

An Unwise Movement

From Industrial Canada, the official organ of the Canadian Manufacturers Association

Seldom has a more selfish or narrow appeal been made to any class of Canadians than that which is being made from week to week to the farmers of Western Canada by The Grain Growers' Guide. Ignoring the basic conditions of our national life, the immense expanse of country, the varied resources, the different callings and aptitudes of the people, and especially our propinquity to a great and wealthy nation on the south, this paper is carrying on a propaganda the results of which can only be disintegrating and denationalizing. An appeal to the pocket always gains some attention. People are inclined to believe that others are gaining more or less illegitimate advantage from their labor. Playing on this human weakness The Grain Growers' Guide serves up to its readers a grossly unfair statement of the effect of the tariff on their economic condition. It would have its readers believe that the \$61,000,000 which was collected as tariff revenue last year was so much money filched from the farmers. Why the farmers? Does not everyone who buys goods contribute through the tariff to the public revenue? Do not the miners of Nova Scotia, the textile workers and lumbermen of Quebec, the machinists of Ontario pay their share towards the upkeep of the government service? Why pick out the farmer and cry into his ears that he is being abused, that he is the victim of greed, that he is paying for the prosperity of the country? Canada is a country of diverse opportunities. The West is made up of land unequaled in all the world for fertility and productiveness. Northern Ontario and Northern Quebec contain areas worthless for agriculture but heavily wooded and with immense water powers—the right combination for a pulp and paper industry. In the barren and rocky district of Sudbury is found copper and nickel, the latter being the only source of this mineral in America. British Columbia boasts of timber without end on land which is valueless for farming. Canada can never be satisfied to develop one side only of her national life. She cannot work her farm lands and leave the rest of her area, an immense area in practically every province, untouched. Agriculture employs many men and adds unboundedly to the national wealth and prosperity. But so do lumbering and mining and fishing, and so will the more advanced stages of manufacture—paper making, machinery making, textile making, if they are encouraged. Are we to leave our forests lying idle, our water powers undeveloped? Are we to lose the benefits of our natural resources and raw products? That is not the policy which will build up a strong nation. Exception is taken to the collection of \$61,000,000 in tariff revenue. It cost Canada over a hundred millions last year to keep house. Has anyone suggested an alternative to the tariff for the collection of this sum? That much money must be collected. If in collecting it Canada attracts capital to the country and increases the population by so many workmen, so many consumers of farmers' produce, is not something accomplished? When the C. P. R. was built twenty-five million dollars in cash was turned over to the company, besides a huge land grant; during the past five years many millions have been invested in the National Transcontinental; every session of parliament means a million or more in subsidies to railways; a hundred millions have been spent on canals; at the present time Canada has on her hands, besides the immensely costly transcontinental line, the Hudson's Bay road, the new Welland canal and the proposed Georgian Bay canal; everyone, it might be pointed out, of great and intimate importance to Western farmers. These public works have to be paid for and a tariff has been adopted by all parties and all classes as the best system for raising the revenue. The changes have been rung on the special privileges cry long enough. The policy of Canada at the present time is to give each activity the encouragement and support that it needs to enable it to meet the competition of foreign labor and foreign conditions.

What has been the result? It appears in our trade returns, in our immigration figures and in our uniform progress. In the past two decades government reports show that the price received for farm produce has increased from fifty to one hundred and fifty per cent. During the same period the price of manufactured goods, the goods which the farmer has to buy,

has increased not more than four per cent. That farming in Canada pays is sufficiently proved by the influx of farmers from the United States, who are leaving the country of their birth to take up land in Canada's fertile West. Meanwhile Canadian farmers are becoming less dependent upon outside markets for the sale of their products. Manufacturing centres and the consequent development of urban population have made a demand for food products which in many lines has taxed the powers of the farmers to supply. Soaring prices have been the inevitable consequence. The tariff is objected to because, it is said, it increases the cost of manufactured goods. But what is an increase of four per cent. in twenty years compared with the increase in value of the things the farmer sells.

The law of supply and demand is inevitable. The tariff policy of Canada has enabled Canadian factories to expand and has compelled over two hundred foreign companies to establish Canadian branches. The increase in the consuming population has developed a new and great demand for farm produce. The increased demand has caused an increase in the price. The tariff is incontrovertibly responsible for the greater measure of prosperity which the farmers are now enjoying. Is that prosperity to be imperilled by the ill-advised efforts of unwise friends of the farmers to change our tariff policy? We believe that the farmers will think twice before they urge a change from the conditions under which they are winning such a large measure of prosperity.

