

GRAND LARCENY

Editor, GUIDE:—"Larceny by Law," was one of the expressions that Sir Wilfrid Laurier used when in opposition, when he wanted to illustrate the viciousness of "Class Legislation." He meant that the masses are robbed by means of wicked, cruel, unjust laws, and that the government made those very laws and with that very purpose in view, namely, to enable some people to riot in luxury off the labor of other people. "Class" legislation is poisonous and deadly, as it sets one class against other classes, and divides the people into two distinct camps. It makes a house divided against itself, and such a structure cannot stand. Years ago Richard Cobden, England's greatest advocate of freedom, visited John Bright when the latter was grief-stricken over his wife's newly made grave. "Today there are thousands of women and children hungry, weeping and broken-hearted, made so by our wicked laws. Come with me and we will not rest until those laws are repealed." Such were the words of Cobden to Bright, and then and there they joined hands, waged a long and steady agitation for the abolition of the corn laws, and today the names of Cobden and Bright are linked together in history. Here in Canada we have that poisonous, sickening, deadly, death-producing "Class Legislation" openly and blatantly defended on the floor of parliament, and few or none to protest. In the last few years many millions of dollars have been taxed out of the people and then handed over as a bounty to millionaires, mine owners engaged in the production of steel and iron. That is how we make millionaires and paupers. The government puts its hands into the pockets of the many, takes their money by taxation, and then hands it over to a few who are rich, powerful and influential. That is "Grand Larceny" on a grand scale. The man who buys a toy for his child, or an orange for his fever-stricken wife, pays some of these millions in taxes. Then we wonder why we have so much child labor in our cities, and women thrown on the streets selling their bodies for a living, and this form of Grand Larceny has been going on for years. Nearly \$15,000,000 have been taken out of our pockets and handed over as a present or bonus or bounty to a few people enormously rich, because they are engaged in producing steel and iron. And would you believe, Finance Minister Fielding, in his late budget speech, talked as though he intended continuing this for a few years longer. And must it be said that hardly a voice was raised against this high handed outrage, except one or two very mild protests? When it comes to taking from the many to enrich the few, then both parties seem as nearly alike as two beans. One party perpetrates the robbery, and the other remains silent and lets the robbery go on. But is it not time for the people, the rank and file voters, to take a hand in this affair, and let the powers that be know what we think of this sort of thing? They would not dare do such a thing if they thought the people were watching them and knew about it.

There are enough readers of this to force them to abandon this bonus and bounty policy if they will let them know that we know that we are being wronged and robbed. The time to act is now. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." If our representatives will not stand up and defend us from these wrongs, let us sit down and write and speak for ourselves. A few hundred letters pouring into the Finance Minister will bring him to his senses, and make all of them sit up and take notice. Let those who see the wrong of taking from the many to put into the hands of the few, get busy and act on the suggestion in this letter.

READER.

CONTROL OF PRICES

Editor, GUIDE:—Why should we not establish strict control over the profits and rates charged in the lumber and machinery businesses, such as the Railway Commission exercises over the railway business, their rates and tariffs. To secure efficient control, it would be necessary to appoint men free from the influence of the combine. We have been able to secure such men in the Railway Commission, but to protect the farmer from the dealer and to secure efficient

control over any trade, the controlling commission must be above suspicion.

T. M. BRYCE.

Yellow Grass, Sask.

MR. TURRELL'S VIEWS

Editor, GUIDE:—I was pleased to see Mr. Boerma's letter in THE GUIDE, as I think it is the duty of every socialist to take out some of the dust that has been thrown in the eyes of the people as to the nature of socialism. When that is done socialism will make its own way. One ridiculous objection I heard, was that all wealth was to be taken over and distributed equally and that matrimony was to be abolished; free love, (whatever that is) being substituted. Another objection was that the Grain Growers' Association was sufficient for the speaker, it was a pity to divide the farmers into two parties. The association is a means of enabling the farmers to band together for protection, as are the other workers' organizations for their particular trades and professions. Socialism is a means of enabling the whole of the workers and producers to band together for protection against their exploiters, not only in any one country, but throughout the world. When that is accomplished, war and armaments with their attendant waste of life and energy are at an end. Another trouble with some men is their timidity; as mentioned in Mr. Kennedy's letter, "they would not go as far as socialism." These men are shaping alright, they are coming out of a mental dark room and their mind's eye is not quite accustomed to the light.

Misgovernment arises through the separation of politics and religion; they should be one. Politics without religion is represented in our present system of selling legislation to the highest bidder. If the farmer could pump in more party funds than the corporations, who would get the most legislation? Religion without politics is an individual affair—the Christian religion that is so often dished up to us now—not the religion of Christ, viz:—"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets." What does this kind of religion lead to without co-operation of the individuals for the benefit of the community, viz:—socialism!

In closing, I would wish to thank the management of THE GUIDE for the treat they serve up to us every week. My wife and self, when we settle in our chairs with THE GUIDE, know that we have a mental dish of good things.

S. R. TURRELL.

Dauphin, Man.

APPRECIATES THE GUIDE

Editor, GUIDE:—If one thing more than any other gave me pleasure at our convention in Edmonton last week, it was to see the unanimous vote cast for THE GUIDE to continue our official organ. THE GUIDE is being more and more recognized throughout this province to be the most educative and instructive paper the farmer can procure, and I for one would give up the other ten papers I take rather than be deprived of THE GUIDE.

RICE SHEPPARD.

Strathcona, Alta.

ANOTHER TRADE RECORD BROKEN

Canada's trade with the United States broke all records in 1909. It has more than doubled in the past ten years. In the figures given the estimates for 1909 are based upon official figures for eleven months compiled by the Bureau of Statistics at Washington. In 1899 Canada exported to the United States products to the value of \$35,500,000, and approximately \$88,000,000 worth in 1909. Among the leading items exported to the United States in 1909 were hides of cattle, \$3,500,000 and horses \$700,000 worth. Among the imports were fruits and nuts, \$5,000,000; agricultural implements, nearly \$3,000,000; and automobiles and wheat, \$2,500,000.

About one in four of the deaths in the British Navy are due to drowning. The House of Lords originated in the King's Great Council as it existed in the reigns immediately following the Conquest.

Following his Pole-Finding hoax, Dr. Cook is estimated to have made \$110,000 from lectures and \$25,000 from newspaper contributions.



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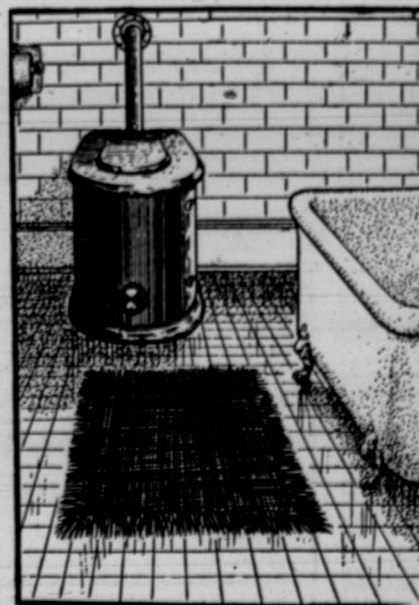
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