

### Board of Commerce on the Defensive.

At a recent meeting of the Western Canada Live Stock Union, in Victoria, J. D. McGregor, of Brandon, openly denounced the actions of the Board of Commerce, and stated that Mr. O'Connor had unsettled the whole live-stock industry throughout Canada. In an attempt to defend his colleague, Judge Robson, Chairman of the Board, said: "The attack made by Mr. McGregor on these orders as injurious to live-stock production is entirely groundless. All the Board of Commerce did in that connection was to temporarily hold in check the price of milk, while a proposed increase could receive consideration. The consumer was entitled to be considered. Was he to be deprived of all right to be heard? Mr. O'Connor secured for the consumer that right and he had my full concurrence therein at the time."

"The further instance wherein this Board has been charged with touching the live-stock industry is in the matter of hog products. The facts are that Chicago live-weight hog prices are lower than ours, and the foreign demand is very low."

"Not a cent ever came off the farmer by any action of the Board of Commerce. Those are all the instances in which it can be said that the Board of Commerce got even within sight of the cattle or hog producer, and yet Mr. McGregor says Mr. O'Connor unsettled the whole live-stock industry all over Canada."

Judge Robson apparently fails to realize that every order restricting the sale of hog products eventually hits back at the producer. On November 7, the Board passed an order permitting the importation of American mess pork without any restriction under the order. This commodity will probably sell at \$48, or more per barrel. Mess pork made from hogs produced on Canadian farms must be sold under restriction, and will probably be wholesaled at not more than \$42 per barrel. Thus it is that our product must sell at a certain price, regardless of cost of production, while American mess pork can be brought in and sold at market values. The price of hogs, live weight, to the farmer will depend on what the packer can get for the finished product, and when the Board of Commerce undertake to set prices they at once set the price for live hogs in the country. The fact of the matter is, the Board of Commerce got right up against the live-stock industry and destroyed the confidence of producers.

### Market Receipts.

During the month of October only 200 heavy, finished steers were marketed in Toronto, according to the report from the Live Stock Branch, of the Markets' Intelligence Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture. There were, however, 2,114 good steers, ranging from 1,000 to 1,200 lbs. Steers weighing from 700 to 1,000 lbs. numbered 11,300, but only 3,193 of these were classed as good. There was a much higher percentage of heifers of this class. Veal calves to the number of 4,048 were disposed of in Toronto, and 1,130 grass calves. There was a big run in hogs and lambs, and according to the report there were 34,701 selects, with but a comparatively small number of the other classes. Good lambs numbered 61,542, and common lambs 3,844. The sheep numbered 7,775 the large majority being graded light. At this time of year it is customary to have a heavy run of hogs and lambs on all markets and prices are usually inclined to be bearish.

## THE FARM.

### Canadian Council of Agriculture Meets in Winnipeg.

The Canadian Council of Agriculture met in Winnipeg, November 11 to 13. The following were present: H. W. Wood; R. A. Parker; C. Rice-Sheppard; H. Greenfield; P. Baker; and Mrs. J. S. Wood from Alberta; J. J. Morrison; Col. J. Z. Fraser; R. H. Halbert; R. Segsworth; R. W. E. Burnaby; A. A. Powers; and Mrs. G. A. Brodie from Ontario; J. B. Musselman; A. G. Hawkes; Mrs. McNaughton; John Fleming; W. J. Robinson and Hon. Geo. Langley from Saskatchewan; W. R. Wood; P. D. McArthur; Peter Wright; J. L. Brown; Miss McCallum; Miss Finch; John Kennedy; J. R. Murray, and R. McKenzie from Manitoba, representing the different organizations making up the council. Before the meeting closed, Hon. T. A. Crerar and J. A. Maharg arrived from Ottawa; the parliamentary session there having closed.

Several matters came before the Council, the most important being on the political movement. The discussion centered about what had been accomplished

invited to continue to act as intermediary between the different interests throughout the present crop year. The Council is quite out of sympathy with any action tending to restrict the free exportation or sale of standard stock feed, refuse screenings or screenings in any form, as in their opinion the handling of this or similar commodities should at no time be restricted for the advantage of any manufacturing or feeding interest."

