

# WEIR PRESIDENT MANITOBA BRANCH OF WAR VETERANS

## Provincial Command's Convention Closes With Dance at Fort Garry Hotel

G. P. Weir was elected president of the Manitoba command of Great War Veterans at the final session of the provincial convention Thursday afternoon. He is an executive member of the Winnipeg branch and was acting chairman during the convention.

Other officers are: Honorary president, Gen. H. D. B. Ketchen; first 2nd vice-president, H. Layet, Brandon; vice-president, P. Cundy, Neepawa; executive council, J. H. Martinson, Winnipeg; W. J. Eadie, Winnipeg; Leo Warde and A. L. Smith, Winnipeg; A. W. Mayse, Boissevain; Alex. McDonald, The Pas, and Johnson Dauphin; supernumeraries, W. K. Eadie, Dryden, Ont.; A. A. Hay, Roblin; Irwin, Gladstone, and McCoy, Carman.

The convention closed with a supper and dance at the Fort Garry hotel.

Resolutions adopted by Manitoba Great War Veterans at their first annual convention, closed Thursday evening, urge upon the federal government:

That St. Peter's Indian reserve be opened to veterans for the erection of homes to be used by mentally deficient soldiers and orphans of dead soldiers.

That equal franchise be granted to women as to men, giving them the right to be represented in parliament and on councils.

That a national insurance company for soldiers, similar to that in the United States, be inaugurated immediately.

That war gratuity be paid to dependents or to the estate of soldiers killed in action, who would have been eligible had they lived.

That private employment agencies be shut down and a centralized bureau of labor alone be recognized.

That the natural resources of the country be developed by the government and that returned men be employed as surveyors, prospectors, etc.

That all interned aliens be deported, that persons proved to be undesirable be deported, that religious leaders, newspaper men and educationists of enemy origin, be licensed by federal authorities, and that all aliens whether desirable or otherwise be under government supervision.

D. W. Campbell, Major N. K. McIvor, W. B. Rimmer and Major J. P. Oliver addressed delegates on work of the soldiers' land settlement board, invalided soldiers' commission, the pensions board and vocational training, respectively. They answered questions relating to the administration of their departments and outlined proposed changes in policy.

Major Oliver said that 688 soldiers are taking vocational training in this district, in 26 different classes. Men would be allowed perfect freedom of choice, he said, and would not be forced to take any particular course. He was in favor of mental tests to all applicants for training, and said he had recommended the step to the head of the department in Ottawa.

Major McIvor announced that Capt. John Nicholson, of the Invalided Soldiers' Commission, will start next week on a tour of this district, and would visit as many towns as possible and investigating complaints. He urged delegates to tell soldiers in their home towns that they could obtain free medical treatment if they became ill within 12 months of discharge.

Mr. Rimmer said that all soldiers should ask the examining doctor when they were boarded, what he was going to recommend regarding their pensions. If soldiers were not satisfied they could ask for re-examination immediately. Any men who were not satisfied would be furnished with transportation, and paid \$4.85 a day while at the pensions office, when they were given another board, he said.

D. W. Campbell said the land settlement board would have made loans totalling \$1,250,000 by April 30. A large staff worked practically seven days a week, he declared.