

Interprovincial Conference Discusses Grain Matters

They Differ in Many Points with Grain Commission Report—Government Ownership of Elevators—Terminal Elevator at Pacific Coast—Grain Growers Want an Official Organ.

The following is the report of the conference of representatives of grain growers from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, which was held at Saskatoon after the annual convention of Saskatchewan Grain Growers. The press was excluded and this report was handed to them.

"Some time ago the executive of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association deemed it advisable to hold a conference composed of representatives of the grain growers and farmers associations of the three prairie provinces, to consider the grain trade in all its phases as soon as the report of the royal grain commission was made public.

"The idea was that in this way the most workable scheme for the solution of the problem of the producers' standpoint, could be produced, and then by having the different associations endorse it at their annual conventions, a solid front would be presented to the powers that be. Owing to the royal grain commission report not being made public until after some of the associations referred to had held their annual conventions, a solid front was impossible, then Feb. 15th was selected as the date for the delayed conference, and Saskatoon was named as the place of meeting.

Personnel of Conference

Delegates from M.G.A.—D. W. McQuinn, president; R. C. Henderson, vice president; R. McKenzie, secretary, and John Kennedy.

Delegates from S.G.G.A.—E. N. Hopkins, president; F. W. Green and E. A. Partridge, members of the executive.

Delegates from A.F.A.—Joshua Fletcher, president; T. H. Woodford, vice president; W. T. Stevens, secretary.

E. N. Hopkins, was elected president, and M. D. Geddes, secretary.

The annual convention of the S.G.G.A., which was held in Saskatoon, had just closed, and there being a number of the directors of that association in the city, it was agreed that they be invited to attend the conference, but the chairman made it very clear to all that in arriving at findings the three provinces would be placed at perfect equality.

A committee was then appointed and the following resolutions placed before the conference and adopted:

Resolved that no further record of the proceedings at the first session of the conference be kept than a description of composition and organization of same.

Resolved that the first matter to be dealt with be the report of the royal grain commission, and that the findings be considered section by section, that the various sections as dealt with be marked approved, disapproved, or disapproved in part. That in all cases of disapproval in part the reasons therefore be set forth, and where considered desirable recommendations be made as substitutes to those disapproved.

Resolved that the press be not present at the deliberations of the conference.

Commission Report

Appendix "A" Amendments to Manitoba Grain Act, 1900.

No. 1. and 2. approved. No. 2. a. disapproved; desire the act to remain as it was. Nos. 3, 4 and 5 approved. No. 6, that sections 28, a, b, c, d, e, f, g, and h, with subsection of same be approved, and that section 28 b be amended by adding "but on demand by shipper that identity of a shipment must be preserved." Nos. 7 and 8 approved, but with the following to be added to 4a. "Receipts to be provided by elevator company and sample placed therein, receipts secured by padlock, which may be provided by farmer, he to retain key, the elevator man to be custodian of sample." Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 approved. No. 15 subsection 2 approved, with the change of the word "first" which appears in the second and last line, to "first," so that it reads "but shall be entitled to be the first car of the size designated."

No. 16 subsection 2a. We endorse a deposit of \$2, provided that the recommendations of the royal grain commission be reciprocal demurrage to be acted upon, otherwise we strongly oppose it.

No. 16 subsection 4 of section 58. That in addition to recommendations the following be added: "That notice shall consist in establishing a car order bulletin in which names are posted and that names shall remain posted for six hours before cancellation of such orders."

No. 17. Approved.

No. 18. Subsection 9 of section 58, approved in part, the following recommendations be made: "That in the first line, after the word 'book' insert 'and duplicate number of order book kept.' Also add to end of clause, 'This provision shall not prevent

two or more farmers from loading on the application of one, and obtaining a car on declaration of joint ownership."

No. 18, subsection 10 approved.

No. 19 approved in part. The only change being that the following be inserted in schedule F, directly above space left for remarks: "The spread between the grades to be governed by that existing on day of inspection and this rule shall apply also to commercial grades."

