

The Mail Bag

REFERENDUM QUESTIONS

Editor, Guide:—In response to your invitation to readers of The Guide to submit their opinions on your referendum questions, I venture to give my views, as you say that all opinions, either for or against, will be welcome.

1. I am in favor of the Initiative and Referendum merely to the extent of not being opposed. That is to say, while they would not likely be of any great harm, nevertheless, they would not be of any particular good. The Recall would only be a humbug—and encourage the chronic kickers. We would have no peace with the Recall in effect.

2. Free Trade with Great Britain would be alright if Britain had a tariff against foreign nations. Otherwise Britain is not in a position to make a special agreement with us.

3. It would not be advisable to completely abolish the Canadian tariff, as considerable funds are needed to finance the affairs of the government. If there was no customs tariff, who of your Free Traders would feel like putting up the money?

4. I am rather suspicious of "Direct Land Tax." How about all the great wealth held in stocks, bonds, shares, etc., possessed by rich men who own no land at all. How would you tax the millionaire who owns no land? Is a bona-fide settler to be penalized for taking a government homestead and so becoming a land-owner?

5 and 6. I am not in favor of a special tax on anything or anybody. It savors too much of vindictive Socialism.

7, 8 and 9. Yes to each of these.

10. I don't think "Farmers" or Independent candidates would help matters. Note the small-minded abuse of Secretary F. W. Green by party men, because he "left the fold" last year and ran as an Independent. A man would always be up against that kind of spite work.

11. This question looks too much like a bid for support of certain elements in our politics who are trying to create and foster a Separatist or Anti-Imperial sentiment. We should support the British navy to the full extent of our ability. Kickers should be honest and go over to the enemy.

Yours sincerely,
HAROLD CLIFT.
Bender, Sask.

THE FUNDAMENTAL REFORM

Editor, Guide:—Canada has been the goal of many thousands of emigrants during the last ten or fifteen years. From almost every European country, from Oriental lands, as well as from the United States, the tide of emigration has turned towards our shores. The poor illiterate Pole or Galician comes, hoping that in the new land beyond the seas his condition may be bettered. The pale clerk in the English counting house has for months been saving from his scanty salary, that he might pay his passage to Canada. The Scottish tenant farmer sells his small belongings, and with his wife and family bids farewell to his native glen and his native land, so dear to him, but on which he may never tread again.

What motive has impelled these people to leave their homes and come thousands of miles across the sea to become residents of Canada? It is the desire, inherent in almost every human being, to secure a home for him- or her-self, to occupy a higher social position, to enjoy more of the comforts of life and to receive a more just return for their labors.

The emigration from Europe is due to several causes, the most potent of which is not over-population, as is sometimes asserted, but is caused by three great evils: Land monopoly, despotism, and militarism. These three form a "sinister trinity" which rules the so-called "Christian nations" of Europe with a rod of iron, and drives thousands of their best citizens to emigrate to foreign lands, where greater liberty may be enjoyed. How long will this influx of immigrants continue? It will continue for many years to come, and will not cease until every acre of our public domain that is of any value has been taken

up. As the pressure of population increases land now considered almost inaccessible, or unfit for cultivation, will be settled. The public domain of the United States is almost all taken up, and thousands of the citizens of that country are flocking across the border to secure a share of our free land while it is yet available.

In Great Britain the land is nearly all owned by a few private individuals, the land-owning class or aristocracy, who monopolize the wealth and natural resources of the country. They do little productive work themselves, but live upon the wealth produced by the labor of others, which they take in the form of rent or other privileges. In Great

The taxation of land values would destroy land speculation, for the speculator could not afford to pay a high tax on his land, he therefore would have either to sell to someone who was a producer, or himself condescend to become a producer, that is, either cultivate the land, build upon it, or use it in such a way that the community would benefit thereby.

