

any association suffers injury from such conduct on the part of members as is described in the foregoing extract from its columns what an admirable monthly the official organ of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association would be!

There are, of course, other ways of impeding the success of an association. But the ten ways mentioned by Industrial Canada are of universal application, like the law of gravitation, and the truths so tersely set forth in the multiplication table. Those ten ways were as applicable to the Ratepayers' Association in ancient Babylon (if the ancient Babylonian ratepayers had such an organization) as they are to the branches of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, for whose special behoof they are intended by Industrial Canada.

They apply to any associations whatsoever—for instance, to the local associations of the Grain Growers. They are deserving of being commended to the consideration of all whom they concern.

### Hidden Flour Milling Figures

At the recent annual meetings of the shareholders of the Ogilvie Flour Milling Company, and of the shareholders of other big milling companies, immense profits were announced. But neither in the financial statements submitted at the meetings and afterwards published, nor in the addresses of the heads of the companies to the shareholders, reviewing the year's operations, is there anything about the number of barrels of flour made.

In view of the Order-in-Council, passed at Ottawa, restricting flour milling profits to 25 cents a barrel, are not the public entitled to this information? Is it not the duty of the Dominion government to see to it that this information, about which the big milling companies are so shyly reticent, is set forth in open daylight?

### The Price of Milk

Manitoba has been enjoying an investigation into milk prices for the past two weeks. The Crescent Creamery Company, the largest distributors of milk in Winnipeg, applied for permission to increase the price to the consumer, but before granting permission, the Canada Food Board appointed a commission of enquiry to determine whether the increase in price was necessary. At the opening of the commission's meeting a letter was read from H. B. Thomson, chairman of the Canada Food Board, in which he said: "One of the main things which I think you can easily prove is that the producers of milk are conspired and combined to enhance a price of the necessity of life." After taking considerable evidence, the commission found no evidence suggesting that the farmers who produce the milk had combined to enhance its price. The chairman, P. B. Tustin, Chief Food Inspector for Winnipeg, therefore, wrote to Mr. Thomson asking for some explanation of his most extraordinary letter in which he accuses the farmers of conspiring.

A further striking feature of the investigation was the refusal of the Crescent Creamery Company to give any facts or permit any investigation of anything except the milk department of their business. The company claim that the other departments are not subject to this investigation, though they explain that everything is all right and above board, and that there is nothing they are afraid of the public knowing about the other departments. The company have a buttermilk department, a sweet cream department, sour cream department, butter department, ice cream department, etc., all of which the commission regarded as by-products of milk. They, therefore, decided it was impossible to make an investigation

worth while without investigating every department of the company, consequently the commission resigned in a body and refused to continue the investigation. These are the days when investigations should be thorough and complete, particularly when dealing with the necessities of life, and it is to be hoped that the Canada Food Board will take hold of this matter and show the public that it means business.

### Agricultural Implement Profits

At the recent annual meeting of the shareholders of the Cockshutt Plow Company the balance sheet for the twelve months ended June 30 last showed that the net profits, after providing for depreciation and for the war tax on profits, were \$553,214, as compared with \$370,745 the preceding year, and \$465,211 the year before that. Other companies manufacturing agricultural implements, it is understood, are in like manner now reaping larger profits than in recent years, notably the Massey-Harris Company.

Which reminds us that the annual balance sheet of the Massey-Harris Company is never spread before the public eye. The figures of the Massey-Harris earnings are never disclosed outside the few, who, as members of that close corporation, are entitled to share that knowledge and those profits.

