

desperate foe, shorten the war and thus terminate the slaughter of Canadian and other Ally soldiers." Many other authorities could be quoted to show that the great need in a prosecution of the war is still an adequate supply of munitions. The lack of munitions in the Allied armies has cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of soldiers. In the early stages of the war the advantage was with Germany because she was prepared and none of the Allies were ready for war. Steadily, however, the Allied armies have been increased. It was early realized that men were not enough and the British government set about the production of munitions on a scale undreamed of and unparalleled in history. When the supply of munitions was sufficient Germany's progress on the West front was checked. Over a year ago the tremendous drive against Russia on the East was made possible only because the Russians were lacking in guns and munitions. The recent disaster in Roumania has been due to the same thing largely. The only thing that can bring the war to a successful conclusion from the standpoint of the Allies is a still greater increase in guns and munitions. In all the warring countries, except in Canada, this fact seems to be realized, but here the government seems to maintain an attitude of benevolent neutrality towards the manufacturer of munitions. Immense government machine shops, capable of turning out huge supplies at cost are either lying idle or have been leased to private firms for profit. The tragedy of the Ross rifle, with which our soldiers were supplied at the outset of the war, has never been explained. Reports from the front indicate that many of our soldiers lost their lives because they were armed with an inferior weapon. In Canada there is no control over munition manufacturing, there are no government munition factories. In Great Britain, every private munition factory is under the absolute control of the government to the last detail and in addition there are hundreds of munition factories in Great Britain actually owned and operated by the government. Canada has already recruited 383,000

soldiers and the call is to bring this up to 500,000. How many of our soldiers who have died in France and Flanders have been sacrificed by the lack of munitions no one will ever know. But there is no reason why that sacrifice should continue. The output of munitions from Canada could be doubled and trebled if the Canadian government adopted the same attitude that the British government has been following for the past two years. If the human life is of greater value than dollars and cents the government of Canada can save the lives of many of our soldiers by increasing the output of munitions thru private factories under government control and thru government factories and government operation. The British government requested the Canadian government to undertake the supply of munitions from the government shops, but so far the government has allowed it all to be done by private factories with huge profits. In fact one member of the government stated a year ago that they did not wish to enter into competition with these private factories and deprive them of some of the profits which they were making which would help to carry them thru the present period of stagnation into other manufactures. The only conclusion that can be arrived at from a general review of the situation is that the government allows things to go as they are because the munition manufacturers want to keep the huge profits they are making. The Toronto News says: "It is said that some munition makers promised privately that when they have overcome all obstacles and know just what their financial profits will be they will voluntarily return a great proportion to the government as has already been done in one case." It is true that one manufacturer returned \$750,000 profits to the Dominion treasury and it is also said that he was properly damned by the other munition manufacturers for so doing because it put them in a most unenviable light. The idea that these private concerns will voluntarily return their profits to the treasury is too ridiculous for consideration.

Compare the attitude of the Canadian government and the Canadian munition manufacturers with that of a British manufacturer. In delivering the chairman's address at the annual meeting of the Steel Company of Scotland, W. Lorimer, L.L.D., said:—

"To my mind there is something absolutely revolting in the idea of anybody making profits out of the nation's agony. This war, God knows, will bring untold suffering in more than one form to millions who have no war profits to collect and no war bonus to receive, and therefore I have felt in my own mind, long before this proposal was made, that in that direction the government would be entirely justified in asking those who have made profits to assist those who are less fortunate. It may be, indeed, that before the war is ended, the government may find it necessary to take not 50 but 100 per cent. of those extra profits, and if they do, I hope that none of us will complain."

