

Wm. J. Shepherd
THE

GRAIN GROWERS GUIDE

WINNIPEG

Vol. 1 FEB. 1909 No. 8

PUBLISHED THE FIFTEENTH OF EACH MONTH
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

AND EMPLOYED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THAT BODY
The Assoc. of Grain Growers M. A. T. W.

Devoted to the work of organizing the Farmers for their mutual protection and advantage, keeping them accurately informed on all matters and movements of importance to them as Farmers, and furnishing a medium through which they may exchange ideas and information to their mutual benefit, and the building up of an enlightened public opinion on economic and social questions.

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AND EQUITY SHALL USHER IN
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AND THOSE THE GRAIN WHO GARNER IN
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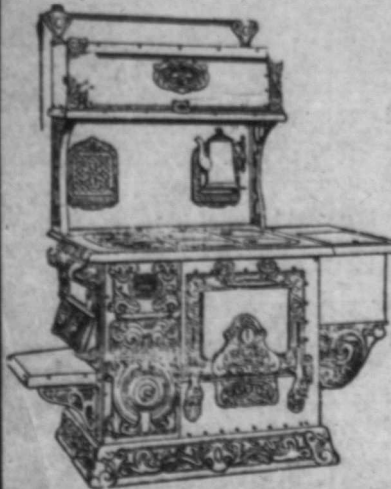
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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

NO. 8

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY, 1909

VOL. 1

ADDRESSED TO THE FARMERS OF



Published under the auspices and employed as the Official Organ of The Manitoba Grain Growers' Association.

ENDORSED BY THE INTERPROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF GRAIN GROWERS' AND FARMERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

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NO. 8

FEBRUARY 1909

VOL. 1

GRAIN CONFERENCE AT CALGARY

The Grain Conference held in Calgary February 3rd. and 4th. from the point of attendance and enthusiasm was a great success.

Ostensibly convened for the purpose of discussing the Western outlet for the grain of Alberta, judging from the report of the meeting published on another page, it developed into a vigorous attack on the Manitoba Grain Act. From the composition of the Conference and the manner in which it was convened, those best acquainted with the methods of the interests that control the grain trade of Canada would expect nothing else.

Our special correspondent writes us saying:—"I might say Mr. Strong of the Alberta Pacific Elevator Company, Mr. Price of the C.P.R., and a few other elevator men whose names you have seen in the report, besides Premier Rutherford who was chairman, all are very anxious to have the Manitoba Grain Act amended. They blame all grievances on its rules and regulations. A large number of copies of the act were distributed among the delegates, and Mr. Strong, also Mr. Price stated that numbers of farmers had asked them to try and have it removed. It appeared throughout that Mr. Strong of the Alberta Pacific Elevator Company and Mr. Price of the C.P.R. had their heads together all the

time and they were very busy having their notes correspond."

These are familiar tactics and just what might be expected when representatives of the railway and elevator interests meet to discuss the Grain Act. The only difference being that the base of operations is moved from Winnipeg and Ottawa to Calgary.

Our correspondent goes on to say, "However I am pleased to say that all of the farmers' delegates both from North and South have fought it to a man. One man from Claresholm cautioned the farmers to remember conditions before it was in force."

The farmers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan will be only too willing to help the farmers of Alberta to secure an outlet for their product. They realize that the more outlets there are for the grain of the three provinces, the better it will be for all concerned, and the Grain Growers hope that the day is not distant when our product will find an outlet not only at the western seaboard, but also to the north at Hudson's Bay as well as the south through American channels. But while we are working in that direction we cannot conceive that in order that those purposes may be attained the Grain Act, which is the only source of relief that we have from the monopolistic character of the grain trade should be rendered ineffective as a protection to the grain grower. It is a source of gratification that the Grain Growers of Alberta in their enthusiasm for the western route, did not allow themselves to be committed to anything that would have that effect. Our western friends need not think that the western route will cure all their ills though it may cure some of them, and in working out this outlet for their grain they will have the hearty co-operation of Saskatchewan and Manitoba Grain Growers.

The resolution passed calling upon the Dominion Government to build terminals at Vancouver is in the right direction, but in our opinion is very much weakened by the rider attached in asking the C.P.R. to build the terminals if the Dominion Government declines to enter into the undertaking within reasonable time. That is simply opening the door for the Dominion Government to step out and the C.P.R. to step in, which is the very thing the interests desire. That grain cannot be shipped successfully on a Western route without terminal elevator facilities goes without saying, as wheat cannot be shipped to any great extent when it has to be bagged. But Alberta farmers had better continue as they are a little longer than to have terminal facilities placed in the hands of interests that will carry on operations similar to those going on now at the terminals at the lake front, and our Alberta friends ought to be very careful not to act too hastily in order to save a possible 6c. per bushel in next year's crop and impose conditions on their terminals that will exact more than that from them every year in perpetuity.

Mr. Strong's statement as to rates to Liverpool is difficult to understand when he says: "The present rate on Alberta grain to Liverpool by way of the East is 55c. per cwt. By way of Vancouver to the same market it is just 45c. per cwt. Rates, C.P.R. Calgary to Fort

William is 24c. per 100. Fort William to Liverpool all rail via St. John, 25c., making 49c. Last season, lake and rail at times was as much as 10c. per 100 less. Published rates of freights contracted for for the last three months from Puget Sound and Oregon Ports to Europe show rates 11c. per cwt. higher than that given by Mr. Strong from Vancouver. While the western route is worthy of every consideration, developments so far need not cause the farmers to lose their heads.

GRAIN GROWERS BEFORE THE RAILWAY BOARD

The first complaint of the Grain Growers' that the board dealt with was in reference to car doors. The representatives of the Grain Growers' gave evidence that farmers frequently have to supply grain doors for cars and have great difficulty in getting repaid for the lumber used.

The Commission passed an order making a flat rate of \$1.00 for each lower door and 50c for the second doors, making in all \$3.00 for a set of doors. Railway agents to pay at time door is put in car.

Mr. W. E. Keefer on behalf of the Ashville Association asked for an order from the Board to compel the C.N.R. company to fence the right of way between Dauphin and Gilbert Plains. The chairman of the board after hearing his statement made the following remarks. "Unless called upon to do so I do not understand why a railway company did not, when a man's horse or cattle was killed, do something to adjust the claim. The man was frightened to go to the law and it was as the applicant had said,—'they submitted to the burden. There have been enough horses and cattle killed between Dauphin and Gilbert Plains to fence both sides of the track. These people will have to fence their right of way or pay for the stock they kill.

Mr. Clark, the solicitor for the C.N.R. stated: "If we have to pay for the stock we will fence the road."

An order was issued to have the right of way between Dauphin and Gilbert Plains fenced next season.

The Secretary of the Association appeared and asked for the reduction in freight on bulk headed cars from 1c to ½c. per 100 and \$1.50 elevator charges for each bulk head. The chairman ruled that the elevator charges only in so far as they dealt with elevators operated by the railway company came within the jurisdiction of the board and although he regarded the charge of \$3.00 as excessive, he could not issue an order as it would only affect the elevators operated by the railway companies.

Representatives of the railways made application to have the privilege of bulk heading withdrawn altogether. The board took the matter into consideration.

OUR ALBERTA COLLEAGUES

The questions now facing the farmers organizations in the West are serious ones, and will bear careful thought and consideration on the part of all.

To those who were present at the annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta it appeared that the subjects were deep and far-reaching. The question is often raised, Do the farmers try to tackle too much in their conventions? As one speaker said, farmers will try to do more in three days than a legislature would do in three years.

A glance at the report of the Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta shows this to be so. The variety of subjects was enormous and the consequent strain was great, although underlying all was the fundamental thought of Government ownership.

Many conventions would have been satisfied that enough work was done when the amalgamation was completed, but not so the farmers in Alberta. They talked

such questions as Government ownership, hail insurance, initiative referendum, pork packing and other matters, all of which will take their place in the front of questions before the public at different stages.

But to those who have been entrusted with the work of the Association, enough has been done for the first month in completing plans for organization, and suffice it to say that to-day the plans are now perfected. So that in a very short time the whole province will be covered and the membership will be more than doubled. The directors have concentrated their energies on the one point for the first month, but from now on the different economic questions will be taken up and arrangements made if possible so that a different subject will be up for discussion each month so that the views of the members can be secured on same.

The more impatient will think that the wheels are grinding very slowly, but we would point out that the work of welding the two old associations was great and could not be done in a day.

One other point of importance has come forward this month. That was the Grain Conference at Calgary. As is already known, the United Farmers of Alberta were invited by the Government to nominate delegates to represent the farmers' interests. This was done and a good strong and active delegation was present. The time at our disposal does not permit us to enter into these subjects at all fully now, but the Convention was an object lesson to all present, and on all sides it was admitted that the farmers acquitted themselves wonderfully. They were meeting with the keenest business minds in the West and showed both the tact and the requisite grasp of the different questions presented to make their interests clear. It is too soon to know just what the result of this convention will be, but in any event the mere holding of the Convention and allowing the different interests to get together and discuss matters was a good one, and no doubt as a result of the Convention the farmers and the financial and business interests will be drawn more closely together. Next month we shall deal fully with this question, showing just what these results should be.

IMPORTANT

A circular letter was recently sent to names on "The Guide's" mailing list asking for an immediate reply as to whether those names may be regarded as subscribers or not. Those circulars were issued early in January, but owing to pressure of work the addressing had not been completed until within the past few days. A number of subscribers would therefore receive them whose subscriptions had come to hand in the interval, and through an oversight in the Guide office, several who had paid through the office of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. These have been adjusted and there will be no difficulty hereafter with regard to paid subscribers or those who have promised to pay, but to all who have been receiving Sample Copies and who have not responded to "The Guide's" circular, this is to say that all names will be removed from the mailing list on 5th March next unless remittance or post card has been received at that date to say remittance will follow at a date convenient to the subscriber.

Owing to the several important Conferences which have been held in January, quite a number of valuable contributions of news items and other matter have necessarily been crowded out of the present issue at the last moment. Such of these as are not out of date are held over until next month. Some of them, had they been received earlier, would have found a place, but the editor takes this opportunity to remind correspondents that it is necessary to go to press with the first forms of the magazine at least a fortnight before advertised date of issue.

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SHALL WE OWN THE LINE ELEVATORS?

RESULT OF FIRST SKIRMISH WITH THE PREMIERS

The so-called reply of the Premiers to the demands made by the farmers for the inauguration of a system of storage elevators owned by the Provincial Government and operated on their behalf preferably by a commission, is not in fact a reply at all but simply a not too clever evasion of the question.

As a diplomatic move it is rather crude, as a belief in its effectiveness to divert the farmers from their aim must be based on a not very flattering estimate of the intelligence possessed by our agricultural population.

No doubt the Interprovincial Council will deal with the so-called reply in such a manner as to uphold the dignity of the class they represent and administer a merited rebuke to the premiers for their disingenuous treatment of demands so closely connected with the prosperity of nearly the whole of the population of Western Canada.

Below is given the text of the demands addressed to the premiers some time last May. At the conference held in November following it was patent to every grain grower present that not one of the premiers had even made himself conversant with the details of the farmers demands. They were even then harping on the necessity of a monopoly. One premier tried to convince the farmer delegates that the British North America Act made it impossible for a provincial government to engage in trade to the extent of selling storage, issuing a negotiable document or weighing a commodity, because power to deal with trade and commerce and weights and measures resided in the Dominion Government. He evidently forgot that at the Manitoba College the provincial government buys milk, makes butter, weighs and sells it, and that the Ontario government runs a railway and as a feature of that business, issues negotiable warehouse receipts and bills of lading.

As to the fear of loss without monopoly, if a little bunch of farmers here and there can build elevators and risk the competition of the large corporation line elevators, surely a government has nothing to apprehend.

Our farmers ask for provincial operation of elevators whether Dominion legislation can be obtained or not for the reasons set forth below.

They show however that a very slight amendment to the grain act would immensely increase the effectiveness of provincial operation and have strong hope that such legislation can easily be obtained. Reported by Mr. Castle as to the increase in car lot shipments, this is partly due to an increasing determination on the part of the farmers not to patronize privately owned elevators which have treated them badly in the past. Many who now load direct would welcome the opportunity to use a government elevator.

Also the rapid increase of railway construction has largely increased the number of shipping points unsupplied with elevators so that many must perforce load on track no matter how inconvenient it may be.

TEXT OF THE ACTUAL DEMANDS

Resolved, that we, the members of the Inter-provincial Council, having the verbal suggestions of the Premiers placed before us, and having carefully considered same, regard them as being totally inadequate to safeguard the interests of the farmers in marketing their grain and we beg to reiterate our former request that the Government acquire and operate the interior storage facilities along the lines previously stated, more specific details in certain particulars of which are given below.

1. That the Government provide by purchase or construction or both at each railway point where any considerable quantity of grain is marketed, elevator facilities with up-to-date equipment for cleaning, weighing and loading grain, that these facilities for the most part be sub-divided into bins of 1,000 bushels capacity, and that the system be operated by the Government direct, or through a commission appointed for that purpose.

(2.) That the minimum capacity required at each shipping point will be approximately one-third of the quantity annually marketed there. This whole amount need not, however, be provided at the outset, but the storage structure should be so arranged as to admit easily of addition and extension as necessity demands.

(3.) That the charges for handling and storing grain be such as to provide interest on amount invested, cost of maintenance and provision for gradual payment of initial cost.

(4.) That a certain per cent. of the storage (not to exceed 25 per cent.) should be at the disposal of buyers of street grain.

(5.) That two or more farmers be granted the privileges of jointly occupying a bin.

(1.) Advantages without the co-operation of the Dominion Government:—

(a.) The abuses incident to the storage facilities being in the hands of those interested in the purchase and sale of grain would be abolished, such as, improper grading, the giving of light weight, the taking of excessive dockage, the substituting of grain of inferior quality for that specially binned by the farmer, denying the privilege of special binning to the farmers on the false plea of lack of space and interference with the freedom of shipment of stored grain by the owner.

(b.) Adequate facilities for the cleaning of the grain are not provided by the elevator companies. The Government system would enable the cleaning of grain to grade requirements before shipment, retaining to the farmers a large amount of screenings valuable for feeding purposes, increasing their chances of obtaining higher grades when grain was inspected from point of shipment to the terminals.

(c.) Dockage would be no longer a matter of guess work. The farmer would be credited with his exact amount of cleaned grain and permitted to retain his screenings, which oftentimes include valuable food products, such as broken grains and domestic grains of various kinds, as well as weed seeds having a high feeding value.

"The following facts illustrate the saving possible in this connection. It is estimated that the 70 millions of wheat of the crop of 1906 contained 2 per cent. or 1,400,000 bushels of screenings, averaging in worth $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. per lb. and which cost the farmer on an average 10 cents per bushel in freight charges, owing to his inability to have his grain cleaned before shipment. These two items represent a loss of \$560,000 to the farmers of the West, which will occur every year with additions until abolished by the establishment of a Government storage system equipped with proper cleaning apparatus. The above amount would pay the interest on a sum sufficient to create the storage system asked for and provide a sinking fund which would liquidate the cost within a reasonable term of years."

(d.) The grain being weighed into cars by a Government official having no interest therein, will facilitate the collection of claims for shortage from the railway companies.

(e.) The preservation of the identity of grain in special bins under the custody of Government officials will make possible the establishment of a sample market which will largely

correct the injustices incident to a grading system, when climatic conditions make it impossible for the grade description to classify grain according to its intrinsic value.

"For example, a slight bleaching suffered by a large percentage of wheat the year before last condemned millions of bushels having the essential qualities of One Hard to be graded as Two Northern, making the price four cents per bushel less than it should have been and occasioning an enormous loss to the producers. Also this year, owing to a general frost the grading system operated to group types of wheat together in the same bin having in many cases a difference in value of twenty cents a bushel."

(f.) The having of storage facilities in the interior under Government supervision would make it possible to send samples to be displayed on the sample market in advance of shipment. This would permit the grain to be exhibited for a number of days without expense to the owner and also permit of the grain being sold for shipment, either East or West of the point loaded.

(g.) With the building of the Hudson's Bay Railway will come a still greater advantage in interior storage as grain in the interior will have the choice of two routes and two markets, while grain sent to the terminals before being sold will have only one.

(h.) The presence of Government storage facilities that could be used by buyers, who are not owners of elevators would place these buyers in a position to compete on even terms thus preventing a monopoly of the market by elevator owners, and tending to keep street and track prices near together.

(2.) Advantages with the co-operation of the Dominion Government:

The complete plan of the Grain Growers' contemplated the passing of an amendment to the Inspection and Sale Act that would permit the operator of a Provincial elevator to discharge the functions of a Dominion weighman and sampler, and the granting of weight and grade certificates, the grading to be done by the inspection staff at Winnipeg using the samples of the contents of the special bins forwarded by the elevator operators.

Several members of the Dominion Government have given representatives of the Grain Growers' an assurance that such legislation can be easily secured as soon as the request is made by a Provincial Government.

The additional advantages under these circumstances would be that grain could be sold for future delivery to greater advantage since the grade would be known. Also advances on Warehouse Receipts could be secured as soon as delivery of a car lot was completed at the initial elevator, enabling a farmer to discharge his more pressing liabilities and market his grain in a leisurely manner, selling only when there was an active milling or export demand. The effect would be a generally higher level of prices for the farmer. Collections would be facilitated and transportation would not be demanded at any season of the year in excess of the power of reasonably equipped railways.

The best of all reasons for creating the system is that the class who form the major part of the population demand it, and that it can be granted without placing a tax upon the remainder of the people.

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REPLY OF THE PREMIERS

To the Secretary of Inter-provincial Council of Grain Growers:—

Dear Sir,—We have had under careful consideration the representations made by you to us in our recent conferences concerning the grain trade, and the necessity of certain remedial measures being adopted to remedy the grievances complained of. We readily assent to your position that anything affecting the agriculturist is of paramount importance and deserves the most mature consideration. We understand that you take the position that nothing further can be hoped for by amendments to existing legislation, in so far as internal elevators are concerned, and to obtain what your executive desires, you request that in so far as the three western provinces are concerned, a system of government ownership and operation of grain elevators be inaugurated. In reply to this request we beg to say as follows:

The several matters presented involve, in their institution, carrying out and performance, the consideration of unusually grave and complicated questions, constitutional, financial and legislative, which we will more fully hereinafter indicate.

The three provinces are asked to wholly provide, operate and maintain on the public credit, the requisite quota of elevators for the storage of grain and to regulate generally the number which the shipment or transportation of grain should be conducted. This will necessarily involve, as you will recognize, a new constitutional principle not hitherto exercised, and also means the incurrence from time to time of heavy financial responsibilities on the part of the several provinces, and further, the putting in practical form by constructive, regulative and restrictive legislation, the right of absolute provincial government control and regulation of the matters involved.

It is evident that to accomplish in its entirety the end lastly above mentioned or sought by you, it would be necessary first, for our respective provinces to be given, or have delegated to them, the necessary legislative powers in the premises, by amendments, through the Imperial parliament, to the British North America Act; and, secondly, to have adequate provision made for the necessary self-protection and the consequent liability undertaken by us amongst other provisions expressly stipulating that all grain should pass through one channel, and one channel only; or, in other words, to create in regard thereto a complete and absolute monopoly. Any attempt to deal with the subject, other than in a full, complete and far-reaching manner, would, in our opinion, fail and prove futile, and possibly be followed with disastrous results. The separate states of the United States in dealing with transportation companies doing an interstate business found themselves unable to accomplish their desire and federal action was invoked to meet their difficulties. These states, while occupying a somewhat identical position with the provinces, possessed much more power relatively to their federal government than the provinces do to the federal government of Canada. The founders of Confederation clearly intended that the federal parliament of Canada should hold and possess the residuum of power and clearly and unmistakably defined the lines which should separate federal and provincial legislation, and such provision has clearly continued down to the present time. Wherever power is given to the federal parliament and not to the provincial assemblies, it is incompetent for the provincial assemblies to trespass upon such powers. It must therefore be admitted without question that powers of provincial legislatures are limited. The parliament of Canada has exclusive jurisdiction to deal with certain classes of subjects. One of the objects of the constitution of Canada was to create a strong federal government charged with duties and responsibilities towards industry, and to establish confidence, credit and commerce by salutary laws affecting the Dominion as a whole and the nations with which the Dominion and its people would from time to time deal, to be enforced by the power of the whole Dominion. It was not, we believe, ever intended that both the federal parliament and the legislatures of the several provinces should have and exercise identical or similar powers respecting certain classes of duties and powers to be performed. Therefore, it was manifest that when certain powers were given solely to the federal government, it necessarily implies a prohibition on the part of the province to act on the subject so solely assigned to the Dominion. One of the provisions of the British North America Act is as follows:

"It is specially declared that any matter coming within the classes of subjects as to which the parliament

of Canada within the classes of subjects assigned.

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of Canada is given control shall not be deemed to come within the class of matters of a local or private nature comprised in the enumeration of the classes of subjects assigned."

The subject upon which the provinces are asked by your executive to take action, that is to say, the monopolistic establishment and operation of grain elevators and handling of grain in the three provinces as a public utility, can hardly be claimed to be purely of a local or private character, and involves in its carrying out the condition precedent of the provinces being possessed of the necessary power and authority in the premises, which, unfortunately, from the standpoint of carrying out the wishes of your executive, is not the case, and it follows that any legislative action taken by the provinces along the lines suggested would, in addition to being exterritorial in effect, be dealing with some of the matters as to which the parliament of Canada has exclusive jurisdiction to deal with and beyond the power of the local authorities to enact.

We have in a general way given expression to our views respecting the absence of provincial jurisdiction in the premises. We, however, desire to briefly particularize the powers which the parliament of Canada has, and which the provinces have not, and which are necessary for the latter to have in order to fully and effectually deal with the matter in question.

It is provided by the British North America Act that the exclusive legislative authority of the parliament of Canada shall extend to certain classes of subjects, among the number being "the regulation of trade and commerce," "weights and measures" and "national railways" (such as C.P.R., C.N.R. and G.T.P.). The provisions are clear and distinct, that in all matters respecting and affecting the trade and commerce of the Dominion and the weighing and measuring of the several commodities of the country, the parliament of Canada shall have exclusive authority to deal. Laws have been so enacted and relate and apply not to any portion, but to the Dominion of Canada as a whole. The matter of administration, the responsibilities imposed, and the privileges extended, are uniform throughout. We cannot find that any of the provinces have either attempted to deal with matters affecting either of the classes of subjects above mentioned. The power of the parliament of Canada with regard thereto has always been considered supreme. Applying this view to the present application or requests of your executive, we are in full accord in expressing the opinion that in the present condition of the constitution of Canada the consummation, either wholly or partially, of the desires of your executive, can only be given effect to in one of two ways, i.e., either by legislative action of the parliament of Canada (which now possesses the amplest powers of dealing therewith), or by securing amendments to the British North America Act by the Imperial parliament, conferring full and absolute control and authority upon the provinces in the premises, that is to say:

1. To wholly and absolutely control, regulate and govern the storage and handling of grain.
2. To prescribe, control and regulate the weights and grades of grains, subject to no alteration or review by any other authority.
3. To fully control all transportation companies, railways, etc., in the matter of expropriation of elevators and sites, the distribution of cars, and in other respects to provide such regulations and restrictions respecting these companies as shall be essential for the convenient and satisfactory handling of grain.
4. Generally, all such other powers and authority as to trade and commerce and the weighing and grading of grain as may be necessary to give the provinces complete inherent and exterritorial jurisdiction in the premises in every respect; that is to say, full authority within the provinces, and also outside where the grain may be handled at terminal points.

There is also to be considered the financial sides of the case. Mr. Charles C. Castle, warehouse commissioner, has furnished official statements to us, showing, among other things hereinafter set forth, the following information, i.e., that the number of elevators under operation last season was 1,334, with a storage capacity of 39,724,000 bushels. To put into effect any practical scheme of government ownership of elevator facilities and complete government control over the handling and shipment of grain, would involve the provinces in a very large financial undertaking. It would be necessary to provide, in the first place, the requisite number of elevators to handle the business, not any part, but the whole of it, for the monopoly should be absolute in all respects; and, in the next place, for the cost of maintenance and management. Mr. Castle states that the cost of constructing an ordin-

ary standard 25,000 bushel elevator is between \$5,000 and \$5,400. The initial outlay, therefore, to be provided for by the provinces to establish and equip an adequate elevator system, or to acquire that already in existence, would be between seven and ten million dollars. Then would arise the question of providing the necessary funds. This could only be accomplished by issue of bonds by the provinces. We are of the view that without the provinces possessing the fullest power to legislate in the premises, the proffered securities would not be deemed desirable in the money markets of the world. It is therefore apparent that a solution of the problem is not only complicated in detail financially, but presents, as before stated, grave and constitutional difficulties.

We are not insensible to the fact that at all times in the history of the west there has existed (and may still exist) justifiable grounds for complaint as to the manner in which grain was, or is, being handled; but we believe that the parliament of Canada are desirous of relieving the grievances, and have to a considerable extent removed unfavorable and undesirable conditions, or in a large measure ameliorated them. In our opinion the provisions or features of the Dominion Grain Act have on the whole done much in this direction, and we believe the parliament of Canada would favorably consider any further provisions or features that would tend to a like direction.

The building of loading platforms, thus facilitating the shipment of grain by car lots, has proven a great step in advance, and every year, either in legislation or administration, some improvement is noticeable.

Mr. Charles C. Castle, Dominion warehouse commissioner, further officially states to us that for the twelve months ending the 31st of August, 1908, the total amount of wheat inspected at Winnipeg was 54,404,150 bushels, of which approximately 42,000,000 bushels were shipped through the elevators, and 12,500,000 bushels from loading platforms; thus about 22 per cent. of the total wheat crop was loaded from the loading platforms.

For the three months ending the 30th of November, 1908, he states there were 44,072,500 bushels of wheat inspected at Winnipeg, of which 30,094,078 were shipped through the elevators and 14,578,422 bushels were shipped over the loading platforms, or about 33 per cent. of the total shipment, and that if the next crop is reasonably clean he would not be surprised if 40 per cent. of the total shipment was from the loading platform. As regards the loading platform, Mr. Castle states, "there are now loading platforms established at nearly every station in the Manitoba grain inspection division, and during the last season orders were given for 100 new ones to be built or enlarged to permit of four cars being loaded simultaneously."

We are informed that with these improved conditions, and the probability of such being added to from time to time, both by the Dominion authorities and the transportation companies and, more especially, the probability that the railway companies will in the near future, either voluntarily or by virtue of legislation, erect shipping houses especially for direct shipment, we feel that continued improvement in conditions for the handling of grain can be confidently expected.

We have at some length pointed out the constitutional and other difficulties involved in the carrying out of the suggestions of your executive and the amendments necessary to the British North America act before action can be justifiably taken by the provinces.

We fully appreciate the magnitude and importance of the whole question and are fully alive to our responsibilities in the matter, and in conclusion beg to assure your association of (1) our willingness at all times to consider any grievances of the agriculturists of our respective provinces, our sympathy with them, and our readiness to co-operate with them in any measure or measures that will place them in a more advantageous position to carry on their labors; (2) that upon the procurement of the necessary amendment to the British North America act, giving to the provinces the powers hereinbefore indicated, to completely establish and control a public monopoly in the storage, handling and inspection of grain, that we are quite willing to endeavor, subject to the approval of our respective assemblies, to frame a scheme financially safeguarded for the giving of effect to the desire of your executive.

We are, dear Sir,

Most obediently yours,

(Sgd.) A. C. RUTHERFORD, Premier, Province of Alberta.

(Sgd.) WALTER SCOTT, Premier, Province of Saskatchewan.

(Sgd.) R. P. ROBLIN, Premier, Province of Manitoba

FREE PRESS EDITORIAL

Of all the comments we have noted in the Western press in dealing with the Premiers' reply, we have found nothing which more temperately and fairly hits the situation as that of the Manitoba Free Press in its editorial of 23rd January. We take the opportunity to reproduce it in full.

THE LETTER OF THE PREMIERS.

The decision of the Premiers of the three Western Provinces not to embark in the business of operating elevators is incontrovertible, if the premises on which this conclusion is based are accepted without question. The premises, however, involve a rather large assumption, and one which will probably be expressly defined by those who had been urging the Governments to the course which they have now declined to take. This assumption is the declaration that a necessary precedent to the successful operation by the Provinces of the elevators must be the acquirement, with the consent of the Federal and the Imperial Parliaments, of such additions to their present constitutional powers as would enable them to obtain and enforce the monopoly in grain handling, and to supplement this by the control of weights, measures, grades and transportation facilities which at present lies entirely within the jurisdiction of the Federal power.

Those who have been urgently advocating government ownership of elevators will doubtless demand from the Governments a fuller statement of their reasons for holding that they must have a complete monopoly if the project is to be sufficiently attractive to capital to make it possible to finance it. That conclusion is, when one comes to consider it calmly, something of a reflection upon the principle of government ownership. It is an acknowledgment, in effect, that the Governments would not be able, in a fair field without favor, successfully to compete with private ownership of elevators. This is somewhat remarkable, in view of the charges of the incapacity, dishonesty and unpopularity of the existing methods of carrying on the elevator business which have been made during recent years. If there is any ground for these charges, one would say that a well-conducted Government elevator, operating under existing conditions as to inspection, weighing, and transportation, would have no difficulty in putting the privately-owned elevators out of business, thus ensuring a large and consequently a highly profitable trade.

There is certainly no constitutional difficulty in the way of the Manitoba Government, if it chooses, buying an elevator at, say, Brandon, and conducting it as a public institution; nor would any constitutional difficulty arise, if this single operation at Brandon were repeated an unlimited number of times. It therefore appears that there is nothing in the reasons set forth in the paper to which the Premiers have set their names, which would prelude the Governments from embarking on the elevator business, should they desire so to do. It is true that they are debarred from securing an elevator monopoly; but this is a different proposition, and one which we do not think has ever been put to the Premiers by representatives of the Grain-Growers.

It would, perhaps, be near the mark to say that the Premiers of the Provinces have no expectation that this deliverance will end the agitation for government elevators. They have cleverly side-stepped the question, knowing full well, however, that it will face them again. The letter is a strategic manoeuvre, intended to gain time for the fuller consideration of this question, not only by the Governments, but by the farmers themselves; and, viewed in this light, the document is comprehensible. The project of government-owned elevators is one of enormous magnitude and complexity, involving great financial responsibilities; and it is easy to understand that, upon the discussion and consideration which has been given it to date, the Premiers of the Western Provinces are reluctant to commit their political fortunes and the credit of their Provinces to it. At the same time, they are too shrewd politicians to declare brusquely that the proposition is not feasible; nor would it be proper to make any such declaration at this time. They have, therefore, met the demands of the Grain-Growers with a diplomatic non possumus, thereby gaining time for fuller consideration of the matter by all parties. The reply of the Premiers will doubtless stimulate a discussion of the whole matter, to the enlightenment of all concerned.

BOUQUETS FOR THE PREMIERS

Not only has the irony of the situation in its almost ludicrous aspect created a strong sentiment in the editorial sanctum of the Free Press, but its essential features have also "caught on" and made their due impression upon the farming clientele of the F. P. Witness the letter which we quote at length from that journal of 31st January:

To the Editor of the Free Press:

Sir,—This morning's issue of the Free Press publishes the reply of the premiers of the three western provinces to the grain growers' demand for government ownership and operation of the line elevators within the three provinces. A perusal of the reply gives rise to various feelings and emotions, of surprise, astonishment, admiration and pride at the innate ability and aptitude of the Anglo-Saxon race to grapple with and dispose of great and intricate questions of profound statesmanship and constitutional law. Nowhere is this more evident than in the document under consideration. When it is pondered over and properly digested that the west is only a new country, and consequently the opportunities afforded our statesmen for dealing with great questions of vast economic importance and far-reaching results to our western farmers, are greatly limited as to time and experience, it is gratifying to know that we have men at the head of public affairs in these provinces who at once display their ability to deal effectually with such questions as they arise; deal with them on fundamental principles, and show a breadth of view and wealth of research that challenges admiration and leaves the intoxicated reader in a stupor of amazement.

Of course everyone knows, in order to meet the wishes of the grain growers, there must be a complete monopoly of the grain trade. That is quite clear now. The weighing, grading, storage, must be a monopoly, and railways must be controlled as well as transportation of all kinds. No doubt this includes water transportation and the control of ocean vessels. The non mention of this latter was doubtless an oversight of the premiers, which will be corrected later on, but the control of ocean freight of grain may involve a question of international relations and give rise to misunderstandings that would have to be settled by that tribunal at the Hague. It is fortunate there is a tribunal of that kind as the most disastrous consequences might follow, involving war between the nations when this great monopoly scheme is put in operation. What momentous questions this demand of the grain growers has given rise to! It shows that sometimes small things give rise to world movements of immense consequences. And the end is not yet.

A FLABBERGASTED GRAIN GROWER.

January 30.

FURTHER COMMENTS

"The West," Regina, says: "Elsewhere in this issue we publish the reply of the premiers of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to the requests made by the Associations of Grain Growers for the three western provinces. The grain growers were anxious that the governments of the three provinces should unite and form some scheme to alleviate some of the difficulties under which the farmers now live in respect to the handling of grain. The grain growers suggest government ownership and operation of the internal elevators. The premiers have replied that they have not the legislative power to do this and that is about all there is to it.

It would appear to us that the premiers have thought the subject too deep or too troublesome a one for them; and have gone to work deliberately to frame some sort of an excuse to evade the real question. Governments seem to have a way of getting what they want for themselves. When a government wants to spend more money than has been voted by the legislature, they get over the difficulty by spending the money under special warrant. When the farmer wants anything it appears that governments stave off their first requests with a plausible story and some advice.

The reply is more the reply of politicians or legal men and not the sort of reply that might be expected to a business proposition. The premiers rest their case of "won't do anything" on the grounds that they have not the power under the British North America Act to carry out the proposal that was made by the grain growers. Of course as politicians they say they are in sympathy with the agriculturalists and are willing to consider their

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grievances, etc., etc. But they do not suggest one way out of the present grievances except by the cumbersome and tedious process of having the Imperial parliament amend the British North America Act.

We believe that the Grain Growers' will not be satisfied to let their proposals end there but that they will make further suggestions which are within the powers of the provinces."

ANOTHER MACKENZIE & MANN RAID COMING

(From the Toronto Weekly Sun.)

"Signs begin to multiply which point to a determination on the part of Mackenzie and Mann to organize a gigantic raid on both the Dominion and Provincial Parliaments during the present and pending sessions.

These gentlemen have announced their intention of building a link north of Lake Superior to connect their Western lines, which end at Port Arthur, with their Eastern lines, now terminating north of Sudbury. Statements which have appeared in the Toronto World and other papers have made it also apparent that the promoters intend to follow the same course that was pursued when the James' Bay line was built, and to demand aid from both the Dominion and Provincial Governments in carrying out the project in view. The former will assuredly be asked for a cash grant based on mileage, and the latter will probably be urged to guarantee the bond issue, and possibly something even more substantial than this.

There is only one method available by which the raid can be prevented from succeeding and that is by organized effort on the part of the farmers of Ontario. As a beginning, steps should be taken to bring influence to bear on the Legislature. The Provincial Assembly is called to meet on February 16th. Before the members leave home let each one be made to feel that his constituents will not stand either for guarantees or bonuses. Especially should steps to this end be taken through the Grange, which has the means at hand of voicing agricultural opinion in the most forcible manner possible."

This combination has raided Manitoba almost to the limit of her credit. This season it invaded Saskatchewan and is now after Alberta and British Columbia as well as Ontario and the Dominion. It is not content to have the people of Canada provide the securities and cash to build them a transcontinental railway with all the necessary ramification of branch lines, but in addition, under guise of guaranteeing bonds to build railways, supply them with funds to monopolize electrical power, electric railways and other natural utilities, not only in Canada but foreign countries as well.

No other industry is so much concerned in stopping these "annual raids," as the Sun puts it, as the farming. Urban and commercial interests seem to encourage rather than oppose them.

