

Mail Bag

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ter laws and better legislation, and more of it for the farmers, and later we began to learn something about co-operative buying and selling and shipping.

A lot of credit for the good work done along educational lines has got to be given to our official organ, The Grain Growers' Guide, for it fought many of our big battles for us in the early days. Then, out of the organized farmers grew the Grain Growers' Grain Co. of Winnipeg, with men at its head as true as gold who took the chances in the early days of sacrificing all they had in the effort to make it a success. All honor to men such as Henders, McKenzie, Cramer, Partridge, Kennedy and the rest of the men of the old brigade,

who were the first to make it possible for the farmers to do their own selling through their own Company. Then came the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co. and later the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co., now united with the Grain Growers' Grain Co., as the United Grain Growers Ltd.

Now we can do our own business with our own Company through our own elevators in each of the provinces, and our stock can be handled through our Stock Department at Edmonton, Winnipeg and Calgary Stock Yards, giving to our farmers every cent that belongs to them. A large number of our farmers are co-operating by shipping together. Such stock or hogs are branded when shipped so that each farmer gets his just returns on his part of the shipment. It is now up to all our members to work to make our undertakings a

big success, help to establish co-operative shipping centres at convenient points, and take the advantages offered you by consigning your stock, hogs and grain to the United Grain Growers. Also get the advantages offered at our elevator points in twine, wire, salt, bran, shorts, flour, lumber, posts, etc., and above all see that every farmer in your district becomes a member of your local union. The many things that ought to be done can be done if we get together. Get every one to read The Guide and get well posted on what is doing, and by each and all doing our bit we shall leave the old world not too bad a place for our sons and daughters to live in.—Rice Sheppard, Edmonton South, Alta.

AN INCONSISTENCY

Editor, Guide: The Government, I

believe, have passed an act loaning returned soldiers \$2,500 at five per cent. Now my question is, "what provision has the Government made to aid men who served eight to ten months training and then received their discharge?" A great many sold their stock and implements at a sacrifice, and when they received their discharge returned on their land and today are paying eight and ten per cent. for money.—Alberta.

A GOOD START

Editor, Guide: I am beginning to think I shall have to change my mind. Up till now I could not believe the government was in earnest in its appeal for increased production. How could I, when war broke out they not only would not remove the greatest barrier to production but built it higher. However, they are beginning to see light. If they keep up the good work and do the same with other machinery as with the tractors I shall be fully convinced they are in earnest. Wouldn't Canada be a prosperous country if it had honest men to govern it?—H. W. Shirley, Cloverley, Sask.

Editor, Guide: Kindly allow me the use of your columns to express a farmer's sentiment on war-time production. Our own boys are in France; as one of them says: "Matching their flesh and blood against the perfection of scientific destruction." They went supposing that there was no danger of their Canada neglecting to provide for their needed supplies. We are now told officially that there is a possibility of those boys failing for want of food or coming back beaten. We are further told that Canada is the source of food supplies for Britain. Therefore it is certain that we have either sent too many men away and impaired our productive capacity, or we have failed to organize our productive forces, or done both. Last year we found that farm laborers held us up for wages, playing us against each other for an advance and we were never sure of keeping the men. At no time was there the necessary number for the easiest harvest. I would suggest to the government that they send to France some of those red blooded British who object to be conscripted for production, to take the places of my own boys who are willing to either fight or farm and can farm to surpass the help of last year. Farmers have asked for the removal of tariff on implements and tractors on the ground that labor shortage can be made up for in part by use of tractors. The answer is removal of duty on the smallest size and purchase of a number of small tractors to be resold for cash. We cannot imagine that the tractors pulling more than two or three plows will not save laborers, on the reverse, the only saving effected will be where one man or an engine will do the work of two or more with horses; the fact of an engine working more hours will not count unless you have a man to change off with. During the general election nothing mattered but "win the war" but we are now seeing that there are things that matter, things unseen that stultify the boasted statesmanship. To Mr. Calder we would say, get on with the big aggressive things, throw wide open the throttle of production. We are farming to win the war, preaching is overdone, we have an impelling principle within that will not let us slack. If credit, or tractors, or conscription of land, men or wealth are necessary to defend our humanity the statesmen who flinch are cowardly. For my own part I cannot anticipate a full crop this year as things are at present.

We farmers are willing for conscription, giving us the same allowance for a living as Sir J. Flavelle, and the same interest on our investment.

W. A. CODLING.

Birch Hills, Sask.

SERBIAN RELIEF

I have great pleasure in enclosing you herewith a receipt for \$50, this amount having been received by you during the month of February.

Please accept our most grateful thanks for this splendid contribution.—A. P. Hamilton, Hon. sec.-treas., Man. Serbian Relief Committee.



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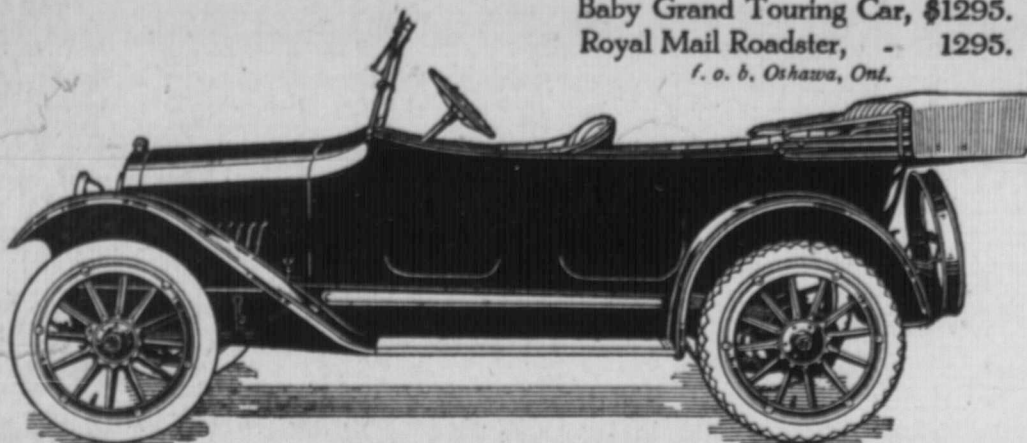
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