

president of the association. It is pleasant to note that the Grain Growers of Saskatchewan are appreciative of the work done for them by their leader.

RELIEF IN SIGHT FOR ALBERTA

The farmers of the province of Alberta have recognized for some time that their best market would be to the west. British Columbia and the Yukon represent a vast population of consumers and there is a great demand for farm produce, which cannot be produced locally. In Alberta, on the other hand, there is everything required to make a progressive and prosperous agricultural province. By getting the producers of one province in touch with the consumers of the other province the condition could be arrived at which would be mutually beneficial. The live stock industry of Alberta, like that of Manitoba, has been throttled by monopoly and lack of competition. The government of Alberta has promised relief and to this end has assured the farmers that a pork packing plant will be built during the coming year. The government has further assured the Alberta farmers that it is prepared to assist in opening up a western market. For this purpose, Jas. Bower, president of the United Farmers of Alberta, last year investigated conditions in British Columbia, and presented a most valuable report to the Edmonton convention. In the report he recommended that a conference of the producing and consuming interests of the province of Alberta and British Columbia, together with the heads of the governments of both provinces, be called, to work out ways and means of improvement. Premier Rutherford has consented to the proposition and preparations for calling this convention will be proceeded with. The Alberta farmers have a great problem before them, not only to secure relief from monopoly, but also to secure equitable transportation rates from the producers to the consumers. However, the government of Alberta has taken up the cudgels in favor of its producing population and the government of British Columbia is likewise interested in behalf of its own people. This convention, which will probably be called during the spring will bring the producers and the consumers together. The consumer will now be able to find out where he can secure the farm produce which he needs. In Alberta the farmers are ready and willing to produce the grain, hay, live stock and other farm produce needed by the consumers of their own province as well as to those of the west, provided they get fair remuneration for their labor. By co-operating with the government they will be able to exert an influence which will break down all unfair opposition to their own best interests. The farmers of Alberta are taking the right course and by united action they can break down every illegitimate obstacle in the way of their progress.

CANADA'S FARMERS ARE UNITED

The great scheme for a Dominion-wide organization of farmers which was given birth to at the meeting of the Dominion Grange, in Toronto, last November, is now consummated. The Canadian Council of Agriculture is organized and has adopted a campaign for the ensuing year. The energy of the Canadian Council during the next year will be devoted to investigating and prosecuting the trusts that have grown up under the protective tariff. Special attention will be devoted to those trusts which have unduly enhanced the price of cotton, cement, and wire fencing. All these commodities are purchased in immense quantities by the farmers of Canada. From the Atlantic to the Pacific the oppression of the trusts is felt and the farmers of no one province could ever break them. But, working hand in hand the farmers of Ontario, together with those of the three great prairie provinces, form a power which is sufficient to overthrow that of any trust which

capital can create. The only benefit from trusts is that which is felt by the shareholders. A few men in Canada have tied up the cotton industry, the cement industry and the wire-fence industry, until every farmer is contributing to the private income of these gentlemen. The Canadian Council of Agriculture has a force behind its back which will enable it to go ahead and investigate for the benefit of the farmers of Canada. Never before have the farmers of this great Dominion got together for their common good. The start has now been made, and we predict that in years to come the Canadian Council of Agriculture will be the most potent force in Canada for the common good. The four provinces are now represented on the council. The farmers of Quebec have the same problems in general as the other provinces, the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia are also interested. A few years will see these other provinces united beneath the banner of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. The 25,000 farmers who are now united in the federal organization will be doubled in another year. Even then they will appear small in consideration of the fact that there are 700,000 farmers in Canada. But continued work and education will bring more and more farmers to the realization that the only way to improve their condition is through united effort. The Canadian Council of Agriculture promises for Canada more than any other single organization of which this great Dominion can boast.

