

The Manitoba Co-operator

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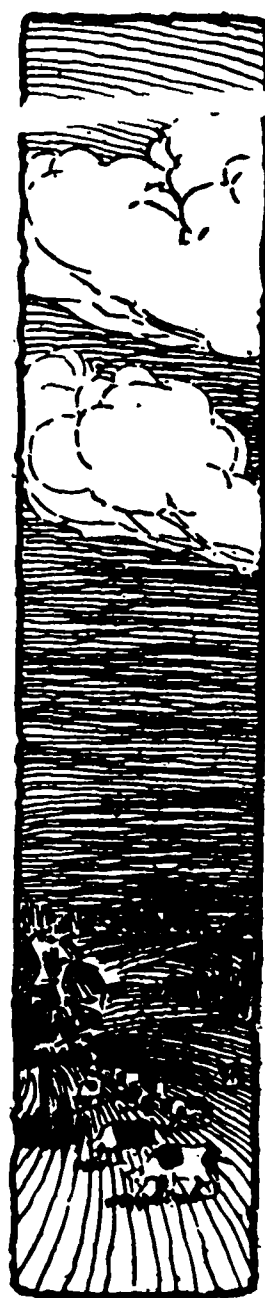
No. 8



Wonderful Man!

How wonderful is man! In war he will appeal to God for victory in the name of the peaceful Jesus, and from every Christian pulpit appeals for cannon-fodder will mingle with prayers for the overthrow of the enemy. Man is so brave that he will face an awful death for a foreign policy he cannot understand; so cowardly he will close his eyes to the horrors of the slums in his own town. So generous he will give his life for his friend; so mean he will try to swindle his own government in time of war. So clever he can invent an aeroplane; so foolish he will use it to drop bombs on the customers to whom he sells goods. So tender hearted he will care for a wounded enemy as if he were his brother; so cruel he will set up a naval blockade and starve the women and children of enemy countries. These things are true of Everyman.

—Stephen King Hall in "Our Own Times".



Official Organ of MANITOBA CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE, LTD.

COMPRISING

Manitoba Pool Elevators
Manitoba Co-operative Poultry Marketing
Association

Winnipeg District Milk Producers'
Association

Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale Society
Manitoba Co-operative Livestock
Producers

Manitoba Co-operative Dairies

Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company
Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers

The Co-operative Marketing Board
Manitoba Vegetable Growers' Co-op.

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NEWS and VIEWS

The wheat crop of Manchuria is put at 30 per cent. above that of 1934.

The per capita consumption of wheat in Canada declined from 4½ bushels in 1925 to 4 bushels in 1934.

The gross income of Canadian farmers for 1934 was \$931,247,000 as compared with \$802,946,000 in 1933 and \$766,794,000 in 1932. The income of Manitoba farmers was \$71,735,000 as compared with \$57,211,000 in 1933 and \$50,193,000 in 1932.

During the past thirty years, the United States each year has sold more merchandise to Canada than she has bought from the Dominion. Over that long period, Canada has purchased from the United States 67½% of her total imports and has sold 37 per cent. of her exports to the United States.

The International Co-operative Alliance now embraces forty countries with 141,500 affiliated societies having a membership of 99,000,000 families. The consumers' societies number 56,997 with a membership of 86,498,000, and an annual business of approximately 12 billion dollars. The agricultural societies number 37,013 with a membership of 3,110,000 and an annual business of 260 million dollars. There are 41 wholesale societies with an annual business of seven billion dollars.

If the estimates turn out to be correct Greece will harvest a record wheat crop this year of 30,864,000 bushels. This is 620 per cent. above the average for the five years 1930-34. The increase is due to special efforts of the government to encourage wheat growing; the government buys from the growers at prices substantially above world prices and sells to millers at fixed prices. Millers and importers must purchase fixed quantities of domestic wheat with all purchases of foreign wheat.

Official estimates place the wheat crop of Germany at 3.8 per cent. above the crop of 1934, despite a slight decrease in acreage.

The 1935 crop of wheat in Japan reached the record figure of 49,089,000 bushels. This is 3 per cent. above the previous crop which was 18 per cent. above that of 1933. The Japanese government is promoting self-sufficiency in wheat.

The gross income of U.S. farmers in 1934, including all payments under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, is estimated at \$7,300,000,000 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This is an increase of \$900,000,000 over the 1933 income and nearly two billion above the 1932 income, at the bottom of the depression.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer informed the British House of Commons recently that the revenue from import duties on foodstuffs for the financial year ending March 31, 1935, was £31,265,000 (roughly \$152,000,000). That's enough to make Cobden and Bright turn in their graves.

Surplus stocks of the 1934 wheat crop in France estimated at 50,000,000 bushels will be taken over by the government at a fixed price of \$1.42 per bushel. French millers must use 50 per cent. of this wheat in their milling and pay \$1.59 a bushel for it. The French 1935 crop will be less than the preceding two years, but the acreage is up slightly.

The wheat crop of the Netherlands is estimated at 15,653,000 bushels, which is 35 per cent. above the five year average ending 1934. Wheat production is encouraged by the Wheat Act of 1931 which authorizes the government to fix prices for home grown wheat. The price paid for 1934 crop was \$2.03 per bushel; for 1935 crop the price is \$1.86 per bushel. The acreage under wheat has increased from 142,000 acres in 1931 to 375,000 acres in 1935.

Owing to severe drought in Queensland it was estimated that at the end of June 4,000,000 sheep had perished and 2,000,000 out of 3,000,000 lambs.

The Crisis Agricultural Law, 1933, of Holland is no half measure. It grants direct subsidies, controls the entire process of agricultural production and distribution, and monopolizes the importation and exportation of different products.

One factor in Finland's recovery is the small cost of distribution and one reason for that is our co-operative movement. Because of this movement, middlemen here probably take less from the economic substance of the country than almost anywhere else in the world.

—Risto Ryti, Pres. Bank of Finland

The expenditure of the civilized (heavy emphasis) nations of the world on what is euphemistically called national defence rose from 3,500 millions of gold dollars in 1925 to 4,900 millions in 1934. The real increase is much greater because of the great fall of the gold value of most currencies.

The 1935 wheat crop of Switzerland is a record one—36 per cent. above the 1930-34 average. Swiss wheat growers have been receiving government aid since the world war. Since 1932 the minimum for wheat has been set at \$3.02 per bushel; the maximum \$4.00 per bushel. The farmers received \$3.02 per bushel for their 1934 wheat crop and the same price has been set for the 1935 crop.

Our Puzzle Corner

Two cyclists, facing each other 25 miles apart, start at the same time and ride at 12½ miles an hour until they meet. At the moment they start, a fly which was on the front of one bicycle starts to fly at 25 miles an hour and goes in straight lines back and forth between the two bicycles until when they meet it is crushed to death between the two front wheels. How far does the fly fly?

For answer see page 15.