A vague idea seems to prevail in the business world and in the large class of our population who live on their wits rather than engage in any productive occupation, that some advantage will accrue to them whenever the treasury of the Dominion or the Provinces is exploited in the term of what is generally known as "Graft"—the sale of a town lot or the innumerable other methods that men adopt to get something for nothing. The rural population has nothing to gain but everything to lose by those raids, and as long as they will tacitly consent by inaction and not make vigorous protests in an organized effort, railways, corporations and other beneficiaries of the present system will continue their raids with the usual success.

Pride is one of the seven deadly sins; but it cannot be the pride of a mother in her children, for that is a compound of two cardinal virtues—faith and love.—Charles Dickens. (Nicholas Nickleby).

Great Dispersion Sale

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO STOCK BREEDERS

A Unique Opportunity For Any Farmer

A. Graham, of the Forest Home Farm, Pomeroy, having decided to close out his farming operations, begs to announce a Dispersion Sale to be held on 17th March. This will be one of the largest as well as one of the most important sales held in recent years. The Shorthorn Herd has been established nearly 20 years and now numbers about 50 head: The foundation Stock was selected with great care from the best Eastern Herds and from time to time new blood of the best strain has been added, the bulls used in the herd having always been the best procurable. Forest Home Shorthorns have always given a good account of themselves in the show ring, and the herd to be dispersed is quite up to the usual standard.

For some years back, Mr. Graham has been breeding Clydesdales quite extensively. At present there are upwards of a dozen registered animals, all of which will go to the highest bidder. Among the lot is the Imported Stallion "Vigorous," one of the best known in Western Canada. "Vigorous" was sired by "Up to Time" (one of the most noted sons of "Baron's Pride"), and was shown three times in Scotland, always taking highest honors. He is also a first prize winner at Toronto Exhibition, and has proved himself a sure getter of stock of the first quality. Seven Mares (being offered at this sale), are in oal to this horse.

Forest Home Clydesdales are well known throughout the Province, having figured very prominently among the prize winners for some years, both at Winnipeg and the local shows. There should be a good demand for this offering of Clydesdales, combining as they do plenty of substance with quality of a high order.

The FOREST HOME FARM is also FOR SALE, and should be an exceptionally good investment. This farm consists of 560 acres of as good land as lies to the sun. The whole is in a fine state of cultivation, a system of rotation of crops having been followed for years, during which at least one-third of the farm has been kept under grass.

Nearly all the coarse grain and all the hay produce has been consumed on the farm, and all manure returned to the soil, by which method the fertility of the land has been greatly increased and the farm is now in prime condition to give excellent returns.

The Farm is fenced off in 80 acre fields, from all of which the Stock has access to good water. There is a fully modern horse stable with accommodation for 30 horses; stabling for 60 head of cattle and buildings for about 60 hogs.

The Dwelling House is large, commodious and well arranged, heated by hot water, good bath (hot and cold water), with Cistern Capacity of 150 barrels. A Splendid Grove provides excellent shelter for farm buildings and stock. There is also a nice young orchard coming into bearing, consisting of several varieties of standard apples as well as Crab apples and other small Fruits. The whole can be purchased on very reasonable terms and (conducted by a man giving his own help), cannot fail to yield the most gratifying returns.

Sale Catalogues will be forwarded to any address on receipt of Post Card addressed to

ANDREW GRAHAM
Pomeroy P.O., Man.

THE PREMIERS:

An "Appreciation"

One of the prominent workers in the Grain Growers' Association writing to the Editor, says:

"I think with you, that the premiers treated us, to say the least, with great discourtesy in publishing their reply before communicating it to us. We must get after these people and show them that their attempt at humbugging will not be tolerated in this matter. Just so soon as the petitions go into the legislature we ought to meet them again and give them to understand that this elevator question must be taken up and dealt with without any undue delay. It is very interesting to the farmers and the mass of toilers to note how ready these premiers are to pledge the credit of their respective provinces in order to enable railway promoters to construct great enterprises in which the people will not hold a dollar when completed but which will be used as a means of levying unduly high taxes on the people in the shape of freight rates to enrich these promoters.

"Yet when these statesmen are asked to undertake an enterprise that would be of great benefit to the country generally and would not involve the provinces in the risk of a dollar, all kinds of objections are raised. There are lions in the way. Well it is up to the people who, if they do their duty, will make these politicians sit up and take notice. I suppose the plan of campaign will be arranged at the meeting of the Interprovincial Council."

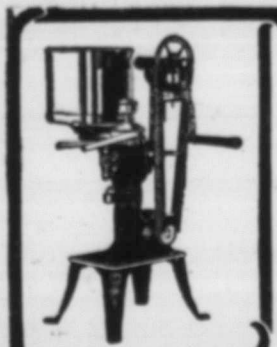
NEWS OF THE BRANCHES

The annual meeting of the Hazelcliff Grain Growers was recently held. Mr. Wm. Gordon was elected President and Mr. Dave Brown Secretary-Treasurer. A unanimous vote was passed urging that the Grain Growers' Guide be made the official organ of the Saskatchewan G.G.A. Mr. John Common was elected delegate to attend the Convention at Weyburn. Keen interest is being taken in the work of the Grain Growers.

The Grain Growers of Morris held a very successful entertainment and social on the evening of Jan. 29th. The farmers and their wives, together with some of the town people, spent a pleasant evening.

The Agricultural Society of Carberry joined with the Grain Growers of that district in a banquet in the town hall, Carberry, on the evening of Feb. 2nd. About 200 sat down to a sumptuous repast. The commercial, banking and professional representatives of the town united in patting the farmer on the back and telling him what a good fellow he was.

A correspondent from Golden Stream writes us: "The articles in 'The Guide' on co-operative societies in Britain were excellent. When my parents resided in the Old Country they were staunch believers in Co-operative societies. As we were of the working class my mother looked forward to the dividend for paying the rent. This reminds me of a story about an old lady who was a member of the Co-operative Society and kept a lodging house. One day when the old lady had been drawing her dividend she returned to the house to find her lodgers busy at their dinner. She made the remark: 'Eat, ye beggars, eat! The more ye eat the bigger the dividends.'"



HOW I.H.C. CREAM HARVESTERS HELP MAKE BETTER CALVES

THERE are indirect as well as direct benefits in using I. H. C. Cream Harvesters.

Everybody knows that the Cream Harvester will save labor, save time and get more butter fat out of the milk than you can get by hand skimming. These are direct benefits. They are the most persuasive reasons why every dairyman should have a cream separator.

But an indirect benefit, hardly less important, is the better calves you can raise.

When you skim by hand the calves get the cold, tasteless, sour skim milk that has but little life in it.

If you haul cold milk to the creamery and take back your portion of the skim milk to feed your calves, it is even worse. In addition to its being stale and lifeless you take grave chances of introducing tuberculosis into your herd.

If you have an I. H. C. Cream Harvester, you separate the milk while it is warm and fresh. The calves, and pigs and chickens get the skim milk before it is stale, cold and sour. A little oil meal added to this appetizing skim milk makes it an ideal food, practically as good as the whole milk.

I. H. C. Cream Harvesters are very close skimmers. The saving in cream alone by using one of these machines goes far each season toward paying for the cost of the machine if you keep a number of cows.

There are two styles of I. H. C. Cream Harvesters, the Dairymaid and the Bluebell.

Dairymaid Cream Harvester

This machine is chain driven, and it is made in four sizes—350, 450, 650 and 850 pounds capacity per hour.



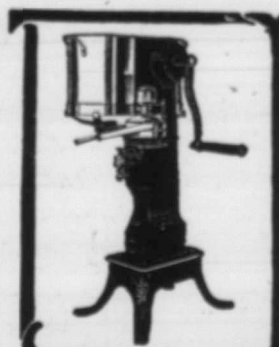
Get either of these separators and you will get more butter fat out of your milk than you are now getting. You will get more nutritious and appetizing feed for your calves. You will save labor, save time. Investigate fully by calling on the International local agent and examine the I. H. C. Cream Harvester he handles, or, if you prefer, write to nearest branch house for full information.

CANADIAN BRANCHES: Brandon, Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, London, Montreal, Ottawa, Regina, Saskatoon, St. John, Winnipeg.

International Harvester Company of America

(Incorporated)

Chicago, - - - U. S. A.



Because of the simple and direct application of power from the crank to the bowl, it is exceptionally easy running and is very easily kept in order. The strongest points about this machine are its close skimming, convenient operation and simplicity, which make it exceptionally durable. The supply can and crank are waist high, an ideal location to make the work easy. When you get a Dairymaid you can be sure you are going to get all the butter fat in the easiest possible way.

Bluebell Cream Harvester

The Bluebell is a gear drive machine. It is exceptionally well constructed. The gears are accurately cut to the thousandth part of an inch. They are thoroughly protected from dust and milk, and they are provided with Al oiling facilities. That is why Bluebell owners have less trouble than any other separator owners. The machine is simple. It is long-lived, and it is very easy running. The Bluebell bowl skims down to the thousandth part. Its interior separating device is patented, and it is the most efficient device of this kind manufactured. The supply can and crank-shaft are at the proper height to make the operation easy.



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DAUPHIN

The Dauphin branch of the G.G.A. had 48 members during the time of the Convention. Now they have 78. The Secretary says: "The turn down by the Premiers helps greatly in adding to our numbers."

ROCANVILLE

A very enthusiastic meeting of the farmers of the Rocanville district was held in the Orange hall, Rocanville, on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 23rd. Mr. R. Irwin, who took the chair introduced the principal speaker, Mr. Knowles of the Grain Growers Co. who delivered an eloquent address on the advantage of a sample market over the present system of grading used in buying by the grain companies. Mr. Knowles also covered many other points of interest to farmers in the present tirade against the grain buying companies. He outlined the great work of the Grain Growers' Co. done during the past two seasons, especially the present season in which according to their half-yearly report they had far exceeded all past record.

A motion to the effect that a Grain Growers' Association be formed at this point was unanimously carried.

SHAREHOLDERS—GRAIN GROWERS' GRAIN CO.

Many of the shareholders seem not to understand the stock dividend declared January 1, 1909. Consequently many are remitting money which is not due, while others are in doubt.

Please read the circular carefully. If you have received a pink receipt please note that it satisfies the formal call. This dividend has been declared on all stock allotted before April 30, 1908. If your stock was allotted before that date and you had paid \$7.50, the dividend has brought it up to \$17.50 per share, which is all that has yet been called.

The call of \$10.00 has to be met only by those whose stock has been allotted after April 30, 1908.

OBITUARY

Untimely death of William S. Crerar of Russell

With grief we have to record the death of Mr. W. S. Crerar of Russell, which took place at the General Hospital, Winnipeg, on Friday morning, 5th of the present month. Mr. Crerar had suffered from acute peritonitis for a few days and never rallied from the operation which became necessary if his life were to be prolonged.

No personality was more revered in the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association than that of its late member whose death we record. Mr. Crerar, by his strong common sense methods and tactful address became a tower of strength to the Association, and quite recently had lent his whole weight to the organization of new branches and took part in the missionary programme which had been in operation during the fall and winter.

Mr. Crerar was in his 58th year and his passing is lamented by a large circle of friends throughout the West to whom he had endeared himself. A native of North-East Hope, Perth County, Ont., Mr. Crerar came West in 1881 and settled at Silver Creek, east of Russell and since that date, by all who knew him, he was regarded with affection, as a friend in whose loyalty there never lingered an element of doubt, and as one of Manitoba's most progressive agriculturists. He was reeve of Silver Creek municipality for 18 years and was candidate for the legislature, contesting Russell (and within a hair's-breadth of success) in the Liberal interest in 1899.

The utmost sympathy is felt for the widow of our old friend and for the members of the family, one of whom, Mr. T. A. Crerar (President of the Grain Growers' Grain Co.), is closely pursuing his late father's footsteps and has already rendered yeoman service to the interests of Western Grain Growers.

Farm Lands and City Property

FOR SALE AND EXCHANGE

SEE ME for easy terms and good land. A few parcels on half crop payments. ONE SECTION with stock and implements. Loans at current rates.

J. B. GOWANLOCK
517 McIntyre Block, Winnipeg



GREAT WEST

WOVEN WIRE FENCES

Are made of best spring steel galvanized fence wire, with a galvanized wire lock that holds like a vice. Made in styles to suit all purposes. Get our illustrated catalogue. It gives full information, and is free for the asking.

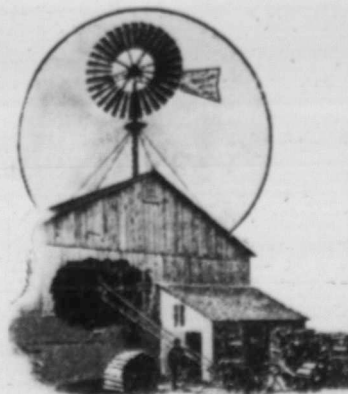
THE GREAT WEST WIRE FENCE COMPANY LIMITED

WINNIPEG

FROM FACTORY TO FARMER

**CATER'S PUMPS
STAR WINDMILLS**

Without the middleman's profit.



14-ft. Star Power Mill
with 8-ft. Floor Grinders
Only \$160

13-ft. Star Power Mill
with Mast Grinder.
Only \$110

12-ft. Star Power Mill
with Mast Grinder.
Only \$100

8-ft. Pumping Mill
and 30-ft. Steel Tower.
Only \$60

All Star Mills are fitted with Upright Shafting, Guy Rods and Turn Buckles, ready for erection.

Cater's Wood and Iron Pumps

For hand and windmill use, at reduced prices. Over 15,000 now in use in the west. Write for catalogue.

Address:

Brandon Pump and Windmill Works

Dept. S. BRANDON, MAN.

GREATEST OAT ON EARTH

GARTON'S REGENERATED ABUNDANCE (1909 STOCK)

ENDORSED BY WESTERN FARMERS

HEAVY YIELDERS

Regenerated Abundance yielded over 100 bushels per acre and were two weeks earlier than other oats in same field. THOS. SANDERSON, Kinistino, Sask.

Regenerated Abundance threshed out over 100 bushels per acre, have sold all for seed. Increase my 30 bushel order to 200 bushels for March delivery. GALLOWAY BROS., Lajord, Sask.

Your Regenerated Abundance yielded 80 bushels per acre, my ordinary oats went 40. JOS. SMITH, Penhold, Alta.

Your oats sown on stubble yielded over 70 bushels per acre, and weighed at Indian Head Seed Fair 46½ lbs. per bushel. Banner alongside with same treatment went 45 bus. per acre. A. E. WILSON, Indian Head, Sask.

EARLY RIPENING

Regenerated Abundance were three weeks earlier, yielded 20 bushels per acre more than to my ordinary oats. FRED. WYSS, Calmer, Alta.

Regenerated Abundance sowed 14th May were ripe before ordinary oats sowed 15th April and yielded 30 bushels per acre more. W. L. CENTRE, Innisfail, Alta.

Regenerated Abundance sown same day as Banner ripened fully seven days earlier, quite valuable for earliness and large grain. THOS. SALES, Pres. Agricultural Society, Langham, Sask.

Regenerated Abundance ripened 1 week earlier and yielded 15 bushels per acre more than any other oats. J. STUECK, Abernethy, Sask.

RUST RESISTERS

Regenerated Abundance yielded 85 bushels per acre, free from rust. Banner 14 days later badly attacked with rust yielded only 30 bushels per acre. C. C. CASTLE, Winnipeg, Man.

STRONG STRAW

Regenerated oats well adapted to this locality on account of still straw. Ripened 10 days before Banner and yielded 15 bushels per acre more. W. BRAID, Oak River, Man.

NO SMUT

Regenerated Abundance oats were entirely free from smut, yielded 15 bushels per acre more and were 7 days earlier than Banner. D. K. MCLEOD, Francis, Sask.

HEAVY GRAIN

I won the Champion Sweepstake Prize at the Provincial Seed Fair for Sask. with your oats. They weighed 46½ lbs., yielded 124 bushels per acre. W. HENLEY, Qu'Appelle, Sask.

NOTE.—As we control the entire stock of the above oats they cannot be purchased from other seed houses. The Alberta Government at recent seed fairs were selling a stock of these Regenerated Oats, which they obtained direct from us at a reduced price for a large quantity, but their stock being all sold, these wonderful Oats can now only be purchased direct from us at Catalogue prices. They are shipped in original two-bushel sealed bags, as received from the raisers, Garton Bros.

ANY NOT SO SEALED ARE SPURIOUS

The Seed we ship is guaranteed absolutely free from Wild Oats or Weed seeds and weighs from 48 to 52 lbs. per measured bushel, with an average germination of 98 per cent.

Write for Catalogue G, describing how these oats are bred. It is sent free.

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HUNDREDS OF GREAT VALUES LIKE THESE IN OUR BIG CATALOGUE

\$22.50 BUYS THE WINGOLD GRAIN CLEANER



\$22.50 buys The Wingold Grain Cleaner, the Latest and Best mill made. It will separate Wild and Tame Oats from Wheat faster and do better work than any mill on the market of equal size. It is the only mill having the combined advantages of the Winnowing and Separating types. It has the largest sieving surface, adjustable lower shoe which imparts a long, short or jumping motion to the screens, cleans all kinds of grain and is equipped with Zinc Sieves. The Wingold is sold direct to farmers at wholesale price. Can furnish only a limited number this season. Write at once for further particulars or send us our price with the understanding that, should you find the mill other than as represented, it can be returned and the purchase price, together with freight charges, are to be returned you. Special Low Price to quickly introduce THE WINGOLD GRAIN CLEANER. Only \$22.50 for 24 inch size. Capacity 30 to 40 bushels per hour. Bagging attachments extra. Write for further information.

ALBERTA SPECIAL

We offer this leader in farm harness as the equal of harness that will be sold everywhere this year at 30 per cent. more money. Bridles ¾ in., cheeks round winker stays and cheeks, square blinds open, stiff or jointed bits, lines 1 in. with snaps and spreaders; hames, high top, steel bound with 1 in. x 18 in. hame tug and double grip trace buckle, traces 1½ in. x 3 ply x 6 ft. with cockeye; martingales and pole straps 1½ in. with slits and snaps felt-lined strap back band with hooks and terrets, cruppers buckled to back-strap. X.C. trimmed. This is only one of our many leaders. Our catalogue shows a complete line. Write for it. It's free.

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A regular \$125 machine with

30 DAYS' FREE USE

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WRITE TO-DAY OR CATALOGUE

down. It does not break the butter fat globules. It requires no special tools for its care. It is the real labor-saving Cream Separator. You can't afford to make a mistake when you buy this splendid machine for so little money. Write to-day for our new Big Catalogue. It explains everything. Tells you just what you want to know about Cream Separators.

THE WINGOLD STOVE CO. LTD. 183 BANNATYNE AVE., WINNIPEG

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Grain Growers'
ASSOCIATION
Executive
1909

Vice Pres R. Henderson

Geo. H. Malcolm

President
D. W. McCraig

J. S. Wood

Secy-Treas R. McKenzie

PURE SEEDS

THE LITTLE THINGS
THAT COUNT



PROFIT OR LOSS

WHICH SHALL IT BE ?

Buying your seeds for the garden or field is one of the greatest responsibilities which rests upon you in connection with your gardening and farming operations. What you do now as to buying your seed determines in no small degree the results at harvest time. Profit and Loss hang in the balance. Which shall it be? Stop and figure the Loss or Profit; by your present decision and action or possibly inaction. You know that the choicest and best should be sown; 10%, 20%, 30%, or 50% more profit as a result of sowing good seed as against poor non-selected seed is worth while pausing to consider, isn't it?

QUALITY TELLS In Seeds more than anything else, Quality Tells.

McKENZIE'S PURE SEED

is the result of specializing for quality. They show the highest germination, every variety is selected for its particular adaptability to the West. The vitality is the very strongest. They grow from the start and give best results.

A SUPERB GARDEN SELECTION

	Pkt.	Oz.	1/4-lb.	lb.		Pkt.	Oz.	1/4-lb.	lb.
BEANS	McK's Perfection Wax	10c.	(Postpaid)	30c.	LETTUCE	McK's Prairie Queen	5c.	25c.	65c.
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BEEF	McK's Extra Early	5c.	10c.	35c.	1.00	ONION	McK's Northland	10c.	2 1/2c.
CABBAGE	McK's Brandon Market	10c.	25c.	60c.	ONION	McK's Red Wethersfield	5c.	20c.	65c.
CABBAGE	McK's Northern Favorite	10c.	25c.	60c.	ONION	McK's Giant Perfection	10c.	30c.	75c.
CORN	McK's Early White Cory	5c.		25c.	ONION	McK's Red Globe	10c.	30c.	75c.
CORN	McK's Northern Success	10c.		25c.	ONION	McK's Yellow Globe Danvers	5c.	20c.	60c.
CAULIFLOWER	McK's Early Snowcap	25c.	3.00		PEA	McK's Manifold	5c.		35c.
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A.E.M. McKENZIE

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BRANDON MAN.

CALGARY ALTA.

SATISFIED

We prefer your seeds because we have found them true to name and of good vitality and better suited to our climate than seeds bought elsewhere. A. M. DEMOND, Viewfield, Sask.

QUALITY TELLS

Without any exception, we have the best garden from your seeds that one could have the pleasure in seeing. My neighbors who bought your seeds are more than pleased. J. A. PENNELL, McGregor, Man.

BEST

I used your seeds last year and they are the best I have found in Canada.—JOHANN T. THISEN, Langham, Sask.

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SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS

A YEAR OF PROGRESS

"The prosperity of a country depends, not on the abundance of its revenues, nor on the strength of its fortifications, nor on the beauty of its public buildings; but it consists in the number of its cultivated citizens, in its men of education, enlightenment and character; here are to be found its true interest, its chief strength, its real power."

These words of Martin Luther passed through the mind of a casual spectator who happened to be in Brandon while the Convention of the Manitoba Grain Growers' was in session and who took the opportunity to steal a face view of that body in the course of its deliberations.

Here was a crowd of men who certainly found no difficulty in separating history from hysterics and the verbiage of clap-trap oratory from the plain purposeful language of common sense in arriving at their meaning.

Their meaning was indicated by the bold headline that spanned the complete arc of their platform:

OUR JOB FOR 1909 GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF ELEVATOR SYSTEM

"Government Ownership" was the key-note of the Conference. Will they get it? That will rest entirely with themselves. "The great difference," said Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, "between men, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and the insignificant, is energy, invincible determination—a purpose once fixed, and then death or victory! That quality will do anything that can be done in this world, and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities, will make a two-legged creature a MAN without it."

The demands of the farmers have been outlined in the most definite terms to the political leaders of the three provinces. What the answer to these demands will be had not transpired at the rising of the Convention, but there appeared to be no doubt on the part of any speaker as to its evasive if not bluntly negative character. "We will not be turned down," said the speaker; "we do not expect to get what we asked for all at once—that would be against all known precedent. The premiers will be diplomatic; they will have many suggestions to offer; they will temporize and try to get out of the position as easily as they can, but it remains with the farmers to say what shall be the ultimate finding of these deliberations."

The same constructive energy was to be found in the Brandon Convention that built up the British Constitution, and the same dismembering forces were there that pulled down the Bastille. The Bastille was rased to the ground because it represented, as every one knows, the graveyard of so much of the people's rights. There is a vast interval of course between the iniquity of the Bastille and the thinly disguised pilfering of a great deal of the present Line Elevator system, but the shortcomings of the latter are admitted without a dissenting voice. If it is right; if it is the will of the West that it should be rescued from those abuses which are now matter of history, it will be accomplished silently, without revolution or bloodshed. As another speaker significantly announced, "While it is necessary to our business success as grain growers that we should have provincial operation of storage facilities at interior points, it is NOT necessary that a single man of those now occupying seats in the local legislatures and who are opposed to government ownership should be a member of the next legislature."

The entire Conference (saving seven men) rose to its feet in support of the resolution on this question. Seven men, however, had the courage to record their vote against it, not, let it be noted, in any petulant or antagonistic spirit but because they conscientiously felt that "the time was not yet." The sportsmanlike way in which these stalwarts, freed from all suspicion of pique, subsequently took part in the most friendly and enthusiastic manner in the Convention's work, was one of the most admirable of its many gratifying features. They did honor to their manhood in demonstrating that while there were minor differences in that assembly it was bound by a substantial unity of common interest.

The Seventh Annual Convention of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association was opened at Brandon on Tuesday morning, 19th January. President D. W. McQuaig called the meeting to order at eleven o'clock and announced that the conference would be formally inaugurated by the mayor of the city, whom he was glad to welcome to the platform.

The Mayor, in the name of the city, extended a cordial welcome to the visiting delegates, on all of whom and the members of the Press attending the Convention he conferred the honorary freedom of the city. In felicitous terms he alluded to the fact that Brandon's welfare and progress was so intertwined with the development of Western agriculture that the city's very existence depended upon those interests which had brought the fine body of men together which he saw before him. He was an old timer, having come to the province in 1882, and although he was now a member of the legal profession he knew experimentally the character and environment of the farming life, and not a little of the strenuous life of the pioneers of those early days in which frost and hail had played a part that recent settlers were hardly aware of. The audience he addressed inspired him in a peculiar manner, and having renewed his invitation to the delegates to make the most of the opportunity afforded them to visit any or all of the city's interesting features, and to "come again," the Mayor resumed his seat amid great applause.

The president gracefully acknowledged the Mayor's proffered hospitality and thanked him as representing the city for the cordial greeting he had extended and for his good offices in opening the Convention.

On the motion of Mr. J. S. Wood, seconded by Mr. D. D. McArthur, it was unanimously agreed to extend the usual courtesies to representatives of the press and to the visiting delegates.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The President, in delivering his opening address, said: "It is with pleasure I again welcome you to our seventh Annual Convention. The past year has been the most strenuous in the history of the Association, dealing with very important work, we can claim a measure of success that is very satisfactory.

The Association suffered a severe loss in the death of the late Mr. William Miller of Boissevain, one of our directors and a member of our Executive Committee. We miss his counsel and good judgment in our deliberations.

Our first work after the last convention was presenting a bill to the Provincial Legislature to amend the Charter of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange; a bill that was accepted by the Committee on Agriculture of the House and passed by the Legislature without a change or amendment, which is a credit to the careful consideration given to it by our Board.

The next important work dealt with was attending a conference in Ottawa called by the Minister of Trade and Commerce of all interested in the proposed amendments to the Manitoba Grain Act and Inspection Act by the Royal Grain Commission. At a hastily called meeting of our executive committee Messrs. Henders and McKenzie were appointed to represent us at the conference, with two from Saskatchewan and one from Alberta. This little band of five, representing the organized farmers of the three prairie provinces, put up such a valiant fight for our rights and requests that they secured a most signal victory over the great and mighty opposing host. Indeed, so heroic was their defence that their victory could only be compared to David's victory when he slew the Giant Goliath with a pebble from the brook.

A full report will be presented to you by the delegates for your consideration. At the close of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers Association Convention held in

Saskatoon, the Interprovincial Council was organized composed of the Executive Committees of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and Alberta Farmers' Association, and the council has been dealing with different questions of interest to the three Provinces since, and particularly with the Interior Elevator proposition which was placed before the three Premiers of the three Provinces on the 26th of November last and discussed very fully. The proposition is now under consideration by the different Governments.

A vacancy occurred on the Board of Railway Commissioners caused by the death of the late Honorable Thomas Greenway who was placed on the commission to represent the Agricultural class in the West.

Our executive committee realizing the importance of having a representative on the Board to represent the Agricultural class have recommended Mr. Andrew Graham of Pomeroy, one of our directors and a member of our executive committee, as a fit and proper person to be appointed as a worthy successor to Mr. Greenway.

It is quite clear now that the farmers of the west must keep strengthening their organization in order to retain what they have and secure further rights they are justly entitled to. Our watchword must be "United we stand, divided we fall," and always remember that eternal vigilance is the price of safety.

I have now occupied the high and honorable office of President of this Association for four years, and while I have discharged the duties falling upon me to the best of my ability and judgment in the interests of the Association, I feel that I have come short of coming up to the ideal looked for. I am desirous of retiring from the trust you have placed in me in the past, with grateful thanks for your confidence.

We are now in the midst of the most critical time in the history of our Association, and it is very necessary for the welfare of the association that the best men be elected to the different offices of trust to guide its destiny.

Men of clear mind, calm and sound judgment, and above reproach.

Again thanking you for your confidence and trust in the past."

Mr. McQuaig's address was listened to with marked appreciation and at the close was greeted with loud applause.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

The Directors' report was read by Mr. J. S. Wood. The following is the substance of this report, eliminating those portions which are directly overlapped by references made in the Chairman's opening address.

To the Delegates of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association in Convention assembled:

Gentlemen,—In presenting this the seventh annual report of the Directors of your Association, we are pleased to be able to state that considerable progress has been made during the past year both in increase in membership and also in the interest taken in the work of the members generally.

That portion of the findings of the conference of Reeves and others, of June 5th and 6th, 1907, having been disposed of, the executive interviewed the Premier to ascertain the attitude of the Provincial Government towards establishing a system of Government-owned elevators in Manitoba, with the result that the conferences of the Premiers of the three provinces have been held, at some of which the Interprovincial Council have been heard.

We have reason to believe that the policy decided on by the Premiers will be announced in a few days.

We trust it will be favorable to Government ownership, because we are more strongly than ever convinced that a square deal to the producer can be secured only by the removal of the storage facilities from the hands of private parties. We would then have a sample market at Winnipeg without the necessity of making that place an order point, since by having government owned elevators the grain could be cleaned, graded and sold before being shipped, and many of us have for years regarded a sample market as the ideal way of marketing grain.

On learning that the railways had adopted and were enforcing an excessive rate on bulkhead cars, your directors held a conference with the warehouse commissioner and the C.P.R. officials to discuss the matter. We regret to inform you that we were unable to get a reduction. The charge is certainly excessive and unfortunately it bears most heavily on the new settlers who are least able to afford it.

We believe redress can be secured only by appealing to the Railway Commissioners.

In February your directors found it necessary to appoint a delegation to go to Ottawa to protect the provisions of the Grain Act with regard to track loading, which were being seriously menaced.

A separate report of this delegation will be presented for your consideration.

In obedience to your instructions from last convention your directors have begun the publication of a paper in the interests of the organization, which is known as the Grain Growers' Guide, and we are pleased to state that it has been adopted as the official organ of the "United Farmers of Alberta."

You have no doubt all seen it, and we hope that to some extent it meets with your approval. We certainly trust you will make an effort to induce every member of our organization to support it by subscribing, and also try to extend its circulation as far as possible amongst those who are outside our organization.

Any suggestions which you think would tend to increase the usefulness of the paper will be received and cheerfully considered by the management, and you are all cordially invited to contribute matter for publication.

The vacancy on the Board of Directors caused by the death of the late William Millar was filled by the appointment of Mr. D. D. McArthur, of Lauder.

Your Executive interviewed the manager of the Canadian Northern Railway with regard to the unsatisfactory position of the loading platform at Dauphin. Mr. McLeod assured us that the yard would soon be re-arranged and the matter would be put right. Nothing having been done, however, the President went again to Mr. McLeod, but got no satisfaction. We believe the matter will have to go to the Railway Commission for settlement.

We were instructed by the last convention to have the law amended with regard to gisting and also to permit of the registering of partial payments made from time to time on land mortgages. We found, however, that the session of the House was too far advanced to permit of any new legislation being introduced.

In conclusion we cannot urge too strongly the need of thorough organization. We must not only strive for further emancipation from the numerous forms of injustice from which we suffer, but we must also guard jealously the measure of justice we have gained from those who are ever watchful and ready to take advantage of any lapse of vigilance on our part.

DAUPHIN SIDING

The old matter of the Dauphin Siding having been brought before the meeting, Mr. McQuaig stated that he had interviewed Mr. McLeod of the C.N.R. with regard to the unsatisfactory conditions complained of at that point. Extensive improvements had been promised and structural alterations of a kind had been made, but there seemed no chance of the required facilities being carried out in so far as the loading platform was concerned. He (Mr. McCuaig) had visited Dauphin about six weeks ago but nothing had been done up till then. He looked over the site with others, and a liberal offer of ground representing several town lots had been placed at the company's disposal, but so far these had not been accepted. He had seen Mr. McLeod again since then and had told him how he had found matters at Dauphin, but the reply was that the railway could not give any undertaking because of the fact that Dauphin was a divisional point. As traffic increased they would have to carry out still more extensive alterations, but Mr. McCuaig sarcastically referred to that evasive treatment of the case as a period that might mean five years or longer until the railway company found themselves in a mood to entertain the needs of the shippers of the neighborhood. Similar complaints were heard from the Salisbury and Strathclair delegates.

A CROWDED MEETING

The afternoon session brought together a crowded house, many delegates having arrived in the interval. The report of the Auditors on the Secretary-Treasurer's accounts was read, and after some explanations as to details had been asked and given the report was unanimously adopted.

The Secretary's report was also read and unanimously

adopted. Mr. Knowles and others spoke on the subject of certain gratifying features of the report, notably that suggested by the item which referred to the expenses of the Ottawa delegates. The benefits, Mr. Knowles affirmed, which the delegation had conferred upon the interests of the Association were incalculable and out of all proportion to the comparatively small amount which represented their expenses in connection with their visit to Ottawa.

The President also observed that the greater portion of the results of the efforts which had been put forth by the Association in the educational meetings which had been organized during the winter would be felt in the year on which it had just entered, while the expenses of the speakers and other incidentals were charged to 1908.

Mr. McKenzie also alluded to other points which placed the Association's affairs in a still more prosperous light financially than they appeared in the actual book-keeping for the year.

PROCRASTINATING MEMBERS

On the motion of Mr. Walker of Roseisle, seconded by Mr. Smith, Ridgeville, it was ordered that a return be made each year of branches in arrear and the number of members of same.

A motion was also brought in requiring all sub-secretaries to send in not later than 1st of December an account of all monies received for the current financial year, but the president pointed out that this was already fully provided for in the Constitution, and that any lapse was due to the failure of secretaries to comply with the terms of the by-law covering their duties.

MR. PARTRIDGE SPEAKS

At this point the President suggested that the Convention would be glad to hear from Mr. Partridge, and on that gentleman coming to the platform he received a distinct ovation of a character which gave unmistakable evidence that his splendid work in the past on behalf of the farming interest of the West was neither forgotten nor unappreciated, and that the Convention anticipated with interest what he might have to say.

Mr. Partridge first of all alluded in complimentary terms to the gathering he saw before him. He derived great inspiration from it. He came amongst them as a representative of the Grain Growers' Association of the sister province of Saskatchewan and as the bearer of fraternal greetings. While that province had been the cradle of the Grain Growers' Association, in all subsequent growth the Saskatchewan organization had been far outstripped by the Manitoba Association. He had been so closely identified with the work in the latter province that he found himself in the peculiar relationship of feeling that he belonged as much to Manitoba as to Saskatchewan.

He had just had the privilege of attending the Alberta Congress and was pleased to tell them that negotiations which had been in progress for the amalgamation of the two rival societies in Alberta had been brought to a completely successful issue, and now the Alberta Farmers' Association and the Society of Equity were to meet under one roof-tree, bound together, he believed, by indissoluble ties of interest and affection under the title of the United Farmers of Alberta.

Further, it had been unanimously agreed to recognize the Grain Growers' Guide as the official organ of the new organization, which would mean the absorbing of the "Great West," which had hitherto been the official mouthpiece of the Canadian Society of Equity in Alberta.

A GREAT ALLIANCE

He ventured to prophecy that a similar understanding would be arrived at with respect to the Guide when the Saskatchewan convention met on the 17th and 18th of February, and he foreshadowed a better understanding between the three provinces as the result of that Conven-

tion than had been possible in the past, and hoped that in the near future a common name and a common constitution would serve to bind the three provincial organizations into a close-knit and formidable offensive and defensive alliance acting through the medium of an Inter-provincial Council.

One certain effect of this expected unification of name and constitution would be the adoption of a more comprehensive name by the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Associations and the widening of the work to embrace the problems of stockmen as well as those of grain growers. This is an extension made necessary by the fact that the grain growers pure and simple is of necessity being replaced by the mixed farmer as the country grows older. Adverse conditions surround the transportation and sale of live stock as well as grain.

