

MEIGHEN'S WHEAT POOL

(Continued from page 1)
vinces would be stacked back on the Western plains and great hardship would result.

"Under those circumstances I applied myself to working out some solution. Different plans were suggested to the Government, but finally the Canadian Wheat Board plan was adopted. You men and women of this audience were here in the fall of 1919 will remember that I came to Portage La Prairie, shortly after the Wheat Board policy was proposed and you will remember as well that I myself and the entire government were subject to a veritable tornado of abuse throughout this country and that here on these plains I had difficulty in persuading even the best of my friends that the Wheat Board plan was adopted in good faith, and would in my belief, work to the advantage of the producers of this country.

"At that time when Grain Growers' organizations and newspapers one after the other were pouring ridicule and hammering home their attacks week after week, all the way from Lake Superior to the Mountains, I assumed the chief responsibility for the adoption of the policy embodied in the Canadian Wheat Board.

TOOK BIG RESPONSIBILITY.

"If that policy had not been sound and adapted to the circumstances for which it was created—in a word, if it had not been a success—I fear it would not be now a very welcome visitor to even this, my own constituency. I may add, that before embarking on that course, the Government took counsel of leading farmers and grain men of both West and East, and I do not think that any of those who lead the attack in this country on the Government today would venture for a moment to say that they gave us the least encouragement to adopt the Wheat Board policy. In the spring of 1920, the Government was granted power by Parliament to continue the operation of the Board for that year if it should see fit, and even in the granting of that power those who represent the political move against us in this country gave us no assistance whatever. They did not definitely oppose, but they merely stood on the

borderland, hoping that in some way the Government would go wrong. "In 1920 the European governments were buying wheat, not through one single source, but each on its own behalf through the channels of trade. The United States had decontrolled their wheat and returned to the old open market. Under these circumstances, the Government of Canada did not feel justified in asserting again a monopoly of the whole wheat marketing business in this country. "For myself, I found it difficult to justify the placing of the handling and selling of wheat alone under one single government body. I thought the Labor community of Canada would have a just right to complain because the monopolizing of sale for the purpose of getting the highest price undoubtedly has the effect of raising to some extent at least the general level to the consumer.

POINTS TO NEED OF SOME NEW SYSTEM

"The question that presents itself now is this, can some method not be devised that will give the farmer another channel for his grain free from any chance of imposition or unfair treatment—in a word, free from the grievances of which he now complains and that, at the same time, will not constitute a monopoly, to the destruction of the present agencies for handling the grain of this country.

"If that could be done then there would, I think be a more general feeling of satisfaction and security on the part of the farmer in these Provinces, a more general belief that they were getting the real market value of their grain and at the same time there could not be on the part of labor of any section of this country any just complaint.

"I know that at the present time my name is far from popular generally among those engaged in buying and selling grain. It is not a name to conjure with on the Grain Exchange just now, but, however that may be, I am conscious of no unfairness whatever intended against them or against any other citizen of Canada. I have no desire whatever to follow a destructive policy on the subject of grain or of any other article

of his brow gets a fair deal in the disposition of that grain and that no matter where he lives whether adjoining a long turreted elevator or away in the remote frontiers of our country far from the means of exit and of sale he shall have a channel and a method provided by the State whereby the best that can be secured for his grain will be got and handed to him as the reward of his toil. "I have tried to think out some such plan. I have read all within my reach on the subject and I have to you will admit I have given it some serious study in the last few years. I have read particularly the report of Mr. James Stewart and Mr. Riddell, made to the Saskatchewan Government this spring. In Mr. Stewart's judgement I have the greatest possible reliance and I believe that in his opinion on this question the people of the West generally will have perhaps more reliance than in the opinion of any other single man.

"His experience as chairman of the wheat board has brought him to the rank in the estimation of the people in this country. "I propose VOLUNTARY WHEAT POOL PLAN. "What I propose is a system of voluntary pool, not of wheat alone but of the principal grains grown in this country, such pool to be handled by the Government Board, constituted on the plan of the Wheat Board and receiving and disposing of grain by a system similar to that followed by the Canadian Wheat Board, under Mr. Stewart.

"I do not propose that this board alone shall receive and dispose of western grain, I do not propose that the present grain handling agencies be put out of business, but I propose that through a Federal Grain Board the farmer shall have an alternative method by which he can adopt if he desires, a method similar to that which was open to him for the crop that he sold to the Wheat Board in 1919.

"I propose that before next year, a Canadian Grain Board be created, with such powers as will enable it to function that will receive grain placed voluntarily with it by farmers and board fall or go wrong, the whole people of Canada will hold the Government responsible. It will, therefore, devolve on us to select after getting all advice on the subject within our reach, the man and the men, but chiefly the man to be chairman who will command the universal confidence of Canadian citizens of every class and occupation. If that can be done then 95 per cent of the battle has been won.

