

active men are inspired with their cause and the exceptional opportunity of still further advancing it.

LEWIS H. BERENS.

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THE CANADIAN FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

Winnipeg, Can., Nov. 28, 1910.

Arrangements have been completed at Ottawa for the adjournment of the Dominion parliament on December 16 to enable Premier Laurier and his colleagues to receive the monster Grain Growers' deputations which will assemble there on that date to present their demands to the government. It has been stated authoritatively that the Western representatives will number four hundred. These will leave Winnipeg by special train on the night of December 12 and will be joined at Ottawa by two hundred representatives from Ontario and eastern Provinces.

The writer has interviewed R. McKenzie, secretary of the Western Grain Growers' Association, who is preparing the memorials to present to Parliament. Mr. McKenzie, speaking with authority for all agricultural organizations, informed your correspondent that the farmers would ask that the terminal grain elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur be taken over and operated by the government. These elevators must properly be classified as public utilities. In private hands they are a natural monopoly and have been utilized to the benefit and enrichment of the present owners and to the detriment of the public by mixing inferior grades of wheat with the better samples. The demand will also be made that the proposed Hudson Bay Railway be constructed, owned and operated by the government for the benefit of all the people. A determined effort is being made by certain parties to secure a charter, franchise and subsidy for this purpose. The farmers will make it plain that "no railway" is to be preferred to one in the hands of the monopolists that now control Canada's three transcontinental systems.

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Speaking in relation to the tariff Mr. McKenzie stated that a demand would be made for an immediate increase of the preference on British goods imported into Canada to fifty per cent, with a stated annual increase (amount not yet determined) until Free Trade with Britain is obtained. Mr. McKenzie made it plain that no reciprocal preference was desired in return; all the Canadian farmer wants is a continuance of the open door for Canadian farm products. He demands an increase of the preference for his own good and as a logical step toward Free Trade as it is in Britain.

The writer was further informed that a request will be made for reciprocity in natural products and timber, and for Free Trade in agricultural implements, with the United States. A general reduction in customs duties will also be asked, especially on woollens, cottons, sugar, cement, iron and leather manufactures.

Mr. McKenzie stated that the farmers would suggest as a means of supplementing a possible decrease in revenue which might ensue as a result of

the freer trade policy, the gradual introduction of the taxation of the values of coal, timber, agricultural and urban lands, with a view to absorbing for public purposes a portion of the enormous unearned increments now enriching speculators.

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The associated farmers' organizations in Canada, west of the Great Lakes, now embrace a membership of some thirty thousand. It is a significant fact that so many should undertake an arduous journey of one to two thousand miles at a cost to them of fifty thousand dollars, to place the government in possession of their views.

ROBERT L. SCOTT.

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POLITICAL FLAVORS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 3.

Honors are easy, surely, as to personal and official dignity, between Governor-elect Foss and Senator Lodge of Massachusetts. Whether 'tis ignobler for the triumphant Foss, who has been mercilessly snubbed by Lodge for years, even when running as a regular Republican, to seize Lodge by the scruff of the neck and confront him with the plain showing of the overwhelming popular vote of his own rock-ribbed Republican State against his ascendancy; or ignobler still for the repudiated Boss to try to sit tight, in spite of Foss's strangle-hold dragging him into the spot-light of supplementary campaigning to ratify this verdict in the face and eyes of the legislature, is a question which "the gentleman in politics" himself seems to be struggling with in a bewildered, pathetic way. Mr. Foss may be vindictive, may have brought his personal wounds into a public matter; he may have strained the rights of his vantage-ground as victor at the polls and as Governor-elect in demanding the withdrawal of Lodge. But how about Lodge's sense of propriety and public duty in the situation?

In the face of the unmistakable and unquestioned desire of the people of the State to be rid of him and to reverse his policy, is he going to stand upon legal and technical quibbles—to try to pick up, through the still-hunt and gum-shoe methods of his senatorial colleague, enough purchasable Democratic members of the legislature to piece out the ragged edge of the Republican contingent? Whatever may be lacking of courtesy, of conventionality, of Constitutionality, in Foss's grappling with Lodge and holding his crushing humiliation up to a pitiless publicity; as much may be said, must be said, in condemnation and reproof of Lodge's evident determination still to work back, by hook or by crook; to steal a base in the game, to flout and cheat the plain purpose of the great majority of the voters of Massachusetts to retire him. He has made this much of concession to the simple and manifest requirements of decency—he has ostentatiously retired—to New York! It is only five hours away, to be sure, and there are means of communication, at a pinch, that take less time. But it can at least be said that he is not personally running his campaign to re-elect himself according to the forms of law and legislative procedure, no matter how obnoxious