AN ENLARGED SCOPE

It is time then, as present or prospective mixed farmers, that we enlarge the scope of our association work to include all the problems which confront the mixed farmer. An important part of our work is to secure legislation which is needed to improve the social and economic situation of the farmers as a class. The possession of a wide knowledge of economic principles and of existing conditions in the political, commercial and industrial world should precede the formulation of legislative demands by our people. Our Association should be a school of citizenship, with special attention given to the economic needs of our class. The objects of the association might be set forth in the constitution in something like the following terms: "To organize the whole farm population within the jurisdiction of the Association for the study of social and economic problems having a bearing upon the happiness and material prosperity of our people, in order that an enlightened public opinion may be evolved which will make a satisfactory solution possible through legislative action or co-operative effort, or both; to collect such materials from scientific and literary sources, the annals of class movements and the records of legislative enactments in our own and other countries as are necessary for the proper information of our people, and to disseminate the same as far as practicable through the medium of an official organ; to formulate our demands for legislation and present them through our officers to the notice of our lawmakers; to encourage the entry of our farmers as individuals into active membership in one or other of the political associations, according to predisposition, as a means of making the political parties without distinction responsive to and representative of the demands of the people, and to urge the employment of co-operative methods by our membership (but outside our Association) in the sale of our commodities that equitable prices may be secured."

CO-OPERATION NECESSARY

In the improvement of conditions surrounding the farmers, Mr. Partridge claimed that legislative activity must be supplemented by co-operation in the commercial field. In the first place, many abuses existing in the storing, transportation and marketing of their commodities were so little understood that experience in the commercial arena by members of the farm population was necessary to discover their nature and suggest effective remedies. In the next place there were certain evils inseparable from the competitive system which the replacement of competition by co-operation would alone abate. It was a recognition of such facts that led certain members of the Grain Growers' Association to organize the Grain Growers' Grain Company to supplement the work of the Association.

The Association, aided by the experience of the company, has been better able to perceive what legislation was necessary to remove abuses connected with the

transportation and marketing of farm commodities. Much valuable information has also been obtained which will ultimately bear fruit in greatly improved grading and storage systems, large reductions in the cost of marketing, and a substantial increase in the prices netted by the producer.

The Association and the company are both necessary to one another and to farmers.

Should the Association widen its scope to include the problems of stock growers, the company will no doubt engage in the business of handling cattle and hogs as well as grain, and possibly other farm products as well.

THE "INDEPENDENT" CANDIDATE

Speaking of the political activity among farmers, which is necessary to secure the legislative reforms desired by them, Mr. Partridge opposed the idea often advanced, of bringing out independent candidates to champion their cause, recognizing that partizan feeling among our people usually renders such a plea abortive. Not alone is an independent handicapped by the presence of this partizan feeling among those who should unite for his election, but it is a recognized principle among machine politicians that an independent must be defeated even should it be necessary that the members of both political parties should unite to elect the strength of the party nominees.

Canadians are so saturated with the idea that party politics are indispensable to the carrying on of government that independents have no chance of recognition, and whatever reforms are to be effected must be through the medium of the party system. As to the two great parties as at present constituted, what do we find? Neither of them is greatly in sympathy with popular demands, being usually more concerned in advancing the interests of great corporations than in passing legislation of benefit to the common people.

Take for example the question of government ownership of elevators! Neither party, judging from the attitude of their present representatives in Parliament, has very much use for the idea. What should our people do under such circumstances? Make a dead set against the party in power? By no means. The party in opposition has done nothing more in this connection to earn our support than the party in power.

Mr. Partridge's opinion was that, having arrived at definite conclusions as to what legislations was required, the farmers should by sheer force of numbers dominate both parties, dictating the policy of each, and taking a leading part in the selection of the candidates, so that instead of being the victims of the party system as at present, they would make it an implement of the carrying out of their will. (Loud cheers).

At the close of Mr. Partridge's address a vote of thanks which developed into three rousing cheers were accorded him, and to which he feelingly responded.

MR. CRERAR'S ADDRESS

Mr. T. A. Crerar, President of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, followed Mr. Partridge and spoke of the enthusiastic character of the Alberta Association which he had the pleasure of attending along with Mr. Partridge. They had extended a cordial and pressing invitation to Alberta brethren to send one or more delegates to that Convention, but owing to the short notice and important matters pending at this point that could not be arranged.

He expressed his profound satisfaction at the amalgamation which had been consummated between the two farmers' associations of Alberta, which in a manner had hitherto existed as rival functions. This compact which Mr. Partridge had so eloquently referred to augured well for the future of Western agriculture and paved the way for a larger and better federation of those interests which had brought them together at that time. He also spoke

of the no less happy circumstance that the "Grain Growers' Guide" had been unanimously accepted as the official organ of the newly-formed union. "The Guide" would now absorb "The Great West," which had been published as the official organ of the Canadian Society of Equity in Alberta. "Tyranny," said Mr. Crerar, "thrives on ignorance, but the business of "The Guide" would be to replace ignorance with knowledge. Through the medium of its pages he believed that it would prove one of the most important and effective factors that had yet appeared in disseminating the information and counsel which he regretted to say was not always to be looked for in the columns of their Western press. That press found its inspiration to a very large extent in the financial interests that supported it. As the articulate voice of a still larger and more powerful organization their provincial organizations prescribed, he ventured to hope that when the Saskatchewan Convention had met, "The Guide" would become an irresistible factor in solidifying the interests of the three provinces and enabling them to deal on a common ground with those associated interests they were all familiar with in the industrial world, such as the Manufacturers' Association, The Bankers' Association, etc.

He strongly urged upon the Convention the necessity for every member of the Grain Growers' Association becoming a soldier in his own locality. It was a lamentable fact when the conditions of membership only meant a dollar a year, that so far only some 14,000 out of a possible 110,000 farmers had become active members of the provincial Associations.

They must get to work, each man in his own territory. Their strength lay in their numbers, and if their ranks were recruited and solidified as they might easily become, the united note of the farmers of the three provinces would be heard in the remotest corner of their legislative halls. (Loud cheers).

ENTHUSIASTIC RECRUITING AGENTS

Mr. John Flaws, President of the Rapid City G.G.A., stated that their organization before its annual meeting at that point only numbered some thirteen members. By personal effort that organization had been increased to 40, and the executive had pledged its reputation on doubling the latter figure before another month had elapsed. If they didn't succeed they would blame themselves.

Messrs. Bastard, of Pierson, and McGill, of Carroll, followed in the same strain and gave the most encouraging accounts of developments which had taken place in their districts. As the result of a red-hot campaign carried on at Carroll, Mr. McGill stated that their branch roll stood at 108 members—about seventh in order of numerical strength in the province, and they were determined to still better things. What had been predicted last year had come to pass. Education had changed the face of the West and as the outcome of the educational leaven which was being impregnated by "The Guide" they would very soon get to the point of getting all together and voting together for their common good. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Carefoot of Virden, in alluding to his Association as the first to organize in the province, expressed his pride in the fact that from that school sprang the large family which was represented there that day. At the same time he did not think the progress had been made that might have been. He suggested that a more systematic plan of campaign in carrying on the work of organizing new branches would make all the difference in a brief time between 5,000 members now on the roll and 25,000. He felt proud to see their organization recognized by both governments, but that had been the direct fruit of the Association movement and the fact that through its increasing membership it had spoken in a

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voice that could not be ignored. Only the other day the Premier had spoken at their banquet at Virden which followed their annual meeting. He stated in effect that he had greatly enjoyed his visit, but it was the first time he had honored them with his presence in a public capacity except for political purposes in collecting votes on the eve of an election.

THE MISSIONARIES

Mr. Holland, of Swan Lake, also spoke in cheering terms of the work being done by the missionary organizers and considered the sending out of special men to address local meetings as one of the finest agencies that could be employed in the work of extension; and the system, he thought, ought to be extended.

Mr. Bousfield of Macgregor spoke on the subject of greater diversity in their farming operations to include stock-breeding and dairying. Farmers were beginning to find the latter one of the most remunerative departments of the economy of farming. He hoped before long to see the company of farmers who had scored such phenomenal success in marketing their own cereals extending their borders to include the other products of the farm. He strongly commended the articles on this point which had appeared in the December issue of "The Guide," and looked forward with confidence to the time and the conditions which would enable them to feed the natural requirements of the market and to send forward their beef-cattle, etc., at the right time and in proper condition. He also referred to the ridiculous position in which the average farmer stood at the present moment with regard to the prices allowed him for his butter in Winnipeg by the middleman in face of the price paid for it by the consumer.

Other speakers at this point, chiefly on the subject of organization, were Messrs. Bewell of Rosser; Fraser, Hamiota; J. G. Moffat, Souris; Hopkins, Beresford; Rowan, Macgregor; Smith, Ridgeville, and Lemieux, Somerset.

ANDREW GRAHAM FOR RAILWAY BOARD

The first business brought before the Convention at its evening session was that of the recommendation of a farmers' representative to the vacancy created on the Board of Railway Commissioners by the death of the Hon. Thomas Greenway:—

Mr. Peter Wright of Myrtle, moved that "Whereas the farmers are the original producers of the commodities in which the transportation companies secure their business and profits and are also the purchasers of large amounts of freight, such as agricultural machinery and the general necessities of life. Therefore, be it resolved: That we are of the opinion that the farmers of the West should be represented on the Board of Railway Commissioners by a farmer or by someone approved by the western farmers through their representative associations, and that this Convention heartily endorses the action of the Executive in recommending Mr. Andrew Graham, of Pomeroy, for the position, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Railways and to the Premier."

Mr. Wright in speaking to the motion referred in terms of ingenuous appreciation to the many outstanding qualities which befitted Mr. Graham to represent the farming interests of Western Canada on the Railway Board. Mr. Graham's intelligent grasp of any question arising out of those interests had been demonstrated again and again on the platform and at their council meetings. Whether as a politician or in handling the debatable points of any economic question which affected them, he had never disclosed the weakness of an extremist. By his constitutional, tolerant bearing he had antagonized no one that he (Mr. Wright) ever heard of, but on the contrary, there were many instances in which Mr.

Graham's inherent tact at a critical moment had saved a situation.

He was a man of cultivated address which, together with his intellectual attainments gathered from a wide field of reading, left no doubt whatever in the minds of those who had come into close relationship with him as to his ability to maintain that bearing and high character in the presence of any legislative assembly or body of men with whom he might be brought in contact. He had been eminently successful, as every one in the West knew, in handling his own affairs—that of a stock-breeder and grain grower. His farming estate had been justly held up as a model of the most advanced principles applied to common sense methods, and all conducted on a plan into which confusion or disorder never entered. If he had built up such a reputation among the neighbors who came in touch with him every day, there could be no doubt that the same handwriting would be carried into anything else he attempted, and if, in conducting these manifold details he had been so successful, it was still more likely that he would be no less happy in devoting himself to the one thing which would be concentrated in his chair on the Railway Board.

He was an educated Manitoba farmer, enjoying a repute no less than that of the lamented gentleman whose place it was hoped and believed he would fill, and he (Mr. Wright) felt that as a Manitoba farmer it was peculiarly in keeping with the fitness of things and the desires of the people of Manitoba, that Mr. Graham should carry the banner of the Province which had been so faithfully safeguarded by the late Hon. Thos. Greenway in the Councils of the Railway Board.

Mr. Wright's remarks were received by loud and prolonged applause. Mr. Chris. Stinson of Virden, seconded the motion, which was carried without a dissenting voice, the entire audience rising to its feet to the accompaniment of the time-worn rendering of the fact that "He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

BULKHEADS IN CARS

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Robson of Dauphin:

That we consider the present charges made by the railway and terminal elevator companies for bulkheads in cars an outrage and a gross injustice to the small farmers; and, therefore, would recommend that the Central Association take this matter up with the railway and elevator companies with a view to have this charge cut out entirely, or 40,000 lbs. cars furnished the farmers to ship grain. In the event of the companies not being willing to make any change we strongly recommend that the question be taken up with the Board of Railway Commissioners and their ruling secured.

Mr. Elias Jones, Brookhouse, seconded and the motion was supported by Messrs. Simpson and Farthing. Subsequently Mr. McKenzie read a mass of correspondence describing the steps which had been taken by the Executive with Mr. Lanigan of the C.P.R. on the subject of bulkhead cars and which was still pending. After considerable discussion and cross fire it was finally agreed to drop the resolution and one endorsing and strongly supporting the action of the Executive was unanimously passed to replace it.

For the purposes of the Executive in further prosecuting this matter Mr. O. Wright of Lavenham promised to supply certain sworn testimony of examples in which the charges levied for bulkhead cars had been excessive.

On the motion of Mr. R. C. Henders, seconded by Mr. Simpson, in forming the Board of Directors it was decided by a majority vote that the province be divided into six districts—each district to nominate its own representatives, the latter to be voted on by the Convention, and the President was asked to nominate a committee of five to deal with the matter of electoral divisions. Messrs. D. D. McArthur, Wright, Dutton, R. Caskey and Burdett were appointed to this duty with instructions to bring in their report to the morning session.

9.30 a.m., 20th January.

After the usual formalities had been disposed of, Mr. R. C. Henders was asked to present the report of the

DELEGATION TO OTTAWA.

Mr. Henders proceeded as follows:

To the Members of the Manitoba Grain Growers Association in Convention Assembled.

Gentlemen,—

I have been asked by the Executive of this Association to prepare, and submit a report of the Delegation appointed to act in conjunction with Delegates receiving similar appointment from the Central Associations of Saskatchewan and Alberta. This Delegation was called to Ottawa for the purpose of discussing the report of the Royal Grain Commission and also certain amendments to the Manitoba Grain Act, which in the wisdom of the Annual Conventions of the three Provinces they deemed advisable. The following composed the above referred to Delegation, viz:

Rice Sheppard, of the Farmer's Association of Alberta, George Langley, M.P.P., E. A. Partridge of the Grain Growers' Association of Saskatchewan, R. McKenzie, and R. C. Henders, of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. These Delegates met in Winnipeg and proceeded to Ottawa, which place they reached on the 30th day of March last. Your delegates were then informed that they were to be joined in the conference by Representatives of the Grain trade and other interests, so that when the roll was called on Tuesday March the 31st, the following constituted the conference, viz: The Right Honorable Sir Richard Cartwright, Minister of Trade and Commerce; the Honorable Sidney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture; the Honorable Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior; Mr. Charles Drinkwater, First Assistant to President Canadian Pacific Railway Company; Mr. F. W. Peters, Assistant to Vice-president Canadian Pacific Railway Company; Mr. J. E. Dalrymple, representing the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company; Mr. George H. Shaw, Traffic Manager Canadian Northern Railway Company; Mr. H. B. McGiverin, representing the Great Northern Railway Company; Mr. John Fleming, President of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange; Mr. J. C. Gage, Winnipeg Grain Exchange; Messrs. F. O. Fowler, W. L. Parrish, E. W. Kneeland, W. H. McWilliams, N. Bawlf, A. L. Searles, representing Terminal Elevators and North West Grain Dealers' Association; J. T. P. Knight, Secretary Canadian Bankers' Association; George E. Goldie, representing the Royal Grain Commission on the Grain Trade; Messrs. David Horn, Chief Grain Inspector; Mathew Snow, Assistant Warehouse Commissioner; Frank E. Gibbs, Inspector, Fort William; Mr. Flavell, Lindsay, Ontario; Mr. A. F. Dillinger, Operating Expert Railway Commission; Senators and Members from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, together with the above mentioned five representatives of the Grain Growers' Associations. While the Conference was called ostensibly for the purpose of considering the report of the Royal Grain Commission; it soon developed that the most important work would centre itself around amendments to Grain Act, particularly those referring to Section 91. It was very apparent that nothing short of the elimination of this clause, or the substitution of such changes as would render it utterly ineffective, as far as conserving the interests of the producer are concerned, would be at all satisfactory to the combined representatives of the railroads, the banks and the Grain Dealer's Association. Dealing with the report of the Royal Grain Commission, I might say that it was discussed clause by clause, the views of the various interests represented were presented and each clause was approved, amended, or disapproved, by the Conference.

In this report it will not be possible to summarize the findings of the Conference on each particular recommendation of the commission, nor would it be profitable to take up the time of the Convention in so doing. Better results will be secured by dealing with the most important points in the report where radical changes were suggested.

The first of these important changes we wish to refer to is that affecting the time of service of the Warehouse Commissioner. The recommendation of the Royal Grain Commission was that his appointment continue for a period of ten years. Your delegates argued that such a change would in their opinion be disastrous to the interests it was intended to serve, therefore, could not favor the recommendation; and while discussing this point made use of the occasion to call the attention of the Minister of Trade and Commerce to the fact brought out by resolution in previous conventions of this Association, viz: that the Producers of the West did not feel satisfied that their interests were being, or could be satisfactorily served by officers, who held seats on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, and have their offices in the Grain Exchange building. It was submitted that the associations of the Grain Exchange would (to put it mildly) indirectly bias the judgment of those officers and

create suspicions in the minds of the producers which would militate seriously against these officers in the discharge of their duty. Sitting as judge between the producer and dealer it was strongly urged that both the Inspector and Warehouse Commissioner occupy a similar position of a judge in court, and that if they expected to retain the confidence of the public they should not be associated directly or indirectly with the membership of either Associations interested.

Another important point dealt with was the following resolution prepared and endorsed by the members of the Inter-Provincial Council and which embodies a presentation of our views re Dominion Government Ownership and operation of Terminal and Transfer Elevators as follows:

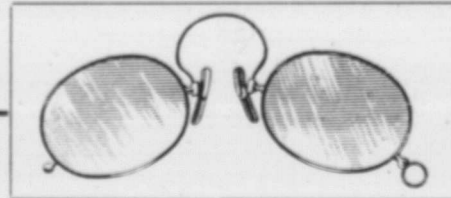
"Whereas the Royal Grain Commission, in a report to the Honorable the Minister of Trade and Commerce dated February the 1st, 1907, reports that the tendency at Port Arthur and Fort William is for elevators to go under the control of private Companies, that the operating of Terminal Elevators by private companies under present regulations would be detrimental to the trade and destroy public confidence in the result obtained therefrom."

"Whereas the Commission in their report laid on 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 much of the grain passing through Fort William."

"Whereas the Commission in their report recommend as a remedy the weighing, cleaning and binning of grain in all terminal elevators under the supervision of officers by the Dominion Government; and

"Whereas we are of opinion that the remedy suggested by the Commission is inadequate to meet the requirements of a terminal system of elevators and maintain public confidence in the results obtained at such terminals; and"

"Whereas the Farmers' Association of Alberta and the Grain Growers' Association of Saskatchewan and Manitoba at their annual Conventions each passed a resolution urging the Dominion Government to acquire, own



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and operate the terminals at Fort William and Port Arthur.

Be it resolved that we endorse the findings of the S. G. G. A. and the M. G. G. A. and the A. F. A. as expressed in their respective annual conventions, re urging the Dominion Government to acquire, own and operate a complete system of storage terminal elevators and further that each of the Executives of the above associations appoint two delegates to form a joint delegation to wait on the Dominion Government and present the views of the Grain Growers of the three Prairie Provinces.

This resolution was supported by a carefully prepared address by Mr. E. A. Partridge in which he dealt with the whole question of Government ownership of Terminal and Transfer Elevators. I might say on this point that we found the Government willing to give us the most rigorous system of inspection that we could suggest, but we failed to secure from them a commitment to the principle of Government ownership and operation of this great public utility. However we are convinced that our contention is right, our demands reasonable and just, and we are therefore determined to continue this work until our efforts are crowned with success and the governments of our country feel the importance of giving one recognition to this great principle.

Another very important matter dealt with by your delegates and perhaps for the present the most important was the movement brought forward by the representatives of the Railroads, Banks, and Grain Dealers' Association, to have the clause in the Grain Act which gives to the farmer equal standing with the elevator companies in the matter of ordering cars so amended as to discriminate against the farmer. Early in the season of last year we were at a loss to know why the Railway Officials, Bank Officials and other interests were appearing in the press with articles calculated to discredit this clause, nor could we fully take in the purpose of the Railway Companies in regard to the superabundance of cars placed on the track at Weyburn, and perhaps, one or two other small points. Some days after however, when letters appeared in the papers charging the car shortage to the unworkableness of the car distribution clause in the Grain Act and declaring that if farmers were compelled to use the elevators, instead of the loading platform no car shortage would exist, the cause became evident. It was very clear to us that all this work was but the building up of a line of argument by which these interests hoped to filch from the farmers a right which had enriched them by hundreds of thousands of dollars and at the same time had afforded them the only escape they had from what they deemed the grasp of a heartless monopoly.

Your delegates were therefore somewhat prepared for what took place before the Minister of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa. Having thus been forewarned of the danger to which they would be exposed they were able to entrench themselves in a position from which their opponents found it impossible to dislodge them. Our Secretary was able to furnish data which proved conclusively that the car shortage was not caused by the delinquencies of the farmers who failed to measure up the requirements of the Grain Act, but that it was almost wholly traceable to the fact that after cars were loaded and billed out, they were allowed to stand on the track for days, and in many instances weeks, before they started for their destination, and after they started they travelled at such a low rate of mileage per day as to consume in reaching their destination more than twice the length of time that ought to have been required in so doing.

Below we mention a few important amendments to the Grain Act which it would be well for the farmers to take note of, the importance of which the valuable time of this convention will not allow us to enlarge upon, viz.:

1. Special binning privileges in the terminal elevators.
2. It is now made a criminal offence to hypothecate grain stored in an elevator.
3. It is now a criminal offence to place your name on a car order book, either by yourself or by your agent, unless you are at the time the bona fide shipper of grain.
4. A clause was also inserted prohibiting discrimination against farmers' elevators re commission charges for handling of grain in elevators.

Permit me in conclusion to draw the attention of the Convention to the community of interests which entered into the makeup of this conference at Ottawa. There were the Railway interests, the Banking interests, and the Grain Dealers' interests. Naturally they appear to us to

be diversified. As producers of the great wealth of this country, from whom the railway corporations receive their largest revenues and the bankers their largest support and best securities, we expected that these corporations would accord to us at least fair treatment, and when we find them uniting their forces with those of the Grain Dealers' Association, the elevator monopoly and the milling interests of this country to take away from us our rights, we are led to ask the question, why, and the answer is forthcoming. Turn with me to the minutes of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange and look at their list of membership, and what do we find? That leading representatives of this community of interest about which we have been speaking has membership and holds seats on the said exchange. It will now be apparent to any thoughtful person why there is such a warm bond of attachment between these interests which to the outsider would seem to be diversified. My purpose in calling your attention to this fact is that as Grain Growers we will realize the importance and magnitude of the work that is before us; that we have only touched the very rudimentary elements entering into the great problems we have yet to solve; that we will give ourselves earnestly, intelligently and diligently to the solution of these great problems; that we will see to it that our rights are jealously guarded, and that we will prosecute the work of this Association this year with such vigor and determination that one year hence at our annual convention we will include on our membership role thousands of farmers who have not as yet identified themselves with us.

The report was listened to with the closest attention, punctuated at times by the marked appreciation and pride of the delegates as they listened to the detailed account of what their representatives had accomplished in handling their interests at Ottawa.

Mr. Rankin and Mr. O. Wright spoke briefly on points arising out of the report and Mr. John Kennedy at some length in terms of high encomium upon the work of the members of the delegation—notably of the Secretary. The President also spoke to the same effect, and Mr. Scallion moved a vote of thanks to the members of the Ottawa delegation for their splendid services to the grain-growing interests and with special emphasis on the name of Mr. McKenzie. This was seconded by Mr. Robson and carried unanimously by standing vote followed by a lusty appreciation of the fact that "They are Jolly Good Fellows."

Mr. McKenzie suitably replied and dealt at some length with certain striking facts and admissions which had been reluctantly disgorged at the conference and which came from unexpected quarters as the result of the severe cross-examinations made by the farmers' representatives.

Mr. McArthur presented and moved the adoption of the report of the committee appointed to deal with the territorial division of the Province. Mr. Simpson seconded and the recommendations of the committee were unanimously adopted with the proviso that a clear map of the disposition of the respective districts should appear in the "Grain Growers' Guide."

HAIL INSURANCE.

In the absence of Mr. Leathers, Mr. Scott of Minto, moved the adoption of the following resolutions respecting hail insurance:

- 1st. That we endorse the principle of Government hail insurance.
- 2nd. That we urge the Government to inaugurate a system of compulsory hail insurance with the proviso that any person so insured may have the option of withdrawing from the operation of the Act.
- 3rd. That the basis of taxation for payment of losses be the property insured, namely, the acreage actually under crop.
- 4th. That payment be made on a basis of three dollars per acre for total loss.
- 5th. That our municipal organization be utilized as far as possible to administer the Act.
- 6th. That the Act be provincial in scope.
- 7th. That in favorable years a sinking fund be contributed to.

Mr. Thomas Aitkin seconded, and considerable discussion followed in which Messrs. McArthur and Stinson urged that in view of what had been done by the latter gentleman with regard to an equitable and workable system of hail insurance in connection with the Union of Municipalities, any vote of the Conference might be postponed until the committee appointed by the Union of Municipalities had presented its report to the Conference

to be held on the 8th of March. This was finally agreed to.

Mr. Knowles asked for information as to the real meaning and effect of the clause in the Manitoba Grain Act which determined the ownership of hypothecated grain stored in elevators under certain conditions. Mr. McKenzie read the full text of the act bearing on the point and gave an interpretation of the case in point which seemed to meet with general acceptance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The first business of the afternoon session of this day was the election of officers.

On the motion of E. Burdett of Strathclair, seconded by C. J. Stewart of Reston, Mr. D. W. McCuaig was proposed for the office of President. The motion was received with considerable enthusiasm and was supported by J. F. Golden, who claimed the privilege as one of the Association's youngest recruits to voice the same regard and appreciation of Mr. McCuaig's fitness for the office of President as had been expressed by two of its oldest members.

There being no further name in this connection, Mr. McCuaig was elected by a standing unanimous vote.

The Hon. President (Mr. Scallion) took the chair while the President's name was before the meeting, and on Mr. McCuaig's re-election, Mr. Scallion at once vacated and the President resumed his position as chairman of the Convention.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT the name of the present occupant of the chair (Mr. R. C. Henders) was proposed by Mr. Simpson of Shoal Lake and seconded by Mr. Robson; Messrs. T. W. Knowles, G. H. Malcolm and H. A. Fraser were also proposed and seconded for this office, but the last two names having retired with the consent of their supporters, a ballot was taken which resulted in the re-election of Mr. R. C. Henders.

The following is the result of election of representatives on the Directorate:—

- District No. 1—Peter Wright.
- District No. 2—R. M. Wilson.
- District No. 3—D. D. McArthur.
- District No. 4—R. M. Wilson.
- District No. 5—J. S. Wood.
- District No. 6—Robert Avison.

STOCK KILLED BY TRAINS.

Mr. J. Fuller proposed the following resolution which stood in the agenda against his name, but as it failed to find a seconder the matter was allowed to stand over:

That whereas a number have had serious losses by having stock killed by railway trains, and whereas the railway companies are in the habit of either ignoring the claims presented to them for said stock, or by offering compensation to the claimants for half value or less;

Therefore be it resolved that this Association instructs its members who are at any loss under these conditions, to enter a test case against the railway company after explaining the case to the Executive of this Association and receiving their consent, when the expenses of the case will be borne by the Association.

HUDSON BAY RAILWAY.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Dutton and seconded by Mr. Dow, after a brief discussion was carried unanimously:

That the Hudson's Bay Railway, with grain elevators and all terminal facilities, be built and operated by the Dominion Government.

ALLEGED COAL COMBINE.

Mr. W. J. Bastard moved the following resolution re the matter of alleged coal combine:

That this Association request the Central Association to investigate the combine at present existing in the Souris coal trade, and take steps in the law courts, or otherwise, to remedy the situation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Chas. Edgar and a lengthy discussion followed. Finally on the motion of Mr. Golden it was left to the chair to appoint a committee of three to look into the matter.

BRANDON AGAIN.

On the reassembling of the Convention at 7.30 a letter was read from Mr. S. W. Woods, Mayor of Portage la Prairie, extending a very cordial invitation to the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association to hold its next annual Convention at that point. This was backed by a telegram from the Board of Trade, and as a similar invitation had been given by Brandon the matter was debated for a time and ultimately by a majority vote it was de-

ecided that Brandon should again be the next place of meeting.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

The discussion of Government Ownership was then formally opened by Mr. Scallion moving that the Convention sanction the action taken by the Inter-provincial Council in meeting with and urging on the Premiers of the three provinces the desirability of the Provincial Governments acquiring and operating the internal elevators.

Mr. Scallion dealt successively with the arguments which had been put up against the scheme as one likely to impair the financial standing of the province. He claimed that if the storage facilities were in the hands of the Government they could be operated at half the expense to the farming interest at which they were now carried on.

Mr. Scallion illustrated his points by quoting established figures from the aggregate record of the six elevators at Virden and from the handling of the entire 1907 Manitoba crop, which showed conclusively that the average turnover of the 705 elevators and flat warehouses included in the statistics was 32,193 bushels for the year.

He asked the Government to handle the matter as a fair business proposition and stated that no funds would be required from the provincial treasury which would not be speedily paid back by the farmers from the earnings of the elevators. These were not to be purchased at any fancy price set by the present owners but at a fair valuation ascertained from their condition at the date of purchase and their adaptability to the work they would have to perform.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Wood, who spoke to the same effect as the mover, and illustrated his points from actual experience extending over a period that had its beginning practically with the inception of wheat-growing in Manitoba.

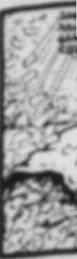
He further pointed out the opportunities for dishonest practices of which elevator operators as well as their employers under the present system had availed themselves to a notorious extent. He saw no sense in the idea of the railways taking over the storage facilities, because he nor anyone else ever heard of a railway company anywhere who did not bolster up a monopoly. The Rockefeller and other big combinations and trusts gave a striking example of the fellows who fattened on the rebates at the cost of the ruin of thousands of families and smaller trading concerns. If a government system were established, Mr. Wood claimed, it would guarantee a systematic and economic marketing of the grain; that there would be none of the old, insane scramble for cars, and that the Western farmers would be able to feed the market in response to its natural and legitimate demand. A sample market was the ideal method of selling grain. The English millers bought their wheat on sample, and whatever local descriptions of color, etc., were attached to it, gave the price which represented to them its actual milling value.

MR. MCKENZIE'S ADDRESS

Mr. McKenzie (who on rising was received with loud and prolonged applause) reminded the Convention that they were living in the first decade of the twentieth century. If the farmer of 25 years ago was popularly regarded as one who was notoriously behind the times, that could not be said of the men who represented the units of that Convention. He remarked a striking difference even between the constituents of their 1909 assembly and that of their first Convention held in 1902. No one could follow the growth of public sentiment and fail to be impressed with the wonderful change which had come over the face of things within their own circle in the course of that brief period of seven years. They had been undoubtedly seven years of progress, and in any age of progress some must suffer, some things will have to give way. Among those changes which had been forced upon them, he knew of no phase of public sentiment which had been so completely turned over as that which favored the public ownership of public utilities. A striking instance of that revolution in popular feeling was to be found in the attitude of the Toronto Globe in its recent deliverance in an editorial (which he quoted at length) as to the public ownership of railways.

As long as (the people were willing to grant bonuses to the railways they would find the railways willing to

(Continued on page 39).



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THE GUIDE'S "MAIL BAG"

Selections from a Mass of Correspondence Relevant
to the Purposes of "The Guide"



THE UNEMPLOYED

(From the Point of View of the Christian Socialist).

North Battleford, Jan. 11, 1909.

Editor Grain Growers' Guide:

Dear Sir,—The Guide for December (Xmas number) contains many interesting articles, one of which "The Unemployed," should receive no small amount of attention as the unemployed question is getting more serious every year in all countries. So far the writer has not seen any suggestions on this question that will lead to a permanent solution, except from the pen of Socialist writers. It is necessary to understand the cause of this "unemployed" problem thoroughly before a lasting cure can be brought about. Mr. Robert Hunter has written a book called "Poverty," published by the Macmillan company of New York, which throws considerable light on the subject, and the child labor problem; and the immigration of thousands of people from central and southern Europe have a great deal to do with this question, as Mr. Hunter clearly proves beyond dispute.

Mr. John Spargo, in a pamphlet called "Socialism and The Child Labor Problem" (published by Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kansas), also clearly proves that no less than 2,250,000 children under fifteen years of age were employed in various ways in the United States in 1906 in spite of the prohibition of child labor. "I have," says Mr. Spargo, "myself seen children of six and seven years of age working at two o'clock in the morning in New York State. Mr. Walling, formerly an Illinois factory inspector, found one little child of four years at work, and others from seven years upward. Needless to say, this labor of children is not socially necessary, at least not in the sense that without them there would not be workers enough to carry on the work of producing sufficient wealth to maintain the people of the United States in comfort. Side by side with the labor of children we have another vast and menacing problem, the unemployment of men, and it is not too much to contend that the employment of children is thereby shown to be unnecessary, and that so long as one man who is willing to work is unable to find employment, the employment of a single child is unnecessary and wrong.

Knopf and other eminent authorities upon the subject of tuberculosis agree that the continued physical strain which labor places upon the growing delicate organism of the child is an important cause of that dread scourge of the race—the White Plague.

Wherever children are employed they are generally given the most unhealthful work to do. Clouds of lint dust in textile factories, coal dust in mines, and glass dust in glass factories fill the lungs and cause pulmonary tuberculosis and other phthisical troubles. In the manufacture of cheap furniture and wooden boxes children inhale fine sawdust; in the making of felt hats the lungs of the workers are clogged with the dust from the finely torn fur. In making soap and soap powders the health of the boys and girls employed is seriously impaired. The alkaline dust which fills the air inflames the nostrils and eyelids and sets up a serious irritation of the throat and lungs, leading ultimately to pulmonary tuberculosis. These are but a few of the leading industries in which the principal source of danger to the health is the forced inhalation of dust.

Other dangers to health incidental to the occupations of children arise from the passing of ill-clad, and often ill-fed, exhausted children, their vitality at its lowest ebb, from the super-heated factory to the cold outside air.

Then there are the poisonous fumes inhaled by children in many industries, such, for instance, as the varnishers in cheap furniture factories, children in paint and wallpaper factories, and the boys and girls employed in leather works. The naphtha fumes in the manufacture of rubber goods produce paralysis and premature decay; match-makers and match packers suffer from "phossy jaw," and the fingers of the little boys and girls em-

ployed in gilding cheap picture frames become stiff and almost useless. Lead poisoning is common among boys employed in stereotyping establishments, and girls who run machines by foot-power in a hundred other occupations suffer seriously all through their after lives. To these must be added the peculiar liability of child workers to accident. In Minnesota a careful investigation of this subject was made with the result that boys under sixteen were found to have twice as many accidents as adults, and girls under sixteen thirty-three times as many accidents as women. Appalling as this list is, it is by no means complete, and affords only a slight view of a tremendously serious phase of the child labor problem.

Economically, the evils of child labor cannot be realized, nor even guessed. In the first place, the employment of children in any industry invariably lowers the wage standard for adults and in consequence their whole standard of living. That is the secret of child labor: it competes with adult labor and drags it down. This is not, however, the only economic evil resulting from the employment of children. The cost of child labor to society is an economic problem of vast, practically incomputable magnitude. The cost to society of caring for the sick in whom the seeds of disease were sown in the labor of their childhood; the crippled and maimed victims of childhood's risks, the prematurely old and exhausted, unemployable men and women, and the vicious and criminal whose vice and crime may be traced to the same source, is a sum too vast to be computed.

As of old, Capital still cries:

"Suffer the children to come unto me,
To my kingdom of greed and gold.
No matter how young or tender they be—
They are better so, not too old!
Their fingers are pliant, and they are dumb
When I scold or strike—Let the children come!"

So continues John Spargo in his pamphlet; but the whole of it should be read in order to grasp the whole meaning of the subject. It is only a 10 cent pamphlet I believe, therefore within reach of all.

There are one or two remarks in the article "The Unemployed," in the Grain Growers' Guide, that appear to me somewhat contradictory. For instance: "Millions of pounds worth of dairy produce would be provided for which we now pay the foreigner," and elsewhere we find the remark, "We hold no brief for Socialism, but we do hold a brief for something nobler, and that is Christian brotherhood."

