

is pouring out financial aid to the stricken peoples of the earth through these organizations. The farmers of Western Canada have profited greatly through the high prices brought about by the war. They have also given generously to relief funds. But in common with all others they must give more generously still. To those who cannot fight comes the obligation to give, and give and give for the relief of the sufferers.

We should like to see the readers of The Grain Growers' Guide contribute \$100,000 to our relief funds. Already they have given nearly \$20,000. Of course they are giving immensely more through other channels, but we do not believe any person will be hurt or even injured by any donations to these worthy causes. Our readers have already donated as follows:—

Red Cross Fund	\$ 4,154.80
British Red Cross Fund	37.56
French Red Cross Fund	563.50
Y.M.C.A. Military Fund	527.00
Polish Relief Fund	110.00
French Wounded Emergency Fund	33.50
Blue Cross Fund	1.00
British Sailors' Relief Fund	30.00
Canadian Patriotic Fund	890.00
Prisoners of War Fund	105.00
Returned Soldiers' Fund	25.00
Belgian Relief Fund	11,708.62
Serbian Relief Fund	368.00

\$18,553.98

We would especially appeal for donations to the following funds: Red Cross Fund, Belgian Relief Fund, Serbian Relief Fund, Y.M.C.A. Military Fund, Polish Relief Fund, French Wounded Emergency Fund, Blue Cross Fund, Prisoners of War Fund. Think it over, you who are comfortable. Can you give \$1.00, or \$10.00 or \$100.00 to relieve and help someone who has lost everything, home, parents, property and all that makes for life. Send your contributions to any of these funds to The Grain Growers' Guide and they will be acknowledged through the paper and forwarded to the proper authorities.

