

should be an attractive and instructive exhibit as showing some of the products of Eastern factories. It is a shame that some of the leading protectionists are not coming to "educate" the farmers.

### PREMIER BORDEN'S IDEALS

The annual dinner of the Associated Newspaper Publishers' Association of Canada and the United States was held in New York on April 25. One of the speakers was Premier Borden, who, though many miles away at Hot Springs, Virginia, addressed the gathering by long distance telephone. Part of Mr. Borden's remarks were as follows:—

"During the past quarter century the developments and progress in all things material have been infinitely greater than those which have been attained in any corresponding period of recorded human history. It must be admitted also that the average standard of living among the great mass of the people has greatly advanced during the same period and that the reasonable comforts of life are enjoyed more widely than ever before. But this vast increase of wealth has been attended with an enormous and large inequality in its distribution.

"It cannot be denied that this inequality in its distribution is attended with a certain danger or even menace to the existence of democratic institutions in their present form. Equality of result can never be expected or attained under an individualistic system of national organization, inasmuch as men differ in their energies and capacities.

"But no democracy is built upon an enduring foundation if it fails to endow its citizens with equality of opportunity so far as that may be humanly possible. The modern democracy is learning this lesson slowly and painfully. I do not doubt that in the end it will be learned thoroughly, otherwise I would have little faith in the permanence of existing systems of government in the English-speaking world, but no nation, however advanced in its industrialism or powerful in its accumulation of wealth, can long survive the shock of time except through the strength derived from the character of its people. That strength must assuredly be based upon faith and upon ideals. How often does the voice of idealism make itself heard above the roar of the marketplace on this great Western continent? Can faith endure in that stifling atmosphere?

"It was once said of Thomas Carlyle that he spent his life in preaching earnestness to the most earnest nation on earth. There never was greater need of those who preach a true and reasonable earnestness which shall touch and teach some higher consideration than those with which the money changers in the temple were concerned.

"Gentlemen of the Associated Press, if there be anything of the truth in what I have urged, it touches none of us more vitally than yourselves. You are the Fourth Estate. You should be the bulwark of democratic idealism.

"Honest and high-minded publicity is the most faithful friend of good government and there can be no effective public opinion on a great continent like this without the aid of a powerful, independent, and uncorrupted press.

"To you have been given the ten talents, your power is great and your opportunities as well. But equally great are your responsibilities. There is no more potent factor in the future development of national life, whether in the United States or Canada, than the just fulfillment of that responsibility.

"But to those who doubted of the future there came the tidings, not many days ago, of manhood that failed not in the supreme test of heroism, that endured the last agony with a smile and of love that triumphed over death. Tidings of infinite sadness, but yet of high hope.

"Speaking to the press of both countries, may I express my firm conviction that upon you depends in large measure the continued existence and strength of the happy relations which prevail between this great republic and the Empire to which Canada owes a proud allegiance.

"Within the next few years those kindred nations will fitly celebrate a century of peace. Let it be our hope and our prayer, that in all the glorious years to come our only contest shall lie in a generous emulation to attain the highest standards of civilization and the noblest ideals of democracy."

If Mr. Borden will pursue the ideals which he set forth clearly before the newspaper men in New York the record of his government will go down to posterity as an example for all future administrations. "Equality of opportunity," is what every man in Canada

needs. There can be no "equality of opportunity" under a protective tariff, nor under our present system of taxation, nor under our system of lack of railway regulation. Mr. Borden is not by any means responsible for all these inequalities of opportunity, but if in the future he permits these things to continue then the responsibility must fall largely upon his shoulders. He struck the right chord in his speech. If he follows them up by just legislation Canada will soon move into the ranks of democracy. Let us hope that Mr. Borden will put into practice the principles of which he has approved.

### TAFT'S POINTED TRUTHS

President Taft addressed the newspaper men's meeting in New York by long distance telephone on the same occasion as Premier Borden. Mr. Taft said:—

"I shall not weigh my message to you with an expression of my respect for the concentrated power in this country that you gentlemen represent. The safety of the country lies in the fact that you neutralize each other, and in the growing conviction to the country that truth is not in you, but that it lies between you. I am not thereby consigning you all to an Ananias club, however strong your desire for close association under some banner, but I am explaining to you how each one of you saves the country from the rest. I shall stop now in order to avoid any fancied explosion or my boom, for I wish to give no one of my supporters any excuse for rating me as a dissolving view and kissing me farewell with sweet compliment. My dear fellow craftsmen, engaged with me in uplifting society at so much per good night; Pax Vobiscum."