Co-ops Set up Western Agricultural Council

Formation of a body to be composed of the British Columbia Chamber of Agriculture, Saskatchewan Co-operative Conference, Manitoba Co-operative Conference and a similar co-operative organization for Alberta, if formed, and to be known as the Western Agricultural Conference, was decided upon at a meeting of co-operative agricultural organizations in Calgary on July 29-30.

The conference was decidedly in favor of a national organization for agriculture but it also felt that a western organization could deal with many questions affecting western agriculture in which the east might have only a slight, if any, interest. It was also felt that a national organization should consist of eastern and western sections and that the representation on the national body should be from provincial organizations.

The Western Agricultural Conference will be composed of the provincial organizations mentioned, each provincial organization to have autonomy as to its constituent membership and its provincial activities and to be represented on the Western Agricul-

tural Conference by not more than three delegates. Voting in the W.A.C. will be on the basis of provinces, each province to have one vote.

The purpose of the W.A.C. is to act as a medium for the collective action of the member bodies where such action is considered necessary in the interests of western agriculture.

Provisional officers elected were: Chairman, J. H. Wesson, Saskatchewan; vice-chairman, E. D. Barrow, British Columbia; secretary, J. T. Hull, Manitoba. These hold office until the national conference to be held at Toronto in November.

Matters to which the W.A.C. will give immediate attention include:

The operation of the Natural Products Marketing Act and schemes set up under it.

Uniform provincial legislation in connection with the Dominion marketing and grading legislation.

The Ottawa Agreements.

Railway rates on feed grains.

Monetary policies in relation to agriculture.

viously restricted in scope, and is still in an experimental stage, it represents a serious attempt to deal with a crisis.

"We believe that legislation should be introduced which would enable those producers or consumers who desire to develop the co-operative movement on a large scale, to do so, without encountering legislative disabilities. It is not necessary to define the legislation that would be required; illustrations may be drawn from the practice of most Anglo-Saxon communities and several European countries. In Great Britain, for example, legislation has been passed which has permitted the growth of co-operation among producers, among consumers, and in such social activities as the provision of housing. We strongly recommend that legislation be passed which would give greater opportunities for co-operative organization than now appear to exist."

For Dominion Legislation

The Price Spreads Commission in its report, after briefly reviewing the co-operative movement, recommended as follows:

"We recommend, therefore, that consideration be given by the Federal Government to the possibility of legislation for the incorporation and regulation of consumers' co-operatives, enabling them to do business under the same conditions as any federally incorporated company. It is further recommended that it be provided by law that the word "co-operative" shall not be used in any trade mark, or as part of any trade name, except by a co-operative society duly incorporated under federal or provincial law. While the co-operative movement in its operations asks no special privileges, it has a right to demand fair and equitable treatment from government and private enterprises. In particular it should not be victimized in the early stages of its development by unfair competitive practices or price discrimination on the part of manufacturers and wholesalers. We recommend, therefore, that whatever measures are taken to protect business generally against these evils should offer equal protection to the co-operative movement."

TWO ROYAL COMMISSIONS APPROVE CO-OPERATION

Two commissions in Canada within the last year have inquired into and made recommendations concerning co-operation; the first the Royal Commission on the economic problems of Nova Scotia, the second the Royal Commission on Price Spreads appointed by the Dominion Government.

With regard to co-operation the former had the following to say in its report:

"We were particularly impressed by the co-operative enterprises now in operation along the eastern shores of the mainland. Lobster canning factories have been established in several villages by the fishermen themselves, and the villages have co-operated to supply canned lobster to new markets. We believe that these enterprises contain great possibilities and that they are worthy of encouragement. Apart from its effects in adding interest

to the lives of the fishermen by bringing them into close contact with the outside world, it represents a real advance in efficiency. On the side both of supply and of marketing, it represents an improvement upon the old state of affairs and has thus opened up new avenues of trade to the lobster fishermen and enabled them to strengthen their position in relation to the specialized dealers in the larger towns.

"Farmers as well as fishermen co-operate to supply organized groups of consumers in neighboring towns. The miscellaneous orders of individual consumers are pooled and the total requirements passed on to the representatives of the farmers. The latter, in turn, distribute the orders among the farmers and collect and arrange for the transport of the supplies to the consuming group. In short, the co-operative bodies perform the function of middlemen. While the scheme is ob-

MANITOBA POOL ELEVATORS

P. F. BREDT, *President and Managing Director*

C. H. BURNELL, *Vice-President*

D. A. KANE, *Manager*

Directors: J. W. Baldwin, John Quick, G. N. McConnell, W. J. Parker, W. E. Ring

T. J. MURRAY, K.C., *Solicitor*

F. W. RANSOM, *Secretary*

Bredt Urges Good Minimum Price

President Bredt, during the past month, has attended group meetings of elevator Associations at six different points in the southern half of the province, viz: Pilot Mound with an attendance of 200; Killarney, 100; Portage la Prairie, 60; Treherne, 40; Brandon, 350; Virden, 150. Farmers made up the greater part of the audiences and many of them were members and directors of neighboring elevator associations. These group meetings provided an opportunity not only for bringing together all the Associations in the surrounding district but also for presenting up-to-date information from an authoritative source.

Mr. Bredt gave a very full explanation of the Wheat Board Act, going through it clause by clause and making its provisions perfectly clear to his audience. The western press, he said, had given an entirely wrong impression in reporting that the bill had been so drastically amended as to amount to a reversal of policy on wheat marketing. The Act, he said, contains the essential principles of the original bill and even the compulsory sections remain but they would only come into operation by order-in-council and if the circumstances demanded it.

Dealing with the minimum price to be set by the Wheat Board, Mr. Bredt strongly urged that it be higher than would in ordinary circumstances be justified. He referred to the devastation caused by rust which meant an exceedingly small crop. The price, he said, should be set to overcome as far as possible the terrific loss in yield and grade even though it meant a government subsidy. It would be better, he urged, to give this subsidy even for two or three years than to continue relief to necessitous farmers. However, he said, it would be impossible to continue

a subsidy indefinitely and therefore if conditions did not materially improve the farmers would have squarely to face two choices: (1) They could enter into unrestricted competition with the rest of the wheat exporting countries and allow prices to bring supply into line with demand; (2) They must be prepared to submit to regulation of deliveries of wheat from the farm to the elevators and thus control the flow of wheat to the market.

The first choice was unthinkable, he said. It meant the ruin of thousands of farmers in Western Canada and a reduction in the standard of living that would transform western agriculture into a peonage. The second plan gave them control of the flow of wheat to market and would enable them to control the surplus by keeping it on the farm which in his opinion was the proper place for it, because there it could be used for feed. More than that it would make it possible for them to co-operate internationally in preventing ruinous breaks in the wheat market. Regulation of that kind he believed was necessary to maintain for the farmer a decent standard of living.

Mr. Bredt also expressed the hope that it would be found possible to make adjustments on the Durum wheat delivered to the 1930 pool, on the spring wheat delivered at 50—55 cents and adjustments also on barley, flax and rye. He made it very plain that he was not making promises of such adjustment, but merely hoping that the market would continue good enough to enable the adjustments to be made.

