

"a lawyer, a cheese merchant, an editor and a veterinary surgeon." Yea, verily, for of such are so-called "Farmers' Institutes" generally composed. Canadian farmers—and by this we mean those who are farmers in reality, and not shysters and scheming politicians—maintain an unswerving adherence to the National Policy, for they know that through it alone is to be maintained home markets in which all their produce can be sold. They don't want to be obliged to ship their commodities to foreign countries to be there met in competition with similar products from other countries, and disposed of at forced sales for whatever prices may be had. They prefer finding their market in the nearest town where there are many manufacturing establishments and hundreds and thousands of employees in them who require all these farm products for their sustenance.

The other fellows—and by this we mean the lawyers, cheese merchants, editors and veterinary surgeons—who pose as farmers, who, in shooting off their mouths at Institute meetings, are betting on the wrong horse, and for whom a nickel-in-the-slot machine has been invented. This machine will evidently become popular in Canada some day; and these characters will be the patrons of it. It is described as being somewhat in appearance like a weighing machine, though in its action it is different. The farmers of the country who are disgusted at these pseudo imitators will encourage the victim to avail himself of the opportunity of mounting the low platform. He does so, and faces to the front. Instantly a concealed hook darts forth and seizes him by the coat collar, following which a cow-hide boot mounted on an artificial leg appears lower down and administers in rapid succession a number of vigorous kicks. With the last kick the hook "lets go," and the platform tips suddenly forward, and as the sprawling customer alights upon the floor several feet away, an invisible phonograph utters a peal of harsh and mocking laughter. The whole operation takes but a few seconds, and has been designed especially for the relief of Canadian farmers who are too busy to spend much time and muscular exertion in kicking these pessimists from among them.

PROTECTION IN ENGLAND.

ATTENTION is requested to a communication in another page in this issue entitled "Fair Trade vs. One Sided Free Trade." It is from a well known gentleman holding an honorable position in an important manufacturing town near Liverpool, who has given and is giving close attention to the necessities of British manufacturing industries, and whose conviction is that the time is fast ripening, in fact, has already come, when the one-sided Free Trade Policy of the British Government must be modified so as to afford some protection to British manufacturers, and to British agriculturists also, against the cheaper products of other nations. Our correspondent is a member of the General Council of the National Fair Trade League, the objects of which are to obtain such changes in the laws as shall prevent the products of foreign States from unfairly competing with the products of British home labor, and to promote an extension of trade between the Mother Country and her Colonial Dependencies. The policy advocated by this League is the imposition of import duties upon all competing foreign

products other than raw materials for industry, leaving the definition of the meaning of the term "raw materials," and the special treatment of Indian and Colonial products to be determined by the Imperial Parliament. The policy of the League definitely advocates 1. That no commercial treaties affecting fiscal arrangements shall be made unless terminable at one year's notice. 2. Imports of raw materials for home industries free from every quarter, in order that British manufacturers may compete successfully in the sale of their products. 3. Import duties to be levied upon the manufactures of foreign States refusing to receive British manufactures in free or fair exchange. 4. A moderate duty to be levied upon articles of food from foreign countries, the same being admitted free from all parts of the British Empire. That this Fair Trade League has enlisted in its cause not only manufacturers, farmers and other producers, but the laboring element also, is evidenced by the fact that that element is represented in the General Council by commissioners from many of the labor organizations, including those of the shoemakers, carpenters, plasterers, builders, joiners, cabinet makers, chairmakers and metal polishers, the secretary of the committee being Mr. H. J. Pettifer, an electro plate worker.

Canadians are deeply interested in this Fair Trade movement in England, because, first, it is endeavoring to restore a policy in that country that placed it years ago upon the high pedestal of popularity and prosperity that has ever since characterized it; and second, because it is an endorsement in the Mother Country of that policy of Protection that has already done so much for Canada, and from which so much is yet expected.

As long as Britain was the undisputed mistress of the seas—as long as the carrying trade of the world was done in British ships—it was possible for Britain to advance in wealth and prosperity, all the producers of wealth being satisfied with the general prosperous advancement. But there was, naturally, a limit to this advancement, and circumstances over which that country could have no control operated to advance the prosperity of other nations at a pace with which, retarded by her mistaken policy of Free Trade, she has not for years been able to successfully compete. Britain finds herself at this time handicapped by dissatisfactions and discontents at home that demand changes in her fiscal policy that will give her agriculturists some relief from the disastrous competition of the United States and other nations in supplying her home markets with the products of the field and farm, and that will give her laboring classes and her manufacturers relief from the competition of the cheaper labor of Germany and Belgium, and the cheaper products of the factories and industrial works of those countries. These classes have been beguiled for years by the glamor and dazzle with which the advocates of Free Trade have been able to enshroud their mischievous policy; but now the scales are falling from their eyes, and although it may require long and patient endurance and struggle, no doubt the day is coming when the victory of Protection will reward their efforts.

If the ladle is carefully drawn across the bottom of the tureen, evidences will be found in the *consomme* that the opponents of Canada's National Policy are submerged therein.