

## Resolutions Passed at Toronto Convention

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all shall take time, under the direction of the organized farmers, to visit the farms as possible in different parts of the country in company with representatives of the organized farmers, where the disastrous effects of the government's policy will readily be apparent. Only representative farms will be selected, typical of thousands of others.

### What Farmers Recommend.

We would recommend that this convention request the Government to secure:

1. That all owners or practical managers of farms be exempted to carry on their work and that in cases where they have already been drafted they be granted extended leave of absence for this purpose.

2. That enough skilled agricultural labor be exempted to supply one skillful man for each one hundred acres or major part thereof in each of farming districts and a similar requisite number in districts devoted to special production.

3. That following British precedent and as at late date as the Royal proclamation of April 20th of this year, recognize the need of maintaining sufficient skilled agricultural labor to efficiently operate the farms and which has since the beginning of the war caused the representatives of the farms as to the needs of agriculture, we would ask our Government:

(a) To create an Advisory Board in Agriculture, said board to be constituted of men actually engaged in Agriculture and nominated by what are general farmers' organizations may exist in that Province with whom the whole situation, both from the standpoint of military and productive needs may be taken up and who may make such recommendations from time to time as the needs of the whole situation may dictate.

(b) That whereas under the most recent Order in Council given to the Prime Minister on May 24th, by which officers have been specially detailed to deal with applications for leave of absence we recommend, that again following British precedent, similar officers should be created to deal with extreme cases as developed under the recent Order in Council, and that practical agriculture be represented on the personnel of these tribunals.

4. That the food producing operations of our country be accorded the same consideration by our Government as is given by the Government of the United States to food production in that country.

### Consult the Farmers.

Whereas many orders are issuing by the various committees and Boards appointed by the Government, which directly indicate a lack of knowledge as to the subject, which seriously affects the farmers in many instances and

Whereas it is only reasonable that the farmers should be consulted upon matters which directly and vitally affect their interest.

Be it therefore resolved that the Federal Government be memorialized to consult with Provincial advisory committees to be selected by the organized farmers in each Province with a view to fitness and efficiency, with whom they may consult in all such cases.

Whereas the whole Trade and Financial conditions of Canada have been greatly disarranged by the war, and will require careful re-adjustment to its termination.

Be it resolved that an Industrial Reorganization Committee be formed under the Department of Trade and Commerce and consist of agricultural, manufacturing, labor, financial and transportation representatives, and

that a memorial be presented to the Dominion Government looking to the formation of this Committee.

### Abolish Titles.

Whereas aristocracy is the great taproot of the present disastrous world-war; and

Whereas aristocracy was the foe of our fathers who, upon this continent sought freedom from its sway; and

Whereas a new aristocracy is rising in our midst by the manufacture and importation of aristocratic titles; and

Whereas a mock aristocracy to-day threatens us with a real aristocracy to-morrow; therefore resolved

That it be both expedient and necessary to abolish all titles in this Dominion of Canada in order that Government of the people, by the people, for the people, may be secured for all coming generations.

### Freedom of Speech and Press.

Whereas national and individual freedom have always been constitutional principles of the British Empire; and

Whereas to-day evidences are not lacking of a departure from these noble principles and an official attempt to deprive us of these sacred rights through curtailment of the freedom of speech and of the press;

Whereas we believe the democratic people of this Dominion are already chafing under this departure which condition does not tend to promote national unity of progress.

Be it therefore resolved that we call upon our representatives further in this direction, but to trust the people believing that they can fully depend upon every man doing his duty in this day of great national tribulation.

### Greater Organization Needed.

Whereas in the light of recent events it is quite clear that the Federal Government do not regard the urgency of sufficient importance as a concrete body to cause them to redeem pre-election promises made with apparent frankness; and

Whereas it is likewise apparent that this unfortunate state of affairs must continue so long as we remain in our present unorganized condition and permit ourselves to be automations for professional politicians and party leaders;

Be it therefore resolved that we hereby pledge ourselves to put forth every effort upon our return to our respective neighborhoods to promote organization to the end that the agriculturists of this Dominion may receive the recognition which the greatness of their calling justifies.

### Official Organ Wanted Immediately.

The publication committee of the United Farmers of Ontario after mature consideration submit the following:—

That with the exception of the agricultural press the rural view point is not being expressed and consequently public opinion is not being influenced by our organization.

That the individual farmers' opinion on public questions cannot be so consolidated and made effective unless they own and control their published organ.

That the growth of the Farmers' Organization having become so widespread it is not only good policy but absolutely necessary that an official organ be established.

Three plans for publication have been submitted and considered by this Committee:—

1. In conjunction with other farm papers in the Dominion to form a chain of papers which would have a uniform plan of action and be influential Dominion wide.

2. A very favorable offer was received to publish an official organ under control of the U.F.O. the publisher to run all risks provided the U.F.O. pay the subscription price of each member.

3. An offer was received from a well established weekly newspaper to sell our good will and equipment provided the paper was controlled and owned by the farmers.

Therefore be it resolved that this mass meeting of the farmers of Ontario approve of the immediate establishment of an official organ by means of a subscription of an amount of stock consisting of shares of \$50 each, 50% payable on allotment and balance to remain on call and that a subsidiary company of the U.F.O. be formed for the purpose of operating this official organ.

