

Canadian Council of Agriculture

Regina, Sask., Oct. 26.—At a meeting of the Canadian council of agriculture held at Regina on Friday, at which representatives of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association, and the United Farmers of Alberta, were in attendance, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

Farmers' Deputation to Ottawa

Resolved, That in the interest of the producers and consumers of this country it is advisable that a delegation representing the organized farmers of Canada should proceed to Ottawa either before the opening of the next session of Parliament or immediately after the said opening, and lay before the government and the members of Parliament the views of the organized farmers as may be expressed by the different associations affiliated with this council, and to give this resolution effect it is hereby further resolved that each association affiliated with the council, through its properly constituted authority, be and are hereby required to nominate at the earliest possible moment three representative members of their respective associations to represent them and this council at the said meeting in Ottawa:

Whereas the progress and development of the agricultural industry is of vital importance to the general welfare of the state, and all other industries are dependent upon its success, and its condition is the barometer of trade, and it is recognized that the government of our country has the interest and welfare of the country at heart and is desirous of improving conditions:

Free Trade with Britain

Whereas the cost of production of all farm products is materially enhanced, and the development of our agricultural resources retarded, by the enormous cost of agricultural implements and other commodities, largely due to customs duties; and,

Whereas an important tax on food increases the cost of living, not only to the extent of the tax imposed, but through its effects of restriction of trade, and enables dealers and manufacturers to form combines and artificial restriction in the distribution of commercial commodities; and,

Whereas the best interest of the people of Canada and our loyalty to the British crown demand that the barrier to trade imposed by the Canadian tariff duties against the importation of British manufacturers be rescinded and thus not only cheapen cost of transporting Canadian foodstuff to the British consumer by providing return freight, but also supply Canadian consumers with cheaper manufactured goods.

Whereas a free interchange of all natural produce between Canada and the United States would tend to reduce the cost of living to town and country alike; and,

Whereas both houses of congress in the United States have passed an act, which is still in force, offering free interchange of natural products between the two countries.

What the Farmers Want

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That we urge the Parliament of Canada to increase, at its first session, the British preference to at least fifty per cent. and to provide for a gradual increase from year to year until we have free trade with Great Britain in five years.

2. That Parliament accept the offer of the United States of free interchange

of all agricultural and animal products between Canada and the United States.

3. That all foodstuffs not provided for in the above offer of the United States be transferred to the free list.

4. That agricultural implements, lumber and cement be transferred to the free list.

5. That pending the passage of legislation asked for herein, any duties now imposed under the Canadian customs tariff which are the means of counter-vailing duties being imposed against any food products of this country by any foreign country, be immediately removed.

6. That any tariff or trade concession granted to any other country be immediately extended to Great Britain.

Co-operative Act for Canada

Whereas it is to the interest of the associations that the question of co-operation should be discussed at the forthcoming conventions of the association affiliated with the council; and,

Whereas it is desirable that any co-operative action should be uniform, so that one general policy will be followed in all provinces;

Therefore be it resolved that we do request the government through the Hon. Arthur Meighen, solicitor-general, to introduce at the next session of Parliament a comprehensive co-operative act which will permit the establishment of co-operative societies of all kinds, whether for purpose of credit or trade.

Weights in Elevators

"That the government be requested to amend the Canada Grain Act and the Weights and Measures Act so that the inspection and control of all scales in use in all grain elevators and warehouses in Canada be transferred from the Department of Inland Revenue and placed under the administration of the Department of Trade and Commerce under the jurisdiction of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada."

Against Sample Market as Yet

Whereas it has been brought to the attention of this council that it is proposed to establish a sample market at Winnipeg during the month of December, 1913; and,

Whereas the views of this council were clearly expressed in a resolution adopted on December 16, 1910, which was as follows:

"Whereas we are convinced that the terminal elevators, as now operated, are detrimental to the interests of the producers and the consumers, as proved by recent investigation and testimony of important interested bodies; we therefore request that the Dominion government acquire and operate as a public utility, under an independent commission, the terminal elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur, and immediately establish similar terminal facilities and conditions at the Pacific Coast, and provide same at Hudson Bay when necessary, also such transfer and other elevators necessary to safeguard the quality of export grain."

And, whereas the above conditions have not been met; and, whereas we are convinced, after investigation, that the establishment of a sample market under existing conditions will not be in the interests of the producers of the grain, but will tend to bring about conditions which will destroy the integrity of our present grading system and will not bring about the desire of the farmers as is intended in the above quoted resolution, but will be injurious to the farmers of Western Canada;

Therefore be it resolved that we do hereby protest against the introduction of the said sample market and do urge that no further steps be taken toward bringing the sample market into operation until those who are the most interested, the grain producers, are agreed that the time has arrived when the same could be safely and properly operated for the benefit of both producers and consumers.

HOME BANK DIVIDEND

The Home Bank has declared its usual quarterly dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, payable December 1. The transfer books will be closed from November 16 to 30, inclusive.

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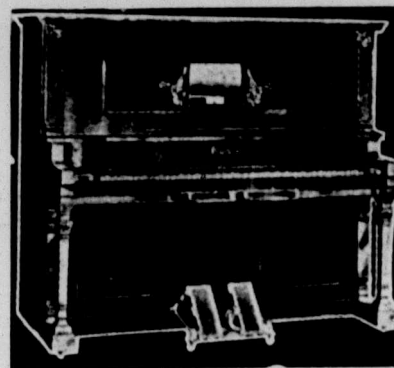
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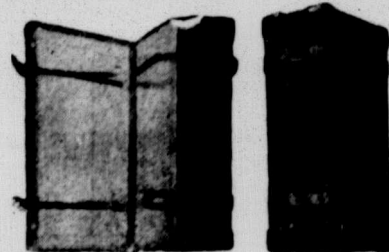
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