Mr. Bredt was also very emphatic in declaring that a better way of marketing wheat than through the Grain Exchange must be found. He cited actual occurrences on the Exchange by way of demonstrating the existence of

abuses that the system encouraged and which definitely hurt the producers.

At all the meetings questions were asked and Mr. Bredt dealt with them in his usual thorough manner, taking great pains to ensure that the questioner was satisfied.

BE CAREFUL OF YOUR MALTING BARLEY

Take care of your malting barley, is the timely advice of the National Barley Committee. Much barley that would grade No. 3 extra or higher is spoiled in the handling. The Committee makes the following suggestions:

1. See that your grain is thoroughly ripe before cutting.
2. Stook carefully to allow the sheaves to dry and yet protect them from the rain. Cap the stooks if necessary.
3. Thresh barley as soon as dry and if possible before it is rained upon.
4. Observe the following precautions in threshing:
 - (a) Adjust sieves to ensure least possible return to the cylinder.
 - (b) Have no end play in the cylinder.
 - (c) Have proper clearance in all augers.
 - (d) Set concaves down at least half way.
 - (e) Use only one or at the most two rows of teeth.
 - (f) Thresh in the early morning, not when dry and hot.
 - (g) Slow down the speed as low as possible. 100 r.p.m. below normal.
 - (h) Feed sheaves butt-end first.
 - (i) Where much barley is being threshed, change the cylinder pulleys to slow down the speed of the cylinder only.

For further information see and read carefully the poster on threshing malting barley, in your local elevator and ask the elevator operator for the circular on handling and grading barley, prepared by the Plant Breeding and Pro-

duction Committee, under the direction of L. H. Newman of the Dominion Experimental Farms.

POOLS SEEK LOWER STORAGE RATES

A lower storage rate on grain will be proposed by the Manitoba Pool Elevators, Limited, at the time that it makes its usual application for licenses to the Board of Grain Commissioners.

A storage rate of 1/45c per bushel, per day, to apply to both country and terminal elevators, to become effective as from September 1st, 1936, will be suggested. The present rate is 1/30c per bushel per day.

The Pool Elevator systems of Alberta and Saskatchewan will, it is understood, make similar proposals at the same time. The three farmer-owned organizations are taking this step voluntarily as a means toward reducing the handling costs to the producers during these trying times.

WHAT THE LOCALS ARE DOING

Membership

Ten more Associations report plans to canvass for new members. In some cases the Board has planned a drive covering the whole district in which each director is to go over his own territory; in other cases the agent is to canvass the patrons for membership as they come to the elevator or by driving over the district and calling on them. In addition to the increased membership which we will be able to report for the year ending July 31st, 1935, it looks as though there will be a further increase for 1936; at any rate a good start has been made.

Improvements

Twenty-eight Associations have authorized improvements in one form or another, all of which indicate an interest in efficiency and a pride in appearances that is very encouraging. These cover interior repairs to the elevator, viz: the cleaner, the engine, the bins or the spouting; painting, plastering and otherwise fixing up the agent's cottage; gravelling or putting cinders on the approach to the elevator; cement work, improving the grounds, etc. Millwood is installing another engine and Brunkild has called for ten-

ders for building a basement under the agent's cottage.

Wheat Board Act

The Wheat Board Act has come up for consideration at quite a number of local meetings, which in most cases were attended by the provincial director. Mr. Quick, for instance, met sixteen of the local boards. The boards want to be kept informed of what is going on, particularly in respect to measures of such far reaching importance as the Wheat Board Act and in every case they showed or expressed their appreciation of the director's visit. There were many questions on the important features of the Act and it is at such informal meetings you get plenty of discussion. Some of the locals consider that the minimum price should not be less than \$1.00 per bushel and eleven Associations want coarse grains included in the operations of the Board.

WHEAT BOARD AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The members of the Wheat Board and the Advisory Committee were announced by the Prime Minister at Ottawa on August 14. They are as follows:

Wheat Board: John I McFarland, general manager Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd.; D. L. Smith, formerly sales manager and subsequently sales representative of the Central Selling Agency of the Pools in England; Dr. H. C. Grant, professor of agricultural economics, Manitoba University.

Advisory Committee: Robert McKee, Vancouver, managing director Canadian Grain Export Company; Lew Hutchinson, director Alberta Wheat Pool; Louis C. Brouillette, president Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers and president Saskatchewan Wheat Pool; B. Catton, director of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool; Sydney T. Smith, former president Winnipeg Grain Exchange; Paul F. Bredt, president Manitoba Pool Elevators; and C. G. C. Short, Montreal, general manager Lake of the Woods Milling Company.

Mankind will not be reasoned out of the feelings of humanity.

—Sir William Blackstone.

GRAIN EXCHANGE STOPS SHORT SELLING

The council of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange announced August 15 that "in view of the abnormal conditions existing in the Canadian grain trade, the council feels that it is necessary for as short a period as possible to impose restrictions on trading in wheat futures."

These restrictions make it necessary for a trader to buy futures before he can sell any. Virtually it means the prevention of short selling.

ELEVATOR OPERATOR AT WASKADA RETIRES

Wm. P. Smith, our Pool Elevator operator at Waskada, has retired from service after having been with the organization from its inception. Waskada Pool Elevator is No. 4 and was therefore one of those built in the first year of operation, 1925. "Bill" was its first and only agent from then to the present time. Now advancing years have inevitably necessitated his retirement. During the years when there were crops in the district, Waskada was one of the best paying elevators in the line and has paid back over \$25,000.00 in patronage dividends (1925-1930). Not only that, each year it had one of the best gardens or elevator grounds in the province. The local board and head office have expressed to Mr. Smith their appreciation of his services, commending his fairness as a buyer to all patrons of the elevator, the credit he brought the Association and district for the best kept elevator and grounds in two years gaining the championship cup for the Province.

BUYING VERSUS GROWING FARM PRODUCE

The English Co-operative Wholesale Society owns a number of farms in England with an aggregate of 18,135 acres. For the year 1934, although the value of the produce of the farms was approximately one million dollars, the net financial result was a deficit of over \$100,000. There's no getting away from it—it pays to buy and not to grow the produce of farms and yet the farmer is being continually told that he ought not to try to keep up food prices.

THE MANITOBA CO-OPERATOR

(Formerly *The Scoop Shovel*)

Representing the Agricultural Co-operative Movement
in Manitoba

Office: 8th Floor, Wheat Pool Building, Winnipeg

Editor—J. T. HULL

THE BRITISH MILK SCHEME

Because of the criticisms launched against the Board and the vociferously expressed dissatisfaction with the scheme, the British Milk Marketing Board announced its readiness to accept a demand for a ballot of producers on whether the scheme should be continued or abandoned. A petition of five hundred registered producers is all that is necessary according to the provisions of the scheme, but despite all the chatter of critics, some of whom said a petition signed by thousands could be secured in a few days in any part of the country, it was left for supporters of the scheme to get a petition signed by five hundred before the Board in order to get the matter definitely settled for at least another twelve months.

