

GRAIN GROWERS ARE IN SESSION HERE

Large Convention—Civic Welcome—Motherwell-Partridge Episode Dropped—No Politician Need Apply

About one hundred delegates are in the city today attending the annual grain growers convention. The resolution committee were in session all yesterday. The Motherwell-Millar-Partridge incident will not come up for discussion in convention, the principles having agreed that it was in the interests of the organization to let the matter drop, and this affair will hereafter be regarded as a personal matter between those men. It is probable that President Hopkins will be re-elected. A resolution will be introduced excluding politicians, or executive members of trading companies from the executive of the grain growers association.

The convention was called to order by President Hopkins who asked if there were any delegates present from Manitoba and Alberta. Those who responded were Mr. Millar, of Boissevain, Man., Mr. Knowles of Emerson, Man., and Mr. Donan of Brandon.

At this stage of the proceedings, Mayor Smith welcomed the convention to Regina, referring to the importance of such a gathering of men representing the greatest industry of Canada. He extended them an invitation to a banquet in the evening.

Dr. Cowan, as chairman of the civic reception committee, endorsed the sentiments of His Worship, and paid many tributes to the grain growers. The city clerk, J. Kelso Hunter then handed the secretary complimentary invitations to the civic function.

President Hopkins thanked the mayor and other members of the delegation for their courtesy, and the business of the convention was proceeded with.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. President Hopkins then presented his annual address as follows: Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in submitting to you my first report and the sixth annual report since the organization of this association.

I may say at the very beginning of my remarks, that although at our annual gatherings in the past, very important problems have been successfully grappled with, yet, at this present convention, we are assembled under conditions of more vital and deeper significance than in the previous history of our organization, or for that matter, in the history of western Canada.

This is a crucial time. The questions to which your attention will be directed on the floor of this convention are of deepest concern to the whole people. We must act, even though we are face to face with the difficulties scarcely resumed of our last meeting. We must do things out of the usual domain of farmers' duties because the situation is out of the usual order. We have banded ourselves with our farming operations—preparing the soil, reaping the golden harvest, in the past, very gradually transforming the trackless expanse of prairie into homes. Shall they become homes of prosperity and comfort? If so then comfort and prosperity shall be the lot alike, of all in the city, village and hamlet. These usual prospects we have been accustomed to follow in blissful ignorance of impending storms, hearing not so much as a whisper from the great financial heads of our land or from the great railroad corporations, as to the difficulties which in their present form, confront us. Still I have an abiding faith in the ability and courage of the farmers of this province to bring forth at least a partial solution of these problems.

The season's harvest was one of the most abundant in the history of the country hitherto. It will stand from a profitable standpoint, title alone can determine. The spring opened early and was ideal for seeding. A large percentage of the seeding was finished and the rains became general and abundant giving a rapid growth. In July there came an unusually hot spell which, for the time being, caused uneasiness but proved to be a blessing in disguise, as it hastened the maturity of the rank grain so that by the middle of August the harvesting was in progress, and all felt assured of a bounteous crop of fine quality. As a natural consequence farmers began buying much more freely. Merchants gave large orders in anticipation of a lucrative trade. The banks and financial institutions gave out their funds freely, and all seemed to expect a profitable season. The fall was excellent for farm work and, unlike that of 1905, the threshing was completed before the first snow.

Grain commenced to move forward fully two weeks earlier than in the previous autumn and in an incredibly short time, nearly all the elevators in the province were full. The farmers then began to order cars and were told that all available cars were required to bring in coal. This touched a tender spot, so without much complaint we watched the coal sheds. At last, and with no true warning, it struck the people like a thunderbolt amid the noon-day sun, that we were not only up against a grain blockade, but also a coal famine as well. Wheat is our principal export, and coal our prime necessity—whatever effects the going and coming of these affects the whole commercial life of the province. We have heard a number of reasons advanced for the present congestion of traffic, but as farmers we are in no way responsible unless we produce too much wheat or use too much coal. We are not interested in the cause only in so far

