



NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

This department of The Guide is maintained especially for the purpose of correspondent should remember that there are hundreds who wish to discuss a problem or offer suggestions. We cannot publish all the immense number of letters received, 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. Each and ask that each correspondent will keep his letter as short as possible. 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. The aim is to make this department of great value to readers, and no letters not of public interest will be published.

CO-OPERATION IN DENMARK

Editor, Guide:—As promised, I am sending you a few impressions received during our visit to Denmark, regretting I have been unable to find time to do so earlier. No other country—with the exception of Switzerland—that we have been able to visit, has interested us so much as this little kingdom, with its two and one-half millions of people. The marvellous progress it has made since the disastrous war of 1864, when Germany took Schleswig-Holstein from her, and left her only 14,844 square miles, has won for her the admiration of the world.

The Danes know, as no other country does, the value of co-operation, and they apply it to almost every branch of agriculture, both when purchasing, as well as selling, and by its use seem to have overcome every difficulty encountered. I took pains to investigate its workings as fully as I could, visiting creameries, pork packing plants, and a large number of farms, big and small, in order to satisfy myself that co-operation is really responsible for their present prosperity, and I can come to no other conclusion than that co-operation has done and is doing all that has been claimed for it, and the Danes unquestionably owe to it the marvellous recovery which they have made from the hopeless ruin which seemed inevitable in 1864, and the ushering in of the general and unusual prosperity now spread all over the country.

Our visit was the more pleasant because we came across so many Danes who could speak English—every child in the Danish schools is taught one language besides their own, and the relations between England and Denmark being so cordial, English is the language usually chosen. Although I had an interpreter, we could, in most cases get on without his aid, which was more satisfactory, as one farmer can more easily get the information he needs direct from another farmer than through an interpreter, however good he may be, when he is not a farmer.

The Dane not only makes his co-operative societies profitable from the business standpoint, but it gives him strength also in directing the affairs of his country. Compulsory education has freed Denmark of her illiterates. Now all her citizens are educated, and notwithstanding they are mainly farmers—a class other people do not credit with much intelligence apparently—they are bright business men. At their meetings for the trans-

action of business they also discuss questions of national interest, and when elections come the farmers have their men ready, and see to it that they are returned. Thus Denmark has a farmers' Parliament, with laws favorable to agriculture and its upbuilding.

In Denmark the state railways help the farmers in every possible way. Education is designed to draw towards the farm, not to educate from it, in fact there, agriculture is given its place, and is recognized as the foundation, main-spring and mainstay of the country, consequently Denmark is prosperous to an extent unknown in other countries.

One cannot but reflect after a visit to this wonderful little country that its success is due entirely to the fact that the people manage their own affairs. They do not allow the professional politician, with his smooth tongue and slippery ways, to do it for them. They select their men, return them, and see that they do what they were returned to do, and what they (the people) want. In fact, the Danes simply use common business sense, and as a consequence Denmark is a prosperous, contented and happy country; every citizen has an intelligent grasp of the affairs of his country, which gives him an interest—also confidence—in their administration, that is most helpful to the people and their representatives alike.

Should we be surprised, then, to find Denmark a free trade country, owning its railways and other public utilities, leading the world in its methods of co-operation, and its system of practical education?

Is it not remarkable that we in Canada have allowed our representatives to pull the wool over our eyes, and lead us into economic bondage, because we have neglected to take our share in the work of selecting the right men to attend to our affairs? We alone are responsible for our present position, but there is surely a change coming. The young giant—Canada—is awakening, the muscles are twitching, the limbs are beginning to move. Soon the bonds will burst, and freedom will be ours. How soon this will come remains entirely with us. Let each one of us do his duty, and bring this desired state of things about as speedily as possible.

W. J. TREGILLUS.

On R.M.S. Empress of Britain.

Note—Mr. Tregillus has just returned from his trip through Europe. He spent a short time in The Guide office, in Winnipeg, last week. We hope that he will have time to send us more letters on conditions in other lands.—Ed.

A PUZZLER

Editor, Guide:—There are two things I have noticed in the speeches against reciprocity, viz.:

1. That it would divert trade north and south, instead of east and west.
2. That the Canadian farmer will get no more for his grain.

Now, I cannot see how these two arguments can go together at all, for if the Canadian farmer will get no more for his grain, what in the world will he ship it south for? As for being disloyal, who is the more disloyal, the farmer who ships his grain out of the country for a better price, therefore bringing more money into the country, or the manufacturers who ship their produce to other countries, and sell them there cheaper than they do at home?