Pray what is meant by Christian brotherhood if it does not mean universal Christian brotherhood? And if it does mean that, then where are your foreigners? Universal Christian brotherhood cannot come about without universal or international co-operation, and that is where Socialism comes in. If people would only study Socialism thoroughly for themselves they would soon realize that it is the noblest movement set on foot.

In the August number of The Guide appears an article on Socialism under the caption "The Church Again Becomes the Champion of the Poor." After reading which I have commenced a study of this large question and can truthfully say I am sorry I did not commence years ago. However, let us see what others have to say on the subject:

"The morality Socialism teaches is by far superior to that of its adversaries."—Professor Francesco Nitti (University of Naples), Catholic Socialism, preface, p. 9.

"The ethics of Socialism are identical with those of Christianity."—Thomas Kirkeys, Encyclopaedia Britannica, article "Socialism."

"Government and co-operation are in all things and eternally the Laws of Life; Anarchy and Competition, eternally and in all things, the Laws of Death."—John Ruskin, "Modern Painters," 5: 156.

(Ruskin was a Socialist. See Hobson, "John Ruskin. Social Reformer," p. 195.)

"The issue between Socialism and Individualism is.

I believe, the leading issue of this age-weary modern world. The men to come will envy us as sharers in a battle greater than the anti-slavery struggle; greater than any phase in the eternal battle of the race for liberty since the convulsion of the Protestant reformation set man free in the sphere of religion, "as Socialism promises to set him free in the sphere of economics."—Professor Vida Scudder (Wellesley College), "Socialism and Spiritual Progress."

"Every Christian who understands and earnestly accepts the teachings of his Master is at heart a Socialist; and every Socialist . . . bears within himself an unconscious Christianity. Followers of Darwin and those economists who maintain that human societies are governed by natural laws to which a free course should be given, are the real and only logical adversaries at once of Christianity and Socialism."—Laveleye, "Socialism of To-day," introduction, p. 19.

"Commercialism makes Christianity impossible; the attempt to reconcile them can lead to but a single result—hypocrisy. Socialism, on the contrary, makes Christianity possible; moreover, it is the only political system which does."—Edmond Kelly, M.A. (late lecturer on Municipal Government at Columbia University in the City of New York), "Government or Human Evolution," vol. 2, pp. 485 and 486.

"The German is naturally religious, and when that religiousness turns aside from ecclesiasticism, it does but breathe out Socialism with a spirit not to be distinguished from religion. That spirit pours itself into art and philosophy, and gives us in Beethoven or in Hegel music and metaphysics which are intensely religious. It pours itself into social science and gives us a Socialism, which, without knowing it, is fervently religious. Lassalle had all the fiery enthusiasm of a new crusader."—Rev. Richard Heber Newton (Select preacher to Stanford University), "Social Studies," p. 265.

Enough said. All those who desire to get reliable information on Socialism should send to Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kansas, and Charles H. Kerr & Co., Book Publishers, 153 East Kenzie Street, Chicago, U.S.A.

Thanking you for space, Mr. Editor,

Yours for light on the subject,

G. BOERMA.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GRAIN CO. AND THE ELEVATORS

At the request of Mr. Robert Elsom, we gladly reproduce the following letter addressed by him to the Moose Jaw Times relative to Mr. McKellar's observations on the above subject.—Ed.

Moose Jaw, Jan. 19, 1909.

Editor of the Times.—Your letter in The Times from the pen of Mr. Hugh McKellar in the issue of the 16th inst., under the heading of Grain Growing is in many respects well worth the consideration of the farmers of our district in general. But when Mr. McKellar lays the charge at the door of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. with the absurdity of bringing such a policy before the Premier at the late conference we think that Mr. McKellar is at least making a wrong statement. Evidently this is in Mr. McKellar's mind by the footnote at the conclusion of the letter—we cannot help thinking that Mr. McKellar is aware of the fact that the above absurd policy has been under discussion at the Annual Convention of the Grain Growers' Association of the Provinces for the last two or three years, and has been discussed pro and con by some of the most up-to-date and progressive farmers of the Provinces, and more especially of Manitoba and Saskatchewan—that is, the advisability of such a plan. It was also decided at these conventions of the provinces to appoint a committee from each association and the three committees to form what was called an Interstate committee to wait on the Premiers whenever they could conveniently meet them and discuss the advisability of taking over both internal and terminal elevators, such elevators to be under the control of a commission appointed by the government. This being the facts in the case, it is not just to lay the charge, serious as it may appear in the eyes of Mr. McKellar, at the door of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, and by so doing confound or confuse the minds of the public as to real facts of the case. Neither is it of any particular advantage to the above company that such a process of cleaning should be put in operation. For it must be known that they derive no financial benefit from such a plan, but it is wholly with the actual producers and shippers themselves.

Mr. McKellar asks the question. "Did any of the grain growers figure at the absurdity of such a policy in perpetuation?" I think I can answer the question in the affirmative. The question has been under serious consideration at the Annual Conventions at different times, and by some of the most able men we have in the Provinces, and when its most exhaustive deliberations have been brought to an end their very absurd requisition on the part of the government has been their ultimate requirement, and that to accomplish this end it would be necessary to put in cleaners of such a capacity that would be able to do the work satisfactorily without such a loss both in the way of amount left in the grain as to be detrimental to the grading, and also to save such an enormous waste as is quite frequent at the elevators now in use. It is well known, that the cleaners at the various elevators now in use, in the rush of the season quite frequently are over-taxed, and also that quite a percentage of grain of good quality as well as the inferior stuff, goes over the end of the sieve. So that as Mr. F. W. Green has pointed out in his letter of the 18th inst., it is not always the weed seeds that make up the 2 per cent. dockage, but small inferior grains, immature grains, and grains that have been split in the threshing. This at present, as is well known, is shipped to Fort William freight paid by the shipper, and the proceeds there handed over to the various railway companies. This procedure we cannot help referring to as one of the injustices to which the farmers have been subjected to all these years.

Mr. McKellar seems to think it a strange procedure on the part of the grain growers to ask such an absurd thing, since it is directly due to their impractical method of farming that they have the weeds, and do not apply the proper methods to get rid of them. He also infers that a great deal of it is due to wilful neglect on the part of some. This may be quite true in some isolated cases, but we are of the opinion that the majority of our farmers use the very best judgment they possess, and a great amount of money is invested in various implements made especially for the destruction of weeds. Yet while those men do the very best they can for the destruction of weeds on their own farms, they are seriously handicapped by their careless neighbors, who wilfully neglect this part of their farming operations. Such men ought to be made an example of by the rigid enforcement of the law, and be taxed to its full limit. I quite agree with Mr. McKellar in regard to the economy cleaner. As an

MacLennan Bros.

504 Grain Exchange, Winnipeg
Box 570, Lethbridge

— WE HANDLE —

GRAIN

— OF ALL KINDS —

SELLING

Consignments to Highest Bidder

WIRING

Net Bids on Request

Liberal Advances

Write Us

500,000 BUSHELS OF OATS WANTED

Important Announcement For Cattle Feeders

WE WISH to bring to the notice of all farmers who are feeding cattle to fatten for the spring market, that they may learn something to their advantage in selling them by corresponding with The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg. It won't cost you much to write us a letter, giving the number of head you expect to have for sale, the kind of cattle and what you reasonably expect they should weigh. Try it. You won't lose and you may gain. Give us any ideas you may have, on the co-operative marketing of cattle. See our news item on this topic elsewhere in this issue. Address all letters.

The Grain Growers' Guide

WINNIPEG - MANITOBA

The Home Bank OF CANADA

ORIGINAL CHARTER 1854

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONT.

Special Attention Given to Accounts of Farmers.
Interest Paid Quarterly on Savings Bank Accounts

WINNIPEG BRANCH - W. A. MACHAFFIE, Manager

attachment to be used on threshing machines for the cleaning of grain this certainly is where all cleaning ought to be done, at the initial point. These cleaners will do their work thoroughly. They can easily handle all the grain as it comes through the machine, taking out all the smaller seeds to perfection, and also a great percentage of inferior grains, split wheat, cockle buckwheat, etc. Moreover it does the work far better than any cleaner does or can do in an elevator. It leaves every man's seeds and dirt on his own farm, besides quite a lot of inferior stuff which can be used as feed instead of shipping it to Fort William and paying the freight and making the railroad company a present of it. Then we do not make the elevator the dumping ground of all the dirt of the neighborhood by drawing all the dirt there from all the country round.

Mr. McKellar says these cleaners can be bought for \$200. Now I may say that here is where the whole trouble lies. I found last season while operating one of those cleaners, that with very few exceptions the farmers wanted the use of the cleaner for nothing, and while admitting it to be a great improvement yet did not want to pay for its use. They grow weeds but lo and behold they expect at threshing time that their weeds will take on a transformation and turn by some mysterious process, while passing through the thresher, into wheat, or it may chance, to some other grain. Now while a thresher may do all in his power to clean the grain, he cannot afford to do it for the benefit of his health. He must have some remuneration for his outlay and operation of the cleaner.

ROBT. ELSOM.

MORE LIGHT WANTED ON MARKET PRICES

Crystal City, Jan. 12th, 1909.

Editor Grain Growers' Guide,
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir,—We would very much like to have printed in the Guide a full market report showing the value of our wheat on the Liverpool market in dollars and cents together with the freight rates and other expenses in connection with shipping so that the farmers may know at once how near to the value of their grain they are getting at their own station. Most farmers are satisfied with the fact that they are making money, and do not feel called upon to exert themselves to help create conditions under which all producers may get full value for their labor. And so the majority of farmers are holding themselves aloof from the association until they see if it is going to be a success, not realizing that they themselves are it and its success will be what they make it.

However we believe we are making progress. Not many years ago stock buyers weighed the farmers stock on private scales, and such was the discontent and grumbling that when an honest dealer gave just weights he very often did not get credit for it. Now we have municipal scales, an independent weighman and general satisfaction. The railways also provide yards and houses and means of loading the stock and no one seems to advocate a change back to private ownership and handling of these.

Now, we have before us the greatest problem that has ever exercised the minds of agriculturists in the west. The weighing, storing, and shipping of our grain. The system that has imposed itself upon us up to the present is clumsy, iniquitous, expensive, and entirely out of date. The responsibility of inaugurating a better system is now upon us and must be faced. In the past we have been bound both by custom and necessity to the old system of selling to the elevators. We had but one other course open to us, which was to load our own cars out of the wagon. This is a most primitive method and is usually regarded, and perhaps rightly, as a slur on the character of the local buyers. There seems no valid reason why the weighing and handling of our grain should not be in the hands of a disinterested third party, and there are very many serious reasons why it should be. Some are even now pointing to the good work done by farmers elevators and protesting that the government should in no case be allowed to control the elevators lest they should secure a monopoly of the grain trade. The theory of farmers elevators may be all right but they have never become popular excepting in a few old districts where the farmers have money and experience. What is needed is a system that will secure to the settlers new and old the full value of their grain at point of shipment. There seems to be no reason why the municipality, railway or government should not supply weighing and

shipping facilities for grain just as has been done for cattle and hogs. This would remove the reproach of dishonesty from the grain dealers' trade and would ensure satisfaction in the minds of the grain growers. There are some who think we are fighting for the theory of government ownership when we approve of the scheme worked out and recommended by the executive of the Grain Growers' Association. To all these we would say that we are working for no theory but a definite tangible result which is the independent weighing and handling of our grain from starting point to destination, and it is to be hoped that when we have got what we are after the new system will prove as indispensable as Municipal scales.

In the "Review of Agricultural Achievements in the West," in the Free Press of Jan. 6th, you will notice that the writer has figured that the farmers have received to date for their wheat alone \$43,673,741.94. Of course, this amount includes what we paid the "dealers" for handling our grain but the writer forgot to mention that. In the same "Review" the average price received for hogs at Winnipeg was \$5.69½ and for butchers cattle \$3.58 2-3 for the year 1908. From these figures the writer argues that the farmer would receive at his own station an average price for hogs of \$5.00 per cent. and for butchers cattle \$3.00 per cent. Very satisfactory prices indeed and will no doubt compel us to ask ourselves why are we going out of the stock business?

Yours very truly,

T. G. MCKITRICK.

THE WIFES' DOWER

("Lord Ullin's Daughter" Replies to A
Saskatchewan Farmer.)

Manitoba, Feb. 1st, 1909.

To the Editor of the Guide,

Dear Sir,—In your mail-bag I see a letter from "A Saskatchewan Farmer" concerning the Dower Law and advising the men to sign petitions against it. Now, any one who has been reading the Women's page in the weekly Free Press, the paper to which he refers, knows well enough that he is "off." The Dower Law does not give a wife any control of her husband's property until after his death, when we want the law fixed so that he cannot will it all away from her or mortgage or sell his real estate without her consent. Also the law would apply to every man owning real estate, not farmers alone. There are lots of cases where men leave their wives and run away with other women leaving their wives destitute. As he has married her and so prevented her from earning her own living, as there are generally little ones to support, it is only fair that she should have the right to some of his property after his death, and also some say as to whether her home is sold or not. Now who should a man leave his property to, if not his wife? This law will not affect good husbands as they will leave it to their wives anyway and those who do not intend to, should be made to. You know the saying "A bird that can sing and won't sing should be made to sing." At any rate we hope and believe that the appeal to sign against it would fall on deaf ears as we know lots of the men would not be as selfish as A Saskatchewan Farmer.

Let me whisper something to you. This same man wrote to the Women's Page of the Free Press, which allows men's letters while the Dower is discussed, and signed himself "Justice Equal." He says since this came up "my wife has heated discussions with me." Did you ever know of a heated discussion in which only one took part? He also says he has been unable to work for five years. Don't you think his wife deserves all his property if he has spent his time in the house? I do pity that poor woman. However we trust that such men are rare and we believe that few if any will answer his base appeal. And another thing, he has been told so often through the Free Press, the opinion the women have of him that I guess he is feeling rather sore. Ah "Justice Equal" I recognized you right straight.

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folly as we want every one to know of the way the law now stands, that a man can sell every thing and leave his wife and children penniless, as we expect the men will rectify it, once their attention is drawn to the subject. Is it fair that a woman work all her life and then perhaps be left without a cent of what she has helped to earn? Methinks I hear the echo of the shout from many throats No! No!! No!!!

Help us you Grain Growers for the sake of your own daughters.

I will sign my Free Press pen-name,

LORD ULLIN'S DAUGHTER.

CATTLE AND DAIRY PRODUCE

To The Editor :

In laying the foundations of a co-operative market for cattle and their products I hope it will not appear to be presumption on my part when I say that the matter should be given the most careful consideration before initial steps are taken. That something must be done to improve present conditions everyone seems to admit.

The Danish system is worth considering, but our circumstances are different. In looking about for a plan that has succeeded we are most impressed with systems somewhat similar to what we want that are in operation in Saskatchewan and Alberta, a sort of combination between government and farmer's ownership and operation. The Edmonton packing plant has not advanced far enough to be judged, but the creamery system has been a going concern for more than a dozen years. This year the make has increased 225 per cent. over last year, and the price secured would amount to about fifteen hundred dollars more for each car load than that received by Manitoba farmers for the same class of produce.

What we lose most is on butcher's cattle and dairy produce; what we need most is some suitable independent cold storage and a beef chilling or packing plant with co-operative sales agents.

It would be almost as reasonable to preach to fruit and fish men to always deliver their goods fresh as is the kind of preaching we have had from paper farmers on this subject for the past 25 years.

Yours respectfully,

J. BOUSFIELD.

THE GUIDE'S INFLUENCE

Royholm, Sask., Jan. 21, 1909.

Editor G. G. Guide, Winnipeg :

Dear Sir,—I consider the G. G. Guide a very "common sense" journal and most vital for the interest of a toiling "people who have always been in the woods" and in no position to help themselves. Through the G. G. Guide there is a channel, a "strait" which will become "straight" with honest endeavors. I thank God for the relief.

I note there is quite a space taken up with scriptural points. The December, 1908, number is the first I have had the pleasure of reading. The Guide will deal honestly on "all subjects," therefore those dealing with the Bible, the word of God, through this medium must deal lawfully, as the Apostles have built the foundation. We should use the Scripture as it is and not as man has manufactured it, or changed the words to suit their purpose. If the writer with the title "The Pulpit and Politics" will use Paul for an example he must turn to Acts 19 chap., Acts 8 chap., Heb. 6 chap., which be the first principles of the oracles of God.

E. M. MOCK.

Each sorrow carries at its heart a germ of holy truth, which, if you get and sow it in the soil of your heart, will bear harvests of fruit as seed-acorns from mummy cases fruit in English soil.—F. B. Meyer.

FARMER AND THE TARIFF

Boissevain, Man., Feb. 6, 1909.

To the Editor of The Guide :

Sir,—If I may, I would like to enlarge on one point Mr. Knowles made in his letter "Farmer and the Tariff" appearing in The Guide.

Mr. Knowles compares the relative position of the farmer and manufacturer, but he did not show how directly the tariff is connected with this question.

I think it is generally admitted that a protective tariff raises the cost of living, that the cost of living is the basis on which the rate or standard of wages is struck. Protection therefore raises wages, although it at the same time discounts their purchasing power. The manufacturer makes extra profits from high prices protected by the tariff even after paying the higher wage his employees demand—and are justified in obtaining—because the tariff which gives their employer larger profits makes all the necessaries of life dearer.

The farmer while not sharing in the advantage of enhanced prices, through protection has to pay for his labor a wage (which has risen in sympathy with that of skilled artisan labor without the same justification), and in addition has to bear the cost of providing his help with the larger part of their living. In other words he has to pay a wage based on the assumption that the worker has to keep himself, while in this case his employer, the farmer, keeps him.

Mr. Knowles suggests a course of action; but from what we read in the "press" would it not be more effective to start a "fund" and conduct a "lobby"?

E.B.C.

(Further correspondence held over till next month—Ed.)

TRADES AND LABOR CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

(From report of meeting held at Winnipeg.)

A motion to endorse the stand of the Grain Growers' association, who demanded public ownership of interior elevators, raised a storm in the meeting. Several members demanded that a subject of so much importance should be debated at greater length, and many stated that they were entirely unacquainted with the different aspects of the issue. One delegate raised an objection to such a motion being brought before the council, but the president pointed out that one of the first principles of the Trades and Labor congress was government ownership of all public utilities.

The discussion brought A. W. Puttee to his feet. "I am surprised," he said, "at the admitted ignorance of members of this council, in a matter which has been agitating the people of this country for the past year. They should be ashamed to admit that they know nothing of the actions of 10,000 farmers who have raised one of the greatest agitations of the day, and that along the exact lines which the labor unions have been advocating. It is an agitation of the producer against the exactions of the grain men, and for weeks and months the daily papers have been full of their contentions. It would be a confession of weakness on the part of this council to admit that it does not know what is going on outside its own ranks among the working men of the farms. Let them know that some indication of the strength of that movement is that it has been sufficient to draw together the premiers of the three grain-growing provinces, though they are sufficiently antagonistic in many respects, and their answers to the farmers have been more than usually diplomatic. I would remind the members of this council that the only kope they have of winning or holding their own in the fight against capital, is by working along with the farmers. Without them we would be helpless."

The motion was put and passed without a dissenting voice.

During the course of the meeting Mr. Evans, representing the Great West Co-Operative society, was given permission to outline the plan of operation of that concero, and he received a ten minutes' hearing.

WESTERN OUTLOOK FOR ALBERTA WHEAT

In view of the proposals to provide necessary elevator equipment, for export of Alberta wheat at Pacific Coast Ports, the following from the weekly report of the Department of Trade and Commerce is of interest as indicating how a trade in wheat between countries can be interfered with by Grain dealers when they get control of the trade.

MEXICAN WHEAT SHORTAGE.

SOMEWHAT OVERESTIMATED SHRINKAGE OF CROP
When the scarcity of wheat in Mexico was so scarce as to occasion the issuance of a Government order lowering the duty, notice of which appeared in weekly report No. 25, it now appears, according to the report of one of the best posted grain men in the republic, that the shrinkage was overestimated. In an interview in the Mexican "Herald" recently he stated that the speculators in their efforts to raise the price of wheat, overreached their mark, with the result that at the request of the millers the tariff was lowered.

As the price of the native wheat has fallen in some parts of the country since the tariff was lowered, the

decline being from 60c. per bushel to 40c. per bushel, he thinks there was good reason to believe that there was something artificial about the price asked before foreign wheat could be imported on the present tariff rates.

For this reason he says, no great amount of foreign wheat has been ordered by the millers of Mexico City since at the present price of native wheat it is much cheaper to buy at home than it is to import the wheat. Nevertheless, he says, a considerable quantity of foreign wheat will be used here, notwithstanding the difference in price, as millers will necessarily have it in order to improve the quality of their flour.

Ordinarily the Kansas City market is the one to which the Mexican buyer turns for his wheat supply, and the bulk of the grain brought into Mexico in former years originated at that point. This gentleman says that there are, however, some buyers in Mexico who are certainly very much dissatisfied with the treatment they have received at the hands of certain unscrupulous grain dealers and brokers of the United States, and they are now making their purchases elsewhere. These firms, he says, have frequently quoted No. 2 Hard of Red, and then

QUOTATIONS IN STORE AT FT. WILLIAM FOR JAN. 1909

DATE	WHEAT										FLAX			BARLEY				CASH OATS						
	1°	2°	3°	4	5	6	Feed 1	Feed 2	Rej. 1	Rej. 2	Rej. Seed	1w	1m	Rej.	3	4	Rej.	Feed	1w	2w	3w	2m	Re.	
2	98½	95½	92	87½	83	76½	68			94 } 91½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ } 87½ }	90 } 87½ }	122	120							36½	35½		
4	98½	95½	92	87½	82½	76½	68			94 } 91½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ } 87½ }	90 } 87½ }	121½	119½	110						36½	34½		
5	98½	95½	91½	87	82½	76½	68			94 } 91½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ } 87½ }	90 } 87½ }	122	120	111	45½	40				36½	34½		
6	98½	96½	92	87½	82	76½	69			94 } 91½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ } 87½ }	90 } 87½ }	121½	119½		45	40				36½	34½		
7	98½	95½	92½	87½	82	76½	69			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	122½	120½	110	45½					36½	34½		
8	98½	95½	92½	87	82	75½	69			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	123	121	110	45	43	40			36½	34½		
9	99½	96½	92½	88	83	78	69½			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	123½	121½	110	45½	43½	40			37	35		
11	99½	96½	92½	88	82½	78	69½			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	124½	122½		45½	43½	40			37	35		
12	98½	95½	91½	87	82	77½	69			93½ } 91 } 88½ }	90½ } 88½ } 87½ }	89½ } 87½ }	125	123	110	45½	43½	40			37	35½		
13	99½	96½	92	87½	82	77½	69½			94 } 91½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	124½	122½	110	46½	43½	40½			37½	35½		
14	99½	96½	92½	87½	82½	78	69½			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	124½	122½	110	46	43½	40½			37½	35½		
15	99	96	92	88	82½	78	69½			94 } 91½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	124	122	110	46	43½	40½			37½	35½		
16	99½	96½	92½	88	82½	78	69½			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	122	120	110	46	43½	41			37½	35½		
18	99½	96½	92½	88½	82½	78	69½			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	91½ } 88½ } 87½ }	90½ } 87½ }	122	120	110	46	44	41			37½	35½		
19	99½	96½	92½	88½	83	78½	70			94½ } 91½ } 88½ }	92 } 89 } 88½ }	90½ } 88½ }	122½	120½	110	46½	44½	41½			37½	35½		
20	100½	97½	93	89½	83½	78½	70			94½ } 91½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ }	121½	119½	110	47½	45	41½			37½	36		
21	100½	97½	93½	89½	83½	78½	70			94½ } 91½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91 } 88½ }	122	120	110	47	44½	41½			37½	36½		
22	99½	96½	93	89	83	78	70			95½ } 92½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91½ } 89 }	123	121	110	47	45	41½			37½	36½		
23	99½	96½	93	88	83	78	70			95½ } 92½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91½ } 89 }	122½	120½	110	47	45	41½			37½	36½		
25	99½	96½	93	88½	83½	78	70			95½ } 92½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91½ } 89 }	123	121	110	47½	45½	41½			37½	36½		
26	99	96	93	89½	83½	78	70			95½ } 92½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91½ } 89 }	123½	121½	110	47½	45½	41½			37½	36½		
27	100	96½	93½	89½	84	78	70			95½ } 92½ } 90 }	92½ } 89½ } 88½ }	91½ } 89½ }	123½	121½	110	48	45½	41½			37½	36½		
28	100½	97	94½	90	85	79	70½			96 } 93 } 90½ }	93½ } 90½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ }	124	122	110	48½	45	41½			37½	37		
29	100½	97½	94½	90½	85½	79½	70			96½ } 93½ } 90½ }	93½ } 90½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ }	124	122	114	48½	45½	41½			38	37		
30	100½	97½	94½	90½	85½	79½	70			96½ } 93½ } 90½ }	93½ } 90½ } 89½ }	92½ } 89½ }	125	123	114	48	45½	41½			38	37½		

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shipped rejected or off grade wheat, relying on the ignorance of the purchaser to cover the fraud. He points out that as wheat is usually sold with a sight draft attached to the Bill of Lading, and is as a rule paid for from one to three weeks before it reaches the buyer, and as there is absolutely no grading attempted with the entirely ignorant of the rules that govern the grading Mexican wheat, the Mexican importer, who is usually and classification of grain, they become an easy prey for such sharpers.

This gentleman believes that the United States Government should adopt some measures looking to the action of grain by properly appointed and responsible officials, so that the foreign buyer might be reasonably sure of receiving what he contracted and paid for.

In speaking of the actual shortage of the wheat crop, this gentleman says that it is felt less in Mexico City than elsewhere in the republic. The scarcity is felt to a greater extent in and around Montreal, as the crop in the country tributary to that city is in many instances a total failure. In the State of Puebla there is native wheat enough to run the millers until the last of February.

According to his figures, the demands for wheat and wheat products in Mexico is steadily increasing while the production is lessened to such an extent that the time is probably not far distant when the Mexican government, considering the best interests of a vast majority of its people, will find itself compelled to so arrange the duty as to permit the importation of wheat from abroad during the entire year.

It is estimated by those most familiar with crop conditions in Mexico, that from 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 bushels of foreign wheat will be imported into this country within the next few months."

Those who are most concerned in the Western outlet for Alberta wheat ought to exercise every precaution that the conditions that at present exist in our Eastern outlet will not be repeated in the West.

When terminal facilities for handling grain are being provided, the Grain Growers of Alberta should insist on nothing short of Government ownership and operation. We have now as thorough a system of Government control and supervision at the Lake Front as can be devised, but conditions are not improved and are apparently getting worse.

The sailors say that there is a buried city on the shore of a foreign country, where, on clear, still nights, as they are riding the waves, they can hear, far down in the depths of ocean, the muffled tones of the buried city's cathedral bells. There are silent times when in the heart of every man the long-forgotten messages of God sound again, though ever so faintly. That soul does well that drops anchor at the sound and digs for buried treasure.

STATEMENT OF GRAIN SHIPMENTS

Which have passed the inspection point at Winnipeg during the month ending 31st January 1909, as supplied by the Chief Inspector of Grain, Manitoba Grain Inspection Division.

SPRING WHEAT.

	Cars.
1 Hard White Fife...	1
1 Northern	175
2 Northern	681
3 Northern	521
No. 4	187
Feed	28
Rejected 1	88
Rejected 2	97
No Grade	55
Rejected	29
Condemned	7
No. 5	87
No. 6	56
Total	2012

WHITE WINTER.

	Cars.
No. 1 Alberta Red ...	28
No. 2 Alberta Red ...	81
No. 3 Alberta Red ...	90
No. 1 White Winter ...	
No. 2 White Winter ...	9
No. 3 White Winter ...	3
No. 1 Mixed Winter...	
No. 2 Mixed Winter ...	1
No. 3 Mixed Winter...	
Rejected 1	21
Rejected 2	19
No Grade	
Rejected	1
No. 4	80
No. Five	36
Total	378

OATS.	Cars.
No. 1 Can. Western...	48
No. 2 Can. Western..	288
No. 3 Can. Western..	39
Rejected	18
No Grade	11
Extra No. 1 Feed ...	210
No. 1 Feed	94
No. 2 Feed	37
No. 2 Mixed	2
Condemned	2
Total	729

BARLEY. Cars.

No. 1	
No. 2	
No. 3 Extra	1
No. 3	34
No. 4	29
Rejected	7
No Grade	1
Feed	4
Total	76

RYE. Cars.

No. 1	2
Total	2

FLAX SEED. Cars.

No. 1 N. W. Man. ...	151
No. 1 Manitoba ...	18
Rejected	2
No Grade	5
Condemned	1
Total	177

TOTALS.	CARS	LAST YEAR	CARS
Wheat	2890	4550	C.P.R. 2206
Oats	729	811	C.N.R. 369
Barley	76	143	G.T.P. 16
Flax Seed	177	225	Calgary ... 727
Rye	2	2	Duluth 26
Total... ..	3374	5740	3374

MONEY TO LEND

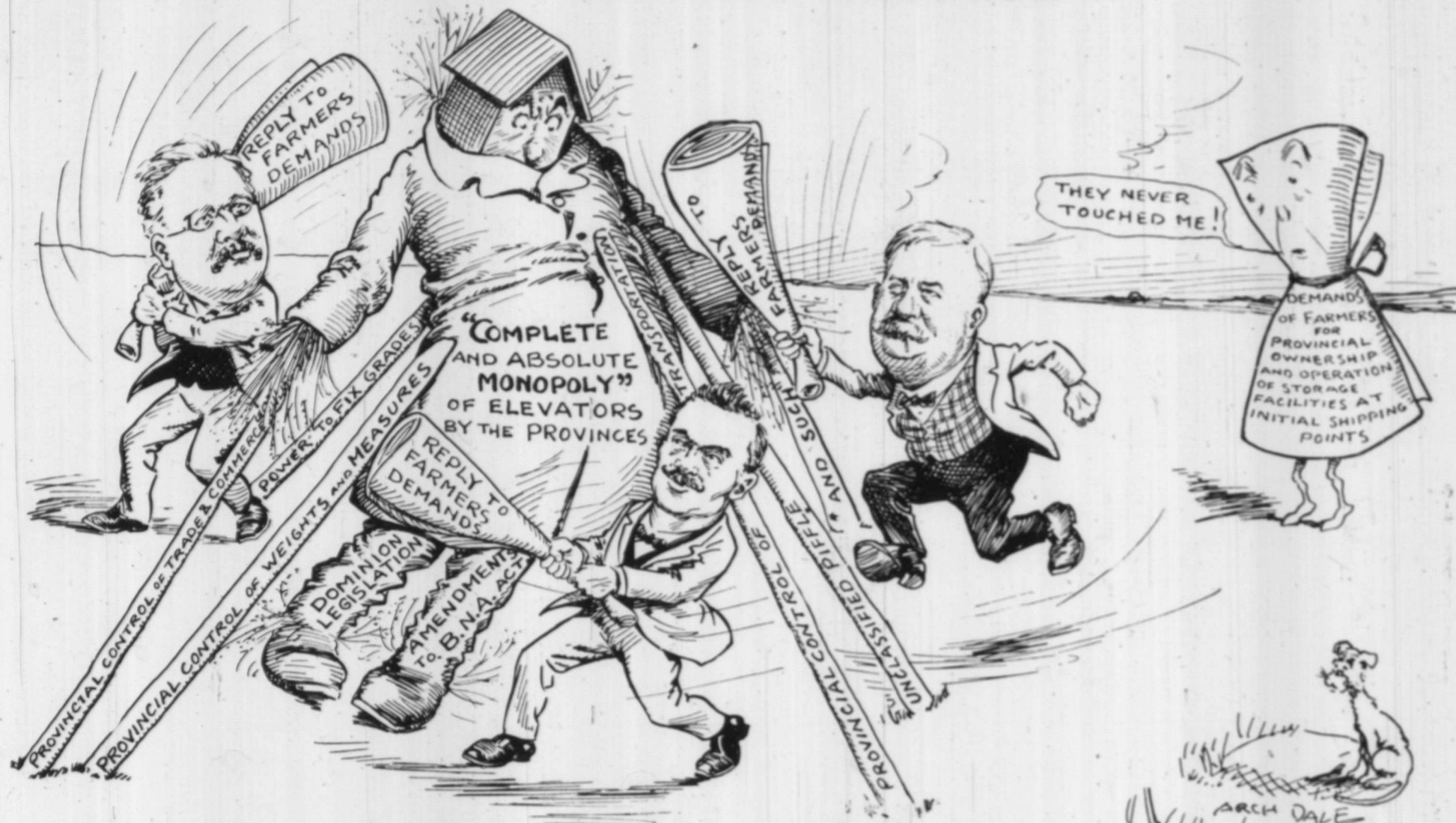
ON IMPROVED FARMS IN MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN

No delays. Lowest current rates.

The Toronto General Trusts Corporation

Bank of Hamilton Building, Winnipeg

THE MONTH'S CARTOON



The Premiers deal telling blows at the creature of their own fancy, but allow the farmers' proposition to go unscathed. The only reference made to the demands of the farmers, as formulated by the Interprovincial Council, is contained in the following quotation from the Premiers' reply: "Any attempt to deal with this subject, other than in a full and complete and far-reaching manner, would, in our opinion, fail and prove futile, and possibly be followed by disastrous results."

ARCH DALE
11. 1909

OUR GREAT MIDWINTER SALE IS PASSING

Our great sale is more than half over, so there is now no time to lose if you desire to participate in our many money-saving opportunities.

If you have not received a copy of our Sale Catalogue let us know and we will send you one by return mail.

Our Grocery Catalogue is also interesting. It contains a complete list of the groceries we sell and gives our prices, and our prices are the prices that first-class groceries should be sold for when they are bought right as we buy them, and when they are sold at a reasonable profit as we sell them. If you want a copy of the catalogue, send us your name and address.

It is issued every two weeks, and all prices are absolutely guaranteed during the two weeks of its existence.

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED
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COUNSEL AND COMFORT FROM GREAT THINKERS

OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

Diderot said, "To make one blade of grass grow, all nature must co-operate." The life of the distant star is surely very remote from the little blade of grass that hides itself in the valley—yes, remote, but yet vitally related to it. Science will have no absolute separations. In the vast system of creation, that blade has its place to occupy and its contribution to make.

So, too, in the world of moral and spiritual forces. No life is without purpose and mission. Whatever your place in society, however obscure your lot, remember there is a distinct place for "you" in the vast spiritual economy of God.

I emphasize this, because it is so difficult for many to realize it. You live, perhaps, in a two or three-roomed house, and nearly all that you concern yourself about is there; it is difficult for you to realize that the immeasurable universe, the "eternities and immensities" which Carlyle spoke of, can have any regard to the life you live, or that your life can affect them. Moreover, you note how the great men die, and the world goes on as before. But the world is not the same as if they had never been. Bismarck has left an indelible mark on Germany, and Paul on Christendom. England is different because John Wesley preached here.

T. Rhondda Williams.

THERE IS NO FAILURE

There is no failure. Life itself's a song
Of victory o'er death, and ages long
Have told the story old of triumphs wrought
Unending, from the things once held for naught.
The battle's over; though defeated now,
In coming time the waiting world shall bow
Before the throne of Truth that's builded high
Above the dust of those whose ashes lie
All heedless of the glorious fight they won
When death obscured the light of vict'ry's sun.

There is no failure. If we could but see
Beyond the battle line if we could be
Where battle-smoke does ne'er becloud the eye,
Then we should know that where these prostrate lie
Accoutered in habiliments of death,
Sweet Freedom's radiant form has drawn new breath—
The breath of life which they so nobly gave
Shall swell anew above the lowly grave
And give new life and hope to hearts that beat
Like battle-drums that never sound retreat.

