

September in each year and should be attached to each of the debentures representing the payments of interest.

Important Resolutions Discussed at Convention

(Continued from page 8.)

should not take away their hard earned taxes. The second dwelt upon the same lines. The secretary of 624 Saskatchewan was troubled with three quarter sections in the same position.

Mr. Cameron objected to it, and another delegate thought it was doing a hardship to a newcomer to take up what another man had incurred. R. S. Cook suggested that the question be laid over for a time. This was carried.

Public Ownership

No. 15 came up next, and a discussion, which was not nearly over when the meeting adjourned, started. The resolution read:

"That this convention places itself on record as being strongly in favor of government control and operated terminal elevators, and also a system of government owned and operated internal storage elevators at initial points where the grain would be both weighed and graded by government officials."

H. O. Partridge, in moving, referred to the importance of the resolution, and said that he was entirely tired of the elevator monopoly. The grain get had helped them a little, but they were still in the thrall of a monopoly.

They were not satisfied with the arrangements at present existing in Fort William. He instanced conditions found at Duluth by enquiry, and proved that lower grades of wheat were never shipped out. This has also occurred at Fort William. The royal grain commission might have gone into this question, but it did not for various reasons. He referred to the complaints from Ontario regarding feed wheat, and produced samples of same. The speaker went on to say that there was dissatisfaction with the weights at Ft. William. He quoted instances of discrepancies, from the farmers' elevator at Sinitulata.

Their idea was to have storage capacity at initial points. This was the only way by which farmers could store wheat when they wanted, that is, during the winter. They would thus know it was properly housed. The grain then would be officially weighed and inspected before it left the farmers' hands so to speak. A grader or weighman would be put on at every point. This would give the farmers screenings which would be a great advantage. His scheme was provincial government owned elevators at internal points; let the federal government provide a weighman and grader. Let the operator preserve a sample of every load, and send keep record of what was loaded. A delegate here told of an experience he had with 2 feed sent to Ontario.

Mr. Green, mover of a resolution along the same lines, withdrew his, and suggested both be dealt with at the same time.

Sample Market

A. Quigley, in seconding, did not propose to take up much time. He did not propose to touch upon the details being large. He felt that the underlying principles were broad enough. Regarding the terminal elevators, he thought all should be under the control of the Dominion government. Regarding the internal elevators the feeling was different, but he did not see it. The same reason, however, applied to both with equal force. The question of a sample market was the true solution of a great many of these difficulties. He dwelt upon the advantages according to the farmer from selling by sample. To get a proper sample market, one must, have government ownership of elevators.

A firm of Toronto millers thought of establishing a mill at Fort William, but when they found that they could not buy street wheat they gave it up as a mill which could buy wheat at street prices got a difference of six cents in the price.

It was said that a sample market would not work because there were no mills in Winnipeg. He felt that a sample market would bring out mills. As it was the mills almost bought wheat on sample. To get a proper sample market the line elevator system must be done away with.

Mr. Cameron, of Floral, quoted the B. and F. Farmers' Advocate in support of his contention to the effect that the Egyptians had government owned elevators in the time of Joseph. If the government owned the elevators the farmers would have some control, if they didn't like the government they could turn them out. They wanted no middlemen. Let them be practical and vote solid for a resolution.

Royal Commission

John Millar replied to the contentions of the mover that the royal commission did not look into the question of weights at the terminal elevators. They found discrepancies between the weights at Fort William and the lake ports. Between Fort William and Buffalo there was a shortage of over 5,000 bushels, or 28 pounds per 1000 bushels on the average. For that reason the commission had recommended the entire control of the grain between Fort William and the seaboard, so far as the weighing and binning was concerned to be placed in the hands of the government. There would be too much expense in the purchase of the

terminal elevators, and so they recommended that the government take control of the elevators only. Regarding the spread between track and street prices, Mr. Millar explained the margin of profit by the elevator company. He also went into the question of the exporter's profit. He next dealt with the question of a sample market, which he claimed, had been lowered by the government, and that the only value it would be to lower the grades.

