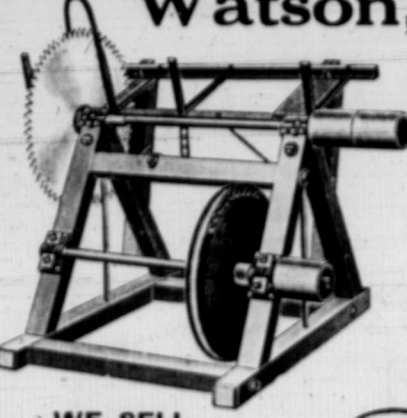


## Watson's Standard Throughout -



Watson's Pole Saw is of the same high quality of workmanship and material as all other Watson goods. Strongly built, rigid frame which stands firmly and evenly on the ground; equipped with heavy steel shafts and boxes, solid fly wheel and three pulleys. Blade is of finely tempered steel which will "just slip through the wood."

A necessary part of a farm's equipment.

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Harrow Carts, Root Pulpers, Straw Cutters, Pulverizers, Grain Grinders, Turbine Seed Sowers, Lawn Mowers, Pole and Cardboard Saws, Warehouse Trucks, Wheelbarrows, Horse Powers, Doubletires and Nockys, Jackknife Plows, Repairs for All Milling Goods.

*John Watson Mfg. Co.*

311 Chambers Street      Winnipeg, Man.

## Weed Control      A Business Proposition

It is suggested by the Manitoba Government, to tax weed infested land 50 cents per acre. Considerable of the land is already under quarantine and cannot be seeded according to law. Many farmers have a casual registered against them on account of weeds, which cannot be removed without the aid of the D. & D. Cyclone Weed Destroyer or an Act of Parliament. The Weed Commission will search for the weeds with a probe this time, and not from a railway train. The Grain Growers should talk more about weed control, soil culture and clean wheat. The G. G. Trade Implement Co. have issued their annual folder on better farming and weed control, and this folder is free to the farmer for the asking. Care the New Leland Hotel, Winnipeg.

necessary in a cement silo. The question of frost is not a serious one. Any porosity in the cement can be largely overcome by washing the inside of the silo with a thin cement mortar. The yield of corn off a quarter section of land has run on an average over ten tons per acre. There can be no question that corn properly cultivated will give equally as good results as summer fallow. Varieties grown very successfully were Northwestern Dent, Long fellow and Minnesota No. 13.

Practical papers were read by Prof. T. H. Harrison on "Annual Pasture Crops," and W. C. McKillop, on "Perennial Pasture Crops," which will appear in full in a later issue. Before the meeting closed it was proposed that the commission appointed by the Saskatchewan government to enquire into matters pertaining to livestock in Western Canada be invited to hold at least one sitting in the province of Manitoba. This was enthusiastically agreed to by all present.

### Cattle Breeders' Association

The annual meeting of the Cattle Breeders' Association, held on Wednesday, January 5, was a most successful one. There were over 100 breeders present and quite keen interest was shown in the business of the meeting. It was decided to hold the annual bull sale at Brandon, as usual, this year, some time during March. It was decided that the association tender to the Minister of Agriculture all the assistance possible in furthering his cow scheme referred to at the Tuesday evening meeting.

O. Gleason, superintendent of the Union Stock Yards, St. Boniface, spoke concerning the livestock industry viewed from the stock yards. Describing the methods of handling of livestock at the yards, he said, after arrival the stock is run down the chute and weighed to determine the proper freight charges. Then the stock is placed in pens depending upon the selling orders with the car. There is a place for the commission man on the market in that he is in direct touch with the market situation. The speculative buyer is necessary also, in that he keeps the market from sagging. In 1915, 138,534 cattle were handled, an increase of 28,000 head over 1914. There was an increase of over 20,000 in hogs over 1914, and a decrease of about 1,200 sheep. Out of this bunch of cattle only 9,796 were shipped West, 63,783 being shipped South. Of these 44,975 were stockers and feeders, this being 70.5 per cent of the total shipments. Around 25,000 cars of stock were handled last year,

and the value of this stock is between 16 and 20 million dollars.

