

Ballantyne, Montreal; H. Cockshutt, M.P., Brantford; H. Hobson, Hamilton; R. S. Gourlay, Toronto; S. R. Parsons, Toronto.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

A number of resolutions crystallizing the work of the convention were then presented and adopted, the last being an impromptu one dealing with preparations for after-war trade conditions. It provided:

"That the Government of Canada be urged to take prompt action towards making provision for post-war trade conditions to the end that the present favorable balance of trade may be continued, and that the employment of several hundred thousand people now employed in war industries may not cease.

"That this association is further of the opinion that the plan outlined and submitted to the Government by the special committee of the Senate on conservation of Canadian trade or some modification thereof, would, if adopted, result in permanent benefit to the country at large and also be of material assistance in the financing of our great national obligations incurred as a result of Canada's war effort."

Another resolution set forth the necessity for increased work along the lines of scientific and industrial research in order to prepare industry for the trying times to come.

It was decided in this regard to urge the Dominion Government:

"(1) To provide for the appointment of manufacturers in representative industries on the honorary advisory committee of scientific and industrial research on a basis equal numerically to the academic representation now thereon.

"(2) Under the supervision of the Honorary Advisory Committee in co-operation with the industries on terms to be agreed upon, to establish, equip and maintain a laboratory for conducting scientific industrial research and furnishing information relative to new processes, properties, inventions, improvements and materials discovered therein as may seem capable of use by interested manufacturers.

"(3) To provide funds to carry out this project or another similar plan suitable to Canadian industrial conditions which plan shall have the same end in view."

HOUSING.

The next resolution dealt with the necessity of better industrial housing in Canada, which, after setting forth the needs of the country as compared with what had been done in Great Britain and other countries, resolved:

"That the Canadian Manufacturers Association in annual convention assembled, holds that it is urgently incumbent upon Municipal, Provincial and Dominion Governments to seriously consider the whole question of housing reform, that plans may be laid for the provision of adequate housing facilities — looking towards the increase of home ownership, and that measures be taken for an early realization of these plans.

"Furthermore, it is respectfully suggested to the Dominion Government that immediate progress can be made by enlarging and emphasizing the work of the Housing and Town Planning Branch of the Commission of Conservation; and to the Provincial Government that arrangements should be made to hold a Provincial Housing Conference at the earliest date possible for the assembling of information and the consideration of ways and means in regard to the whole question of housing betterment."

Another resolution was adopted expressing approval of the work of the Conservation Commission in promoting the development of natural resources on a basis to encourage production and eliminate waste.

Fire prevention was also dealt with, and a resolution was adopted urging this matter on the attention of the Provincial Governments, with a view to preventing fire losses, and pledging the members of the C. M. A. to assist in the organization of fire prevention associations in their various localities.

INDUSTRIAL USES.

Considerable discussion took place on a resolution presented regarding the permission for the production of alcohol for industrial purposes without excise duties, which was eventually adopted.

This resolution was as follows:

"Whereas the fact that alcohol for industrial purposes, free of duty, has contributed much to the prosperity of several countries; whereas Canada has a number of distilleries now lying idle; whereas new processes are now available for making alcohol from non-edible materials; whereas the Dominion has an unusual opportunity of extending its industries in many directions; whereas a new source of motor fuel is desirable; and whereas alcohol is not now an important source of Dominion revenue;

"Resolved that the Government be petitioned to permit the use of excise duty free alcohol, subject to restrictions which would protect revenues and public safety."

This was unanimously adopted, on motion of Messrs. Macdougall and W. L. Goodwin, with provision that the Government be communicated with to this end.

With the passing of these resolutions the convention ended, and the meeting adjourned for the members to join in the tour of the harbor as guests of the Harbor Commissioners.

In their report the Transportation Committee spoke of the need for a merchant marine, and Mr. R. Gordon, who presented the report made a strong defence of the C. P. R., expressing indignation at the heavy tax placed on that road in connection with the 15 per cent increase in rates, which deprived it of any better revenue from this.

Prof. W. L. Goodwin, gave an address on the value of chemistry as allied with industry, and pointed out the necessity of preparing for the industrial war that would follow when peace was declared.

Prof. A. B. Macallum, chairman of the Scientific and Research Committee, Ottawa, followed along similar lines, especially pointing out how chemical science might aid industry, in conserving resources. He also dealt with the fuel question, and showed how by scientific aid the lignite resources of the west might be made available for the coming time when anthracite would no longer be available from the United States.

Senator Nicholls also gave a brief address on preparations for after war conditions, urging that when the present export trade ended steps should be made to prepare for other export business.

CONTROL OF COMPANIES.

Substantial progress has been made towards securing a decision of the vexed question of the rights of provinces as regards controlling companies incorporated by the Dominion, the legislation committee reported.

PROFITS IN FOODSTUFFS.

Ottawa, June 11.