E. CLARKSON.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE

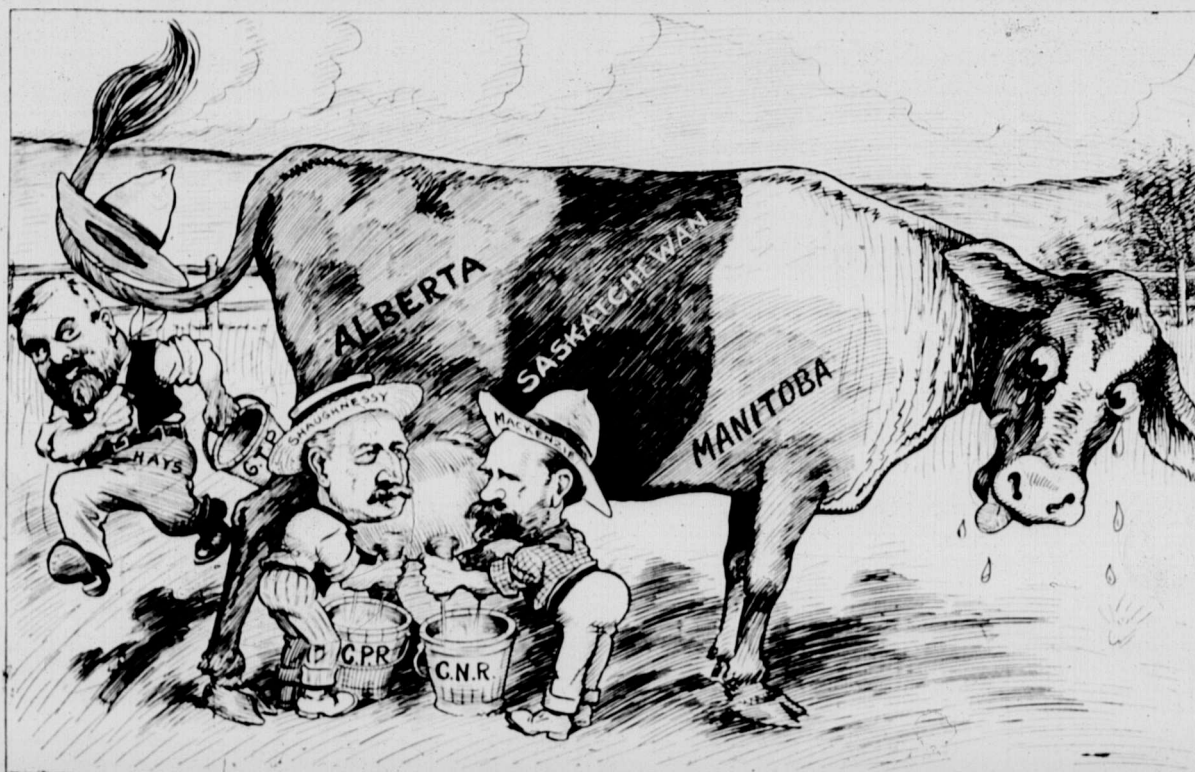
Editor, Guide:—In regard to woman suffrage in a recent issue of The Guide, Mr. Horne says, with reference to certain protagonists: "We are (as he thinks) completely running off the rails." He then follows with a very earnest paragraph on the action role of womankind which, inferentially, is on the rails. An examination of it, however, will show that it runs on the well-worn, but poorly ballasted rails of sentimental inanition, and time-hallowed prejudice that should long ere this have been cast on the scrap heap along with other mental lumber, broken or water logged by the on-rush of applied logic and science. A few sentences will indicate his line. "Ladies, confine your-

selves within the part nature has given you." "Woman, be and stay the consoling angel of the home." "Be and stay the first educator of the children." What, it may be asked, has such effusions to do with the right of suffrage? Would one not be as much apropos the question of manhood suffrage, supposing it were not lawful to say, "Gentlemen, be and stay the bread-winners of the home, and so confine yourselves within the part Nature has given you." "Father, be and stay the first disciplinarian of your children." Anyone would say that such sentences would serve as signals of distress or indications of having no grip on the rails, if it were not a deliberate attempt at side-tracking. Why not confine your remarks, sir, to the topic, that is, the subject under discussion, Woman Suffrage? You, like many another, make the easy assumption, that if woman were given the suffrage, she would cease to confine herself within the sphere she has hitherto adorned. Have the men of England, who, by the extension of the franchise under the governments of Disraeli and Gladstone, were brought within the pale of the constitution, "ceased as a consequence thereof to any extent to be bread-winners?" Again are the men of Canada who to a greater or less extent, exercising their reason, cast their ballot, less manly, efficient, or less worthy of respect. Nay, rather, does not the right of suffrage lend a dignity to an individual, which is the fit concomitant of individuality? A mother bird can perform quite as successfully the functions which are the desiderata of men of Mr. Horne's way of considering the matter. In human life individuality is what counts. The person most widely read, of broadest education, of experience, is he whom the state is most desirous to express an opinion on proposed legislation. Now it is a fair question whether the state can afford not to have woman's point of view in matters of common being, for women's interests are equal if not greater than those of men in most phases of life, whether social or economic.

"Consoling angel, forsooth. Is it not because woman is the practical jollier and sympathetic advisor that man's cares drop from him when he enters the home atmosphere? To quote again, "The man is fighting, ruling; the woman is pacifying and convincing." Let her continue to convince until the fighting man is as sane as she is. The writer of this article then concedes that women have brains and know how to use them. In other words women have judgment enforced by a more or less pronounced individuality.

Now we may ask, will the exercise by a woman of her reason on matters of legislation make her less lovable, less desirable as a wife? Legislation may roughly be divided into the two classes, social and economic. As an example of social legislation, let it be supposed that a bill has been laid on the table of the provincial legislature which will compel every bachelor in the province to go East or South and seek a wife. Any sane woman of this province (albeit at present with the status of the insane) is entitled to an opinion on such a matter. Is there anything more lower of lovable qualities in her marking a ballot, in separate booths, if necessary, for or against the proposed law, than in sitting down and writing a friend down East about it, in a friendly letter? With reference to

The Wonderful Railway Strain



The Milking Tournament

SHAUGHNESSY—"Say, Bill, there ain't no water in this stock."
MACKENZIE—"No, and this cow don't need no Bond Guarantee."
HAYS—"So, boss, I like cream in my tea, too, boys."