



Published under the auspices and employed as the Official Organ of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, The Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the United Farmers of Alberta.

Canadian Subscriptions, \$1.00 per year in advance.

Foreign Subscriptions, \$1.50

Single Copy, 5 cents.

Advertising Rates on Application.

Address all communications to The Grain Growers' Guide Winnipeg.

Change of copy and New Matter must be received not later than Friday noon each week to ensure insertion.

JUNE 29th, 1910

DO GRAIN GROWERS MEAN BUSINESS

Last December, there met in Brandon, the Grain Growers' Association, or Farmers' Parliament of Manitoba. It was beyond doubt one of the most important meetings ever held in the province. There were present six hundred delegates from the various branch associations throughout the province. Those delegates represented nine thousand farmers and really voiced the sentiments of the entire farming community of Manitoba. They were the men who have made the province, and the men who today are producing the wealth which makes Manitoba what it is. They were earnest and hard working men, who left their work for a few days and at a sacrifice went to Brandon to consider very serious matters. It was not a trivial thing to meet in such a way and deliberate over such matters as came before them. Those farmers knew what they wanted and they knew what was best in the interests of the province. They took up a number of exceedingly important subjects, and, of all the subjects discussed, the elevator question took first place. They decided with one voice that they wanted public elevators, and they wanted them under the control of a commission that would be absolutely independent of political influence.

They also considered the question of Direct Legislation, including the principles of the Initiative, the Referendum and the Recall. Those six hundred farmers representing the intelligence and wealth of Manitoba dealt with those two great subjects of elevators under an independent commission and Direct Legislation upon their merits and without the slightest thought of entering into the realm of party politics. They knew that what they asked for was right and in the interest of all good citizens. Were those farmers in earnest? Did they mean business? We do not think that any one could doubt it, especially any one who was present at the Brandon Convention. Since the convention more than one hundred local branches have endorsed the principle of an independent Commission, and a great many branches have endorsed Direct Legislation. None have opposed either question.

The Grain Growers in taking such action upon these two subjects realized what they were doing and they can have an independent commission in charge of the elevators and also have Direct Legislation on the statute books of Manitoba if they want it. We believe the

farmers of Manitoba have back-bone enough to stand up for what they have demanded. The only way by which the legislation which the farmers have asked for can be secured is by having men in the legislature of Manitoba who will carry out the wishes and protect the interests of the farmers who elect them. It will require at least twenty-five members of the legislature, favorable to Direct Legislation and to an independent commission in order to have these two principles enacted into law. The Grain Growers all over the province have demanded that these two principles become law, and now all they need to do is to stand by their guns and they will get it. At the present time there are two candidates nominated in every constituency in the province, and the provincial elections are to be held in less than two weeks. A splendid move would be for the Grain Growers in each locality to call both candidates to a joint meeting and then and there let them give their pledge either for or against the demands of the farmers. There is still plenty of time to do this. It is the duty of every Grain Grower who has the courage of his convictions to see that the man he votes for is a supporter of an independent commission and Direct Legislation. If a candidate is not in favor then he is not a friend of the Grain Growers and the Grain Growers should not allow him to become a member in the legislature. This is the stand that the Grain Growers have taken, and we believe that they are right. If either of the two candidates that approach the Grain Growers are in favor of an independent commission and also of Direct Legislation, then that candidate is the one the Grain Growers should support, because in no other way will they ever have an independent commission in Manitoba or Direct Legislation on the statute books. Grain Growers of Manitoba you know what you want and you know how to get it. It only requires men with backbone and the courage of their conviction to secure it.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GRAIN COMPANY

On page 9 of this issue we publish a letter from J. G. Moffat regarding the action of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, and also the reply of the company on the subject. Since receiving Mr. Moffat's letter we have received other information which leads us to believe that a widespread movement is afoot to damage or ruin the farmers' company. Here is a letter which we have received from Mr. S. M. Hayden, secretary of the Killarney Grain Growers' Association:

To the Editor of THE GUIDE:—

From the fact that the annual meeting of the Grain Growers' Grain Company is drawing near, reports are being circulated to the effect that the Grain Growers' Grain Company are likely to misapply all votes sent in by proxy in the interests of a new or American Company who have capital to hand for the purpose of purchasing the system now operated by the Grain Growers' Grain Company, which reports are causing considerable anxiety to shareholders in this district. Believing you to be in a position to give us the facts in connection with this case, I would ask you to publish them in your next issue of THE GUIDE.

