

Sample Market

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The sample market would enable the seller to get the intrinsic value of his wheat and meant a square deal all round. It had been contended that Winnipeg was not as good a point for a sample market as Minneapolis, because there were not as many flour mills there, but Minneapolis did not have nearly as many mills before the sample market was established. The millers of Minneapolis were opposed to the sample market, because it meant that they had to pay more for the wheat, but they had to go to the sample market to buy their grain whether they liked it or not. At the present time in Canada the Western millers took the choice cars and left the poor ones to go to the markets of the world to fix the price, but with a sample market, provided proper facilities were provided at the terminals and the identity of grain was preserved, they would have to pay a premium for all grain above the grade requirements.

As to Mixing

Mr. Kennedy said there were at present two systems of mixing, one that was not allowed by law and one that was. The first was that practiced at the terminal elevators, where the operators mixed their own grain with that of the farmers and other people who did not own elevators. There was also a mixing at Liverpool, where the dealers bought different grades and mixed them so as to build up a certain standard of wheat before selling to the millers. In order to have a sample market it was necessary for buyers to have the privilege of leasing special bins at the terminals in which they might store the grain which they had bought at its intrinsic value and there mix it as the old country dealers did. The same reasons existed for the sale of barley on the sample market, but in barley the gain to the producer would be greater because of the greater spread between grades.

R. McKenzie also spoke in favor of the sample market, and after brief discussion as to the wording of the resolution it was unanimously adopted as follows: "That this convention considers a sample market absolutely necessary to secure for us the true value of our grain, and that our executive be instructed to take such steps as in their discretion may seem necessary to secure such sample market."

Agricultural Implement Duties

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:

Moved by C. H. Burnell, Oakville, seconded by R. M. Wilson, Marringhurst: "That this convention instruct our executive to form a committee that shall inquire into the prices of agricultural implements made in Canada and other countries, and compare the prices paid there with those we pay here, and take the necessary steps to place the same before the tariff commission appointed by the Dominion government.

"Further, that they take steps to secure that the farmers of the Dominion shall be represented on that commission in proportion to their numbers and their financial interests."

Direct Legislation

Moved by Charles Longman, seconded by H. L. Montgomery:

"That we endorse the bill prepared by the Manitoba Direct Legislation League to be presented to the Manitoba Legislature at the next session, and that we direct our executive to co-operate with the league in presenting the same, and that immediately at the conclusion of this convention each sub-association wait upon its representative in the local legislature and secure from him if possible a pledge to support the Direct Legislation Bill referred to."

Lumber Duties

Moved by T. W. Knowles, Emerson, seconded by Alex. Goodwin:

"Resolved, that this convention protest most strongly against any change being made by the Dominion government respecting either raising or imposing a duty on rough lumber."

Moved by J. L. Brown, seconded by W. H. Bewell:

"That we view with alarm the report that efforts are about to be made to gain control of the rapids of the St. Lawrence River, and we urge the government that this source of power be retained for the benefit of the people."

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