It would be impossible to enumerate in this letter all the reforms, both social and political, which would be effected by the introduction of the Single Tax. Not only would rural conditions be greatly improved, as I have briefly described, but it would relieve to a large extent the congestion and misery which

that either sex is inferior because it may not be as well fitted for a class of work in which the other excels. It is possible, I suppose, for one sex to adapt itself in a measure to the proper work of the other, and we could develop into a race of masculine women and effeminate men; but, if possible, it is not desirable.

If this much is conceded it is only a question as to what is the proper place for each. The proper place for a woman is, I believe, where she is most appreciated, and where her superior qualities can best be exercised; and for a man the same. Let woman keep within a sphere where she is respected, admired and loved, and she will be safe, sane and happy; let her depart from it and she becomes a flaming scourge, a tormented and tormenting spirit.

There are differences of opinion as to woman's qualifications for exercising the franchise, but this, I contend is a judicial function, and man's reasoning powers are superior to woman's; therefore leave the work to him. The reason man has not made a better showing in this field is because partizanship prompts prejudice to override judgment; his faculties have not had free play. If women entered the arena the results would be still more harmful, as more dangerous defects would likely interfere with a weaker judgment. Woman, of course, has the individual right to vote, as she has to ride a straddle, chew tobacco, swear, or do anything else that is unbecoming. But in gaining these rights she will have lost her privileges and have descended from her exalted plane. If the toast to "Woman, once our superior, now our equal" ever becomes in order, her position will certainly not be improved.

It might be even desirable to allow her the franchise if she were wise enough to refrain from using it. But wisdom is not one of her distinguishing qualities, as shown by the dearth of female philosophers.

After all, why should she strive so for such a doubtful attainment, when . . . a mightier power and stronger man from his throne has hurled, For the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world."

F. HOWELL.

Boissevain, Man.

APPRECIATION

Editor, Guide:—I would not be without The Guide for a good deal. I am astonished to find that once in a while we find a farmer not satisfied with your paper. As for me, I don't see that it could be much improved. It is fighting the farmers' battles most effectively. We have several farmer's papers in Canada. They show us how to raise big crops, but very little how to dispose of them with profit. Very often the biggest crop brings the least money. What beats me is that the most of the farmers begrudge paying a dollar for your paper, and another to join a Grain Growers' Association. Although I am seventy years old I have my button as life member of the Saskatchewan association. They (the farmers) allow themselves to be robbed yearly of a couple of hundred dollars and don't seem to care, just as I heard a politician once say, "because we don't feel it." The whole world is organized against us. If we were wise enough to organize too, we could dictate to the rest of the world how much we should get for our produce. We could bring the rest on their knees if we were organized, for we are in the majority. What will contribute the most towards our freedom is full Direct Legislation and Taxation of Land Values to raise all revenues, municipal, provincial and federal.

C. S. DIT BLONDIN.

Tawatinaw, Alta.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

This Department of The Guide is maintained especially for the purpose of providing a discussion ground for the readers where they may freely exchange views and derive from each other the benefits of experience and helpful suggestions. Every letter must be signed by the name of the writer, though not necessarily for publication. The views of our correspondents are not of necessity those of The Guide.

FARM MANAGEMENT, by G. F. WARREN.

is the first real attempt to give farmers practical aid in solving their chief problems. Too many farmers waste their time by having no system. The most successful farmers today are those who have their business properly organized and their program of work mapped out ahead. On an average Western farm a saving of several hundred dollars a year can be made through good management. This book is one that will repay every farmer from ten to twenty times its cost. Postpaid . . . \$1.90

Ask for our complete catalog of progressive and agricultural books. It's free. BOOK DEPARTMENT, GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Britain land monopoly exists in an extreme form, and its evils are more apparent owing to the large population who have to pay exorbitant rents to the landowners for the privilege of living upon their native soil. In Canada, unless economic conditions change, practically the same condition will be brought about. In Western Canada there are wealthy individuals and land companies who buy up thousands of acres for a mere song. Usually they sell this land for much more than they paid for it. Sometimes, however, they rent it at a high figure to the incoming settler, and landlordism, with its attendant evils, arises in our midst.

