

Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. C. Henderson, President, 404 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

SO SAY WE

The literature issued in connection with the call of Sir George E. Foster for a convention to consider industrial problems contains a significant paragraph quoted from Col. George Pope, president of the National Association of Manufacturers of the United States. And since that literature contains no paragraph quoted from the president of the National Association of Farmers of the Dominion of Canada, it is suggested that with the change of a few words and phrases, and with due acknowledgements to the good colonel, his paragraph might fill the bill.

As he wrote it, and as Sir George quotes it, the paragraph reads thus:—

"Manufacturers cannot delegate their responsibility and duty of a deeper interpretation of conditions. Indeed the American manufacturer is more and more called upon and should be called upon to play a public part instead of merely a private part in governmental affairs and public questions. We have the right to speak and to be heard. But we should not speak nor ask to be heard unless what we say is constructive, truthful and valuable. If our friends, the so-called industrial experts, sociological investigators and students of political and social science are studying the meaning of the forces of industry and seeking remedial measures and we are doing nothing along such lines we have no right to criticize conclusions they arrive at unless we are able to demonstrate their errors. In other words, I may say that now-a-days a manufacturer whether he realizes it or not is compelled to be an economist, student and statesman. The old idea that the manufacturer is the one who merely converts raw material into finished product is past. We must wake up to a realizing sense and quick perception of the tremendous part our manufacturing industry is playing in our country."

In order to apply its principles to agriculture, which is still incomparably the supreme feature of our Canadian industrial life, my suggestion is that it read as follows:—

"Farmers cannot delegate their responsibility and duty of a deeper interpretation of conditions. Indeed the Canadian farmer is more and more called upon and should be called upon to play a public part instead of merely a private part in governmental affairs and public questions. We have the right to speak and to be heard. But we should not speak nor ask to be heard unless what we say is constructive, truthful and valuable. If our friends the so-called industrial experts, sociological investigators and students of political and social science are studying the meaning of the forces of industry and seeking remedial measures and we are doing nothing along such lines, we have no right to criticize conclusions they arrive at unless we are able to demonstrate their errors. In other words, I may say that now-a-days a farmer, whether he realizes it or not, is compelled to be an economist, student and statesman. The old idea that the farmer is the one who merely lives on the farm is past. We must wake up to a realizing sense and quick perception of the tremendous part our agricultural industry is playing in our country."

That needs little if any comment. The farmers of Western Canada are coming very rapidly to a "realizing sense" (what a fine old revival meeting expression) of the conditions by which they have been hampered for a generation. They know that while they have been toiling others have had direct access to the council chambers of government and have been adjusting conditions so that the farmers' toil should be largely for their (not the farmers') benefit. They know that today when the world is looking forward to a period of after-war reconstruction the powers that have had their privileged grip so long upon the throat of agriculture are planning cunningly and warily to secure the tightening and the extension of that grip so that they and their class shall still receive their customary, yes, custom-ary, tribute. But, like the manufacturers, the farmers in these days are saying with a confidence greater than ever in the past, "We have

the right to speak and to be heard." And if I gauge aright the temper of the Canadian West, it is not going to take "lying down" in the day when next decisions are rendered the continued imposition of custom-ary tribute to any privileged class.

W. R. WOOD.

CORDWOOD FOR BRANCHES

Secretary E. Kirby, of our Whitemouth Branch, advises Central office that their district could supply fence posts and cordwood to other branches of the Grain Growers' Association who are in need of same and is willing to give quotations. The wood consists of tamarac and spruce and some poplar. The fence posts are all tamarac. Any inquiries sent to E. Kirby, Whitemouth P.O., will receive prompt replies. This is one of our newer branches and we feel sure that there must be many branches on the prairie who will require both wood and posts this winter and by co-operating with this branch by buying from them will receive a favor as well as conferring one.

PROPOSED PROGRAM

On account of pressure of work in connection with the proposed amalgamation of our Western interests, we have not been able to prepare the outline of program for the use of branches this winter as promised in last week's issue. We expect to have this prepared in good time for the issue of the following week.

RESOLUTION RE TARIFF

The following resolution was passed at a recent meeting of the Shoal Lake Grain Growers' Association and will appeal to our readers with no uncertain sound: Whereas the increased expenditure of the Canadian government, caused by the war and other contingencies, will of necessity require revenue from some source, and whereas the tendency of the present government is to raise such revenue largely by increasing the duties on importations, thus causing much higher values to prevail on the necessities and comforts of life to the common people, and whereas increased duties have already been imposed on manufactured goods imported from Great Britain which will tend to restrict the volume of trade as between Canada and Great Britain to the detriment of the people of both countries, and whereas the increase of tariff on importations generally does not increase revenue, but rather has a tendency to decrease it, while leaving the manufacturer in a position to charge higher prices for his goods and thus increase the cost of living to the great bulk of the Canadian people.

Therefore this Association is of the opinion that the farmers' associations of Canada should use their utmost endeavors to obtain united action in favor of absolutely free import of goods manufactured in Britain, and the gradual reduction of all import duties, replacing therefor the taxation of natural resources as a means of raising revenue for the purposes of the government.

Moved by F. Simpson, seconded by J. D. Dandridge, Shoal Lake G.G.A.

