

RUTHENIANS REASSURED

Premier Borden Gives Them Written Assurance That Their Lands Won't Be Confiscated.

Special to The Star.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—With the purpose of having certain rumors dissipated which have been in circulation among the Ruthenian farmers of Northern Alberta. A. S. Shandro, M.P.P. for Whitford, and J. G. McCallum, M.P.P. for Vegreville, waited upon Sir Robert Borden yesterday. They represented to the Prime Minister that rumors were in circulation throughout these districts to the effect that the Government was considering the preparation of legislation looking towards the confiscation of the lands of all those who were disfranchised under the legislation of last session.

It was pointed out by Messrs. Shandro and McCallum that these rumors might have a serious effect upon production in the districts farmed by the Ruthenians. In the two constituencies upwards of 25,000,000 bushels of wheat had been marketed during the past season, and there was every prospect of a heavy yield there during the coming year.

Sir Robert Borden called the attention of the delegation to his recent statement regarding alien labor.

The delegation, however, declared that a specific written assurance signed by the Premier was required to dissipate the rumors. This assurance the Premier promised to give to-day.