That land speculation is today one of the greatest hindrances to our country's progress is a fact that no one acquainted with western conditions will deny. Lands near the railroad—and therefore valuable—are bought up by the speculator, and the settler either has to pay more for his land than it is worth, or else go away back into some remote section of the country, where, far from a railroad, and deprived of social advantages, he has to undergo many unnecessary hardships. In this way settlements are scattered, and the settler in hauling his grain to the nearest market often has to pass by thousands of acres of valuable

exists in our cities; it would give to the toiler the fruits of his toil, now wrung from him by the landowner in the form of rent. With thousands of immigrants pouring into our country, and our national domain rapidly becoming occupied, the land problem will soon become the supremely important one, as it now is in older countries. When the Single Tax is introduced, as it ultimately will be, being based on those ever triumphant principles of justice and liberty, one of the great milestones in the march of human progress will have been reached. At present the believers in the principle of the Single Tax are rapidly increasing in numbers. It is one of the reforms most strongly urged by those "standard bearers of Democracy" the western grain growers.

J. H. RICHARDS.

Chater, Man.

AGAINST WOMAN SUFFRAGE

Editor, Guide:—As you invite your readers to discuss in The Guide the subjects of your Referendum, I will try to explain in this letter why I am inclined to vote "nay" on the suffrage question.

Very much has been said and written on this subject, but it is still a lively issue, as no remedy has yet been found for this contagious disease of the mind

Books of Special Interest and Merit for Christmas

Stop worrying about this year's Christmas Gifts. You don't have to worry. Send for our Christmas Catalog today, containing Books of all descriptions. There is nothing better than a good book for a Christmas present.

AT SATISFACTORY PRICES

A postcard, giving your name and address, will bring you catalog.

Book Department, The Grain Growers' Guide
Winnipeg : Manitoba

land, idle and non-productive, the property of the land speculator.

The only effective method of combating the evils of land monopoly and land speculation is the taxation of land values, usually called the "Single Tax." The Single Tax, as advocated by Henry George and his followers, is briefly this: Abolish all taxes except the tax on land, and that in proportion to its value, which means not only the intrinsic value of the land but that value which is due to location, which in towns and cities almost entirely determines its value. It is a tax, not on labor and industry, nor the products of labor and industry, but on land, on which these are based, and without which they could not exist.

now affecting the female portion of humanity. No satisfactory solution of the perplexing problem has yet been presented. Our Creator probably knows more of our capabilities than we do ourselves, and if we study His design it might help us to a correct conclusion. We have been created in two sexes, I presume because we were intended for different purposes. We have well defined diversities of temperament and intellect, and the world's work can be best carried on by each sex adopting the parts for which they are naturally better qualified. Each sex has points of superiority over the other, and it would be well for both to perceive and acknowledge them. It doesn't follow

weight, there-
flock is a clear
through laying
the star-boarder
worth keeping
spring breeder.
plus roosters—
ull pullets and
r the table and
o time without
iment to the
re, and besides,
ls. In addition
ing to the kill-
ays the golden
bout killing the
lden egg; that
t keeping him
k and "swat"

D POULTRY

a good profit.
gs, appearance
ing top prices
direct to a re-
les should con-

least twenty.
This leaves
flesh in better

ir birds, never
birds will sell
nts per pound
ding discolours

to draw chick-
ks and geese
fore shipping
t.

retail dealer
and ascertain
wishes ship-
box, etc.

that will just
r wishes. Line
r, leaving en-
ch side. Cut
of the paper.
ly. Do every-
of that will
ative and be
conspicuously
or elsewhere.

e dealer will
ases, and you
Soon custom-
poultry. The
ipping cases

R HORSES

The Horse

ings of great
modern com-
ngestion of
ties and the
eight of the
de speed in
ares. There-
of sufficient
very heavy
has the big
erican com-
ears that if
guished the
ily at least,
ck of power
arehouse or
later years
antile firms
by putting
e streets to
as to haul
rivalry to
ince the In-
osition was
, has creat-
atisfied de-
and forced
le dreamed
year after
s his pride
anding the
relatively
any other
rger profit