as it may help us to find a remedy. The statements are made by the two leading railroad companies, namely, the C.P.R. and the C.N.R. that they have respectively fifteen million and five million dollars to put into rolling stock, but they cannot get the orders filled as the material is still in the forests and mines. These statements make us think it is useless to expect any great improvement in the near future. Railroad development within and manufacturing and commercial expansion on the outside seem unable to keep pace to the rapidity with which this western country is being transformed by its many toilers, into productive fields. Some believe that a reciprocal demurrage tax would overcome the difficulty, I am not of that opinion. It is as far as stated by the railroads, the material for rolling stock is still in the mine and forest, such a tax would scarcely help us out with the crop of 1907, for, I take it, that nothing we can do at this convention will help us with the grain in the elevator and granary. All we can do to accomplish here is to prevent a recurrence of a similar state of affairs in the years to come. But, before I put out what seems to be a partial solution of the problem, I will recall to your minds what the great teacher, experience has taught us in the marketing of grain.—The ideal way to ship wheat is to load it on cars, thus keeping it in your possession until you have the government weight and grade. Conspicuous terminal elevators, this is impossible with the present equipment, for I submit that farmers must market their grain before the next year's seeding time. They cannot afford (even if the roads did permit) to withdraw their men and teams from the farm. No one realizes more than the farmer himself that it is going to make a success of wheat growing, he must fight noxious weeds to the bitter end by a thorough cultivation.

If we cannot take the mountain to Mahomet we can at least take Mahomet to the mountain. The plan I would favor is not to market our grain brought up in various forms time after time, the object being to cover the point which seems to me so essentially vital, namely, securing government control of grade and weight in wheat in the interest of the farmer until it reaches the terminal, and from that time until it reaches the markets of the world in the interests of the reputation of the wheat of the province, and consequently, in the interests of her people as a whole. To this end I would urge the government to enact one or two laws in connection with elevators at strategic eastern points within the province. If one it should be on the C.P.R.; if two the second should be on the C.N.R. In these all grain could be properly cleaned, graded and weighed. If this is done, a change there would be no reasonable objection at least to operating expenses, interest on investment, and, if they insisted, some thing to go into the capital account. Let me state as a farmer, I would not have the slightest objection to any man or combine making a legitimate profit in buying and selling grain, but, I want the identity of that grain sustained and its reputation maintained. I strongly object to any man or corporation in the grain trade whose only stock in trade is the ignorance of the grain producer.

As to how this would work out, let us imagine that we are each 12 months older and that the government has acceded to our request—that we have erected one or more large interior elevators near the eastern boundary of this province; that we have just had another bountiful crop. I think you will agree with me that a large amount of the wheat of the province would be in these elevators direct from the farmers' hands. They would at least have been wheat cleaned weighed and graded and be in position, if they did not care to sell, to at least finance on their product. Those who did not care to use the interior terminals would find it easy to dispose of their product in the usual way at the ordinary private elevators, because the interior terminals would relieve the congestion.

Moreover, the grain in the interior terminals, being graded in from the farmers' hands, free from hospital taint, would be of a better quality than the grain found in the present terminals where much of it has passed through the mixing elevators and has been skinned to the line, not in the interest of the producer, but of the mixer. With such an arrangement, I believe we should in a short time, find that exporters have discovered the wheat from our interior elevators to be far superior in quality to that exported from our present terminals. If so, the farmers of Saskatchewan would create a distinct reputation for their grain. It would appear as a higher grade of wheat, and become a Saskatchewan No. 1 Hard. If it is not just now discussing the admitted superior quality of our Saskatchewan wheat in comparison with other wheat.

Today, farmers are short of cash, our merchants and business institutions are straining every resource to meet financial obligations. Even the banking institutions of the country have a limit and if this congestion continues to too great extent, it may be necessary to ask foreign capital to be brought in, and I should imagine the inducement would be greater with wheat freely bought, inspected, graded and under government control, than if scattered, as

REGINA WILL TAKE A LEADING PART (Continued from page 3.) And whereas a circular was issued by the central executive soliciting financial support from the sub-associations, which received a very immediate and hearty response. And whereas the said president and executive members did retain counsel to assist in the prosecution which has resulted in three members so charged under the criminal code, being sent up for trial before a higher court; Therefore, be resolved that this association endorse the action of President Hopkins and members of the executive of the Saskatchewan association as being commendable and in the best interests of the grain growers of this province.

