

between the farmers, the bankers and the loan companies in July in order that all these matters may be adjusted and repetitions prevented.

HORSE OUTLOOK FAVORABLE

Horse breeders have good reason for optimism at present. For nearly two years the horse market has been exceedingly dull and both commercial and breeding stock have been difficult handling. In the first three months of 1914 a total of 1,347 horses passed thru Winnipeg from Eastern Canada; in 1915 there were 1,588, but in 1916 there were 4,502 of which 3,250 were in the month of March. Teams changing hands at \$400 to \$500 in the country are frequent, and serviceable stuff is generally valued higher than for a good while. Breeders and dealers in pure breeds are evidencing much more interest than for a long time. United States demand has been strong and steady, particularly from Eastern markets. Quality drafters at Chicago have been selling at \$250 to \$315; 1,400 pound "chucks" as high as \$240; 1,300 pounders at \$190 to \$210. Within the last two weeks draft horses have been purchased by several Chicago coal concerns that formerly used motor trucks exclusively for several years. Scarcity of good heavy drafters is regularly the feature of this market.

THE POWER OF ENTHUSIASM

Wherever thruout the Prairie Provinces the farmers have developed successful work either in co-operative buying, co-operative shipping or co-operative credit or in any other direction it will be found that there are one or two or sometimes three men who have been the vital factors in the organization. One man in a community with a vision can accomplish wonders. It is impossible to get any very large number in a community seized of the

importance and the value of any movement at the beginning. This is the history of progress the world over. One or two men get the idea, see the possibilities and start to enthuse their fellow men with the vision that possesses them. Slowly the idea spreads until it grasps and holds the community. What is needed in this country is one or two human dynamos in each local community who will devote their time, their energy and their ability to educational effort in the cause of the necessary reforms. The possibilities for such work in Western Canada are boundless. There is nothing that should appeal more strongly to a healthy, intelligent and right-minded man or woman. A number of communities have already discovered their local Moses who is leading them out of the condition of jealousy, individualism, costly competition and wasteful methods into the promised land of co-operative community effort.

On the evening of May 2 the big printing and publishing plant of the Stovel Company, Winnipeg, was completely destroyed by fire with a loss estimated at \$400,000. The company published *The Nor' West Farmer* and *The Western Home Monthly*, and also printed *The Canadian Thresherman*, *Motor and Sport*, and *Canadian Finance*. Fortunately all the mailing lists were saved, and with the assistance of other printing plants in the city the publishers hope to get their papers out to their farmer readers even tho they will be a little later than usual. We wish to express our sympathy with the publishers of contemporary farm papers and sincerely hope that they will again shortly be in a position to carry on their work for the benefit of farmers in this country.

During June and July a large number of picnics will be held thruout the three Prairie Provinces by the organized farmers' associations. It will be an excellent opportunity to have a Free Trade speaker address these

