

HITS BACK AT HIS TRADUCERS

Partridge Says Matherwell has no Executive Power—Millar's Feelings Worked Upon by Grain Men

In reply to the joint letter of Messrs. Matherwell and Millar, E. A. Partridge says: "W. H. Matherwell is the honorary president of the Grain Growers' association of Saskatchewan. The honorary position does not entitle him to speak as a member of the executive of that body. It is a title of courtesy and stands for no executive powers. He complains that he was not consulted with respect to the action taken by the directors of the association, but since he is not one of the directors this can hardly be made a cause for complaint.

"John Millar, the chairman of the Royal Grain Commission, is a member of the executive by virtue of his election to the post of secretary. Since his identification with the Royal Commission his position has been temporarily filled by Mr. Stevenson of Indian Head. This accounts for the fact that Mr. Millar was not notified of contemplated action by the executive. Five out of six of the members of the executive, including Mr. Hopkins the president, were in favor of the action taken in the instance of a circular calling upon the sub-associations to support the prosecution inaugurated by Mr. McCuaig president of the Manitoba association.

"Mr. Millar's feeling have apparently been worked upon by members of the Grain exchange who have led him to believe that the dignity of the commission, of which he is the chairman, has been outraged by action being taken in the police court against members of the grain exchange before the report of the commission had been handed in at Ottawa. Mr. Matherwell, however, had no such excuse for his conduct, unless it be that his feelings have been outraged by the naming of Mr. R.L. Richardson as treasurer of the prosecution fund. Mr. Richardson has often, no doubt said ungentle things of Mr. Matherwell. At the meeting of the executive Mr. Matherwell wanted the trusteeship taken away from Mr. Richardson. Since Mr. Richardson only took charge of the fund by request, the executive could not permit anything so ungracious to be done to humiliate the spleen of a personal antagonist.

"Had Mr. Millar been fulfilling his duties as secretary it is not probable that anyone but himself would have been thought of, but being engaged on the grain commission, convenience suggested someone else. There are many precedents for the appointment of an editor treasurer of a fund created to support a cause which he has championed through his papers. Mr. Richardson has been conspicuous for many years in his championship of the farmer in his fight for better conditions.

"Mr. Matherwell's antagonism to Mr. Richardson and myself has led him to become a willing instrument in the hands of the grain exchange to try and discredit the association and the grain growers company, and to give the impression that the farmers of the west are not solidly united in their desire to secure legal and legislative remedies for conditions surrounding the grain trade.

"At a meeting of the Saskatchewan executive held a short time after the issuance of the circular complained of, the action of the president, Mr. Hopkins, was supported by all the members present with the exception of Mr. Matherwell and Mr. Millar. I presume that the letter signed by them will have to be taken as their minority report.

"I believe that Mr. Matherwell is alone responsible for the appearance of this letter, as Mr. Millar has never been more than an echo of the former gentleman's views in association matters and his appointment to the royal grain commission upon the recommendation of Mr. Matherwell would be an added cause for giving his support.

"Mr. Matherwell knows that he is uttering an absolute untruth when he states that I have endeavored to cause the association to become mixed up with commercial transactions. I have repeatedly stated in his presence and on the public platform, it was not desirable for the association to become engaged in trade and it was for this reason that the Grain Growers' Grain company was organized. It was felt and stated by me that the association had many important functions to perform in connection with the securing of legislative enactments required in the form-

ers' interests, and it would weaken them in their request for legislation to be a trading concern as they could then hope for no greater recognition from legislative bodies than would be accorded to any other corporation. It was pointed out, however, that it would be of the interest of the farmer to establish a trading company separate and distinct from the association, which by actual experience obtained in the world's markets, would secure an intimate knowledge of the conditions surrounding trade, that would be of incalculable service in discovering to the farmers what legislative remedies were requisite to enable them to secure the full returns for their labor.

"The working out of a satisfactory grading system and a satisfactory administration of the same, a first-hand knowledge of the prices ruling in the ultimate markets and of the demand for the various types in these markets the administration of the terminal elevators and question of the efficiency and cost of transportation from the terminals to the old country markets, were all questions of which the farmer on his farm could know but little. The organization of the grain exchange its composition and methods were also imperfectly known. It was desirable to study this at short range.

"Mr. Matherwell gossiped on his hostility to Mr. Richardson and myself, has been made an instrument in the hands of the grain exchange to strike a blow at the grain growers' association and Grain Growers' Grain company. It would be regrettable if any harm were done to either, but it would appear only sufficient that the facts surrounding the case should be known to render Mr. Matherwell's attack perfectly harmless.

"The farmers of Saskatchewan are sold in their support of Manitoba in her fight to deprive the grain exchange of its vicious characteristics by legal and legislative means. Mr. Matherwell denounces me as provisional president of the grain growers' grain company for writing and speaking against the grain exchange and at the same time seeking membership therein.

"No prominent member of the Grain Growers' Grain company has ever denied that the grain exchange has useful functions to perform, but have attacked abuses in the grain trade, both in the practice of elevator owners in the elevators throughout the country and in the practice of certain elements in the grain exchange which tended to eliminate competition. From the beginning of organization work it has been proposed that membership would be possible in the grain exchange.

"No fair minded man will deny that the action of the grain exchange in refusing to admit the Grain Growers' Grain company to its privileges, after the alleged cause for its expulsion had been removed, indicates a desire to exclude the farmers as organized sellers of their product from trading with their members for a different reason than their proposed co-operative method of dividing profits. The drift of events transpiring in the grain exchange is in the direction of eliminating all but the elevators and milling interests and it is this tendency which must be combated at all costs unless the country wishes to become enslaved by a wheat trust as prejudicial to the interests of the people as the Standard Oil monopoly and the American beef trust.