F. W. Green, rising to a point of order, suggested that the discussion be confined to the motion.

James Small supported the resolution on the ground that the grades were being tampered with at the terminals.

E. A. Partridge said the question simply amounts to whether the farmer was getting full value for his grain or not. He dwelt upon the difference in price and grade between Canadian wheat and American wheat.

There was no question that the profits of the milling company were large. He then went on to deal with the light weights, heavy dockage, and general unfair treatment accorded the farmer. The result was that the trade had got into a few hands, and they had found a combine which it was their duty to break (Applause).

It was the function of a government to do these things, which an individual was not powerful enough to do for himself.

He instanced what had happened in the conduct of the Grain Growers' Grain Company. They had found that there could be no real competition in the grain trade. They were brow-beaten by bankers, railroad companies, and exporters. The provincial or federal operation of elevators was the only relief. He invited all who were in favor of some form of public ownership to stand up. Everybody in the room stood up. He then proceeded to deal with the advantages of a provincial operated system. A sample market was a first principle. He dealt with the present conditions and went on to mention the advantages coming from a good weigher and grader in the primary elevators.

At this point the president suggested that an adjournment should be made until 1:30. The next meeting to be in the Presbyterian church. He announced there were 117 delegates present, which guaranteed a free ride home.

Afternoon Meeting

The meeting in the afternoon was held in the Presbyterian church, and when proceedings opened the church was almost full to the doors. The first item was the reading of a couple of communications to the president, one from Levi Thompson and the other from Hon. W. R. Mott, who regretted he had to leave before the convention was over.

Mr. Stevens, secretary of the Alberta convention was then introduced to the convention. He explained that the Alberta convention was not very familiar with the questions under discussion, and he was about to be a listener and not a lecturer. However, during the afternoon the Alberta secretary gave the convention some good sound sense.

E. A. Partridge then resumed the discussion of the resolution of government control of elevators. The advantages of provincial control was that one could impress one's views on the provincial government direct. Another would be that sixty-five per cent of the storable product could be accommodated by this means. This would enable the domestic millers to obtain a regular supply. A sample market must be instituted; in this way all kinds of wheat could be placed side by side, so that western Ontario and old country millers could be side by side. 'Street' wheat was eliminated and the farmer would save the profits made by the line companies. Redress from transportation companies could not be looked for. His idea was to have several wagon loads of wheat the operator called one grade put into one bin and have one thousand bushels sent forward and sold on sample, returning the proceeds to the farmer less charges. The farmer would fix on the cleaning percentage of his own wheat, and he would get his screenings back. As each load came in a small sample would be kept and the grade of each car would be made from such a sample. The farmer would get a grade and weight certificate and could get an advance on his wheat. The cost of the system was urged as an objection, but it was nothing to what the farmer was losing under the present system. The mills didn't keep to grades; they classified their wheat according to milling tests. This was another argument for a sample market. There should also be a having test made in Winnipeg so that value could be established. Mr. Partridge who had been speaking for some two hours, resumed his seat amid applause.

Another Plan

F. W. Green, of Moose Jaw, wished to propose an amendment to the motion. The question of government ownership had been spoken of a considerable time but nothing more than a resolution had been passed. The representatives of the three provinces and the Grain Growers Grain Company were present and there was a chance to discuss this question fully. But he was sure of one point, and that there was no advantage from a provincial system. He moved as an

amendment that this convention pledge itself to a system of Dominion owned and operated terminal elevators and interior elevators at strategic points.

His main objection to the Partridge scheme was that it wanted interior elevators at initial points. He was sure that the loading platform scheme was better and that in a few years no one would be loading through elevators and paying \$17.50 when he could load over a platform at a charge of \$2. His belief was that the Dominion government would be just as amenable to suggestions as the provincial governments. There must be central agency to whom grain growers could apply, and who would in turn be responsible to them. His proposal was that the government should borrow a sum of money on its own security to handle the crops, and then the grain could be marketed at cost.

The ideas in common between the two schemes were: (1) That hurried marketing of grain was wrong. (2) There must be a Dominion control of terminals.

