

permission to issue the stock that the C.P.R. will curtail its development and the country will suffer. This is just subterfuge. The C.P.R. can raise \$100,000,000 at four per cent. by the sale of bonds at any time. This is the proper course, as by selling more stock the public will be compelled to pay huge dividends upon it. The government should refuse permission for any further issues of stock until the C.P.R. freight rates are reduced to the basis of a square deal. It will not injure the C.P.R. in any way. No doubt the company will retaliate upon the public, but it is the growing opinion that the public will never get a square deal from the railways until Canada follows the example of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa and owns and operates the railways as public utilities for the benefit of the public. That time is coming very rapidly.

AN ASTONISHING DISCOVERY

In a leading editorial article on September 4 the Winnipeg Telegram made the following statement:—

"An undeniable fact is that it is not possible to have profitable trade in a market which is exporting the very article for which a sale is desired."

It will be at once recognized that this is a principle of political economy which, if sound, will revolutionize the world's commercial relations. That a political economist of such profound knowledge should have been discovered on the staff of the Winnipeg Telegram must certainly place that journal far to the front in the ranks of Canadian journalism. Plain, everyday men have always thought that the American manufacturers of agricultural implements were doing a profitable trade in Canada. But according to the Telegram political economist this is a fallacy because Canada is exporting large quantities of agricultural implements. We have thus discovered that these manufacturers in the United States, from whom our farmers are purchasing large quantities of implements, are not in reality commercial organizations but are large philanthropic institutions engaged in the noble work of selling their implements for less than they cost for the benefit of the farmers in a foreign country. But the ordinary homesteader has been guilty of thinking that he paid the full value of lumber imported from the United States but this is shown by the Telegram political economist to be another grievous error because Canada is exporting large quantities of lumber. What a feeling of joy our farmers will have towards those large hearted American lumbermen who are sacrificing themselves to build up the Canadian West. This must be the situation because the Winnipeg Telegram says so, and no one would think for one moment of disputing any fundamental principle laid down by this great metropolitan journal. Canada has imported scores of articles that are also being exported from this country and yet all of these imports are sold at a loss by the manufacturers who sent them to us. What a debt the Canadian people owe to the Winnipeg Telegram for this most illuminating discovery, and what a magnificently clear line of reasoning there must have been to produce such a profound truth. On the strength of the same principle The Winnipeg Telegram shows how absolutely simple it is for the Canadian farmers to think that they can sell any of their grain with profit in the American markets because the United States is exporting grain. These Western Canadian farmers who sold their grain across the line for more than they could get for it in Canada were really deluded after all. They thought they were getting from 3 to 10 cents a bushel extra profit because they saw it in dollars and cents and actually spent it in buying the necessities of life. What a disappointment it will be to these farmers to know that though they had more money they were really poorer. This must be so because the Winnipeg Telegram says so and the Telegram is Canada's leading

journalistic exponent of the new science of political economy. These political economists play havoc with a man's pocket book. He may think he is growing rich but soon find that all his money only means his ruin. Let us hope that tidings of this new and astounding truth does not reach Great Britain as it will prove conclusively that many British manufacturers are doing their business at a heavy loss. Let us all pause for a moment in silent thought while we raise our hats in admiration to the greatest journalistic discovery of modern times.

BANK ACT AMENDMENTS

A letter from the vice-president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association in this issue deals with a matter of importance to the Western farmers. It seems decidedly unfair that every dealer in grain should be permitted by law to raise money from the banks on the security of grain but that the same privilege should be denied the man who grows the grain. Some leading bank managers in the West are favorable to this amendment of the Bank Act, and it is possible that there would not be any strong objection to such an amendment on the part of the Bankers' association if it were brought forward by the organized farmers of the West and the need for it clearly shown. Grain in water tight elevators on the farm, under lock and key and fully insured, should furnish good security and it would be considerable aid to the farmers who have large quantities of grain on their farms and cannot raise money upon it. There are other amendments to the Bank Act which are undoubtedly needed in the interest of the Canadian people in general. The Canadian Council of Agriculture is considering this subject now. As the Bank Act is up for revision at the next session of parliament the time is opportune for further representation to the government on the matter, as the Bank Act is revised ordinarily only once in ten years. There are privileges enjoyed by the bankers which should not be continued without at least a vigorous protest on the part of the farmers. The Bank Act as it stands today gives undue advantages to every other industry except agriculture. The privileges enjoyed by the banks are secured by parliament and it is from parliament that improvements must come.

