

would ask for your assistance in our behalf.

#### Co-Operation

We are also interested in co-operation and more and more are believing that it is by co-operative measures that it will be possible for us to help ourselves, but at present we are unable to do much for the reason that the legislation providing for the operation of these stores or societies is not forthcoming. For two sessions bills providing for this relief have been introduced, but in each instance they have been sidetracked and the reason of this has never been satisfactorily explained to us. We urge you to co-operate in having an act passed along the lines indicated by the farmers' convention at Ottawa.

"There are other questions which we could bring before your attention, such as that of the establishment of a Dominion parcels post system, and by this means allowing us to receive small parcels at a reasonable rate for transportation, but the time at our disposal is short and we will therefore content ourselves with the subjects which have been before the public since last December.

#### Direct Legislation

"We thank you, sir, for your hearing, and in conclusion would state once more that we are affiliated with no political party, that we are working for the common welfare of all, and that our influence, both collectively and individually, will be used to secure the return of men into the legislature of the country who will pledge themselves to support the principles for which we are working, irrespective of the political party to which they may be attached, and that to secure the full measure of democratic government which is necessary to us there must be introduced into the House at an early date and allowed to pass into law a measure providing for a complete system of Direct Legislation, which will most effectively give us a government of the people, for the people and by the people."

#### BORDEN AT EDMONTON

The following memorial was presented to the leader of the Opposition at Edmonton:

"We, the farmers of the Edmonton, Strathcona, Nampa, Clover Bar, East Clover Bar, Stoney Plain, Bon Accord and Agricola Local Unions of the United Farmers of Alberta, respectfully desire to welcome you to this part of Alberta and we are taking this opportunity of bringing personally before you a statement of the stand we take in regard to the resolutions presented to the government at Ottawa last winter. We still unanimously endorse these resolutions. We were extremely pleased at your remarks on the occasion of our delegates meeting at Ottawa, that you had perfect confidence in us farmers, and we trust that the measures which we are anxious to have made law may be received with so much favor by you that we may reciprocate the feeling.

"We are aware the time you can allow us is short and we therefore propose to but briefly touch on the various items here and present you with fuller details for perusal at your leisure. Feeling that your information would be incomplete if the farmers failed to present their case.

#### Money for all Else

"The first petition which we had the pleasure to present to Sir Wilfrid Laurier on his visit here last year was for the establishment of a chilled meat industry. The Province of Alberta is eminently fitted for the production both of cattle and hogs, but owing to the unsatisfactory state of the market the farmers are unable to continue in the business. We note that an immense sum was guaranteed to a railway company the other day while the very small sum asked to guarantee this industry is denied.

"The government, without any dissent from the opposition, are spending enormous sums of money in immigration and through the agricultural departments further large sums to instruct the people to produce farm produce so that the area now under cultivation is very much larger than before. With all this striving for more and more production there is very little attempt to facilitate markets for us. Australia and New Zealand recognize the importance of the market question and not only provide the chilling establishments for meats but for all the small produce of the farmer and they

export for them and do all they can to obtain a profitable market; which has done much to make their countries as prosperous as they are, and we would urge, sir, that you do what you can to get us this industry.

#### Grievance in Tariff

"We feel that we farmers of the West have a grievance in the tariff and that the time is come when we should be granted relief from duty on the agricultural implements, woollen goods, cement and such other things which are so necessary to our calling. With this object in view we urged the government to help us, with the result that they have brought in the reciprocity bill, which, though it does not give us all the relief we would wish, we feel will help us to obtain better prices for our produce, and we look to the opposition to help to obtain its passage.

"On the subject of markets for our grain we convinced the government that the terminal elevators were working against the interest of the farmers, and we had the promise of Sir Wilfrid when here that a remedy should be found, and we trust that the members of the opposition will support this, which is aiming at justice to the farmers.

