

but in the power of an awakened people to govern and control its own affairs. So it is very inspiring to come to this, that may be called the original fountain of liberty and independence in America, and take these drafts of patriotic feelings which seem to renew the very blood in a man's veins.

"Down in Washington, sometimes when the days are hot and business presses intolerably and there are so many things to do that it does not seem possible to do anything in the way it ought to be done, it is always possible to lift one's eye above the past for the moment and, as it were, to take into one's whole being that great thing of which we are all a part—that great body of American feeling and American principle."

These are the words of the elected head of another country than ours, speaking to his fellow-citizens. Are they not an inspiring expression of the true ideals that should guide the men who are the elected trustees in charge of the government of every country whose institutions are those of self-government? It is these ideals that must come to dominate the public life of Canada, if Canada is to go forward worthily towards the achievement of its high destiny.

### BACK TO THE LAND

This is the first time for many years that the cities of Canada have had large numbers of unemployed at this season of the year. It is, however, the natural result of a cause, and we have only to go back a year or two to find it. Then we had the three large railway companies stretching their branches at a rapid rate thruout the entire country. Thousands upon thousands of unskilled laborers were engaged upon this work. To-day construction work of this nature is almost nil, and so these men rush to the cities.

We ask, why this falling off of railway construction? and the answer is, that railway development was going on at a more rapid rate than the real development of the country warranted. Investments were becoming too great for returns and a halt had to be made. In other words, there was not enough business to keep the roads busy. It was a false prosperity maintained for a short time upon borrowed capital, and under the circumstances we had, sooner or later, to arrive at the only result which could reasonably be expected. What has been said of the railways might be said of minor industries. Canada has been developing too rapidly along many lines, on borrowed capital.

The present situation, while it is hard for many a breadwinner, is simply a period when we have to take stock, and in the process have found that our expenditure in many ways was out of all proportion to our income. It is a lesson we all have to learn, both as individuals and as a nation. Outside of the unskilled laborer, Canada presents today just as great opportunities as ever she did. We still have large areas of wealth producing virgin soil, and still untold wealth in our other natural resources. There are just as good opportunities for the farmer to come and secure a piece of our fertile prairie land as there were two or three years ago. Markets for all kinds of farm produce are equally as good, if not better. The man with a little ready money can do better in Western Canada today than he could three years ago.

It is quite true that, in our feverish condition, land values, both rural and urban, soared to unwarranted figures and the inevitable set-back has brought hardship on many. Nothing but a few years of wholesome development can rectify these conditions. That process has been going on for the past two years and the outlook is brighter and will continue so to be if the unprincipled and wild-cat manipulator is given his quietus.

Canada still has ample room for millions of thrifty and useful citizens and can still hold out golden opportunities for such, especially to the agricultural class. In the meantime, however, we have the unemployed

problem before us and some practical steps should be taken to try and solve it. It would be a credit to the Dominion Government, and would pay the country, if it would take hold and grapple with the question. They could divert some of their millions, that some are so anxious to spend in drill halls and other militia and naval expenditures, to encouraging the people to settle on the land. A very few millions thus spent would result in the establishing of many happy families, living on and cultivating the land, which today is only raising grass and the breeding place of the destructive gopher. Splendid returns would be received, for more wealth produced means more capital invested, which again brings about an increase in trade and commerce. If such a policy was adopted, those who are today crying out for work would be given the opportunity to have their wants satisfied, and, in the majority of cases, such an opening would be eagerly seized. In such a country as Canada there is, or at least should be, ample opportunity for all under proper social conditions.

### INSIST ON YOUR RIGHTS

There will be general satisfaction among farmers thruout the West at the result of the appeal lodged by the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association against the decision of the magistrate in the Vista car stealing case.

