

## A New Book on the Tariff

What It Is, How It Works and Whom It Benefits

There is no question of greater public importance in this or any other country, year in and year out, than the question of the tariff. The tariff is an issue in every federal election, every national election in the United States, and every British general election. The respective merits of Protection and Free Trade have been under discussion for a century and more, and probably will loom large in political debates for many years to come. Why, one is tempted to ask, is there so much difference of opinion on the tariff? The working of tariffs, their effects and result are open to examination and investigation, and it is surely a remarkable and extraordinary thing that with a Professor of Political Economy installed in every university, those learned gentlemen have not by this time been able to come to some agreement and demonstrate to their pupils and the world at large once and for all whether a customs tariff is a good thing or a bad thing for the country which maintains it. Perhaps while the professors are disputing among themselves, the common people will take hold of the question and settle it. To do so they need only two things, the facts of the case and their own good common-sense.

### A Pearl of Great Price

Books on the tariff, considering how vitally the interests of the people are affected, are remarkably scarce and a good book on the tariff is a treasure eagerly to be sought for. "Protection or Free Trade," by Henry George, and "Sixty Years of Protection in Canada," by Edward Porritt, are outstanding works with which a great many readers of The Guide are already familiar, and now a third volume well worthy to rank with these two has been given to the public in "The Tariff: What it is, How it Works, and Whom it Bene-

service. That is equity. That is justice. That is the one and only moral law that should reign in the realm of government.

"Therefore, the conclusion seems clear that it is unjust for the government to grant to any individual, or class of individuals, any rights or privileges not equally granted to all others. And for the reason that any special privilege gives to the holder the wealth produced by others without the necessity of giving an equivalent in return. If a protective tariff can stand this test, it will stand forever. If not, then the sooner we resolve upon its complete abolition the better for the world; because we shall be a nobler and freer people when our triumphant feet shall tread the dust of its ruins.

"It is the author's hope that he has made a positive contribution towards the solution of the tariff problem by making such profound and extensive analysis, and furnishing such definiteness in the statement of issues, propositions and definitions as have never before been presented in this discussion. He has connected the tariff with all other industrial problems, and especially has he connected it with the one particular thing to which it refers—trade. Tariff is meaningless when dissociated from trade. And yet most speakers and writers deal with the tariff as if wholly unrelated to commerce.

### Scientific Analysis

"The author believes that there can be such a thing as a social science. He believes in the power of analysis, in the reliability of deduction and inference, and in the rule of reason as our only guide in this mundane existence. He believes that the same natural laws which govern mathematics, astronomy, or mechanics, also govern political economy. Under the inspiration and guidance of these invincible convictions he has attempted a complete and profound analysis of the tariff issue, in the hope of reaching conclusions that shall be final.

"The indefiniteness connected with political and economic subjects is due to lack of intense and systematic thought, and does not inhere in the subjects themselves. The complex, they admit of clear-cut definitions. Analysis should present propositions as unanswerable in economics as in mathematics. But the first requisite toward securing such a result is the desire to know the truth—whatever the truth may be.

"It has been my aim to free the subject from all technicalities. Words are given clear cut and exact definitions. Sophistry and metaphysics are eliminated. The vocabulary and illustrations are those of the people. The average man will here find a complex problem stated and discussed in terms of his own language and experience. Believing with Spencer that 'science is simply the extension of common knowledge,' I have sought to translate the whole discussion into terms of 'common knowledge.'

"The book contains many chapters, but most of them are short, this giving the subject the compact and crisp discussion of an encyclopedia—and such it is designed to be. The reader can follow the book thru in regular order, or he can look over the table of contents and read the chapters which most concern him first. 'The Tariff' was written for the busy man as well as for the profound student of the distribution of

### REGINA CONVENTION

The next issue of The Guide will contain a full and complete report of the annual convention of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, which is being held at Regina, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

fits," by Lee Francis Lybarger. As its title indicates, this new book examines and explains the tariff, and it does this in such a clear and striking way that no one who reads it intelligently could possibly have any further doubt on the question of Free Trade and Protection. A man might study this book and become a convinced Protectionist, but if so it would be because he considered the profit of a few manufacturers of greater importance than the welfare and prosperity of all the rest of the people.

The author, in the preface, says: "I have but one moral principle which is the basis of all my economic reasoning, and that principle is that no human being has a right to the wealth or service of another without rendering an equivalent in wealth or

## The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited

Avis est donne par le present que la compagnie dite The Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited demandera au Parlement du Canada, a sa prochaine session, un Acte modifiant le Chapitre 80 del' Acte du Parlement 1-2 Geo. V., autorisant la Campagne a preter des fonds aux clients et autres faisant affaires avec la campagne, et garantir la execution de contrats pa telles personnes, et aussi permettre a la campagne de faire des operations mercantiles d'apres le principe de co-operation.

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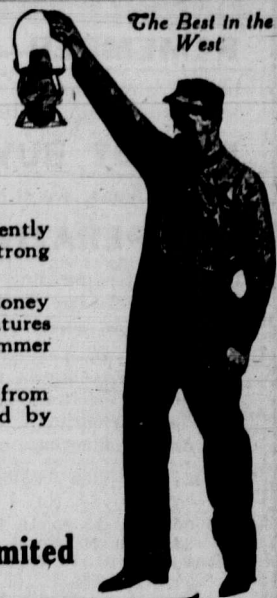
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By Order of the Board,

JAMES MASON,

General Manager.

Toronto, January 13th, 1915.

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