

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE OREGON WOOLGROWERS

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Annual Convention of State Association,
Held at Vale, Oregon, January 3-4,
1913, by Order of Delegates

Resolutions unanimously adopted by the Oregon Wool Grower's Association at its fifteenth annual convention held at Vale, Jan. 3-4, in full were as follows:

Reduction of Tariff

Economic thought teaches and business experience proves that proper protection must be given to every American industry based on the difference in cost of production at home and abroad. Reverses under reduced tariff rates on wool in 1893 absolutely demonstrated that a too radical reduction in rates meant the stationing of the wool industry of the country.

To this end that rates on wool be not only adequate, but absolutely fair, maintaining a proper parity between the raw material and the manufactured article, and that full but impartial justice be done every branch of the industry, we reaffirm our endorsement of a non-partisan tariff board as the proper medium for determining the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad and the establishment of a just and sufficient rate.

Inasmuch as our product, in all markets, is valued on a scoured basis, common justice suggests, and we insist that the present system of levying duties on the grease basis is wrong in practice, and that a specific scoured basis is not only scientifically correct, but is the only system that insures an equitable and permanent adjustment of the tariff question as applied to wool.

The growing of wool is a business in and of itself and for tariff purposes should be so considered, but we favor proper protective duties for the manufacturer. We are no supplicants of special favors, but in the strength of American citizenship representing our industry, involving enormous capital in lands, flocks and equipment, bearing constantly heavier expenses for labor and supplies, giving of our industry energy and our best business effort in the production of a necessity of life.

We urge that our industry be treated from a business and not a political standpoint and that any revisions of the tariff be placed on sound, economic principles rather than that of mere sentiment.

Shoddy in Wools

Whereas, the use of shoddy in the manufacture of wool goods is an imposition and fraud upon the purchaser, and unjustly displaces the use of a proportionate amount of raw wool; be it

Resolved, that congress, following

the precedent of the pure food legislation, enact laws compelling the branding of the quality of the goods manufactured and the amount of shoddy therein contained.

Injury in Shearing

Whereas, practice in vogue at many of the shearing plants in Oregon invoked to promote speed in shearing have resulted in general injury to the sheep being sheared; and

Whereas, proper care and attention in many cases is not given to the handling of a fleece by the shearer after it is taken from the sheep's back; and

Whereas, the sheep shearers are paid the highest wages of any laborer in connection with the handling and marketing of either wool or sheep; be it

Resolved, that this association recommend to the owners of the shearing plant that they require each shearer employed by them to take all possible care to prevent the injury of sheep while being sheared and the fleece while in the shearing pen; it being the sense of this association that the shearers should use both hands in catching and placing the sheep in position for shearing, thus necessitating the stopping of the machine and freeing the hand used in holding the sneerer; and, be it further

Resolved, that the president and secretary of this association communicate with the Oregon Humane Society and request that the attention of the Sheep Shearers' Union be called to the laws of the State of Oregon governing the treatment of dumb animals.

Grazing Fees In Forests

Whereas, the primary reason for the creation of a national forest was for the protection of the timber and water supplies of the United States, and that the charge of grazing fees is but incidental; and

Whereas, the grazing fees, in some instances, are more than sufficient to pay the expense incident to both the protection of the timber and water supplies, as well as the supervision of grazing of stock therein; and

Whereas, the greater part of the revenue received by the national forest from grazing fees is paid by the sheep-raisers; and

Whereas, sheep are the greatest preventative of forest fires known to the forest service; and

Whereas, the grazing fee charged the sheep-raisers too high when compared with the fee required of cattle-raisers and horse-raisers; be it

Resolved, by this association, that

we recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture that the grazing fees be based upon the grazing income of that particular forest, and that in no case shall the grazing income amount to more than the expense of protecting the timber and water supply and the supervision of grazing therein; and be it further

Resolved, that the grazing fees for sheep for the year-long season shall, in no case, exceed 12 cents per head, and that the short term grazing fees be reduced in proportion.

Private Land Passages

Whereas, it is necessary for any users of the national forests to cross privately owned lands with their herds in order to reach their own allotments; and

Whereas, the owners of private lands are, in most cases, also users of the national forests; be it

Resolved, that we recommend the Forest Service that it take such conditions into consideration and make the necessary arrangements for passageways across such privately owned lands.

Livestock Sanitary Bill

Whereas, Senate Bill No. 43, known as the Live Stock Sanitary Bill, was passed by the last Legislature upon the approval of all the different interested organizations, but in the haste of the closing hours was vetoed by the Governor; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Oregon Wool Growers' Association request the incoming Legislature to pass this measure over the veto of the Governor.

Pacific Livestock Show

Whereas, the Pacific International Livestock Show, held at the Union Stock Yards in Portland the second week in December of each year, has proven a great success and of far reaching importance to the livestock industry of the Northwest, and will stand in the same relation to the West as does the International Show at Chicago to the East; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the next Legislature be asked to appropriate the sum of \$3,000 yearly to apply to premium money for this show and to be spent under the direction of the State Board of Agriculture.