He believed the sample system was right in spots, but he thought that the scheme was of no necessity of being so elaborate. He went on to speak of the advantages of the platform loading system as opposed to the elevator part of Partridge's scheme. He was certain of his own wheat when loaded over the platform but when it went through an elevator it might get mixed or spoiled.

He ridiculed the locker sample keeping scheme. The impracticability of the scheme seemed to be in the conglomeration of controlling interests. The three provincial governments, the farmers' bank and the Dominion government. He went exhaustively into his scheme of an elevator at strategic points, and answered several questions.

J. A. Mahara, seconded Mr. Green's amendment. He felt they needed faith, right and fair play to succeed in any proposition. They must be fair to all parties concerned. One scheme eliminates political corruption; another point is the screening. Following came the platform system. He dwelt upon the importance of the platform to the farmer, and claimed that the elevator system was not an accurate system.

Mr. Stevens was accorded the privileges of the convention and explained the views of the delegates he represented. He explained that Alberta was bound to a scheme of Dominion government terminal elevators and a provincial system of internal elevators. His own personal view was that Mr. Green was speaking too much of a farmer who lived near the depot. The Alberta delegation were there to look after the interests of the small farmer.

Mr. Rathwell wanted a sample market, and felt that the schemes were elaborate and a little beyond bounds. His arguments were soundly in favor of conservatism and no hasty motions. Regarding the motions before the convention he felt that the word owner should be struck out as being impracticable, and that control would be more feasible.

B. H. Thompson felt that everyone was in favor of some government ownership. He felt that there were defects in both schemes before the meeting. He explained lucidly his view of both schemes.

Manitoba Schemes

D. W. McQuigg said that the interest of the association is to promote the greatest good to the greatest number. But Mr. Green's scheme contained a double expense in handling, and there would be missed the grain survey which at present can be had.

In Mr. Partridge's scheme this would be done away with, but no scheme proposed to do away with the loading platform as he saw it. At present 15 per cent only was loaded over the platform, according to Wm. Whyte. Last summer F. W. Peters said it was 5 per cent. As a fact at present very few of those who load over platforms have any kick coming on present conditions. It was only those who shipped through elevators who needed any help.

Mr. McKenzie, of the Manitoba convention, said that 15 per cent of wheat was loaded over the platform and 27 per cent through the elevators and shipped for account of the farmers. The scheme that appealed to him was that of the provincial ownership and control of the elevators. The total elevators in Manitoba could be acquired for \$2,500,000, just as the Bell telephone system had been, and bonds could be issued for it.

Mr. Fletcher of Alberta, said that the farmers of his province were in favor of government ownership of elevators. But they did not know enough details to go into the question. He was sorry that Manitoba and Alberta delegates had been allowed to speak. He thought their speeches had influenced the meeting unduly. Their time was to come on Saturday at the joint convention.

F. W. Green said that he had no object other than to do the best for the poor man.

Mr. Henders, vice president of the Manitoba association, said he thought all three provinces were one in the thought they were doing the best for the whole west. He dwelt upon the expense of Mr. Green's scheme.

A. McEwan read a letter from Jan. Scallion and said it was a pity the convention could not vote on a broad motion without committing anyone to details.

E. A. Partridge now moved his resolution which, in view of the fact that H. O. Partridge, withdrew the first motion, became the principal resolution before the convention. It read as follows, and carried practically unanimously.

"That this convention places itself on record as being strongly in favor of Dominion government owned and operated terminal elevators, and also a system of provincial government owned and operated internal storage elevators at initial points, where the grain would be both weighed and graded through government agency, with provision for creating a sample market at Winnipeg."

Milling Tests
Resolution No. 13 was moved by A. G. Hawkes. It dealt with the milling tests of wheat. It was supported by E. A. Partridge, but opposed by Geo. Langley in a short but very pointed speech. John Millar read some tests and showed the relative value of 1 northern, 1 hard and 2 northern for milling purposes, the northern being 1 hard 94; 1 northern 90; 2 northern 90; 3 northern 82; 4 northern 82; 5 northern 78; 6 northern 75. The resolution carried as follows:

"Resolved that we request the provincial government to have milling and baking tests made from year to year of samples of our grades of wheat. Be it further resolved that whereas our present system of grading is unfair, and that there is opportunity for unjust discrimination in the grading, we recommend the appointment of a committee to look into the advisability of subjecting our wheat to a chemical, mechanical and milling test to determine the relative intrinsic value thereof."