CAMDEN Camden, Feb. 19.—Thos. Montgomery of hand car fame, has severed his connection with Sydney Bur-

geas, and has secured a more lucrative position on the C.P.R. George Edward White, better known as Micky Burke, and George McKay better known as Small Boy, will leave shortly for Bethune where they intend farming on a large scale this summer. Alex. McLean, who once farmed in this district, but now a wealthy and prosperous farmer in Newton, has purchased a township of land south of Milestone where he intends to operate a couple of steam ploughs this coming summer. He has also secured an option on 80,000 acres in the Alberta district. Sandy is full of those push and go ahead qualities, and we hope he will prosper with his new investments. Mrs. Edward Weeks who has been ill for the past week is again convalescent. Shooting dogs is a crime of every serious nature and it generally costs \$25 before the job is finished. You must remember "Andy" that one commitment: Thou shalt not kill. Mac Beckham, the well known farmer of Sandy McLean's big farm in Newton paid us a visit last week. Mac appeared to be in the best of spirits, and has completely recovered from the injuries he sustained in his recent hockey match in which he was the star player.

DISTRICT 9-R-2 A meeting of L.I.D. No. 9-R-2 was held at Pense today. Present: R. Roe (chairman), J. R. Symons, A. McRae, Jas. McAllister, B. Chapman. Minutes of last meeting read and adopted. Resolved that this council beg to call the attention of the department to the want of bridges as follows: Rocky Lake Bridge T. 16-23 between ranges 23 and 24, (2) a bridge between S 6 and 1 in T 17, 21 and 17, 22; (3) Either the present bridge thoroughly overhauled or a new one built between S 11 and 14 T 18 22 all west of 2 and that Roe, McRae and Symons be appointed to interview the deputy commissioner concerning them. The following names were submitted to the department as poundkeepers: S. Fisher, Jas. McAllister, R. Hind, W. W. Sherwood, D. Leslie, C. Tate.

COURT Alberta Division Court

With the opening of the provincial court the proposed new particular important. The new courts are similar to that now in operation here. In the up session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the spring session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the summer session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the fall session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the winter session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the spring session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the summer session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the fall session the court will be held at Vermilion. In the winter session the court will be held at Vermilion.

NOT A SINGLE APPLICANT HAS EVER BEEN REFUSED ADMISSION TO THE MUSKOKA FREE HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTIVES BECAUSE OF HIS OR HER POVERTY. FORWARD STEP IN THE INTERESTS OF Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives. The National Sanitarium Association of Canada has undertaken to publish a monthly magazine devoted to the Outdoor Treatment of Tuberculosis, and the inculcation of Hygienic Methods of Living for the people generally. The first number was issued in November, 1906. All profits from this magazine—from subscriptions and advertising—will go to the maintenance of patients at the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives. Any one contributing one dollar a year, or more, to the funds of the Hospital will become a subscriber to CANADIAN OUT-DOOR LIFE for one year.

No Father, No Mother, No Home—Worse Than a Prisoner. An Orphan, without Home or Means. Dr. A. E. Hanna, Perth: I have a patient here, a young fellow in whom I am greatly interested. He has tuberculosis. He is a poor young fellow, an orphan, out of home, without any means. If we sent him up would you take him in and do the best you can for him? I know how difficult it is to accommodate all who require treatment, but this is a special case. DO IT NOW! Is a business motto of this strenuous age that applies with tremendous force when it is a good act you should do. DO IT NOW! Mr. Cross did not act as perfect, but that the government's attention to the bill was able to deal with any arose. District court deal with all cases up government believing to divide the work equal district courts and the new high court of judicial districts instead formerly. In one respect the would be welcome. In of the Empire there tion in the work that

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Verdict OF THE Client Those who have appreciated the service the architect has rendered are now living in homes which cost no more to build, contain no more lumber, plaster or other materials than others which do not possess that indescribable something, called art.

W. W. La Chance ARCHITECT ROOM 1, BLACK BLOCK Alexander Law, Local Manager

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FOR SMALL In a country situated and filling up so rapidly small debt proceed little use. In the speaker, the provision of small debts was part of the act. The bill was to inaugurate which judges would the country, to make easy and as cheap as present the expense of trial was almost men in Edmonton. Edmonton for his work handed over the sheet to be served by him must then be tried in was to do away with bill was introduced. As far as population, ed, said Mr. Cross, it entitled to tax judges gard to area. Many provinces had a judge 000 population, and did not think they much of the Dominion when they asked for 185,000 people. Do exist for a purpose functions. One was to where the case was claim; the other when disputes. To try these was necessary for the should have plenty of all the arguments; the esary to have a sufficient. FIVE JUDICIAL I Mr. Cross did not act as perfect, but that the government's attention to the bill was able to deal with any arose. District court deal with all cases up government believing to divide the work equal district courts and the new high court of judicial districts instead formerly. In one respect the would be welcome. In of the Empire there tion in the work that