#### Railway Act Amendments

"We feel that we have a grievance in the Railway Act, both with regard to the traffic rates and also with regard to the killing of animals, and we sincerely regret that members of the opposition obstructed the clause that provided some relief to the farmers. Within a hundred miles of this city hundreds of cattle and horses have been killed on the railways in the last few years, and the owners can get no compensation. As you must be aware, there are hundreds of acres of unoccupied

way of directing the affairs of a Parliament governing this country, and our officials on election to office have been required to express their approval of same that we cannot conclude this address without asking you to urge your party to adopt this principle.

Signed on behalf of the said unions:  
CHAS. BURNELL, Chairman.  
FRANCIS C. CLARE, Sec'y.

#### Borden's Reply

There was a fairly good attendance of the members of the U. F. A. in the Edmonton district when the above address was presented to Mr. Borden on Wednesday evening, June 28, at the Board of Trade Rooms, Edmonton, although the wet weather prevented many from coming. We just read Mr. Borden the above address and we quite thought that there was nothing in the address to which he could take exception, but the subject of the chilled meat industry, which has always been a very prominent one with us, was particularly mentioned, and to emphatically press the question home the following sentence occurred: "The government, without any dissent from the opposition, are spending enormous sums of money on immigration, and through the agricultural department further sums to instruct these people to produce farm produce, so that the area now under cultivation is very much larger than before, and with all this striving for more and more production there is very little attempt to facilitate markets for us."

Mr. Borden took the trouble to find fault with the statement that there was "no dissent from the opposition," but we at least are not aware nor have we ever received any information in the public press that the opposition were opposed to do all they could to help along immigra-

The co-operative bill he considered was essential to the farmers and other interests and would have his full support.

The Hudson's Bay Railway always had his support and he thought as the government had commenced building it, it should be complete in four years, and he advocated its being operated by a commission.

#### Defends Lancaster

The next question which Mr. Borden touched upon was in reference to a statement in the address: "We asked for certain grievances which exist in the Railway Act to be amended and we sincerely regret that members of the opposition obstructed the clause that provided some relief to the farmers." He found fault with what he called an unwarranted statement which he presumed referred to Mr. Lancaster, and he took the occasion to praise this gentleman up for the many benefits which the farmers have received from his hands. He is in the legal profession and has time and again fought for and obtained clauses in the Railway Act which were for the farmers' benefit, and it was certainly about time that the farmers of the West should know the merits of this gentleman in question and that there is so much in the Railway Act which is in the interest of the farmers that he should be thanked for.

On the whole the meeting was satisfactory. It has given us information which will be useful, and we think that Mr. Borden is beginning to find out that the farmers are a power.

—FRANCIS C. CLARE, Sec'y.

Edmonton, Alta.

#### ALBERTA FAIR DATES, 1911

##### Circuit No. 2

Macleod—August 2, 3, 4.  
Granum—August 7, 8.  
Claresholm—August 9, 10.  
Stony Plain—August 11, 12.  
Edmonton—August 15 to 19.  
Rexboro—August 19.  
Wabamin—August 22.  
Lethbridge—August 22 to 25.  
Medicine Hat—August 29 to Sept. 1.  
Trechu—Sept. 1.

##### Circuit No. 3

Entwistle—Sept. 12.  
St. Albert—Sept. 12.  
Fort Saskatchewan—Sept. 14.  
Vermilion—Sept. 19.  
Kitscoty—Sept. 20, 21.  
Lloydminster—Sept. 29.  
Innisfree—Sept. 3, 4.

##### Circuit No. 4

Irma—Sept. 22.  
Viking—Sept. 26.  
Holden—Sept. 28.  
Tofield—Sept. 29.

##### Circuit No. 5

Pincher Creek—Sept. 12.  
Nanton—Sept. 13, 14.  
Staveland—Sept. 15, 16.  
Raymond—Sept. 19, 20.  
Magrath—Sept. 22, 23.  
Taber—Sept. 28, 29.  
Rawdonville—Oct. 3.  
Langdon—Oct. 4, 5.