A straw vote taken by a prominent agricultural publication gave the individual producers about equally divided on the scheme—49.50 per cent. for it; 50.50 per cent. against; but on the production basis, that is, the number of cows, the scheme won out by 60.80 per cent. against 39.20 per cent. In other words, the big producers are for the scheme and the small ones, especially the producer-retailer class of dairy farmers, are against it.

The dissatisfaction is remarkable when it is remembered that the scheme was prepared by the farmers and adopted by them by a majority representing 96 per cent. of the voters. What has caused the dissatisfaction? A decline in returns to the producers. What has caused the decline? Increased production. Since 1931 the number of dairy cows in England has increased by 250,000; the volume of milk coming on the market has increased 10 to 12 million gallons per month as compared with 1934. This heavy increase has had to flow in the main into manufacturing channels at the lowest prices, with the consequence that the pool price, which is based on liquid and manufacturing prices, has declined. This of course has hit hardest the smaller producers, the whole of whose milk is disposed of in liquid form, and they are the leaders in demanding revocation of the scheme.

The larger producers, however, are afraid that revocation would mean a return to unrestricted competition and chaos in the dairy farming business. On the other hand they also recognize that it is impossible to hold up the price and go on increasing the supply unless consumption of liquid milk can be increased to correspond. By subsidizing milk in schools the Board has increased liquid consumption by about 30 million gallons per year, but the flow from the farms has increased faster than that.

The consumers are also vigorously protesting against the price of milk and pointing out that while

the producer complains that he is getting less, the consumer is paying more.

In the circumstances it is probable that if the scheme is continued the Board will set quotas for delivery and separate prices for liquid milk and the surplus going to the factories. On top of that there will be an insistent and possibly successful demand for a high tariff on dairy products so as to keep up the price of the milk flowing into the factories. We will hear more about that when the Ottawa Agreements come up for renewal or rejection.

AUSTRALIAN MARKETING LEGISLATION

Although the Royal Commission appointed by the Australian government to inquire into wheat growing and wheat marketing recommended the creation of a Commonwealth wheat marketing board and state boards to do the marketing of all wheat, the government appears reluctant to accept the recommendation and the Australian Agricultural Council, a body formed by the government last December, has recommended legislation for the marketing of wheat similar to that passed last year for the marketing of butter. If this recommendation were adopted it would mean that boards would be set up in the wheat growing states and these boards would fix a home consumption price for wheat. This price would be fixed high enough to give proceeds which when combined with the export returns would provide a higher than world price for the grower. It may also be noted that wheat used as stock food on the farm would be taxed the same as wheat used for other purposes.

The difficulty in the way of both this and the Wheat Commission's plan is the present position of marketing legislation in Australia. Some time ago the Australian Supreme Court ruled that state marketing boards which had a monopoly of marketing were unconstitutional. Subsequently on test cases the same court ruled that marketing boards set up under Commonwealth legislation were constitutional because the Commonwealth was not bound by the provision in the constitution which made such boards unconstitutional in the separate states. The court, however, delivered the latter judgment with some diffidence and in order to get the situation thoroughly cleared up the matter is to be taken to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Whether after that Australia will get a national wheat board or a wheat act along the lines of the butter marketing act, or a revised constitution, or nothing at all, is for the future to disclose.

ENFORCED PEACE

From an ethical standpoint it does not matter now whether or not Mussolini's egotism carries him to the limit of national arrogance; if he is restrained in his actions towards Ethiopia it will only be from fear of superior force and not from any change of intention. Like Japan, Italy has deliberately set aside her covenants with other nations, violated her pledged word, torn up her treaties, and defied the moral sense of mankind. Just seven years ago, to be exact on August 27, 1928, the government of Italy put its signature to a document which pledged

it to renounce war as an instrument of national policy and never at any time to seek a settlement of differences with its neighbors, no matter what the differences might be, except by peaceful means; today Italy is telling the world that her word is not to be depended upon and that she will break an agreement, regardless of consequences, whenever she feels that it conflicts with her present intentions.

It is as well to understand with respect to Italy and Japan, and probably if the truth were known, other states as well, that the conception behind the idea of collective security, namely, the limitation of national sovereignty, has never been wholly accepted by a section of their ruling class and principally for the reason that such limitation would prevent just such expansive policies and personal ambitions as Italy wants to pursue and as Japan has pursued in China. When "national interests" are interpreted as Italy interprets hers with regard to Ethiopia and as Japan has done and is doing with regard to China, then it is obvious that they can be brought within the rule of law only by the interposition of a superior force between the aggressor and the attacked. For if nations may with impunity break their covenants of non-aggression for reasons the validity of which each nation may judge for itself, it is plain there can never be any guarantee

in a treaty of any kind that the strong will not encroach upon the weak. If the word of a nation may be broken at the nation's pleasure the word might as well never be given, in fact, it would be more honest not to give it.

If, however, the right of a nation to break its word at its pleasure, as Japan did and as Italy is doing, is to be recognized then we might as well scrap the League of Nations as an effective instrument against war. There is only a minimum of practical value in an instrument against war which only functions by agreement not to make war. What the world needs is an instrument strong enough to be effective in preventing war when a disputant insists upon going to war. In other words, nations must submit to law of their own making and law enforcement as individuals must do within the nations; we must agree to live and develop peacefully and to bring the non-peacefully minded within an international police discipline.

This means the surrender of the idea of national sovereignty. It means giving the world around us a significant place in political thinking and it means also a larger development of the principles and practice of co-operation. The key to world peace is co-operation, for co-operation is the antithesis of conflict in human relations.

A National Wheat Plan for France

While the problem of wheat marketing is attracting a great deal of attention in all exporting countries and numerous schemes are in operation or are being considered, the following national plan for France (which we take from *The Link*) put forward by the French Socialist Party, is interesting and significant because of the place in it given to the agricultural and consumers' co-operatives.

Under the scheme, a national wheat commission will be created at the Ministry of Agriculture to control the whole industry. While under the control of the Ministry of Finance so far as its financial operations were concerned, it would possess full autonomy in administration.

The Commission would have a central council composed of 30 members, chosen as follows:

Fifteen representatives of the agricultural producers (eight chosen by the agricultural co-operative societies, five by the agricultural unions, two by the Chambers of Agriculture). These representatives would have to be themselves working agriculturalists.

Eight representatives of the

consumers (four chosen by consumers co-operative societies, four by trade unions).

Seven members appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, including three representatives of the milling trade, of the grain trade, and of the bakers.

In each county where cereals are produced a committee for the organization and control of the production and trade in cereals would be created. This committee would furnish the National Wheat Commission with all necessary information. The committees would be composed as follows:

The county director of agricultural services.

Six agriculturalists elected by the Chamber of Agriculture.

Three representatives of the consumers chosen by the county council.

One representative each of the milling, baking and grain-trading industries.

The county committees would need to forecast production, fix average prices, according to quality, weight, purity and bread-making value. They would also decide the limits of operation of all existing agricultural co-opera-

tive organizations and co-ordinate their activities.