There is no failure. God's immortal plan
Accounts no loss a lesson learned for man.
Defeat is oft the discipline we need
To save us from the wrong, or teaching heed
To errors which would else more dearly cost—
A lesson learned is ne'er a battle lost.
Whene'er the cause is right, be not afraid;
Defeat is then but victory delayed—
And e'en the greatest vict'ries of the world
Are often won when battle-flags are furled.

Thomas Speed Mosby.

TRIAL A CRISIS

One reason why a time of trial is often such a crisis in a man's spiritual history is because it is a season when the iron is heated and malleable; one or two strokes serve to fashion it as a weapon for God or for Satan.

J. H. Newman.

JOY—GIVING

I remember, some years ago, standing by to hear some performers—vocalists and comic entertainers—on the sands at a watering-place. Two lines of one of their songs remain in my memory. This particular song described the adventures, very strange they were, of a party of roysterers which included an individual named Finnigan—at least, I think his name was Finnigan. He was a special favourite with the others. All their efforts were directed towards giving Finnigan pleasure. Wherever they went their one idea was to cheer Finnigan. And no sacrifice on their part seemed to be too great if only they could achieve this object. The two (or it may be three) lines that impressed themselves ineffaceably upon my mind ran:

We didn't care a jot if we all got shot,

So long as we were doing old Finnigan good.

Now it isn't often that you find a modern comic song with so beautiful a moral background as that. Here are men all bound together by a common altruistic aim. As they went from one place to another they were not thinking of amusing themselves, or selfishly promoting their own enjoyment—they were thinking solely of what they conceived to be the happiness of their well-loved comrade, Finnigan, styled affectionately, for there was no evidence that he had attained any ripeness of age, "old Finnigan."

I daresay you will be inclined to advance the criticism that the lines I have quoted are ironical, or perhaps even enshrine a gross hypocrisy—that these men were really bent on having an extravagant "spree," and put forward the notion of "doing Finnigan good" as a mere pretext for their own wild behaviour. This may well be so. Knowing the degradation of human nature, I should not be prepared to deny it. But what I want you to notice is that if these men were genuine, if they really and truly desired to make Finnigan happy, they were going the very best way to secure their own happiness.

I am met here with the thought that "pleasure" and "happiness" are by no means the same thing, that very often they are two quite different things. But these men speak of "doing old Finnigan good." And if they were sincere in trying to do him good, I repeat that they were going the best way to secure their own happiness.

THE JOY OF UNSELFISHNESS

If I could see my own life over again, say from the age of twenty, when the needs and sorrows of other people began to press upon me, I would pray every day and many times a day to be unselfish. I would pray that I might forget myself, my own career, my own ambitions, my own health, in order that I might spend myself in ministering to others. And I am sure that when I once more reached my present age I should be a much happier man than I am now. For if there is one certainty in my mind, it is that it pays to be unselfish. I know that in saying this I am open to the reproach of a low motive. And I should be content to start from a low motive. I should be content to be selfishly unselfish—that is, to start from myself with a view to working out and on. As thus: I wish to be happy, to be truly and permanently happy. The best way to attain happiness for myself is through the service of others. Therefore, I will pray and seek and strive to be unselfish, not at first, because I desire to alleviate the sufferings and promote the happiness of others, but because I desire myself to be happy, and this is the best way to attain

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that state. I think I have scriptural warrant. The Prodigal Son started his better life from a selfish consideration—"How many hired servants of my father have bread enough and to spare, and I perish here with hunger. I will arise and go to my father." He was thinking of his own needs. He was thinking how much better it would be for him to have a full belly than an empty one. I should be thinking how much better it would be for me to have a contented and peaceful mind than a discontented and unquiet one; and so thinking, I should arise and go to my Father, and should say unto Him: "Father, I want to be happy; I believe You mean me to be happy. You have shown me through Thy Son Jesus Christ that the way to happiness is the way of self-sacrifice, the way of ministry, that the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister. "Therefore," make me unselfish; make me willing to direct all the powers that You have given me, and that You will give me towards the service of my fellow men."

But I cannot put back the hands of the clock and be a boy once more. And perhaps even if I could, I should not be choosing altogether wisely. For I perceive that our attitude towards God is the first thing—that if my heart would be right with my brother's heart, my heart must first be right with God. And so I proceed to ask, with a view to my own happiness, "What doth the Lord God require of thee?"

We are called to cultivate the Christian character. And our Lord Himself says that Christians are happy. Each of the Beatitudes begins with a word that may be translated "happy." Happy are the poor in the spirit; happy are they that mourn; happy are the meek; happy are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness; happy are the merciful (or pitiful); happy are the pure in heart; happy are the peace-makers; happy are they that are persecuted on account of righteousness. The proud, the heady, the high-minded, the implacable, the pitiless, the men of divided aims are not happy.

HOW TO DO GOOD WORK

Every man can be in love with his work if he will always think of how well he can do that work and not how easily he can do it. Let every one of us go about our daily tasks keep saying to himself every moment: "I am going to do my work so well to-day that to-night I will congratulate myself upon it." That is the way to get others to congratulate you upon it. Win your own intelligent approval in the doing of your work, and you will also win the honest approval of your fellow-men.

Never say to yourself that your work is too hard; say to yourself instead, "I will do it so well that the very doing of it will make it easy," and never forget that the only real way to do your work easily is to do it well. Never pity yourself. Self-pity begins a sickness of the soul from which few recover.

Never wait for emergencies to call out the might within you. Realise your assets every day. God has made an investment in every one of us. Shall we go to Him when our life is done, giving Him no return upon that investment? When He invested in you, He meant that you should pay Him dividends in the betterment of the world and helpfulness to your fellow-men. You can do this only by your best work.

The second practical rule for doing good work yourself is to appreciate and praise the good work of others. Never envy anybody. Jealousy destroys efficiency. The man who spends his strength envying the good work of another man will have little strength left to do good work himself. Get the habit of happiness over other people's success. Practise praising the work of others. It will make your fellow-man happy, but it will make you happier than it makes him. It will encourage him, but it will encourage you more.

DEFINITIONS OF SACRIFICE

The nature and the nourishment of love.—Heubner.

The mysterious law of existence, as well as of all progress.—H. R. Haweis.

In the usage of the Bible, the appointed rite by which a Jewish citizen who has broken the law, and forfeited thereby his position within the pale of the covenant, is enabled to procure his restoration. It is a Jewish word, and belongs to the positive provisions of the Jewish polity.—Archbishop Thomson.

Animal Sacrifice.—A visible sacrament of an invisible sacrifice; a holy sign of what should be done of us in adherence to God, and charity to our neighbours to the same end.—Augustine.

Christian Sacrifices.—Losses of mere happiness, and for just that reason preparations for joy.—Bushnell.

...Self-Sacrifice.—Not the half-sleepy, half-reluctant submission to the force of circumstance or opinion, in which shape it is so often travestied among us, but the resolute self-surrender and willing resignation of a free and reasonable soul.—G. Adam Smith.

HOME INFLUENCE

Home is the grandest of all institutions.—C. H. Spurgeon.

Each of us has the power of making happier, sunnier, the little spot wherein our daily life is spent.—Archbishop of Canterbury.

The most valuable result of education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you ought to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like to do it or not.—Huxley.

The beauty of the house is order,
The blessing of the house is contentment,
The glory of the house is hospitality,
The crown of the house is godliness.

It takes so little to make a child happy, that it is a pity, in a world full of sunshine and pleasant things, that there should be any wistful faces, empty hands or lonely young hearts.

Failure at home is failure everywhere. To leave behind in the home, when one goes to one's work in the morning, unhappy hearts or a feeling of relief at one's absence is not a promising sign of power with souls outside.

Take your needle, my child, and work at your pattern; it will come out a rose by and by." Life is like that—one stitch at a time taken patiently, and the pattern will come out all right like the embroidery.—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

How strange that double life in men that answers to those crystal caves in the great West, unseemly without, but within, when the torch is lighted, glowing and flashing with opalescent light! For it is the home that underlies morals, and is the spring of light and beauty for the soul.—Newell Dwight Hillis.

The chief duty of a Christian lies in the quiet, unseen life of his own home, and if he does not learn there to practise that noble virtue of unselfishness—that highest type of charity which consists in daily and hourly consideration for the feelings of others—he will have lost one of the strongest resources and one of the most healing memories for all his future life.—F. W. Farrar.

Lord Pembroke met George Selwyn on the 1st of May, very much annoyed by chimney sweeps, who were surrounding him and persecuting him for money. At length he made them a bow and cried, "Gentlemen, I have often heard of the majesty of the people; I presume your highnesses are in court mourning!"

LACK OF CONSCIENCE IN THE PRESS

Another serious peril of our times is the want of conscience in our daily and weekly Press. The question is not asked by the majority of the editors or managers of to-day, "How can we guide and elevate the people?" but "How can we make the paper pay, by securing the largest number of readers, and through them the richest results in advertisements?" Thus the mightiest of all factors in the moulding of public opinion is made subservient to the selfish greed of the age.

The writer took up a weekly in the train only a month ago, with a circulation of over a million copies, which existed entirely on its detailed reports of every scandalous and unclean case tried in the courts not only of Great Britain, but of the Continent. It was nothing but a collection of garbage—an unclean vulture pouncing upon carrion. It may be asked, "Why complain, if the public will have it so?" To this we reply that the public need guidance, and that in noble fashion, and in a Christian land that guidance should be given in its Press. In place of this we find to-day, in terrible measure, only a gross pandering to unclean passions, and the total lack of principle which arises from selfish greed.

The same objection obtains with regard to the modern novel. The literature of any age or country is supposed to be the expression of its prevailing tone of thought. Alas! for the credit of our age, morally and intellectual if this is, indeed, so. We are, indeed, degenerates if the modern novel presents us faithfully. Persons, such as the writer, who serve on the committees of our free libraries, know how difficult it is in these days to find novels which are at once strong and pure. And, alas! for British womanhood, many of the vilest of them are from the pen of women who are a disgrace to their sex.

For good or evil, the novel has become the expression and expositor of modern life. By no other vehicle is contemporaneous life so adequately expressed, and that expression should be noble and not base. The people do not discriminate. They take the life history of the fictitious characters present in our novels to heart with a seriousness of which many of our critics have no idea. They do not pause to separate the true from the false. The responsibility of the novelist is, therefore, tremendous. Why, then, do many of our successful writers of fiction regard their craft so frivolously? When impure and unfaithful to their solemn trust, the extent of their malignant influence no man can gauge or measure. The fancy of the reader is polluted, the soul corrupted, and the life degraded. It is, indeed, high time that we had a faithful censor in the land, and not an unreal mockery bearing that august title. The chief instrument in the education of the imagination is literature, and one of the crying needs of our time is a literature which will elevate and purify, which will fill the mind with great thoughts and noble images, which, in a word, will uplift and not degrade. Oh, let us follow after purity in our national thought and life—

March to the tune of the voice of her,
Breathing the balm of her breath,
Loving the light of her skies.

Young Men and Business.—If any young man wishes a set of rules, here it is:—Get into a business you like. Devote yourself to it. Be honest in everything. Employ caution; think out a thing well before you enter upon it. Sleep eight hours every night. Do everything that means keeping in good health. School yourself not to worry; worry kills, work doesn't. Avoid liquors of all kinds. If you must smoke, smoke moderately. Shun discussion on two points—religion and politics. And lastly, but not least, marry a true woman, and you have your own home.

GOOD HABITS

Rules for good work fall without good habits. Good habits are the physical basis of good work, just as love of the work is its soul. Ruskin says that no immortal work has been done in the world since tobacco was discovered. Of course, this is not true, but the meaning behind it is true. No man can be at his best whose brain is inflamed by drink or whose nerves are shaken by narcotics. And we must be at our best. More and more other men are determining to be at their best. If every man is not at his best, it is his own fault.

In one of Maeterlinck's wonderful stories he tells of a powerful man of the Middle Ages who conceived great plans and executed them, but always with difficulty. Frequently he almost failed, and succeeded only by superhuman effort. Finally he found that a secret enemy was always working against his most careful plans, neutralising his most strenuous exertions. As the years passed he determined to find and destroy this enemy. Life was not worth living with this hidden foe for ever circling him with difficulties. One evening he went out for a walk. He saw another man approaching him. By that strange instinct which warns us of danger, he knew that this man was his lifelong enemy. He resolved to kill him. As he approached, he observed that this man wore a mask. But conscious that this was the antagonist of his life, he said as they met: "You are the man who from my youth 'til now has been pursuing me, thwarting me, almost defeating me. I mean to kill you, but I will give you a chance for your life. Draw and defend yourself." The stranger said as he drew his sword, "I am at your service, but first see who it is that you would fight." He removed his mask, and the man stood "before himself."

This fable is true of every one of us. More—as his own enemy a man multiplies himself. Where you think an enemy has injured you, look closely and nine times out of ten, you will find yourself in some evil guise. But oftenest you will find yourself in the form of your habits.

THE MIRACLE OF SELF-CONFIDENCE

It was said that Napoleon's presence in a battle doubled the strength of his forces. Half the effectiveness of an army resides in the soldiers' faith in their leader. When the leader doubts, hesitates, wavers, the whole army is thrown into confusion; but his confidence doubles the assurance of every man under him.

The mental faculties, like soldiers, must believe in their leader—the unconquerable will. The mind of the doubter, the hesitator, the waverer, the man who is not sure of himself, who thinks he is not equal to what he has undertaken, is set toward failure, and everything works against him. There is a weakening all along the line.

In an emergency, as in danger, a man can often perform feats of great strength which he could not even approximate in cold blood. "Arousing a man multiplies his power tremendously." Think of what delicate men and women, even invalids, have accomplished when dominated by some supreme occasion or a mighty passion. The imperious "must" gives added strength and unusual power to all the faculties. So a great self-faith, an unwavering self-confidence, braces the entire man, physically, mentally, morally. It raises him to his highest power, and makes him do with ease what would be impossible without this wonderful stimulus.

An overmastering faith in oneself often enables comparatively ignorant men and women to do marvellous things—feats which sensitive, timid, doubting people, of far greater ability and much finer texture and nobler qualities shrink from attempting.

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THE PROBLEM OF EVIL

The problems of pain, of sorrow, of evil, have persisted through all the centuries, and have never been adequately met by any of the speculations of humanity. They cannot be ignored, because to all of us come moods when they are the real things in life. We may explain them, however, by arguing that what we think is evil not really evil at all, but hidden good. Many of the greatest thinkers have taken this view. Others have argued that evil is indeed what it seems to be, and that God Himself can only grapple with it and strive to conquer it. Mr. A. C. Benson inclines toward the former attitude. In a recent article in "Putnam's Magazine" he says:

The essence of God's omnipotence is that both law and matter are His and originate from Him; so that if a single fibre of what we know to be evil can be found in the world, either God is responsible for that or He is dealing with something He did not originate and cannot overcome. Nothing can extricate us from this dilemma except the belief that what we think evil is not really evil at all, but hidden good; and thus we have firm ground under our feet at last, and can begin to climb out of the abyss. And then we feel in our own hearts how indomitable is our sense of our right to happiness, how unconquerable our hope; how swiftly we forget unhappiness; how firmly we remember joy; and then we see that the one absolutely permanent and vital power in the world is the power of love, which wins victories over every evil we can name; and if it is so plain that love is the one essential and triumphant force in the world, it must be the very heartbeat of God; till we feel that when soon or late the day comes for us when our swimming eyes discern ever more faintly the awe-struck pitying faces round us, and the senses give up their powers one by one, and the tides of death creep on us, and the daylight dies—that even so we shall find that love awaiting us in the region to which the noblest and bravest and purest, as well as the vilest and most timid and most soiled, have gone.

This, then, is the only optimism that is worth the name; not the feeble optimism that brushes away the darker side of life impatiently and fretfully, but the optimism that dares to look boldly into the fiercest miseries of the human spirit, and to come back, as Perseus came, pale and smoke-stained, from the dim underworld and say that there is yet hope brightening on the verge of the gloom.

THE DIGNITY OF SAVING

There is a dignity in the very effort to save with a worthy purpose, even though the attempt should not be crowned with eventual success. It produces a well-regulated mind; it gives prudence a triumph over extravagance; it gives virtue the mastery over vice; it puts the passions under control; it drives away care; it secures comfort. Saved money, however little, will serve to dry up many a tear, will ward off many sorrows and heartburnings, which otherwise might prey upon us. Possessed of a little store of capital, a man walks with a lighter step—his heart beats more cheerily. When interruption of work or adversity happens, he can meet them; he can recline on his capital, which will either break his fall or prevent it altogether. By prudential economy we can realise the dignity of man, life will be a blessing, and old age an honour.

We can ultimately, under a kind Providence, surrender life, conscious that we have been no burden upon society, but rather, perhaps, an acquisition and ornament to it; conscious, also, that as we have been independent, our children after us, by following our example, and availing themselves of the means we have left behind us, will walk in like manner through the world in happiness and independence.—Smiles.

WHO IS A SOCIALIST?

Who is a Socialist? It is the man
Who strives to formulate or aid a plan
To better earth's conditions. It is he
Who, having ears to hear and eyes to see,
Is neither deaf nor blind when might, roughshod,
Treads down the privileges and rights which God
Means for all men—the privilege to toil,
To breathe pure air, to till the fertile soil;
The right to live, to love, to woo, to wed,
And earn for hungry mouths their meed of bread.
The Socialist is he who claims no more
Than his own share from generous Nature's store,
But "that" he asks, and asks, too, that no other
Shall claim the share of any weaker brother,
And brand him beggar in his own domain
To glut a mad, inordinate lust for gain
The Socialist is one who holds the best
Of all God's gifts is toil—the second, rest.
He asks that all men learn the sweets of labour,
And that no idler fatten on his neighbour;
That all men be allowed their share of leisure,
Nor thousands slave that one may serve his pleasure.
Who on the golden rule shall dare insist—
Behold in him the modern Socialist.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

THE MASSES


I have expressed my strong interest in the mass of the people; and this is founded not on their usefulness to the community so much as on what they are in themselves. Their condition is, indeed, obscure, but their importance is not on this account a whit the less. The multitude of men cannot from the nature of the case be distinguished; for the very idea of distinction is that a man stands out from the multitude. They make little noise, and draw little notice in their narrow spheres of action; but still they have their full proportion of personal worth, and even of greatness. Indeed, every man, in every condition, is great. It is only our own diseased sight which makes him little. A man is great as a man, be he where or what he may. The grandeur of his nature turns to insignificance all outward distinctions.—W. E. Channing.

REAL ALTRUISM

A man thoroughly great has a certain contempt for his kind while he aids them—their weal or woe are all; their applause, their blame are nothing to him. . . . he is deaf to the little motives of little men. High through the widest space his orbit may describe, he holds on his course to guide or to enlighten; but the noises below reach him not! . . . thirsting from no sound from the earth which it illumines, anxious for no companionship in the path through which it rolls, conscious of its own glory, and contented therefore to be alone! But minds of this order are rare. All ages cannot produce them. They are exceptions to the ordinary and human virtue.—Lytton.

OVERCOMING DEPRESSION

Depression is not to be overcome by fighting it. To forget all about it, in the expression of the best gifts we have, even though they may not be remarkable, will put depression so out of mind that it will not need to be fought. A kind word to a friend will do more to lift the cloud of one's own depression than hours of a mere effort of the will to overcome the gloom. Expression of one's best is the best cure for depression that gives ascendancy to one's worst.



ALBERTA OFFICIAL ORGAN OF UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

EDWARD J. FREAM, Editor

AN HISTORIC UNION, Amalgamation of the Alberta Farmers' Association and The Canadian Society of Equity in Alberta

"THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA"

On Wednesday morning, January 13th, the Canadian Society of Equity opened their convention in Houstens' Hall, Edmonton and at the same time the Alberta Farmers' Association opened their annual convention in the Mechanics' Hall, Edmonton.

These two organizations met with the definite purpose of joining hands if at all possible, and this was accomplished on January 14th, whereby the agricultural organizations of Alberta entered upon a new era under the name of "The United Farmers of Alberta."

The first day of the two conventions was devoted to the winding up of the affairs of the two societies and preparing the ground for amalgamation. There were a large number of delegates present from all over the province, and in both societies the vote to try and create one large organization was practically unanimous. This was successfully accomplished, and will prove one of the most important events in the history of the agriculturists of Alberta. In the uniting of these two large bodies several matters of great importance for the future welfare of the organizations had to be considered. However, all these little difficulties were overcome, and on Thursday morning with the words of "For they are Jolly Good Fellows," the two societies were drawn together, and with three rousing cheers for the old associations and the new, President Fletcher of the A. F. A. extended the hand of good fellowship to all.

A great many matters of importance were disposed of, and in listening to the discussions by the delegates present one was struck with the masterful way in which the different subjects were handled, and the intelligent grasp the speakers had of the economic questions of the day. Several interesting papers were read, among them being one by Mr. James Bower of Red Deer, dealing with the problem of safeguarding the interests of the agriculturists. This was treated in a manner which showed that Mr. Bower had made a careful study of the economic problems confronting the farmer, also the remedy.

Mr. M. D. Geddes contributed a paper on the "Need of Wise Leadership."

Mr. Woodford's paper on "The Shipment of Grain by way of the Pacific," was appreciated, and he proved that it would mean from 8 to 10 cents per bushel more to the Western farmers.

Mr. Partridge of Sintaluta, Saskatchewan, gave a very instructive address, and advised the farmers of all three provinces to work in harmony along the same lines. He gave a resume of the work of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. and what had been accomplished, also of "The Guide," a paper for the Farmers—by the Farmers. He said their ambition was to make it a powerful factor in the moulding of the destinies of the farmers of the three great provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Going into the money question, he spoke of the necessity of cheap money for the farmer in order to control the marketing of his product, and of the success along that line which has been achieved in acquiring a large interest in the Home Bank of Winnipeg.

Mr. Crerar of the Grain Growers' Grain Co., also gave a very interesting address, endorsing Mr. Partridge's assertion that it was the earnest desire of the farmers of

Manitoba and Saskatchewan to work hand in hand with the farmers of Alberta.

At the first regular meeting of the United Farmers of Alberta Mr. Fletcher was appointed to act as temporary chairman and Mr. E. J. Fream as secretary pro-tem.

MR. FINLAY SPEAKS.—The Hon. W. T. Finlay, in addressing the meeting at the request of the chairman, said he had had many opportunities of speaking to farmers, but never before had he felt the importance of that position as he did on this occasion in speaking to the U. F. of A. He heartily congratulated the delegates on the successful amalgamation. He wished the new organization Godspeed and hoped that the future would be even greater than the past.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

For the office of President, on a ballot being taken between Mr. James Bower and Mr. Rice Sheppard, the former was declared elected, and having expressed his thanks for the honor conferred upon him at once assumed his position as chairman of the Convention. For Vice-President, Messrs. Rice, Sheppard and Col. J. J. Gregory were proposed, and on a ballot being taken the election of Mr. Sheppard was duly confirmed.

On reassembling after the lunch hour, Messrs. Bell, Herbert and Geddes were appointed as a resolutions committee, and an adjournment till 8 p.m. was then arranged to enable the Convention as a body to attend the opening of Parliament. The delegates were thereafter marshalled by the President and marched to the Legislative Assembly Hall.

A. F. A. MEETING

The A. F. A. delegates re-assembled at 4.30 p.m. under the chairmanship of T. H. Woolford.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

The Treasurer's statement was presented for consideration, and adopted, the Secretary explaining the decision the joint committee had arrived at in reference to branches in arrears. It was subsequently agreed to endorse the agreement made between the joint committee in reference to this matter.

DISPOSITION OF FUNDS.

On the motion of Mr. Speakman seconded by Mr. Campbell it was unanimously agreed that the balance on hand, after liquidating all the expenses of the A.F.A., be turned over to the United Farmers of Alberta.—Carried.

Mr. Speakman moved and Mr. Bower seconded: That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded the President, Vice-president, Secretary, Board of Directors and all who have taken part in making the A.F.A. the success it had attained. (Carried unanimously). A unanimous vote of sympathy was also recorded in the name of Mr. W. F. Stevens, who was then confined to a sick bed, and also heartily thanking him for all the work and time he had devoted to the interests of the Association. The thanks of the association were also tendered unanimously to Mr. Warner, the first President, for the excellent work he had done for the Association.

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U. F. OF A. EVENING SESSION, THURSDAY

The convention was called to order at 8.10 p.m. by President Bower.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

In proceeding to the election of Directors, Mr. Fletcher suggested that a director be elected from each of the federal constituencies, giving directors to six constituencies and allowing the Vice-president to represent the seventh; also that the nomination for each constituency shall be made from the delegates from that constituency, the vote to be taken from all the delegates present. After discussion this plan was agreed to and the election proceeded, when the following appointments were made:

FOR MEDICINE HAT CONSTITUENCY.—Mr. G. A. Dixon of Fishburn.

CALGARY.—Mr. A. Von Mielecki of Calgary.

RED DEER.—Mr. Geo. McDonald of Olds.

EDMONTON.—Mr. Geo. Long.

VICTORIA.—Mr. Thos. Balaam of Vegreville.

AUDITORS.—Messrs. Halberg of Ross Creek, and Geo. Sutherland, Spruce Grove.

Mr. Woolford at the conclusion of the election of officers gave a report of his labors as delegate to the Inter-provincial Conference, and read a paper on the grain situation in the West.

FRIDAY MORNING JANUARY 15TH

On re-assembling at 9.20 Friday morning, the report of the Directors' meeting was read and accepted.

On the suggestion of Mr. Speakman in reference to the Directors' report of the chilled meat committee, it was agreed that after same had been examined by the directors, a summary be prepared and sent out to the locals, afterwards the directors to give their verdict.

CONSTITUTION.—Several blanks in the draft constitution and other matters relating to the same were then taken up.

NAME.—The first was whether the locals and provincials should be known as unions or associations. In the end it was agreed that the Provincial organization be known as the association and that the local branches known as local unions of the association and that a number be allowed to each local.

ANNUAL MEETING.—It was agreed that the annual meeting of the Association be held in the second half of January in each year.

It was further resolved that the financial year of the Associations and unions shall end on December 31st, and also that the annual meeting of the unions be held in December.

MEMBERSHIP FEE.—On the motion of Mr. Shepard, seconded by Mr. McKinley, it was agreed that the words "not less than one dollar" be inserted in the section relating to membership dues.

RESOLUTIONS. No. 1. PORK PACKING.—Mr. Herbert moved, and Mr. Speakman seconded: That this convention views with regret the fact that no mention was made in the speech from the Throne as to legislation to be enacted concerning the pork packing industry, a matter that we consider of great importance and one that has been before the government for years. Therefore we trust that our government will make a favorable announcement on this important subject at an early date.—Carried.

No. 2. RAILWAY COMMISSION.—Moved by Mr. Geddes and seconded by Mr. Herbert: Whereas there now exists a vacancy upon the Board of Railway Commission caused by the death of the late Hon. Thomas Greenway, and whereas the importance of western agriculture in its relation to transportation makes it desirable that there should be elected to that position a gentleman thoroughly acquainted with western farming and live stock matters; be it therefore resolved that we express to the Honorable the Minister of Railways for Canada our belief that Mr. Andrew Graham of Pomeroy, Manitoba, would be an eminently suitable person to fill the above mentioned vacancy, and further that the Secretary be instructed to wire the substance of this resolution to the Minister of Railways.—Carried.

No. 3. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bell moved and Mr. Herbert seconded: Whereas the matter of transportation is of vital interest to Alberta farmers, be it resolved that this convention authorize that the executive of the United Farmers of Alberta shall appoint a transportation committee of three men of good business ability whose duty it shall be to inquire into the best means of transportation of all Alberta farm products to the markets of the world, especially the suggested movement of grain westward, and if possible, work with Boards of Trade and other bodies in the province inter-

ested in the same subject. The committee to work under the direction of the executive, the executive to ask a large enough lump sum from the government to cover all purposes as could rightly come under the head of being incurred for the general benefit of the farmers of Alberta, specifying the items needed for each purpose. All expenses incurred by the transportation committee to be paid by the executive.—Carried.

No. 4. RAILWAY FENCING RIGHT OF WAY BEFORE CONSTRUCTION.—Moved by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Ottewill: That this convention of United Farmers of Alberta urge upon the Railway Commission the need of an Act, at a very early date, compelling all railway companies to pay for and fence with a lawful fence, their right of way through all occupied farm lands in all parts of Alberta where farm laws exist, before the commencement of any construction.—Carried.

No. 5. HAIL INSURANCE.—Mr. Hallman moved and Mr. Geddes seconded: That in view of the fact that the provisions of the Hail Insurance ordinance makes it impossible for a private Hail Insurance Company to do business in the province, be it resolved that the Legislature be asked by the United Farmers of Alberta, that provision be made in the Ordinance for an optional additional insurance of \$2.00 and \$4.00 per acre respectively, with premiums corresponding to the average cost of all preceding years' business.

In moving this resolution Mr. Hallman gave a very interesting address, contending that while he was in favor of any measure that would benefit the farmer, he believed that a compulsory tax for hail insurance would be an injustice to the stock men. Mr. Hallman is a very able speaker and while still a young man he has a comprehensive knowledge of the different problems of the day.

After considerable discussion, and counter motions the original motion was declared carried, the vote standing: For 44, against 28.

No. 6. A. R. and I. RAILWAY.—Mr. Woolford moved and Mr. Geddes seconded: Whereas there has been between Raly and Kimball a branch line of the A. R. & I. that has lain in a state of partial completion for the past three or four years, no further work being done upon it; and whereas the community tributary is fairly well settled and greatly in need of the service which this line would offer; therefore be it resolved that the United Farmers of Alberta sustain the local branch in pressing upon the Dominion and Provincial Governments the necessity of bringing pressure to bear upon the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company looking toward the completion and operation of the branch line.—Carried.

No. 7. COYOTE BOUNTY.—Mr. Montgomery moved and Mr. Rafn seconded: Whereas this convention realizing the great benefit that was derived from the bounty given for the destruction of wolves and coyotes in this Province at the last session of Parliament, we would respectfully urge that sufficient funds be appropriated to keep a continuous bounty for the destruction of these pests until they are exterminated.—Carried.

AFTERNOON SESSION, FRIDAY

The Convention was called to order at 1.45.

MR. PARTRIDGE SPEAKS.—Mr. Partridge of Sintaluta, Sask., congratulated the delegates on the successful consummation of the amalgamation and extended fraternal greetings from the Saskatchewan brethren. He also spoke on the question of co-operation as a solution for economic problems before the farmers. He dwelt on the advisability of farmers working together so that they might be assured of one suitable price for their products. Taking up the matter of finances he showed what the Home Bank did for them, how the Grain Growers were trying to turn this into a great Farmers' bank. He also spoke on the organization of the Grain Growers Grain Co. and the work they were doing in the country. Mr. Partridge delivered a most interesting address and his remarks were closely followed throughout. At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was passed with acclamation tendering Mr. Partridge for his interesting address.

MR. CRERAR.—Mr. T. A. Crerar of Winnipeg, next addressed the convention extended a hearty invitation to send one or more delegates to the Manitoba convention on January 19, and the Saskatchewan convention on February 17. He also extended the congratulations of these associations on the successful amalgamation.

OFFICIAL ORGAN.—In the matter of selection of an official organ, letters from "The Grain Growers' Guide," and "The Alberta Homestead" were read, offering these publications, and stating the arrangements which would be made, while Mr. Geddes explained the position of the "Farm and Ranch Review" and offered that paper as the

official organ. Messrs. Thamer, and Bell stated the position of "The Great West," and it would not be their intention to apply on behalf of that paper.

Mr. Owens moved and Mr. Murray seconded: That the United Farmers of Alberta endorse "The Grain Growers' Guide" as their official organ.

Mr. Speakman moved as an amendment and Mr. McKinley seconded: That the question of the official organ be submitted to the Board of Directors to decide.

To the amendment Mr. Bower moved as an amendment, and Mr. Warner seconded: That we accept "The Alberta Homestead" as the official organ.

A ballot was taken with the result that 54 voted for "The Guide"; "Homestead," 30; to leave the matter to the Board of Directors, 10.

Mr. Martyn moved and Mr. Lachey seconded: That "The Grain Growers' Guide" be the unanimous choice of this convention as the official organ of the association.—Carried.

No. 7. RE CATTLE DUTY.—Moved by Col. Gregory and seconded by Mr. G. W. Smith: Resolved that inasmuch as it has been found that in exploiting the American market by trial shipment of beef cattle, that the obstacle in the way of successful and profitable shipment was the 27½ per cent. duty imposed on Canadian cattle entering the United States, and as the United States Government, in view of an early revision of the tariff, has manifestly shown a disposition to take the initiative in letting down the tariff bars between Canada and the United States, with a view to better trade relations; therefore be it resolved that the United Farmers of Alberta improve the opportunity thus presented, and thereby put themselves on record as being in favor of reciprocity or free trade in beef stock between Canada and the United States, and that the secretary of this association be instructed to make known to the respective governments the expression of this convention.—Carried.

No. 9. ALTERATION OF SCHOOL ORDINANCE.—Mr. Stanton moved and Mr. Campbell seconded: Resolved that this convention expresses its pleasure at the announcement made by the Premier of Alberta that the School Ordinance shall soon be amended so as to provide for the erection of schools in districts in prescribed areas where less than twelve children of school age reside. Further resolved that we recommend that provision be made for the erection into school districts of areas of five miles square or less, where six children of school age reside.—Carried.

No. 10. TAXING COAL RIGHTS.—Mr. Warner moved and Mr. Hodge seconded: Whereas it is the frequent practice of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in disposing of its land to preserve the coal rights thereon; and, whereas, by an improvident bargain made by the government of Canada, that corporation is able to escape taxation on the land that it retains in its possession, which involves a great injustice to the great body of taxpayers; be it resolved that this convention draw the attention of the Provincial Government to the advisability of making a careful investigation with a view to determining whether it would not be possible to tax these coal rights, on the principle that if they are of sufficient value to reserve, they are of a sufficient value to bear a share of the proper burdens of public expenditure.—Carried.

No. 11. AMENDMENTS TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES ORDINANCE.—Move by Mr. Sheppard, seconded by Mr. Herbert: Resolved that it is the opinion of this convention of the United Farmers of Alberta that it will be of great benefit to this province to have the Agricultural Societies' Ordinance so amended that it will apply to such branches of the United Farmers' of Alberta Associations in cities, towns and villages that have fifty paid up members, where agricultural societies do not exist; and also, that the Association be empowered to hold a fair in such cities, towns and villages that have agricultural societies, at the request of the agricultural societies in such cities, towns and villages.—Carried.

No. 12. CHANGE IN HERD LAW.—Moved by Mr. Goodall and seconded by Mr. Murray: Whereas, the present herd law being found unsatisfactory; be it resolved that the herd law be altered from its present duration namely, May 15 to October 30, and made to cover the whole year in districts where majority requests.

After considerable discussion the question was put and the motion declared lost.

No. 13. GOPHER PEST.—Mr. Montgomery moved and Mr. Woolford seconded: Whereas, the ground squirrel and pocket gopher cause great destruction to growing crops in portions of our province, be it resolved that the Department of Agriculture be requested to give careful

attention to the matter with a view to the extermination of these pests.—Carried.

No. 14. TAXING RAILWAY LANDS.—Moved by Mr. S. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Hamilton: Whereas, the government of the Province of Alberta has been working for the past few years endeavouring to tax the lands of certain railway companies, we wish to express our appreciation of this work. We regret, however, the slowness with which the work is being carried on, and would request that the actions against the railway companies be speedily pushed to completion, so that the revenues to be derived from the taxation of this land be procured for the needs of the province.—Carried.

No. 15. COMPULSORY HAIL INSURANCE.—Moved by Mr. Ball and seconded by Mr. Gregory: That the government be requested to establish and operate a Government Hail Insurance system, the funds to be raised by a special tax upon all taxable lands in the province. That all crops sown or planted be covered by said insurance, and that any person whose crop is damaged by hail shall report to the inspector within five days from the date of said damage; any person failing to report within the said time, his claims shall not be considered.

No claims shall be considered for less than one dollar per acre or more than seven dollars per acre. The person making application for damages shall make a sworn statement before a Justice of the Peace of the number of acres that are so damaged by hail.