## Farmers Determined in Their Opposition

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Wood, "are absolutely identical. As farmers we have great problems to face and solve, not only now, but we will have others after the war is over. We must face these problems through our organizations and their proper solution will require all the strength of all the farmers of the Dominion. I urge that any mistake that we have made shall not be allowed to hinder the development of our organization. You may be sore, but don't be foolish. In Alberta we are disappointed that any breach that may have been made by our action should be healed and any assistance that we can give you we are willing to give at any time."

Following Mr. Wood's statement a motion was carried amidst applause asking Mr. Wood to carry back to Alberta the greetings of the farmers of Ontario to the farmers of Alberta. Mr. Roderick McKenzie, Secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, said that when there was a shortage of military equipment the Government consulted with the men who produced such equipment, but when the question of food production arose the farmers were not consulted by the Government. To-day the urban population is the governing part of Canada. As yet the public opinion of the rural population has not been brought to bear on the Government with sufficient strength to enable it to produce results. Hitherto farmers have been too modest. They should form clubs, study public questions and practice the art of public speaking.

### Resolutions Adopted.

The resolutions as published in another column were submitted at this session by the Resolutions Committee and adopted unanimously. The object in issuing a statement showing the farmers' attitude was to remove as far as possible, the misunderstanding which exists among city residents thereto.

### Daily Papers Scored.

Secretary J. J. Morrison read an editorial from the Toronto Globe denying the truth of a statement made by himself that the city papers were prejudiced against the farmers, and constantly misrepresented them. The meeting made it apparent that they endorsed the view that had been expressed by Mr. Morrison. Throughout all the proceedings strong resentment was expressed against the daily papers over their stand on questions relative to the farming industry. Mr. Cowan of Farm and Dairy, expressed the belief that dangerous conditions are being created by the growing misunderstanding on the part of the city man of the farmer and of many farmers concerning the viewpoint of the city men. When he expressed the view that editors do not deliberately misrepresent questions in a way calculated to injure farmers as a class there was a loud outburst of dissent. Later Mr. Cowan was allowed to read that many of the articles in which farmers

take exception are written by men utterly unfamiliar with farm conditions and who have no means of knowing the effect in the country of their articles they wrote. They were honest from their viewpoint in what they wrote. This situation was causing most painful and sometimes unfortunate results. Something should be done to bring about a better understanding between these two great classes of citizens.

### An Official Organ.

Mr. J. N. Kernighan, of Goderich, the chairman of the committee appointed at the annual convention of the U. F. O., to see what steps should be taken to establish an official organ, presented through President Halbert, the report of that committee. It is published among the resolutions on this page. The meeting was enthusiastically in favor of action being taken. A strong desire was expressed that a daily paper should be started.

In reply to a question as to what a daily paper would cost the reply was given that \$1,000,000 would be needed.

In order that the feasibility of establishing a paper and the support farmers would be likely to give it might be ascertained Mr. R. W. E. Burnaby, the president of the United Farmers' Company, invited the delegates to sign cards stating how much they would subscribe for the purpose of starting an official organ of some kind. Pledges were received for this purpose at the afternoon meeting exceeding \$13,000. The matter was taken up again by Mr. Burnaby at the evening meeting when additional pledges were secured which brought the total up to \$25,700. The delegates appeared to be about unanimous that money would be subscribed liberally for this purpose by the members of their clubs to the extent of \$25,000. Some of the subscribers promised were as high as \$500. While these pledges cannot all be considered binding, it is probable that at least \$20,000 could be raised on for this purpose from among the people who signed the cards and handed them in at the meeting.

### Other Speeches.

The Friday evening meeting was devoted largely to speeches that were somewhat general in character. Those who spoke included Peter McArthur, who warned those present about the dangers involved in the launching of publications unacquainted with experience he had had which resulted in his being started being put out of business by opposing interests. Other speakers included C. W. Arncliffe, ex-M.P. for the East Durham, W. L. Smith, of the Toronto Globe; Mrs. Gilbert MacIntyre of South Perth; T. Ross, of Prince Edward Island; Jon. Aiken, Jean Masson, of Quebec; W. V. Adams, of Downsview, and Elmer Lick, of Oshawa.

### Final Sessions.

In addition to the business already mentioned a resolution was passed at the Saturday morning following a speech by Mr. Galbraith, of Todmorden, expressing opposition to any more bank mergers being permitted by the Dominion Government unless the Finance Minister is prepared to appear on the floor of the House of Commons that the merger is necessary in order to prevent one or other of the banks concerned from becoming insolvent.

A resolution was also adopted providing that a thorough investigation be made as to the capacity of the packing plants now operating in Canada before any new packing plants shall be allowed to be established. The Ontario committee was reappointed and authorized to take whatever steps it deemed necessary to see that the views of the farmers are properly presented at Ottawa.

Throughout the convention the feeling was frequently expressed that the organized farmers of the province must be pushed vigorously in all parts of the province. Further reference to the meetings and to the speeches will be made in next week's issue of Farm and Dairy.