

Saskatchewan Elevator Commission

During the past week the Saskatchewan Elevator Commission has been sitting in Regina, most of their time being taken up by an inspection of books submitted by various elevator companies. The books submitted have been principally from farmers' elevator companies and are in the hands of skilled auditors.

This session of the commission is a departure from the programme arranged, it having been the intention to go into the northern part of the province and open a session at Saskatoon. However, in so many cases statements were made as to the successful manner in which the farmers' elevator companies were conducted that it was decided to find out the real facts with regard to these companies.

One manager of an elevator on the Arcola line, which has been doing a big and profitable business refused to set the information desired before the commission and the result was that he was told in no uncertain language by the chairman that the commissioners had a right to the information and the power to force it to be laid before them. The result was that an extension of time was made to give an opportunity to have the books of the company submitted.

The books of the following farmers' elevator companies have been submitted to and examined by the commission: Buffalo, Tuxford, Caron, Carnduff, Grenfell, Kisbey, Regina, Sintaluta, McAra, Condie, Arcola, and Indian Head. Of these it is stated that only one which showed tangible profits from its operations was that of Arcola. An auditor from the government auditing department is engaged upon the work of going through the books of the farmers' elevator companies and it will take possibly another week to finally classify the results.

By far the most important testimony that the commission has yet received was that of William Noble, of Oxbow, given Thursday. Mr. Noble, who asked

for protection before giving his evidence stated that it was a common practice of elevator companies to use a double weight system whereby farmers were very generally defrauded. He, himself, he stated, as manager of the Dominion elevator, had been instructed to fake the weights and rather than do so he had resigned. He complained, in connection with grading that instances frequently occurred where wheat was unjustly graded by the government inspector, though in answer to the chairman, Prof. Magill, he stated that he would not go so far as to say that the inspector, Mr. Horn, had an axe of his own to grind in the matter.

Coming to the question of a remedy for the existing grievances Mr. Noble advocated a government system of elevators managed by a commission appointed by the Grain Growers' Association. He was adverse to a government monopoly, believing the government system should be in competition with the line elevators. Touching upon the financial side of the question, Mr. Noble stated that to provide government elevators at the 300 shipping points now located in the province would call for an expenditure of about \$4,500,000. This money, he considered, it was up to the government to find. If there was a deficit in the working of the system, the government should meet it. He did not believe in asking the farmers to give any sort of a guarantee that they would patronize the government elevators.

In answer to Prof. Magill, Mr. Noble admitted that in the by-laws of the farmers' elevator at Oxbow, there was a penalty clause which imposed a penalty of 1 1/2 cents upon the farmers shipping their grain through any other elevators. He himself drafted the by-laws three years ago, but since that time he had changed his mind. His reason for inserting the penalty clause in question was that he felt certain the line elevators would cut their rates as soon as the farmers' elevator started operations.

F. C. Tate, M.L.A., outlined a compromise scheme before the commission, Friday. Mr. Tate's scheme follows:

1. That the government establish weigh scales at all shipping points to be under the control of an appointee of the government, thus providing for the protection of the farmer from loss by the receiving of false weight.

2. That the government provide storage facilities at all shipping points where they would be required for the use of farmers living at a distance from the station to store their grain until they have enough at the station to fill a car. The object of this is to do away with the necessity which farmers at a distance from the stations, have of selling their grain to elevators whether they want to do so or not.

3. That the use of the economy cleaner be advocated. This machine costs about from \$200 to \$300 and can be attached to a threshing machine in the field. Although it is hardly out of the experimental stages yet it is believed that it will clean grain so well as to do away with the necessity of having the grain cleaned at the elevator.

4. That this plan be put into force for about two years, pending the trial of the Manitoba government-owned elevators.

5. Besides the foregoing assistance, that another provision be made whereby the government should undertake to loan money to the farmers for a farmers' elevator when they are asked to do so.

With regard to government ownership Mr. Tate stated, there was, speaking of his own district, a very great diversion of opinion and he believed the same held good throughout the province. He considered that the only solution which would be generally acceptable would be in the nature of a compromise. Without committing himself or the commission to an acceptance of his scheme, Prof. Magill, intimated to Mr. Tate that so far as the investigation had been carried his suggestion of a compromise appeared to be suited to remedy existing grievances.

