



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. Each 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 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 out of public interest will be published.

LINE UP FOR OTTAWA

Editor, Guide: I notice the Guide, Sept. 28th, that Manitobans is the only branch as yet published who have decided to send a delegate to Ottawa. Hurry up you other branch associations; get your resolutions put through; let us stand shoulder to shoulder as men. Never mind the sore heads, they will all come in line some day. Let us get after the common enemy and down him. I should like to see Manitoba with a full company of warriors in the ranks. Let us hold our positions among the foremost. If we don't force our mighty men to do justice to our cause, then, be contented with your song of misery. If a united front is not shown to both parties there is no use us making any demands. I tell you right here, Mr. Editor, I am a disciple of Mr. Kirkham. I believe in the third party. Being an Old Countryman, I have read a little of Old Country politics and, undoubtedly, the labour party there has been a great strength in bringing about better legislation for the working man, and is coming better every year. From what I have read of politics and the painful business of listening to the mud-slinging of both parties in this country, I have come to the conclusion that the present day politics of Canada are a disgrace to civilization. Either the third party or "Direct Legislation" is the antidote for purification and I believe it is coming before long. Witness the Trades and Labor Congress held at Fort William on Sept. 12th. They will lead the way yet.

DAVID REID.

Manitobans.

MARCH ON TO OTTAWA

Editor, Guide: There does not seem to be the necessary amount of energy in The Guide regarding the tariff. The manufacturers have crossed the country, had their convention in a western city, have disregarded and openly defied the voice of about 30,000 farmers of the Prairie Provinces and a large number of other free traders in other parts of the Dominion. The president went so far as to say that the small bunch of farmers who were asking for free trade did not know what was best for themselves or the country, and that what they (the farmers) wanted was a protective tariff which was not only a benefit to farmers, but to all classes in Canada. Now let me say right here to the president of the Manufacturers' Association, that when we farmers decide that we need some one to tell us what is best for our own welfare, we want to pick our man and not have some pampered, pay-fed individual assume that position unasked. I would say to the farmers, "Get together immediately, talk over this tariff question, arrange to send delegates to Ottawa so that the Crows there will see that we mean business." Unless we do we will be ignored and the greedy manufacturers will only tighten the death grip which they already have upon our throats. The International Harvester Company of America, incorporated in New Jersey at \$120,000,000 controls the price of all farm machinery in Canada today, and they are not running this gigantic corporation whose ramifications penetrate almost every nook and corner of the agricultural world for nothing. Their object is money. Get the money. If they can't get it legally, get it illegally, but get it. The farmers would do well to drop any paper whose policy is to boom

the trusts interests, but find no room for farmers' doings. The farmers have the strength to reduce the tariff and their cause is just, but they must be vigilant, and agitate, organize, and get a good solid body of agitators and level headed men and take them down to Ottawa pretty soon or they will wake up, only too late. The Manufacturers' Association is at work now agitating and advertising, spending money wrung from the farmers through the medium of exorbitant prices, making public opinion for their cause. Now, my fellow farmers, get busy and win a lower tariff. It is yours if you go after it. Will you go?

H. G. AHERN.

Claresholm, Alta.

MR. GABRIEL ON TARIFF

Editor GUIDE:—Evidently some do not understand my position on the tariff. The intricacy of the tariff should make us approach it with the caution and exactness due to the most profound mathematical problem. Free Trade is the ideal policy when mutual, but when the mutual trend cannot be had, protection is a necessary evil. Some talk of revenue tariff and protective tariff as if

our own fruit growers. Free corn might be good for the dairymen and hog growers of the East, but not for the oat growers of the West. Free meats might benefit the towns but not the farmers. More than to the amount that Free Trade would benefit any class in the country it would hurt some other class; and no class in a country can allow another class in the same country to be injured commercially by an outside party without hurting itself. All the different classes in a country are interdependent, like the different parts of a human body. O, that we all could comprehend the grand doctrine that is going to sway the future, that is the greatest good of each is the greatest good of all. If time would permit I might show how the strong often by oppression kills the goose, which would lay to it the golden egg. But to follow the tariff. Suppose we pay 17½ per cent duty on our imported goods, under free trade we would get those goods 17½ per cent cheaper, but the 17½ per cent. would not be in the treasury. But unquestionably that 17½ per cent. must come to the treasury, from somewhere. If you farmers say that the other fellows should pay it, I agree with you, by saying as I said before, that a readjustment of the tariff we want, and not abolition and even reduction. To have the 17½ per cent paid into the treasury through a tariff is a wise policy—as long as the tariff is in fashion by the other countries—as it not only replenishes the treasury, but also protects home industry, but it should be paid in by the proper party. To abolish the tariff is not what we want, but to make the right party pay it. By the abolition of the tariff the farmers in some instances, might keep the 17½ per cent. on his own purchase in his own pocket, but some other fellow-countryman would have to pay it, and after losing the protection would be less able to do it. Is it wise to put the foreign dogs on him and make him pay the 17½ per cent. too? Can you hurt him without hurting yourself? To every industry in Canada that can be benefited by protection, give it. If one of your horses were taking more than his share of oats, would you and your other horses benefit by letting your neighbor's horse in to take it from him?

