

tain verbal understandings with agents or banks or loan companies which he believed would be honestly carried out. Perhaps the other party to this supposed understanding had no intention of carrying it out as the farmer saw it, or conditions may have changed and the farmer finds himself under the necessity of meeting some obligation he had figured was safe for some months. A good example of such changed conditions is the replacement of the local bank manager by a new man unacquainted with the district, perhaps lacking a sympathetic interest in farmers and farming, and even perhaps being so green on the job as to know but very little about it. The farmers in the West who would have saved themselves endless worry and real trouble by having more definite agreements regarding their credits or note extensions or other matters are legion. The same applies to other lines of work. There are, of course, well defined limits to this, but greater definiteness in business relations is a much needed step that would go far toward prevention of many of our commonest misunderstandings.

Winnipeg.

E. A. W.

FARMER REPRESENTATION

Editor, Guide:—I was much interested last week in reading a letter in The Guide by D. W. Buchanan suggesting the steps that might be taken by the Western organizations of farmers, and I presume also labor, in regard to the next federal elections, which will take place in the near future. I am sure the sentiment expressed so concisely by Mr. Buchanan is the sentiment of at least two-thirds of the Western farmers, and it only needs an organization such as he suggests to force the "people's movement" to the forefront in federal politics.

The Western spirit fostered by the Grain Growers' Association has been a potent factor in all legislation during the past ten years in the three Western provinces. It has acted as a spark from a magnet to the political machines. The same dynamic spark is needed very badly at Ottawa, and there never has been such a splendid opportunity of getting on a connection as at present.

There are at least twenty outstanding men in connection with the organizations who are imbued with that spirit and if sent down to Ottawa would stand together and be the strongest factor in moulding public opinion both in and out of the House. Besides there will be some vital questions coming up for discussion, such as how the great war debt will be met, how the Western land policy will be handled to get the returned soldiers back to the land, the rural credit banks to assist them, the railway policy where very radical steps must be taken, and many others which, if left to the old political parties, it is an easy guess how they will be handled.

It is up to the farmers' organizations to have their own representatives continually on the job to watch their interests very closely, and how can they do it better than by having their expenses paid by the sessional indemnity which is now being used to foster the old party machines?

I do not think it wise for the Grain Growers' Association to make a move in this direction as an association, but as Mr. Buchanan suggests, a special convention should be called or a series of conventions in the different constituencies to get a more definite expression of the people. Arrangements are being made to hold a convention in Assiniboia in the early part of November and I would suggest that the Free Trade League, which is an active organization with members in each province, call a general convention in Winnipeg during the week of the annual meeting of The Grain Growers' Grain Company, when most of the old stalwarts will be on the job.

May every reader of The Guide who thinks this is the right move get busy and see what can be done.

J. G. MOFFAT.

Estevan, Sask.

NOT WELL SUITED

He was trying to sell a wind-broken horse, and after trotting him around for inspection stroked the horse's back and remarked to the prospective buyer:

"Hain't he a lovely coat?"

But the other noticed that the horse was panting and answered:

"Oh, I like his coat all right; but I don't like his pants."

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2 There is no guess-work about the heat of this oven. When the oven is right, the tested Kootenay thermometer tells you accurately.

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