In the month of June each year the Wheat Commission would make an estimate of the harvest and if the harvest appeared likely to exceed the possibilities of absorption in the home market, it would fix the quantities of wheat which each producer could put on the market in the months of July, August and September. Later, the Commission would fix, on a county basis, the prices of corn, flour and bread. It would also prohibit the sale of wheat of inadequate quality for bread production, and this wheat would be compulsorily denatured.

In each county a research bureau would be set up to grade varieties of wheat according to quality, weight and baking value.

In the spring all farmers would be compelled to declare the acreage which they proposed to devote to corn production, and in the autumn to declare the extent of their harvest.

In September each year, the council of the Wheat Commission would decide, after consideration of the results of the harvest, the quantity of wheat which would need to be imported for the following year. If the harvest should prove too large, the council would likewise determine the

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THE CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING BOARD

Office—Eighth Floor, Wheat Pool Building. Telephone 905 160

Members of the Board

Hon. D. G. McKENZIE, Chairman

F. W. RANSOM, Vice-Chairman

F. H. DOWNING

W. A. LANDRETH

ROY McPHAIL

WILLIAM ROBSON

Secretary: JOHN W. WARD

DR. H. C. GRANT

Professor Henry C. Grant, M.A., B.S.A., Ph.D., who with John I. McFarland and D. L. Smith has just been appointed a member of the Wheat Board, was a member of the Co-operative Marketing Board from its establishment in 1926 until his resignation a few months ago.

Dr. Grant by reason of his training and his capacity for analyzing intricate situations was on several occasions appointed by the Board to carry out investigations into the marketing of particular commodities, including fish, milk, and wheat. The present system of control of milk prices in Winnipeg, by the Public Utility Board, which has at least substantially improved the position of fluid milk producers in the Winnipeg district, was the result of one of these investigations carried on by Dr. Grant for the Marketing Board, and the information which he gathered last year while studying the wheat marketing problem will no doubt be of value in the new position to which he has now been appointed.

CO-OPERATION ON THE AIR

Co-operation will "be on the air" during the coming winter, the Co-operative Marketing Board having arranged for a series of weekly broadcasts over CKY



and CJGX commencing in October and continuing for six months. The time of the broadcasts will be from 6.45 to 7 p.m. on Friday evenings and the date, subject and speaker for the first broadcast will be announced in the Co-operator next month.

CO-OPERATIVE CHEESE FACTORY

A new co-operative organization has recently been formed by farmers living in the vicinity of La Broquerie, Man., for the purpose of manufacturing cheese.

Hitherto the milk produced in the district has been marketed in the form of cream shipped to Winnipeg creameries and the unsatisfactory prices received during the last few years have led to a search for a more profitable outlet. This resulted in the establishment of La Laterie Co-operative de la Broquerie, and the cheese factory is now in operation.

A similar enterprise, La Laterie Co-operative de St. Pierre, established in the fall of 1932, has operated successfully from the beginning, bringing substantially higher returns than could be secured from the sale of cream, and the experience at St. Pierre has been of much value to the La Broquerie farmers in making their plans.

Valuable assistance in the organization of the new co-operative was given by J. N. Tetreault, administrator of the municipality and by A. Villeneuve, of the dairy branch of the provincial department of agriculture.

CO-OPERATIVE REFINERY IN SASKATCHEWAN

After successfully wholesaling and retailing petroleum products for a number of years through consumers' co-operatives, the farmers of Saskatchewan have taken the logical step and have established a co-operative refinery at Regina.

For this purpose they formed last winter the Consumers' Refineries Co-operative Association, Ltd., shares in which were taken by over a dozen consumers' co-operatives operating in farming communities and handling large quantities of gasoline and distillates, as well as by individual trac-

tor farmers, some of whom, operating several sections of land, use thousands of gallons of engine fuel annually.

Practically all the directors are officers of local co-operatives, the president, E. E. Fisk, being secretary of the Riceton Co-operative Association, and the secretary, H. L. Fowler, the former manager of the Wilcox Co-operative Association. As plant superintendent and chemist, men of high technical standing and wide experience were obtained.

The plant, which is situated on 20 acres of land on No. 1 highway just east of Regina, has now been in operation for three months and has been turning out high quality products, both in gasoline and distillates. Distribution is made chiefly by tank trucks and frequent service enables locals to operate with a much smaller storage capacity than is necessary where supplies are brought in by railway tank cars.

It is of course too early to say anything about the financial results of the new venture: undoubtedly the failure of crops due to rust will be a handicap in the first year of business. The price situation, however, is regarded as highly favorable, the freight rate on crude oil from the Oklahoma field to Regina being five cents a gallon lower than on gasoline, and crude coming in duty free whereas gasoline bears a duty of two and a half cents a gallon. Given efficient management and an adequate outlet, the latter of which at least is largely assured by co-operative ownership, the consumers' refinery should have no difficulty in adding considerably to the savings already secured by co-operative distribution.

It is worthy of note that the new association although engaged last March in building its refinery was very active at the same time

(Turn to page 14)

Consumer Co-operation

MANITOBA CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE

Head Office: 316 McIntyre Bldg., Winnipeg

GOING AHEAD

The Consumers' Co-operative Movement is going ahead in Canada.

Last month we were able to report that the consumers' co-operatives of Manitoba, after substantially increasing their volume of business in 1934 over 1933, were this year almost without exception re-

porting an improvement in turnover for the present year compared with last.

The same is

true of consumers' co-operatives throughout Canada as was revealed at the annual congress of the Co-operative Union of Canada held at Saskatoon on July 25 and 26.

The Union, of course, includes several of the large grain and livestock marketing co-operatives as well as distributive associations, but a good deal of attention was given during the congress to the problems of the latter group, from which the majority of delegates came.

The membership of the Union, unfortunately, does not include all the consumers' co-operatives in Canada, but 33 of these reported aggregate sales amounting to \$3,353,883.92 in 1934, an increase of \$560,932.56 over those of 31 societies which reported for the previous year. In addition, two consumers' wholesales (in Manitoba and Saskatchewan) reported sales aggregating \$580,095.13, an increase of \$68,873.93 over the previous year, and three consumers' dairies reported sales amounting to \$548,579.20 compared with one society of this class reporting sales of \$195,063.79 in 1933.

In addition to giving this direct evidence of revival, Mr. George Keen, the veteran secretary of the Union, was able to inform the congress that he was constantly receiving requests for assistance in organizing new retail societies

in different parts of Canada, and said it was evident that a period of rapid development in consumers' co-operation was at hand.

At the time of writing Mr. Keen is, by invitation, visiting a large mining town in Manitoba conferring with a group of working men who are seriously considering the establishment of a co-operative store to serve their community.

COLD WEATHER COMING

It's rather warm to be thinking about coal, but in a few weeks we shall have those chilly evenings and soon after that stoves and furnaces will be going full blast.

If you have to buy coal, don't forget that this is one of the commodities which you can buy co-operatively, thus ensuring the best quality and saving for the consumer any profit there may be in wholesale and retail distribution.

