

# The Grain Growers' Guide

Winnipeg, Wednesday, October 23rd, 1912

## A FAKE NEWSPAPER

The great Toronto News (the name seems to be a misnomer) has not yet replied to our challenge of September 11. This great champion of protection and plutocracy has crawled into its hole. We thought that such an eminent advocate of Special Privilege would welcome a debate and thus demonstrate its ability to confound any one who dared suggest that the protective tariff was a crime. The News should change its name to The Half-News, The One-Sided News or The Diluted News or something of that character.

## A DAYLIGHT HOLDUP

This issue of \$60,000,000 of C.P.R. stock a few days ago was nothing more nor less than a holdup of the Canadian people in broad daylight, under the protection of the law. It was a cold-blooded scheme to take from \$45,000,000 to \$60,000,000 out of the people in the shape of a "melon" and put it into the pockets of the shareholders of the C.P.R., and it must be remembered that the great majority of C.P.R. shareholders reside in Great Britain, other parts of Europe and a number in the United States. Thus the C.P.R. has been built up by the Canadian people into a powerful institution which is now milking Canada for the benefit of foreign millionaires. There was no need of any stock issue as the C.P.R. could have borrowed all the money it needed at four per cent. and thus saved a heavy tax upon the Canadian people. The C.P.R. is spending millions in building railways in the United States where it charges lower freight rates than in Canada. The C.P.R. is also spending huge sums in supplying luxurious railway equipment in Austria. Under the financial management of the C.P.R. the Canadian people are like a golden goose laying golden eggs for the benefit of foreigners. If the Canadian people permit this without a protest, can it be said that they are deserving of anything better?

## THE PEOPLE'S WILL

The greatest objections to our present-day forms of government arise from the fact that the elected representatives do not give effect to the will of the people. Sometimes the politicians have a fairly good excuse to offer, since the mass of the voters are carried away at election time by blind partisan feeling, and wildly support their party, letting important measures they believe in drop out of sight. So long as the electors forget vital questions and allow themselves to be switched off into flummeries and side issues raised by crafty vote-seekers, it is idle to expect those men when elected to have more regard for the public welfare than a majority of the people themselves. Just now from one end of Canada to the other, press and people are asking where the Grain Growers of the West stand on certain great issues. The Guide Referendum is framed to allow a full, frank and free expression of opinion by our 25,000 readers, who, it is agreed, represent the feeling of the Prairie Provinces more truthfully than any other body of opinion which could be named. For this reason it is important that our readers give their best thought to the eight questions in the Referendum reprinted in this issue, so that by December 11, when the ballot will be printed in The Guide, every subscriber may be ready to vote intelligently.

The speculator who holds land out of use must be taxed until he is driven out of busi-

ness. He is performing no useful function but is hindering thousands who want to use the land.

## COSTLY INVENTIONS

An English paper just to hand says:—

"Experiments carried out during the past few months having shown that hydro-aeroplanes can make most deadly attacks on warships, the admiralty have decided to add largely to the number of hydro-aeroplanes at Eastchurch. It is said that a bomb can be dropped down a warship's funnel with great accuracy from a height of 1,000 feet or more. This, of course, would cause an explosion in the engine room, and cripple the vessel at once. To protect them from bomb-dropping aeroplanes, the new warships now being designed for the British navy are to be armour-plated on their decks as well as on their sides, and the top of the funnel will be similarly protected."

The manufacturers of aeroplanes, bombs and armour plate are no doubt congratulating one another most heartily on the increased profits which this development in the means of destroying human life will bring to them. Someone, of course, will soon discover a new explosive which will penetrate armour plate, and then someone else will invent a new armour plate which will resist the new explosive. And so on ad infinitum.

## IS THERE HOPE?

In July, 1910, our readers will remember that we sent a circular letter to the Western members of the House of Commons asking their opinion on tariff reduction. Their replies were published in our issue of July 6, 1910, and the following are extracts therefrom:—

**R. S. Lake (Conservative):**—"The agricultural implement industry holds a unique position at present in Canada. . . . It is an industry which I believe could hold its own without any protection at all."

**Thomas MacNutt (Liberal):**—"I have always been and am now in favor of a low tariff, especially on agricultural implements."