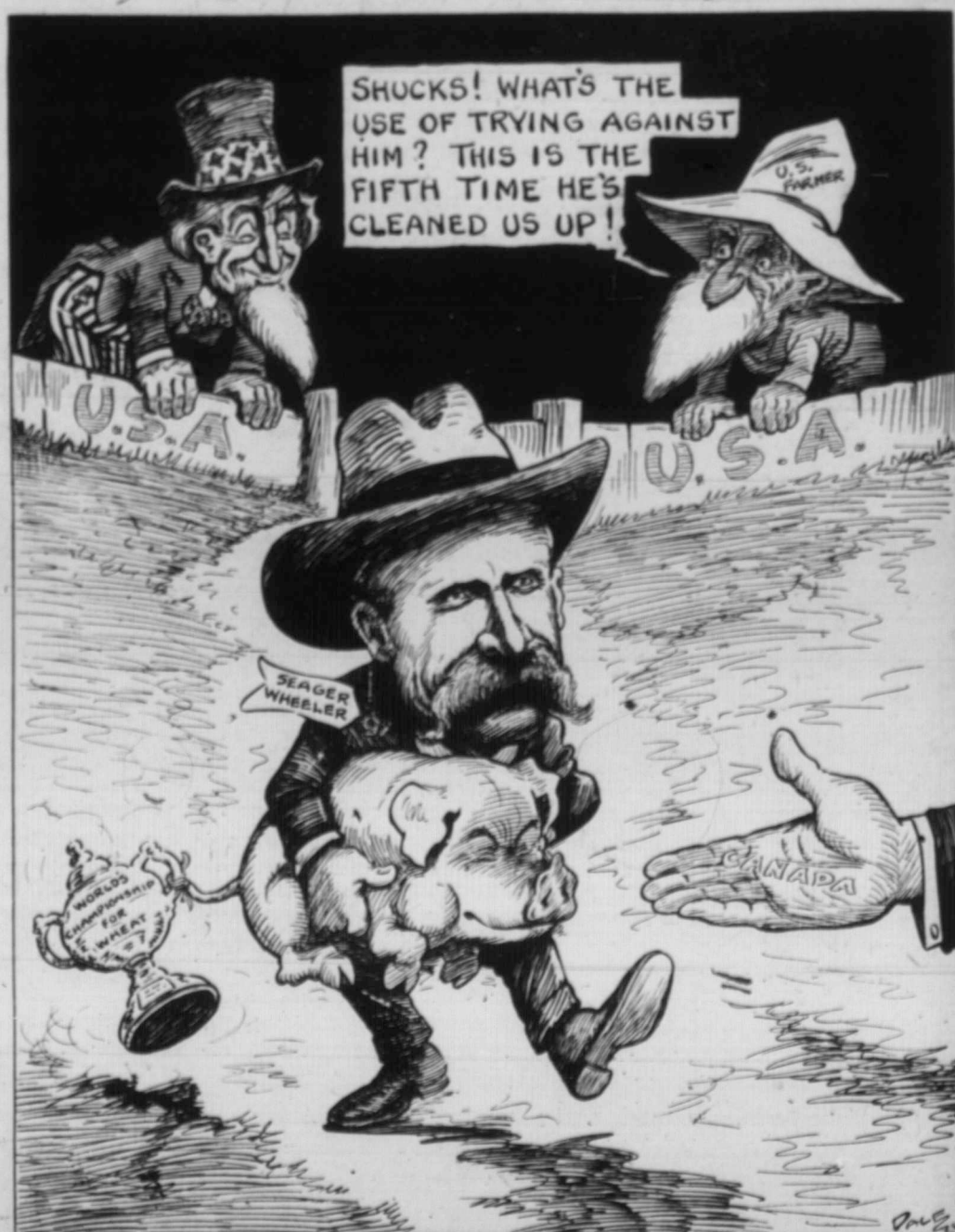
Might it not be fairly considered an essential first preliminary to the right consideration of the question of the abolition of the customs duties on agricultural imple-

ments and other manufactured products, with a view to a just settlement of that question, that all agricultural implement companies and all other protected industries should be required to set forth fully and clearly in public view the figures of their profits?

The difference between the farmers—whose figures of profit and loss are open to the world—and the agricultural implement manufacturers, is that the former are not like the latter, beneficiaries of special legislation which gives them the privilege of reaping profits which are made secure by tariff protection.

Manufacturers have undeniably been confronted by difficulties in regard to the procuring of their raw materials and other difficulties arising out of the war-time conditions; but for all that they are making large profits. The people provide the parliament which provides the protection by which privileged interests profit. Why should not those from whose pockets the profits come have, at least, the satisfaction of being provided with the exact information in regard to the profits thus provided?

The Germans have not succeeded in finding a synthetic substitute for man. The nearest approach made to it in this country is the Victory Bond. A Victory Bond cannot take the place of a man. But it makes the fighting Canadian at the front more powerful, and the lending Canadian at home a better citizen.



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