GOOD ADVICE TO FARMERS

"Even the politicians are beginning to learn that it is not safe to try and double-cross the farmer. So it is evident the farmer has made some progress and gained some wisdom. The co-operative movement is the most momentous thing that has happened in our time. Co-operation is the greatest word that man has yet learned. It is the conquering movement of the ages. It is sweeping across the world to make religion a real thing; to build a new ideal of morality and happiness, to create an epoch in which the brotherhood of man shall be realized and hatreds and divisions done away with. Legislators began to show respect for the farmer only when the farmer began to show respect for himself and his own rights. What the farmer needs is not better implements or more scientific farming methods or more advice. He needs justice and a square deal and a fair share of the products of his own labor. Somebody between the farmer and the consumer is skinning them both.

The farmer does the work, somebody else gets the big profit, and the consumer pays the bill.

"The farmer has listened to men and scientists who were eager to help him, but if he wants to get anywhere he has got to help himself. On the day that all the farmers join the farmers' movement most of their troubles will end. First of all must be settled, and settled rightly, the question of honest markets and a square deal for the farmer in the financial operations of the country."—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

WHOSE IDEAS DOMINATE?

(Continued from last week)

In the matter of rates of payment for service there is room for question. The average man earns, say, two dollars a day, but when he requires a lawyer's advice on a difference with his neighbor, or a surgeon's services to remove a diseased appendix, is it not the case that he often pays at the rate of two dollars per minute? If he goes to one of the "real big" city churches he is likely to find that the minister (a man much above the average of course) is paid at the rate of \$60 a Sunday, while his average man assistant who does the visiting and other drudgery for him is paid just the average man wage. When he travels on the train (owned and run by a company which average men by their humble contributions thru government grants put upon its feet) he pays three cents a mile, the greater part of which goes not to run trains and maintain the public service and convenience, but to swell the bank accounts and the stock certificates of the people who ride in the parlor and palace cars which the average man never enters. And when he comes home and has a chance to read the paper he finds out that the government, acting for the common people, have granted another dozen millions or so to the patient and long-suffering railway companies to keep them on their feet. If he goes to the city he wants comfort and cleanliness in the hotel where he stays, but if he selects one where that is obtainable he finds that it is run on a plan so elaborate that he must pay for much more than he wishes to use. The meals are complex and costly, just the thing for the man with twice the average wage perhaps, but including a score of things which he prefers to do without. So it is not to be wondered at that the ordinary man is looking in these days for the coming of a condition in which, because the ideals of ordinary men prevail, ordinary services will be provided at a rate which bears a right and just relationship to the wages which are paid the common people.

When the average man examines a list of the men who serve in public positions in the country and their remuneration, he finds, glancing over them almost at random, a Cabinet Minister drawing \$7,500, a Registrar-General \$6,000, a Deputy Registrar-General \$6,000, a second Deputy Registrar-General \$3,500, a third Deputy Registrar-General \$3,200, a fourth Deputy Registrar-General \$2,200, a Police Magistrate \$3,000, a Public Utilities Commissioner \$8,000, a Medical Superintendent \$3,000, to say nothing about the scores, if not hundreds, who are paid from \$2,000 to \$2,500. Now the average man does not grudge a good worker his wage, but the list makes him think and he figures up by way of comparison his two dollars, or three at most a day, and the \$625 or \$940 looks so "different." He sees without much effort that one would have to add something to it—no that is not the term—one would have to multiply it by two, in fact by three, in order to get any kind of fair standing in a class of that kind. Now, the average man can understand the matter of a man's wage for a man's work, and something added because special training and ability are required in certain lines, but it takes a man to be a little more than average to fathom the profound reason why any man on God's earth should draw year by year for services ordinarily required by the public, five, six or seven times what the average man in the community gets by which to maintain himself and his family. And so men are saying in these days that where there is genuine rule of the people by the people and for the people there will be an equitable and just relationship between the wages earned by the average man and the amount paid public servants for the work they do.

Contributed by W. R. Wood, M.P.P., Neepawa.



BUY B.C. APPLES

They Are Clean

British Columbia this year has an excellent crop of good clean apples, grown in clean orchards. Your grocer is now getting his share right from the orchards in the sunny valleys of British Columbia.

When you dig down into a box of B.C. Apples you will find every one as good as those at the top. B.C. Apples are good all the way through.

Get a B.C. Apple Booklet

Learn the names of the varieties to buy for winter storage and how to preserve 100 tasty apple dishes. The Booklet tells how. Write for a FREE COPY today to W. E. MCGAGART, B.C. Fruit Markets Commissioner, CALGARY, ALTA.

BUY THEM BY THE BOX

B. C. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

GRAIN GROWERS

Co-operate and buy your flour direct from **FORD MILLING COMPANY, Swift Current, Sask.** Save money. Cheaper and better. Write for quotations on carload lots.

Grow Figs

40 acre tract in Western Florida for sale. Over 3,000 trees, including in bearing—grape, fruit, peaches, figs, grapes, etc., etc.

Only \$4,000 on terms. Clear title. Full description on application.

LLEWELLYN FARM CO. LTD.

84 Kilson St., Norwood Grove, Man.

Alberta's Pioneer Jewellers

Established in 1886

Jackson Bros.

Jewellers, Expert Watch-makers and Opticians

9962 Jasper Ave., Edmonton

Marriage Licenses Issued

Phone 1747