

"God gave us men! A time like this demands"
 "True hearts, strong minds, and willing hands;"
 "Men whom the tests of office cannot kill;"
 "Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;"
 "Strong men who have opinions and a will"
 "Men who will not lie."
 "Tall men sun-crowned who live above the fog"
 "In public action and in private thinking."

GOOD ADVICE TO FARMERS

IN THEIR CAPACITY OF CITIZENS

(By Officers of the Dominion Grange)

Following is a copy of the circular which the officers of the Dominion Grange have sent out to subordinate granges.

To all Subordinate Granges:

The executive of the Dominion Grange respectfully directs the attention of subordinate granges to the opportunity which the pending Dominion election affords for pressing forward certain demands to which the grange has on more than one occasion committed itself. We do not ask that any member of a subordinate grange shall abandon the party with which he is allied.

What we do ask is that all those who are connected with either one of the great party organizations shall endeavor to make use of that organization to advance the reforms which the grange has been steadily urging for years. This can be done by endeavoring, where nominations have not yet been made, to secure the nomination of candidates in sympathy with our views; by pressing, by letter or personal interview, those views on candidates already in the field; by making the questions in which we are so keenly interested subjects of discussion at meetings to be held during the campaign about to open.

Chief among the subjects on which the grange has pronounced, so far as federal questions are concerned, are the following:

- (1) The salary grab;
- (2) Military expansion;
- (3) Bounties to private interests;
- (4) Railway subsidies;
- (5) Increasing expenditure;
- (6) The tariff.

UNCALLED FOR.

We believe an increase in the sessional indemnity of members of parliament to \$2,500 is wholly uncalled for, and has been one of the chief causes of the waste of time in useless discussion at Ottawa, with all this involves in adding to the general cost of legislation. We believe \$1,500 an ample allowance for all the time that the members of a business parliament really need to spend at Ottawa. We also disapprove the annual vote of \$7,000 to the leader of the opposition.

Eighteen years ago our expenditure on militia and mounted police, aside from cost of armories, was a little over \$2,000,000. In 1906, the last full year for which official figures are available, the cost of the same services was \$6,600,000. In the expenditure on armories, which is carried out under the public works department, a proportionate increase has taken place. It is now pro-

posed to go still further in this same direction and make military training a compulsory part of the public school system. Against this tendency to emulate the military madness of European farmers, on whom the chief burden of all this falls, we should make vigorous protest.

BOUNTIES.

According to the Canadian year book, issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, there was paid out in bounties to iron and steel manufacturers, by the Dominion government, in the thirteen years from 1895 to 1907 inclusive, over nine and one-half million dollars. This money was not paid for goods bought by and delivered to the government. It was an absolutely free gift by the government to this favored interest.

Nor is the iron and steel industry the only beneficiary of this bounty system. From 1882 to 1907 inclusive over \$4,000,000 was paid in bounties to the fishermen of Quebec and the maritime provinces. In the nine years ending with 1907 the sum of \$772,843 was paid in lead bounties and in three years ending with 1907 petroleum producers received \$907,757 in the same way. Farmers, on whom the chief burden of meeting these exactions falls, should unite in demanding a discontinuance of the whole system.

RAILWAY SUBSIDIES.

Between the beginning of the fiscal year of 1884 and the end of the short fiscal year of 1907, a period subsequent to the \$25,000,000 donation to the Canadian Pacific, almost the even thirty-five and a half million dollars was paid out of the federal treasury in railway subsidies. In addition to this, millions of acres of land have been granted by the Dominion and the various provinces. Many of these subsidies were granted for lines in parts of Ontario settled for 100 years. These lines pay little more than nominal taxation while adjoining States railways, built without subsidy, pay \$400 per mile and more in taxation. Surely the time has come for farmers to insist that no matter which party may succeed in the coming election, this particular form of misappropriating the people's funds shall absolutely cease and determine.

ENORMOUS INCREASE.

Eighteen years ago the total disbursements of the Dominion government under all heads, was less than \$42,000,000. In 1906, the last full year for which we have official figures, the total was over eighty-three and one-quarter millions. The appropriation for the current fiscal year, aside from the railway subsidies voted, amount to over \$130,000,000. True the country has expanded and population has increased, but expenditure has run far ahead of development and it is up to farmers, who stay on the ground, whose capital is in a sense fixed and immovable, to demand that a check shall be put upon this rapid increase in an annual burden which rests mainly on their shoulders.

THE DUTIES.

1906, the last full year for which we have the official