

The Mail Bag

AN OPEN FORUM

This page is maintained to allow a free discussion of all questions vital to western farmers. Up to the limit of space letters will be published giving both sides of all such questions. It is not possible to publish all letters received, but an effort will be made to select those most fairly representing different views. Short letters will be given preference. All letters must be accompanied by name and address of writer, the not necessarily for publication. Unused letters will be returned if accompanied by postage.

A CORRECTION

The following letter has been sent to The Guide correcting an erroneous impression:

Mrs. Walter Paribby, President U.F. Women of Alta., Alix, Alta.

Dear Madam:—A story has come to me to the effect that I was responsible for Recruiting Officer Albright forcing his way into the meeting of the Women's Section of the U.F.A. and that the women were "highly incensed" at the Free Press on that account. I wish to make the following statement:

First, I never saw nor spoke to Mr. Albright.

Second, I did not know that he was to address either the men's or the women's meetings until after those addresses had taken place.

Third, being informed that there had been some disturbance over his address in your meeting, I went to that meeting to ascertain the facts. You were very busy, and I spoke to Mrs. Spencer, the vice-president. She gave me a brief account of what had happened and advised my talking to you about it. I waited a little longer, but as you were still busy I left. From what I gathered from Mrs. Spencer, it seemed that anything unpleasant that had

all the reports of the Edmonton meetings published by the Free Press.

Yours truly,

E. CORA HIND,
Commercial and Agricultural Editor,
Winnipeg Free Press.

Winnipeg, Feb. 6, 1917.

DOUBTS WISDOM OF TOO GREAT FREEDOM

Editor, Guide:—I note Mr. St. John's letter in the Mail Bag of January 24, disagreeing with Mrs. McClung's request that foreign and alien women should not have the voting rights of Canadian women. By way of showing Mrs. McClung the error of her ways he compares her to a Canadian citizen, with grand parents from the States, he supposes that she eventually goes to the States (the home of her ancestors, mark you), and does her best for that country. Then the States get mixed up in a world war (he doesn't say with Canada, however), and she finds because she is Canadian born that she is not allowed to vote, and he ends by asking dramatically, "how she would like it!"

I may be dull, but I can't see a vestige of likeness between such a case and that of those aliens in our midst who live snug and secure on their well-

HOW CAN MACHINERY SERVICE BE IMPROVED?

Farmer and Implement Dealer Co-operation—Suggestions for Better Use of Power

This year will see perhaps the greatest shortage of help Western Canada has ever experienced. The fullest co-operation of all factors making for greater production is essential. The maximum use of farm machinery is necessary and the minimum amount of lost time in operating that machinery should prevail. This demands the fullest co-operation between the farmer and the implement manufacturers, and more especially between the farmer and the local implement dealer. The latter should make special efforts to give the farmer in 1917 the greatest possible service he has ever rendered. On the other hand it is equally desirable that the farmer should, by making such plans as he can, render this service as easy as possible on the part of the dealer. Consequently we would like to have all the letters we can get from farmers and implement dealers or manufacturers during the next three weeks on this question. Will you sit down now and write us your opinions on:

1. How can the local implement dealer render the farmer more efficient service during 1917 than ever before? Wherein has his service fallen down in past years, and why?
2. How can the mail order house give the farmer better service on implements or repairs in 1917, so as to keep machinery going full time?
3. How can the farmer, by preparing his machinery early, by keeping a few of the most necessary repairs on hand or in other ways, help himself and the implement dealer to save time, expense and patience and get the very maximum amount of work with the least help this year? Can you offer concrete suggestions along this line?
4. Can you offer any suggestions or improvements in hitching devices that you may be using but which your neighbors are not, that will enable more power to be used with the fewest men? In what other ways can the shortage of labor be overcome by better use of power? What suggestions have you to offer in the way of preparing machinery for spring work?

We want these letters not later than March 5, and we will pay a prize of \$5.00 for the best letter, and regular publication rates for all others we can use. This is a matter of great importance, in which every farmer should render all the service possible this year.

transpired was due to lack of tact on the part of this recruiting officer, and I decided not to mention it in my reports; further, I took the trouble to seek out Mr. Fitter, reporter for the News-Telegram at Calgary and asked him not to publish anything about it either. He had a story prepared, which he destroyed, and so far as I know, no mention was made of it in any paper except a brief one in one of the Edmonton papers, which no doubt you will have seen.

Had the matter been an idle rumor about myself alone, I would have paid no attention to it whatever, but as I was representing the Free Press in an official capacity, I would be sorry indeed for the women's organization to think that I had in any way whatever interfered with their program. It was a matter of regret to me that I could not give more time and space to the Women's Section, as their subjects for discussion seemed to me to be of more value than many of those coming up in the men's convention; but as my position is that of a commercial and agricultural editor, it was my business to be in the other room. Under separate cover I am sending you two copies of the weekly Free Press, which contains

stocked farms while many of their neighbors who have left all that they hold dear—with small chance of ever returning—not that they love to be in a fight, but so that peace on earth may come back the sooner, and their foes are the kinsmen of those men to whose women some would give the vote because of a rabid quixotism where the cause of woman is concerned, regardless of consequences.

True, we are told to love our enemies, but don't let us overdo it, at this time. In my opinion we are loving them quite strong enough when we allow them so much liberty of speech and action and chance to make their pile without even a compulsory tax to make them do their bit for Patriotic, Red Cross and other war societies. Those of them who are farmers are making money hand over fist, but most of them, with so little gratitude in their hearts for their privileges that they give at best but cheap answers in return whenever opportunity occurs, and would gladly give all their garnered wealth to aid the cause of the oppressor, if it were possible. Again, if they feel the injustice of taxation without representation so keenly, why didn't they go where such laws are enacted in the

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Gold Rule (Registered)	2712	2.75
Marquis (McKenzie's Gold Standard)	2714	2.75
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Marquis (McKenzie's Gold Standard)	2722	2.75
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Abundance (Registered)	2726	2.75
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Marquis (McKenzie's Gold Standard)	2730	2.75
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Gold Rule (Registered)	2736	2.75
Marquis (McKenzie's Gold Standard)	2738	2.75
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Abundance (Registered)	2758	2.75
Gold Rule (Registered)	2760	2.75
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Abundance (Registered)	2766	2.75
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Marquis (McKenzie's Gold Standard)	2770	2.75
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Abundance (Registered)	2902	2.75
Gold Rule (Registered)	2904	2.75
Marquis (McKenzie's Gold Standard)	2906	2.75
Super or Victory (Registered)	2908	2.75
Abundance (Registered)	2910	2.75
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