No. 20 Section 63. Disapproved in part. The only change is that the words, "may in his discretion," which appear in the second line after the word "commissioner," be struck out, and the word "shall" be inserted in their place.

No. 21 and 22 approved.

No. 23. That the words "as shown by the order book" be added to the end of the clause.

No. 24 approved.

Frosted Oats

Ex. No. 1 feed. Shall be sound except as to frost, shall not contain more than two per cent. of wheat, nor more than one-half of one per cent. of other grains, shall be reasonably clean and shall not weigh more than 37 pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 1 feed. Shall be sound except as to frost, shall not contain more than five per cent. of wheat, nor more than three per cent. of grains other than wheat, shall be reasonably clean, and shall not weigh less than 34 pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 2 feed. Any oats sound except as to frost weighing not less than 32 pounds to the measured bushel, not good enough to be classed as No. 1 feed, shall be graded No. 2 feed.

Winter Wheat. The conference approved the following recommendations: That No. 1 Alberta red winter wheat shall be winter wheat sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than 60 pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of not less than 75 per cent. red winter wheat.

No. 2 Alberta red winter wheat shall be winter wheat sound and well cleaned, weighing not less than 59 pounds to the bushel, and shall be composed of at least 65 per cent. of red winter wheat.

No. 3. Any winter wheat not good enough to be graded No. 2 red winter wheat at the discretion of the inspector.

The Resolution

The following resolutions were then presented and carried unanimously by the conference:

Whereas, the royal grain commission in a report to the hon. the Minister of Trade and Commerce, dated Feb. 1st, 1907, reported that the tendency at Fort William and Port Arthur is for elevators to go under control of private companies which under present regulations would be detrimental to the trade, and destroy public confidence in the result obtained therefrom;

Whereas, the commission in its report laid upon the table of the House of Commons, state that the private corporations operating terminals at Fort William are composed largely of the shareholders, officers and directors of grain firms, and country line elevators in Winnipeg, and as such have a direct financial interest in such of the grain passing through Fort William;

Whereas, the commission in their report recommended as a remedy the weighing, cleaning and binning of grain in all terminal elevators under the supervision of officers appointed by the Dominion government;

And, whereas, the farmers associations of Alberta, the Grain Growers' Association of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, at their annual conventions each passed a resolution urging the Dominion government to acquire, own and operate the terminals at Fort William and Port Arthur;

And, whereas, we are of the opinion that this remedy suggested by the commission is inadequate to meet the requirements of a terminal system of elevators and maintain the public confidence in the results obtained at such terminals;

Therefore, be it resolved that we endorse the findings of the said conventions, and strongly urge the Dominion government to acquire, own and operate a complete system of terminal storage elevators; and further that each of the executives of the above associations appoint two delegates to form a joint delegation to present the views of the grain growers of the three prairie provinces.

Whereas, there is danger in the transfer of grain on the various routes from the lake terminals to the seaboard, that much of the advantage obtained by the government ownership and operation at the lakes will be lost unless the transfer elevators are also owned and operated by the government;

Be it resolved, that the delegates to Ottawa be instructed to urge that these transfer elevators should also be owned and operated by the government.

Provincial Control

Whereas the Farmers' Association of Alberta, and the Grain Growers' Association of Manitoba and Saskatchewan at their annual conventions each passed a resolution urging their respective provincial governments to acquire, own and operate a system of elevators for receiving, storing and shipping grain;

And, whereas, the best results in the interests of the producers can be obtained only by each government concerned to establish a system in their own province;

Therefore be it resolved that the respective executives to take such steps as they deem best to cause the respective governments to pass the necessary legislation to give effect to the above stated resolutions.