AMENDMENT.—Mr. Owens moved as an amendment and Mr. Commons seconded: That a committee of the men who evolved this plan of co-operative hail insurance be appointed to work out the details more completely, and hand same to the board of directors that they submit it to the local unions for them to further consider the matter.

After considerable discussion the question was put and the amendment declared carried.

No. 16. INCORPORATION AMENDMENT.—Mr. Goodhall moved and Mr. Murray seconded: That the United Farmers of Alberta be incorporated.

Mr. Common moved as an amendment and Mr. Currey seconded: That this resolution be laid on the table.—Amendment carried.

No. 17. PARTITIONS IN CARS.—Mr. Hamilton moved and Mr. Lachey seconded: That the Association apply to the Railway Commission to compel the railway companies to provide, when required, stock cars partitioned off so that small shippers of beef, sheep or hogs may be able to ship together in the same car, and yet be able to keep their consignments separate.

AMENDMENT.—Mr. Campbell moved and Mr. Martyn seconded as an amendment: That this resolution be referred to the Transportation Committee for them to act on as they think fit.—Amendment carried.

No. 18. REFERENDUM.—Moved by Mr. Halberg and seconded by Mr. Hoover: That a resolution be presented to this convention to discuss the benefit to the people of the initiative referendum and right of recall.

Mr. Speakman moved as an amendment, and Mr. Parminter seconded: That this resolution be submitted to the legislative committee for their consideration, and that they present their decision to the local union for discussion.—Amendment carried.

Mr. Currey moved and Mr. Herbert seconded: That all local unions shall be numbered, the number to be given to the oldest unions in the order of their organization. That all locals now in existence must report to the

(Continued on page 47.)

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EDMONTON, ALTA.

Manitoba Grain Growers' Convention—Contd.)

accept them. Those who oppose public utilities in Canada always trot out the Intercolonial, but never mention the many instances where public ownership has proved a public benefactor.

Two weeks previous to the appearance of the article from which he quoted, *The Globe*, in speaking of Australia, said that for years after the Colonial government had taken over the railway it had been run at a loss owing to internal corruption. They had to come to Canada for the man and the method that would make it a paying concern, and with the result that surplus earnings and any subsequent bonuses went directly towards the betterment of the system and not to pay for watered stock. Was it not reasonable to suppose that under similar conditions Tate would have done the same had he handled the affairs of a railroad in Canada?

The same paper now condemns giving \$13,000 a mile to a company to build a railway in the western provinces which it was well known could be constructed at an outlay of from \$8,000 to \$10,000 per mile; but then the promoters had to be squared, and the substantial difference between those figures went into the pockets of the promoters.

A ONE-SIDED PRESS

"There is something here in the voice of the Western press that appeals to me very strongly," said Mr. McKenzie. "Here in the one case a government is asked to find a few millions to provide for the financing of a public utility—the purchase and conduct of their elevator system, and in the other to guarantee the bonds of a grasping railway corporation. The press had given unlimited space to the latter subject but had been very sparing in its entirely noncommittal comments on the former. Why was this? The only possible inference was that the press pandered to its urban clientele, merchants and business men, and left the claims of its rural subscribers high and dry. Since the farmers made their appeal very little had been said about it in the press. For all practical purposes it had maintained a uniform silence on the subject of government owned elevators, while it had not been sparing in its headlines in dealing with railway bonuses. The one interested the urban population, the other was, it seemed, a matter that appealed solely to the rural constituency; but let it never be lost sight of that it was the rural population of Western Canada that fed and maintained the inhabitants of its cities.

It used to be said that a corporation could not compete with an individual in carrying on business because an individual could run his concern more cheaply. In like manner it was now said that a government cannot run a system so cheaply as a corporation. But the growth of companies had instituted a new order of things in the business world. Corporation against corporation led to trusts and combines till we had every form of trading concern so interlocked that one could never tell which was which. Here Mr. McKenzie quoted several notorious cases in which the directorate of large banking and commercial houses occupied the dual position and sometimes appeared in the triple capacity of a director in as many institutions, the natural business of the one being to create conditions that would favor an increase of revenue to the others.

Was it likely, for example, that Hosmer (director of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and who also held dividend bearing certificates in the business of the Ogilvie Milling Company, on the directorate of which he also held a seat) would neglect any opportunity that came in his way while negotiating the railway's affairs, to set them in a direction that would further the interests of the Ogilvies?

EFFECT OF DUAL INTERESTS

Instancing other notorious examples of the same kind and notably that of the multitudinous interests of the

McKenzie & Mann firm, Mr. McKenzie asked if, in the face of the facts he had stated, the placing of the line elevators in the hands of the railway corporations would alter conditions? Assuredly not unless it were to make them worse than they had been. It would be the first business of the railway magnates to create conditions in their railway system that would dovetail into their profit-earning elevators. On the other hand, if a government owned and operated elevator were established at any point where a branch of the Grain Growers' Association was a living thing, would it not be seen that that elevator was being honestly conducted? Would you not have an influence over that concern that could never be exerted were it in the hands of a private corporation?

At this point Mr. McKenzie dealt at considerable length with the altogether too expensive elevator system as it is conducted at the present day, and quoted a mass of figures which conclusively proved his point. Taking Morden as one instance, there were seven elevators at that point supporting seven men, and not one of those elevators took in sufficient grain last year to fill it once. An elevator can handle 150,000 bushels in a season as easily as 30,000, but "we are maintaining that system practically all over the country," said Mr. McKenzie, "that exists at Morden. It is exactly the position of three blacksmiths located in a village that can only legitimately support one of them, and the natural course is for two of them to clear out. Elevators are different—they charge enough for the service rendered to make it pay no matter how small the amount of business. Government intervention is the only thing that will thin them out."

PRICES MADE IN ENGLAND

We are all familiar with the difference between street and track prices, but we are not so conversant with the fact that things are so organized by the wire-pulling correspondents of the English trade journals on this side that those prices are made for us in the Old Country.

It had been weakly suggested that what was needed was satisfactory legislation that would circumvent these abuses.

"You can't control a corporation by legislation," said Mr. McKenzie. "We went to the Manitoba Government and got what we asked for, and what was the result? The same old reptile—the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange—was in no way affected by the thin transparent film that sought to lose its identity in the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. I tell you, gentlemen, you can't regulate a corporation. You cannot use the English language with any success in an attempt to tie down a corporation and the inflated booming statements made on the foreign markets for their own purposes by the Ogilvie mills."

Storage facilities in the hands of the producer was the key of the position.

The British millers, Mr. McKenzie pointed out, did not get the advantage of the market that the Ogilvies had, inasmuch as the former only bought about 20 per cent. of their grind of the cheap wheat for blending purposes, while the Ogilvies got one hundred per cent., thus making their entire grind at the lower figure which had been fixed by their own astuteness in manipulating things on the floor of the Liverpool Corn Exchange.

It was also the tendency of all this to drive the smaller mills out of business.

An Ontario Miller told him (Mr. McKenzie) the other day that he had to pay July prices for cash wheat in May. You say, "Make legislation that will control this;" but we already have a law that forbids a man to warehouse his own wheat, and with almost childish simplicity this law is deliberately set at defiance by the notorious British-American Elevator Company, which concern merely

changed its name to the "Port Arthur Elevator Co.," for terminal purposes.

NO LAW CAN STOP IT

The law now is that you can't move wheat from one special bin to another, but there is no law and no system in existence that can stop it. Quoting the case of two cars which had been shipped to an Ontario miller who made a kick on receipt of the goods, Mr. McKenzie stated that that miller had purchased the wheat on samples from bulk of what had been delivered to him. Mr. Horn graded these as Nos. 2 and 3 Nor., respectively, and that man could sustain no claim. Similarly the British miller bought on certificate and pays cash before he sees anything. We have all the "supervision" apparently that is wanted, and yet these things go on. What is the use of trying to regulate things while the elevators were practically open to any abuse? There was the seat of the trouble and the only way to successfully and finally deal with it was to take the storage facilities out of private hands.

In suggesting that the three provinces should adopt a uniform system, Mr. McKenzie referred to the conference which had taken place between the three premiers and the interprovincial council of farmers as an epoch in the history of Canada. It was the first time in their history that their affairs had been considered of sufficient importance to bring the three premiers into a common council meeting with their farmer constituents.

NO LONGER A BACK NUMBER

"So if any man is so blind as to refuse to see that we are moving, he is a back number indeed; and if there is any man who cannot understand that we are moving along very much faster than we did twenty years ago, he is a still further back number." (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr. McKenzie's prophetic words with regard to the result of that conference were to the effect that they (the farmers) would not be turned down. They did not expect to get what they asked for all at once—it would be against all known precedent to expect such a thing. The premiers would be diplomatic; they would have many suggestions to offer; they would temporise and try to get out of the position as easily as they could, but it remained with the farmers to say what would be the ultimate finding of these deliberations. There was nothing hazy or doubtful about what they wanted, and if they simply stood their ground they would get it. (Cheers.)

Mr. McKenzie here made a strong appeal to every delegate to put forth every effort in his own district to see that there was no lack of energy in dealing with the "government ownership" petitions which had been sent round for signature.

The details of the scheme of government ownership could not of course be set out just then, but broadly he believed it would be handled by a commission so relieved from the sphere of private influence that every farmer who had grain to dispose of would feel safe in entrusting its storage to the custody of that commission or its agents. It was not to be expected that in acquiring the elevators now in existence fancy prices were to be entertained. They were to be bought at a fair price based on their utility at the date of purchase and the old or obsolete ones at a figure which would enable the government to put them in working order so that the work of handling the wheat could be handled in a business way with economy and efficiency.

Referring facetiously to the fact that the principals and staff of the Grain Growers' Grain Company walked to business while the Grain Exchange magnates came in automobiles, Mr. McKenzie said he had learned from the columns of the Free Press that the Grain Growers Grain Company had, with a staff of fifteen employees, handled 6,000,000 bushels that season, which was rather more than

the entire aggregate of the business done by the other seventy commission houses. That led him to say that the prospect was not a remote one when the farmers of Western Canada would have it in their power to ship their wheat in response to the natural demands of the market; when with a double office staff, and in spite of the obstacles set up by the storage and transportation companies they could, so to speak, make a clean sweep of the commission houses and do their business first hand on the flag stones of the Liverpool Corn Exchange.

MR. SIRETT SPEAKS

Mr. Sirett followed Mr. McKenzie and took the position that while it was all right that the Government should own and operate the terminals, he thought that the railway companies should own and conduct the interior elevators and that the government control of these would not have the salutary effect that had been claimed by those who advocated the idea. He also felt that the proposition was being unduly hurried on and counselled waiting until the conference met next year so that in the interval the matter might be sufficiently debated throughout the country.

9.45 a.m., 21st January.

On resuming this morning the President expressed his regret that owing to indisposition Mr. Andrew Graham had not been able to attend the previous sitting till too late in the day. He had subsequently received a telegram requiring his presence at home and had desired the President to express his deep sense of gratitude to the Convention for the hearty and unanimous manner in which it had received his name in connection with the vacancy on the Board of Railway Commissioners.

The discussion on Government ownership which had been adjourned from the previous sitting was then resumed, the President expressing an earnest desire that any gentleman present who had anything to say which was at variance with the motion, should come forward, and that the very best hearing should be accorded him. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Sirett then came forward and resumed his address, which practically reiterated the position he outlined on the previous evening.

Mr. Sirett's remarks were productive of a running fire of questions and cross-questioning, and Mr. Scallion replied to his observations at some length.

Mr. Iverach followed and supported Mr. Sirett in the main. While consenting to the manifest grievances under which the grain growing interest of the West labored and the need for drastic remedies, so far he did not see that the Government ownership of internal elevators would meet the case. At all events his point was that the scheme had not yet met with the unanimous endorsement of the farmers and for that reason he seconded the amendment proposed by Mr. Sirett that the question be laid on the table until the meeting of the convention next year.

Mr. Steele and Mr. Mair having spoken, loud calls for Mr. Partridge brought that gentleman to the platform.

ADDRESS OF MR. PARTRIDGE

Mr. Partridge on rising to address the meeting upon the Elevator question spoke substantially as follows:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I feel it incumbent upon me to express my thanks to Mr. Sirett for the splendid service he has rendered to the cause of Government ownership in his attempt to defeat it. Mr. Sirett claims that the elevator system should be operated in connection with the railways as being essentially a part of the business of transportation. He then proceeds to demonstrate that Government ownership and operation of railways are essential to the establishment of satisfactory conditions in the grain trade. This is equivalent to saying that the Government should own and operate both railways and elevators. Thus it will be observed that the only difference between Mr. Sirett and the champions of Government ownership of elevators is one of order in the acquisition of these public utilities. So long, however, as the railways are privately owned, the abuses incident to private ownership of railways should not be extended to elevators by putting them under the same management.

The too friendly relationship now existing between the grain dealers and the railway interests would leave the

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grain dealers practically the same opportunities for plunder under railway ownership as they now enjoy as private owners.

The railways as elevator owners would be interested in giving light weight to farmers so that all leakage en route to the terminals could be met out of the surplus accumulated in weighing in.

The railways would not be inclined to satisfactorily clean the farmers' grain when delivered at the elevators, preferring to collect freight to the terminals on the screenings and afterwards sell these screenings on their own account as an added source of revenue in the operation of terminal elevators.

It is important that there should be an independent official to weigh grain into the cars. At the present time we trust our unweighed grain to the railways, which are permitted to dribble it along hundreds of miles of track from leaky cars poorly equipped as to doors, and then give us the amount found in them on their arrival at the terminals.

RAILWAY TYRANNY

Speaking in general terms, the tyranny of the railways as common carriers is so well known that it gives little encouragement to enlarge their opportunities to oppress by putting them in possession of the elevators.

It is regrettable that the opponents of Government ownership of elevators are not the only ones who have failed to make themselves conversant with the carefully thought out details of the proposition contained in the pamphlets prepared by the Grain Growers' Association and the statements addressed to the Premiers. Opponents and friends alike often see imaginary difficulties in the way of successful operation of elevators which a perusal of the literature on the subject prepared by the Association would cause to entirely disappear from their minds.

Many of the advantages of Government ownership of elevators are not as widely recognized as they should be, owing to the failure of the people to read the literature on the subject. Take for example the question of weighing and grading grain and the establishment of a sample market. Without Dominion intervention it is possible to establish a system of provincial elevators which would give security from light weights, heavy dockages, mixing and adulteration of special binned grain; would give opportunities for cleaning to grade requirements before shipment, thus ensuring higher grading, saving freight and retaining screenings for use on the farm, and further would give protection from a loss in transit by having grain weighed into cars by an independent party. The provincial operator could provide samples of contents of bins, enabling sale to be made on sample with reasonable guarantee that the consignment would be as represented.

By the Dominion making a slight change in the Grain Act, the efficiency of the proposed elevator system could be greatly enlarged. All that would be necessary is the passage of an amendment to the Inspection and Sale Act that would permit the operation of a provincial elevator to discharge the functions of a Dominion weighman and sampler and provide for the granting of grade and weight certificates before shipment, the grading to be done by the inspection staff at Winnipeg, using the samples of the contents of the special bins forwarded by the provincial operator.

NO PARTIZAN QUESTION

The issue of weight and grade certificates prior to shipment would permit not only sale for future delivery without risk, but the raising of money on the commodity for the discharge of pressing liabilities so soon as a carload was delivered at an initial point, whether cars were available or not. It has been urged that governments

of different political stripe would not co-operate on the lines suggested to make the system more effective. If our political parties as now constituted are barbaric enough to sacrifice the public good for party ends, then they must be replaced by something more civilized. As a matter of fact, the employment of an independent commission extending over the provinces would produce no clash with the Dominion, no matter which party was in power.

This elevator system must not be regarded as a panacea for every ill, but as part of a well thought out plan for the improvement of conditions affecting our class. The object of this and kindred associations, put in plain terms, is to increase our opportunities to possess and enjoy the fruits of our labor to the fullest extent. Our ability to do this depends on the establishment of sound economic justice between ourselves and other producers. In a word, we cannot enjoy the fruit of our labors until we are in a position to secure an equitable price for that which we produce. An equitable price for a commodity is one which bears such a relationship to the price of other commodities that after allowing a reasonable reward for those who perform the business of exchange, the remuneration for labor involved in production will be the same to both parties to the exchange. We are surrounded by trusts and corporations which have artificially enhanced the price of those articles which we consume,—food, clothing, building materials and the implements of production. The price of at least six hundred articles is fixed by trusts on this continent. Legislative attempts at the dissolution of trusts have proved abortive. There is only one method of restoring equality between the prices secured by us for our commodities and the prices we pay for trust controlled products, and that is to develop the ability to fix the prices of those things which we produce.

THE BUSINESS OF THE TRUST

It might be urged that such a proceeding was immoral as meeting wrong with wrong. But the ordinary trust is developed for the purpose of exploiting the great mass of the people for the benefit of the few, and the senseless adding to wealth already far in excess of the owners' needs, while a combination of farmers would be for their protection from the greed of the few and for the benefit of the many. The missionary in contact with the savage must be able to drub him in order to survive long enough to teach him the principles of the Prince of Peace. So the farmers must develop the ability to hold their own in the business of exchange before they can hope to induce the adoption of equitable principles by those who are now plundering them.

The plan for the controlled marketing of grain and the consequent ability to fix prices requires the government ownership and operation of elevators, but it requires other things as well. Among these are: effective means of abolishing discrimination between shippers at the hands of transportation companies; a sufficient line of credit to enable the financing of the farmers on the security of their commodities until the requirements of consumption develop a proper demand; the dissemination of accurate knowledge as to market conditions throughout the world; a proper classification of commodities; that is to say, one best adapted to this economical handling with due regard to the needs of the consumers; the sale of their commodities through a single co-operative agency; and finally the offering for sale only such quantities at any time as will make the supply keep step with the domestic and foreign consumptive demand.

As for effective means of prevention of discrimination between shippers, many economists are of the opinion that nothing short of Government ownership of the means

of transportation and operation under an independent commission will serve the purpose.

THE RAILWAY—THE PEOPLE'S HIGHWAY

Under modern economic conditions where continents may intervene between the producers and their customers, the railway is as much a highway as the road from the farm to the nearest village, which not many years ago was the ultimate market. It may not be generally known that there is in the world many more miles of state owned than privately owned railroads. In fact there are only two important countries in the world which have not accepted the principle of Government ownership as applied to railways—Britain and the United States. Of these two, in the former one of the great political parties has lately accepted the principle. The latter is perhaps the worst trust-ridden country in the world, and most of our eminent economists have attributed this condition to railway discrimination. No country which has assumed the task of operating its railways as a public utility has ever evinced any inclination to go back to private ownership.

Turning to the question of the financing of the producer, we find that it is desirable that the farmers should attach some strong bank to themselves, making it essentially their own financial institution by becoming stockholders in it. Such is the practice of those connected with other interests. By doing this they become preferred borrowers. No class needs money more than the farmers. According to the terms of the Bank Act, for every dollar of paid up capital of a bank it is permitted to issue a dollar of currency, thereby virtually doubling the capital of the stockholders so far as such capital is invested in bank stock. Needing money as the farmers do, surely it would be a wise policy to invest their spare capital in bank stock, double it, and then borrow it out according to the needs of their business.

In the plan for controlled marketing the ability of the farmers to finance on the security of their commodities is an essential feature. It is dependent, however, not alone on the willingness of a banking institution to supply the necessary credit, but also on the presence of public storage facilities where the identity of commodities will be preserved and where official documents showing weight and grade are obtainable to serve as security for advances.

In the great Farmers' Alliance movement which spread over the United States a few years ago, one of the most important demands was for a system of public warehouses where the farmers' grain could be stored until required for consumption, and where it could be made the basis for the issue of currency to them by the Government at a low rate of interest.

KILLED BY PARTY

Incidentally let it be said that this great farmers' movement failed and its demands remained ungranted because its members allowed themselves to be drawn into a political alliance with one of the great parties. Additional value of such a storage system as we demand lies in the fact that should our banking institutions fail, as they have done in the past at times, to provide the necessary credit, the Government having the commodities in their possession, could themselves supply the required funds at a low rate of interest and absolutely without risk.

With respect to knowledge of market conditions, the situation in the ultimate market is to be considered and also the conditions with respect to the supplies at home. With the grain stored under Government supervision there would be no guess work as to quantity and quality.

Our complete plan provides for Government storage at initial points where grain would be stored so that the identity of each carload would be preserved so long as it remained there. It also provides that the terminal and

transfer elevators should be operated by Government and that ample facilities for special binning would be provided, so that grain would not alone be grouped by grades, but collected on the sample market and stored on the basis of its intrinsic value or according to the requirements of millers. There are two distinct classifications of wheat, one according to common characteristics, and the other according to the requirements of a milling blend.

SAMPLE MARKET IMPERATIVE

The establishment of a sample market at Winnipeg is essential to the securing of the highest price by our producers, so also is the elimination of the purchase of "street wheat." All grain should be contracted for in car lots and at what is known as track prices. Our large millers with storage facilities at country points now secure a great deal of wheat of high milling value at low prices on account of its failure to meet grade requirements in some essential particular. All this kind of wheat should be shipped in car lots to the secondary market and sold on sample, thus forcing the domestic millers to face the competition of Eastern and Old Country millers. It must be noted that unlike Minneapolis, the home milling demand on the Winnipeg market is not large enough to absorb a very large percentage of sample grain, therefore it is essential that special binning should be permitted in the terminals so that wheat may be bought on sample for export. A grading system however perfect presents many examples of gross injustice to the producer unless tempered by a sample market. This is due partly to the inability of grade descriptions to classify wheat according to its intrinsic value, and partly through errors on the part of samplers and graders.

An ideal system would be when the grading is done before the shipment is made so that the proof of error can be established at leisure, and so that samples of grain incapable of satisfactory classification by grade can be exposed in a sample market long enough to attract the attention of buyers, permitting sale in advance of shipment.

SCIENTIFIC MILLING TESTS

Professor Charles Saunders, Dominion cerealist at Ottawa, informed me that milling, chemical and baking tests are now made at a cost of two dollars per sample, and that it would be quite practicable to make tests on a large scale at Winnipeg at a cost of not more than one dollar per car, so that for a dollar the farmer's sample exhibited on the sample board could be accompanied by a chemical analysis showing the buyer exactly where the grain would stand in the scale of values and permit the building up of sample lots in a most scientific manner. Such a condition of affairs would bring our domestic, Eastern Canadian and Old Country millers or their representatives together around the tables where our samples are exposed for bids and where they would jostle shoulders in their efforts to secure the types most suitable for their requirements.

In conversation with Professor Saunders he stated that altogether too much prominence was given to color in the grading of grain, that the shade of the wheat berry was partly due to the coloring matter contained in the bran and partly to the color of the contents. Some of the reddest wheats could not compare in quality with others which were pale in color. He stated that in Australia they had developed a faddish preference for a yellow skinned wheat after the manner of our preference for a red skinned wheat. He remarked that when the bran was removed from Red Fife and White Fife wheat neither a chemical analysis nor a baking test could reveal any difference between them, showing them to be distinguished alone by the color of the bran.

NO MORE STREET WHEAT

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between street and track price, if the highest prices are to be secured for track wheat, and the connection between Government elevators and this lessening of street buying or the closing of spread, may be touched on here.

Owing to their possession of practically all the storage facilities at initial points the great elevator and milling interests are the dominant factors in the grain trade, and are exposed to no real competition in our Western market.

With the possession of the storage facilities goes the opportunity to buy street wheat at prices from five to ten cents below track values. This places them in a position to undersell the independent exporter in the ultimate market, since this independent exporter derives his supply of grain from commission men and track buyers who must pay track prices. With the independent exporter at their mercy, the commission man and track buyer exist only on sufferance, being permitted to remain in order that the general public may be induced to retain their belief in the existence of a competitive market.

Government owned storage would provide the opportunity for all classes of buyers to bid for street wheat on even terms. The independent exporter would no longer be at the mercy of the elevator and milling interests, and the efforts of the latter to restrict the operations of the former would no longer occur with the effect of needlessly depressing the price in the foreign market.

The increased number of street buyers would tend to close the spread between street and track grain.

THE PLAN FOR SMALL FARMERS

It has been objected that a Government system of elevators would not benefit the small farmer who has insufficient grain to make up car lots. Apart from the increase in price of street grain just mentioned, under a Government system it would be quite possible for a number of small farmers to jointly fill a bin, load into a car and sell at track price. It would be an easy matter also for the Provincial Governments to aid the small farmer by grouping his grain with grain of a similar quality, advancing him at the time of delivery say sixty per cent. of its presumed value, then shipping it forward in car lots to be sold at track prices. The difference between amount advanced and that received on sale could then be paid over to the farmer after retaining sufficient to recover interest and other expenses. This would aid the man who most requires aid and at the same time eliminate street selling, which is now the corner-stone of monopoly in the grain trade.

THE HUDSON BAY ROUTE

There is an advantage from Government ownership of internal elevators which will appear with the opening of the Hudson Bay route. There is little doubt but that this route will be available for twelve months in the year. Those who have navigated the Bay and are uninfluenced by a desire to prevent the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway, assert that there is always an open channel out of the Bay and any obstruction which might occur at Fort Churchill could be met by ice-breakers. They state that navigation instead of being at its best is most difficult during the summer months, because the ice which during the winter was attached to the shores, becomes broken up and obstructs to some extent the progress of vessels. There is, however, a current in and out of the Bay, a fact long unknown, which permits vessels to move with the floe ice whether entering or leaving the Bay. With the Hudson's Bay route available, the best position for grain will be in the interior elevators, with opportunities for sale in advance of shipment, because under these circumstances we can secure the competition of the domestic, Eastern Canadian and Old Country millers with each other. Were the grain stored at Fort William it would be only available for the Eastern Canadian

millers, while were it at Hudson Bay it would only be available for the Old Country trade.

The possession of the storage by the milling companies and elevator companies acting on their behalf, makes it possible for our domestic millers to cull the grades, sending the more desirable types to their mills and the less desirable types to the terminal elevators for export. It is this wheat of reduced quality which makes the price of our wheat in the foreign market lower than it would be if an unculled article were sent abroad, thus the home millers buy the best of our wheat at a price based on the price paid in a competitive market for an inferior article.

In passing it might be noted that these millers often sell small lots for future delivery in the Old Country market with the object of bearing the price, and take advantage of these low prices abroad to buy large quantities at home.

JUST METHODS OF SALE

For the securing of the best prices it is necessary that the major portion of the grain should be offered for sale through a single agency, and that this agency should be devoted to the interests of the sellers. Government owned storage, it has been shown, makes for the survival of the independent exporter; thus it is favorable to the creation of such an agency. The representative of the farmers should always be a bull on the market, and always would be, provided the farmers sold through a co-operative agency organized among themselves. At the present time the large operators upon the market are often more interested in a line of option wheat than in their holdings of spot grain and frequently bear down the price of the real grain for the purpose of influencing the market so as to favor their option deals. It has been said that while option dealing may artificially depress prices at times, it as often artificially advances them, but it will be generally found that the large operators who on our market are mainly millers and exporters will be bears while the wheat is in the farmers' hands, and bulls as soon as it passes into their own.

The paradox of our wheat selling for much less on the Canadian side than on the other side of the line, though acknowledged to be superior in value, can only be explained by an artificial depression of our prices through juggling in options, sales of small lots of futures on the Old Country market by milling companies, and the dissemination of misleading reports of crop conditions by the same people. It would appear to be amply proved that it is most desirable that the farmers should sell their grain through their own agency in car lots, and Government ownership of elevators will help them to do this.

Selling in this way with a full knowledge of world market conditions will lead to controlled marketing and controlled marketing will develop the ability within reasonable limits to fix the price of our commodities.

HOW WE CAN DO IT

How are we going to get these elevators? None of the governments in the three provinces are favorable to the scheme and the several oppositions are not a blamed bit better. This latter fact and the fact that the Governments are not all of the same party is rather a fortunate circumstance. We who are pressing for Government ownership can not be accused of partizan motives. Nor will we attempt in any province to oust the party in power. Let every man get busy and working within the party of his choice, make that party the instrument of his will.

It is worthy of note that while it is necessary to our business success as growers of grain that we should have provincial operation of storage facilities at interior points, it is NOT necessary that a single man of those now occupying seats in the local legislatures and

who are opposed to Government ownership should be a member of the next legislature. The farmers are a majority of both parties. Let them go en masse to the councils of their respective parties and force the acceptance of this principle upon both. Thus you will thrust the question so far into politics that it will cease to be a party question. But in choosing representatives, beware of sudden conversions. Thus by the intelligent exercise of our franchise we will secure that which will enable us to carry out our plan for controlled marketing with the consequent ability to successfully demand equitable prices for our commodities.

This is no sordid scheme for the levying of a tribute upon the labor of others. It is part of the great struggle which the world's workers are waging against those who spoil them -- a part of the world-wide protest against the vicious commercialism and industrialism based on privilege which is robbing the lives of countless millions of the share of comfort leisure and culture which their labor has justly entitled them to. We are striving for a wider diffusion of the blessings of civilization. We want our boys to go to college, our girls to acquire those accomplishments and graces which make social contact pleasing; rest and recreation for the wives and mothers, and time for the study of life's problems and the discharge of community duties and the duties of citizenship for the fathers. It is part of the world's work we are doing. I think it is God's work as well.

At the close of Mr. Partridge's address a division by standing vote was taken when it was found that only seven rose from their seats in support of the amendment. The motion was therefore declared carried and for a brief space the meeting gave free play to its enthusiasm.

STOCK KILLED ON TRACK.

(Re-opened).

The discussion respecting stock killed on railway track was re-opened and in the absence of Mr. Fuller, who proposed the motion on printed paper, it was brought in by Mr. Fred C. Berry and seconded by Mr. Lemieux.

After a number of members had spoken, the resolution was unanimously adopted, with an assurance from the President that specific and verified cases would be fully and carefully dealt with as they were brought before the Executive.

FREIGHT RATES.

The following resolution respecting freight rates on the C.P.R. was proposed by Mr. Farthing, seconded by Mr. Burdett, and after a brief discussion carried unanimously:

"That whereas the freight rates at certain points on the Canadian Pacific Railway have been increased,

"Be it resolved that the Executive of this Association approach the railway company demanding former rates, and if refused, lay the matter before the next sitting of the Railway Commission."

In connection with this motion Mr. Farthing named the following stations as having been discriminated against by the railway company: Birtle, Foxwarren, Binscarth, Millwood, Russell, Harrowby.

At this point Mr. R. Mooney proposed and Mr. W. H. Dunbar seconded that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the City of Portage la Prairie for the cordial invitation it had extended to the convention to hold its next annual sitting there.—Carried unanimously.

REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Malcolm presented the following report of the Committee on Resolutions to be dealt with at next Conference or by the Executive in the interim:

1. Re resolution passed at last convention praying for a special siding for grain shipment at the divisional point of Dauphin: That the Executive lay the matter before the Railway Commission, failing compliance by the railway company.

2. Virden and Deloraine, etc., better management of local branches: that the suggestions of the Virden branch be dealt with by the Directorate.

3. That the Executive take steps to induce the C.P.R. to place a permanent agent at Kellogg.

4. That the dispute over the Lieutenant-Governor's

cup in Bird's Hill plowing match be left in the hands of the Executive to deal with as it may seem fit.

5. Grandview: that time does not permit of any discussion on the subject of compulsory education.

6. That the report of the annual Convention be printed in the French language and that a French-speaking organizer be appointed.

7. That the Executive interview the railway company regarding spow fences on private property, and failing redress, lay the matter before the Railway Commissioners.

8. That the railway companies be asked to remove planks from their crossings.

9. That the Central Association take up the matter of local freight-rates on feed grain with the railway companies.

Mr. Robert Dalgleish proposed that all resolutions to come before the annual convention from branch associations, excepting those arising out of the Conference discussions, shall be in the hands of the Secretary of the Central Association before the 1st December, and that the committee on resolutions examine and rearrange where necessary and have same printed in the December number of the Grain Growers' Guide.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Walker, Roseisle, and unanimously carried.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Malcolm for his indefatigable work in connection with the duties of the resolutions committee was proposed by Mr. McArthur, seconded by Mr. Grayson, and carried by acclamation.

COAL COMBINE COMMITTEE.

The President, as promised, appointed Mr. P. K. Spence, Medora; R. Jackson, Hartney; M. J. Bastard, Pierson, to act as a committee on the matter of the inquiry into alleged coal combine.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

Mr. Henders submitted the following resolution of sympathy extended by the convention to the relatives of the late Mr. William Miller of Boissevain:

That this Convention records its profound sorrow in the loss it has sustained through the removal by death of Mr. William Miller, one of its most honored members. Mr. Miller had won for himself the highest esteem of his colleagues of the Grain Growers' Association; his warm heart, broad sympathies and marked executive ability had gained for him a high place among the members of the Association. We therefore take this the first opportunity to convey to his widow and family our warmest sympathies in the hour of their sad bereavement.

The motion was seconded by Mr. McArthur and carried by silent standing vote.

CLOSING SESSION.

GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE.

On re-assembling at 7.30, Mr. McArthur moved: Whereas a thorough knowledge of the intricate problem of marketing our farm grain and produce to the best advantage is of primary importance if we are to hold our own against the huge monopolies which confront us on every side; and whereas the public press for the most part does not adequately or fairly represent the interests of the grain growers in its treatment of the economic questions connected therewith which are now before the public mind; be it therefore resolved:

1. That this convention reaffirm its conviction that an organ published solely in the interests of the farming profession, and supported by this industry, is a necessity.

2. That we express our approval of the appointment of Mr. McKenzie as editor.

3. That we express our approval and satisfaction with the management of the "Grain Growers' Guide" and the subjects with which it deals.

4. That we express the hope that our organ may develop into a weekly at an early date.

5. That we, as a convention, do pledge ourselves in every legitimate way to increase its circulation throughout the Province.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Henders and carried unanimously.

THE LAW AS TO CASH TICKETS.

Mr. T. W. Knowles moved as follows: Whereas losses are sustained from time to time by the issue of cash tickets for grain which are afterwards dishonored owing to the failure of the person or firm by whom or at whose instance the tickets have been issued: Therefore be it resolved that the Grain Act should be amended making the issue

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of a cash ticket when funds are not available for the redemption of same a criminal offence for which the offender shall be prosecuted by the warehouse commissioner on reasonable grounds for presuming the offence to have been committed being furnished by the aggrieved party.

Mr. Knowles spoke at considerable length in support of the resolution and gave the history in detail of the case of Pockock and Sons and the position in which several Ridgville creditors had been placed through the collapse of that house. He also criticised severely the treatment meted out to those men by the Warehouse Commissioner and Solicitors employed in the case.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. S. Smith of Ridgville and carried unanimously.

A COMMON NAME.

Moved by Mr. Peter Wright, seconded by Mr. Malcolm: Resolved that in the opinion of this Association, the Provincial Council at its next Conference take into consideration the selection of a common name and a common constitution for the three provinces; also provide a constitution for the Interprovincial Council; this constitution not to interfere in any way with the autonomy of each organization, the common name to be prefixed by the name of the province.—Carried.

THE BEEF TRUST.

Mr. McArthur moved the following resolution:

To the Lieut.-Governor in Council in the Province of Manitoba:

Whereas, the cattle, hog and sheep industry in Manitoba and the Northwest is an indispensable adjunct to successful and continuous grain growing if the fertility of our land is to be maintained; and

Whereas, it is an indisputable fact that prices paid to the producer of stock are not in proportion with the prices paid by the consumers of meat in cities, towns and urban districts throughout the west; and

Whereas, we believe the basis of prices paid for cattle, hogs and sheep should be regulated by the law of supply and demand both at home and abroad; and

Whereas, the evidence produced before the late Beef Commission clearly shows that the low prices paid for the above commodity by a few wealthy firms who have combined to control the meat trade with intent of self-enrichment by securing for themselves outrageous profits; and

Whereas, the evidence adduced before the late Commission reveals the fact that the wealthy millionaire firms in the meat trade receive preferences and rebates from railway and ocean transportation companies, thus inflicting a hardship upon the smaller and independent dealer, consequently the utter elimination of any possible competition; and

Whereas, the low prices paid for cattle and hogs compared with the prices paid by neighboring city markets; such as to discourage the continuation of this important industry, and as a result of low and variable prices farmers of the west are rapidly going out of the business, which ultimately means dearer meat to the consumer and impoverishment of our soil; therefore be it resolved:

That we heartily concur with the following recommendations of the late Beef Commission:

1. That the City of Winnipeg provide a public market and abattoir, under proper regulation and management, such as they have in Toronto and Montreal, and that other western cities follow suit just as soon as the trade justifies this step.

