

The Chairman then stated that the resolution was open for discussion, and that he understood that the Dominion Government were working on the problem of seed grain for next year, and that in conference with some men on this matter, they said they did not believe it would be possible to hold in Alberta any of the 1917 crop for seed for 1919. The Chairman stated further that he understood there was already a movement on foot to secure seed for 1919, which was also applicable to Saskatchewan, and that if this resolution was to be sent to the authorities, provision re the seed grain proposition should be included in the resolution.

Mr. Higginbotham stated that he understood this was to be taken up with the Government by the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

Mr. Baker said he thought it should also be taken up by the U. F. A. and further remarked that wheat was needed for other things so badly that it could not be saved for seed grain, but that he hoped somehow or another there would be enough in the 1918 crop for seed.

Mr. McPherson of Ryley then asked why did not the farmers insist on the Government holding enough seed in this district to get ready for next Spring.

Mr. Baker replied that this brought up the question of scarcity of help on the farms and that it was a regrettable fact that in some districts farmers were discontinuing their farming operations, being due to the fact that they were at any time liable to be called to the colors.

A general discussion then took place regarding securing the help on the farms through the Government, and the Chairman advised the Convention to get in touch with the Department of Agriculture, through Mr. Craig, on this question, and he was sure they would secure the necessary assistance.

Mr. Morrison of Cummings then moved that a separate resolution in connection with seed grain be drafted, the following resolution in this connection being submitted by Mr. Higginbotham:—

RESOLUTION

"This Convention requests the Government to take steps to insure that sufficient good seed grain from the 1918 crop be held in the Province to provide seed for the 1919 crop."

On being put to a vote both the resolution re seed grain and that in connection with drought and feed conditions, were carried unanimously.

Mr. Baker then asked the meeting whether they had any other business they wished to discuss.

Mr. Messinger of Sedgewick then suggested that a recommendation be included in the resolution, asking the Executive to take some steps re handling seed grain as they did in 1914 when there was a drought. This suggestion was afterwards withdrawn by Mr. Messinger.

Mr. Higginbotham then addressed the meeting in connection with plans for the next Convention and stated that he would like to have the views of the meeting re holding future Secretaries' Conventions. He said that the suggestion had been made to hold the Secretaries' Convention immediately after the U. F. A. Annual Meeting, but that he considered there were objections to this, and that he thought, on the whole, this was the best time of year to hold it, on account of special Exhibition railway rates.