



The Grain Growers' Guide

ADDRESSED TO THE FARMERS OF



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THE MARCH ON OTTAWA

Arrangements are almost completed for the most tremendous project which the farmers of Canada have yet undertaken, namely, the sending of a large farmers' delegation to Ottawa to meet parliament and to present the demands of the farmers for legislation that will give a square deal to all. The Dominion Grange has already sent out a call to the local organizations throughout Ontario to appoint their delegates and be ready to move to Ottawa when the date is fixed. The Manitoba Grain Growers' Association has also issued a similar call to the local branches. It is expected that action will be taken in Alberta and Saskatchewan within a few days. It is probable that there will be at least 100 farmers at Ottawa to meet the parliament in December. They will represent the articulate voice of at least 4,000,000 people in Canada who make their living by farming. Surely they should command the utmost respect of the Ottawa legislators. There is no difference of feeling among the farmers of Canada on the tariff question, and the presentation that will be made at Ottawa will not be a selfish one, but will be in the interest of the people of Canada as a whole. It will be a demand that the tariff schedule be altered so that special interests will not be able to levy toll upon the people as they are now doing. In addition there will be the peculiarly Western problems that were presented to Sir Wilfrid Laurier last summer. The farmers of Canada are in deadly earnest and have awakened to the fact that when standing side by side they possess immense power. They are determined to use that power for the righting of economic wrongs and the securing of justice. The farmers are not asking for any legislation that will allow them to rob other classes but merely for legislation that will prevent other classes from robbing them. It is in the interests of the cause of good government throughout Canada, that every local farmers' organization in the West should be represented in the Ottawa delegation. If it is financially possible it would be wise if the local branches could send more than one delegate, but at least one should be sent. Not every farmer who goes to Ottawa will have the opportunity of presenting his individual views to parliament. To be effective the whole scheme must be worked out on a proper and business-like

basis. The demands must be presented in a clear cut manner and the reasons set forth to support them. When the tariff case is thus presented at Ottawa and is unanimously endorsed by the 600 delegates present it will not only stir the Dominion parliament to action but will have a marked effect upon every civilized country in the world. For many decades the farmers have been the underdogs, and without their organizations they would always be subject to toll from the privileged classes, but when organized and united they can demand their rights and come into their own. A presentation on the Hudson Bay Railway question will convince parliament that the West is not to be trifled with, and that the road to the Bay must be owned and operated by the government so as to afford real competition in freight rates, of which there is none at the present time. The whole question of public ownership should also be set out. The Terminal Elevator question will also be a subject to be dealt with and it should be impressed upon parliament that nothing short of government ownership and control of the Terminals at the lake front and at the Pacific Coast will afford any relief to the farmers. The great need of a proper chilled meat system will also receive due attention and parliament be urged to take up the matter and provide relief from the present monopolistic condition in the West. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has promised that the Co-Operative Bill shall be passed, but there will be tremendous opposition to it, so that the farmers can well afford to present a clear cut case on this question. Also we predict that the Ottawa delegation if properly managed, as we believe it will be, will prove to be one of the very best possible means of showing the farmers of Canada their opportunity and of cementing together the farmers' organizations of all the provinces where they can demand a protection of their interests by the Federal legislature. For Western Canada particularly this should prove a means of strengthening the organizations and of attracting thousands of farmers who have hitherto held aloof from the farmers' organizations. Let the march on Ottawa proceed and let justice be secured.

A JOURNALISTIC JOKE

The Daily News of Calgary has gone into liquidation and tenders are now being called for the purchase of its plant. The News has been conducted for several years as an "independent" daily paper as a sort of protest against the two straight party dailies in Calgary. The other day when the case came into court, Judge Stewart read out the names of the shareholders of the paper and among them were the following: Hon. Frank Oliver, Hon. A. C. Rutherford, Hon. C. W. Cross, Hon. W. H. Cushing, Hon. W. F. Finlay. The mention of these gentlemen as shareholders of an "independent" newspaper naturally caused a smile in court. It shows the way that most of our "independent" journals are conducted. Of course The News could give fully "independent" and unbiased political news! It would be interesting and instructive to the people of Canada if they should see a list of the shareholders of the leading daily papers. Practically every politician of any size in Canada has a newspaper in his hip pocket. Our Canadian politicians are afraid of independent criticism which explains the reason why they buy the newspapers and hire editors to eulogize them. With this style of independent journalism in Canada, it is easy to see how the public mind is poisoned. It is not confined to one side of politics, but both sides are at the same game.

The United Farmers of Alberta will hold their annual convention on January 17, 18 and 19. The Manitoba Grain Growers' Convention will be held in Brandon on January 24, 25, and 26. At these conventions there will be a feeling that more progress has been made

during the past year towards accomplishing the ends which the associations have in view than during any one year in the history of the farmers' organizations.

THE LUMBERMEN'S NEW DEAL

A dispatch from Vancouver says that arrangements have been made between the British Columbia lumbermen and the retail dealers of the Prairie Provinces by which no American lumber will be handled by the latter. The aim is to cut out the sale of American lumber entirely, and the dispatch says it will mean at least 200,000,000 more feet of lumber must come from the British Columbia mills to the prairie henceforth. The dispatch from Vancouver is worded to give the impression that the price of the lumber will not be enhanced in any way despite this new combine which boycotts the American product. The farmers of the Prairie will be glad to purchase Canadian lumber always if they can do so at a reasonable price. But we will be greatly surprised if this new venture does not prove to be a combine that will take additional toll from the farmer. The farmers know the quality of lumber when they see it and there is no danger of them being fooled in the purchase of "the cheap product from the American side." The lumbermen have, for years, been anxious to add to their income by the aid of a tariff, but finding that source unavailable they have now got down to the modern method of a combine. This combine prevents every retail dealer in the province from handling any American lumber and if it does not also prove the most expensive combine that has yet struck Western Canada, we will be surprised and gratified.

THE CEMENT COMBINE

Next to iron and steel there is no commodity that is coming into such general use in all kinds of structures as cement, and as lumber becomes scarcer and higher in price, increased use will be made of cement. Ten years ago there was manufactured in Canada 250,209 barrels; last year this amount was increased to 4,010,180 barrels. This increased consumption led to the establishment of many manufactories for the production of cement in Canada. The government also, in accordance with its avowed purpose of encouraging home industry, granted protection to all cement of 12½ cents per 100 pounds and bags in which cement and lime are imported, 20 per cent., figuring out a total protection of about 30 per cent. The effect of this high protection was the decreasing of imports of cement, notwithstanding the fact that there was increasing demand from year to year. In 1903 we imported cement to the value of \$1,234,649; in 1909 the import fell to \$475,676. At the same time the home manufacture of cement increased from \$1,192,014 in 1903, to \$3,208,008 in 1909. The establishments for manufacturing cement are well distributed all over Canada, from Calgary in the West to Ottawa in the East, and to the ordinary observer, with protection against outsiders sufficiently high to discourage importations, one would naturally expect that each of the manufacturers, so widely separated, would continue to manufacture cement and supply it to his customers in the usual business way. But those manufacturers were, in a measure, in competition, and had the tendency of preventing those engaged in the business from making undue profits, hence the idea of forming a merger and absorbing all the companies engaged in the business of manufacturing cement. As will be seen on the table (page 14), reproduced from the Monetary Times of September 24, the Canada Cement Company absorbed eleven individual companies with a combined capital of \$17,750,000. The merger concerned is capitalized at \$38,000,000 and has issued:

Common Stock	\$13,300,000
Preferred Stock	10,000,000
Bonds	5,000,000
Total	\$28,000,000

as against \$17,750,000, the total capital of