

In Massey Hall. The morning meeting was held in the Labor Temple and the attendance was so large that it was soon seen that new quarters would have to be secured. Hundreds were unable to attend in the morning. The evening session was held in the basement of Massey Hall, owing to a previous engagement for the hall proper.

Mr. Mackenzie spoke on the value and need of organization. He said the farming industry was not given proper consideration by the government. "There are farmers who farm farms and there are farmers who farm farmers," he said. The reason why proper recognition had not been given was because the farmers had failed to organize. The first thing to do was to get together. The public opinion of the rural parts of Canada had never been properly brought to bear upon the government, but as soon as the farmers were organized, just so soon would they be recognized as they should be. "Every farmer should join that organization, and as Sir George Bury said more than a year ago in Manitoba who doesn't belong to the Grain Growers' Association is a scab."

The farmers of Canada had not progressed nor had they set the proper money value to their organizations. "We've got to organize and we've got to pay for it," said Mr. Mackenzie, "and then we will be recognized. The reason why the viewpoint of the public was that there wasn't a business man but thought he was in a position to tell the farmers how to farm. Every farmer wanted to win the war, but had his view of how it could be done. In their judgment they could produce more food than by going to France."

Not Good Farmers. The government had said that it could use men from the cities on the farms. If they were physically fit they would make good fighters, but they would not make as good farmers as the boys who were raised on the farms.

Ontario was hit harder by the Military Service Act than any other province because it carried on mixed farming. In the west it was not quite the same, although there was a hardship there. There were hundreds of cases where farms would be idle because of the operation of the act. Even if those at home did their best they could not commence to produce as much food as formerly.

Perfect organization was one of the solutions of the problem, said Mr. Mackenzie.

A clipping from a farmer's paper was read, which stated that one farm in York County there were six able-bodied men, and that there need be no worry as to the crops. The delegates from York County were asked if that was generally so and they replied "no." One delegate said the base report was correct, and that the men were Monroites, whereas on the farm across the road all the boys had been taken.

Mr. Haycock said he wasn't going to say harsh things about the government for two reasons; first, because it was against the law, and second because it wasn't necessary. He expressed unbounded loyalty and said they were willing to fight or produce, according to the needs. Successful production of the war depended upon production of sufficient food to meet the needs of the allies. The farmers were convinced that the enforcement of the Military Service Act would prove disastrous to the best interests of the empire. Special consideration was not expected, but undue harshness was the result of the act.

Seven Resolutions Passed. Many arguments backing up these points were set forth, and it was urged that time should be taken by three members of the cabinet to visit the farms throughout the province in order that a right conception might be obtained. Seven resolutions were passed during the afternoon. One asked for the exemption of farm managers, that enough skilled labor be left to make one man for every 100 acres, to create an advisory board of agriculturists in each province which would recommend as to the needs of the farmers, that appeal tribunals be created to deal with extreme cases, that the food producing operations be accorded the same consideration by the government as given in the United States.

The resolution to found a paper devoted entirely to the farming interests passed after some discussion, while a resolution pledging each member to promote organization in every district, that the agriculturists may receive proper recognition most important approval. That whereas evidence is not lacking that departure is being made from national ideals of individual freedom the rules be called upon to go no further, but to trust the people to do their duty, is the gist of another resolution.

It was the desire of the convention, as expressed in a resolution, that titles be abolished in Canada in order that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, may be secured for all generations. Careful readjustment of financial and trade conditions at the conclusion of the war was given consideration by resolution, and still another asked 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 cases.

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subscribed in the afternoon totaled \$18,650. The question arose as to the need of maintaining a committee at Ottawa for the purpose of watching the interests of the farmers, and in this connection Mr. Gurney gave a brief report, repeating what he had said in the morning for the benefit of those who were unable to be present. The resolution to leave the matter in the hands of the executive committee, who would name those to go to Ottawa.

John Bowen, Belgrade, introduced a resolution to the effect that Hon. Mr. Crerar investigate the packing plants in Canada before permission be given for the erection of any others. The resolution was based on a report that American financiers intended erecting a plant in Canada. It was carried unanimously.

C. J. Thornton, Bowmanville, former member for Durham County, said the convention should look at things with a national viewpoint. Personal selfishness should be forgotten, but the action of the government had not been consistent in regard to the Military Service Act.