Whereas, the royal grain commission in its report re a terminal elevator at the Pacific coast says that without a doubt there is going to be a very large increase in grain production within the very near future in Alberta and western Saskatchewan. At the present time there are no facilities for the handling of grain westward. That there is no doubt that a very large trade could be developed with the orient if there were proper transportation facilities;

Resolved that we would ask the Dominion government to establish a terminal elevator at the Pacific coast and that it own and operate the same.

Hudson Bay Road

A resolution presented to the joint convention of the representatives of the Grain Growers' Association of Manitoba, the Grain Growers' Association of Saskatchewan, and the Alberta Farmers' Association assembled in Saskatoon, Feb. 15, 1908:

Whereas, the development of the Canadian Northwest has made it necessary that we secure additional outlets for our products, and whereas the principle of public ownership is strongly approved by our people;

Be it resolved, that in the opinion of the convention, the time has arrived for the construction of a railway to the Hudson's Bay, to be constructed, owned and operated by the government of the Dominion, with suitable storage facilities provided also under Dominion government control.

Annual Conference

It was decided that a permanent annual conference be organized and that the members of the executive of each provincial association be members of the conference. Regarding constitution of conference, it was decided that the secretary of each provincial association be appointed to devise a constitution for conference, that they bring same before the next conference for endorsement.

The question of where and when the next conference will be held be left in the hands of the presidents of the three provincial associations.

Official Organ

It was decided that M. D. Geddes be secretary pro tem. Regarding an official organ for the three associations, it was decided that each executive should appoint one of its members to look into the question of establishing such an official organ.

Resolved, that this conference place itself on record as opposed to the additional charge now imposed by railway companies where two or more parties unite in loading a car, and that the executives of the different provincial associations deal with the matter;

Whereas, the Grain Growers' Association are committed to a sample market;

Whereas, a necessary condition in the absence of a large milling company require special binning of grain;

Therefore, be it resolved that the inspection be amended to provide for special bins in the terminal elevators in such units as preserve the identity of outgoing shipment.

Agreed that No. 13 of the amendments to the grain inspection act as made by the royal grain commission to be approved.

Before adjourning the conference expressed regret that the conference did not have time to deal more fully with the report of the royal grain commission and other important matters.

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JAPAN'S DEBT

Cost of Living Increased—Limit of Taxation Reached—Still Making Preparations For War.

Japan's foreign debt at present is not less than 2,300,000,000 yen. The amount required to meet the annual interest at a high rate on this enormous indebtedness is fast reducing the populations to a condition of extreme poverty, says the New York Post. Already the limit of the nation's taxable capacity has been reached, but the giant burden has not even begun to move. How long can the poorest people on the face of the earth be expected to endure a per capita tax of 65 yen. Even now it is easy to notice that a vast social and industrial unrest is permeating the entire fabric of Japanese society. The threat of increased taxation is tightening the strain; in dozens of instances the cords of restraint have given away with disastrous results. There has not been a single important line of industry in Japan that during the last twelve months has not known strikes of the most serious nature, all due to the ultra-financial stringency that could not afford a living wage. In some instances these social eruptions resulted in wanton and wholesale destruction of valuable property and ruthless loss of life.

Stocks and shares were never lower in the history of the empire. The phenomenal boom in the establishment of commercial companies, and new lines of industrial enterprise, that marked the opening of the year 1907, has broken, and many of the embryo undertakings have already gone into liquidation. The failure of banks is a common occurrence. The government monopolies and the big corporations under the government patronage are swallowing up the smaller ventures, with naturally, a consequent discouragement of private enterprise. But the difficulty that calls for immediate adjustment is that bearing upon the increased cost of living, which is unjustly oppressing the masses. For this the government must bear the responsibility.