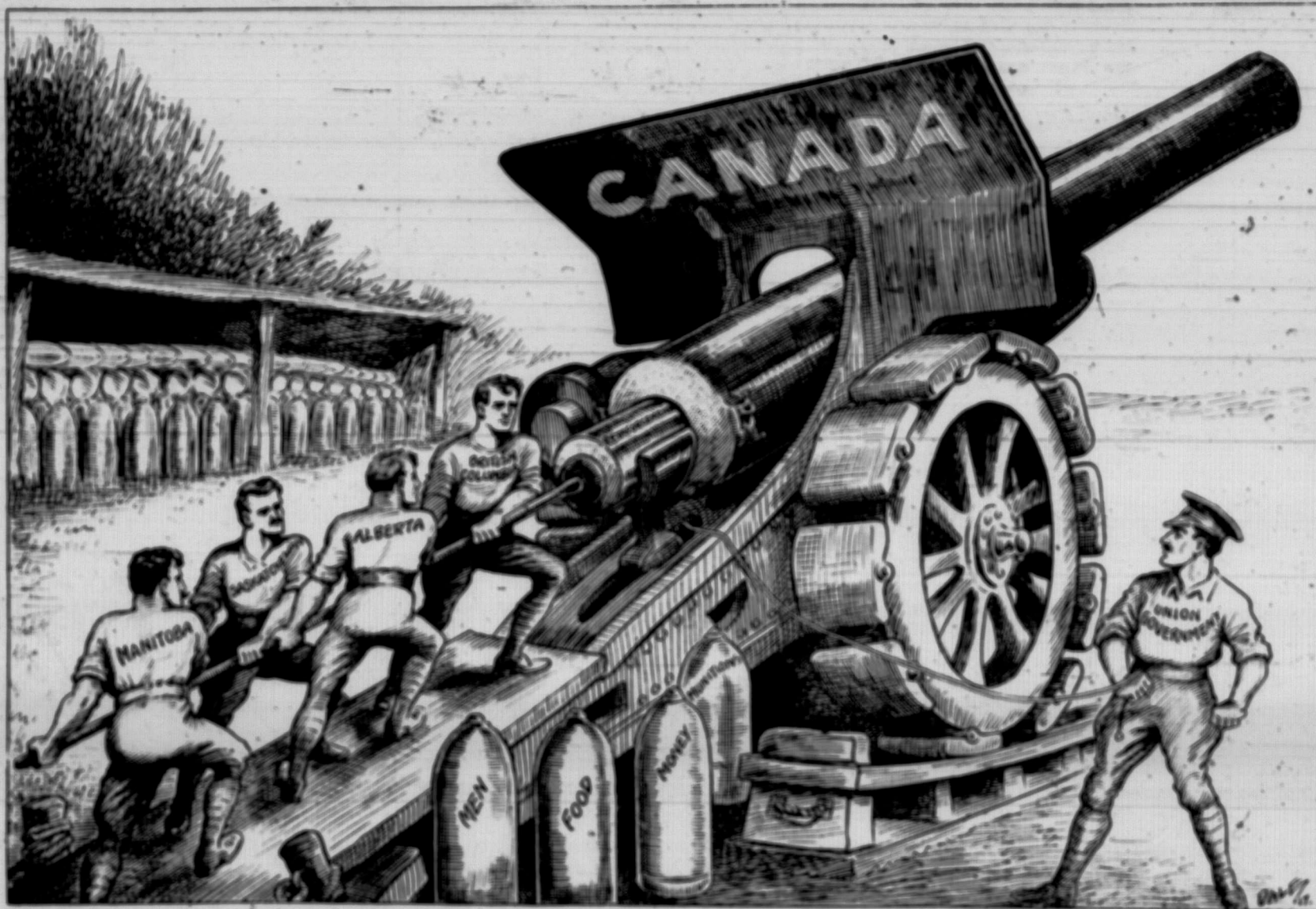
### Securing Good Seed

"If every farmer in Western Canada would use only seed grain of the improved strains now procurable, the average annual yield would be increased five bushels per acre." This statement was made recently by Seager Wheeler. Had the best procurable seed been used for the 1917 wheat crop it would have meant an additional yield of 67,250,000 bushels, the value of which would have been \$134,500,000. The statement applies with equal force to the 1918 crop. The necessity for securing the best seed obtainable was never so imperative as it is this winter. The world needs the grain. It is facing famine. The situation of the Entente allies is apparently almost as serious as that of the central powers. The hope of starving Germany into submission has given place to apprehension as to whether or not we will be able to feed ourselves. The work of supplying Great Britain with the food-stuffs that she will have to import has been assumed by Canada and the duty of producing them will devolve largely upon the farmers of the West. The scarcity of farm labor is limiting the acreage. It is also limiting the cultivation of that acreage. But there is a factor in production that is operative whether the acreage is great or small, whether the cultivation is thorough or not, whether the rainfall is copious or scanty. That factor is the quality of the seed sown. The importance of good seed is greatly enhanced by the situation in which Canada finds herself at present. Seed grain of the improved strains is now procurable. In almost every district there are farmers who have grain that is much superior to the average of the district. Not one bushel of this should go to the mills until the demands of the district for good seed are fully satisfied. The seed fairs that will soon be held all over Western Canada offer splendid facilities for securing choice seed grain. Besides there is the Seed Grain Purchasing Commission appointed on the recommendation of

the federal minister of agriculture, having for its aim the procuring of a supply of clean, sound seed grain to meet the requirements of farmers in districts effected by drought, frost and other causes. This seed is handled at interior terminal elevators at Moose Jaw, Calgary and Saskatoon. It will be thoroughly inspected, of strong vitality, clean and free from weed seeds and from other grain. With existing facilities for making seed of good quality available to the farmers there should not be a bushel of inferior seed sown next spring. In order to get the best, however, prompt action is necessary. The securing of the seed for the 1918 crop should be made the first consideration. Nothing that can be done now will pay bigger dividends or do more to offset the danger of the food shortage next fall than making sure of an ample supply of the best seed grain obtainable.

One of the outstanding features of the election was the absence of any charges of graft. It was probably the cleanest election ever carried on in Canada. We hear nothing of the use of booze for of purchasing votes nor of intimidation nor any of the other rascality that accompanies our elections in Canada as a rule. Another outstanding feature was the seriousness of the whole campaign. There was nothing of the levity nor jocularity that is usual. The people were thoroughly impressed with the seriousness of the issue and whether they were supporting or opposing the Union Government they took it with the utmost seriousness.

Never in the history of the West did so many opposition candidates lose their deposits. The huge majorities rolled up for the supporters of the Union Government have caused more than a dozen candidates in the West to lose the two hundred dollar deposit they put up when they were nominated.



ON THE FIRING LINE IN WESTERN CANADA