Lack of success in the marketing of livestock is due to several causes. Oftentimes it is due to carelessness on the part of the shipper. First of all plenty of bedding in the cars is most important, and attention to this matter will greatly reduce shrink and loss from bruises and deaths. Another important point not generally sufficiently recognized is the importance of dehorning all cattle. Premiums can always be obtained for well finished, dehorned cattle. An important fact for careful consideration by all farmers is that 46 per cent of the cattle passing thru the yards went South, and of these 70.5 per cent were stockers and feeders. It would seem that if the feeders to the South can afford to pay fees thru two markets amounting to in the neighborhood of \$300 per car, farmers in Manitoba could very profitably finish these cattle in this province, saving these charges and making a handsome profit themselves. It is very important for the farmer raising livestock to become thoroughly well acquainted with the market end of his business. The charge of 1 of 1 per cent, is made by packers on all livestock bought thru the yards to cover any losses they may be liable to thru inspection rejects due to disease.

Mr. Mitter, of the Winnipeg Livestock Shippers' Union, stated that the commission men are not in favor of this charge, and asked for the co-operation of the Breeders' Association to have this removed. Later a resolution to this effect was presented and unanimously carried.

It was pointed out that complaints were constantly being received of cattle being killed on the railways of the province, with but little hope of the owner obtaining redress. It was strongly urged by J. D. McGregor, who had strong support from members present, that the Association should stand behind the man who suffered loss from this cause and should see that he obtained fair treatment.

The officers were appointed as follows:—President, J. R. Hume, Souris; vice-president, W. J. Cummings, Glenlea; directors, D. Stewart, Gilbert Plains; J. A. Chapman, Hayfield; J. G. Barron, Carberry; John Graham, Carberry. Representative to the Brandon Summer fair, Jas. Duthie, Hartney. Representatives to the Brandon Winter Fair, W. H. English, J. R. Hume, Andrew Graham. Representative to the Western Livestock Union, Andrew Graham.

### Sheep Breeders' Association

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Sheep Breeders' Association was held at Brandon on Wednesday, January 5. About 50 breeders were present, and considerable business was transacted. Great interest was shown in the discussion surrounding the question of the co-operative handling of wool.

On the motion of Andrew Graham, Pomeroy, it was resolved: "That the Sheep Breeders' Association of Manitoba hereby commend the work done by the Provincial Department of Agriculture in the co-operative handling of wool for the farmers of the province in 1915, which proved highly satisfactory in every detail, and desire to express their appreciation to the Hon. Val. Winkler, Minister of Agriculture, and that they urge upon him the desirability of continuing the work in 1916."

After Dr. McGillvray's talk on keeping the herd free from tuberculosis (report of which will appear in the next issue), J. D. McGregor remarked that he was delighted that a representative of the Health of Animals Branch should suggest a scheme for controlling tuberculosis in the farm herd which had not as its object the complete destruction of all animals in an infected herd. He was in agreement with the idea of the formation of a committee representing the Breeders' Association to look into this matter and suggest a means to handle same. On the committee sug-

gested there should be a representative of the packers, and in this way the suggestion that the test is not always accurate could be proved. As soon as reactors are found at the yards they could be slaughtered and inspected.

It was proposed that representatives of the Livestock Associations, packers and Department of Agriculture be appointed to form a committee to inquire into the control of tuberculosis in livestock. The representatives on this committee appointed by the meeting were: J. D. McGregor, W. J. Cummings and Geo. H. Greig.

G. B. Monteith, speaking of the law regarding the protection of sheep against dogs, stated that at present it was altogether inadequate in that it did not provide any protection for the sheep owner. It only allowed for the killing of any dog seen to be worrying sheep. All the clauses are negative. The Ontario Act is much more desirable.

The officers were elected as follows: President, Geo. Gordon, Oak Lake; vice-president, A. J. McKay, Macdonald; directors, Leicesters, A. D. Gamley, Oxford, T. Jasper, Shropshires, J. R. Hume, Suffolks, W. H. English, Dorsets, J. A. Chapman. Representative to the Brandon Summer Fair, George Allison; representative to the Brandon Winter Fair, Thos. Zachary, Thos. Jasper, A. J. McKay; representative to the Western Canada Livestock Union, A. J. McKay.