The Canada Food Board passed an order which is expected definitely to prevent speculations in the produce business and to limit profits to a reasonable margin over cost. The order provides that, on and after July 1st, no person dealing in wholesale in meats, lard, cheese, butter, oleomargarine, or eggs, in selling to a retail dealer, or other not wholesale dealers, shall charge on each transaction more than ten per centum over his cost price delivered to warehouse. When salaried men are employed in buying, or when commission is paid, the charge for such, in computing, shall not exceed the recognized charge for buying or the customary commission paid.

In selling to another wholesale dealer, the charge on each transaction must not exceed the cost price by more than four per centum.

When selling prints of butter which have been moulded or cut by himself, the wholesale dealer may be permitted to charge an additional price to cover the cost of such moulding or cutting, but this additional price must not be more than three per centum of cost.

In selling or storing eggs which have been candled by himself, the wholesale dealer may add up to three cents per dozen to cover cost of candling, cases, fillers, and loss from defective eggs. If he candles eggs for sale out of cold storage, he may add not more than three per centum to cover cost of labor and loss from defective eggs.

When the produce dealt in has been stored or held for more than thirty days, the cost of holding or carrying may be added to the cost price delivered to warehouse, and the cost of carrying may include storage at public tariff rates, insurance, interest at seven per centum, and shrinkage.

The dealer may at any time make a list of separate lots of any article of produce owned by him, showing quantity and cost, and the average price, so ascertained, and the date of the list may be used when selling or storing, for the purpose of complying with the order, and its application to limitation of profits and invoicing. This average price, however, shall not apply to any produce not included in such list. Cold storage and fresh eggs must be listed separately. Copy of all such lists must be mailed to the Canada Food Board within twenty-four hours after being made.

The order further provides that the maximum advances over cost are not to be regarded as justifiable under normal trade conditions. Traders are warned

The committee informs the members that the issue has been framed in a concrete form for submission to the privy council and it holds that the Dominion government should bear the expense of the reference.

FIRE LOSSES \$50,000,000.

The insurance committee said in its report that \$50,000,000 went up in smoke last year in Canada and it could not be disputed that this was largely the result of carelessness and deplorable unpreparedness. Experts had made the statement that at least half of this enormous loss could be prevented if taken in hand seriously.

Deplorable as was the effect of fire waste upon Canada's domestic affairs, in the present crisis it assumed an immeasurably greater significance. Other countries were to a large extent depending upon Canadian production. Our government was making strenuous efforts to stimulate food production and curtail home consumption. Yet practically nothing was being done to protect from destruction by fire that which had been produced.

When the fire waste in Canada bears the same relation to our property value as in the case of Great Britain, they might expect to be paying one-third of the present insurance rates, but until the fire waste was considerably reduced there was no possibility of any material reduction in rates.

Legislation to deal with fire waste, the committee thought, should be framed to deal especially with (1) standard minimum requirements and (2) provisions for adequate inspection.

PLEGGED TO SUPPORT UNION GOVT.

The executive committee refers to the fact that "a statement was issued to our members, explaining that by positive acts, which left no room for argument, the association had pledged itself to assist the cause of Union government in the last general election. Many expressions of approbation were received by your secretary."

The committee also reported a surplus of \$2,097, total revenue received being \$79,869.

TO PREVENT PRICE INFLATION.

Ottawa, June 11.

As a consequence of the adoption of the order-in-council restricting the importation of luxuries, a further order-in-council has been passed, regulating the price of manufactures of gold and silver, electroplated ware, and gilt ware, and sterling, or other silverware.

It is also provided that the current prices at which these articles were sold in the ordinary course of business by dealers at the date of the order (June 3) shall not be increased without the permission of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, to be granted upon the recommendation of the War Trade Board.

Any person found guilty of violating the above regulations is liable to a penalty, not exceeding five hundred dollars, or to three months imprisonment, or to both fine and imprisonment.

While the above mentioned articles alone are specified in the order-in-council, it is considered likely that steps will also be taken to regulate prices in other directions, so as to prevent undue inflation, consequent upon the restriction of imports. Complaints have further been received here that certain dealers have taken advantage of the situation improperly to increase prices. These are now being investigated. If the complaints are found to be justified, it is intimated that measures will be taken to have the prices reduced to a fair level.

FOR EXPORTATION OF HIDES.

Ottawa, June 11.

Exportation of certain hides and skins, except under license issued by the Commissioner of Customs at the request of the War Trade Board, has been prohibited by the terms of an order-in-council passed yesterday. The commodities are: Calf skins of Canadian or foreign origin; kips of Canadian or foreign origin; hides, cattle, buffalo, and horses, when of Canadian or foreign origin.

This action has been taken in order to conserve the Canadian supply for Canadian consumption. When the supply has been met it is the intention of the War Trade Board to grant licenses for exportation.

That such maximum advances will not, under normal trade conditions, be considered fair practice, as the maximum increases are intended only to apply to conditions when the cost of doing business is in excess of normal.

The number of transactions in produce must not be increased beyond those absolutely necessary to economical distribution.