

Co-operative Legislation

Bill now before House of Commons will aid the Co-operative Movement greatly.

There is, at the present time, before the House of Commons at Ottawa, a bill introduced by Lloyd Harris, M.P., which has for its object the granting of facilities for the incorporation of co-operative societies under the supervision and control of the department of labor. A similar bill passed the House of Commons last year, but in the Senate, the Retail Merchants' Association opposed it, as did the Ontario and Quebec governments, the former for personal reasons, the latter as an infringement of provincial rights. The bill was rejected by the Senate by a majority of one vote. Thus the Senate of Canada chose to throw out a bill which had the unanimous endorsement of the House of Commons. At the present time there is no machinery available and no legislation suitable to the needs of co-operative societies in Canada. The Joint Stock Company's Act provides for a division of profits on capital and not for a co-operative organization which provides only interest on capital and division of profits, among consumers or between producers and consumers.

It is generally agreed that provincial legislation would not be suitable and Dominion legislation is what is needed. Dominion legislation will not infringe upon provincial rights in any way and no province would suffer from it, but each would gain by a strong national co-operative movement.

The Retail Merchants of Canada are opposed to the bill and have shown their strength through their own organization. The Canadian Grocer, in dealing with this bill introduced by Mr. Harris, says as follows:—

"This bill will not be in the interest of the retail trade and especially will it be detrimental to the grocers should it go through. If the merchants were united all over the Dominion, such pressure could be brought to bear against the passing of such a bill that it would scarcely ever be heard of. Nevertheless, those who are united can do a great deal and also others who are interested can assist in preventing any legislation detrimental to their interests.

"A co-operative society working in every city or town will do much to separate the merchant and his customers even if it does not continue to become a success. Every association and every individual merchant should carefully watch this co-operative bill and make it a point to interview or write the member representing his constituency in the House of Commons, to oppose it.

"No member of parliament interested in manufacturing goods which are sold by the retail trade should consider it fair to be instrumental in passing a bill that will be detrimental to that trade. Yet what else do we find in the case of Lloyd Harris, of Brantford?"

If this bill becomes law, it will enable co-operative societies all through western Canada to undertake business for themselves without red tape and unnecessary expense, and will enable the distribution of profits proportionate to the business done by each member of the society after paying interest on capital. Further, such a bill would prove protection against fraudulent exploitation.

The bill will not do any harm to any retail merchant in Canada who is doing a legitimate business for a legitimate profit.

If the farmers of western Canada are sufficiently interested in this bill to have it become law, they should at once write to their member at Ottawa and urge that he give it his support. It would also be wise to write to their senator and ask for his support.

Similar legislation in Great Britain has enabled the co-operative movement there to assume proportions that are unknown in any other part of the world and which have secured for the members of the co-operative society profits to the amount of \$50,000,000 annually.

A Straight Talk To Farmers

By a Farmer

Subject:

The actual test or the doubtful guarantee—WHICH?



When it comes to buying shingles, which counts most with you—twenty-five years of actual wear and tear or a leaky guarantee?

**The Actual Test—
What It Proves**

"Eastlake" Steel Shingles have proven their durability by the actual test of time.

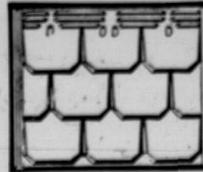
A quarter of a century ago scores of public and private buildings were roofed with "Eastlake" Metallic Shingles.

These roofs are in excellent condition and certified as such by practical building inspectors.

Think of it! For over twenty-five years scores of "Eastlake" shingled roofs have withstood the ravages of all kinds of weather—the lightnings and torrential rains of summer—the hail, snow and sleet of winter, and yet they are in perfect condition to-day.

Isn't that conclusive evidence that "Eastlake" Steel Shingles make a permanent roof?

The "Eastlake" is the ONLY steel shingle that can boast of such a record.



"EASTLAKE" STEEL SHINGLES

Lightningproof, Stormproof and Rustproof

You're not asked to buy the "Eastlake" on any paper guarantee—not asked to believe a single claim which the shingles have not proven.

You're only advised to buy the "Eastlake"—if you want a permanent roof, because the durable and weatherproof qualities of "Eastlake" Steel Shingles are positively known. They have been proven by actual wear and tear test.

Some day you intend putting a lightning, fire and stormproof roof on your house or barn. Then you should write to-day for this free booklet, "Eastlake Metallic Shingles." It contains information that will interest you. Send a postcard at once—if you don't you will forget.

—The Philosopher of Metal Towns

All kinds of sheet metal building materials—ceilings and walls, siding, cornices, corrugated iron, conductor pipe, etc.—you can have a catalogue simply for the asking. Mention it on your post card.

Manufacturers



WESTERN CANADA FACTORY: 797 NOTRE DAME AVENUE, WINNIPEG

Commander Robert E. Peary has promised to give all the aid he can to the National Geographical Society's proposed expedition to discover the south pole, but said that he would not consent to personally lead in the exploration of the Antarctic.

Since March 1 last, the immigration has totalled approximately 150,000, of which about 100,000 have gone to Western Canada. The total population of the dominion at the end of this year is therefore estimated at about 7,350,000.

A census department estimate of the population of Canada by provinces at the end of the last fiscal year is as follows: Maritime provinces, 1,037,112; Quebec, 2,088,461; Ontario, 2,619,025; Alberta, 2,73,859; British Columbia, 289,516; unorganized districts, 88,500.

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