

sioners in its said judgment holds that the Railway Act permits discrimination between localities under certain conditions;

"Therefore he it resolved, that while the Winnipeg Board of Trade welcomes the reductions ordered by the Board of Railway Commissioners which slightly lessen the disparity between freight rates charged in Eastern and Western Canada, this Board emphatically protests against the discrimination which still remains between rates ordered by the Commissioners for the carriage of freight in Western Canada and the rates charged for similar service in Eastern Canada; and

"Be it further resolved, that the Winnipeg Board of Trade reiterates the position it has always taken, viz., that no basis of freight rates will be fair, just and equitable to the people of Western Canada which permits of higher rates being charged for the carriage of freight in Western Canada than is charged for like service in Eastern Canada (except in so far as cost of performing the service may be greater), and this Board respectfully urges the Government of Canada to effect such a change in the Railway Act, when the present contemplated revision of the act is made, as will embody the principle of equality which this Board has always advocated and maintained."

In the discussion preceding the adoption of this resolution, it was stated very clearly that the Railway Commission had not given justice to Western Canada and it was felt that the principle of equality should be laid down by legislation and not left to the discretion of the Railway Commission. The spirit of this resolution will be approved generally thruout Western Canada, as the people of the Prairie Provinces are not satisfied to accept the stamp of inferiority quietly even tho it may be applied by such an august body as the Railway Commission.

A MAN OF PRINCIPLE

The public life of Canada has lost one of its most striking personalities by the death, which occurred on Friday last, of Hon. F. D. Monk, K.C., D.C.L., ex-M.P. for Jacques Cartier, Quebec, and for a short time Minister of Public Works in the Borden Government. Mr. Monk was one of the leading figures in the political life of the province of Quebec for many years, and had the distinction of being one of the very few Canadian statesmen who have resigned their places in the Government rather than sacrifice a principle. Mr. Monk, together with the other Conservative leaders in Quebec, promised the people of that province at the last general election, that if Mr. Borden was placed in power his naval policy would be submitted to the people before action was taken, and when Mr. Borden asked Parliament to sanction a grant of \$35,000,000 to the British Admiralty without the consent of the people, Mr. Monk at once gave up his position as Minister of Public Works, and the salary of \$7,000 a year which went with that office. Mr. Monk was at that time in poor health, and a few months ago resigned his seat in Parliament because of his sickness. The deceased was a man of high intellectual attainments and was Professor of Constitutional Law at Laval University. On his father's side he was of English descent, while his mother was of the French race. Mr. Monk was 58 years of age.

COMMERCE AND EDUCATION

When the western farmers, thirteen years ago, began their agitation for improvements in the grain trade, one of their chief handicaps was the lack of finances to carry on their educational work. They soon realized that the only effective means of improving the grain trade was by going into it themselves and marketing their own grain thru their own agency. The spirit of determination, which has characterized the western farmers' organization from the beginning, brought The Grain Growers' Grain Company into existence eight years ago. This pioneer farmers' grain company was a wonderful success from its inception, and thru its

operations the grain trade has been practically revolutionized, and, tho the farmers are not today securing the full market value for their grain, conditions have vastly improved and will continue to improve until in the future practically all the farmers' grain in the West will be marketed thru their own agencies, and full returns thus be secured for their labors. But aside from the improved conditions in the grain trade, The Grain Growers' Grain Company aided in the solution of another mighty problem. After paying the highest market price for purchased grain and securing only the regular one cent per bushel on commission grain, The Grain Growers' Grain Company after paying all expenses has realized a handsome profit each year. As these profits accumulated the shareholders of the company wisely decided that a part of this money should be used for educational work, and, by resolution of the annual meeting four years ago, the Board of Directors was instructed to set aside \$25,000 for educational work that year. The same policy has been adopted by the company each year since. A part of the educational fund of the company was used to assist the associations of the three provinces in the establishment and publication of their official organ, The Grain Growers' Guide. But for this assistance it would have been impossible to build up a paper absolutely free from political and capitalistic influence. Another part of the educational fund of The Grain Growers' Grain Company was devoted to direct grants to the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the United Farmers of Alberta. A few days ago The Grain Growers' Grain Company sent a check for \$1,000 to each of these associations, making a total of over \$25,000 in direct grants to these three associations in the past five years. This financial assistance to the associations has enabled them to prosecute their work more vigorously and to bring an ever-increasing number of farmers into their ranks. In forwarding the checks to the associations T. A. Crerar, president of The Grain Growers' Grain Company, wrote as follows:

"One of the chief aims of The Grain Growers' Grain Company is to use its best influence towards building up a great and united farmers' organization in Western Canada, with the hope that it will eventually spread thruout the Dominion. Such an organization when united, and harmoniously devoted to a single purpose, will be a powerful factor in improving the economic and social conditions now surrounding our farm life, and will very greatly hasten the day when the man on the land will enjoy the full return for his labors. In this matter the farmers have to work out their own salvation."

Thus it will be seen that the Western farmers builded better than they knew when they decided to go into the grain business on their own account, and by so doing have laid permanent and stable foundations for a structure, which, working hand in hand with the great organizations in the three provinces, will be a mighty factor in developing in the Prairie Provinces a rural civilization which should, in the course of time, surpass that of any other country. Inspired by the successful work of The Grain Growers' Grain Company, the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company was brought into existence, and out of its accumulated profits recently donated \$2,000 to the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association. The Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company has not yet been in operation a year, but in the course of time will undoubtedly be able to assist in the educational work in that province. The Grain Growers' Grain Company, however, operates in all three provinces, having more shareholders in Saskatchewan than in either Alberta or Manitoba, and it is only reasonable that the company should devote its educational grants to each of the three associations. The western farmers

have been very successful in their organization work. But much as they have accomplished, it is only a beginning and the next ten years will see results from their work many fold greater than in the past. By united and harmonious effort they can bind the farmers of the Prairie Provinces together into an organization which will enable each and every farmer to enjoy a comfortable and prosperous home for himself and family in this country, and to banish the hardships which at the present time bear heavily upon such a large proportion of our rural people.

The farmers of Saskatchewan will welcome the appointment by the Government of the commission to investigate the sale of farm machinery. It is quite evident from the appointment of this commission that the Government intends to enact legislation which will protect the farmers of the province from any unscrupulous implement company. Those companies that want to do business on an equitable basis, and do not wish to impose upon the farmers unjustly, will not resent a thorough investigation and reasonable legislation. Other companies, who may wish to exploit the farmers, should be regulated whether they like it or not.

It is a most remarkable coincidence that the judgment of the Railway Commission should be handed down on the day following the budget speech by the finance minister. The Budget speech announced that no tariff concessions, except on binders and mowers, would be made to the western farmers, and naturally aroused resentment in the Prairie Provinces. The findings of the Railway Commission undoubtedly brought a certain amount of gratification to the Prairie Provinces and would, of course, tend to lessen the disappointment over the failure to secure tariff reduction. This coincidence in the announcement will tend to create an impression that there has been political influence exerted by the Government at least in timing the announcement of the Railway Commission's judgment. Needless to remark such an impression will add neither to the prestige of the Government nor of the Railway Commission.

Have you applied for your Fenian Raid Bounty from Col. Sam Hughes? Everybody's doing it. It is not necessary that you ever heard tell of the Fenian raid. If your brother's wife's aunt's sixteenth cousin knew a man who lived in the same province with a veteran you are entitled to \$100 bounty. All women, married and single, should also apply early, because if they are not widows of veterans they would have been if they had lived at the right time, in the right place and a favorable opportunity had presented itself. When Sam sets out to make good with the people he doesn't stop at trifles. Do it now!

The Reciprocity Agreement scared the "noble eighteen" protectionists, including the present Finance Minister, out of the Liberal party. Free agricultural implements put Sir Lyman Melvin Jones on the run also. There is still a good bunch of protectionists in the Liberal party that should be scared out, for the benefit not only of the party but also of the country in general.

It would naturally be expected that the chief officials of the railway companies would publicly protest against the report of the Railway Commission, but these protests are for public consumption only. Privately the railway companies are tickled beyond measure in getting off as lightly as they have done, tho of course it is their best policy to squeal. But that is the nature of all those who enjoy special privileges and are not allowed to retain them to the full.