

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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BLAMING IT ON THE INTERESTS

In a little country town where I spend my summers is a man who complains about the interests.
 "But who are they?" I demanded one day.
 He looked at me as if he suspected that I was having fun at his expense.
 "You know well enough who they are," he answered, and mentioned certain men prominent in financial circles.
 "Your list surprises me," he said. "I know one of these men. He was the son of a school teacher and had to work to put himself through law-school. The men who used to employ him as a lawyer think so much of his integrity that they would be willing to intrust him with the care of their whole estates."
 "One of your other men started with many thousand dollars less than nothing. He paid off his father's debts—debts incurred while he was a boy and for which he was in no way responsible."
 "If these are the interests" I said, "then don't worry. They are quiet, home-going, family men like yourself—only they work harder and will die younger."
 I remarked to him that I observed no great difference in virtue between my city neighbours and my small town neighbors. The man in the city who waters stock, if he lived in a small town would water milk. The small town man who listens in on a party line would bribe private secretaries of the city to give him market tips.
 It is comforting to me, of course, to blame my misfortunes on the interests. I would like to persuade myself that if some one did not pull the step ladder from under me occasionally, I might climb much higher.
 But in my saner moments I know better. I started work at seventy-five dollars a month; the first financiers referred to above started at forty dollars the other at nothing.
 Only one man is responsible for the fact that I did not keep ahead when I had such a good head start. His name is not listed among the interests—that man is myself.

CANADA CONFIDENT OF THE FUTURE.

Canada is endeavouring to regain her after-the-war stride in the midst of many difficulties—debt, deflation, and depression being some of them.
 Quack remedies and academic theories beset her path on every side. Some suggest that our debt worries can best be eased by going further into debt. Others preach blue ruin, decry their own country and indulge in mischievous propaganda generally, while still others look for a new social order or some miraculous sign to indicate a better coming day—all this in apparent forgetfulness of the fact that just as there was no royal road to win the war, there is now no royal road to pay for it or regain our former buoyancy vigor and confidence.
 Some are leaving Canada hoping to escape taxation, only to find there is no escape anywhere. In seeking for easy remedies too many of us overlook the fact that the greatest remedy is honest, hard work, faithfully and intelligently performed, accompanied by old fashioned thrift.
 Look back over the path Canada has trod. The French Colonists, cut off from civilization by 3,000 miles of sea, faced a continent—a wilderness—without the aid of even a blazed trail. They had to fight savages, frosts, scurvy, loneliness and starvation.
 The United Empire Loyalists subdued an unbroken forest in one generation, growing their first wheat amid the stumps and snags of the first clearing.
 The Selkirk settlers came to Manitoba when the prairie was a buffalo pasture, and grew wheat where none had grown before and where those who knew the country best at that time said wheat never would grow. Today the Canadian prairies grow the finest wheat in the world.
 In proportion to population Canada stands today among the wealthiest nations in the world, with average savings on deposit per family of \$800. Canada's foreign trade per head of popu-

lation stands amongst the highest of the commercial nations, being \$192 per capita in 1922-23, as compared with \$135 in 1913-14, the "peak" year before the war.
 In Canada, although prices in the world markets fell below war level, our farmers reaped last autumn the largest grain crop in Canadian history, and Canada became the world's largest exporter of wheat, thus in large measure making up for lower prices.
 Last year, Great Britain, after an agitation extending over thirty years, removed the embargo on Canadian cattle, and a profitable and practically unlimited trade is opening up for Canadian stockers and feeders.
 "The 20th Century belongs to Canada"—if Canadians keep faith.

TRADE REVIEW

Although weather conditions in certain sections of the west have necessitated some modification in the unusually favorable crop reports of a month ago, the general outlook is still better than the average. Cutting commenced in Alberta during the second week of August, and despite a few serious hail storms, which fortunately covered only limited areas, it has been estimated that the wheat crop will average 25 bushels to the acre. In Saskatchewan, a slight reduction in yield is expected, as a result of the extreme heat which affected the crops over large areas during the early part of August. Rust and hail were reported from many points but taking the province as a whole, neither has affected the yield materially, nor has insect damage been serious this year. According to estimates, the wheat yield will be above normal. In Manitoba, the extreme heat during the latter part of July caused considerable damage, particularly in those sections where the earlier rainfall had been light. Frequent showers, combined with extreme heat, caused rust to develop in many districts, principally in the southern parts of the province. The net results of these factors is a marked lowering of the grades. Present indications are that this year's western crop will be approximately the same as that of last year.