"The grain exchange bitterly resents any attempt at the curtailment of their powers to coerce their members or to exclude those whose views differ from those of the dominant interests of the exchange. It appears a most unwarranted interference with the freedom of trade that a body which embraces all the exporters and all the large millers, marketing companies and elevator interests meet of the great lakes should exclude a large body of producers of grain from trading with them on equitable terms. If the farmers of the west would resent this treatment of a numerous body of their fellows they would indeed merit to be commended to the slavery which rampant mercantilism is endeavoring to reduce them to.

"Yours faithfully,
"E. A. PARTRIDGE."
Winnipeg, Jan. 28, 1907.

WHITMORE BROS. ON FUEL QUESTION

Member of Firm Meets Railway Officials—Coal Specials Arranged—Advice to Consumers

As a result of the representations made to the C.P.R. by A. E. Whitmore, of Whitmore Bros., the company has decided to cancel one of their through passenger trains and run a coal train each day till the fuel situation is relieved. Mr. Whitmore after his recent return from Winnipeg, stated to the West that both the C.P.R. and C.N.R. management were anxious to take any steps that would facilitate the shipment of coal, but that they realized that the enormous daily demands during this cold weather is of serious concern, but without a stock at any central point it is most difficult to cope with the situation.

Whitmore Bros. through the circumstances that have developed during the past year, now handle almost the entire coal supply for the province, and they have offered the following advice to consumers.

(The Editor, The West.)
Being conversant with the fuel situation of the province, we deem it our duty to inform the citizens of Regina and all the points throughout the province depending on us for their coal supply to use every precaution in studying the economy of coal, as we certainly believe the present situation warrants this general information. We have many orders to fill throughout the province

and we can assure our agents, we have been doing our utmost both at the mines and with the railroads and have been treated in a very generous manner considering the extreme conditions that prevail, both the demand for coal and the severe frost in operating the roads.

During the earlier part of the season we feared that we are now beginning to realize that there would be a general shortage of coal and with that view in sight, our traveling salesmen solicited orders, but there was very little result owing to the fact that they had always used the Galt coal and expecting that the strike would end daily and that they would get their usual supply. Instead of ending in the summer it lasted from March till December. The points that are suffering the most today are the ones that were depending on the supply of Galt coal. We often have to return turning people away from our office with a smaller amount of coal than they came in to order originally, but in so doing we were trying to distribute equally among our customers. We trust the people with large houses will cooperate with us in only using that portion of it that is absolutely necessary. Thanking you for this valuable space, we are,
Yours Very Truly,
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WHAT INVENTION OWES TO CRIME

Delaware, Ohio, Jan. 31.—A convulsion given a suspended sentence of five years in the penitentiary, walked out of the court room and boarded a train for New York, to take a position with a shoe company at \$8,000 a year.

The burglar, Joseph Savelle, a Russian, robbed a store here seven years ago, was arrested and broke jail. Later he served five years in Maryland penitentiary. While in the prison he was employed in the machine shop and invented a device for perforating shoes.

The shoe company heard of it and interested itself in Savelle's behalf. When his term was up he was re-arrested, brought here and tried for his former crime.

He was found guilty but on the representations made by the agents of the shoe company the sentence was suspended. He accepted the offer of the company of a salary of \$8,000 a year.

DEATH OR RANSOM

Ten Thousand Demanded of Father For Son

New York, Feb. 1.—Antonio Siatta, whose son was kidnapped two weeks ago, and is still held for a ten thousand-dollar ransom, for some time yesterday was face to face with the members of the Black Hand that have his child.

Standing about him the men who have his child told him that unless the money was forthcoming, the child would be sent to Boston and killed.

"Your boy is now being beaten," said one who appeared to be the leader of the gang. "If you were a kind father and loved your son, you would put his welfare above money, and pay the money that has been asked of you."

The meeting of Siatta, who is a money lender in the Harlem, and the Black Hand gang, was not altogether accidental. All the letters that Siatta has received since Salvatore disappeared were post marked from the vicinity of Oak street.

Siatta determined yesterday to do a little detective work on his own account. He went about through Oak street thinking that his boy might be looking from some window that he might see him and call out.

He walked several times through various streets that turn and twist, and when near Catherine ferry a man came up to him and addressed him by name.

He asked the father to accompany him to a building nearby. When they were inside the room, he was led to a back room.

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Timothy Eaton Dead

Toronto, Jan. 31.—T. Eaton died this morning from pneumonia following an attack of influenza. He was not expected to die this morning, when he rapidly began to sink. He was the founder and president of the departmental store which bears his name, the largest store in Canada and one of the largest in the world. Some 9,000 hands were given employment. All the factories, all the building operations at the two great stores, the agencies at London, Eng. and Paris, France, were notified by telegram on Monday.

The funeral will take place Saturday.

Timothy Eaton was born in Clonsilla, Ireland, 71 years ago. He came to Canada and started his first store at Kingston, Huron county. Besides a widow, he leaves two sons—J. C. Eaton, vice-president of the company, and W. F. Eaton of Oshawa, in charge of the factory there, and two daughters—Mrs. C. Burden and Mrs. T. Burnside, Toronto, Ont.

Earl Grey Mourns

Ottawa, Feb. 3.—Lady Victoria Grenfell, eldest daughter of his Excellency, died at Government House shortly after midnight, following an illness of three weeks. She is believed to have contracted the disease, typhoid fever, while travelling with her husband, Capt. A. Grenfell in Mexico, whence she came direct to Ottawa three weeks ago. The fatal malady developed immediately after her arrival. Heres were held out for her recovery and she came somewhat unexpectedly tonight.

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