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SOME 800 CANADIAN FARMERS HAVE CREATED A NEW SITUATION FOR THE PARTIES AT OTTAWA

A Monster Deputation Waited on the Government Last Week—They asked no favors, but demanded their rights.—They told Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the country what they need and what they intend to obtain.—Party affiliations were thrown to the winds. Farmers will no longer carry other classes on their backs.

The Millions of Dollars that have annually been taken from the farmers by the Tariff, and by Combines and by Monopolies must be retained by the Farmers for themselves.—Canadian Farmers have United for their Mutual Protection.—They have found that their interests from the East to the West are identical.—They have launched a movement that is going to grow.—A new political Situation has been Created.



D. W. McCuaig

President Canadian Council of Agriculture, past president Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, and chairman of the Manitoba provincial commission to establish government elevators. Chairman of the meetings at Ottawa.

at their expense. They showed that they realized that for years they have been legally robbed by monopolies and by other classes of the community and that hereafter they do not intend to submit to such treatment. They showed that the reason farming is not more profitable is because the farming population of Canada is being taxed and lld for the benefit of the few. They claimed that the depopulation of the farming districts has been due to this cause. They intimated that the conditions that

OTTAWA, the political centre of Canada, was shaken to the depths of its political foundations last Friday by the 800 farmers representing scores of thousands of other farmers, from Nova Scotia to Alberta, who waited on Sir Wilfrid Laurier and told him and the country at large what they need and what it is their intention to obtain. They did not mince their words. They knew what they wanted and they asked for it.

They made it known that henceforth the Canadian manufacturers need not expect to obtain tariff favors for it.

permitted this must be removed. They proved that the farmers of Canada have awakened to the effect of the social and economic laws of this country and they showed that it is their intention to work out their own salvation independent, if necessary, of either political party. Thus they have created a new factor in the political situation in Canada and the leaders of both political parties, having seen the hand writing on the wall, are still wondering what it all means and how much importance they should attach to the demonstration.

THE OUTSTANDING FEATURE

The outstanding feature of the whole proceedings, the one which caused unbounded enthusiasm and which was far more important in its significance than even the demands of the delegates, was the fact that the farmers from the east as well as those from the west, when they met with the farmers from Ontario and Quebec, soon found that they were one in their aims and desires and that they were willing to work together for the accomplishment of their joint purposes. They quickly realized that they were making history and that a new era was dawning for the farming population of Canada. The conviction came home to them that our farmers have awakened from their long sleep, that they are now ready to shake off party affiliations, to refuse to be led around blindly by party politicians and that they are prepared to take a determined and united stand for the protection and promotion of

their joint interests.

This discovery was made at a preliminary mass meeting held Thursday morning. While the officers of the various provincial organizations were meeting in joint session in one of the hotels several hundred of the delegates gathered in the Grand Opera House and called for speakers. The farmers from the west had been too vast they were too advanced in their ideas and that the farmers in the east would not support a number of the proposals that they desired to lay before the government. The farmers from Ontario and the east had been informed that their brothers from the west were extremists, that a number of their proposals were socialistic and impractical and that it would be unsafe to endorse them all. The meeting had not proceeded far before it was discovered that both sides were ready to make decided concessions to ensure harmony of action. This created a general feeling of confidence. Soon it was seen that the leaders on both sides, as well as the rank and file of the delegates, were intelligent, level headed men, animated by a common desire to advance the cause of agriculture, both east and west. Mr. D. W. McCuaig, of Portage la Prairie, the president of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, which represented all the provincial organizations, took the chair. Tentative resolutions were introduced and discussions started. This did not prove satisfactory. Finally John Pritchard, of Huron County, Ontario, stated that as the officers of the different



A Determined, Intelligent Group of Canadian Citizens Representing the Farmers of Canada, assembled to draft the Memorial which they presented to the Government at Ottawa last week.
The members of the farmers' deputation in conference in the Grand Opera House, Ottawa, where they assembled to draw up the memorial of their rights for presentation to the government, are here shown. These 800 farmers had never met before. They represented all parts of Canada. They lived under widely different conditions. Yet they were unanimous in all their demands. All were suffering from the same cause. Whether East or West, the protective tariff has the same effect on them. They are determined to stand together at great expense to protest against our tariff system, cannot but make a great impression at Ottawa. Read the full report of this farmer's deputation in this issue of Farm and Dairy.