

taxes upon this source. But there is no such information available on the wealth of the individual citizens of Canada. The Government has just completed a register of the man power of the country and it is suggested by one of the National Service directors that the next move will be to register the woman power, but in the meantime the Government is doing nothing to register the money power. Why should not the Government register the money power of the individual citizens and then use this information as a basis for imposing taxes and increase the taxes on the corporations, allowing exemptions for corporations that enjoy no special privileges. If a register were made of the individual citizens of Canada it would be found that a large number of them who have reached maturity have mighty small incomes and could afford to pay no taxes whatever, while there is another class with moderate incomes who could afford to pay a moderate tax and there is a small proportion with very large incomes who can afford to pay over a goodly portion of it in taxes to the public treasury. We are supposed to be fighting this war in self-defense; we are supposed to be fighting for the protection of our country; we are urged to make sacrifices for the welfare of our nation and the empire. Why then, if this be so, does the Government hesitate in putting on the taxes, particularly upon those people who can best afford to pay them. The organized farmers have declared for a sharply graduated income tax on all incomes over \$4,000. Many believe that \$4,000 is far too high to begin taxation and we readily agree that it will be quite a good thing to reduce it to \$3,000 or possibly to \$2,000. At any rate the Government should wake up to the fact that we need money and everybody who has any surplus should be taxed at this time of national crisis.

THE REAL ESTATE GAME

We occasionally receive inquiries regarding land offered for sale in British Columbia,

California, Florida, Mexico and Argentine and other parts of the world where the thermometer does not register so low as in the prairie provinces. We are not able to give advice on these questions as we usually have no source from which absolutely reliable information can be secured. There is undoubtedly good land and good opportunities in every one of these countries mentioned, but we have no reason to doubt that there are just as many fakers and real estate shysters in these warmer climates as there are here in our own heaven blessed land.

Most of the people in Western Canada were badly bitten in the days of the real estate boom and are still suffering pangs of remorse as they still make payments on real estate which will never be worth half what they paid for it. During the winter weather when the mercury is hovering around 40 below zero a whole lot of people will naturally turn to some beautifully illustrated literature describing the glories of some of these famous warm countries. The literature will be all the more attractive because of the chilly atmosphere which we generally get in January and February. But do not be misled by these glowing descriptions. It is a huge blunder to buy land from the description which the salesman gives you. You should either see it yourself or have the advice of someone who has seen it and in whose judgment you have absolute confidence. Of course it is always possible that land purchased without any of these precautions may turn out to be a gold mine, but such happenings are only one in a million and it is more often a gold brick. Do not forget the story of the Arab who sold his farm and spent the proceeds hunting for diamonds which he never found, and in his days of poverty and remorse jumped into the ocean. The man who bought his farm discovered diamonds in plenty along the bank of a brook running thru the property. Nature has blessed this country we live in abundantly and before leaving for some other distant

fields that look very green it is well to be sure that the jump will not be disastrous.

Seed selection and the value of sowing the plumpest, cleanest seed obtainable is no new advice. In the prosperous days of the old Roman Empire, Virgil knew all about it. He said that seeds would degenerate "if man's industrious hand cull not each year the largest and the best." The Guide has secured a limited quantity of the very choicest, registered seed grain obtainable. Any reader can obtain some of this seed by following out the instructions on page 35 in this issue.

"Canadians cannot be too often reminded of Canada's pre-eminence among English speaking nations—a pre-eminence which it owes to its possession of the freest constitution and in its parliament and cabinet of the most democratic constitutional machinery of any country in the world." The machinery exists, but the people are not using it. Every citizen can help put this machinery in motion by carefully reading and consistently endorsing the principles laid down in the Farmers' Political Platform.

Edward Porritt says: "The power exercised by the governing class is an excrescence on the political system of the Dominion which has come into existence solely owing to the subserviency of political parties, their leaders and their press." Strict adherence to the principles laid down in the Farmers' Political Platform will take the power away from the "governing class" and vest it in the people where it rightly belongs.

Write to The Guide your opinions on the labor question on the farms for the coming season. Are you going to have to curtail your operations seriously. How best could you use city help over limited periods? What suggestions have you to offer.



WILL THEY TAKE HIS ADVICE?