

CANADA MUSTERS HER MANHOOD



FOR the war against hunger as well as for the war against the Hun. For every Canadian fighting overseas, at least two on farms at home are serving none the less effectively because they wear neither uniforms nor marks of rank or valour.

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Regulating Wheat Trade

Last week the Canadian Council of Agriculture held a special meeting in Winnipeg for the purpose of conferring with the Board of Grain Supervisors on a number of questions in connection with handling the wheat crop of 1918. The Board of Supervisors made a special request of the council to consider all phases of the question and present recommendations. After careful consideration the council made recommendations on the following points:—

1. That the Board of Supervisors should co-operate with the American authorities and also should use the existing organizations in Canada for handling grain as far as it was necessary and possible.

2. The council recommended that the board should continue the system of a fixed and flat price for wheat rather than a sliding scale. The flat price was recommended because it eliminated all speculation.

3. The council recommended that the provision for carrying charges on grain in country elevators should be extended to cover farmers' grain, special binned, in country elevators.

4. Another recommendation was that the Board of Supervisors should be given power to fix the price of flour so as to establish a proper relationship with the price of wheat and to protect the interests of the consumer.

Uniform Street Prices

5. The council also recommended that all country elevator operators be required to file with the board an official price list on street wheat and to maintain this price list at all their elevators. This was recommended because it has been found that some elevator companies are discriminating in the prices they are paying for wheat and it was felt advisable that the price should be the same everywhere.

6. The council recommended that the Board of Supervisors should consider fixing a minimum price for the 1919 wheat crop in order to encourage greater production and the breaking of new land this spring. The board in return asked the council to suggest a figure for a minimum price for 1919. After due consideration, however, the council decided it would be unwise for them to name any figure and preferred to leave the responsibility with the Board of Grain Supervisors.

7. When fixing the price for the 1918 crop the council recommended that the board should give careful consideration both to the interests of the producer and the consumer. They also suggested that in view of the increase in freight rates the board should make an extra allowance of two cents per bushel, which is the amount of the increase. Finally the board announced that the price for the 1918 crop would be the same as for the 1917 crop.

Stop Oat Speculation

8. In order to correct the oats and barley market the council recommended that the Board of Supervisors should consider some means of controlling the prices on all coarse grains. This is a more difficult matter than controlling the price of wheat, because there is not the export demand for the coarse grains and the Board of Supervisors made no promise in regard to the price of coarse grains. The council pointed out that there had been a great deal of speculation in the coarse grains last year. Farmers had sold in the fall at moderate prices and after the grain had passed out of the farmer's hands there had been an increase as high as 20 cents a bushel and even more which all went to the dealer.

At the request of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange the Canadian Council of Agriculture held a conference with the executive committee of the exchange on grain act amendments. It was found that most of the amendments recommended by the organized farmers were acceptable to the exchange. On some of the amendments however, there was a difference of opinion and these were given very careful discussion but were not all agreed upon.



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