

doesn't care into which pocket the revenue goes. In other words, it does not make any difference whether he drops money on the grain and gets the freight receipts, or cuts the freight rate in order to give a higher price for the grain. In either case he is putting money in his pocket, if he can get the wheat travelling over his lines. He could hustle the cars wherever wanted and in this way was in better position to pay a higher price.

Evidently the Editor's informer was in the "know" as to the community of interest that sometimes exists between the railroads and the elevator officials. Were it possible to scrutinize the dividend bearing certificates of the "interests" employed in handling our grain, an explanation of some things that are difficult for the average mind to understand, might be forthcoming.

But to the grain grower, the most interesting part of the "Banner's" article is the following:

"But the story does not end yet, as the situation on the G.N. has reflected on the Elgin market, causing a rise in price. Elgin and Minto markets are now on an equal footing, the same prices being paid.

"The buyers here made representations to their companies that unless something was done, 40 to 60 per cent. of the wheat that should come to Elgin would go to the G.N. At any rate "something" was done, for on Wednesday last street price jumped up 6 cents, in spite of the fact that the market only advanced 2c. Track price also advanced a little every day until now the prices paid are equal to G.N. prices."

The farmers who market their wheat at Elgin get 6c. a bushel more for it because they are within eleven miles of the Great Northern Railway. The business interests of Elgin have 6 cents a bushel more for the wheat marketed there, distributed amongst them, which last year amounted to one-quarter million bushels, that would otherwise go to fatten the coffers of men who perform no useful function in human economy.

THE INTERPROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Office of the Inter-Provincial Council,

Calgary, Alta., Oct. 31st, 1908.

Mr. R. McKenzie,

Brandon, Man.

Dear Mr. McKenzie,—As I wired you on Oct. 28th, Premier Rutherford could not attend on the 3rd, and I am sorry to say that neither of the other Premiers could attend on the 9th, which is the earliest date that would suit Premier Rutherford. Mr. Roblin is leaving Winnipeg on the 6th, and does not expect to get back until the latter part of the month, so I am endeavoring to call the meeting for Tuesday, Nov. 24th.

I am wondering if it would not be a good idea to have the Ministers of Agriculture of the different provinces attend, as well as the Premiers. Of course, in this connection I know it would make no difference with Manitoba, as Premier Roblin is also Minister of Agriculture. Let me hear from you regarding whether you think it wise to have the Ministers of Agriculture attend or not.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) M. D. GEDDES

Secretary.

Early in June, Premier Scott of Saskatchewan called a conference of the Premiers of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, for the 29th of that month, which had to be postponed on account of the absence of Premier Roblin of Manitoba from the Province. The efforts of the Secretary of the Interprovincial Council to secure the meeting of the Conference since the postponement has met with failure from one cause or another.

No doubt our Premiers are busy men and lead the "strenuous life," but one would naturally expect that they could find an opportunity in FIVE MONTHS to confer with the Executive of the Grain Growers' Associations of the three Provinces on the best system of mar-

keting the staple product on which the country depends for its prosperity.

Speaker Cannon, of the United States Congress, curtly advised a delegation representing the United States farmers, which waited on the United States Minister of Agriculture last spring, for the purpose of having a change made in their system of grading wheat, "To go home and create sentiment. Evidently our Premiers tacitly give the Grain Growers' similar advice.

MINTO'S MIND

At a recent meeting of the Minto Grain Growers' Association the following resolution was unanimously passed, moved by John Scott, seconded by Walter Poffle:

That we, the Minto Grain Growers, heartily endorse the action of our central executive in urging the Dominion and Provincial Governments to inaugurate a system of government owned and operated terminal and line elevators, and we hope they will persevere until success crowns their efforts.

There is an inexpressible charm to care-worn age in the hopes which can never more be its own, and the illusions which can never again lend a grace to existence. It is memory that makes the old indulgent to the young.

R. A. BONNAR

T. L. HARTLEY

W. THORNBURN

BONNAR HARTLEY & THORNBURN BARRISTERS, ETC.

P. O. Box 223
Telephone 766

OFFICES:
SUITE 7 NANTON BLOCK
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