Early in September, Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale will send out price lists to the locals, which will then be able to take orders. It will be seen from the price list that several of the most popular brands of coal can be supplied only to locals which have coal sheds. This rule is not made by Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale but by the mine owners, many of whom have adopted the policy of selling their coal only through dealers who have sheds from which they can give regular service and who are carrying on a permanent business.

Many co-operative locals have built coal sheds during the past few years and have found that the added convenience and the larger sales which have resulted have made the sheds a good investment. Locals which have not yet erected sheds would be well advised to give consideration to the matter now. A bin to hold 30 tons is enough to start with and can be erected at a moderate cost.

Life Means Growth

A live co-operative is always growing and expanding its business, and the real co-operator will

not be satisfied until his organization includes everyone in the community and supplies all of them with everything they need. At present our locals are a long way from that ideal. Few of them, probably, will ever reach it, but every advance in that direction makes it possible for them to give better and more economical service and thus promote the prosperity of the community and of every individual member.

CONSUMERS' ADVISORY BOARD

By a decision of the Council of Ministers, of Czechoslovakia, on the 29th October, 1934, there has been constituted at the Ministry of Social Affairs an Advisory Consumers' Board composed of the representatives of all the central organizations of Consumers' Co-operative Societies.

The principal object of the Board is to represent the interests of the consumers to the Ministry of Social Affairs and, at the same time, to act as official representative of the Consumer's Co-operative Societies.

The main tasks of the Board are the following: to contribute to bringing the necessities of life within easy reach of the masses of population; to endeavor to eliminate speculation as much as possible; to set up a better organization for distribution, and to supervise the quality of food products, as well as the price level.

When legislative measures relating to the interests of the consumers are to be considered, the texts of the bills concerning the same shall first be submitted to the Ministry of Social Affairs and to the Advisory Consumers' Board before being presented to Parliament.

The Advisory Board will meet on the invitation of the Executive whenever necessary.

—I.L.O. Bulletin.

As a result of the vast amount distributed as subsidies to farmers in the United States under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, an effort is being made to secure a congressional investigation into the living and working conditions of share-croppers and hired farm workers.



Co-op. Livestock Marketing

MANITOBA CO-OPERATIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS, LTD.
CANADIAN LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVE, LTD.

Comparative list of receipts from the five highest firms at St. Boniface for the month of July:

1st—Can. Livestock Co-op. (Western) Ltd.	139 cars	—18.8%
2nd—	115 "	—15.6%
3rd—	99 "	—13.4%
4th—	90 "	—12.2%
5th—	75 "	—10.2%

We are approaching our fall trade and already runs of cattle coming not only to St. Boniface but to all other markets are showing a big increase. Trade conditions generally speaking are much more favorable than they were last year. Prospects for the fall trade are brighter than for the past two years and it is safe to say that the previous low levels will not be reached.

This year we have quite a range in prices between good quality killers and breedy stocker cattle as compared to the plainer grades, and values for the better grades are satisfactory although unfortunately these kinds are much in the minority. Our runs are made up largely of a plain class of cattle not very suitable for the block and stocker and feeder cattle of poor quality.

There will be a heavy demand all fall from Ontario farmers for stocker and feeder cattle and these orders call for quality. Any stocker demand there may be from the South will also be for quality cattle and it is regrettable that our farmers and producers have paid so little attention the past few years to maintaining quality and breed in their cattle. It is not too late yet to dispense with the scrub bull and put some good blood into the herds. Well bred cattle are wanted and they are just as easy to raise as the poor grades and when they come to market the salesman has some talking point in disposing of them that he has not in trying to sell something that is not really wanted.

Indications at this time point

to an open outlet throughout the fall for practically all classes of cattle, with the better grades getting good action. We see no reason for our producers to get scary and rush their stock in unfinished and underweight as we feel that the trades of October and November will prove very satisfactory from a price standpoint.

A Bountiful Harvest

This is the "harvest time" for the cattle buyers. Every day we get stories of good quality feeder steers and heifers which have been bought in the country at bargain prices from producers who do not know the facts about the market.

In the fall of 1934 we experienced a marketing disaster. Canner cows and useful feeder cattle sold at sacrifice prices. This is not now the case. The Eastern feed-lot is empty and feed is plentiful. Cows are still selling low, but choice feeders are selling at very attractive prices.

With the grain crop a disappointment why should Western farmers give away their cattle to make a harvest festival for the drover?

The Marketing Scheme

The attendance at the annual meeting of the Manitoba Co-operative Livestock Producers held July 10th was small, quite a number of the delegates being held up by bad roads. However, what the meeting lacked in attendance was made up in the interest taken in the discussions on the Marketing Act.

One whole afternoon session was devoted to the subject of the Marketing Scheme. The president, Mr. Downing, had just come back from Ottawa. In his report he indicated that the Manitoba

Marketing Scheme had been revised somewhat by the Marketing Board, the wording having been changed by the Board's solicitor in order to satisfy the requirements of the Department of Justice. Dr. Munn, vice-president of the Manitoba Co-operative, who is also chairman of the Manitoba Committee on Livestock Marketing (the committee named by Hon. D. G. McKenzie to prepare a marketing scheme), spoke briefly, giving an account of the activities of the committee since its creation last November.

The members of the committee itself were also present during the whole of the afternoon session. These men were given a special invitation in order that they might acquaint themselves more thoroughly with the Marketing Scheme as revised by the Dominion Marketing Board and also that they might "listen in" on the discussion of the scheme by a representative body of producers.

After discussing these marketing proposals from every conceivable angle the following resolution was carried unanimously:

Moved by Alfred Averill, Crocus—seconded by W. Pound, Makaroff: That this meeting composed of livestock producers of the province of Manitoba endorse the plan as presented as a step in the right direction.

Prior to the vote on the above resolution the meeting adjourned as a co-operative meeting and all producers present were invited to vote, regardless of their affiliations with the Co-operative. This latter move is quite in line with the attitude of the board of the Co-operative itself who have maintained from the beginning of these marketing discussions that the subject was one in which the Co-operative organization should officially adopt a neutral attitude but that it should be ready and willing to lend its services to its members and others in working out any marketing scheme which they might care to submit.

Since the annual meeting on July 10th there has been an important inter-provincial meeting held at Regina at which all three prairie provinces were represented by their full committees. At this Regina meeting the three

(Turn to page 13)



Co-operative Dairying

A MESSAGE FROM MANITOBA CO-OPERATIVE DAIRIES

Head Office: 316 McIntyre Bldg., Winnipeg, Man.

CANADIAN DAIRY FARMERS' FEDERATION

The Canadian Dairy Farmers' Federation, of which Manitoba Co-operative Dairies is an original member, is one of the youngest farmers' organizations in Canada, but in spite of its youth it has already demonstrated its usefulness and importance.

The federation was organized at a Dominion-wide conference of dairy farmers held at Ottawa in March 1934, and its purpose is briefly expressed in its constitution which says:

"The purpose of this Federation is to provide a means whereby dairy farmers may, in a national way, deal with problems concerning their industry and whereby such producers, as a body, may work with other organized bodies in advancing the interests of dairying and agriculture in general."