The charges for cleaning seed grain at interior elevators was taken up as follows:

"Whereas, it has come to the attention of the Council that the charge for cleaning seed grain at the interior public terminals is three times the charge made for cleaning ordinary commercial grain, though the grain selected for seed contains, on the average, less impurities than ordinary commercial grain;

"And whereas, this undue charge constitutes an addition to the price which must be made by the purchaser of seed grain;

"Be it resolved, that the Council instructs its executive to take up with the Department of Trade and Commerce this whole matter of the tariff for cleaning seed grain."

Government ownership of railways is to be followed closely by the Council as is indicated in a resolution on this matter. It reads:

"Whereas, the Government of Canada has already acquired the Canadian Northern Railway, and negotiations are under way for the acquisition of the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific systems;

"And whereas, it is most desirable that the administration of these Government properties be conducted with efficiency, vigor and determination in a desire to develop a profitable business for these railways in behalf of the Canadian tax payers;

"Be it resolved, that a memorandum be presented to the next meeting of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, setting forth the present state of development in the relationship of the people with the railways of this country."

The Council recommends that the lake and coastwise shipping be brought under the control of the Board of Railway Commissioners:

"That this Council is of the opinion that the lake shipping and coastwise traffic in Canada be brought under the control of the Board of Railway Commissioners."

Among other matters that came up were changes of the National Platform. One called for the new Dominion Elections Act being based on the principle of establishing the federal electorate on the provincial franchise; thus providing for the giving of votes to women in federal elections. An addition was made, recommending a naturalization act, based on personal naturalization only. It was held by the Council that an anomalous condition exists under the present naturalization law, because of confusion between the required process of naturalization by law, and the process of personal naturalization.

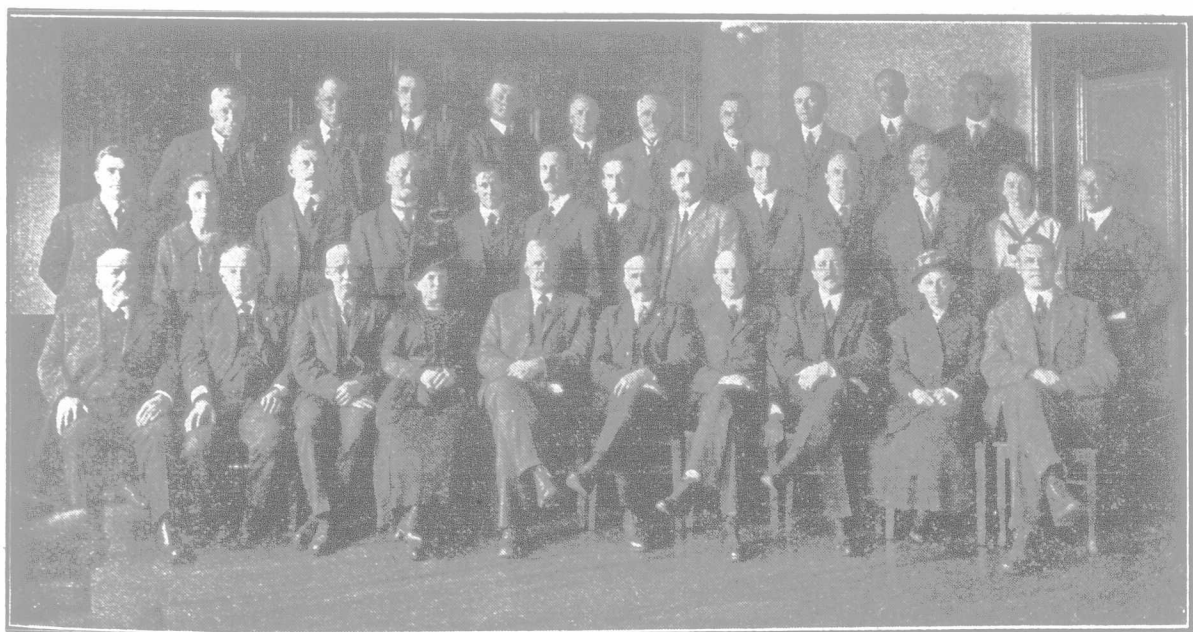
### CANADA'S YOUNG FARMERS AND FUTURE LEADERS.

