

of the state at the general election next ensuing after the passage of this act, in the manner provided by law, and the votes thereon shall be counted, canvassed, and the result thereof proclaimed, as provided by law. The ballots used at such election shall have printed thereon the following:

"Amendment to the constitution by adding thereto a new article, to be known as article 17, permitting the state and its political subdivisions when authorized by the legislature to contract debts and pledge the public credit for and engage in any work reasonably tending to prevent or abate forest fires, including the compulsory clearing and improvement of wild lands (whether publicly or privately owned) and the assessment against such lands of the value of all benefits so conferred and the payment of damages so sustained in excess of such benefits."

"Yes

"No"

Approved April 21, 1923.

RESOLUTION No. 1.

A joint resolution requesting and demanding modification and revision of the present federal standards for grading grain.

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Markets of the United States Department of Agriculture, in the spring of 1917, promulgated certain standards for grading wheat, which revolutionized the system of grain inspection to such an extent that the markets were seriously disturbed and confused, and the federal rules were found unsatisfactory in commercial transactions; and as subsequent attempts by the said Bureau of Markets to amend the original standards and inspection rules have not removed the features objectionable to the wheat producers of Minnesota and the rural shippers of grain with the result that the present standards are regarded by the farmers of the Northwest as unfair and unreasonable, and

WHEREAS, The grades so established do not meet with the approval of the grain growers and shippers of this state and are believed to confer an undue advantage to the buyers, with a consequent discrimination against the farmers, thereby causing heavy losses every year, and

WHEREAS, The states of Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho and Washington, at a meeting held in Helena, Montana, March 16, 1918, by formal resolution proposed standards for grading spring wheat, which were declared to be fair to all interests directly concerned, and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the Minnesota Farmers Grain Shippers Association, and other farm and grain organizations repeatedly have declared in favor of sub-

stantial modification of the federal standards to a practical conformity with the grades in effect prior to the promulgation of the federal grain standards, and the Legislature of the State of Minnesota on various occasions has requested the Minnesota Railroad and Warehouse Commission, through its present chairman, O. P. B. Jacobson, to appear before the federal department of agriculture and the committee on agriculture of both houses of Congress to advocate and urge action favorable to the requests and needs of the farmers of Minnesota, and in addition thereto the Legislature has sent several delegations to Washington to plead the cause of the farmers in this matter, and

WHEREAS, The Legislature of Minnesota, by resolution approved April 15, 1921, directed the Minnesota Joint Board of Grain Appeals, to promulgate the former state grades, as "Minnesota Grades", for use in the inspection of grain produced and marketed within the state of Minnesota, the purpose of such resolution being to give the wheat producers of the state all the benefit possible from the application of the former state rules, but which plan was found not feasible because of conflict with the federal rules and laws, and

WHEREAS, The Millers' National Federation has opposed the efforts of the farmers of the state to obtain a modification and revision of the federal grain standards, and

WHEREAS, Halvor Steenerson, Congressman from the Ninth District of Minnesota, has introduced a Bill in Congress, to establish standards for grading spring wheat, which, if adopted, virtually will restore the former Minnesota grades and thereby place the producers and the buyers on an equal footing in the grain markets of the country.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, that it hereby, in behalf of the people of Minnesota, requests and demands that the federal authorities, either in Congress or in the Department of Agriculture, do so modify, revise or amend the present federal standards for grading spring wheat, as to comply with the requests of the farmers of Minnesota and thereby remove the present alleged discriminations and penalties, in order to promote the prosperity and welfare of the agricultural interests of Minnesota and the Northwest;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That we approve the aforesaid Steenerson grain grading bill and urge its immediate passage by Congress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture, to both Houses of Congress and to the individual members of the Minnesota delegation in Congress.

Approved February 2, 1923.