FORECAST OF BIG RESULTS.

"I am confident that by the means described we will go far to assure to the farmer the following results: "1.—That the fair value of his grain as a selling commodity will be paid him whether by the Grain Board or by any company that competes against the Grain Board.

"2.—That the profits that have arisen out of his crop by means of overages will now go back to the producer and be included in his participation certificate.

"3.—That conditions of mixing, if believing it should secure your approval is considered by the Board to be in the interests of the producer, will accrue to the producer himself.

"4.—That the selling of Canadian grain, instead of being concentrated to the extent of 75 per cent within three months of the year, will be distributed more evenly over the entire twelve months, steadying the market and resulting in greater fairness both to the producer and the consumer.

PERSONNEL VITAL FACTOR.

"Now I need scarcely say that while the success of such a plan as I have described to you to-night depends on more factors than one, it depends almost wholly on one factor, and that is on the man or men who are selected as members of the Grain Board. The whole people of Canada are interested in the result of the appointment of that board. Should the

board fall or go wrong, the whole people of Canada will hold the Government responsible. It will, therefore, devolve on us to select after getting all advice on the subject within our reach, the man and the men, but chiefly the man to be chairman who will command the universal confidence of Canadian citizens of every class and occupation. If that can be done then 95 per cent of the battle has been won.

"In 1919 the same responsibility presented itself and I think you will agree with me that in discharging the responsibility of selecting men of that kind the Government did not fail. If the responsibility is mine when the time comes to appoint this Board I do not think the Government will fail again and I do not think the farmers of Western Canada have any reason to doubt that the men will be chosen if they can be secured who most commands their confidence and regard.

"This is the policy that I lay before you. This policy I ask you to consider, and above all things to consider fairly. I ask you to think it over, not in the heat of partisan favor or partisan animosity but as clear-headed business men.

"I ask you, as well, to consider the proposal I am making tonight in the light of such earnest of my sincerity, as you can find in the conduct I have followed regarding similar subjects in the past. I am putting this plan out before you. I am putting it out because I believe the plan is sound and I intend, whether I am in power or no, to advocate this matter until it gets a fair trial at the hands of the people of Canada.

"Possibly if one were to seek popularity alone it could be attained best by promising to re-establish the Wheat Board, clothed with all its former powers and operating again as a great monopolistic agency of sale.

"I cannot convince myself that that is the right thing to do now having in mind the circumstances of the present time as they exist in other countries of the world and having in mind the just claims of all the people of this country, of every province and occupation.

"I have convinced myself and I believe that reflection will convince you as well, that the scheme I have given you tonight is free from just objection of that board. Should the

UNITED KINGDOM HAS HUGE DECLINE FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

R. C. Morgan Returns to Take Charge of Reid Nfld. Railway

Prime Minister Objects to Method of Raising Money for Labrador Mission

LONDON, Oct. 3.—The half year's revenue statement for the United Kingdom shows that whereas the Exchequer calculated for a revenue decline of two hundred million pounds for the whole year, there has been actual decrease of one hundred and sixty three million pounds for six months. Large unexpected items of expenditure have arisen in connection with minimum agriculture wages railways and general unemployment.

WINNIPEG, Oct. 3.—R. C. Morgan, Supt. of Terminals for the Canadian Pacific here, has been granted leave of absence for six months to take charge of the Reid Nfld. Railway, Mr. Morgan leaves to-night for Newfoundland.

SYDNEY, Oct. 3.—That Dr. Wilfred Grenfell's methods in raising money in the United States for mission work in Labrador have been highly injurious to the credit of Newfoundland is a complaint, voiced by Sir Richard Squires, Premier of the Ancient Colony, in an interview on his way home from Washington where he interviewed President Harding and the Senate Finance Committee with reference to the Fordney Bill on the United States- Newfoundland trade. He said Dr. Grenfell had been representing Newfoundland as a land of poverty and destitution and that his exaggerations were injurious to the credit and reputation of the Island, whose people are thus placed in a very false and misleading light before the people of the rest of the Continent.

MOTHER! MOVE CHILD'S BOWELS WITH CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP. Hurry mother! Even a sick child loves the "fruity" taste of "California Fig Syrup" and it never fails to open the bowels. A teaspoonful today may prevent a sick child tomorrow. If constipated, bilious, feverish, fretful, has cold, colic, or if stomach is sour, tongue coated, breath bad, remember a good cleansing of the bowels. "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

FAT WOMEN VS. DONKEYS. Burmah, Eng.—Declaring that the fattest women always pick out the smallest donkeys on which to ride at the Burnham Fair, Alderman James Southwick has introduced an ordinance prohibiting any person weighing more than 126 pounds, from riding on the beasts.

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