

abolishing the government liquor stores. The result of the Saskatchewan referendum is a foregone conclusion, that province also will go dry. Referendum votes are also to be held in British Columbia, Ontario and New Brunswick and we believe that they also will go dry. According to the constitution of Canada the provinces are not permitted to interfere with inter-provincial trade and for that reason they cannot prohibit the exportation and importation of liquor. Now, however, that several of the provinces have declared against the liquor traffic, and others will undoubtedly do so in the near future, it would be most iniquitous for the Parliament of Canada to retain legislation which forces upon the people of these provinces against their will the traffic in intoxicating liquor. The feeling thruout Canada is sufficiently strong to warrant Parliament in wiping out the liquor traffic from coast to coast. If, however, Parliament under the advice of the government is not prepared to go so far as to abolish the liquor traffic entirely, power should certainly be extended to the provinces to deal with the traffic completely within their own borders. The members of Parliament representing those provinces that have declared for Prohibition certainly should be strong advocates of Prohibition in the House of Commons and it is to be hoped that the government of Canada will also line up with the spirit that is evident thruout the length and breadth of the land.

PROBLEMS OF WAR TIME

Thruout Canada there is a great deal of discussion on all the big questions arising out of the war and many suggestions are being offered for improving the system of recruiting soldiers, of paying pensions to disabled soldiers or the families of those who are killed, as well as raising money for the Patriotic Fund. Canada has always done a very large

portion of its public business by haphazard methods, but it would seem that in the presence of this great crisis the time has arrived to get down as near as possible to real efficiency. It is not a party question in any sense. In regard to the conduct of public business neither party can claim any superiority over the other. Both of them have conducted the public business largely on the patronage basis with the idea of deriving as much party advantage as possible. In the time of a life and death struggle, however, there is a grand opportunity for men to rise above the miserable party system and to stand out as citizens interested only in the welfare of their country. The method of recruiting soldiers seems to lack system and due consideration for conditions. If Canada is to provide 500,000 fighting men our manhood is to be taxed to its utmost limits and in securing these men the government should be very careful not to weaken or destroy institutions that are vitally necessary to the nation. Our agricultural production must be kept up and many of our other lines of business must also be maintained for they are in reality a part of the fighting equipment of the country, and if they are crippled the resources of our country which are needed in the struggle will be proportionately reduced.

The pensions that have been provided for our soldiers who are disabled for life or for the families of those who are killed in battle are shamefully inadequate. Under the present pension system a family whose breadwinner is killed in battle will face conditions bordering on poverty, while the pension provided for a disabled soldier who returns home practically makes him a pauper. This should not be and undoubtedly the inadequate pension system discourages many eligible men from enlisting. We are fully aware that the pension fund is certain to become a heavy burden on the country and is also liable to be fruitful

of graft and corruption. But at the same time we consider that a man who goes to the war in the full vigor of his youth and in a year or two returns absolutely broken and wrecked should receive from his country a pension sufficient to maintain him in comfort for the rest of his life. That pension should not be less than \$75.00 per month, and \$100.00 per month would not be by any means too much. Those of us who remain at home are ready to "do our bit" by helping those who do the real fighting.

So many questions have been asked us about the Free Trade League that we give herewith the address again:—

The Free Trade League, 406 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg.

All contributions should be sent to this address. They will be acknowledged in The Guide and literature will be sent out from The League office as soon as it is prepared.

The idea of Sir George Foster and a number of other eminent gentlemen in the East is that the Western farmers are "a bunch of agitators."—It's about time to get a real agitation under way. Heaven knows that the Western farmers have some reason for agitation. Under present conditions if they were not a bunch of agitators they could properly be classed as something worse.

How is your mortgage behaving? Is it quiet and peaceable? Can you put your hand on it without danger? Or is it making all kinds of noise and interfering with your sleep at nights? There is only one way to keep your mortgage feeling good and that is by feeding it regularly. A good ration of interest every six months keeps the mortgage in good humor.

If you sow clean seed and harvest clean wheat it will reduce your freight bill on weeds.