The government is to blame because although the indebtedness of the nation is now more than the people can well bear, the authorities are recklessly proceeding with an ever-increasing expenditure of money in increasing the cost of living. The necessities of life have resulted in an increased cost of living in all directions. The cost of living has gone up 20 per cent. without any corresponding increase in wages or salaries. During the last twelve months, the price of rice, which is the poor man's bread, has gone up to double what it was a year ago, and now is higher than ever before in the history of Japan. The alarming and sudden increase in the cost of living, combined with the weight of taxation, leaves the masses justly discontented towards the government, yet the latter goes on indifferently adding to the nation's liabilities by raising loans and expanding armaments, and indulging in various enterprises that even wealthy nations would hesitate to afford. That the result of such extravagance can turn out satisfactory is beyond even the most sanguine hopes of the best financiers.

It is a matter of wonder to many that Japan should go on presenting the world with the paradoxical spectacle of a nation that both naturally and professedly does not want war, and yet is all the while devoting the greater part of her resources to a preparation for war. Her arsenals and naval yards are busy day and night turning out the latest equipment in land and sea combat, apparently for no purpose but the desire to possess a fighting capacity second to none. Some have endeavored to throw light on the mystery by suggesting that perhaps there is an understanding with Great Britain that the Japanese navy is to maintain a certain standard of defence of the far eastern interests of the allies; but no one can believe that the present liabilities should be expected of a nation so financially incompetent as Japan.

At the last meeting of the Elder Statesmen and the Tokyo cabinet ways and means for a solution of the nation's financial responsibilities were discussed. Further taxes on sugar, oil and tobacco were suggested, but abandoned in view of the present disaffection of the masses, upon whom such taxes would most heavily fall. Finally the minister of war was persuaded to consent to a postponement of certain expenditures in his department, with the hope of being able to present the Diet, which opened on Dec. 25, with a reasonable budget. But this method of evading embarrassment is only a postponement of the real difficulty. Unless the nation curbs somewhat its ambition and calls a halt in the vast outlays involved in the present programme for the expansion of arsenals and armaments it is surely persisting in a course as suicidal as war.

W. T. Ash, of Disley, has killed 21 wolves this season. One morning last week, with the assistance of his superior wolf hounds, five were killed. This is considered a record breaker among the sports herabouts.—Lumsden News-Record.

W. J. BRYAN

SPEAKS ON IDEALS
Their Value in the Different Pursuits of Life—
They Permeate and Ennoble Man's Whole Life
--The Value of Free Speech.

While in Canada recently William Jennings Bryan addressed the Canadian Club in Toronto. He is reported to have said in part, as follows: "You have a great country and a great people here, and you are connected politically and geographically with the people who have made great contributions to the welfare of the world."

"The greatest contribution of the English speaking peoples for the advancement of mankind is the establishment of free speech. It is one of the boasts in my country that we have free government, and that the influence of the ordinary man can thereby be felt; yet the power of free speech is more elementary than free government. Without free speech, free government had never been born; with free speech despotism is impossible."

"Free speech is valuable alike to the man in the street and to the man in the office who desires to do what is best. He needs the help of his enemies; they are usually more frank than one's friends. (Laughter.) "People sometimes think that their enemies are too frank; but they can never be. Truth is always able to take care of herself."

"I mention the matter of free speech because it is one of the ideals I have set myself to speak upon this afternoon and because I want to express my appreciation of this club, which stands on the principle of free speech, and invites people of all shades of opinion to come here and show their confidence in their views by presenting them before you."

"It is not an easy matter for an old politician to come from my country to address your club, because he cannot speak to you on the domestic questions of his own country; he must speak to you on the domestic questions of the country whose guest he is. Under the best of circumstances it is difficult for a politician to make a speech which is not open to political misconception. In my own country I speak on political subjects and on religious subjects, and I try to keep the two apart, but I rarely make a political speech in which I am not accused of trying to preach a sermon, or deliver an address on a religious subject in which I am not represented as trying to teach politics. (Laughter.) I suppose it is because there is so little difference between a good democratic address and a good sermon. (Laughter.)"

