway Commission under Government direction, have brought about a condition of things where the current season brings hardly a complaint, although the crop is greater than ever.

The matter of storage accommodation in connection with the general question of transportation cannot be too strongly urged upon the Government and farmers alike. The Dominion Government in carrying out Mr. Borden's pre-election pledges as to the great terminal elevator at the head of the lakes, which is now completed, and as to the internal elevators, which are now under way in the western provinces, has done a great public service. This Government elevator at Port Arthur has a capacity of 3,250,000 bushels; it cost \$1,227,755; and was opened on October 13th last. At the latest date of information received, it had in store 1,925,940 bushels of grain. I have received a letter this morning stating that in the neighbourhood of 6,500,000 bushels of grain have been handled up to date. There were a number of cars coming to these two ports, which graded 'rejected.' These cars were refused by the other terminal elevators but I am glad to say that the Government elevator took everything that was offered, and handled more than a fair share of the grain that required special treatment in the way of cleaning and separating.

That letter was sent by the secretary of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada at Fort William.

As the total of grain received at Port Arthur and Fort William in September, October and November, 1912, was 66,736,587 bushels, and in the same three months of 1913 had increased to 115,570,500 bushels,

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the tremendous importance of additional facilities is obvious. Two internal elevators, —one at Moosejaw and one at Saskatoon,—are now under construction at a total price of \$2,163,741, and each of them is to have a capacity of 3,500,000 bushels. It may also be considered desirable, though I have not information on that point, to construct similar elevators in Alberta and on the Pacific coast.

Various efforts had been made in the past few years, through public and private ownership, to give this boon to the western farmer, and the Grain Growers' Associations have been unceasing in their exertions and pressure upon the Provincial Governments. The policy of the present Dominion administration will, therefore, be justly popular, and it certainly meets one of the most important demands and requirements of western agricultural interests. I cannot help saying, however, that the Government action should be further aided by individual farmers. The building of local storage accommodation for the farmer's own wheat would make transport congestion in the future impossible and improve the quality of the grain as a whole, while giving the farmer a better chance of getting a better market.

I desire at this point to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. Mr. Burrell) upon his Agricultural Aid Act of 1912, and his Permanent Agricultural Instruction Act of 1913. The investigation carried on by Mr. C. C. James, under instructions from the Department, has been fruitful of good results. Upon it has been based the present law under which \$10,000,000 will be expended upon agriculture in the provinces of Canada during this and the succeeding 9 years. This money will go toward the increase of efficiency and equipment in agricultural colleges and the teaching of agriculture in the public schools; encouragement to women's institutes in the rural districts; promotion of demonstrations and training in horticulture, sheep and poultry husbandry; instruction in domestic economy, bee-keeping and under-drainage; organizing of school gardens and instructions by travelling dairymen; demonstrations of the value and nature of alfalfa clover; promoting tobacco culture and the maple syrup industry; instruction in the marketing of farm products and the raising of vegetables; promotion of dairying in all its branches. The vital point in this important plan is the unifying of provincial action throughout the provinces; another point is the closer relationship of the Dominion and the