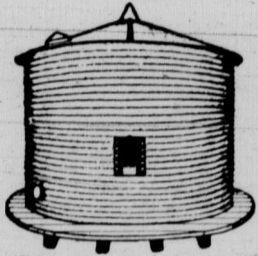


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Canadian Council Meeting

The Canadian Council of Agriculture met in Winnipeg on July 17. The entire day was occupied with council business. There were present: E. J. Fream, representing the United Farmers of Alberta; Messrs. J. A. Maharg and J. B. Musselman, of Moose Jaw; A. G. Hawkes, of Percival; Thos. Sales, of Langham, and J. F. Reid, of Oreadia, representing the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association; Messrs. R. C. Henders, of Culross; Peter Wright, of Myrtle; J. S. Wood, of Oakville, and R. McKenzie, representing the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. C. A. Dunning, Regina; T. A. Crerar and G. F. Chipman, Winnipeg, were present as honorary members. J. A. Maharg, president, was in the chair, and R. McKenzie acted as secretary. The secretary read the following telegram from Mr. J. J. Morrison, secretary of the United Farmers of Ontario: "Ontario will not be represented at the meeting of the Council, have faith in what will be done. Pledge support to extent of our ability. Agricultural conditions call for strong action compatible with our dignity."

Co-operative Act Needed

A spirited discussion took place on the difficulty in getting the Dominion Government to pass a co-operative act. On motion of Messrs. R. C. Henders and Peter Wright, the secretaries of each of the affiliated associations were ap-

lengthy discussion the following resolution expressing the views of the Canadian Council of Agriculture on the matter was unanimously agreed to:

"That while we regret the rise in ocean freight rates between Canada and the ports of the United Kingdom, we believe that the remedy asked for by the Dominion Millers' Association (which is a government owned line of steamers), would not relieve the situation. We further believe that this evil would be largely alleviated by the opening up to the market to the south of us for our grain and other farm produce so that, if the occasion required, a considerable quantity of our grain could be shipped by that route."

Working Together

Another resolution from the United Farmers of Alberta, suggesting the formation of a federated board composed of representatives of the different Grain Growers' Associations, the Saskatchewan and Alberta Elevator Companies and the Grain Growers' Grain Company was presented. After viewing the question from different view points the Council passed the following resolution:

"That this board expresses their sympathy with the suggestion made by the United Farmers of Alberta in this regard, and if, on further consideration, it will be ascertained that the Canadian Council of Agriculture will not serve the purpose intended, that we approve of the formation of such a board."

To Improve Wheat Prices

The question of how best to overcome the depression in prices of grain caused by the practice of marketing a large portion of the crop in the fall of the year was considered. Many of the members held the view that the solution of the problem rested on the farmers being granted advances on their grain on the farm to enable them to meet liabilities maturing before the closing of navigation. The following resolution was passed:

"In view of the depression in the price of grain and the congestion of traffic caused by the rush of grain to the market before the close of navigation, the secretary be instructed to take what steps appear most feasible to secure the co-operation of the banks, financial institutions and commercial interests to assist the farmers to carry a portion of their crop so as to distribute the marketing of grain more evenly over the crop year, and, further, that we urge the growers as far as practical, to provide storage for grain on the farm (as grain can be carried more cheaply on the farm than any other place), and arrange for advances to pay liabilities incurred in producing the crop, if found necessary."

The whole of the evening session was taken up with the discussion of the proposed amendments to the Grain Act as submitted to the different Grain Growers' Associations by the Canada Grain Commission. A committee composed of representatives from the different associations was appointed to meet the board of grain commissioners in Winnipeg on the 24th inst., and present the views of the Canadian Council of Agriculture on those proposed amendments.

BIRDS KILL WEEDS

Not only do birds destroy insect pests, but they contribute to the destruction of weeds. Certain species of our native sparrows are large consumers of such weed seeds as bindweed, lamb's quarters, ragweed, amaranth, pigeon grass, etc. Judd records the result of the examination of over 4,000 stomachs of twenty species of sparrows. It was found that for the entire year weed seeds form more than half their food, and during the colder months of the year these seeds constitute about four-fifths of the food of many species. A single bird will often be found to have eaten 300 seeds of pigeon grass or 500 seeds of lamb's quarters or pigweed. Real estimated that the tree sparrow may consume one-quarter ounce of weed seed per day, and on that basis, in a state the size of Iowa, this species would consume about 800 tons of seeds annually. —The Protection of Birds, by C. Gordon Hewitt, D.Sc.



WHITE SWEET-CLOVER (Millotus Alba)
Specimen of weed dealt with in last week's Guide

pointed a committee to draft a Co-operative Bill and submit the same to the next meeting of the Council.

The secretary submitted a lengthy correspondence to the Council from the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association respecting a conference between representatives of the Manufacturers Association and the Canadian Council of Agriculture. E. J. Fream, who was acting on behalf of the Council, reported that his last letter to the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association respecting this matter, under date of February 25, still remains unanswered, and that apparently negotiations in the matter have ceased.

Ocean Freight Rates

A communication from the secretary of the United Farmers of Alberta, enclosing a resolution indicating the attitude of the United Farmers of Alberta toward the request of the Dominion Millers' Association to the Dominion Government for a government owned line of freight steamers for carrying freight from Canada to Great Britain was presented to the board. After a

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