Hall Question Again
R. W. Caswell reintroduced the question of hall insurance. He characterized the former resolution as railroaded through. He moved that the resolution regarding the taxation of hall insurance passed yesterday be rescinded. This carried.

A. G. Hawkes moved that "we are in favor of the principal of compulsory hall insurance." An amendment was moved that the question be laid over, which R. W. Caswell supported in a short speech. A close vote ended in the carrying of the compulsory clause by 56 to 50.

Snow on the Strand
For the last hour an acrimonious discussion took place in which Mr. Snow of the warehouse commissioner's office, was involved, dealing with loading platforms. The discussion arose out of a motion by Mr. Sheppard of Weyburn, dealing with that topic. Mr. Snow was severely and almost insultingly criticized on account of the failure of the commissioner to take legal action against the railways which do not put in loading platforms when asked for by him within a reasonable time. The resolution finally carried on the lines that the warehouse commissioner be ordered to compel the railroad companies to put in loading platforms at such points where 200,000 bushels have been shipped the season previous for four cars, and for each succeeding 200,000 bushels accommodation for two more cars.

This concluded the business for the afternoon, and an adjournment was made till next morning.

In the evening the delegates were entertained at a banquet by the city.

Last Day
Friday, Feb. 14—About the only work done today was the election of officers, and the selecting of the next place of meeting.

The day's proceedings opened with the reading of the secretary's report which showed the funds on hand to be \$1,059. The receipts were \$2,846, which included \$1,127 brought forward, and \$500 government grant. Ninety new sub-associations were formed, and the membership was 1,961.

Officers for 1908
The next business was the election of officers. This resulted in the choice of E. N. Hopkins, of Moose Jaw, being once more elected president, and P. M. Gates, Fillmore, being elected vice president. There was a hot fight for the executive. Some sixteen names were proposed and voted on, and finally the following were elected: Geo. Langley, M. L. A., Mayor; E. A. Partridge, Sinitulata; F. W. Green, Moose Jaw; R. S. Cook, Prince Albert; A. G. Hawkes, Broadview; A. Knox, Collector, R. W. Caswell, Saskatoon; H. Mooney, Weyburn; F. Noble, Okanow.

Weyburn Next
Whilst the ballots were being counted the next meeting place was decided. R. S. Cook, as mayor of Prince Albert, extended a hearty invitation to the northern city. In this he was supported by A. Knox and A. MacEwan, the latter urging that in as much as the convention was mainly engaged in missionary work, and that the south knew this pretty well, he thought it only fair, having once come north, to come back again next year, and not look as though they were disgusted. The Weyburn delegates urged the claims of their town, and were supported in this by R. W. Caswell, who thought it was tactically agreed at the last session but one that Saskatoon was to have the year following, and Weyburn the one after. Geo. Langley suggested Regina as being the most central point, and a vote being taken resulted in Weyburn getting the convention, the votes be-

ing Weyburn, 50; Prince Albert, 29; Regina 25.

Grading by Weight
Matters became somewhat confused at this point, and when order was finally restored, by Vice-President Gates, who was in the chair, a resolution was brought in urging that the grades be fixed by weight rather than by the present method. The mover had samples of Minneapolis 1 northern, which he showed was plainly inferior to ours. He claimed that the farmer was being done out of the difference. A delegate from Estevan spoke warmly on the same lines, as did another from Hanley. John Millar from Indian Head, and the royal grain commission, explained a good deal. He told the astonished audience that Minnesota and Dakota wheat was harder than northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan wheat. This was received with apparent incredulity, and the speaker was bombarded with questions.

The motion was finally referred to the executive committee. Another delegate brought up the question of shipping of storage wheat out of elevators by the line companies without the farmers' instructions, and his motion was referred to the executive on the understanding that the royal grain commission report dealt with the question. This concluded the business of the convention.

