

August 2, 1916

The Mail Bag

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will have to bend their backs to over-
whelming loads of debt.

The men whose lives are spared in
battle will have to return to Canada
and contribute their share, and more,
of the taxes towards the liquidation of
Canada's part of the cost of the war.
Already we hear of tariff adjustments
and "protection" of industries, but
you may be very sure that any changes
or adjustments that will be made will
be at the expense of, and not for the
benefit of, the farmer and the producer.
One of the great burdens which the
farmers of the West have to carry, but
which they should not be compelled to
carry, is that share of the taxes which
should be paid by the Canadian Pacific
Railway and the Hudson's Bay Co. in
respect of the millions of acres of land
which they have held so long free from
taxation.

This is a manifest injustice. Why
should the farmer carry this load any
longer? If the country can demand
the life of the farmer and of his son
why cannot the country commandeer a
sum annually from those corporations
equal to the amount of taxes which they
should pay? It should not be even ne-
cessary for the government to com-
mandeer these taxes, for if the "pat-
riotic" utterances of the higher officials
of the C.P.R., particularly, are any cri-
terion, it need only be mentioned to
them and the change would be made
voluntarily. However, Mr. Editor, you
know and I know that such is not the
case. These corporations take all but
never give up anything. The only ar-
gument which will prevail is Public
Opinion. The people of Canada can put
what pressure is necessary to bear on
these corporations, but the people must
be shown the direction which their ef-
forts should take, and here, Mr. Editor,
is a task worthy of your steel.

I would like to see you take the
matter up now, while the war is on.
Afterwards will be too late. Yours truly,
LOUIS LAPIERRE.

Ed. Note—Our correspondent is in
error in stating that the Hudson's Bay
Co. holds its lands free from taxa-
tion. This company pays all ordinary
taxes but is at present protesting
against paying the surtax.

THE NEED OF BELGIUM

The stoppage of further relief from
without to the suffering Belgians would
work to the advantage of Germany.
She would then be enabled to remove
to within her own boundaries numbers
of Belgian mechanics and laborers
whom she would forthwith set to work
in her own mines and factories, there-
by releasing for service with the colors
many able-bodied German men whose
labor cannot be dispensed with. So
long as body and soul can be kept to-
gether in Belgium thru neutral assist-
ance sent in by the consent of Britain,
the wholesale expatriation of Belgians
would be difficult; given the excuse of
actual starvation in their own land, it
could be arranged. In the cities of Bel-
gium thousands of people line up every
day waiting for bread and soup. At
the end of the day often men, women
and children who have stood there all
day have been compelled to go back to
their pitiful homes, cold, wet and miser-
able, and without having obtained their
pittance of bread and soup. Many of
them are mothers and fathers who have
children only partly nourished. When
they go home without even the daily ra-
tion, as occasionally happens, the suf-
fering becomes pathetically acute, and
one wonders how much longer they will
be able to persist in their stubborn re-
fusal to work for the Germans and re-
sist their tempting offers of good meals.

By not contributing, therefore, to
the Belgian Relief fund, or by delay-
ing your subscription, you are prac-
tically allying yourself to the common
enemy. Send in your contribution to-
day to the Belgian Relief Fund, Com-
mittee, 290 Garry Street, a receipt for
which will be sent you by the joint
treasurers, A. Gouzee and H. T. Riley.

SASKATCHEWAN SELLS WOOL

The co-operative branch of the Sas-
katchewan Department of Agriculture
disposed of nearly 200,000 pounds of
farmers' wool which it is handling co-

operatively, to Swift and Company. The
average prices received for all straight
grades was 33½ cents per pound; for
rejects, of which the percentage was
small, 24 cents, and for tags, pieces and
blacks, 18 cents; while for range wool,
of which there were 4,747 pounds, 31
cents was received. For the highest
grade of wool, namely, medium combing
first, 37 cents per pound was received.
It will cost under one cent to handle,
and therefore the returns to the farmers
will be large. Last year the wool sold
for 25 cents, but this year not only was
the market better but the fact that all
the wool had been properly graded by
the official government graders added
materially to its value.

M.A.C. EXHIBIT AT BRANDON

For the first time in its history the
Manitoba Agricultural College this year
presented an exhibit at the Brandon
Fair. The display was housed in the
west side of the ground floor of the
octagon building known as the Crystal
Palace. Eleven departments of the col-
lege were represented. The strongest
point about the whole exhibit was its
intensely practical nature. There was
no corner but presented just such in-
formation as would interest the farmer
or the farmer's wife.

In the Field Husbandry Department
the two main themes considered were
varieties of grains and fodder crops and
cultivation. A list of cereal varieties
suitable for Manitoba presented the fol-
lowing: Wheat—Marquis, Red Fife,
Prelude, Minnesota 169. Oats—Banner,
Victory, Abundance, Orloff. Barley—
Manchurian, O.A.C. No. 21, Gold, Cana-
dian Thorpe. An interesting chart was
in the form of a map of Manitoba with
the varieties marked in each district
in their relative order of suitability.

Engineering Exhibit

Possibly no other department had a
stronger exhibit than that shown in
the Engineering Section, and this came
in for a large share of interest. The
strong point here was to show in the
form of students' work actually turned
out just the type of skill which the
training imparts. Several cases were
filled with ironwork finished by boys
of the first and second year classes.

The two main features of the horti-
culture exhibit were a display of in-
secticides and a series of planting lists.
The college has given a good deal of
attention this season to insect control,
and the assortment of sprays included
about ten or twelve different prepara-
tions, showing the materials in their
commercial form and in their prepared
form. The insects to be killed were
exhibited alongside and instructions
were given as to the use of the spray.
The interest taken in this exhibit was
a surprise even to those in charge.

In the Botany and Biology section,
weeds, birds and rodents were the chief
topics. The latter two came in for a
full share of attention, the thing of
most value to the passing crowd was
the "rogues' gallery" of potted speci-
mens of Manitoba's worst weeds.
Hundreds of farmers from the non-
infected districts of Manitoba and the
provinces farther west stopped to ex-
amine the specimens of the perennial
sow thistle.

Fig Figures

The Animal Husbandry Department
centred a good deal of thought upon
the commercial aspects of the livestock
industry. The most striking charts
were those dealing with the hog trade,
in which were contrasted the hog mar-
ketings of Manitoba, Saskatchewan
and Alberta, during the first six months
of this year, Manitoba sending 44,533
hogs to market while Alberta marketed
159,101.

The Dairy Department exhibit was
mainly a display of approved dairy
utensils. In the Poultry Section feed-
ing and housing birds and the market-
ing of eggs and poultry were the main
themes. The women, too, had two
splendid booths. The Household Science
Section exhibited a collection of labor-
saving devices and a set of charts re-
lating to the race betterment campaign.
The Household Art exhibit was a study
in fabrics. The walls of the Extension
Service Section were hung with some
exceedingly interesting statistics re-
lative to the growth of Home Economics
Societies and Boys' and Girls' Clubs.

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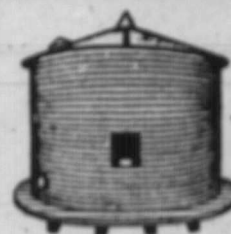
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