Canada had a big business on its hands, he said, as he spoke of the present situation. He spoke of the need for the farmers' sons to stay on the farms and the pledges which the government had made which had since been broken. There was no question but that the farmers had given a majority of skilled and unskilled men to the army. There was a man in the cabinet who knew A B C about farming conditions in Ontario, nor had farmers who did know the situation been consulted.

Hon. N. W. Rowell said in a letter to me just recently that if the cabinet had made a mistake it would have to suffer," said Mr. Thornton. "But," he added, "that's not the point."

The situation was stated to be the most serious in the history of Canada since the party politics should have no part in its solution. Only by organized action could this present crisis be met. The press of the country had been silenced, he said.

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It was becoming necessary for the farmers of Canada to organize because every other industry was organized. He advised not too definite a program, because that gave opponents a better chance to fight back.

Joseph Negro, Perth County, said that in 1874 a government that did not have the confidence of the electors was dismissed by the governor-general. "Our government today does not represent us. We have no representative government. 75 per cent of the people disapprove of what has been done. It will be our duty to go to the present governor-general and ask him to dismiss this government if conditions do not change, just as was done in 1874. He has a constitutional duty to perform, and we should approach him and demand that the cabinet live up to the constitution of the country."

W. L. Smith said he would not go to a governor-general to ask for anything. He had been appalled by the conditions he found throughout the province, having found farms depleted of their young men. He urged that definite and concrete action be taken to place the interests of the farmers on a proper footing.

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J. W. Levesque, deputy minister of agriculture in Quebec, was given a hearty reception. He brought greetings from the eastern farmers, and said the Quebec farmers were loyal. He asked for co-operation between the farmers of Ontario and Quebec.

Other speakers included Peter Forter, and Rev. W. M. Carpenter, Hornburg's Mills, Dufferin County.

The final meeting of the convention will be held this morning in the Labor Temple, and it is expected all the business will be concluded shortly after noon.



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what Mr. Wood's opinion of Hon. Mr. Crerar was, but the chairman did not put the question, believing it to be unfair. The delegate asked, "Why did he sit there and not open his yap when we were in Ottawa?"

"My boy was put thru without a medical examination," said another delegate. Mr. Doherty was called upon for any information which he might give, it having been reported in morning paper that he had been appointed to represent the farmers in the matter in question. He said he knew nothing of the appointment. As for the military authorities he said that while sitting on the leave of absence board he had been used in all fairness by them and he could not speak too highly of them.

Charles Henry of Dobbington, Bruce County, was first mistaken for someone not in accord with the spirit of the meeting. He was asked to sit down, as was also a soldier who appeared with him. Then when he was asked who he was, and it was learned he was a farmer, he was given a hearing. He explained that someone who could plead should go with a boy to present the case, and that the law was on the status to liberate boys, but it was not being carried out.

The report of the resolution committee was adopted unanimously. It stated that the time had come when in the interests of the empire, there should be a thorough understanding between the government and the farmers in regard to the working out of the Military Service Act. It expressed unbounded loyalty and said they were willing to fight or produce, according to the needs. Successful production of the war depended upon production of sufficient food to meet the needs of the allies. The farmers were convinced that the enforcement of the Military Service Act would prove disastrous to the best interests of the empire. Special consideration was not expected, but undue harshness was the result of the act.

Many arguments backing up these points were set forth, and it was urged that time should be taken by three members of the cabinet to visit the farms throughout the province in order that a right conception might be obtained. Seven resolutions were passed during the afternoon. One asked for the exemption of farm managers, that enough skilled labor be left to make one man for every 100 acres, to create an advisory board of agriculturists in each province which would recommend as to the needs of the farmers, that appeal tribunals be created to deal with extreme cases, that the food producing operations be accorded the same consideration by the government as given in the United States.

