

THE FARMERS OF ONTARIO WILL ORGANIZE MORE THOROUGHLY

(Continued from page 1)

cooperative stores and distributive agencies, cooperative credit associations, and so forth.

"We must adapt our schools to our country's needs, revive an interest in nature and country life, and develop wholesome tastes and ideals."

EDUCATIONAL REPORT

The report of the Educational Committee, submitted through the secretary, J. J. Morrison, of Arthur, was outspoken in his recommendations of Rural education, it is stated, is rapidly passing out of the hands of the people for whom it was intended and into the hands of Government officials. It is losing the sympathy and support of the public. Our educational system is being divided into so-called lower and higher education. The former is

largely in the hands of a clique. Mr. J. G. Leithbridge, of Alliance, was appointed as representative to the London Exhibition.

REPORT ON COOPERATION

The report of the committee on cooperation was as follows:

"Our committee on cooperation and organization would recommend: 'First, that steps be taken to form a provincial organization on the same lines as the provincial farmers of Western Canada, by means of which it will be possible to bring into cooperation and unity of effort the various farmers of the Dominion of Ontario, including the Dominion Grange, the farmers' clubs, farmers' exchanges, farmers' associations, etc.'

"Second, that steps also be taken

Resolutions of the Dominion Grange

A Farmers' Organization Expresses Itself on National Problems

"THAT whereas it is undoubtedly true that our protective tariff, as it now exists and has existed for many years, places an unfair burden on the farming industry for the benefit of the manufacturing industries, and whereas these facts are largely responsible for the conditions which are forcing the rural districts into the arms of the cities, and whereas this movement from country to town has now reached a point where rural depopulation threatens the whole national fabric, industrial, social and political; and therefore be it resolved that in justice to agriculture and in the interests of our national life it is imperative that the tariff be so adjusted as to remove its burden from under the feet of the farmer, and to the end that agriculture may be made more profitable and attractive and the balance between city and country restored."

INCREASE IN BRITISH PREFERENCE

"That we recommend a gradual increase in the British preference, such as will lead in a few years to complete free trade with the mother country. Besides serving the economic needs of this country, this would prove of incalculable value to Great Britain and would best express our loyalty and devotion to the motherland."

"That Messrs. William Magee, Adolphustown; Benjamin Hops, Campbellford; E. C. Derry, Grosse Pointe; and J. V. MacFarlane, Galt, be appointed to determine if some means of amplification can be evolved whereby our force will not be expended merely in individual effort."

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM ASKED FOR

"That we believe that the present system of party government has outgrown its usefulness so that it no longer serves the will of the people. To correct this condition we would recommend that the principle of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum be applied to all legislation processes as it is now in municipal matters."

"That we reaffirm our belief in the justice of exempting immigrants from taxation."

"That we commend the action of the Postmaster-General in taking up the question of parcels post, and would recommend that it be of such character as will facilitate the easy interchange of produce between country and town."

REAFFIRM POSITION ON NAVY

"That we reaffirm our position on the navy question, that before any action whatever is taken in the matter it should be placed before the people in a referendum presenting at least three choices: (a) money contributions; (b) Canadian navy; and (c) to remain as we are, and that the will of the people as recorded by such referendum be followed."

(For a full report of this important convention, see page 1)

being starved, in the matter of Government assistance, for the benefit of the latter.

Attention was drawn to the decreasing power of the school trustee, the declining power of the county council, the neglect of the Government to give school trustees any advice in regard to the proper performance of their duties or to arrange for conferences of trustees, and to the fact that only two of the 18 members of the Advisory Council of Education represent the people.

The consolidation of rural schools in many sections was advocated, and it was pointed out that were a provincial tax on land values to be applied for educational purposes it would tend to lift a portion of the weight of taxation from the rural districts and obtain for the benefit of the country at large a portion of the community values now being created so rapidly in urban centres as shown by the increasing land values. An increase in the tax on railways for the same purpose was advocated.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION

After considerable discussion, Mr. Wm. McKee, of Guelph, was appointed as a delegate to the Canadian National Exhibition. The view was freely expressed that the exhibition is not managed in a way to inspire the confidence of farmers, and that its con-

to form a farmers' cooperative company on the lines that have proved successful with the Grain Growers' Grain Company.

"Third, that a committee of five members be appointed to make all necessary negotiations, and that this committee shall have power to take all necessary action if in their judgment action is deemed desirable."

The report, after being given careful consideration, was adopted unanimously. It is believed that the time is ripe to form an organization on the same lines as the United Farmers of Alberta which might be called the United Farmers of Ontario, and which will embrace in its membership the various subordinate granges, farmers' clubs, and similar organizations now scattered throughout the province, and bring them into working unity.

The proposed Farmers' Company may be called the Ontario Farmers' Company. It will arrange for the purchase in car lots of feeding stuffs and other articles purchased by farmers and resell these on advantageous terms to the various local organizations affiliated with the United Farmers of Ontario. It will also act as the Ontario branch of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, and handle through it western feeding stuffs and

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