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appetite, pains in the limbs and side. I tried several medicines, but they did not help me. My condition was growing worse and a general breakdown threatened. I slept poorly at night and lost in weight, and began to fear that I was drifting into a chronic invalidism. One day while reading a newspaper I was attracted by the statement of a fellow sufferer who had been cured through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I had spent much money without getting relief, and I hated to spend more, but the cure was so convincing that I decided to give these pills a trial. I am now more than thankful that I did so. After the first couple of weeks they began to help me, and in seven weeks after I began the pills I was as well as ever I had been. I am now convinced that had I tried Dr. Williams' Pink Pills at the outset I would not only have been spared much suffering, but would have saved money as well.

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Reindeer in Labrador
Dr. Grenfell is making some sort of effort to introduce reindeer into Labrador. What good will this do if he succeeds?

The difficulty in regard to life in Labrador and Newfoundland in the past has been that the people were too dependent upon one industry—fishing. The present governor of Newfoundland is making strong and partially successful efforts to develop agriculture in that island. The building of a railway has opened up timber areas, while the demand for pulp wood for printing, paper has caused the building of two very large pulp and paper mills. Thus Newfoundland is progressing. Dr. Grenfell has developed the lumber industry in Labrador and northern Newfoundland, and this has been of great help to the people. Agriculture as generally understood is not possible in many parts of Labrador, but stock raising is possible, if it could once be started. It has been checked at the very beginning, however, by the fact that

the only best burden in Labrador is the Eskimo dog, which is a direct and recent descendant of the wolf. These dogs virtually terrorize a great part of the population of Labrador. They eat everything in the form of flesh, fish, grease or leather, and nearly every winter they attack human beings, particularly children, and in some cases kill them. To keep live stock where dogs are retainable is impossible. They live on the sustenance. They have been tolerated as a necessary evil because they are required to draw fuel in winter. Dr. Grenfell believes that if he can replace dogs with reindeer he will have given the people an animal, which lives on moss which man cannot eat, and that this animal will be docile, and useful as a beast of burden, and a provider of meat, milk and deer skin clothing. The reindeer has been successfully introduced into Alaska by the United States government to the immense benefit of the natives. The tests that have been made show that the mosses of Labrador are suitable for reindeer feed, so that everything points to a successful issue to the experiment in Labrador. Three hundred reindeer have been successfully landed at St. Anthony.

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TORONTO'S POOR
Incomers from Great Britain Suffering Intensely—Private and Civic Aid.
Poverty in Toronto is much greater this year than for many years past. Probably at no previous time were so many people suffering, and suffering so intensely as at present. During the past two years there has been a heavy immigration into Ontario, chiefly from Great Britain. Many came out to farm, but were unsuited to it or were discharged at the beginning of winter, and came into the city to look for work. These with artisans who came out last autumn under false hopes, along with those returned from the railway camps, swelled the ranks of the unemployed. It has been impossible for newcomers to rent small houses in Toronto. Some have rented one or two rooms in a house, while others have made a \$5 or \$10 payment on a lot in the outskirts, and built out of old lumber, old boxes, tin and paper little shacks. These sufficed fairly well in mid weather, but with the recent cold spell, the coldest in twelve or fifteen years, the sufferings of these people has been intense. The financial panic in New York last fall and the consequent slowing up of industry was first felt in the falling off in building operations in Toronto. This reduced greatly the amount of unskilled labor required, and brought the shanty-dwellers and room-dwellers face to face with starvation. Other towns have some of it, but Toronto has most, because most of these new-comers either stayed at the first destination in Canada, or flocked back to the place from which they were distributed. The city council has endeavored to provide relief work but the winter season and especially this intensely cold period has prevented much being done. Private aid has begun to come in, in the shape of gifts of money, food, fuel and clothing, so that it is hoped, by a united effort on the part of the charitably disposed to tide these people over till the opening up of the spring brings work for the bread-winners. The case of grown men and women is bad enough, but those who are suffering most are the little children, the babies and the mothers, who are in no wise responsible for their plight and who cannot get about to make their wants known. If they are not to starve and suffer they must be sought out and assisted.

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