"I remember once speaking at a meeting in my own church at home in company with a Republican speaker, in the interests of pure politics. We neither of us quarrelled over what we said and heard, and the audience made no hostile demonstration. (Laughter.) A few days later a man stopped me on the street and said he heard that I had deserted the Presbyterian church by preaching politics in it. I assured him that he had been misinformed, but he said, 'Well, you kept on saying, "Vote for the best man," and anybody knows that Judge Brody is the best man. (Laughter.) So difficult it is for a politician not to be misunderstood."

"I suppose I couldn't go to New York and speak from the text, 'A good name is more to be desired than great riches,' but some paper would accuse me of attacking certain of prominent citizens. (Renewed laughter.)"

"I want this afternoon to speak a few words upon the subject of how ideals control the life, and to apply them in a general way."

"Have you ever tried to measure the value of an ideal in life? If you want to know what it is worth go into the home of some wealthy man whose son has embarked on a career of dissipation and in whom all hope of reform is lost. Then ask that father what would he give to be able to turn his boy upward, and enthrone him in all the majesty of super manhood. That is the worth of an ideal. It is the measure of the difference between a noble life and an ignoble career."

"Think of the awful list of suicides which is a saddening fact of our modern life—I do not mean those cases where reason hathrened leaves the hand no guide, but those cases of persons who find no joyful purpose in life and deliberately end it. Is not that the result of a false ideal? The man who measures life by what he does for others has no time for despair; life to him only affords time to do what the heart bids him undertake."

"It is most important that men grow up with ideals for they are among the few permanent possessions which this world knows. If you give a man bread, he will hunger again; if you give him clothes they will wear out; but give him an ideal, and it will permeate and ennoble his whole life. This is a world of change. A man may make plans, and circumstances will change them. Circumstances have changed the plans I laid. Ambitions are turned aside by circumstances. Mine have been. (Laughter.) But an ideal dominates a man's life, determines his character and fixes for him a place among his fellows."

Mr. Bryan then narrated several instances which had come under his personal notice of young men who had been influenced by ideals, and had overcome obstacles in acquiring education and equipment for service. Of one of them he said "he did not seek wealth. He had an ideal greater than to stand guard over a box of money. He had small leisure for study, but when others went out to spend their substance in riotous living he sought to equip himself for the services of his countrymen."

Speaking of his visit to the home of Leo Tolstoy four years ago, he said though born to nobility with every social distinction and an assured place in literature, Count Tolstoy at the age of forty-eight had found life so vain and meaningless that he had attempted to commit suicide, and the ring in the ceiling where the deed was attempted was shown to the speaker. It was a changed ideal he said, that made Tolstoy's throbbing heart felt in every civilized country in the world, and that had resulted in his philosophy which rests itself upon the words, "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and thy neighbor as thyself."

Marriage, said the speaker, rested more for its success upon the ideals of the husband and wife than upon the size of their house or the extent of their fortune. "If a man enters upon a marriage in the same spirit that he enters upon a horse trade, how can he expect to be happy in it? It's worse than a horse trade. In a horse trade you can never again see the person whom you cheated, or who cheated you, but in a marriage you see them every day, and worse still they often remind you of it." (Applause.)

Of the value of ideals in business, Mr. Bryan said that it was impossible to build a house successfully without a plan as to try to build a business without an ideal. It made the lawyer a power with the judge and an influence with the jury. "I have heard of lawyers," he said, "who have boasted of getting clients acquitted whom they knew were guilty. I do not know they can do so. Show me a man who obscures the truth for a fee, and I will show you a man who is losing his character and his ability to discern right from wrong. Your tricky lawyer may lead a judge into a hole two or three times, but he can't do it for long. Sooner or later it hits back and hurts him, for when the judge should be listening to the argument, he's looking for the hole. (Laughter.)"

"Of the value of an ideal to a news paper I am constrained to speak, for the journalist occupies a large place in life today, and it is in proportion to the ability of his paper to mould public opinion that the journalist is responsible that his paper stands for the truth as he sees it. In our country some of the papers are but the tools of predatory wealth. The owners hide in the background, they hire brilliant writers to chloroform the public, and the owners come out and pick the public pocket."

