

PROVINCIAL PLOWING MATCH

The provincial plowing match held under the auspices of the Carrol Grain Growers' Association at Carrol June 13 proved an unqualified success. Farmers were present to the number of 1,500, and spacious marquees and tents gave the prairie a holiday aspect. The event was under the supervision of President T. J. McGill and F. H. Carroll, secretary, assisted by the following directors, George Eamer, Peter Dawley, W. B. Anderson, Andrew Turner and John Chalmers. The number of entries was above the average, 35 plows being on the field, and of those 24 were gangs.

The contests took place on the farm of J. Turner, which is situated about a mile and a half from Carrol station.

A regrettable incident was the failure of P. Hoddnott, who won the highest honors at the Bird's Hill event a few days previously, to compete. Hoddnott was among the entrants, lost after his arrival on the ground his plow, through a mishap, proved unworkable and he had to remain out of the contests.

The outstanding event on the program was the 14-inch walking plow provincial championship contest.

Roseland, Man., Wins

The premier honors were secured by J. Sutherland, of Roseland, with 97 1/2 points. He was closely followed by the Portage la Prairie expert, W. Roger, with 97.

The judges were: Messrs. Jones, Carman; Vicker, Portage la Prairie; Mayshew, Wawanesa; and Elder, of Rounthwaite.

The winners and scores in the respective classes were as follows: 14-inch walking plow provincial championship (seven extras), cup donated by Lieut.-Governor McMillan and \$300 cash, won by J. Sutherland, Roseland, 97 1/2 points; 2, W. Roger, Portage la Prairie, 97; 3, T. J. McCallum. 14-inch plow for men who never won a prize (4 entries): 1, J. Croy, 86 (also given the special prize for crown and finish); 2, A. Bain, 79; 3, J. Wilcox, 73.

Fourteen inch gangs, men's class, open: 1, Turner, 76; 2, G. V. Taylor, 73; 3, N. Turner, 66 1/2; 4, A. Lovarr, 66 1/2.

Fourteen inch gangs, open to those who never won a prize with a gang plow: 1, C. S. Sharp, 71 1/2; and crown and finish: 2, W. Wakefield, 68 1/2; 3, Gray, 66 1/2; 4, S. Rooney, 63; 5, G. Donaldson, 62.

Fourteen inch gangs, under 21 years: 1, C. Dawley, 86; 2, A. Eamer, 85; 3, H. Dawley, 76.

Boys under 18: 1, C. Eamer, 75 and special; 2, M. Rose, 74; 3, N. Rooney, 66.

Fourteen inch gangs, boys under 15 years: 1, G. Udell, 66; 2, Cathcart, 65; 3, F. Fenwick, 64.

Sweepstakes prize for sixth and seventh events: A. Eamer.

Sweepstakes prize for best plow event field: D. Dawley.

Sweepstakes for best plowed land by gang: C. Dawley.

CANADA'S REVENUE

Ottawa, June 16.—The finance statement of the Dominion for the fiscal year, which closed on March 31, shows a total revenue of \$117,780,409, as compared with \$101,503,710 for 1910. Total expenditure on consolidated fund was \$87,773,948, as compared with \$79,411,747 the previous year, while capital expenditure was \$35,696,222, as against \$34,258,621 in 1910. The chief sources of revenue were customs \$72,965,394; excise \$16,969,837 and post office \$10,818,834. The chief expenditure was \$30,852,963 on railways, including the National Transcontinental. At the close of the year the total net debt was \$350,641,852, as against \$336,773,305 in 1910.

The Grain Growers' Guide

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THE GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO GIVE UNCOLORED NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF THOUGHT AND ACTION and honest opinions thereon, with the object of aiding our people to form correct views upon economic, social and moral questions, so that the growth of society may continually be in the direction of more equitable, kinder and wiser relations between its members, resulting in the wisest possible increase and diffusion of material prosperity, intellectual development, right living, health and happiness.

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Grain Growers Meet Borden

As this issue of The Guide goes to press, Mr. R. L. Borden, leader of the Opposition, is at Brandon, where he has arranged to receive a delegation of representatives of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association prior to his public meeting on Tuesday evening. The delegation is representative of all the branches of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association and it was expected that about 150 accredited delegates, in addition to a large number of local Grain Growers, would be present.

Papers were read to Mr. Borden on reciprocity by Mr. J. W. Scallion, on the tariff by Mr. J. S. Wood, on the chilled meat trade and amendments to the railway act by Mr. R. M. Wilson, on terminal elevators by Mr. Peter Wright, and on the Hudson's Bay Railway by Mr. R. J. Avison.

THE TARIFF

The following paper on the tariff was read to Mr. Borden by Mr. J. S. Wood, vice-president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association:

In expressing our views on the burdens imposed by customs duties on the farming industry, let us first point out the revolt among consumers generally against the high cost of living largely the result of the protective system. Not only in Canada, but in other countries this revolt is quite apparent. The remarkable progress made by the United States under the protective system is invariably being pointed to us as an illustration of the advantages of protection. That this progress was due to protection altogether, is regarded as a delusion. That country made rapid progress due to a large influx population and the exploiting of its many of and varied natural resources. While the exploitation of its natural resources was going on the evil effect of protection was not apparent. Now that they have reached a stage where these natural resources will have to be conserved and husbanded, and that source of wealth reached its limit, the burden of protection is beginning to be felt in the excessive cost of living.

Its Own Destruction

Some fifty years ago the United States inaugurated a system of protection which was maintained by each successive government and increased from time to time until the tariff wall was made so high that it is now crumbling of its own weight. What is true of the United States is true of Canada in a lesser degree. In 1878 Canada inaugurated a system of protection for the expressed purpose of encouraging manufacture and with the expressed intention of continuing that protection only until such time as manufactures were established on a firm basis and business connections made. As in the United States, the manufacturers of Canada continually pressed upon the government for an increase in their protection, and, notwithstanding the protests of the farm population, and consuming classes, there was a disposition on the part of the government to accede to their demands.

