

members of the cabinet will be much more effective and of greater value to Western Canada if in the House, there is a Western party with a progressive policy to support these men. The war will not last forever and when the war is over the fight will be resumed and carried on in real earnest to give the West that justice which has been denied it for so long.

Then is the time when we shall need these real progressive, radical Western members who are not hidebound to any political party and who have the courage of their convictions. Now is the time to elect them; it will be too late when the war is over. Such candidates as are elected on the Farmers' Platform are the very best and highest type of "win-the-war" candidates that could be selected in this country. They are prepared to support the prosecution of the war to the very fullest extreme to bring victory to the Allied cause. But at the same time, they are prepared to support their own people and secure for them a square deal in our own domestic legislation. The farmers of the West should not allow themselves to be fooled by any appeal for fusionist or "win-the-war" candidates. They should go ahead as they have planned to do and elect candidates on the Farmers' Platform, and then they will have men at Ottawa who will look after the interest of the West as it should be looked after.

THE ELEVATOR STRIKE

The longshoremen's strike at the lake front which held up 12,000,000 bushels of grain at what was probably the most critical period in the history of lake shipping, did more than demonstrate the complexity of modern business. It called attention to two of the most significant movements of modern times. One of these is the growing strength of the labor movement with its fight for recognition of the union as its objective. The other is the impetus that has been given to government

control of public utilities and services by the war. The right to bargain collectively through an organization is one for which labor men have fought some of their fiercest industrial battles. It has been shown time and time again that organized workingmen have been able to secure greater relative increases in wages than the unorganized. In order to secure their rights labor men have, like farmers, been forced to bring the weight of their organization to bear in the settlement of disputes. They are gradually securing the recognition of their organization as the means through which they are to work in the settlement of differences with their employers. The justification of the action of laboring men in this or that strike is not necessary to justify the principle of recognition of the union for which they are struggling. In the settlement of the strike at the lake front the men received at least partial recognition of their union. The future will probably show that this strike far from being a cause of unsettled conditions will make for greater industrial stability.

As to the taking over the control of the elevators under the War Measures Act, this is but another instance of the way in which the war is broadening the field of government activity in industry. One after another of our industrial arrangements have broken down under the stress of the war. Three years of the conflict have done more towards bringing about the day of government ownership of public utilities than would have been accomplished in a decade of peace. It is unlikely that a retrograde movement will set in after the war. The principle of government ownership will hold all the ground it has gained. Although the benefits accruing from the war are but as dust in the balance compared with the destruction and discouragement that it has caused, still some benefits will accrue from it. One of these is the extension of the principle of government ownership and control of public utilities.

Now is the time to secure stockers and feeders for the coming season. There will be big money in cattle feeding this winter. Ten to twelve thousand cattle are arriving weekly on the Winnipeg market now and a far too small proportion of these are going back to the country. It looks as though there was a serious liquidation in cattle supplies, as the receipts on the Winnipeg market this year have every month been double those of a year ago. A much smaller number are going back to Western feed lots than did last fall. This should not be as there is likely to be quite as much money in either feeding cattle for market before the first of April or in running them later or even until next fall. Prices of feed are high, but the margin of profit should be quite as good.

Get ready for the next war loan. Farmers should subscribe to this as liberally as anyone else. Its security is unimpeachable. You can get your money at any time on a few days notice; the interest rate is infinitely better than you can secure in the bank, so why not buy war bonds?

Every freight car that travels only partly loaded represents a waste that this country can but ill afford. Freight cars should be loaded as near to capacity as possible. By so doing we will enormously increase the carrying capacity of our railroads.

MR. CRERAR RETAINS CONNECTION

T. A. Crerar informs The Guide just as we go to press that he is not severing his connection with the organized farmers. He will continue as president and general manager of the United Grain Growers Limited. Mr. Crerar states that he is not entering a party government but is going into the Union government as a representative of the organized farmers.



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