ANOTHER SCHEME BLOCKED

In our last issue we published a statement from Chairman Magill, of the Grain Commission stating that the inward and outward registration of warehouse receipts would henceforth be conducted by the government. Previously this system has been conducted by the elevator interests in the Grain Exchange. It was introduced in its present form after the famous investigation by the warehouse commissioner two years ago, when several of the elevator companies paid large fines for manipulating the grades in the terminals. Immediately the elevator companies inaugurated a system of registration of warehouse receipts as a check upon themselves to prevent any more crooked work. The government has been contributing \$5,000 a year towards the expense of this registration, and this \$5,000 has been drawn from the fees for the inspection and weighing of grain, or, in other words, it has been paid directly by the Grain Growers. Thus the elevator interests evolved a scheme by which they investigated themselves and made the Grain Growers pay for it. The farmers can easily imagine how severe the elevator companies would be upon themselves and how quick they would be to prosecute themselves for any violation of the law. The registration of warehouse receipts is supposed to be a scheme for preventing the mixing of grades, and the consequent robbery of the producer. And just to think this system of registration has been carried on by the only people who would profit

by the mixing of the grades! It has been a case of the right hand watching the left hand. But the grain commission is determined that this self-sacrifice shall not be continued any longer and henceforth it will be conducted by the government. Of course, the elevator interests are feeling warlike, and why shouldn't they? Their neat little scheme to investigate themselves and make the farmers pay for it has been nipped in the bud, and now there will be a real check upon their proceedings.

REFORMING THE CIVIL SERVICE

During his visit to Britain Premier Borden engaged Sir George Murray, secretary of the British Treasury, to come to Canada and assist in the reorganization of the civil service. Sir George is regarded as the leading authority on this branch of administration in Britain. The civil service in Canada certainly needs a reorganization. There is no good reason why the business of the public should not be conducted on a business basis. It is the history of nearly every Canadian government, federal and provincial, that there is much overlapping in the work of different departments and a surplus of staff. A competent business manager should be able to save Canada an enormous sum yearly by reorganizing the departments on a business basis. Mr. Borden has made a good start. It is to be hoped that he will place the entire civil service under the civil service commission. Then we shall not see each new government discharging civil servants to make room for party favorites.

Who pays the duty? Protectionists say the foreigner pays it. The true answer may be found in the following quotation from the New York Wall Street Journal:—

"Two harvesting machines, identical in all respects, manufactured by the Harvester company, are on exhibition in Texas; one bought in Germany for \$80, and the other in Illinois for \$125. There will be reams of 'explanations'—just one reason."

The Canadian tariff lays heavier burdens on Canadians than the American tariff lays on Americans, and Canadian manufacturers sell their goods more cheaply to Asiatics than to Canadians. Yet these are the men from whom we must take lessons in "loyalty."

The Toronto News has discovered another argument against wider markets for the surplus Western wheat. Speaking of the increasing population of Saskatchewan it says:

"By 1950 the surplus wheat for export may be no greater than in the United States today."

What sweet comfort is this! Only thirty-eight more years to wait. Only thirty-eight more years for our wheat to rot for lack of a market. Why should we get impatient? Perhaps a few of us may even be alive in 1950 or our grandchildren may enjoy it while the young men of today sit in the corner and wait for the last call.

Had Ohio carried woman suffrage last week over two million more women would have had votes in the coming presidential election. Six states in the union have already given the same political rights to both sexes, and 1,346,925 women may cast their votes in the coming elections. This is 69,462 more than the number of men who voted in the last Dominion election, namely, 1,277,463. Perhaps this comparison shows more clearly than anything else what progress is being made in the cause of woman suffrage.

On another page of this issue we are publishing an interview with W. J. Laite, secretary of the South African Manufacturers' association, who has come to Canada to study conditions and has apparently got his views on the Canadian tariff from the tariff beneficiaries in the big cities in Eastern Canada. This is where most protectionist visitors look for tariff views.

In my f
dealt with
real popula
get good go
The presen
tion of the
affairs.

First, an
it, taking
example, b
city's elect

1. A ma
at large.

2. Four
"block vot
These, with
known as

Their salari
fy them i
whole time
They meet
city council
themselves

ject to a v
large power

3. Two
seven ward
ward elect
wards elect

These tw
council. I
her School
typical of
throughout

Comm

Here are

1. Publ
centrated
and thereby
from the
stant electio
members of
cil. Also, v
three or m
candidates,
may be elec
minority, is
clear major
who vote.

2. The f
are elected
vote"; that
tor may

candidates,
really mean
voter has t
vote into

If he parti
one man c
and does n
the other

he can do i
man one fo
vote. Sim

are only t
he is intere
three, our

poll half or
of his vote
may be.

"Pumpi
So it is.

is a natur
some elect
Proportion

tion is "all
a plan wh
count for

a fraction

See the
Here you
torate, ele

controllers
each singl
should be

the small
of the larg
unit in th
have.

Also, se
block vot
voters car
ing the ot
sentation,
ets" were
voters co