Of recent years the organized farmers have been making a study of the effect of protection and, having reached a definite conclusion as to its economic fallacy, have become fixed in their determination to persist in their demands for relief from the burden imposed by customs duties. Advocates of protection base their advocacy of customs duty on the ground that it is the most economic method of securing revenue for the conduct of government, and that in thus securing revenue it incidentally affords protection to home manufacturers as against foreign imports.

Of the many arguments the Western farmers have to hear none are more oppressive than the customs duty. Of that portion of their burden which goes to provide revenue for the support of governments they have no objection, but they do seriously object to being compelled to pay a tribute to manufacturers of Canadian products under the guise of customs duty for revenue purposes. It can be easily demonstrated that consumers of domestic manufactured products in Canada today pay \$3 to the manufacturer for every \$1 that goes to the government for revenue through the imposition of the customs duty. It may be accepted as a business proposition that the manufacturer adds to the selling price of his commodity the full amount of the protection he receives and that the cost to the consumer for domestic manufactures is as high as for the imported goods.

Cotton and Cement

In 1905 manufactured cotton, to the extent of upwards of \$22,000,000 was consumed in Canada, made up of \$14,000,000 domestic manufacture and \$8,000,000 imported, on which the government collected duty to the amount of \$2,088,196 or equal to 9 per cent. of the total consumption. But the people, by virtue of the customs duty, had to pay \$2 per cent. on the total consumption. Fourteen million dollars' worth of leather was used, of which \$900,000 was imported. Duty collected by the government was \$157,799, or about 1 per cent. on the total consumption while the consumer had to pay 17 1/2 per cent. The people of Canada used \$21,000,000 worth of boots and shoes. The revenue collected by the government was \$353,600, or about 1 1/2 per cent. on the total consumption, while the people had to pay 30 per cent. In 1909 we used cement to the value of \$5,500,000, on which the government collected a duty of \$159,007, or about 3 per cent., while the consumers paid 33 per cent. It is needless giving further illustrations. These instances clearly go to point out that collecting revenue for the needs of government by customs duties resolves itself into nothing more or less than a system which permits a few manufacturers to levy a tribute on the rest of the people. It might further be pointed out that in each of the industries above enumerated there is a merger in Canada which absolutely prevents competition in the sale of the manufactured product.

An investigation in 1907 by a Royal Commission brought out the fact that in the cotton merger the dividends paid for the year were fifty per cent. of the actual money invested. The methods of the Canada Cement Company have been brought into the limelight quite recently. It was announced a few months ago that a merger of the manufacturers of boots and shoes with a capitalization of \$20,000,000 had been consummated, one of the chief promoters being Mr. Ames, M.P., Montreal, who had been very prominent in his opposition to the reciprocity trade arrangement with the United States. There are very few, if any, manufacturing industries in Canada today which have not an amalgamation of some kind, having for their purpose the elimination of competition. It can thus be seen that the method, which has in the past been adopted in Canada of collecting revenue through customs duties, by virtue of which a group of individuals are placed in a position to levy a toll upon their neighbors, is inherently and economically unsound. Neither can it be defended on the ground that it provides labor for working men for the reason that it results in the wealth produced by the earnings of the people, and the development of our natural resources being centralized into the control of a few individuals who conjointly direct our industrial and financial institutions, paralyzing individual effort and enterprise; it renders labor mechanical, subservient and dependent on the whims and caprices of a comparatively few wealthy men, retards progress and development to the best that is in man, reduces the standard of living by lessening the purchasing power of a day's work.

Manufactures and Development

It is a fallacy to assume that cities, towns and villages will not grow if the principle of protection is eliminated from a system of taxation necessary for the maintenance of government, or that legitimate manufacturing establishments cannot thrive without protection. Only a comparatively small proportion of the urban population earn their daily bread from manufacture. The census of 1901 points out that there were 2,021,799 dwellers in towns and cities in Canada, of which only 300,000 were employed by manufacturing establishments, the remaining portions of the population being engaged in distributing, transporting, financial and other interests, all of which had their cost of living enhanced by reason of protection, it consequently being an injury rather than a gain.

That the protective policy inaugurated in 1878 has been the means of stimulating the establishing of manufactures in Canada may well be admitted, but at the same time it can be taken for granted that manufacturing establishments which are indigenous to Canada would continue to prosper without protection, and manufacturing under free trade conditions would place them in a better position to develop an export business and make them better able to compete with manufacturers who operate under a protective system.

Agriculture is the basic industry of Canada and has to compete in the sale of its products in the food consuming markets of Europe, with the surplus food products of all other countries. The enhanced cost of production by reason of protection on all commodities used on the farm is a severe handicap and a huge barrier to progress and development of our agricultural industry. Much has been said by apologists for protection as to the benefits to the farmer of the home market created by manufacturing industries. The protective system does not attempt to bolster up a greater fallacy than this one. In all our staple products we produce a surplus. The distributors of food products do not pay the farmer any more for that portion of it than goes into manufacturing towns than that portion of it that goes for export.

The average duty on dutiable goods coming into the country is 27 per cent., and it is generally conceded that the manufacturer adds practically the full amount of his protection to the selling price of his goods. The farmer pays duty on every commodity that he buys, either for home comfort or farm improvement, excepting binder twine, barbed wire and cream separators. It may be safely assumed that 75 per cent. of the proceeds of Western farms goes to farm improvements, supplying machinery and purchasing home comforts, all of which are enhanced in price at least one-quarter by reason of protection. That it is to say that the purchasing power of the products of the

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