

farm machinery on the free list tomorrow without bringing it before parliament. Undoubtedly such an action would reduce the profits of the manufacturers of farm machinery in Canada. That must be taken for granted. But at the same time it would lower the cost of such machinery to the farmer and much more of such machinery would be purchased and more wheat would be produced. If wheat is the great necessity, and we are told by the governments of France and England and by our own government that such is the case, then action should be taken at once. The small tractor is one of the most important pieces of machinery to save man-power. Nearly all the tractors in Western Canada were made in the United States. The duty collected on them is from \$250 to \$300 on each. On small threshing outfits the duty is from \$300 to \$350 each. On all other agricultural implements and machinery the duty is from 12½ per cent. to 42½ per cent. By taking the duty off all farm machinery immediately the Dominion government will ensure a greater production of wheat next year than by any other means or method that can be adopted. It is claimed that wheat will win the war. If this be so, here is an opportunity for the Dominion government to make it absolutely certain that there will be an increased production of wheat.

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

There never was greater need than at the present time for independent progressive candidates in the Federal constituencies in Western Canada. The present political turmoil throughout Canada is due in a very large measure to the miserable narrow-minded partisan politics that have cursed Canada for the past generation. If the West is drawn into this mess and divided on party lines, there is mighty little hope either for the prosecution of the war to a successful conclusion or

of securing economic justice for the people of Western Canada. The organized farmers and the people of the West generally are in favor of carrying on the war by every possible means for the safeguarding of democracy. After the war there will be problems to settle almost as important as the settlement of the war itself. If in the settlement of these problems it is left to the two old political parties, it is not difficult to see that there will be mighty little justice for the common people. The organized farmers, in addition to supporting the prosecution of the war, have an economic platform which is the soundest and most statesmanlike that has ever been proposed by any important organization in the Dominion of Canada. In a number of constituencies already there are candidates nominated on the Farmers' Platform and a number of sitting members in the House of Commons have endorsed the platform. It is in the best interests of the West that every candidate elected at the forthcoming election should be a supporter of the Farmers' Platform. Although it is called a "Farmers' Platform," it is really a people's platform, and as much in the interests of organized labor and of the people in the cities and towns as it is in the interests of the people on the land. By electing candidates on such a platform it will be possible to have an independent Western party that will work with either of the old parties, or with any other elements, for the prosecution of the war, and will yet be in a position to demand a square deal for the West.

INCOME TAX LIGHT

The graduated income tax is not, after all, very hard on the man with the big income. It is a bagatelle compared with the burden of taxation carried by the farmer even in peace times. The following table shows how much of incomes of various sizes is left after the income tax is deducted:

Incomes	Net income single men and widowers	Net income of other persons
\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
5,000	4,880	4,920
10,000	9,600	9,640
25,000	23,100	23,140
50,000	44,700	44,740
100,000	85,200	85,240
250,000	191,700	192,740

These figures show that the rich man has still a comfortable margin after the tax collector has called. There is room for a considerable amount of wealth conscription before some of our magnates begin to feel it.

Dr. Bland has rightly stated that he is out of a job mainly because he has been a consistent advocate of the working man's rights. It is no new thing for the interests to take a hand in the dictating of what shall be taught in colleges, theological and otherwise. If Dr. Bland had been content to keep silent about political corruption and the aggressions of capital, he would not have incurred the enmity of the coterie on the Wesley College board that has secured his dismissal and he would still be an honored member of the college staff. Now he is out of a job. The constituents of Winnipeg Centre will in all probability see to it, however, that he will have employment during the next few years in helping to shape the destinies of Canada as their representative at Ottawa. He may be counted upon to advocate the cause of the producers in parliament as consistently and ably as he has while engaged in his work as a teacher.

It is about time for a new batch of titles. Surely there must be a few politicians and a few other fellows with a pot of money who should be "honored by the King for their service to the Empire."



THE PATH OF DUTY

Note: Discharged from Wesley College staff because of his Democratic views, Dr. Bland has been nominated as federal candidate in the constituency of Centre Winnipeg, where there is a large labor vote.