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How Protection Benefits Farmers

ed from Page 1

be raised by some form of taxation to support it. The tariff tax which the prairie farmer pays goes to support our Canadian government. All will ad-

our Canadian government. All will admit that the prairie farmer has as much right as anyone else to pay a share of the upkeep of the government and in so far as the money thus raised is wisely spent he, together with all other citizens, derives a direct benefit from it. Here, then, we see many ways thru the various functions of government, such as maintaining our national defence, establishing courts of justice, extending education, building railroads, canals and elevators, and establishing experimental farms, that the prairie farmer is benefited by the tariff.

Equity Is Not Questioned

Equity Is Not Questioned

That this form of tax might be unequal and press more heavily on one class than on another is an entirely different question, that does not some within the scope of this article, which asks simply how the prairie farmer benefits from the tariff. Nor does the question as to whether the money is spent in the wisest and most economical manner have a bearing on the subject.

question as to whether the money is spent in the wisest and most economical manner have a bearing on the subject. We send our brothers and our neighbors to parliament to make our laws and spend our money. That they make mistakes there is no doubt, but we must remember that they are our brothers and neighbors, very similarly constituted to curselves.

Nor does the question as to whether this is the best form of taxation enter into this discussion. Tom, Bill and Harry that we sent down to parliament may be fools in raising the revenue necessary to carry on the functions of government in this way, but if they are fools, this species of fool is very common to mankind, for it is the system of raising revenue adopted almost universally the world over and supported by the people of the respective countries. No form of taxation is absolutely fair to all. But admitting they are fools, still we must admit that the tariff being spent to carry on our government is a benefit in a thousand ways to every person living in our country, including the prairie farmer.

Developing Industries

Developing Industries

Developing Industries

The second purpose of a protective tariff is a means of protecting and developing national industries. National industries include not only manufacturing, but also farming, mining, fishing, lumbering, etc. and a protective tariff has an effect on them all.

A protective tariff, or in other words, the establishing of a tax on goods imported from other countries, is an attempt by our government to better and strengthen the nation by developing industries at home to manufacture the commodities which we require. The effect of the tariff cannot be considered from the standpoint of any single individual or any section of the public, because it affects the nation as a whole. A nation, to be strong, must have an all round development. In the great war now raging we have seen the brave Russian soldiers slaughtered and driven back because Russia had not developed iron working and other industries to the same extent as she had developed agriculture, and was not able to equipher soldiers.

The Steel Industry

The Steel Industry

The Steel Industry

How, in fact, would Canada have fared in this war were it not for her steel industries? As the war developed it became impossible to buy steel abroad, but thanks to our protective tariff, which had developed our great steel industries, we were able not only to make our own requirements in steel, but to supply as well millions of dollars worth of steel for munitions.

Here, then, is a most important way in which the prairie farmer is benefited by a protective tariff. The nation of which he is a citizen is stronger when it comes to the day of testing because it has iron industries, shoe and clothing industries, mines developed, etc. If Mr. Prairie Farmer is at all concerned as to national existence, he must agree that a protective tariff in rounding out the life of the nation is good, at least from the standpoint of defence.

I don't think there is anyone who



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