##### Circuit No. 6

Stromie—Sept. 8.  
Leduc—Sept. 12.  
Cochrane—Sept. 13, 14.  
Three Hills—Sept. 19.  
Olds—Sept. 21, 22.  
Wetaskiwin—Sept. 26, 27.  
Alix—Sept. 27.  
Lacombe—Sept. 28, 29.  
Ponoka—Oct. 3, 4.  
Camrose—Oct. 5, 6.

##### Circuit No. 7

Bowden—Oct. 3.  
Didsbury—Oct. 4.  
Priddis and Millarville—Oct. 5.  
Gleichen—Oct. 5, 6.

##### Circuit No. 8

Castor—Sept. 26, 27.  
Stettler—Sept. 28, 29.

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## Railway Commission Moving

The following order has just been received from the Board of Railway Commissioners. It is short and to the point and explains the whole of the circumstances just as well as a long story would, and shows that in more ways than one the U. F. A. can benefit not only the members of the Association but all the farmers of the country.

#### THE BOARD OF RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS FOR CANADA

Hon. J. P. Mabee, Chief Commissioner.  
D'Arcy Scott, Asst. Chief Commissioner.

Tuesday, the 27th day of June, A.D. 1911

Whereas the secretary of the United Farmers of Alberta on April 4th, complained to the board that the Canadian Northern Railway Company had not fenced its Calgary-Vegreville branch; and, whereas, it was represented to the board by the Canadian Northern Railway Company, as follows:

"Arrangements have been made to fence this line at once, and just as soon as the frost is sufficiently out of the ground so that posts can be set up, the contractors will immediately commence the work."

And, whereas, it is now represented to the Board that the above undertaking has been violated and little or no work done as promised.—File 12924.53.

It is ordered that the Canadian Northern Railway Company do erect lawful fences and farm gates, together with cattle guards and crossing-signs, all in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Act, to be fully completed on or before August 1, 1911, upon all that section of the Calgary-Vegreville branch upon which rails have been laid; and that in default thereof, the said company shall be subject to the penalty of and shall forfeit and pay the sum of \$100 per day for every day it is in default or behindhand in erecting and completing the said works or any of them.

(Signed) J. P. MABEE,

Chief Commissioner,  
Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada.

lands lying within half a mile of the railways, and it is to the interest of the inhabitants that this land should be grazed, and without being grazed it would be dangerous on account of fire. The cause of so many animals being killed is the fact of useless cattle guards and the utter disregard of the life of animals by the engineers of the trains. Should the clause in question have been amended there is no doubt the railway company would have little trouble and expense in stopping the major portion of these fatalities, and we trust you will use your influence to have this amendment made.

"The Act for co-operation we are very anxious should be passed, as we believe it will do much to help the farmers.

"The Hudson's Bay railroad, we believe, will be of great benefit to the farmers in disposing of their produce, and we ask for your support in getting this railway pushed forward with all speed and built and operated by the government.

#### Direct Legislation

"Our association is not a political organization nor do we bind ourselves to support any party, but the principle of Direct Legislation has been adopted by the farmers as the only really logical

tion; further, it was no intention upon the part of our unions and deputation to deprecate these expenditures, and all we wished to point out was the fact that with this great influx of immigration and the money spent on the same it was up to the government and the Opposition to see that every facility to market our produce was given us, and more especially that of the chilled meat industry.

#### Chilled Meat Industry

The next point that Mr. Borden touched upon was that of the establishment of a chilled meat industry and he stated that he had placed himself on record that he strongly favored the government establishing a chilling plant.

On the terminal elevator question he plainly showed us that he was convinced that nothing short of government ownership and operation was going to remedy this admitted evil.

The reciprocity pact was again absolutely refused any support by Mr. Borden, and as he has stated before, he went so far as to say that he felt so strongly that it was against the interests of the country that he would not accept it even if it cost him his position as a public man. He stated he was in favor of a tariff commission.

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