2. That the Railway companies provide union stock yards under independent management.

3. That the Railway companies be required to make provision in their yards to insure proper care and protection of all animals being transported either for local sale or export.

4. That all complaints against the Railway companies be referred to the Railway Commission.

5. That the Minister of Justice at Ottawa be urged to further amend "The Criminal Code" so as to provide a remedy for conditions that now obtain, and which are (as the Commission think) not in direct violation of "The Criminal Code," and that means should be devised to successfully meet modern conditions, and thereby secure to the producer his legitimate value.

6. That we express our sincere regret that with all the evidence adduced by responsible men before the Beef Commission, indicating that a combine in restraint of trade existed, that said Commission did not see their way clear to recommend prosecution under "The Criminal Code of Canada, 1892."

7. That in connection with the union stock yards,

proper facilities be provided so that shippers may by feeding and watering bring their animals back to normal conditions before offering them for sale, and that scales be provided to weigh animals while in their normal condition after sale.

8. That a copy of the above be sent by the Secretary of this convention to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council in Manitoba, also a copy to the Minister of Justice, Ottawa.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Simpson of Shoal Lake and after being discussed at considerable length was passed unanimously.

INCLUDE ALL FARM PRODUCE.

Mr. Bousfield moved: that whereas there is a general belief among farmers that abuses exist in the avenues through which farm products, other than cereals, eventually reach the consumer,

And whereas prices received by the producer are not in proportion with those paid by the consumer,

And whereas beef and pork are now being sold (at times) at a price below the cost of production, thereby tending to discourage the expansion of a branch of farming which is most desirable,

Be it resolved that the aims of this Association be extended to include all branches of farming, with the object of correcting existing abuses and instituting and regulating conditions of marketing.

Mr. McKenzie in supporting this resolution referred to the conditions which led to the establishment of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. and urged the fact that if the time had been ripe for the farmers to unite in marketing their own grain, it was still more incumbent on them today to face the question of handling through the same medium their other farm products. It was suggested that a committee consisting of Messrs. McArthur, McVeety and Smith of Reston be appointed to investigate and devise some method by which the purposes of the resolution might be carried out and report on same at next convention.

The inclusive motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Rowland of Gilbert Plains and carried unanimously.

TO DEAL WITH LUMBER.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Alex. Rankin: Resolved that in the opinion of this Convention the prices now paid by farmers for the different grades of lumber required for building purposes is exorbitant; and that this Convention respectfully suggests to the directors of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. the advisability of their taking up the handling of lumber as an adjunct of their grain business.

Mr. George Campbell, Killarney seconded, and Mr. Crerar having stated that the matter embodied in the motion had been discussed at the last meeting of directors of the Grain Growers' Grain Co. and was receiving favorable consideration, the motion was put and unanimously adopted.

CROP CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Joseph Bennett, Austin moved: whereas Manitoba No. 1 Northern Wheat, under normal conditions, sells at a premium on the British market.

And whereas on account of the circulation of misleading reports of the quantity available for export of the new crop during July and August by the large milling firms, the price of Manitoba wheat was reduced to 4th place this crop season.

And whereas the Manitoba farmers had to accept a lesser price by at least ten cents a bushel than world markets warranted, as a result of such misleading reports.

Therefore be it resolved, that each branch of the Grain Growers' Association appoint a crop correspondent to report to the Grain Growers' Guide, and that the Guide issue a monthly bulletin of crop conditions for June, July, August and September, and send copies of same to the grain trade in Great Britain.

The motion was seconded by Mr. J. L. Brown, and supported by Messrs. Allinson, McKenzie and others and carried unanimously.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION OFFICERS.

Moved by Mr. J. A. Davidson: To amend the Constitution at the next annual Convention in respect to the qualifications of officers of the local Associations and also the qualifications of delegates to the Central

Association; also an alternative motion with respect to the qualification for membership generally.

A notice of motion stood on the agenda dealing with improper sampling of grain and suggesting an amendment to the Inspection and Sale act (section 126 clause 4), but Messrs. Partridge and McKenzie having pointed out the impracticability of the suggested alterations the motion was withdrawn.

GRISTING MILLS.

Moved by Mr. J. H. Farthing, Russell, seconded by Mr. McKay: In view of a decision by Police Magistrate Collin of Russell, in the case of Farthing v. Cartwright, in which it was held that the mill owned and operated by the said George Cartwright, although bonused by the municipality as a grist mill, and having done a gristing business for twenty years is not a grist mill under the act; and whereas this applies to all similar mills in the province; this convention instructs the Executive of the Association either to establish the authority and protection of the said act by appeal, or take steps to secure immediate legislation to that end.—Carried.

REPRESENTATIVE AT OTTAWA.

It was moved by Mr. John Kennedy that it was of the highest importance to the farming interest of the West that a thoroughly capable representative be appointed to watch its interests in the Dominion House during the present session, and to act as its special correspondent in conveying the fullest information connected therewith through the medium of "The Guide" or the Executive of the Association in the event of any matter of importance that called for immediate action.—Seconded by Mr. Robson and carried unanimously.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

Moved by Mr. W. H. Bewell: That with a view to the further extension and usefulness of this organization through increased membership in existing branches, the planting of new branches on unoccupied ground; also in seeking an ever-widening circulation of the "Grain Growers' Guide," and it may be in other ways: We request the Executive or Directorate, or both, to take into consideration the advisability of adopting a system of District Deputies having duties defined; each deputy having such territory assigned as may be deemed advisable, and working under a director of the Central organization and through such director responsible to the Executive.

This was seconded by Mr. G. Allinson and carried unanimously.

AUDITORS.

Moved by G. Allinson and seconded by J. H. Farthing that Messrs. P. Middleton and Wm. Nichol of Brandon be appointed Auditors for the current year.—Carried.

TARRIFF EXCESSES.

Moved by Mr. McKenzie: Whereas the Canadian Manufacturers' Association is persistently pressing on Parliament the necessity of increasing custom duties generally; and whereas their insidious and persistent work appears to have thoroughly inoculated their ideas into the members of our Parliament to whichever party they belong; and whereas, no matter how disguised by an appeal to particular motives, the fact is apparent that the great incentive is a selfish desire to advance the interests of the already too wealthy at the expense of the great plain people who are the real wealth producers; and whereas even the employees of the great industrial concerns are not benefitted by an increase of wages proportionate to the increase in price to the public; therefore be it resolved that this convention recommend that systematic effort be put forth to keep the interests of the producing classes to which we belong before the minds of our legislators as persistently as is being done by the Manufacturers' Association.

This resolution was seconded by T. W. Knowles and carried without a dissenting note.

The business of the Convention having been completed, the usual courtesies were voted to the various officers who had borne the brunt of the detail of the Convention's work; to the Press, to "the five men who went to Ottawa," to Mr. John Kennedy, and to the City of Brandon for the hospitality it had extended and for which it was so justly celebrated. Following this the tension of the meeting seemed to relax; the President came down from his perch at the command of a voice from the audience and put on the mantle of his anec-

dotage. Two incidents of life's humor told in Mr. McCuaig's inimitable way convulsed the house and when its hilarity had somewhat modified, the audience rose to its feet and the proceedings were loyally concluded by the singing of the National Anthem.

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secretary within six weeks, when numbers will be allotted; any unions in existence not reported in that time to be allotted numbers as their applications are received.—Carried.

Mr. Speakman moved and Mr. Owens seconded: That we very strongly impress upon the directors to at once take up the matter of organization, and of increasing our membership.—Carried.

On resuming after the lunch interval an address was delivered by Mr. W. F. Stevens on the work done by the old Association and the future of the new organization, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Stevens for his presence and the inspiring address he had delivered.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

It was agreed that the Board of Directors appoint all standing committees.

No. 19. GRADUATED LAND TAX.—A motion under this heading was proposed by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Owens, to which an amendment (proposed by Mr. Hallberg and seconded by Mr. Smiley) was put and carried, viz.: That this resolution be handed over to a special committee to re-draft same and hand over to the Board of Directors, who will, after passing on the same, refer it to the local unions for discussion. The President appointed Messrs. Ball, McDonald and Campbell as a committee to re-draft this resolution.

No. 20. GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF FLOUR AND OATMEAL MILLS.—A motion dealing with this subject was introduced by Messrs Ball and Owens, but after discussion an amendment (proposed by Mr. Housley and seconded by Mr. Smith) was put and carried that the resolution be laid on the table.

No. 21. ORGANIZATION.—Mr. Fletcher moved and Mr. Housley seconded: It is recommended that organizers be appointed by the executive who shall from time to time, together with the executive, lay out the work of organization on a certain definite line of action looking to the best interests of the Association.—Carried.

No. 22. RE GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF RAILWAYS.—Mr. Ball moved and Mr. Owens seconded: Whereas in the opinion of this Convention the freight and passenger rates on the railroads are high in the West (about 150 per cent. higher than in the east, on the I.C. R., the government road), in many cases the railway getting two-thirds of the farmer's crop in taking his produce to the market and bringing back his supplies, we have good reason to believe that Government ownership would reverse that, as Government ownership has been a proved success in Canada and in every country where it has been tried. Therefore we are opposed to the principle of giving and more bonuses to railways, the guaranteeing of their bonds or even of granting any more charters, and that in our opinion the only means by which the people can secure equitable treatment from them is for the government to take over the railways and operate them in the interests of the people. First, we are in favor of the Federal Government building the railways in the West where they are required. But if we fail in our efforts to get them to undertake the work, then we would favor the Province of Alberta to co-operate with the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, independent of the Federal Government, to take over and operate the railways. In case we fail there, then we favor Alberta to build, own and operate them, but under no circumstances are we willing to assist any company to build the railways either through the Federal or Provincial Governments, and that a copy of the resolution be presented by our legislative committee to every member of both the Federal and Provincial Governments.

An amendment to the foregoing was moved by Mr. Martyn and seconded by Mr. A. Speakman: That this resolution be turned over to the executive committee for them to revise and hand to the locals for discussion. On a division the amendment carried.

FENCING.

Mr. P. C. Hamilton moved: That as at present there is no law compelling the owners of swine to keep them fenced in, we urge the legislature to pass an act to compel the owners of swine to keep them fenced in.

Mr. Warner moved as an amendment and Mr. Speakman seconded: That this resolution be left in the hands of the Secretary, and that he ascertain the law on this point. If it is found that swine can run at large, then the resolution be presented to the Government. On a vote being taken the amendment carried.

No. 26. GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF ELEVATORS.—The Secretary read the two petitions relating to the ownership of internal elevators by the Provincial

Government, and the ownership of terminal elevators by the Federal Government.

Considerable discussion ensued, and a telegram was read during the discussion from the Vancouver Board of Trade in reference to western terminals.

Mr. Campbell moved and Mr. Parsons seconded: That this convention places on record its approval with the movement made by the inter-provincial council for the Government ownership of railways.—Carried.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Palmer, the Secretary gave a resume of the work of the chilled meat committee, and of the lines the report would follow. On the motion of Mr. Geddes, seconded by Mr. Parminter, it was agreed that the matter of endorsing the report of the chilled meat committee be left in the hands of the executive.

This concluded the business of the convention and a resolution embodying a vote of thanks to the Resolution Committee having been passed the Conference was formally adjourned; the members formally joining in singing the National Anthem.

Mr. Sheppard moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That all resolutions referred to the Board of Directors be laid on the table till the next meeting.

The following committees were then appointed:

Transportation Committee—T. H. Woolford, J. Fletcher and J. Bower.

Legislative Committee—President, Vice-President and Secretary.

Mr. Long moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That the Legislative Committee be appointed to wait on the Government with the resolutions passed at the Convention.—Carried.

The Secretary was instructed to write the Secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association conveying regrets that we cannot send a delegate and that the Board will be glad to assist in any work if they will forward resolutions they want considered.

Mr. Sheppard moved and Mr. McDonald seconded: That the President be appointed the delegate to represent this Association at Saskatchewan Convention on February 17th, and in the event of him being unable to attend that he call on either the Vice-President or the Secretary to take his place.—Carried.

Mr. Mielieki moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That a vote of condolence and sympathy be extended to Mr. E. H. Riley, M.P.P., in his recent sad bereavement.—Carried.

Mr. Balaam moved and Mr. Sheppard seconded: That the Provincial Secretaries of the A.F.A. and C. S. of E. be requested to hand over at the earliest moment all books, papers, and information to the U.F.A.—Carried.

Mr. McDonald moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer be appointed the Executive Committee.—Carried.

A letter from the Deputy Minister of Agriculture in reference to the proposed grain conference in Calgary on February 3rd and 4th, was read.

Mr. Harcourt was also present to explain the object of the conference.

Mr. Sheppard moved and Mr. Mielieki seconded: That we accept the call to a convention to discuss the purchase, sale, storage and shipment of Alberta grain made by the Premier, to be held at Calgary on February 3rd and 4th. We would suggest, however, that the call to the convention be made by the Government, stating that the farmers invited have been recommended by the Association. Further, as the matter of expense will be a vital one, we would suggest that the railway and hotel expenses of the delegates be incurred by the Government, otherwise the number of delegates will necessarily have to be considerably reduced, as the finances of the Association would not permit them to undertake this responsibility.—Carried.

Mr. Crerar, of the Grain Growers' Guide, addressed the Directors in reference to the Alberta section of the Guide. He wished the Board to have full charge of the Alberta editorship, and would pay \$25 a month to the Secretary for the extra work he would have to undertake. Mr. Crerar promised to make this offer in writing as soon as he got back to Winnipeg.

Mr. Long moved and Mr. Sheppard seconded: That the following names be recommended to the Government as delegates to the grain conference:—J. Bower, Red Deer; R. Sheppard, Strathcona; L. H. Jelliffe, Spring Coulee; W. A. Dixon, Fishburn; A. Von Mielieki, Calgary; G. McDonald, Oids; G. Long, Namao; T. Balaam, Vegreville; T. Woolford, Cardston; E. J. Fream, Innisfail; J. Campbell, Lloydminster; H. Bell, Namao; D. W. Warner, Edmonton; R. P. Ottewell, Edmonton; E. W. Day, Dayland; C. Fletcher, Ellerslie; G. H. Mauser, Lewisville.

Also that as far as the south is concerned that we

leave the choice to Mr. Harcourt giving our endorsement of the delegates chosen by him.—Carried.

Mr. Long moved and Mr. Melieki seconded: That the delegates expenses for attending meetings be not to exceed \$2 per day and railway fare.—Carried.

Mr. Sheppard moved and Mr. McDonald seconded: That the Secretary's remuneration be \$30 per month.—Carried.

Mr. McDonald moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That we ask the Minister of Agriculture for a grant of \$1000.—Carried.

The meeting then adjourned.

DIRECTORS' MEETING.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 1909.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the Mechanics' Hall on Thursday evening, January 14th, 1909, after the adjournment of the convention.

Present—Mr. Bower, President; Messrs. Sheppard, Von Melieki, McDonald, Long and Balaam.

Mr. McDonald moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That E. J. Fream be appointed Secretary-Treasurer for the year 1909.—Carried.

Mr. Melieki moved and Mr. Balaam seconded: That the Treasurer put up bonds in some guarantee company for the sum of \$2,000 to the satisfaction of the Board.—Carried.

The report of the chilled meat committee was discussed, and it was decided to recommend to the convention that the report is so vast and complex that the convention pass a resolution turning over the report to the Board of Directors to prepare a summary of the scheme for submission to the branches, also that no discussion should take place until the close of the other important business before the convention.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16TH, 1909.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the Board of Trade rooms, Edmonton, on Saturday, January 16th, 1909, at 10 a.m.

Present—J. Bower, President; Messrs. Sheppard, Melieki, McDonald, Long, Balaam and the Secretary.

Mr. Sheppard moved and Mr. Melieki seconded: That the directors of each constituency have charge of the or-



MR. RICE SHEPPARD
Vice-President U.F.A.

ganization work in his own constituency with power to call on any one he may see fit to help him in the work.—Carried.

The Secretary was instructed to write the local unions advising them of the decision of the Board and asking them to notify him at once of any place which requires organizing.

Mr. Long moved and Mr. McDonald seconded: That the matter of the amount paid for organizers be left in the hands of each director to settle, the limit being not

more than \$2 per day, and actual travelling expenses for each organizer, and for the present that the limit placed at the disposal of each director be the sum of \$50.—Carried.

The secretary was instructed to ask all local unions to send in any money they may have on hand so that there will be working funds available.

Mr. Melieki moved and Mr. McDonald seconded: That where two local unions are at present in one district, we recommend that these meet at once and unite in one good union.—Carried.

It was decided to print 5,000 constitutions in English and 500 in German, and that Mr. Melieki arrange for the printing of the German edition.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

To the Officers and Members of the United Farmers Association of Alberta:

Gentlemen,—At the request of the Vice-President and Directors of our Association, I take the liberty of addressing you an open letter, laying before you in some measure an outline of the policy which we propose to follow.

But before making an attempt to do so I wish to express to you my heartfelt thanks for the high honor you have bestowed on me by electing me to the position of the first President of the United Farmers' Association of Alberta, especially as this position was far above my highest aspirations.

To be elected chief officer of an organization composed of 5,000 intelligent, farseeing, deepthinking, honest farmers, whose aims and objects are outlined in the constitution that we have adopted, is a position truly to be highly esteemed, and I hope I fully realize the importance of what should be a sacred trust and so order all my acts that I may be able to take my part in this great work.

If I should fail to attain to the standard of requirements you have set, and should in any way disappoint you in what you expect in your President, then believe me it will be because of mistakes of the head rather than because of a lack of desire on my part to do right.

Now as to the policy which I have outlined for myself to follow; it is summed up in our motto—Equity; that I wish to follow in its fullest sense justice to all.

In our meeting together I wish to be fair to each one, as I would wish each one to be fair to each other, and as I would wish each one to be fair to those out of our ranks, ever remembering, never forgetting, that our motto is Equity.

If I were to attempt to give advice it would be summed up in that splendid address delivered before you at our Convention by M. D. Geddes, and I surely feel I am doing right in asking you to read it over again and to study it well.

As to the Executive policy we have adopted in our directorate, it is one of expansion. As you know, we have a director representing each federal constituency in our province, and I think it will be the duty of each of the branches to consider well that plan of representation with the view of making it more perfect at our next annual Convention.

It is a great source of satisfaction and strength to a director to know that he has been elected by those who know him best rather than because of the impression he has made on strangers.

In following up our policy of expansion each director will have the supervision of organization in his own district, and we ask the co-operation and help of each member in that good work.

As intimated at our Convention, the question of transportation and marketing will engage our earnest attention.

The pork-packing project will certainly not be lost sight of.

We will need to consider the beef-chilling proposition

in all its details. This is a big question and should be discussed in every branch and every argument for and against thoroughly analyzed.

The elevator question will be still before us in connection with grain transportation, with its newer aspect of Western trade development.

We will do our best to impress upon the Dominion Government the necessity of carrying into effect the resolutions passed at the Calgary Convention asking the Government to build and operate a terminal elevator at the Pacific coast and also to make such amendments to the Grain Inspection Act as will make it better suited to the Province of Alberta.

These together with other things on which we have been working might be classed as unfinished business, while no doubt many other things of vital interest to us will arise with which we will have to cope during the year.

The question of direct legislation should be taken into consideration by the branches whereby if effected any specific question or reform could be taken out of the realm of party politics and referred back to the people for their approval or rejection.

We are determined to follow up the advantages gained in our battles against injustice to ourselves. We have asserted and will continue to assert our rights. As to what our rights really are we must be perfectly clear and not allow ourselves to jump at conclusions or be carried away by false theories, or ever allow ourselves to substitute zeal for knowledge. We want to be well balanced. We may have in our possession a piece of perfect mechanism, every shaft true, every wheel perfect, quite strong enough to do the work for which it was designed; yet if we allow someone to remove the balance wheel then disaster is assured.

It will be the duty of each member to do his part in the pages of our official organ, and no doubt the pages of other farm journals will be open for the expression of your views on subjects which are of interest to us all. We will need your advice and counsel; be not chary in giving it us. We will consider it well. We do not want to forget, nor allow others to forget that those who are directly interested in agriculture are more than all other classes deeply interested in the welfare of the Province. We are located on the land and we must adapt ourselves to the climatic and other natural conditions surrounding us; we cannot create artificial conditions such as the merchants and other business men may do, for if they find one branch of their business hampered or confined in any way by existing laws or other restrictions, they can without giving up their business switch over more easily than the farmer to some other branch, thus following along the lines of least resistance. With the farmer this is different; for if the natural conditions make it imperative that he follow along specific lines of production, then anything that hinders him from getting a fair price for his productions is a direct blow to the farmer, which he cannot evade because he must still continue to produce the same lines. Therefore we must carefully guard against any legislation being enacted that will restrict the farmer in the free exercise of all his powers in the profitable production of those things which a bountiful providence has intended should be produced in the Province.

Now in conclusion I wish to extend to all my best wishes for your happiness and prosperity during the coming year, that when we meet again at our next annual Convention we will be better off financially, morally and intellectually and that we will be able to see that our improved condition is the direct result of having belonged to the United Farmers of Alberta.

JAMES BOWER.

SECRETARYS' LETTER

To the Officers and members of the United Farmers of Alberta:

Gentlemen,—The great question is settled and with the United Farmers of Alberta alone in the field, doing the work previously performed by the C. S. of E. and the A.F.A., there is no reason why we should not have in a very short time the strongest farmers' organization in Canada. The United Farmers of Alberta have started out under bright banners, cheered and encouraged on all sides. It is our duty to make the Association flourish.

A great deal of this work will fall to the Central Association, but it is to the local unions that the officers must look for strength and encouragement. The officers ask for this help and know that all will give them a ready response.

This, the first letter addressed to you, is more on the lines of preliminary work, but from now on each union will receive at regular intervals a budget showing just what the Association is doing.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP.

The unions having delegates at the annual convention will know what was decided upon, which was, first, that the annual membership fee to the Association should be one dollar, half of which should be remitted to the Association and the other half retained by the local union. These returns are to be made every three months, but for the purposes of checking each local union is requested to report to the Provincial Secretary at once the number of members on its books. This will enable the Secretary to get everything into good shape at the start.

It is estimated that the membership of the Association is now over 5,000, and this should be considerably enlarged at an early date.

The convention instructed the Board of Directors to take steps to complete an active organization throughout the Province at an early date. At the first directors' meeting it was decided that each director should have charge of all organization work in his own constituency, with power to call in anyone he may see fit to help him in the work. One of the first moves will be to visit as far as possible all the unions now in existence, explaining personally the objects and the work now being undertaken. The secretary of each union can assist in this work, first by reporting at once as to the state of his union, and secondly by forwarding the names of any places where a successful union can be started, giving, if possible, the names of interested persons in that district. You are requested to supply this information at once so that the organization work can be proceeded with.

ALLOTMENT OF NUMBERS TO UNION.

The annual convention decided that all unions should be numbered and that the numbers should be allotted to the unions in the order of their organization. To carry out this plan, all unions are requested to register with the Secretary not later than March 1st next the date in which the union was organized. On March 1st the numbers will be allotted, and any union not reported by March 1st will receive its number in rotation after that date, as the applications are received.

AMALGAMATION OF UNIONS.

The Board of Directors strongly recommend that where there are branches of the late C.S. of E. and A.F.A. in the one district that steps be taken at once to hold a joint meeting in the district and that the two unite into one strong union.

CONSTITUTIONS.

The Board of Directors have ordered the new constitution to be printed in booklet form. As soon as they are received from the printers a supply will be sent to all unions, so that all members will become conversant with same.

OFFICIAL ORGAN.

The convention decided on the Grain Growers' Guide as the official organ. A copy will be sent by the publishers to all members, so that they can see for themselves what the Guide is like. The Guide will be divided into four sections, one of which will be in charge of the Board of Directors of this Association. The Board has appointed the Secretary as sub-editor of the Alberta section and the secretaries of the union are requested to send into him all items of interest so that same can appear in the Guide. It is the object of the Association to make the Alberta section interesting to all, and for that reason all are urged to make their reports promptly to the Secretary.

The Board then would in this the first circular letter to the Unions, ask all Unions to co-operate with them in

making the Association a success, more especially by reporting at the earliest opportunity, as follows:—

1. The active strength of your union, with the names and addresses of the officers.
2. The names of any places, and the persons interested, where good unions can be organized.
3. The date of your organization.
4. The forwarding of reports of meetings and all other matters of interest to the Secretary.
5. Any subjects you would like the Association to take up.

You are further requested to address all matter relating to the Association, whether for publication in the Guide or for general purposes, to the Secretary, Edward J. Fream, Innisfail, Alta.

The Directors hold a meeting at Calgary in February, when other matters will be taken up, of which you will be advised later.

I am, Gentlemen, on behalf of the Board of Directors,
Your obedient servant,

EDWARD J. FREAM, Secretary.

AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE

Premier Rutherford of Alberta calls a Meeting of the Railroad, Elevator and Farmers' Interests in Calgary on 3rd and 4th February.

A conference of great interest to the Farmers, Elevator Interests, and the Railroad's met in the Oddfellows Hall in Calgary on Wednesday February 3, to discuss the feasibility of the Pacific Coast as an outlet for Alberta Grain also the amending of the Manitoba Grain Act to suit Alberta conditions. A large number of delegates representing the farmers of Alberta were present, also the representatives of the different Elevator Companies and the Canadian Pacific Railway. Vancouver and New Westminster Boards of Trade sent several delegates and the ocean transportation companies were in evidence.

The Premier in his opening address emphasized the importance of securing a Western Outlet for Alberta Grain, and acknowledged that the action of the Canadian Pacific in reducing the rate on grain to Vancouver was his reason for bringing all the parties together at this particular time.

He also stated that it was necessary to amend the Manitoba Grain Act to suit conditions in Alberta.

Calgary showed her interest in the Convention by Mayor Jamieson extending the freedom of the City to the visiting delegates.

Mr. Wm. Toole on behalf of the Board of Trade and the business men of Calgary welcomed the delegates to the city and invited all to attend a banquet given in their honor at Crown's Restaurant at 6.30 Wednesday evening.

Premier McBride of British Columbia being unable to attend sent a telegram assuring the Convention of his Government's hearty support of any endeavor that might be considered advisable to further the western shipment of grain.

The members of the Vancouver and New Westminster Boards of Trade also expressed their anxiety to have the Pacific made the outlet for Alberta Grain.

Mr. Thos. Woolford of Cardston said he would like to see a better understanding between the elevator men and farmer's, and Mr. Geddes thought that all Alberta grains should be advertised more as they were of superior quality.

Hon. W. H. Cushing spoke principally on the question of car shortage but thought that now as the railroads were becoming interested the fault would probably be remedied.

The programme was then taken up, the first being a

BRANCH NEWS—BEAUMONT

The annual meeting of the Beaumont branch of the Alberta Farmers' Association was held in the Clearwater Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, December 23. The chairman, Mr. Geo. Curry, president, opened the meeting at 8.30 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The balance sheet for the year showed receipts \$74.40, expenditure \$41.60, leaving a balance on hand of \$32.80.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Geo. Curry; Vice-President, Mr. Tweedie; Directors—J. O. Wood, La Chance, Morneau, L. Roberge, S. H. Johnston and T. Hull. One delegate was appointed to the annual convention.

After the usual business was concluded a very good programme of music, songs, recitations, etc., was given, followed by a basket supper to which all the members were invited. The programme was enjoyed by all, and the officers of the branch are much indebted to the ladies and gentlemen who assisted.

paper on "Our Mutual Interests" by Mr. C. W. Rowley, Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Calgary. He dwelt on the necessity of the Farmers, Business Men, and all interests harmonizing in their relations to one another and follow the rule of give and take to do so.

He also thought that Alberta and British Columbia should have their own Inspector with deputies under him as the head of this department in Winnipeg was not conversant with conditions in these two Provinces.

The discussion on the distribution of cars was then opened by G. Wales of Claresholm who represents a small elevator company and who claimed that the Manitoba Grain Act and the car shortage were a source of great loss to the Elevator Companies and the producer.

He stated that Alberta is lacking in elevator capacity which was largely due to the Manitoba Grain Act. A general discussion followed Mr. Wales address in which it was seen that the elevator and railroad interests were very anxious to have the Manitoba Grain Act changed. The farming interests knowing the benefits derived by them since the inception of the Act stated that they would not allow the Act to be changed or done away with, without a bitter struggle.

Mr. Thos. Balaam, a prominent farmer of Vegreville, read a very pointed and interesting paper on "How the Terminal Elevator affects the small shipper when operated by a private company."

MR. BALAAM'S PAPER.

"It is a fact beyond dispute that all our Western elevator facilities at Fort William and Port Arthur, with the exception of those owned by the C. P. R., are owned, controlled and operated under different names, by companies who operate the interior elevators, where they gather grain directly from the farmer. The terminal elevator storage facilities are thus in the hands of those who own the interior storage facilities.

"It is difficult to discuss the injurious effect of private ownership of the one, without also considering the other. It is now generally admitted by everyone excepting those parties financially interested in the terminal elevators, that the late grain commission essentially failed in one particular of their work, in that they did not make a closer investigation into the methods followed in the operation of our terminal elevators under private hands.

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manner in which the life insurance commission did in New York state a few years ago, or in the manner in which the pork commission appointed by our local governments did a short time ago in Alberta, there is not a reasonable doubt but that information would have been secured that would have totally discredited the administration of these elevators, as it is conducted at the present time.

DISSATISFACTION OVER DOCKAGE

"A few years ago a great deal of dissatisfaction existed in the Dakotas and Minnesota, as to the operation of the terminal elevators, which were owned and operated by private companies at Duluth and Superior. The matter reached such an acute stage that a committee appointed by the Bankers' Association of North Dakota conducted an investigation of the terminal elevators at these points, and in this report says:

"The screenings actually taken out of the grain received averaged three-quarters of a pound to the bushel. From our knowledge of the dockage taken at country elevators, and also that fixed by the official inspectors at terminal points during the period named, we believe this dockage of three-quarters of a pound actually taken from the wheat to have been very much less than that taken from the shipper or farmer.

"These screenings sold for about \$ per ton. After this dockage of three-quarters of a pound per bushel was taken out, the grain was shipped as clean grain without any dockage. What an eloquent story is told by the above figures. The fact that nearly 100,000 bushels more of No. 1 northern, the highest grade taken in, was shipped out, than was received, speaks so loud against the present system and rules of inspection that it is simply unnecessary to go down the line and call your attention to the fact that nothing lower than No. 3 wheat was shipped out.

The profit in making the receipts of this elevator for the three months, as shown by figuring the cost of the grain received at the average price of grain of the various grades during the three months covered, and then figuring the value of the grain shipped out, on the same basis, was \$83,206.89.

"The company which controlled the operation of the above elevator now controls the operation of the terminals at Port Arthur on the Canadian Northern line of railway. They have precisely the same opportunities there that they had when operating at Superior.

ELEVATOR COMPANIES CANNOT OPERATE TERMINALS

"Contrary to the spirit of the grain act, which forbids the companies operating gathering elevators in the interior to operate the terminals, this company operates the Canadian Northern terminals already mentioned under the name of Port Arthur Elevator Company, and their interior elevators under the name of the British America Elevator Company, and as already stated, the other terminals, with the exception of the C.P.R., are owned and operated by persons who also own and operate the interior elevators.

"Such being the case, it can scarcely be doubted that the grades are manipulated in the terminal elevators to the benefit of those elevators, and to the loss of the producer.

"Our grading system as a means of determining the value of grain is admittedly imperfect. As a means of determining the value, it is illogical from start to finish, giving rise to many particular inconsistencies.

"We hear a great deal about the necessity of maintaining in the eastern and old country markets a high standard for our Canadian grades. The result of this is a high standard of inspection when the grain passes Winnipeg for entry into the terminal elevators as a strong No. 3 northern would "skin" out as a No. 2 northern,

and since the spread in price between No. 2 and No. 3 northern is usually from 4 to 6 cents per bushel, someone is the gainer to that extent, of what should have gone originally into the hands of the seller. For instance, one hard wheat, under the grade requirements, must contain neither oats, barley or cockle, and yet it has been shipped out of Fort William under No. 1 hard certificate containing all three.

"Grain shipped out under a certain grade has been frequently refused by the Ontario millers, the latter claiming it to be inferior to the government standard of the grade they bought for. Under the law of the old country dealers have to accept the grade as sent out from the terminals, under the Canadian certificates. They protect themselves by quoting back a lower price, which may be illustrated for instance, in this way: No grain goes out of the terminals under dockage. The old country miller, when he gets a parcel of Manitoba wheat, finds that there is two per cent dirt in it, which is valueless to him, when quoting back a price he makes an allowance for that, and the reduced price quoted back is the basis upon which our prices in the West are largely fixed.

FROZEN WHEAT FULL OF FOUL SEEDS

"Further evidence that manipulation goes on was seen last season in the shipment of frozen wheat, suitable only for feed, to the eastern provinces. Frozen wheat in the crop of 1907-08 came largely from newer portions of Saskatchewan and the northern part of Manitoba and Alberta, and being from new districts, was remarkably free from foul seeds of any description. Yet when this same feed wheat reached the Ontario dealers and buyers, after passing through the terminal elevators, it was frequently refused on account of the large amount of foul seeds it contained. This reached such a serious condition that one of the Ontario members in the Dominion parliament asked the government to prohibit the importation of Western frozen wheat into Ontario, for the reason he claimed, that it was flooding the latter province with foul seeds.

"This evidence is very significant. If the terminal elevators could manipulate the quality of the frozen wheat going out under certificate, what is to hinder them manipulating any of the higher grades in the same way? And when it is considered that the wheat at the terminals is spouted out into the boats at the rate of from 60,000 to 70,000 bushels per hour, it can readily be seen that it is impossible to devise a system of supervision that will prevent the interested owners of these terminals doing just such things.

The case of oats in the Port Arthur terminals last season might also be quoted.

"Owing to frost last year, a large bulk of the Western oats graded rejected. These rejected oats varied in weight all the way from 26 to 42 pounds to the bushel.

MANIPULATION OF COMMISSION MERCHANTS

"When an independent dealer or commission merchant wished to sell a farmer's carload of oats out of the Port Arthur terminals, he could not secure a price at one time within 1½¢ per bushel of what he could get had the same grade or oats been in the Fort William terminals. The reason given was that the lighter weighing oats were given out in such cases, the interested owners retaining the heavier weighing oats to sell on sample as occasion offered.

"The fact that practically all of our terminal storage facilities are in the hands of dealers in grain, compels all the independent dealers to use the elevators of their rivals in business for the handling of the grain that may be consigned to their care, affording in this way an opportunity to totally crush competition. This fact in itself is a reason strong enough to warrant the Dominion government taking over the terminal elevators, and

thus put them in a position to fulfil the functions they should properly fulfil—that is, creating a utility which would supply public storage, and not built and operated as they have been, with one end in view—private gain.

WESTERN OUTLET FOR ALBERTA GRAIN.

"We have heard a great deal lately about the possibility of developing a Western outlet for Alberta grain. Whether that outlet will develop to any considerable extent before the Panama canal is completed, may be questioned. There is absolutely no doubt that if it is to develop, terminal facilities must be provided at Vancouver to perform the function which those at Port Arthur and Fort William should perform.

"The interests of the farmers of Alberta and of the large commercial interests, dependent upon their prosperity, demands in no uncertain way, that the terminals that shall be erected in connection with the Western outlet must be freed completely from those conditions which have made the operations of the terminals at Port Arthur and Fort William so unsatisfactory.

"This can only be done by having the terminals erected on the coast cities, owned and operated by the Dominion government, as public utilities and not as a means for 'private gain.'