"The true journalist is a watchman on the watchtower. Upon him the public relies for its safety from materialism. Great and terrible is his responsibility if he speaks not true, or submits to be bribed into silence. "Ideals too," said Mr. Bryan, "are valuable in the life of party politics. Every country has at least two parties, and I believe that one party is necessary to watch the other. I do not complain except that I think sometimes that there are more in the Republican party than are necessary to watch our Democrats. (Laughter.) Parties, I say, are necessary things, but in my ideal of party I should say that what each party stands for should be distinctly stated. I can no more justify the deception of a party to obtain power than I can the deception of a party to obtain money. The embellishment of power is even more serious than the embellishment of money, and I am more anxious to have my party right than I am to have it in power. True we can't always agree. I often read editorials in Republican papers, which I wouldn't print in mine, and which my friends would never have written, yet if events prove that they are right I will rejoice. I would prefer that the enemies of my country might bring her good than that her friends bring her harm. If the enemies of my party can devise a better system of government than I, they are not my enemies, but my friends."

"The ideals of greatness for a country are like those by which we measure greatness in a man? When the disciples quarrelled over the question as to who should be the greatest and appealed to Jesus they were told that service was the test of greatness. The greatest nation is the one that gives the greatest measure of service. Not by the size of a nation's army or its navy, but by its capacity for service, is its greatness revealed. I am not one who believes it is part of the Divine plan that one nation's prosperity can be built upon another's misfortune. I could not worship God as I do if that were so—and I cry shame on the doctrine of those who say there must be an uneducated class for the thinkers and the educated to build their fortunes upon. Let us put behind education a conception of life that will make us all anxious to work for others, that will root up the heresy that it is more respectable to spend the money earned by someone else than it is to earn money for one's own needs. So too, in our national life there are rights governments never gave, and which governments cannot take away and which tariffs cannot wall out. There is the right to set a good example that men may see our good works, and that most potent influence which goes out among nations from the upright life."

"We are anxious to engage in rivalry with you—a rivalry which will inspire no harsh feelings and work no ill—no rivalry in the doing of good. I want my nation to live on such terms as will make people not fear our flag, but love it and do trines of human rights it stands for. In one of the closing chapters of Carlyle's 'French Revolution' he says: 'Thought is stronger than artillery parks and back of thought is love.' I am ambitious that my nation and yours may rule the world by thought and the love that is behind it."

Minard's Liniment cures Garget, in Cows.

FAT STOCK

SHOW

Prizes for the Winter Fair Over \$5,000--Some of the Prizes Offered

The Canadian Shorthorn Breeders' Association, at its recent annual meeting, voted \$150 to the prize list of the provincial fat stock show for Saskatchewan to be held in Regina on March 18th, 19th and 20th.

The executive committee thereupon decided that this donation should be allocated as follows: \$50 in the pure bred shorthorn classes making the prizes as follows:

Sec. 1. Steer or heifer calved in 1905. 1st \$25; 2nd \$20; 3rd, \$12.50; 4th \$5.

Sec. 2. Steer or heifer calved in 1906. 1st \$25; 2nd \$20; 3rd \$12.50; 4th \$5.

Sec. 3. Steer or heifer calved in 1907. 1st \$25; 2nd \$20; 3rd \$12.50; 4th \$5.

Sec. 4. Female calved previous to 1905. 1st \$20; 2nd \$15; 3rd \$7.50. Specials.

Best grade steer or heifer, sired by pure bred shorthorn (calved in 1906 or 1907) \$25.

Best grade steer or heifer, sired by pure bred shorthorn, (calved previous to 1906) \$25.

Dressed Carcasses Purebred shorthorn, steer or female \$25.

Grade steer from pure bred shorthorn \$25.

This donation of \$150 raises the amount of prizes for the Winter Fair to considerably over \$5000. While the entries for the Fat Stock Show closed on Feb. 20th this additional class shall be extended until March 15th.

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