

Free House and Barn Plans

WRITE FOR 1915 CATALOGUE

Our new catalogue of Farm Machinery and supplies, which will be ready for mailing about the end of the month, contains a large number of house and barn plans specially designed for Western conditions. Under each plan is a short description of the building and the estimated cost of all labor and material necessary to erect same. We have a staff of experienced architects to assist our customers in designing suitable plans, estimating material and giving such other advice as may be required. We will also furnish, free of charge, to anyone purchasing a carload of Lumber, blue print working plans and specifications for any kind of building. Our aim is not only to bring Lumber and all other building material to the farmer at the lowest possible cost, but to give him such assistance as will enable him to use that material to the very best advantage. The service which we are offering absolutely free through our architectural department would, if supplied by a regular firm of architects, be considerably beyond the means of the average farmer.

A GOOD TIME TO BUILD

Lumber prices have now struck "rock bottom." They cannot go lower and must soon advance. Take advantage of prices now if you can. We are prepared to quote you mill prices on Lumber, Corrugated Iron, Metal Shingles, Building Paper, Roofing, Nails, Cement, Plaster and all other builders' supplies, including freight prepaid to your station.

A Sample of Our Lumber Prices Delivered to any Station Taking 40c.

Freight Rate:

Common Fir, dimension 2 x 4 to 2 x 12	\$17.50
No. 1 Fir Shiplap	16.50
No. 1 Common Fir Boards	16.50
No. 1 Fir Drop Siding	24.00
No. 1 Cedar Shingles	2.75

Write for 1915 Catalogue containing House and Barn plans, also full information and prices regarding our large line of Farm Machinery, Woven Wire Fence, Posts, Sheet Metal Products, Builders' Supplies, Coal, etc.

The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited

Fort William Winnipeg Calgary New Westminster

Ralph Connor on the National Crisis

"Our National Crisis" was the subject of an inspiring and informing address delivered by Dr. C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor), at the Wednesday evening session of the Brandon convention.

It was only a few months ago, Dr. Gordon said, that war was looked upon almost as an impossibility. It seemed impossible that great Christian nations could forget all their Christian principles and seek to settle arguments by the means employed by their remote ancestors who lived in caves. Tracing the incidents which immediately preceded the war, Dr. Gordon, while declaring himself an earnest peace advocate, rejoiced in Britain's swift decision to fulfill her treaty obligations and go to the defence of Belgium. The cause of the war, he said, lay deeper than the murder of an archduke, an ultimatum to Serbia or even the violation of Belgian neutrality. They were to be found in the history, traditions and national characteristics of the nations engaged in the conflict. Briefly recalling the history of Prussia, the speaker went back to the seventeenth century when Prussia was one of hundreds of small German states. From that time, he pointed out, Prussia has been annexing and absorbing her sister states, sometimes by conquest, sometimes by treaties, until at length the German Empire emerged. The philosophy of Nietzsche, Treitschke and Bernhardi was set out and the autocracy and despotism of Germany was contrasted with the British ideal of liberty and democracy.

The British Ideal

"The principle," he said, "that runs thru the British Empire is that peoples shall have the right to say how they shall be governed" (applause). That principle was at stake in the present war, and Canada was fighting for that principle, not because the Empire was at war only, but because she stood in the front rank of free nations all equally pledged to maintain the relations of free people (applause). Honesty, however, compelled him to say that he did not believe all the blame for the war rested upon Germany. It might have been avoided if Britain had been true to her own highest ideals. Britain was chiefly known as a trade pusher, and Canadians were often known best as dollar chasers and land grabbers (hear, hear). He believed Almighty God was going to teach them that the big things, the big assets in a nation's treasury were not the things that could be measured by acres or counted by dollars. Let them look at what had happened; what Britain was doing today. What was she spending all those millions for? For trade, for territory, for money, or for glory? No! For honor, for right and for righteousness. These were the things Britain was pouring out her blood and treasure for. "A man's life," said One, "consisteth not in the things which a man possesseth. What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" The people had been giving their souls in exchange for things, but today they were giving away things that they might save their souls (applause).