Wm. Noble was further cross-examined Friday, but said nothing to change the tone of his former evidence.

On Monday next the commission will sit in Prince Albert, and on Wednesday, June 22 at Kamsack, and on Friday at North Battleford. Next week the first meeting will be held at Rosetown on Tuesday, June 28, and they will hold meetings at Saskatoon on Wednesday and Thursday, June 29 and 30, and will

Winnipeg Industrial EXHIBITION

Entries in all Departments Close positively June 30th

Every Progressive Grain Grower, Stock Breeder, or Dairyman in the West should have a part in the magnificent showing that is to be made here this year.

Prizes Total - - \$40,000

Especially liberal with Cattle, Horses and Wheat

The
Opened
Gateway



To
the Land
of Fortune

JULY

13-23

A. W. BELL, Secretary - - 1001 UNION BANK - - WINNIPEG

EATON'S
GUARANTEED
BINDER TWINE

Price per Hundred Pounds
at Distributing Points:

WINNIPEG	8.50	8.95
BRANDON	8.70	9.30
REGINA	8.90	9.45
SASKATOON	9.00	9.55
CALGARY	9.25	9.75
EDMONTON	9.35	9.75

WRITE FOR PRICES AT YOUR STATION

T. EATON CO LIMITED
WINNIPEG CANADA

PORTABLE STEEL GRANARIES

Absolutely
Fire, Lightning
and
Vermin Proof

Easily set up, Easily moved, Best and
Cheapest. Write us for Price List B.

The DOMO Separator Co.
WINNIPEG

NOTICE

PURSUANT to resolution of the Directors of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, Limited, Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the said Company will be held at the Trades Hall, Corner of James and Louise Streets, at the City of Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, on Thursday, July 14th, A.D. 1910, at the hour of 10 a.m., for the consideration of the Reports of the year's business, the Election of a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and passing any necessary By-laws, and such further business as may properly be brought before the Meeting.
D. K. MILLS,
Winnipeg, May 31st, 1910. Sec.-Treasurer.



HARNESS LIFE THE OIL FOR LEATHER,
GOES RIGHT THROUGH AND DARES THE WEATHER.

There's Proof
in a Test of **Harness Life**

It will bring old harness back to its original softness and new appearance. It strengthens and preserves the leather fibre, takes out the hard kinks as well as making your harness absolutely waterproof. Harness Life is salvation to harness troubles. Saves its cost first time you use it.

Blackens the Harness but Not the Hands

SAMPLE TIN 25c. or \$2.00 per gallon f.o.b. Winnipeg, if
at your dealers Address Dept. A you give us your dealer's name

The Carbon Oil Works Limited
WINNIPEG

Manufacturers of Cow Brand, Stock Drips, Ointment-of-Tar, Barn
Spray, Vermin Death, Poultry Peace, etc., etc.

HAIL FIRE HAIL
Farmers, insure your Crops against loss by
HAIL

in the strongest Company doing business in Saskatchewan.
For rates and further particulars see our Agents.

THE CANADA NATIONAL INSURANCE CO. SASKATOON, SASK.
Full Government Deposit Good Reliable Agents Wanted

be at Lanigan on Friday. The third week meetings will be held at Lanigan, Hamley and Lumsden, the exact dates for which have not yet been decided on account of the inability to get the train schedule which will be in force at that time.

The commissioners will then go to Winnipeg, where they intend to interview representatives of head offices, of banks and elevator companies and railways, and also to get evidence from the Dominion grain inspection department. After completing their investigations at Winni-

peg, Carnduff and Swift Current will be visited, and another conference with the Grain Growers' executive will take place. In so far as is known at present this will conclude the work of the commission so far as the hearing of evidence is concerned. Notices of dates of the meetings are being sent by the commission to the newspapers, the Grain Growers' Association at Prince Albert, and notices are also being wired to Kamsack and Rosetown, as the commission is anxious that the dates of the meetings should be given the greatest possible publicity.