Mr. Taft realizes that most of the newspapers of today are tied body and soul. The truth is generally not in them. The freedom of the press is a myth. Mr. Borden courteously refrained from telling the newspaper men just what the newspapers really are. He outlined their possibilities and responsibilities, while Mr. Taft told them what they were. Thus they got both sides of the question.

### THE C.P.R. AND CHEAP MONEY

The necessity of providing settlers in Western Canada with cheap capital for the improvement of their land and the erection of buildings, to which attention has been called in the columns of The Guide, has been recognized by the inauguration of a new policy by the Canadian Pacific Railway company. The C.P.R. scheme is not identical with that which is advocated by The Guide, but it is extremely gratifying to find that this powerful corporation agrees with the principle for which we contend, namely, that the provision of capital at cheaper rates of interest and repayable by instalments over a long period of years, is essential to the proper development of the agricultural resources of this Western country. The C.P.R., moreover, has announced its intention of putting its belief into practice by loaning sums of \$2,000 at 6 per cent. to settlers who comply with certain conditions. The chief of these conditions are that the borrower purchases land from the company, that he be a married man actually engaged in farming a rented farm, that he has sufficient capital of his own to pay one-tenth of the price of the land which he purchases from the company and to provide for the upkeep of his family for one year, and that he owns, free from encumbrance, sufficient furniture, horses, cows and other live stock to enable him to go into immediate occupation of a farm in Western Canada. The amount of the loan is to be added to the purchase price of the land, and repaid by annual instalments of principal and interest, and must be expended in the erection of a house and barn from plans furnished by the company, fencing, the provision of a well and pump and the cultivation and cropping of at least 50 acres. The C.P.R. is a business institution, and there can be no doubt that those who are responsible for this scheme see profits in it for the company. It will certainly encourage settle-

ment on the company's lands; it will enable the company to sell more land and probably at higher prices, and it will also increase the value of the other lands in the vicinity which are not immediately sold. It will also increase the population and productiveness of the West, which will be a good thing not only for the C.P.R. but for the country as a whole. But this new departure of the C.P.R. of providing cheap money for farmers will reach only a few individuals in a few sections of the country. It will be available only to those who come within the restrictions outlined above. It will not relieve the farmers who are at present settled in the West from the usurious interest charges with which they are burdened; it will not help the homesteader or the man who buys land from anyone except the C.P.R. These need cheap capital just as much as do the proteges of the C.P.R. What the C.P.R. will do for the American farmers who will buy C.P.R. land, the provincial governments can and should do for all the farmers of their respective provinces. A system of government loans to farmers, as has already been shown in The Guide, would provide capital for our settlers at 5 per cent. and without costing the public treasury a single dollar.

It has been stated that in estimating the assessable value of the 7,229,233 acres of cultivated farm land in Manitoba at \$25 per acre, last week, we were too low. Possibly this may be so, but it was not the selling value we estimated. However, at \$30 per acre the cultivated land in Manitoba would be assessed at \$216,876,990 as compared with the assessed value of \$165,147,650 for 31,160 acres of land in and around the City of Winnipeg. Even at these figures it shows the value of the land in and around Winnipeg to be about three-quarters of the value of all the cultivated farm land in the province, which will give a clear illustration of how taxing land values will affect the farmer.

The Canadian Home Market association, twin brother of the Canadian Manufacturers' association, has sent us three large advertisements in the way of announcing the tour of their "Made-in-Canada" train. They realize that The Guide is the best medium in which to advertise their train. When they really want to reach the Western farmers they use The Guide. But the majority of the individual protectionists will not advertise in The Guide, hoping eventually to put it out of business. They have a task before them.

We are offering now to send The Guide to any address in Canada till the end of the year for 50 cents. At the various gatherings to meet the manufacturers' "Made-in-Canada" train there will be a good opportunity for our friends to secure subscribers to The Guide. One thousand new subscribers added to The Guide list will do more to forward the cause of the organized farmers than will the visit of the "Made-in-Canada" train.

The loss of the Titanic has not affected the volume of ocean traffic; every liner that comes across the Atlantic has its cabins full. The extra precautions that are being taken as a result of this disaster will make an ocean liner one of the safest places in the world until immunity from accident again induces a false sense of security.

William H. Taft and Theodore Roosevelt are engaged in one of the most spectacular wrestling matches ever pulled off. It would not be surprising if the result would see one of their Democratic opponents in the White House.

"Cheap money for farmers" would be a strong plank in the platform of any political party in Canada.

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