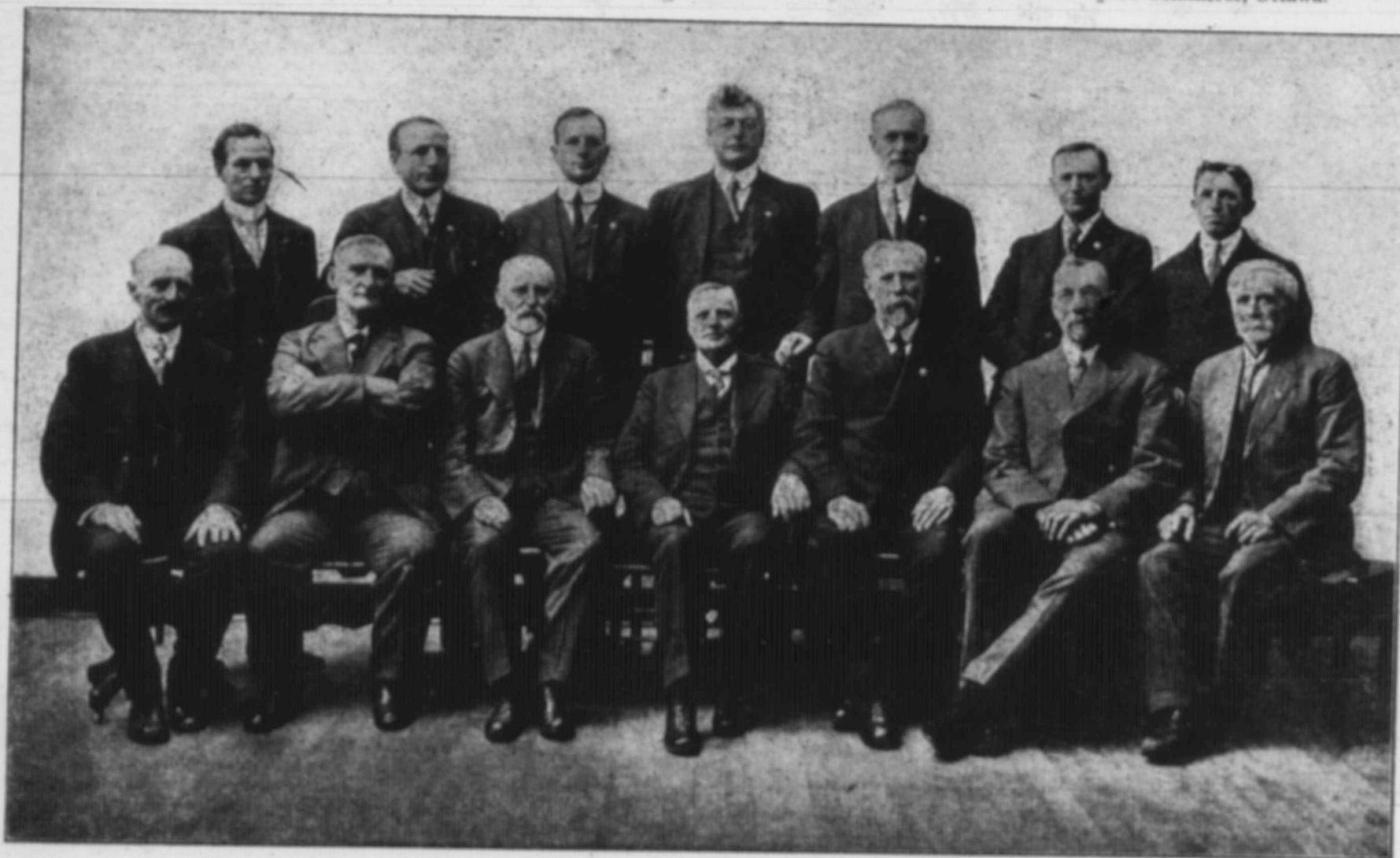
The announcement appearing in the press today (Monday) that the Dominion Government has several large munition factories in course of construction will be welcome news to the people of Canada, even tho this action on the part of the Government is a long time overdue.

The Grain Growers' Convention at Brandon expressed its disapproval of the action of the government in exempting the income from war bonds from all taxation.

The Annual Farmers' Parliaments have become the important institutions in the rural life of the country.

If any person had any doubts as to the views of the Grain Growers on the Tariff question, these doubts would have been effectually dispelled by the attitude of the delegates at the Brandon Convention last week.

One of the text books of the grain farmer should be the Canada Grain Act. No farmer who sells grain knows his business fully unless he is thoroughly acquainted with the provisions of the Canada Grain Act. Anyone can obtain a copy of the act from the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.



Officers and Directors of Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, for 1917, elected at Brandon Convention last week.
Back Row (left to right): H. W. Lathwell, Winnipeg; O. A. Jones, Whitewater; F. C. Buckland, Otterburne; Wm. Milne, Keyes; Frank Simpson, Shoal Lake; Geo. Gordon, Oak Lake; W. J. Ford, Benito. Front Row (left to right): F. H. Weiheke, Stony Mountain; R. J. Avison, Gilbert Plains; J. S. Wood (vice-president), Oakville; R. C. Henders (President), Winnipeg; Peter Wright, Myrtle; Andrew Graham, Pomeroy; F. D. McArthur, Longburn.