

Saskatchewan Elevator Commission

The Saskatchewan elevator commission is now ready for work and will hold sittings through that province. The commission has prepared the following list of questions which Mr. F. W. Green wishes the farmers to be ready to answer before the commission:

1. What are the existing evils which a state-aided system of elevators would remedy?
2. Could these evils be removed by such methods as
 - (1.) Additional loading platforms?
 - (2.) Additional farmers' elevators?
 - (3.) Additional railway lines and car facilities?
 - (4.) A system of inspection?
3. Would a system of government ownership and government operation, such as given in the Manitoba Act, be satisfactory, and if not, why not?
4. Would a system of government ownership, combined with operation by an independent commission, as suggested by the Grain Growers' Association, be satisfactory to you? What do you say to the following objections to this scheme?
 - (1.) Should the expenditure of money provided by the state be under the control of any body or board not responsible to all the citizens?
 - (2.) If the commission operating the system consisted of an appointee of the government and two of the Grain Growers' Association, would political influences be eliminated, and would one vote out of three safeguard the interests of the province?
 - (3.) If the system were not a financial success, how should the deficit be met?
 - (4.) Under such a system would it be necessary to have a monopoly of all the elevators in the province?
5. In regard to any new system of elevators, have you any suggestions to offer about
 - (1.) Whether a new elevator is necessary at every shipping point, and if not, on what grounds should a selection be made?
 - (2.) What facilities should the new elevators provide, in regard to cleaning, weighing, binning and shipping?
 - (3.) To what extent should the new elevators provide in addition for internal storage?
 - (4.) Should the new system aim at providing terminal elevators in the province, and why?
6. Is there any probability that any system of elevators would be satisfactory which was not controlled by the farmers?
7. Should the control be given to the farmers if all the money necessary were furnished by the government, and would this be just to the citizens who are not farmers?
8. Is there any objection to asking the farmers to co-operate by contributing part of the money necessary to build the elevators, and what percentage should the farmers be asked to contribute (if any)?
9. Would not such co-operation secure the success of the scheme and give security to the government for its loan?
10. Do you think that government-aided elevators should be limited in number, until the success or failure of the scheme had been tested, and if so, what limit would you suggest?

The Naval Question

Continued from Page 12

and no one dare to interfere with her, and so long as this continues no one will ever dare to interfere to molest us. What I am afraid of is that the change you are going to inaugurate is going to be the beginning of a different feeling in the people of the Old Country towards us; and I believe I understand the character of Britishers (with all due deference to you, Sir Wilfrid) better than you or any of your supporters do. If they once get an idea that you wish to be independent of them, they will say, "Let them go, they have never been any benefit to us. We have protected them freely in the past and without a cent of reward of any kind,

and if they show no gratitude towards us, we will let them stand on their own bottom." Of course, you must know that this is true. Great Britain is increasing so fast in every way that the loss of a colony or two does not trouble the rank and file a particle, and when, by the stroke of a pen, they add countries like Nigeria with a population of 15,000,000 and untold undeveloped wealth, and like Egypt, which has been almost forced upon them, the loss of 7,000,000 population seems a small thing to them.

What puzzles me to understand is the fuss Canadians make over their importance and what egregiously wrong notions many of their people seem to have of Britain's attitude towards them. One editor actually writes me that "this country has dearly bought and hard wrung their system of government from Britain." I never heard such nonsense in my life. Why, within the last forty years, and it often appears to me that it was granted much too early, as numbers of the people there, as well as in this country, are utterly unfit to exercise the franchise even now.

What I complain of is that you have brought in this naval policy and passed it without even consulting the people in the slightest degree.

What you say as to the change of attitude by Australia and New Zealand is probably correct. But though they change, it is no reason why we should do so as we are in an entirely different position from these islands, who need a fleet, being so far away for one thing, and being entirely composed of Britishers, are in a different position from this country which is so cosmopolitan in population, and where there are so many who favor union with the republic to the south.

I must apologize for troubling you with so long a letter, but trust I have made my position clear to you, as I hate being opposed to you in any way, but, "Necessitas non habet legem."

Believe me,

Dear Sir Wilfrid,

Yours most sincerely,

CHAS. LUNN.

(Sgd.)

Sir Wilfrid's Last Word

Ottawa, 25th March, 1910.

Dear Mr. Lunn,

I have yours of the 19th inst. Let me again repeat to you that I have no fault to find with your attitude. I believe that you are in the wrong and it is quite open to you to believe that I am in error. We Liberals claim the privilege of thinking for ourselves. I hope that on other matters we can agree.

Yours very sincerely,

WILFRID LAURIER.

♦ ♦ ♦

"Man did not make the earth, and though he had a natural right to occupy it, he had no right to locate as his property in perpetuity any part of it; neither did the Creator of the earth open a land office from whence title deeds should issue."—Thomas Paine, 1793.

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A man was charged last week at Bow Street with breaking a window of the House of Lords. It is scarcely surprising that the public should be getting impatient at the delay in abolishing the upper chamber.—Punch.

♦ ♦ ♦

The Creator has made ample provision for all men in the storehouse of nature, and in the faculties and powers of man. To do God's will we must make room at the Father's table for all His children.—Dr. McGlynn.

♦ ♦ ♦

Before any effectual social renovation can take place, men must efface the abuse which has grown up out of the transition from the feudal to the more modern state; the abuse of land being held as absolute property.—Harriet Martineau.

♦ ♦ ♦

I personally believe that the mission of Henry George on earth was that of one of the saviors of the world. I believe his "Progress and Poverty" is one of the books of holy writ. I believe that in the single tax lies the solution of every problem which agitates our industrial world today.—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

♦ ♦ ♦

No matter what the world may decide to do about single tax, some day it will have to acknowledge that Henry George brought into the service of man more men of more different kinds than any other man of his day.—Lincoln Steffens.

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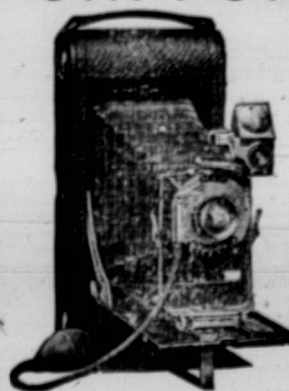
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