#### Some Topics For Discussion.

During the last five years many changes have taken place in agriculture and matters affecting the industry. Not only have there been marked changes in matters of organization and those phases of farm life dealing with the broader outlook of economic and social affairs, but the steady march of events has had its effect on ordinary farm practice as well. Now that winter is approaching with a partial let up in farm work, there will be more time to devote to a consideration of these matters. The younger men of the farms will be called upon to play an increasing part in public affairs as time goes on, and the recent Cabinet changes in Ontario show clearly that the young man has an equal chance with older heads when positions of honor and responsibility are open. To take one's place with credit to all concerned, it is a splendid asset to be able to speak and write so as to be easily understood. Too few men for the good of agriculture are willing to come out in the open with their opinions, and to show outwardly that interest which everyone must feel in the common problems of the industry and of the country.

We are suggesting in this issue about a dozen topics which could well be discussed by farmers, young or old, but particularly by the younger men. There may, and doubtless will be, many others that will occur to readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" as of general interest. If so, we shall be glad to hear of these too. Some of the topics we suggest are of general community interest, while others are practical and deal with interesting phases of farm work about which much could be said. Your opinions on these matters will always be interesting to other people, just as someone else's opinion about some matter of farm practice is always interesting to you. Because we know readers will be interested in your viewpoint we are willing to pay for any letters submitted at liberal rates, provided they are found suitable for publication. We prefer short letters of not more than 600 words each, and would like to have them come along any time, beginning as soon as possible. Do not hesitate to put down your ideas for publication. Your ideas are the main thing; the way they are dressed up with words is of minor importance. Anyway, practice makes perfect.

1. ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A FARMER'S CLUB? If so, HOW HAS MEMBERSHIP IN THIS CLUB HELPED YOU? Consider for a few minutes just what good the club



Members of the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

Seated, left to right—Hon. Geo. Langley, R. McKenzie (Vice-Pres.), J. J. Morrison, Mrs. Geo. Brodie, J. L. Brown, R. H. Halbert, H. W. Wood (President), J. A. Maharg, Mrs. John McNaughton, N. P. Lambert (Secretary). Second row, left to right—G. F. Chipman, Miss Mabel Finch, Hon. T. A. Crerar, Col. J. Z. Fraser, R. M. Johnston, H. C. Fleming, J. B. Musselman, A. C. Hawkes, R. Segsworth, Peter Wright, James Robinson, Miss Mary McCallum, J. R. Murray. Back row, left to right—Rice Sheppard, P. Baker, R. W. E. Burnaby, H. Greenfield, W. R. Wood, P. D. McArthur, A. A. Powers, W. J. Healy, J. W. Ward, R. A. Parker. Members not in the photograph are Mrs. J. S. Wood and John Kennedy.

### Who is to Blame?

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE": In delivering a speech before the Western Live-Stock Union, at Victoria, B.C., recently, J. D. McGregor, a prominent stockman of Brandon, Man., accused Mr. O'Connor of "unsettling the whole live-stock industry of the country." Judge Robson, defending Mr. O'Connor, says that Mr. McGregor is "hopelessly ignorant," and "if Mr. McGregor is really looking for some grievance to remedy, let him enquire into the price-fixing of mill-feeds," thus shifting the responsibility to some other branch of the Department.

Mr. McGregor served on the Food Board during the war and cannot correctly be called an "ignorant" fellow. He knows, and every farmer who keeps an account of "cost and come to" knows, that the stockman is not getting the square deal promised when we were begged to increase our production. As a result we know that cows and sows are being made into sausage as fast as a market can be found for it, and I think Mr. McGregor excusable if he did not lay the blame at the door of the right Commission. There are so many commissions now that one is liable to get confused. One more commission should be appointed. We should have an Investigating Commission to investigate the investigations of the different Investigating Commissions and report so that Mr. McGregor and others would not necessarily be so "ignorant."

Essex Co., Ont.

J. O. DUKE.