The Farmers and Co-operation

(From the Winnipeg Weekly Telegram, Oct. 12, 1910.)

Farmers the world over are fast coming to realize the advantages of the co-operative system in the marketing of their produce, and also in the purchasing of their necessities. In many parts of Europe every article the farmer produces is placed on the market through his co-operative society, and every article he requires is purchased at cost through the same agency. In these parts the farming community have gained great strength and it may rightly be said that the tillers of the soil are the rulers of the land.

In America this system has not yet been developed to the same extent as in the older countries. A few years ago the Western farmers applied the co-operative principle to the marketing of their grain and the success which they have already achieved has done much to encourage the movement throughout all Canada and the United States. Only a few years ago the great body of Western farmers was made up of isolated individuals, each one standing by himself and for himself. Through the Grain Growers' Association these isolated individuals were brought together into one united body, and out of these associations was organized the Farmers' Co-operative Company, known as the Grain Growers' Grain Company. The general opinion when this company started was, that a Farmers' Company could not succeed, but the phenomenal success which this company has made has dispelled this idea from the mind of even the most skeptical. The Farmers' Company is still making rapid progress and its influence upon the market and the grain trade has become apparent to everyone.

they were two different things but remember that every tariff that gives revenue protects.

The present situation is thus: We have a Free Trade league agitating according to its fancy, and even The Guide seems to be affected. Let us not be carried away by whims. If we had free trade to-morrow I do not see that we would be one bit better off, but on the contrary, worse. I do not think that many of the goods we buy would be much cheaper, binders for instance, how would they become cheaper? No doubt a few things in some localities might become cheaper, and that to the injury of other localities. Some localities might get cheaper fruit, but not without hurting

Better improve your feeding arrangement. The farmers of Great Britain are worse off than we are; how if Free Trade is such a panacea? On the other hand it would be very foolish in them to agitate for protection as some of them do—as a cure for their ills. Our disease is inequality between the classes in the country, while the tariff, let us remember this, effects the relation between the countries. In the matter of labor the principle of protection is generally recognized as fair. What is my object in writing? Not so much anxiety, that Canada cling to the policy of protection, although I believe that to be the best, but a desire to see the farmers, not only anxious for redress, but seeking it scientifically, that is, seeking

THE
H.B.K.
BRAND
Patent
Ripless Gloves
are Guaranteed
NOT TO RIP
Your Dealer Sells Them

what would really be a redress. Catching a straw will not save a drowning man. If time would permit, I might refer at length to several things we greatly need, but as this letter is already long, I will only mention a couple. To prevent the minds of the people being poisoned by our viperous press. It is less criminal to poison a man's mind than to poison his body? Look at the effect in Laurier. To abolish land marked constituencies, and have members of parliament elected at large. By that method every class or creed could have its just share of representation while as at present with only a few Grain Growers in one constituency say, and a few in another, they are ineffective.

Allow me to congratulate Mr. Parker, Gilbert Plains, on his splendid article on "The farmer in politics and commerce."

Unitas' reference to Free Trade and Prosperity, reminds me of Laurier's Providence and Prosperity.

Mr. George W. Atkinson, tries to prove the futility of farmers entering politics, but the trend of his logic would do as well to prove that we should not try to raise crops again because we have met with failures.

LEWIS GABRIEL.

Bangor, Sask.

Note.—As the above letter was not published with the promptness which Mr. Gabriel thought it demanded Mr. Gabriel wrote us again as follows:—

"My article on the tariff not appearing I conclude that THE GUIDE is going to give us selected views not including anything which might hurt its own pet creeds; if so its value for me is annulled and I believe to the majority of the Grain Growers when they find out, which will not be long. It is getting too much of a day for a tyrant nor a tyro to permanently succeed. I can stand all the criticism you may offer, but no muzzling. I would regret—on account of the good you have, and might accomplish—to be obliged to move to your enemies' camp. I am no kid in the matters whereon I write, and sometimes notice your great ignorance on some things, but can endure all but tyranny. Some of the matter on agriculture you publish is childish; better leave it alone, unless you find an odd article with real newness and soundness. We are surfeited with teaching on farming. The "Mail Bag" is by far the best part you have, only it is small. Your leading article on tariff last week (Oct. 5) was very deceiving and lacking in sound logic. Your knowledge on different things seems too secondhand. You are not acquainted with first principles. Excuse my plain talking, I would not bother you only for the farmers' cause. Blind zeal will not succeed. You can easily see that as I am anxious to forward the farmers' cause and being confident that you are on the wrong track it would neither be logical nor benevolent in me to desist. With hope that you will be wise enough to guide the farmers' cause to triumph, I remain

LEWIS GABRIEL.

Bangor, Sask., Oct. 9.

P.S.—Mr. Partridge gave you a good kick re Horn. Your eulogy of the late King Edward was awfully out of place; what did he do to diminish oppression? And your admittance that you do not believe in socialism is a bad sign. Do not get mad.—L.G."

Note.—Mr. Gabriel reminds us of a recommendation that was once given to a young man in something like the follow-