The World Wheat Situation.
 As harvest operations proceed, economic conditions throughout the Dominion rest in the balance pending the crop outcome here and abroad, and wheat, as usual, holds the centre of the stage. More keenly than ever before the Canadian producer keeps in touch with world wheat statistics. A radical readjustment is taking place in the relative importance of wheat producing countries, and this has a vital bearing upon the future of the Dominion. War and post-war conditions and the Soviet experiment have at least temporarily eliminated as large exporters such countries as Russia, Roumania, and Bulgaria who collectively used to export nearly one-third of the wheat exported by producing countries. To meet the deficit, the wheat acreage of large producers such as Argentina, Australia and India was noticeably increased. It was the North American continent, however, that really filled the breach. This required a substantial annual expansion of wheat acreage which is strikingly illustrated

by the following figures for pre-war acreage, war peak acreage and acreage at present.
 United States: Pre-War, 1909-13, 47,097,000; war peak, 1918-19, 67,437,000; Present, 58,253,000 acres.
 Canada: Pre-war, 1909-13, 9,945,000; War peak, 1918-19, 18,240,000; Present, 22,165,000 acres.
 As will be seen the reduction in the acreage of North America from the war-peak has only been 6 per cent, a considerably smaller reduction than might have been expected under the circumstances. In fact, Canada has increased her acreage since 1919 by 22 per cent. Meanwhile, the abnormal demand occasioned by war conditions has passed, and European agriculture has more or less become normal, agriculture, obviously, being less affected by chaotic political and financial conditions than other lines of industry. Present prospects indicate an increase in the wheat production of Europe, not including Russia, as compared with last year's yield, of slightly over one hundred million bushels. Against the increase which is anticipated in Europe, it is now estimated that production in the United States will show a decrease of about seventy-five million bushels as compared with that of the previous year. Outside of the United States and Canada, the important wheat shipping countries are the Argentine and Australia. The total exporting surplus of these and other exporting countries in the southern hemisphere, harvested early this year, showed no increase.

Continued on page 4.

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ONTARIO JOCKEY CLUB.

The race meetings of the Ontario Jockey Club, whether in May or September, are not only tests of speed of the highest order by the best horses, but they furnish the chance for a reunion of admirers of the thoroughbred horse, from the length and breadth of Canada.
 How often does one hear the remark, "I only go to the races twice a year. To 'Woodbine' Spring and Fall. I see all my old friends, the best horses running for the best purses, and leave after a most enjoyable week," and more than this ordinary individual cannot ask.
 In the stakes which have just closed, to be run at the Autumn meeting of the Ontario Jockey Club, quality and quantity are both much in evidence. In the two ten thousand dollar stakes, namely, Toronto Autumn Cup, a mile and a quarter, to be run on the opening day, Saturday, September 22nd, and the Ontario Jockey Club Cup at two and a quarter miles—the longest flat race of the year on the Canadian turf—to be decided on the last day of the meeting, Saturday, September 29th, the best horses of America are entered as well as the stars of the Canadian circuit.
 The entries in these two races number fifty-three in the former event and fifty-one in the longer distance race.
 Canadian owners and breeders are also well provided for and the stakes confined to Canadians show a most gratifying response in the quality and number of entries, but if "Woodbine" has an especial feature aside from long distance racing, then it is leaping, for it is here that the best leapers of America are to be found.

Much of the success of the revival in cross country racing and steeplechasing is due to the persistent encouragement given the sport by the Ontario Jockey Club. Little wonder then that the Triple Event, which consists of three Five Thousand Dollar steeplechases, in addition to a plentiful sprinkling of overnight jump events throughout the meeting, should attract to Woodbine the last week in September the best steeplechase horses in training on the American continent.
 Woodbine possesses the ideal steeplechase course, banks that are broad and brush that is thick, and this means real jumping. No better steeplechase course can be found in America.
 The principal events to be competed for are as follows:
 Toronto Autumn Cup. Handicap, \$10,000 added, for three-year-olds and upward. One mile and a quarter.
 Ontario Jockey Club Cup. Handicap, \$10,000 added, for three-year-olds and upward. Two miles and a quarter.
 Durham Cup. \$7,500 added, for three-year-olds and upward, foaled in Canada. One mile and three-quarters.
 Seagram Cup. Handicap, \$5,000 added, for three-year-olds and upwards, the bona-fide property of owners resident in Canada, one mile and a sixteenth.
 Rothschild Cup. Handicap, \$3,000 added, for three-year-olds and upwards, foaled in Canada, six furlongs. Horses are only eligible to enter in this race which during the years 1922-23 have not run upon race courses in Canada which are not under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Racing Association.

Landedown Nursery. Handicap, \$5,000 added, for two-year-olds, foaled in Canada. Six furlongs.
 The Grey Stakes. \$5,000 added, for two year olds. One mile.
THE TRIPLE EVENT.
 Woodbine Autumn Steeplechase. Handicap, \$5,000 added, for four-year-olds and upward. Two miles.
 Coventry Steeplechase. Handicap, \$5,000 added, for four-year-olds and upward. Two and one-half miles.
 Hendrie Steeplechase. Handicap, \$5,000 added, for four-year-olds and upwards. Three miles.

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