GRAIN GROWERS STAND FIRM

The speech from the throne on the opening of the Manitoba legislature on February 10, contains the announcement that the government will bring before the House a bill authorizing the government to "acquire or construct, own and operate, a system of elevators throughout the province." For the first time in the world's history, a government has decided upon providing grain storage for the farmers. This is decidedly advanced legislation, and is what the farmers of Manitoba have been demanding for many years. The government has now accepted the principle, and has prepared a bill to be passed by the legislature. The enactment of legislation on the elevator question at the present session of the legislature is by far the most important subject before the House. All that remains to be done now, is to insure that the bill is drafted in the best interests of the Grain Growers of Manitoba. It is due exclusively to the efforts of the Grain Growers that the government has decided upon this legislation, therefore it is eminently just and right that the bill should contain provisions which will, in the opinion of the Grain Growers, fully protect them on all sides. The only method by which the government elevator system can be efficient and satisfactory is by placing it under the control of a commission which will be absolutely free and independent of any political control. The Grain Growers of the province demanded it in their convention; their elevator committee have demanded it from the government; and the local associations throughout the province have unanimously endorsed the demand of their committee. It is then the duty of the elevator committee of the Grain Growers' Association to remain firm and do their duty towards the farmers of Manitoba. The farmers of the province are the wealth producers and the tax payers, and the members of the legislature are their servants. The time is now at hand and may never come again, when the elevator question can be settled once and for all upon the right basis. The only basis which can be right is that which is under the control of an independent commission. When that is fixed by statute, governments may come and governments may go, but the elevator problem will never be a problem henceforth. Every Grain Grower in Manitoba and every

man who is interested in the welfare of the province of Manitoba, should see that the elevator question is settled properly. To insure this, every man interested should write a letter to his local member in the legislature at Winnipeg, and tell him in plain words that his support is expected towards putting a bill through the House in accordance with the demands of the Grain Growers.

Now, Grain Growers of Manitoba, show your metal; write to your member at once. Do not delay to strike while the iron is hot. Write, and write plainly. The demands of the Grain Growers must be in the bill which is passed by the Manitoba legislature. It will be if the Grain Growers stand firm.

GOVERNMENT AIDED MUNICIPAL ABBATOIRS

Two weeks ago we read the signs of the times aright and now the Manitoba government has definitely announced its intention of extending aid to a public abattoir and an open market for the cattle industry. This announcement will be hailed with joy by all producers and consumers in the province. It has taken a long time to bring the present monopolistic and grinding system to an end, but the end is now surely in sight. When there is an open market where the stock raisers of the province will be sure of getting a fair price for their cattle, it will give a tremendous impetus to the industry in the province. A municipally-owned and operated abattoir will enable the local butchers to patronize the open market and have their cattle slaughtered at a moderate cost. This will bring down the price of meat in the cities and towns of Manitoba. The great spread between the prices paid to the producer and the cost to the consumer will be cut down. The big and unfair profits of the abattoir men will now go in part to the farmers of Manitoba and in part to the consumers. The live stock industry of Manitoba, under the impetus of a fair marketing system, will thrive wonderfully. Manitoba is well adapted to stock raising, but the industry has been starved by greedy monopolists for years past. The government is on the right road. When a farmer can ship his cattle to Winnipeg and be sure of getting their full value in a competitive market, he will have an incentive to continue his labors. It will mean a steady and remunerative price to the producer throughout the year. Day by day the promise for the future grows brighter.

If the government of Manitoba will provide at this session of the legislature proper grain and live stock marketing systems in the province, it will deserve much at the hands of an appreciative people. The farmers of Manitoba know what they want and are not prepared to accept anything less. A government for the people, of the people, and by the people, is the one which will stand.

The government of Alberta was not anxious to establish the pork packing plant for the benefit of the farmers of the province. The farmers on the other hand were exceedingly anxious for its establishment. They have accepted the proposition of the government and now are assured of a proper marketing system for their hogs. Hog raising in Alberta should be a profitable industry and should bring a good return for those engaged in the work. When a proper market is provided they will get their rights.

In these days we hear a great deal about "Canada for Canadians." This is the slogan of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association which numbers 2,500 men. This cry of "Canada for Canadians" is a selfish appeal to patriotism. To be correct it should be altered to read "Canada for 2,500 Canadians." This would be intelligible to all people from the Atlantic to the Pacific and they would know exactly what it meant.