## Free Trade Party Proposed

Third Party has able and enthusiastic advocates, but fails to carry

By far the keenest debate of the Brandon convention, in fact the only one in which a serious division of opinion was evident, was that which took place at the closing session on Friday night on the question of establishing a third party. The subject was first introduced at the afternoon session when a resolution was under discussion with regard to the circulation of literature on the question of Free Trade.

Wm. Shaw, of Gilbert Plains, moved as an amendment to this resolution that the convention endorse the formation of a new Dominion political party on the basis of Free Trade. Mr. Shaw said he did not believe in independence in politics. It was absolutely essential in a democratic country that those who believed in any principle should combine themselves in a party. They could defy party government, but they would be just like dogs baying at the moon. They could not do anything without combination, and the farmers' cause had suffered in the past by giving the name of independence to those sporadic efforts which they had made to deal with Dominion questions, and especially with Free Trade. Nothing could be accomplished by independence. He did not ask that the convention resolve itself into a Free Trade party or that the association become a Free Trade party, but only that the convention should endorse the formation of such a party. To accomplish anything they must establish a Dominion-wide organization, and not confine it to any class or any locality.

The president ruled that Mr. Shaw's proposal could not be considered as an amendment to the resolution then under discussion, but said that facilities would be given him for making his motion before the convention closed. Mr. Shaw was accordingly given the floor at the evening session and placed his resolution before the convention.

### An Independent Parson

Rev. P. McLeod, Presbyterian minister of Baldur, seconded the motion and delivered a fiery and eloquent address on the need of independence in politics. He had noticed that the convention warmly applauded every speaker who condemned hide-bound partyism, but when it came to the formation of an independent party they hesitated. They were like a lot of boys who were very enthusiastic about going in swimming, but when they came to the pool sat on the bank for fear the water might be cold. One reason for this was the lack of an independent press. The farmers imbibed independent ideas from The Guide, once a week, but these were neutralized by what they read in the party

papers every day. As far as the Liberal and Conservative parties were concerned, the only difference between them on the trade question was that one was unjust to the people and the other was not only unjust but unfaithful. (Loud applause.) One party frankly said they believed in protection, and the other promised to abolish that system but when they got into power went back on their word. He pointed to the example of European countries where parties had been formed to propagate definite principles, and said that a man who had not studied the politics of other countries did not know Canadian politics. He asked them to look into the future and see the stream of immigrants coming into this country after the war, and appealed to them to make preparations to give them a square deal. He loved Canada, and it was a hundred years since his ancestors came to this country, but Canada was the worst exploited country on the face of the earth. He declared that an Independent League would be organized in Manitoba, and it would not merely be heard of for six weeks before the election, but would be organized all over the province and would rally the people to its support just as the anti-corn law league did in Great Britain seventy years ago. (Applause.)

R. M. Wilson, of Marringhurst, and John Kennedy, of Winnipeg, supported the motion, Mr. Kennedy stating that if the resolution was passed in all three associations and only six men were elected and sent down to Ottawa to advocate Free Trade, they would secure a good deal of support from men already there on both sides of the House.

J. Bonsfield also supported, and said if the president, R. C. Henders, would lead the cause in Manitoba, he was sure it would be successful.

### Free Traders Opposed

C. S. Watkins, who said he had been a strong advocate of Free Trade for thirty years, was against the resolution, because he believed it would limit the membership of the Grain Growers' Association to Free Traders. The great majority of those present might be for Free Trade, but there was a very large number of farmers who still needed to be educated on this question. He urged that the educational work should be continued before such a step was taken. Mr. Watkins' statement that there was still a large number of farmers who were not favorable to Free Trade caused some dissent in the audience, but R. J. Bennett, of Virden, rose to say that he was not in favor of Free Trade. He was going on to say that he could not compete with other countries when sev-