The federation consists entirely of dairy co-operatives and associations of dairymen, thus representing actual milk producers only, and embraces the principal organizations of this class in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, with a total membership of over 107,000 farmers.

The first annual report of the federation, recently issued, is an interesting document of 22 pages, full of information as to the problems confronting the dairy industry of Canada and the efforts that are being made towards their solution.

Constructive Legislation

One of the first questions dealt with was the Natural Products Marketing Act, which was before parliament when the federation was formed. Officers of the federation had already, as officials of other farmers' organizations, been active in endeavoring to secure the passage of such an act and the strength of the new federation

was added to the demand for controlled marketing and for the revision of the bill as first introduced so as to make it more workable and effective. The act, the report declares, "will go down in history as the most notable and constructive legislation in the interests of agriculture ever passed by parliament."

One of the first schemes approved by the act set up the British Columbia Lower Mainland Dairy Products Board. This Board was given wide powers to regulate the marketing of milk, and products processed or manufactured wholly or chiefly from milk, in the lower mainland. Already, the report states, it has stabilized conditions and improved prices in the area in which it operates with material advantage to the producers.

Meanwhile the federation, in co-operation with the National Dairy Council, has been busy preparing, revising and amending a scheme under the Natural Products Marketing Act to apply to the whole Dominion. The basic idea of the scheme is a levy of one cent per pound butterfat on all milk and cream which can be reached by the levy, and the use of the fund thus created to bonus exports of cheese and to absorb the loss on exports of butter. The intention evidently is to export sufficient butter to clear the domestic market of the surpluses which unduly depress prices. It is proposed that the scheme shall be administered by a board of three with an advisory board of 14, both representative of all branches of the dairy industry and including a large proportion of producer members. The scheme has been supported by a large number of producer organizations and tentatively approved by the Dominion Marketing Board. It is expected that in due course it will be printed and distributed, and it will then be discussed and criticized before the Dominion Marketing Board finally passes upon it.

The report also outlines many

other activities which have been engaged in by the federation. The secretary, H. B. Cowan, of Peterboro, Ont., has established friendly contact with dairy farmers' organizations throughout the British Empire and the United States and with milk control authorities in the Canadian provinces and has set up a system by which he has secured a great deal of information regarding the production, utilization, marketing and prices of milk and milk products, all of which is very necessary in attempting to deal with the dairymen's problem in a national way.

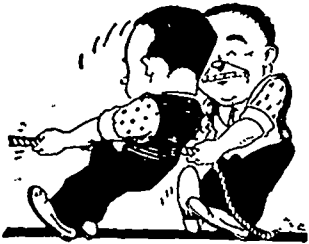
The Cheese Bonus

The report was prepared before the announcement of the policy now in force under which the Dominion government is paying a bonus on all milk used in the manufacture of cheese, but there is no doubt that the activities of the federation had a good deal to do with the adoption of this plan. The bulk of the bonus of course will be paid to eastern farmers, though the production of cheese in Manitoba is increasing. Its effect, however, should be to divert considerable quantities of eastern milk from butter to cheese, and it is anticipated that this will result in better prices for butter so that dairy men generally will benefit.

Manitoba Co-operative Dairies is represented on the board of the Canadian Dairy Farmers' Federation by its general manager, G. W. Tovell, who is chairman of the butter committee.

THE BUTTER SITUATION

Butter markets still continue to be somewhat uncertain; storage holdings of creamery butter in Canada on August 1st are given as about 2,200,000 lbs. less than the year previous. Production figures for all Canada for July are not yet available, but June production was almost the same as a year ago while the consumption in June showed considerable increase—nearly 1,500,000 lbs. over the previous June. For the first six months of the year production in Canada shows a reduction of about 5,000,000 lbs. as compared with the previous year, while consumption shows an increase of over 5,000,000 lbs. Manitoba's production in July was practically the same as in 1934.



Co-op. Poultry Marketing

A MESSAGE FROM MANITOBA EGG AND POULTRY POOL

Head Office: 402 Lombard Bldg., Main St., Winnipeg, Man.

HIGHER PRICES FOR DRESSED POULTRY

By W. A. Landreth

Your Association has completed a preliminary survey of the prospective poultry crop throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The result of this survey would indicate that the poultry crop of 1935 will be materially under that of last year.

Shortage of feed throughout the large drought area last year forced many producers to reduce

their flocks. The spring hatch was generally unsatisfactory due to cold, wet weather. Heavy rains throughout

the summer, which created temporary flood conditions on many farms, caused thousands of young birds to be drowned or die from exposure. We estimate the reduction from all causes to be approximately 25 to 35 per cent. under that of last season.

Unfortunately, due to the ravages of rust, it would appear that many farms in Manitoba are going to have quantities of low grade grain of little market value. This grain will unquestionably realize for the producer a greater net return if used to fatten and finish poultry for market.

During the next three months an army of peddlers and truck dealers will be scouring the country endeavoring to induce producers to sell their poultry alive. From numerous returns sent to this office by producers who have sold their poultry alive we have conclusive evidence that their average net return has been less than half of the net return realized by producers who marketed their poultry dressed through the facilities provided by this association. Our forecast of the future dressed poultry market is definitely that **prices will be higher**, due to a short crop throughout the prairie provinces. Prepare now to **fatten**

and market your poultry dressed this season.

MARKETING LIVE POULTRY

By E. G. Horwood

It is usually more profitable to market poultry dressed in the fall, when well fattened, and this has always been strongly advocated by your co-operative.

In the July issue of The Co-operator, however, we stated that the association would go more extensively into the shipping of live chicken this coming fall. This is being done, not because we wish in any way to encourage marketing of live chickens, but because we realize that producers may find it necessary to dispose of some of their cockerels early, due to the shortage of feed, insufficient room to accommodate their flocks, etc. For those who desire to market their chicken alive, it will be handled throughout the fall by the association, and shipments of fowl and chicken will be made from any local of the association where there is sufficient to handle profitably by truck or in live poultry cars.

Egg Stations

Our egg stations at Lauder, Dauphin and Cartwright will close for this season on Saturday, August 31st. The grading station at Wawanesa will be closed for the season on Saturday, August 17th. Brandon and Carman station will remain open until September 30th, and continue handling both eggs and poultry.

It is possible that Neepawa and Boissevain branches will continue handling eggs and poultry also until September 30th but if so shippers will be notified.

Winnipeg plant is open continuously and shipments of poultry or eggs will be paid for promptly when received in full at market value.

Coops for shipping live poultry will be supplied on request.

MEETINGS

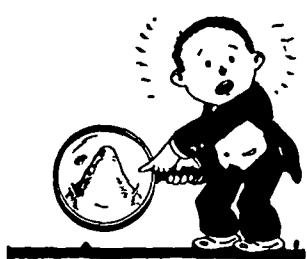
By A. W. Badger

At several points in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan, this association will hold meetings

early in October for the purpose of organizing new locals to assemble and load dressed poultry for the 1935 Christmas market. To date, points decided on are:

- Alameda, Sask.
- Antler, Sask.
- Ebor, Man.
- Inglis, Man.
- Manor, Sask.
- Rivers, Man.
- Windthorst, Sask.
- Two Creeks, Man.
- Wawota, Sask.