Oregon Railway Commission

Whereas, the Oregon Railway Commission has been of great assistance to the woolgrowers of Oregon in securing a reduction in freight rates; be it

Resolved, that the Oregon Wool Growers' Association, annual convention assembled, express to the members of the Oregon Railway Commission and the Chairman, Clyde B. Achison, in particular, our deep appreciation for the assistance so rendered.

State Game Preserves

Whereas, the promiscuous establishment of game preserves throughout the public land states, as is proposed in a bill before the national Congress, entitled "An Act for the protection and increase of state game preserves," would be of no public benefit, and

Whereas, such game preserves would contribute nothing to the nation's wealth and would furnish no food, raiment or shelter to any human being, but would greatly injure the livestock industry; be it

Resolved, that this association resist with all its power any attempt to establish game preserves throughout the State of Oregon, and respectfully requests Oregon's representatives in the national Senate and House of Representatives to use all honorable means at their command to defeat any such proposed legislation.

Trespasses In Forests

Whereas, there is a constant friction between the sheepraiser and the cattle and horse raisers over alleged trespasses on their respective allotments in the national forest; and

Whereas, it is the desire of the members of this association that all the users of the National Forest shall be treated fairly; be it

Resolved, that we recommend the building of drift-fences between the sheep allotments and the cattle and horse allotments by the Forest Service at Government expense.

Agricultural College

Whereas, we realize the great field of usefulness of the Oregon Agricultural College and the greater part which this institution is playing in the upbuilding of the State of Oregon; be it

Resolved, that this convention endorse the vigorous activities of the agricultural college and the greater part which this institution is playing in the upbuilding of the State of Oregon; be it

Resolved, that this convention endorse their vigorous activities of the agricultural college in all of its undertakings and recommend that special attention be given in the future to instruction in the livestock industry, and especially that of sheep raising.

Bureau of Animal Industry

Whereas, the work of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry and the work of Dr. W. H. Lytle, as state sheep inspector, has been of great benefit to the livestock industry of this state; be it

Resolved, that we heartily endorse the work of the Bureau of Animal Industry, that of its local officials, more especially Dr. H. E. Pinkerton and the work of Dr. Lytle, and we urge the necessity of retaining these men in their present capacities.

Slow Livestock Handling

Whereas, the livestock industry suffers the loss of many thousands of dollars each year through the slow handling of livestock trains by the railroad company; be it

Resolved, that this association recommend to Congress the passage of a law requiring that minimum speed of 16 miles per hour on all trains conveying livestock.

National Wool Warehouse

Whereas, John D. Holliday, president of the National Wool Warehouse & Storage company, of Chicago, Ill., has shown great interest in the development of the wool industry and the education of the woolgrower toward a more intelligent handling of his product; be it

Resolved, that the Oregon Wool Growers' Association express its hearty appreciation of Mr. Holliday's visit to its fifteenth annual convention and of the instructive address delivered by him.

Forest Appropriation

Whereas, it is believed that the fullest practical use of the National Forest is not secured at the present time; and

Whereas, the woolgrowers of the State of Oregon note the continued improvement in the administration of grazing on the National Forest; be it

Resolved, that we urge upon Congress the necessity of appropriating additional funds for the maintenance and equipment of the national forests of the west; that these funds should be available for the construction of drift-fences, watering places, the destruction of predatory animals, the reeding of the range and general reconnaissance.

Montana Quarantine Law

Whereas, quarantine restrictions have long since been raised on Oregon sheep, and scabbies or other infectious diseases do not now exist; and

Whereas, the present laws of the State of Montana requiring quarantine and dipping on all sheep shipped into the State, or interstate shipments passing through the State, which graze in transit, and such regulations constitute unjust discrimination against Oregon shippers; be it

Resolved, that the Governor of the State of Montana be petitioned to submit to the Legislature of his State a recommendation for the passage of an act amending the quarantine law to the end that such unjust discrimination be removed.

Bounty Should Be Continued

Whereas, the present scalp bounty law has been the means of largely reducing the number of predatory animals of the State of Oregon; therefore, be it

Resolved, that this association recommend to the Oregon State Legislature that the present bounty be continued.

Thanks to Vale

Whereas, the people of Vale and Malheur county have entertained the members of the Oregon Wool Growers' Association in a most cordial manner; be it

Resolved, that we express our sincere appreciation of the hospitality and entertainment extended to us by the City of Vale, The Vale Chamber of Commerce, the Malheur Enterprise, the Vale High School and the people of Malheur county; that we feel the good will and assistance of all these organizations and the many individuals who have materially aided in making this one of the most successful meetings in the history of this association. Respectfully submitted,

MONTIE B. GWINN, Chairman
Resolutions Committee.

On motion, made just before adjournment, the Resolutions Committee of Jan. 3-4, 1913, was continued until next annual meeting.

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