

On the return of the Saskatchewan delegates to the West, the matter was taken under serious consideration, and the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture began an extensive publicity campaign throughout the province to bring before the public the great need for pork production.

With this end in view two conferences were held, one at Regina and the other at Saskatoon. To these conferences were invited the Reeves and Secretaries of Rural Municipalities, the Presidents and Secretaries of Agricultural Societies and other interested live stock men. Only those districts were asked to send representatives which had harvested a fair crop in 1917, and where in all probability sufficient feed, in the way of coarse grains, would be available. The response was extremely satisfactory, despite very cold and stormy weather, over 200 delegates assembling at Regina and Saskatoon on December 12 and 13.

The seriousness of the situation and the imperative need for increased hog production was put plainly before the delegates by the Honourable W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, Ex-Lieutenant Governor Brown and Dean Rutherford, of Saskatoon.

It is a serious matter to ask Western farmers, at this time of high feed prices and shortage of labour, to increase their hog production, but there is not the least doubt that if every farmer in the province could have heard the plain straight statements given at the convention there would be no further necessity to urge the raising of an extra litter or two in 1918.

After listening to the addresses and after full discussion of all the matters entering and affecting increased production, the delegates passed the following resolution:

"Whereas it has been clearly demonstrated that the herds and flocks of meat producing animals in all countries of the world have enormously decreased in the last three years; and,

"Whereas a serious shortage exists in the supply of pork products for our armies in the field and for the civilian population, especially the women and children behind the lines in France:

"Therefore be it resolved, that we, the delegates to this conference, do our utmost in our respective localities to promote in every way possible the Hog Production Campaign which has been inaugurated by the Department of Agriculture."

As a result of this conference an active personal canvass will be carried on during the next six weeks in those districts of the province which were represented at either of these two meetings. While the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture will be able to supply grade sows either bred or not bred, it will be better business for farmers who wish to buy sows to purchase from a neighbour, if at all possible, as much expense and inconvenience will thus be saved. Farmers who have surplus sows for sale should endeavour to have them retained for breeding purposes by finding a local purchaser. In most instances the office of the Secretary treasurer of the Rural Municipality or the office of the Secretary of the Agricultural Society, will be used as a local clearing house in bringing buyer and seller together locally. In this way time and money will be saved and the work carried on more satisfactorily.