

Farmers' Movement Makes Steady Headway

(Continued from Page 2.)

not received in time to be included in the report.

The principal items of expenditure were, delegates' convention expenses, \$1,325.01; salaries and office expenses, \$1,204.02; printing of farmers' platform, \$5,350.16. The expense of two Ontario delegates attending meetings in 1916 were \$186.20. Ontario so far has not contributed much to maintaining the work of the Council.

B. C. and N. S. Have Organized.

Great satisfaction was expressed when correspondence was read by the secretary from C. G. Palmer, Duncan, B.C., the president of the United Farmers of British Columbia, organized last year, showing them to be making progress, and from C. Gordon Sharpe, Secretary of the United Farmers of New Brunswick, Pembroke, N.B., showing that New Brunswick farmers have organized during the past few months, that they already have a number of branches and that the movement is being received enthusiastically. Letter received from points in Quebec showed that Quebec farmers also desire to organize. Mr. J. J. Morrison gave considerable information showing the excellent progress that has been made by Quebec farmers in cooperative business enterprises, several of which have proved remarkably successful.

Fixed Price Desired.

On motion by J. B. Musselman, it was decided to ask the Dominion Government, in the interests of greater food production, to set the price for the 1918 wheat crop and also set a guaranteed minimum price for the 1919 crop, it being assumed that the price set will be sufficiently high to stimulate production by guaranteeing farmers a safe return for their labor and investment. It was at first proposed that the price to be set by the Government should be suggested by the Council. In this connection the price of \$2.50 a bushel, the figure which has been set by the United States Government for the 1918 crop, was suggested. It was decided after discussion that as the price to be set must be, for various reasons, a matter of negotiation between the Canadian and United States Governments, it was better on the whole not to suggest a price to the Government.

Lower Duty Desired.

On motion of Peter Wright, seconded by Rice Sheppard, it was decided that, while we appreciate and approve of the action of the Dominion Government in removing the duty from tractors under the value of \$1,400, there are many farmers who cannot afford to purchase a tractor, and so cannot participate in the resulting reduction of price and we would respectfully but emphatically urge the Dominion Government in the interests of justice and fair play and as a war measure, to remove the duty from all necessary farm machinery and implements and from all raw material used in the manufacture of the same, it being our belief that any loss of revenue the Government might sustain from these sources would be more than compensated for by increased production and resultant trade.

Uniformity Desired.

On motion of Mr. Musselman, seconded by Mr. Morrison, it was decided that the provincial associations that are affiliated with the council will be expected, hereafter, to present at each annual meeting of the Council, copies of all resolutions passed by them at their respective annual conventions and dealing with matters of Dominion importance.

Further reference to the meetings of the Council will be published later in Farm and Dairy.

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