(Signed)

S. M. HAYDEN.

In addition to these letters we also have reports that there is an attempt being made by certain parties to secure as many proxies as possible to take to the annual meeting. The enemies of the farmers' company have ever been active and on the alert to deliver a blow at it. We can assure every shareholder of the Farmers' company that there is absolutely no truth in the reports that the farmers' company is negotiating with an American company. It is absurd on the face of it and is being circulated by enemies of the farmers' company in the hope of injuring that company and thus weakening the farmers' cause. Nothing, whatever, could be done towards disposing of the interests of the company to any concern unless by a two-thirds vote of the shareholders at the annual meeting. As is pointed out in the president's letter on page 9, the aim is

to secure a Dominion charter and thus extend the usefulness of the company. We know very well that there are several interests that would be very glad to injure the farmers' company because they want to see the farmers kept in check. The Grain Growers' Grain Company is the greatest triumph of the organized farmers' movement in the West. It has done more good for the Grain Growers than any one thing they have ever accomplished. The proxies sent to the directors are all distributed evenly among the shareholders present so that no one has any advantage. All shareholders should be very careful to whom they entrust their proxies and see that they do not get into the hands of someone who intends to injure the company. The shareholders can rest assured that the company is being conducted properly and that these reports are only one of the many attempts made to injure the farmers' cause.

HUDSON BAY RAILWAY DEAL

The Winnipeg Free Press on June 22nd published the following dispatch from Ottawa:

"While the Dominion Government will build the Hudson's Bay Railway, it is more than probable that it will be leased to one of the existing railway companies. Owing to the climatic conditions the road cannot be operated for many months of the year, and the rolling stock in that period would be idle if the line were run by the government itself. If one of the other railways operated it, this would be overcome, and the rolling plant in the winter season, would be utilized elsewhere."

This lends color to the rumors that the Hudson's Bay Railway would be handed over to Mackenzie and Mann. If this is done it will be rank treachery on the part of the Dominion government towards the farmers of the West. The talk about climatic conditions is all bosh. Are Mackenzie and Mann to be given a pipe line, not only to all the provincial treasuries, but to the Dominion treasury as well? If after all the pledges and promises that have been made, the Dominion government betrays the Western farmers into the hands of Mackenzie and Mann, then it is time for a change. If this huge graft on the people is perpetrated, then we believe that we know the temper of the Western farmers well enough to say that so far as the West is concerned the Dominion government has outlived its usefulness and should give way to men who will protect the interests of the people of Canada. The Hudson's Bay road and its terminals must be owned and operated by the Dominion government under a commission.

MR. McCUAIG'S DUAL POSITION

Several times since the Manitoba Elevator Commission was appointed, we have heard discussions on Mr. McCuaig's position, as president of the Grain Growers' Association and chairman of the commission. The point of the discussion was whether the best interests of the Grain Growers could be served by Mr. McCuaig holding both positions. Mr. McCuaig has been president of the Grain Growers' Association for a number of years, and has been a great influence in building up the association to its present proud position. He helped the Grain Growers to secure the enactment of the Elevator Act, and has also been to the front in the Grain Growers' battles. The association has suffered a loss in the appointment of Mr. McCuaig to the commission, but the government deemed it wise to appoint Mr. McCuaig and he accepted. Now the point is, whether he can do his duty to his two masters. The Elevator Act is not satisfactory to the Grain Growers, and has never been accepted by them, even though they have decided to sign the petitions and make the best of it for the time. The chief point we see is the weakness of the president of the association being an official of the government. Thus as a government official, Mr. McCuaig would be handicapped in giving advice in his capacity of president. If the