Those who were at the Manitoba Grain Growers' Convention last January will remember the facts. A farmer at Vista, Man., placed his name on the car order book and afterwards sold the grain which he intended to load to an elevator company. When his turn for a car came he had no grain to load, and the car should have gone to the next person on the list. The elevator operator, however, took the car, loaded it, and billed it out in the farmer's name. This being contrary to the Grain Act, a member of the Vista Grain Growers' Association took proceedings against the elevator operator and summoned him before a magistrate. The facts were not disputed, and it was clear that the elevator man had secured a car out of his turn, but the magistrate decided to get legal advice before convicting. He accordingly wrote, stating the facts, to the Attorney-General's department at Winnipeg, and received in reply a letter from the Deputy Attorney-General, in which a fantastic interpretation was placed upon the law, by which it was made to appear that no breach of the Act had been committed. The Deputy Attorney-General, however, realized that his interpretation was contrary to the spirit and intention of the Act, for he said:

"If my contention is correct it would mean that if a party, for example, steals a car from another and loads it he cannot be proceeded against under the act as it stands at present with the word 'such' in subsection (C), because there is apparently no other section of the Act which imposes penalties for breaches. I am sure that the framers of the Act never intended such an interpretation as I have placed on same, as it is clearly wrong for me to steal a car and load same when the car has been allotted to some other party. However, with the word 'such' in subsection (C) I cannot interpret same other than in the manner I have indicated."

The magistrate decided under these circumstances to dismiss the case. The matter, however, was brought before the Brandon convention by the Vista delegates, and as the point involved is one which often arises the convention directed the executive to take the matter up and prosecute an appeal. The case has since been tried in the County Court, before Judge Mickle, and his honor has given judgment in favor of the association and imposed a fine upon the elevator operator. The full details of the case were set out in the Manitoba section of The Guide on July 1, and we would suggest that our readers keep that number by them and, if

need be, show it to the elevator operators at their points in order that they may secure their rights during the coming shipping season.

### WOMEN'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

The following ten commandments were issued by the women of Chicago to the aldermanic candidates in their city at the last civic elections:

Thou shalt not be the tool of any special interest.

Thou shalt not set thy party above the people.

Thou shalt hearken to the cry for clean milk.

Thou shalt not forget the death rate of babies in thy ward.

Neither shalt thou forget the morals of the young; nor shalt thou bend thine ear to small theatres that fight ordinances for ventilation and for clean pictures.

When special and powerful interests ask for favors, the public policy shall be near thee.

Thou shalt not have an office connected with a saloon.

Thou shalt have a keen sense of smell to detect nuisances and garbage evils; garbage dumps shalt thou abolish.

Thou shalt help to keep amusement safe for the city's children.

Thou shalt not hearken to commercial vice.

The women of Chicago have votes, and, consequently, their commandments are listened to, tho perhaps not obeyed to the letter.

It certainly cannot be contended that the country districts are discriminated against in the Manitoba Legislature, so far as numerical representation is concerned. F. J. Dixon, the Independent Progressive elected for Centre Winnipeg, received more votes than Sir Rodmond Roblin and all his cabinet ministers put together. Mr. Dixon received 8,050 votes, while Sir Rodmond received 1,204; Hon. J. H. Howden, 1,089; Hon. W. H. Montague, 1,086; Hon. George Lawrence, 753, and Hon. Joseph Bernier, 1,490. The exact vote for Hon. Hugh Armstrong, who was defeated in Portage la Prairie, and Hon. G. R. Coldwell, who was re-elected in Brandon has not yet been published, but is in the neighborhood of 1,000 in each case.

Direct Legislation (including a Referendum on Banish the Bar) and Woman Suffrage were the chief issues in the Manitoba elections. The candidates favoring these policies received a majority of the votes cast, but nevertheless a government opposed to both reforms remains in power, and in all probability will refuse to take action. After all, do the people rule under our present party system?

The heavy rain of Saturday and Sunday has brought sufficient moisture to ensure a bountiful harvest in most parts of the West, provided nothing happens to damage the crop within the next few weeks. The chief question now is whether the crop will belong to the farmers or to someone else after it is harvested.

It is acknowledged thruout Manitoba that the most powerful speeches of the recent political campaign were made by a woman, Mrs. Nellie McClung. Thousands of ignorant and degraded men had votes and some of them, it is reported, voted several times. But there was no ballot for Mrs. McClung.

Go to the fair and take the wife and kid-dies. The intelligent farmer can learn enough at a good exhibition to pay his expenses ten times over.

Does your neighbor take The Guide? If not, why not?