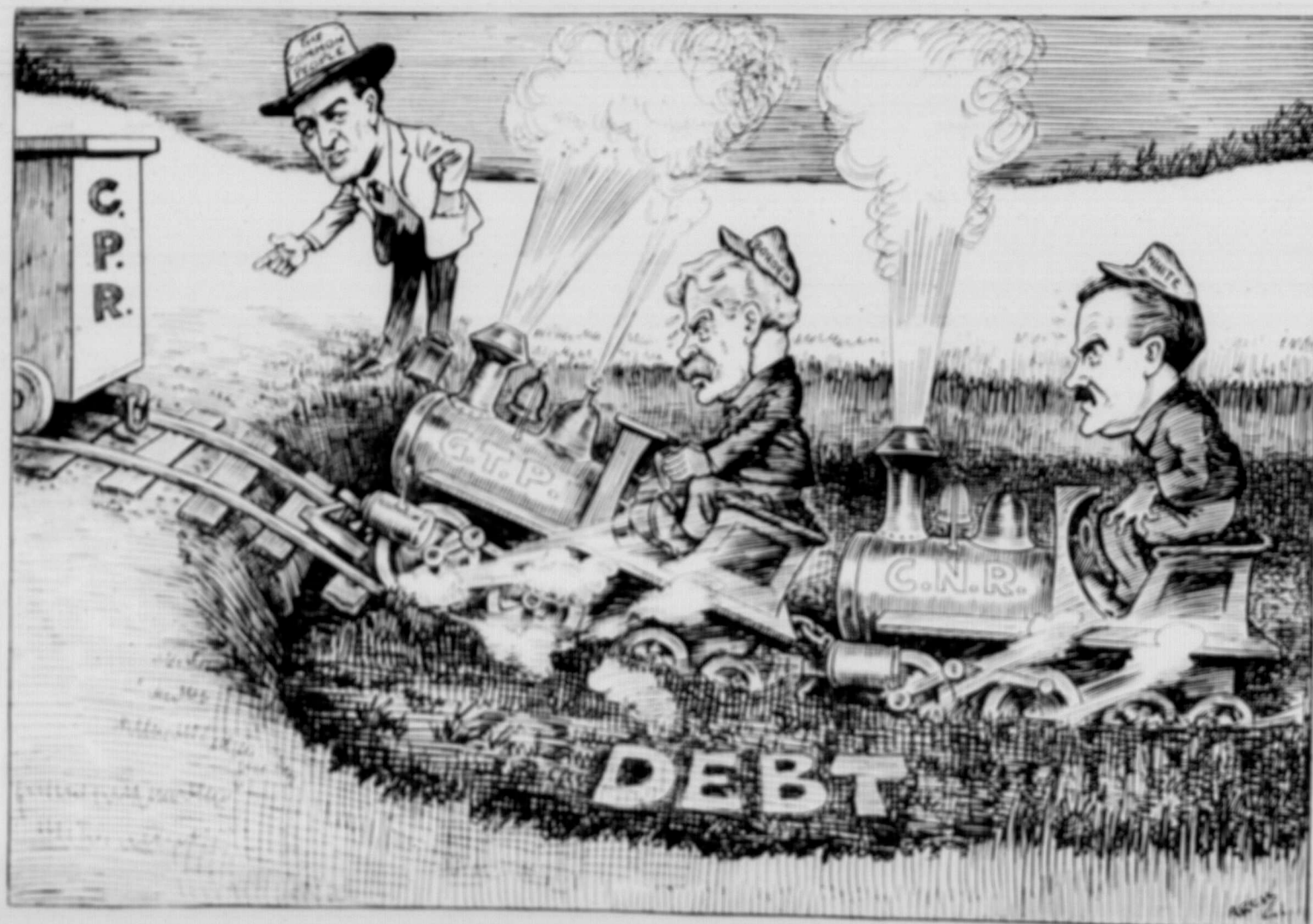
picnics and show the farm men and women how the protective tariff is taking from them a very large portion of the fruits of their labor.

We are informed that in Saskatchewan civil servants who enlist are no longer paid their full salary, but are receiving from the provincial treasury the difference between their soldier pay and the salary they originally received from the government. This applies to married men only, as unmarried men who enlist are receiving no government salary. This is certainly a more equitable arrangement than paying the full salary and allowing the soldier to draw his full pay as well, but even under present arrangements it gives civil servants a financial advantage that other enlisted soldiers do not have.

The array of legal lights now wrestling with the fuse scandals before the Meredith-Duff commission at Ottawa is said to be costing \$1500 a day. First it was horse scandals, feed scandals, shell graft, fuse scandals. Now watch the expenses pile up. The lawyers get a rakeoff whatever happens and whoever it happens to.

Nearly every government in Canada maintains a patronage list of its particular political friends from whom government supplies and material used by government contractors must be purchased. The main idea of this system is to give a little extra rake-off or graft to the friends of the government. Both parties have done it and are doing it. It's time for a stop.

Getting to town and market is becoming more a matter of time than distance and the automobile cuts time wonderfully. It also adds to the pleasure of life and the social benefit of the farmer.



A REASONABLE SOLUTION OF THE RAILWAY PROBLEM

The profits on the C.P.R. are greater than the losses on the C.N.R. and G.T.P. combined. Therefore, if it were to take over all three railroads the government would have a paying proposition on its hands.