FARMERS GETTING WISE

Owing to the great demand on the part of the readers of The Guide for information on agricultural subjects and upon the many economic questions, it was decided about two months ago to open a book department in connection with The Guide. Many of the readers of The Guide have taken advantage of this department and have secured valuable books to help them in their work. During the past two months the Book Department of The Guide has sold to farmers throughout the country more than four hundred books at a cost of over \$400. It is interesting to note the books that are in most popular demand. Up to the present time the most popular book handled by The Guide has been William McDonald's book on "Dry Farming," which shows that the farmers of the West are anxious and determined to improve their knowledge of farm conditions. The second most popular book is "Bookkeeping for Farmers." Then follows in order "The City for the People," being the standard work on Direct Legislation. The study of gas traction is demanding much attention on the part of the farmers, and there has been a considerable demand for "Audel's Gas Engine Manual." The tariff question has also attracted a great deal of interest in the West, and a considerable number of farmers have ordered Porritt's book, "Sixty Years of Protection in Canada." Other popular books have been "How to Cooperate," "Home Pork Making" and "Barn Plans and Outbuildings." It has cost The Guide a considerable amount to advertise these books and bring them before the farmers, and the book department is not conducted as a money making concern. It is solely to assist the farmers in securing books upon subjects in which they are interested. Every effort is made to supply the books promptly, and it would assist very much in The Guide office if farmers in sending in orders for books would send them in separate letters and not in the same letter with subscriptions or anything else they may be writing about. The majority of books which are handled by The Guide are not kept in stock in The Guide office, but are ordered from the publishers, and it takes about ten days to fill an order. Owing to the demand, however, of "Dry Farming" and "Sixty Years of Protection in Canada" a stock of these books has been secured and is kept in The Guide office. Any farmer wanting either of these two books can secure them by return mail by writing to the Book Department of The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

Fruit Farming Means Wealth

BRITISH COLUMBIA is fast becoming one of the World's Garden Spots

There are some localities which are not adapted to this class of business, but our lands lie in a district which has already proven itself. We have sold many pieces of land which under careful care and cultivation are proving vast money makers for the owners. Why not avail yourself of our offer while there is yet choice land?

\$25.00 PER ACRE IS OUR PRICE \$25.00

We will sell British Columbia Fruit Lands at this price in tracts. Get a few of your friends together and let us know how much you wish to purchase. We will advise you at once in regard to locality, terms and conditions of sale. Our literature is attractive and instructive. Write for it at once. Climatic conditions are ideal, the work is pleasant and the profits are large.

MAURER & WILDE 901 McArthur Building **Winnipeg** MAN.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR

SACKETT PLASTER BOARD

AND

EMPIRE BRANDS OF WALL PLASTER

MANITOBA GYPSUM CO. LTD., Winnipeg, Man.

Saskatchewan Case

Continued from Page 8

of land valued with its equipment at at least \$10,000. There are 30,000 in our Western organizations, which means an investment of \$300,000,000 if, as our friendly rivals declare, we are only twenty-five per cent. of the Western farmers, we would represent the enormous aggregate of \$1,200,000,000, and we think we may fairly claim to be the articulate mouth-piece of the whole.

Now, we think conditions should be so that this enormous capital invested should earn interest as well as the capital invested in other industries which under present conditions is, we think, impossible.

We have heard the resolutions read and discussed which are to be presented here regarding the Hudson's Bay Railway, the Railway Act, the tariff and chilled meat industry, and with all of them we concur.

If these recommendations are adopted and put into practice we believe that a step will have been taken towards bringing about that happy time when the agricultural industry will be more remunerative; that the business of farming will be more attractive, and the unnatural drain from the rural communities towards the cities will be stopped and rural life become a little heaven to leaven the whole lump of the Canadian nation, which we believe, is destined to lead the world in the solution of Twentieth Century problems.

TARIFF BILL DRAFTED

Washington, D.C., Dec. 28.—Impetus to the movement for a tariff commission was given to-day by conferences at the White House and at the Capitol, by the return of representative Longworth of Ohio to Washington with a full draft of a bill creating a commission, and the announcement by chairman Payne that he expected such legislation before March 4 next. Following a discussion with the president over various features of the legislative program for this session, Mr. Payne, who is republican floor leader of the House, announced that he was quite sure a bill for a permanent tariff commission acceptable to the president would be put through the senate and house before

the session ends. Mr. Longworth's bill which he expects to introduce next week creates a commission of five members not more than three of the same political party, salaried at \$7,500, each with offices at Washington, but empowered to meet anywhere.

The bill embodies features of the tariff commission bills of senators Beveridge of Indiana and La Follette of Wisconsin introduced at the last session of congress, and of congressman Good of Iowa and Len Root of Wisconsin at this session.

TAKE IT

from me, old pal, if your horse has a cut or sore or a collar gail, the 'Longsight' Cut and Sore Eradicator will bring him out as slick as a button in short order.

"When used simultaneously with the 'Longsight' System-Builder, the combination is productive of marvellous results, as the System-Builder cleanses the blood, and heals internally sores left by distemper or arising from other causes.

"If it has the mange, one application of the 'Longsight' Mange Eradicator will cure it, as the majority of cases are completely cured by one application.

"I have tried them all, and find them indispensable to the horseman. They are all guaranteed.

"Ask your druggist for them, or send \$1 each for the first two named remedies, and \$2 for the last one, to the

Eradicator Manufacturers

CALGARY - - - ALTA.

Imperial Hotel

Corner Main St. and Alexander Ave. The Farmers' Hotel of Winnipeg. Centrally located. Good meals, and warm, comfortable rooms.

Rates, \$1.50 per day

ANGUS McLEOD | Proprietors

JAMES MORTON | FREE BUS