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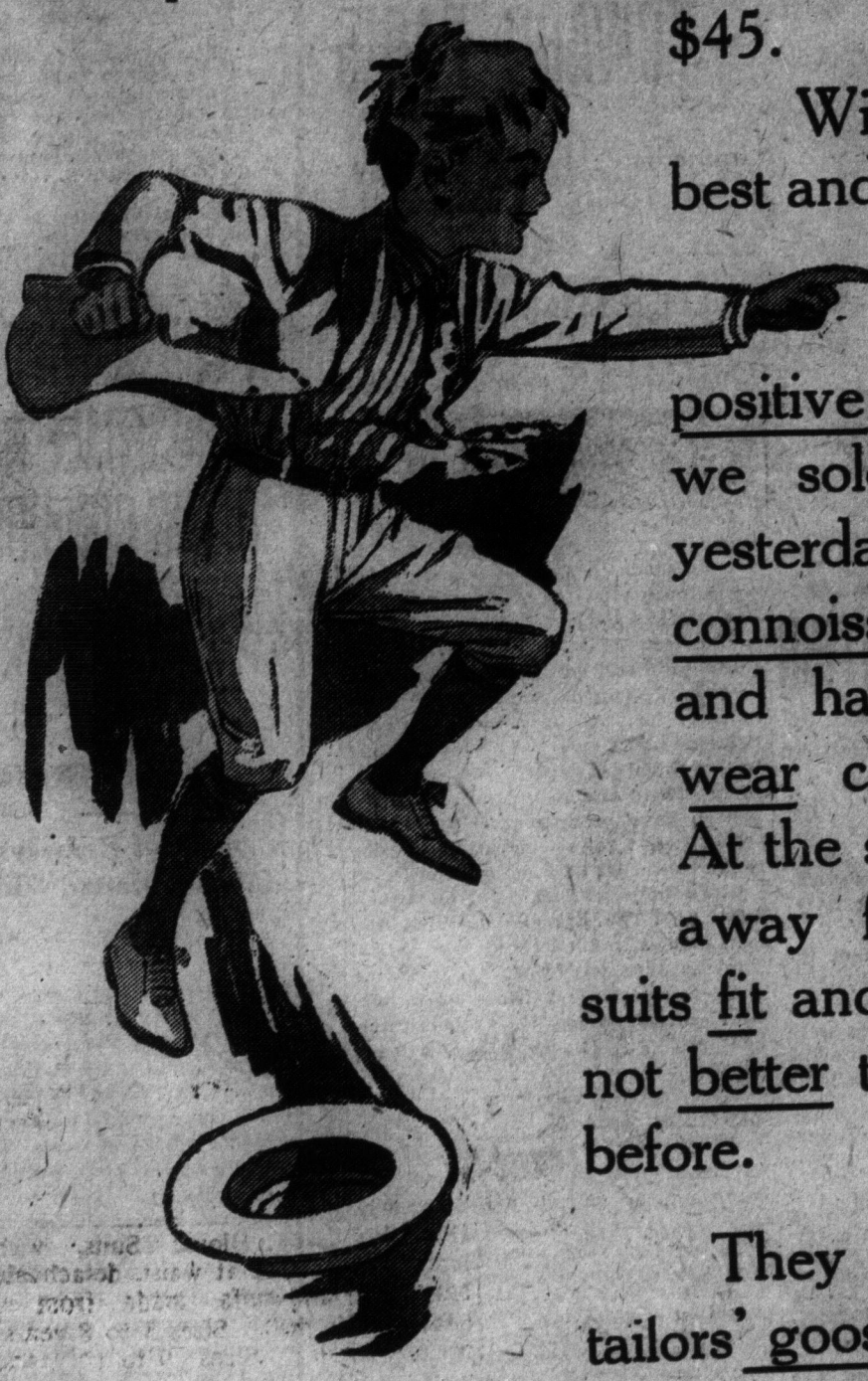
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 This Coupon and 10c will admit any boy or girl to the Regent, Saturday Morning at 10.30 sharp for the Special Matinee, "TARZAN OF THE APES," the wonderful story of the Jungles.

FUNERAL OF JOHN BARKER.
 The funeral took place of John Barker from his son's residence, 23 Afton avenue, Friday, to Prospect Cemetery. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. M. McLean of St. John's Church, Portland street. The late Mr. Barker, who was a well-known news agent in the west end of the city, is survived by a large family of sons, one of whom, William Norman, is now in France, and several daughters.

LIEUT.-COL. MITCHELL IS C. B.
 London, June 7.—Lieut.-Col. Charles Mitchell of Toronto is gassed Companion of the Bath, for his services with the Imperials in Italy.

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