"In working for this, I feel sure that the farmers merchants of Alberta will have the hearty sympathy and assistance of the merchants and farmers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, who are now struggling to secure at the lake fronts the boon which we in the West should insist on having from the commencement.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD OPERATE ELEVATORS

"I also believe that the interior elevators should be operated by our provincial government.

"I would also suggest the necessity of having Calgary made an order point, that is, that the cars shipped from either north or south of Calgary could be held there for orders, and according to the inspection received, could be directed either west or east, as would be found most advantageous.

"The C.P.R. would no doubt oppose this on the grounds of delaying transportation. This delay should not work out to any serious extent, as in no case would the car require to be held longer than twenty-four hours, and a heavy charge could be put on for any additional delay.

"Until the terminal elevators are provided at Vancouver, the different grades resulting from a general shipment to that point could not be properly cared for, and by making Calgary an order point, only such grades as were suitable need be shipped west.

"It is also worthy of note that an agitation has arisen in some quarters of Alberta with a view of repealing the Manitoba grain act, as far as it affects Alberta, especially that portion of it which relates to the distribution of the car supply. The conditions in the shipment of grain to the west would be precisely the same as they are in the east today, in other words, whether grain goes east to Fort William or west to Vancouver, or north to Hudson's Bay, will not alter in any sense the relationship which the present distribution clause bears to the welfare of the producer.

"The elevator companies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan have been persistently advocating its change. The railway companies have laid all delays in transportation at its door. These were effectively disposed of by Mr. McKenzie, the secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association before a special committee at the house of commons last spring.

GRAIN ACT BENEFICIAL

"The farmers of Alberta should be very careful before they consent in any measure whatever to any abrogation

of the provisions of the grain act, which has been found so beneficial to the Manitoba and Saskatchewan farmers, and they should likewise scrutinize very closely the source from which such an agitation arises, analyzing the motives at the root of these suggestions.

"Let me repeat that the conditions for shipment in the West are precisely the same as they are for the East in all the essential details. The necessity for government ownership of Western terminals and Alberta interior elevators is just as urgent, as in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and our farmers and business men of Alberta should see to it now, when the great possibilities of this western outlet are in the initial stages of their development—that the foundation of the Western trade is laid in such a way, as will absolutely prohibit the building up of a grain monopoly similar to the one that has so adversely affected Manitoba and Saskatchewan farmers, and also our Alberta farmers, that by force of circumstances are compelled to send their grain through its channels."

Mr. Price of the C.P.R. in addressing the conference attempted to explain that his company had handled the enormous quantity of wheat grown in the West with as quick despatch as any railroad on the American Continent and almost every adverse condition was the fault of the farmer or the Manitoba Grain Act. One very pointed question put to Mr. Price by a prominent farmer was that in view of the fact they were now able to carry grain for export to Vancouver for 22½ cents, would it not be just as essential to carry Alberta products to internal points in British Columbia at a correspondingly low rate. Also why the C.P.R. had not seen fit to give shippers the benefit of this rate years ago before the C.N.R. and G.T.P. railroads were destined to reach the coast.

Mr. Strong of the Alberta Pacific Elevator Company gave a very lengthy address using a large map of his own to demonstrate the necessity of pushing the Western Route. In a long preamble he endeavored to show that he was the most abused man in the West and while he had always tried to pay the farmers the highest price possible for their grain it seemed that they blamed him for all their troubles. Considering the length of his talk and the fact that Mr. Eilerslie, former farmer president of the Alberta Farmers Association told him that the farmers of Alberta had known for years what he was trying to explain regarding the Western route, he was patiently listened to.

Among other things stated by him was the fact that he had enough cable offers in his office to take all the Alberta Red Winter wheat at 1c premium over Manitoba wheat if the shipping facilities by the Western route were perfected.

It was thought that his enthusiasm in trying to ingratiate himself with the farmers had no doubt effected his indignation in regard to this sudden demand for Alberta Red.

However all good things come to an end and the conference adjourned for lunch.

Upon re-assembling after lunch the balance of the day was taken up principally with the discussion of the report of the committee on resolutions all with the exception of one being passed without a dissenting vote.

The first three resolutions were passed without discussion being as follow:

Whereas steps have been taken by various interests to inaugurate a system of western shipments of grain.

Resolved, that this conference endorse the idea of shipping grain to the markets of the world by the Pacific coast.

The desirable resident identification wheat.

Resident of the province of the edge at produce all departments.

The and was

"Recreation through to the erection of a government, to the possible

After the following British proved

"Refuse to at the urge the the work crop of

The Mr. Strong and state working morning to the sh year would be lovely ducer.

Upon Act it according to change able interests

As proposed

LAR

That this Convention is of the opinion that it is very desirable and in the interests of the farmers and every resident in this province that the name Alberta should be identified with all oats and barley as well as Red Winter wheat.

Resolved, that this meeting recommend to the government of the Dominion of Canada and the governments of the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia that there shall be appointed a grain inspector for the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta, who has knowledge and experience in handling and grading the cereals produced in these provinces and that he have charge of all deputy inspectors throughout these provinces.

The next resolution caused considerable discussion and was as follows:

"Resolved, that in order to facilitate the immediate erection of a terminal elevator at the Pacific coast, through which Alberta grain can be profitably exported to the markets of the world, this Convention urge the erection of the terminal elevator at once by the Dominion government, operated and controlled by the government, and this resolution shall be at once telegraphed to the government at Ottawa, asking a reply as soon as possible."

After considerable opposition from the farmers present the following which was advocated by the elevator and British Columbia representatives was attached and approved by the meeting.

"Resolved that in case the Dominion government refuse to grant our request to build terminal elevators at the Pacific coast after reasonable delay, we would urge the Canadian Pacific Railway company to undertake the work in order that said elevators be ready for the crop of 1909."

The amendment to the Grain Act was then taken up. Mr. Strong was very much in evidence on this question and stated that farmers as a rule were opposed to the workings of this Act. In his previous address in the morning he pointed out that the Western route owing to the short haul and an open port twelve months of the year would relieve the car shortage and everything would be lovely both for the elevator interests and the producer.

Upon his so strongly advocating amending the Grain Act it was pointed out to him by a delegate that according to his former argument it would be unnecessary to change the Grain Act at all. However, after considerable discussion and opposition from the agricultural interests the following resolution was approved of:

AMENDMENTS TO GRAIN ACT.

As was expected, the resolution in regard to the proposed amendments to the Manitoba Grain act met

with considerable opposition when it was first introduced. However, after it was explained and discussed, the opposition to it disappeared, and only two votes were recorded against it. The resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, that the Manitoba Grain act be so amended in its application to the Province of Alberta, that any farmer or number of farmers wishing to put their grain through the elevators by sale or otherwise, be enabled to get cars in the same proportion as though they loaded from the platforms and that the railways be obliged to keep a book for the purpose of recording their requests for cars in accordance therewith, and in the event of this amendment being made, that the government prepare a draft agreement to be entered into by the parties interested, and that this draft agreement be attached to the act as schedule H."

Votes of thanks were passed to Premier Rutherford for calling the Convention, to the provincial legislature for adjourning for the Convention, to Mr. Harcourt for his valuable assistance, to the British Columbia government for sending representatives after which the Convention was brought to a close.

While most of the farmers thought the different powerful interests represented were anxious to force certain measures through benefitting themselves they all left satisfied that they had ably defended their own interests and that the two days were profitably spent.

POLITICS A CRUEL GAME

A Conservative member of the Ontario Legislature, recently declared that "politics is a cruel game," which led a leading party paper in Toronto to remark:

"Only those who have suffered know just how cruel it is. To many it has been the road to an untimely grave. To others it has brought financial ruin. But a very few have won success, and even these have found the price they had to pay out of all proportion to the recompense. To submit one's convictions to the decision of a caucus; to follow a leader where conscience and judgment rebel; to know that preferment depends on a willingness to sacrifice principle, and yet be conscious that there is no drawing back unless it is in obscurity and with the mark of failure affixed; these are the penalties of success."

This is a direful picture, but there are cases just such as that. Much of the "suffering" in politics is due to personalities, to attacks on the character of men. Political campaigns should be fought on party issues—public questions. Parties should select as candidates men of ability and clean character and then battle for their standard bearers, because they represent great issues, not on personal grounds. As it is now—"politics is a cruel game." Men of ability and respectability are unwilling to enter public life on that account. When parties agree to leave personalities alone and wage political warfare solely on the issues at stake, only then can we look for an improvement in the political world.—Lethbridge Herald.

LARGEST GREENHOUSES IN WESTERN CANADA



WALTER RAMSAY, EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Send to us for

Cut Flowers

Ferns Palms
Flowering Plants
Wedding Bouquets
Funera Designs

Our prices are the lowest in the west, because we grow all our own stock. Price list sent on application. Orders by mail, telegraph or telephone receive prompt and careful attention.

Are You Receiving Full Value For Every Dollar You Spend?

The money you pay for groceries, for instance—does it return the fullest value possible to obtain? What about that 15 to 20 per cent difference in the prices quoted below and the prices you now pay for the same goods? That means \$15 to \$20 on every \$100 paid out. Who gets that \$15 or \$20? Do you save it or do you give it away? Suppose you make up an order at the prices quoted below and compare it with the prices you usually pay—it may be interesting.

	\$	c.		\$	c.	
APPLES—Evaporated, choice, new			LARD—Compound ... per 20lb. pail	2	30	
per lb.	9		Pure Leaf	2	65	
50. lb. case	4	15	LOBSTERS—Loggies ... per lb. tin		45	
Canned		30	LYE—Gillett's per tin		10	
APRICOTS—Evaporated, very choice			Royal Crown per tin		9	
per lb.	12		MAPLE SYRUP—Imperial...qt. tin	30		
25 lb. case	2	80	per gal.	1	00	
Canned		20	MARMALADE—			
AMMONIA—Royal Crown, per pint			Crosse & Blackwell...per lb tin	14		
bottle	10		Balmoral per 7lb. tin	60		
BARLEY—Pot per lb.	4		MACARONI—French, per 1lb. pkt.	11		
Pearl per lb.	5		Italian per 5lb. box	40		
Baking Powder—Reg. 25c. lines,			MATCHES—Eddy's Telephone, box	10		
per 16oz. tin	18		Parlor	12		
per 3lb. tin	45		MILK CONDENSED—Reindeer, tin	13		
BACON—Smoked Backs ... per lb.	15		MINCEMEAT—Wagstaff's, 2lb. tin	18		
Bellies	15		White Star 12lb. pail	1	20	
Dry Salt Sides per lb.	13		MOLASSES—Bee brand, 10lb. pail	48		
BEANS—Common white...per lb.	5		2 gal. pail	1	10	
60 lbs.	2	30	MUSTARD—Keen's per lb.	27		
Baked Beans 2lb. tins	10		NUTS—Almonds, Walnuts, etc., lb.	15		
BISCUITS—Sodas 2lb. box	24		NUTMEG per lb.	8		
Fancy Mixed per lb.	10		OATMEAL—Rolled 20 lb. sack	60		
BLUE—Keen's per 1/4 lb.	5		Rolled 80lb. sack	2	25	
BLUE BERRIES per gal. tin	45		Granulated...98lb. sack	3	40	
BLACK BERRIES per tin	19		OIL—Castor.....10c. size, 1/4 pint	7		
BUTTER COLOR—Wells Richard-		 pint bottles	18		
son's per bot.	20		Olive, Crosse & Blackwell, 1/4 pts.	20		
CORN—Canned, No. 1... .. per tin	9		PEELS—Candied, Maconochie's, lb.	15		
...case of 24	2	00	POSTUM CEREALS— 20 oz. pkt.	22		
CORN FLAKES—Kellogg's, per pkt	10		PRUNES—New, fair size ... per lb.	6		
CORN MEAL per 50lb. sack	1	15	50lb. case	2	70	
CORN STARCH—St. Lawrence pkt.	8		medium...25lb. case	1	70	
per doz.	90		large 10lb. case	1	10	
COCOA—Epps per 1/4 lb. tins	11		PEACHES—Evaporated ... per lb.	10		
Baker's 1/4 lb. tins	23		25lb. case	2	25	
Cowan's bulk, per lb.	20		Canned 2lb. tin	19		
CHOCOLATE—Sweetened, 1/4 lb. cake	7		PEARS—Canned	14		
Unsweetened	11		PEAS—Canned, No. 1 per tin	8		
COCOANUT—Schep's per lb.	19		...case of 24	1	85	
COFFEE—A choice blend	22		PUMPKIN—Canned, No. 1...per tin	10		
Regular 40c. line	33		PINEAPPLE—Canned... ..	13		
CLOTHES LINES—Manilla, 48			PEPPER—Absolutely pure...per lb.	18		
ft. long each	7		RAISINS—4 Crown layers ...	8		
CLOTHES PINS per doz.	2		4	28 lb. box	2	05
CREAM EVAPORATED—			Fine, off stalk	1	80	
St. Charles per tin	10		Fancy Seeded...1lb. box	10		
St. Charles per doz.	1	15	Seedless per lb.	8		
CREAM OF TARTAR per lb.	32		RICE—No. 1 Bee per lb.	5		
CHEESE—Manitoba, choice ... lb....	15		No. 1 Bee 50lb. sack	2	25	
CURRENTS—New, cleaned...per lb.	8		No. 1 Japan per lb.	6		
25lb.	1	90	No. 1 Japan 50 lb. sack	2	50	
CANDLES—Wax per doz.	13		RASPBERRIES per tin	19		
CANDY—Royal, mixed per lb.	9		SAGO per lb.	6		
CATSUP—Very fine ... per 2lb. can	8		SALT—Common 50lb. sack	47		
60			SODA—Extra quality 1lb. pkt.	7		
per gal. can	60		SPICE—Cinnamon, Alspice, Cloves			
per 5lb. box	25		Ginger, Pastry Spice, etc., lb.	25		
per 2lb. box	45		SOAP—Royal Crown—			
per 5lb. box	45		per carton, 6 bars	20		
COAL OIL—Silver Star...per gal.	21		per case 144 bars	4	50	
(45-gal. bbls. only) Sunlight	23		Sunlight per case	5		
Sunlight 10 gal. case	2	60 per 22 cakes	1	00	
DATES—New per 3lb. pkt.	25		French Castile per 10 cakes	25		
EXTRACTS—			STARCH—Silver Gloss ... 1lb. pkt.	9		
Second Quality per 2 oz. bot.	8		No. 1 Laundry	8		
First quality per 2 1/2 oz. bot.	20		SUGAR—			
First quality per 8 oz. bot.	50		Granulated, Redpath's ... 50lb.	2	70	
FIGS—Select layers per lb.	11		per 100lb.	5	20	
Cooking per lb.	5		Yellow, Redpath's per 100lb	4	75	
GELATINE—Cox's per pkt.	11		Icing, Redpath's per lb.	7		
Knox's	15		SYRUP—No. 1, Corn...per 5lb. pail	28		
HERRING—			per 10lb. pail	53		
Labrador per 1/4 bbl. 16 doz.	4	10	per 20lb. pail	1	00	
Holland 10lb. keg	68		per gal.	1	00	
HONEY—Very choice ... 1lb. jar	22		STRAWBERRIES per tin	19		
per 5lb. tin	83		SALMON—Choice per tin	14		
ICING SUGAR—Redpath's, per lb.	7		per dozen	1	60	
Lemon, chocolate, etc., each	9		SARDINES—Brunswick...per tin	5		
JAM—Crosse & Blackwell, per lb tin	16		King Oscar per tin	12		
Imperial per 5lb. pail	33		TAPIOCA—Pearl per lb.	7		
White Star per 7lb. pail	55		TEA—Choice Pekoe per lb.	25		
Wagstaff's 5lb. tins	70	 per 10 lb.	2	20	
JELLY POWDER—			Orange Pekoe, per lb	33		
Bee brand per pkt.	5		per 5 lb.	1	55	
All other lines per 1/4 doz.	45		Green, a choice flavor...lb.	26		
KIPPED HERRINGS—			TOMATOES—Canned, No. 1 ... tin	10		
Canadian per tin	10		per case of 24	2	30	
Maconochie's per tin	14		YEAST—Royal per pkt.	4		

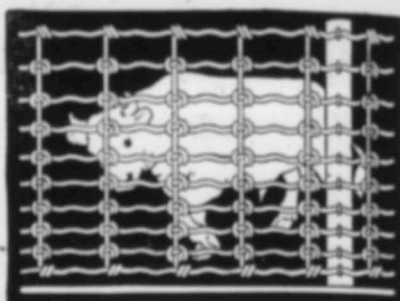
Did you particularly notice the price of St. Charles Evaporated Cream? It usually sells at 15c or \$1.80 per dozen cans. Our price is \$1.15 per dozen, while 1200 cans last—no longer. What you save on our Special Pekoe Tea—a 35c value at 22c—and 1 doz. St. Charles Evaporated Cream will pay freight on a large order. All prices—except St. Charles Cream—guaranteed till March 31. Make up an order. Get a Money Order for the amount at the Post Office or Express Office, and mail to-day. Your goods will be at your station in a surprisingly short time.

MUNRO'S, 614 Portage Ave., Winnipeg

Oats for Sale

A quantity of Newmarket Oats, free from weeds, weighing 43 pounds to the bushel. Price 65 cts. a bushel, Winnipeg, bags extra. Address

**Grain Growers Guide
Winnipeg**



Fence Friends

Every buyer of Peerless Fence becomes a friend of ours because Peerless fence saves him trouble, money and time. PEERLESS Woven Wire Fence is made of all No. 9 Steel Wire well galvanized. PEERLESS FENCE requires very few posts, and you save money on the net cost of your fence.

PEERLESS

The Fence That Saves Expense

One of the reasons why PEERLESS Woven Wire Fence is better than other fences is because of the PEERLESS lock. It holds securely and without damaging the wire, yet there is just enough elasticity to prevent snapping from sudden shocks, changes in temperature or from any other cause. Stock cannot get through it—under it or over it. There are so many advantages in buying PEERLESS Fence in preference to others that we have not room in this advertisement to tell you of them.

Your name on a postal brings you our new printed matter, containing much useful information in regard to fencing. Write for it today.

**The Banwell Hoxie
Wire Fence Co. Ltd.,
Dept. M
Hamilton, Ont. Winnipeg, Man.**

Ransom Engraving Co.

Photo-Engravers
Designers

45 Arthur Street
Winnipeg
Phone 3814

H. D. METCALFE GRAIN CO.

GRAIN COMMISSION MERCHANTS

Limited

Have had years of experience in selling grain. Know how to get top prices. Your interest guarded at every turn. Try us on your next shipment, and see how we can make money for you.

517 Grain Exchange

WINNIPEG, Man.

Wanted for Old Country Buyers

Highly Improved Farms of not less than 320 acres, with photographs of buildings. In mailing particulars, please give correct legal description, also details of improvements, material used in construction, dimensions of buildings, fences, acreage under cultivation, price, terms, encumbrance etc. Photographs will not be returned.

Agreements and mortgages showing a good margin of security purchased at the usual rate of discount. Securities arranged on the crop payment plan will not be considered.

City Property to Exchange for Farm Lands

Farmers wishing to purchase or sell City property should communicate at once with

WILLIAM GRASSIE

54 Aikins Building, 221 McDermot Avenue, WINNIPEG, CANADA
Phone 5327. P. O. Box 645.

Free 'Bus From All Trains

Seymour Hotel

Farmers from the Three Provinces make it their headquarters when visiting the city

Every street car passes the City Hall, which is only a stone's throw from the hotel entrance

Rates \$1.50 Per Day

JOHN BAIRD, Prop.

Wholesale Prices on Lumber to Farmers and Contractors

Farmers when in need of Lumber, Shingles, or other Building Material, send us your list of wants and get our prices. We have been in the wholesale business here for three years, selling only to dealers, but we are now ready to sell to any person wanting such material at strictly wholesale prices. Farmers, club together and get your **Lumber, Fence Posts, Lime, Cement** and **Plaster** in **carload lots**, direct from mills and save money. We are reliable and can give the best of bank and other references.

McCollom Lumber Co.

14 Trader's Bank, Winnipeg

Portage Avenue
Near Main St.

The Queens

Winnipeg's Popular
and Homelike Hotel.
New, Modern and
Central. American
Plan. . . . Free 'Bus



MONTGOMERY BROS.
PROPRIETORS

SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS

ANY even numbered section of Dominion Lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, excepting 8 and 26, not reserved, may be homesteaded by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

Application for entry must be made in person by the applicant at a Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the district in which the land is situate. Entry by proxy may, however, be made at any Agency on certain conditions by the father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of an intending homesteader.

DUTIES.—(1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year for three years.

(2) A homesteader may, if he so desires, perform the required residence duties by living on farming land owned solely by him, not less than eighty (80) acres in extent, in the vicinity of his homestead. He may also do so by living with father or mother, on certain conditions. Joint ownership in land will not meet this requirement.

(3) A homesteader intending to perform his residence duties in accordance with the above while living with parents or on farming land owned by himself must notify the Agent for the district of such intention.

W. W. CORY,

Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

BONDED

G. G. G. C.

LICENSED

WHEAT. OATS. BARLEY. FLAX

TO OUR FARMERS

When shipping your grain don't forget the Farmers Co-operative Company. Don't follow the old-fashioned way of selling your grain on street. Be progressive: Ship in carload lots and get all there is in it. We check grading closely, and get top prices. Write us for information or prices. Find out about it; and ship your grain to

The Grain Growers' Grain Co. Limited

WINNIPEG

MANITOBA

Hero Grain Separators

Fanning Mills are becoming the most necessary article on your farm. **Seed Wheat** the most particular. **Wild Oats** the most dreaded. **The Hero**, the friend of the farmer, will separate your **wheat** from **wild oats**, and causes every one who uses them to rejoice. Order one from your dealer at the nearest town. Buy nothing but the best. Insist on getting the **HERO**. It has no equal under any name or form. Sold by a dealer in every town.



MANUFACTURED BY THE

Hero Manufacturing Co. Ltd

WINNIPEG, MAN.

WONDERFUL OATS

We draw the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the Garton Pedigree Seed Co. This seed is specially bred by the Messrs. Garton in England and was introduced into the Western Provinces last season for the first time with very satisfactory results.

Garton Bros. have gained an enviable reputation in England as breeders of new types of grain. They have organized a company in the West of which E. L. Drewry is President and Wm. Whyte of the C.P.R., Vice-President.

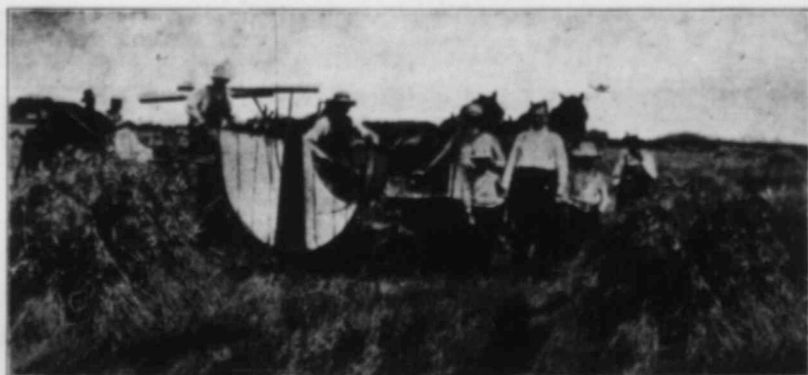
They go extensively into the raising of pure seeds in the West, realizing the large field there is in this country for such an industry. They account for the earliness and the large yield of the breed of oats they are now offering to its peculiarity of not stooling like other grains. They point out that other grain plants spend a large amount of energy in stooling in the early stages that the generated oats put in the growth of stem. This is a principle of growth that is worthy the consideration of our Grain Growers, and we think that a trial plot of that seed would certainly commend itself to our progressive farmers.

CO-OPERATION OF APPLE GROWERS

The Toronto "Sun" in discussing the outlook for apple growers in Ontario, has this to say of co-operation in marketing:

"Oshawa growers realized last year an average of 50 cents per barrel for their fruit, or equivalent to \$30.00 an acre, by selling in the co-operative way, more than they would have obtained by selling in the old way. By co-operative spraying they also produced more fruit and of better quality than they grew in years past.

"The extension and improvement of the same system all over the Province will enable our growers to continue to compete with Oregon apple men in the British market, even when the Panama canal is built."



Empty Ready for the Sheaves



Loaded—Ready to Set Shock

THE O.K. SHOCKER

As Important to the Grain Grower
As Any Implement

Attached to any make of binder it receives and with the assistance of a man or boy shocks the grain as fast as delivered upon the receiver.

We can tell you why:

- It puts no extra work on the Horses.
- It wastes no grain or short heads.
- It catches all foul seed.
- It makes Harvesting Easier.
- It is the only successful shocker built.
- It will pay for itself in one season.

Farmers call immediately on your local dealer if you want to save bushels to the acre, and if the grain should be short or touched with frost or hot winds.

WRITE FOR OUR FREE PROSPECTUS

CANADIAN O.K. SHOCKER CO. 412 McINTYRE BLOCK
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA
LIMITED



ALLEGED HUMOR

JUST AS YOU TAKE IT



"His wit in the Combat was gentle and bright—
Ne'er carried a heart-stain away on its blade."—*Sheridan.*

POINTED AND POINTLESS.

He who expects much gets much—that he didn't expect.

Many a marked man has the tattoo artist to thank for it.

Expert photographers understand the art of taking things easy.

Only the man who is never ill can wonder how doctors manage to make a living.

After a bachelor passes the age of 40 it's up to him to marry a widow if he marries at all. He needs a wife who knows beforehand how cranky men are.

A REASONABLE BALANCE

A man who as a lodger and boarder was not treated well by his landlady in the matter of food, surreptitiously put a piece of butter into his soup. The landlady observed the act. "You do that, I suppose," she said, "because you think the soup needs strengthening?" "Well," he answered, "partly on that account and partly because I think the butter needs weakening!"

BULL'S-EYE.

Private Slink's shooting was very, very bad—so bad, in fact, that his comrades were recalling that old story-ette about someone standing in front of the target, as it was the safest place.

"Private Slink," said his captain at length, "you don't ever seem to understand the right way to hold the rifle!"

Then he showed him the approved method, and continued:

"Now, point your rifle straight at my eye, and keep it steady. Now, press your trigger gently—very gently! Hang it man, why don't you pull that trigger?"

"Please, sir," meekly replied Slink, "it's loaded!"

SOUNDS DEPTH OF INFAMY.

An old negro preacher of southern Georgia had been given a fine, fat possum by some of his admirers and was keeping it in a barrel, feeding it heavily to increase its weight. He had decided to have it killed the next day, when, to his rage, it was stolen in the night.

Shortly afterward a revival meeting was being held, and among those who went up to the mourners' bench was a certain very black Jim; and his grief seemed inconsolable.

"Dat's all right, mah brudder," the old man shouted. "Den matter what yo' done, de good Lawd gwine fergibe you!"

"But Ah's been powerful mean," Jim declared, weeping.

"Is yo' stole chickens?" the old man demanded.

"Oh, wuss 'en dat!"

"Good Lawd! He'p did po' niggah!" the old preacher entreated. "Is ye used a razor?"

"Wuss dan dat?"

"Is yo'—yo ain't done killed nobody?"

"Wuss dan dat!"

"Dea hyah's whar we tangle!" the old man shouted, throwing aside his coat. "De good Lawd kin fergibe yo' ef he wants ter, but Ah's gwine skin yo' alive! Ye's de varmint dat stole mah possum!"—*New York Herald.*

First Farmer—"They tell me as 'ow that there artist chap as was up 'ere last year got one hundred dollars for his picture of the old 'ouse."

Second Farmer—"Go long with you, Mr. Stubbs. Why, the 'ouse itself ain't worth it!"

ELECTION.

Canvasser—"Is your father at home?"

Child—"No; daddy and mummy are both out; but auntie's in."

Canvasser—"Has auntie got a vote?"

Child—"No; she's got bronchitis."

Professor Barrett Wendell, of Harvard, tells this anecdote of an English lecturer. There was a certain instructor who was always impressing upon his students the need of perspicuity. A young man came to him one day to get back an essay that had been submitted. "A very good essay," said the instructor, as he returned the paper, "but, Mr. Smith, you should write so that the most ignorant person can understand every word." The young man looked up anxiously. "What part of my essay was not clear to you, professor?" he asked.

HOW, INDEED!

Mr. Rental was annoyed with Mr. Shorter. It was not only that Mr. Shorter never paid his rent—though that was bad enough—but he was so extremely cool about it. Another Monday morning had come, and once more Mr. Shorter was "sorry, but he'd have to beg Mr. Rental to excuse him for the time."

The long-suffering landlord's patience was at last worn out.

"Look here," he cried, "you're precious off-handed about it; but how on earth do you expect me to live if you don't pay your rent?"

Mr. Shorter smiled the surprised smile which cheers not but exasperates.

"That, my dear sir," he said softly, "is, to my thinking, somewhat beside the point. The question is rather, how do you expect me to live if I do?"—*Tit-Bits.*



ENGLISH FRIEND: "Don't see the joke? Would a gimlet help you?"

SCOTCH WORTHY: "Man if yer gimlet's no enny sharper than yer wit, it wadna mak' a hole."

BANK STOCK

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

WE WISH to inform Western Farmers, Workingmen and Merchants that we have been appointed by THE HOME BANK OF CANADA, sole agents for selling their stock in a Western Canada. At present almost all the stock of our Banks is owned in the East. We want to give Western men a chance. The great bulk of the business of our Banks is done on the money deposited in them. The common people, farmers and workingmen, contribute the greater bulk of these deposits.

Our Purpose.—To make THE HOME BANK OF CANADA THE GREAT COMMON PEOPLE'S BANK.

Our Plan is simple. 1st: To get every farmer and workingman in the West, who can afford it, TO BUY AS MUCH HOME BANK STOCK AS HE CAN, and, 2nd: To get every farmer and workingman wherever possible TO PUT HIS MONEY, WHEN HE HAS ANY TO DEPOSIT, IN THE HOME BANK.

The Result.—The strongest Bank in the west, which will have regard for the interests of the common people and no particular class, and a Bank also that will pay good dividends upon its stock. Bank stocks are profitable investments. See our Prospectus for fuller information. Get busy. Use your head and think this out. Then turn that money you have deposited in your bank into Home Bank Stock where it will earn good money. Read our Prospectus, and write us for information.

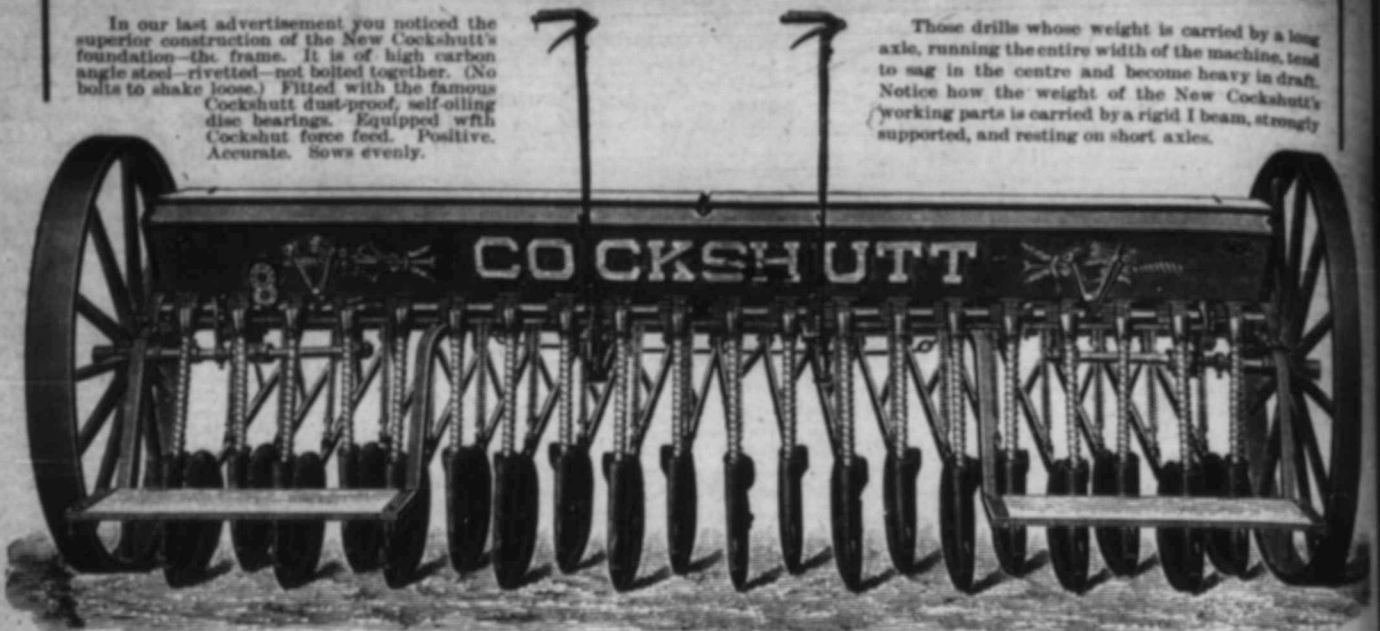
GRAIN GROWERS' GRAIN CO.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

THE NEW COCKSHUTT IS CARRIED RIGHT

In our last advertisement you noticed the superior construction of the New Cockshutt's foundation—the frame. It is of high carbon angle steel—rivetted—not bolted together. (No bolts to shake loose.) Fitted with the famous Cockshutt dust-proof, self-oiling disc bearings. Equipped with Cockshutt force feed. Positive. Accurate. Sows evenly.

Those drills whose weight is carried by a long axle, running the entire width of the machine, tend to sag in the centre and become heavy in draft. Notice how the weight of the New Cockshutt's working parts is carried by a rigid I beam, strongly supported, and resting on short axles.



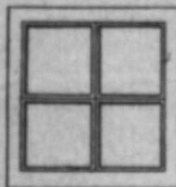
SHORT AXLES—These are set at the correct angle to give the proper pitch and gather to the wheels. Notice the illustration. This position of the wheel is essential to the easiest running, and cannot be obtained where a continuous axle is used. When a continuous axle sags even slightly under the weight it carries there is a great increase in the friction at every revolution. The short axles are one of many reasons why the New Cockshutt runs so easy.

COLD ROLLED STEEL—The axles are of cold rolled steel shafting, perfectly uniform, and much stronger than ordinary rough steel shafting. Using cold rolled steel shafting, our axle bearings are fitted better and wear longer. The end axle bearings are pivoted to the frame, preventing the biting of the axle. The axle bearings are furnished with hard oil steel compression grease cups. The wheels are 48 inches in diameter. The tire of the 18, 20 and 22 machines is 4 inches wide; that of the 14 and 16 machines is 3 inches. The bearings are extra long, preventing the possibility of the wheels wobbling.

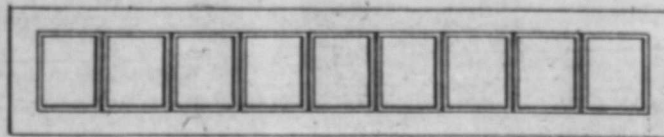
See the Cockshutt Agent, or write us direct for our latest Drill Catalog.

COCKSHUTT PLOW CO. LIMITED., Winnipeg

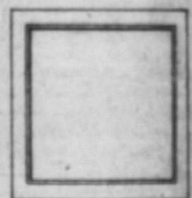
**Regina
Calgary Edmonton**



Barn Sash
8 x 8, 4 lights, 64c.



9-Light Barn Door Transom, 7 x 9 . 98c.



Stall Sash
1 light, 10 x 12, 42c.



4-Lt. Window
12 x 20 . \$1.16

LAKE LUMBER CO.

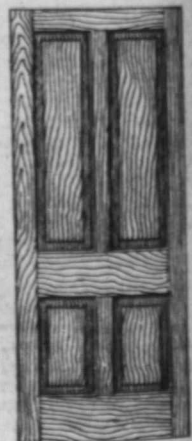
LIMITED

WAREHOUSE AND OFFICE

**COR. KING & SUTHERLAND STS.
WINNIPEG, MAN.**

SEND FOR OUR
CATALOGUE OF
BUILDING
MATERIAL

LUMBER LIST DELIVERED AT
YOUR STATION



4-Panel Door
2 ft. 6 in. x 6 ft. 6 in.
\$2.21