A Patriotic Acre

After Dr. Gordon's address, J. L. Brown, of Pilot Mound, moved:

"That whereas the great struggle now going on in Europe in which the issue is clearly drawn between the forces that make for progress and liberty and those that make for reaction and despotism, demands of Britain and the British Dominions the utmost possible sacrifice for the preservation of our glorious heritage; and

"Whereas we have not yet felt the weight of the burden as many of our fellow citizens and our allies have felt it;

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we pledge ourselves and that we seek to induce our fellow members to pledge themselves to give the outturns from one acre of grain, preferably wheat, of the crop of 1915 to the needs of the Empire."

Mr. Brown eloquently supported the motion, referring to the increase in the price of grain caused by the war, and urging those who could afford it not to stop at one acre, but to give as the Lord had prospered them.

The resolution was seconded in all parts of the hall, and carried by a unanimous standing vote, the delegates singing the National Anthem with great enthusiasm. It was suggested that a committee

be appointed to formulate a definite scheme to carry the resolution into effect, and the President said this should be attended to later in the convention.

Manitoba Directors' Report

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ference continued for two days, when all phases of the situation were discussed with great vigor and candor on the part of the representatives of the Grain Growers' Associations.

Representatives of the manufacturers were impressed with the strong position the Associations hold in respect to the needs of economic changes to improve conditions in farm life. The only tangible result, however, was the preparation of a memorial to be presented to the Dominion government, by a joint delegation of the two bodies, asking for an immediate appointment of a commission to make a thorough investigation into conditions surrounding farm operations, and report to the government in time to receive consideration at the first session of parliament. The government, apparently, has taken no action on this memorial up to the present time, and as parliament is expected to meet early in February, even if a commission were appointed now, it would fail to accomplish the purpose intended by the conference. It might be necessary for this convention to protest against the delay, and the danger of shelving the question of relieving the farmers of the burden imposed upon them by our fiscal system by referring it to a committee that might not report for an indefinite period.

Other Organizations Assisted

Another feature of the work this year was the number of calls from other bodies upon the time of our directors for conference on public business. Our secretary, on invitation, took part in March last in a convention of Ontario farmers, held in Toronto, to organize along lines similar to the organized farmers of the Prairie Provinces. We are glad to report a very advanced movement on the part of Ontario. He, also at the request of the Credit Men's Association of Winnipeg, joined a delegation of prominent bankers and business men to investigate the better farming movement of North Dakota, and at a later date attended a convention of farmers from the Northern Spring Wheat States in St. Paul, in December last, for promoting the co-operative method of selling grain.

Legal Assistance Given

In conclusion we may be allowed to point out some of the benefits which could not possibly be obtained by individual effort, citing some circumstances which have transpired during the past year. The matter of Gardiner vs. Johnson was a case of the misappropriation of a car at Vista by an elevator operator, and was brought up at the last convention. The convention referred it to the directors with instructions to investigate and if necessary to take action. Your directors found there was sufficient ground on which to base an appeal and when the case came up in court the appeal was sustained, the decision being in favor of the farmer against the elevator operator, who had taken a car which by right belonged to the farmer.

In the matter of the killing of the team of horses belonging to James Siple in the Elkhorn station yard by an engine which had not given warning by ringing the bell or otherwise, this was also brought up at the last convention and the matter was referred to the board of directors to be dealt with. Shortly afterwards this matter was settled privately, the horses being paid for. In this case individual effort had completely failed to get compensation.

Further Reduction Demanded

Arising out of this report, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

That the directors continue their efforts to remove the discrimination in the matter of commission on oats and barley, as we consider that the amount suggested, viz., half a cent on oats and three-quarters of a cent on barley, is a fair and proper charge in comparison with one cent per bushel commission on wheat and flax, and also adequate recompense for the service performed.