Other points may be added to this list.



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The September Manitoba Co-operator will give the date, place and time of each meeting. Personal notices will also be mailed to the farmers at each point and posters advertising the date will be posted in stores and other public places.

To Members of Organized Locals

The September Manitoba Co-operator will carry a complete list of all 1935 local annual meeting dates, time and place of the meeting. Posters will also be put up in the territory tributary to each local, giving date, time and place of each meeting.

We would ask all members to watch for the September Co-operator and find out the date of their local annual meeting, and make a special effort to be present.

A NATIONAL WHEAT PLAN FOR FRANCE

(From page 7)

quantity of wheat to be exported, stored, or denatured. These decisions would be altered in the course of the year if necessary. The Wheat Commission would have a monopoly of the import and export of wheat, flour and other cereals used for bread, and would control all prices and quantities sold. It would attempt to maintain an even price and flow of wheat throughout the year.

Each agricultural region would possess a wheat silo (granary) which would be owned and managed on a co-operative basis by the farmers. All millers would have to buy their wheat from the co-operative silos. The co-operative silos would be united in a federation of agricultural co-operative societies, with a president nominated by the Wheat Commission, and this federation would coordinate with the Commission purchases and sales by silos in accordance with local conditions of production and consumption.

All producers would be subjected to a levy on their production to pay the costs incurred by storing wheat, exporting and denaturing portions of the harvest.

A credit of 50 million francs would be provided to aid the building of co-operative silos, mills, and bakeries.

All wheat speculation and quotations on the exchange would be prohibited.

A JUNIOR FIELD DAY

The Solgirth Junior Seed Growers' Field Day was held on August 6 at the farm of Mr. Jos. Murray, leader of the Club. Short addresses were given in the early afternoon on the grain and forage crops by the following speakers: Prof. A. T. Elders, on Barley, seed being supplied by the Manitoba Pool Elevators; J. H. Blakeman, Inspector Dominion Seed Branch on Oats; Robert Whiteman, on Seed Drill Survey; Dr. McCrostie, on Forage Crops. Lunch was served on the lawn, followed by short addresses by Hon. D. G. McKenzie, Minister of Agriculture; and his Deputy Minister, J. H. Evans; Capt. T. S. Acheson, General Agricultural Agent, Can. Pac. Railways; Prof. T. J. Harrison, of the Board of Grain Commissioners; and J. Rose of Newdale, who is conducting seed plot work in his district. Mr. M. P. Mountain acted as chairman and the visitors were welcomed by Mrs. E. J. Hamilton, president of the Dowsford U.F.W.M. Mr. Murray has been doing excellent work in the seed plots although the grains showed the effects of rust and the varied weather conditions. He was highly complimented by the speakers and others and the wish was expressed that more such work would be undertaken in the different parts of the province as this was the only way in which farmers could see just what grains

were suitable to their district. Mr. Murray and his son Merton, have been frequent successful exhibitors at Brandon and Toronto Fairs, especially in oats. The Solgirth Club are the present holders of the Harrison Championship Shield for grain club work and they have been selected to represent Manitoba at the Toronto Fair, where they will take part in judging grains.

CO-OP LIVESTOCK MARKETING

(From page 10)

provincial plans have practically been reconciled into one. The meeting had the benefit of the presence of Mr. A. Leitch, Chairman of the Dominion Marketing Board and of Mr. J. R. Booth, Vice-Chairman.

Immediately after the Dominion election it is planned that educational meetings should be held throughout the province of Manitoba. In the meantime, if any local association of farmers (co-operative or otherwise) is desirous of having a speaker go out it is advised to write the Secretary of the Marketing Committee, Roy McPhail, 103 Exchange Bldg., St. Boniface.

After listening to what the politicians have to say of each other the ordinary citizen may be excused if he is inclined to regard political parties as national Ananias clubs.



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THE RAVAGE OF THE RUST

In the beginning of July we were over the province on the U.F.M. Chautauqua from Swan River in the north to Turtle Mountain in the south, Winnipeg in the East to Rossburn in the west and everywhere the crops were abundant and looked good for at least 25 bushels to the acre. Surely, the prospects never were brighter for an abundant harvest.

Now six weeks later, the picture is entirely changed. The rust scourge has reduced the wheat crop prospects by probably 75 per cent. A very small percentage of the bread wheat grains will pay harvest and threshing expenses and much of it will be burnt or ploughed under, or cut for feed. The Durum wheats are now in very much the same condition. In the beginning of this month after seeing the havoc wrought in the fields of bread wheats, we were patting ourselves on the back that having only Durum wheat, we were in a more fortunate position. Other years Durum had not been affected by rust epidemics to any noticeable extent but this year it has succumbed to the ravages of this devastating plague. A very large portion of this crop will never be put on the market. It is almost unbelievable that the scene would change so quickly and on

such an extensive scale.

From the several samples which have been received in this office from different points, most of the wheat which is to be marketed will be below the first three grades.

The reports which have appeared in the papers to date have placed a very conservative estimate on the damage and have not given a full picture at all of the situation. Manitoba has had some tough years what with drought and grasshoppers but this is the worst in its history.

In many districts the coarse grain crops of oats and barley are also affected with rust which will considerably reduce the yield. As in nearly every year, the fields of early sown grains are the least affected and give the best quality and yields. Unfortunately, there is a comparatively small acreage of early sown crop.

CO-OP MARKETING BOARD

(From page 8)

in supporting the application to the Tariff Board for the abolition or reduction of the duty on imported gasoline. Representatives of the association who appeared before the Tariff Board stated that they were supporting the application for tariff reductions and were building the co-operative refinery both for the same purpose—that of securing cheaper petroleum products for the farmers and other consumers. They realized that a reduction in duties would reduce the profits of the refinery but they believed they could still operate successfully. If, however, through tariff reduction, or competition by other producers, the new refinery was made unprofitable they would have achieved their object of bringing down the price of gasoline and they would be content.

Co-operators in Manitoba will watch the Saskatchewan enterprise with great interest. If it proves successful the example may be copied in this province.

Being unable to reach any satisfactory arrangement with Argentina with regard to imports of meat, the British government is continuing the subsidy on cattle, which will cost it about \$20,000,000 in addition to the twenty million already paid.

GEORGE KEEN

It was pleasant and refreshing to have a visit last week from Mr. Keen, secretary of the Co-operative Union of Canada. He was on his return from the Annual Congress of the Union held in Saskatoon and an itinerary of meetings in Saskatchewan.

No man has worked more faithfully for, or given more loyalty of his time and energy to the co-operative movement in Canada. Both in Canada and Great Britain, he is recognized as an authority on co-operation and it is a reflection on co-operators in this country that his services have been so meagerly recognized.

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