**W. W. Ruttan (Liberal):**—"I fully endorse the reduction of the tariff."

**J. G. Turriff (Liberal):**—"I am now and have always been in favor of lower duties."

**G. E. McCraney (Liberal):**—"I am in favor of the reduction of the tariff."

**W. H. White (Liberal):**—"I am in favor of the reduction of the tariff."

**M. Clark (Liberal):**—"Protection is an uncompensated burden on the back of the farming community."

**John Herron (Conservative):**—"The reduction of the tariff on agricultural implements is a crying need in the Western country."

**J. M. Douglas (Liberal):**—"I would be in hearty support of any measures designed to reduce the cost to the Western farmers of all farm implements, lumber, etc."

**F. L. Schaffner (Conservative)** enclosed a copy of his speech in the House of Commons in favor of reduction in the duty on agricultural implements to 10 per cent.

**W. J. Roche (Conservative):**—"I believe there are a number of articles bearing too high a rate of duty, such as agricultural machinery."

**Clifford Sifton (Liberal):**—"My belief is that the tariff on the whole is satisfactory, and an agitation for a further reduction is not likely to bring about beneficial results."

**E. L. Cash (Liberal):**—"I am, and always have been, in favor of low tariff."

In addition to this we would like to call attention to an address delivered in the House of Commons on January 18, 1911, by Arthur Meighen, in which he moved a reso-

lution calling for a reduction in the duty on agricultural implements. Here are two extracts from Mr. Meighen's address:—

"What are the manufacturers of agricultural implements enabled to do? They are able, under this tariff, to exact a higher price than they could exact if the tariff were lower. I do not say that a reduction will, to any very enormous extent, affect the price; I believe it will materially, and I think it will render some relief to, particularly, the farmers of the West, many of whom, notwithstanding any statements that have been made here, are struggling between success and failure every hour. It will accord some relief to them and I believe it is the bounden duty of the government to so afford it."

"I say that to my mind this tariff is designed to benefit the revenues of other countries rather than the revenues of our own country. As at present constituted, this is not so much a tariff for the revenue of Canada, as a tariff for the revenue of Spain, as a tariff for the revenue of Austria. In Austria, the manufacturers of binders and mowers are able to leap over a duty of some \$33 on every binder, and yet they sell at a profit in Austria. It is a tariff for the revenue of Roumania, a tariff for the revenue of Russia, a tariff for the revenue of France, rather than a tariff for the revenue of Canada."

These statements indicate that practically every Western member today claims to be in favor of tariff reduction on agricultural implements. Dr. Roche is now a member of the government and Arthur Meighen one of the influential supporters of the government. Clifford Sifton no longer has a seat in the House of Commons. If the Western members who claim to be in favor of tariff reduction really mean business they can secure it at the next session. Of course we know it would be against all precedent for members on opposite sides of the House to agree on anything of interest to the people, but we would suggest that they make the experiment just for once, and see if the people generally do not appreciate it.

## SOMETHING NEW

The majority of renewal subscriptions coming into The Guide office are for long terms. Our readers are taking advantage of our special terms:—

Two years .....	\$1.50
Three years .....	2.00
Five years .....	3.00

We would be glad to have every subscriber renew for five years. We would not then have to bother him annually for a dollar. Further, we are going to ask the co-operation of our readers in paying their renewals before they are due. We have about twenty thousand renewal subscriptions coming due in the next four months. How many of our readers are willing to help us out by paying now? Look at the label on your paper and see when your renewal is due. Then send us \$3.00, then we will extend your subscription five years from the date on the label. If you can't afford \$3.00 then renew for two or three years. Let us have a shower of five year renewals. There is nothing more encouraging. And another great advantage it gives us, is that we don't have to bother with our old subscribers but can devote all our energies to getting new ones. Those who are interested in seeing The Guide prosper, can lend great assistance by renewing at once and not waiting till their time expired.

Z. A. Lash, president of the Canadian National Anti-Reciprocity League, can send his "Made-in-Canada" money into Mexico and Brazil to build up foreign countries and yet he is loyal. But a Canadian farmer who sells grain or cattle in the American market is a traitor. Alas, some good Canadians actually think this is true.