

THE HIRED MAN ON THE FARM

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"digging for" British names of the field and/or from letters with our program. There was had just



regiment, his sentence will be totally inadequate and will meet the situation only in a very insignificant way. It will give splendid opportunities for one or two of the best "show the flag" as they are called in each local to show off their capabilities and increase their individual fund of knowledge. Perhaps the majority of the rank and file who really need to acquire an education along the lines of the principles and aims of our association will derive no benefit whatever from a debate, as they will not stop to listen to it. A speaker never will have any recognition in his own community, unless he has an exceptionally magnetic personality, and the result will be that when a local debate is to be pulled off the majority of the rank and file will be missing. I venture to say that I don't care that local you go to you will hear the same old story. Hear the same old story: "I've got some old-

Now, will leave it to the majority of you readers, Mr. Editor, if this is *not* the case. And you can't overcome this situation by asking these self-same gentlemen—who can't get a chance to speak, according to them—to study up on some subject and come and give us an educative debate or talk themselves. When you put it up to them to come and take their turn it's: "Oh! I can't talk," or "I can't give the time to reading up on the subject." And as a matter of fact they don't and

weekly paper, and previous little of that. In my opinion, what would have far more force and draw the people out in large numbers is an organized body of first-class speakers, paid, and voluntary when they can be got, made up of men and women who are the tip-top exponents of the various subjects they are interested in. Their services should be at the disposal of the Central, which should arrange for a tour by these speakers of every local in the province. In this way, in the course of two or three years, each local would have had the benefit of hearing the ideals and aims for which the farmers of this country should be striving expounded to them by the very best authorities. I am convinced that by this method untold benefits would accrue not only to the members of our organization but to the country as a whole. I see only one objection to this scheme, and that is that it might possibly be too costly, taking into consideration the means at the disposal of our association, but against that objection is the fact that education along the right lines is never too costly, and some means should be obtained to give it. I think personally that government assisted education along the lines of good citizenship would have been in the long run of far more benefit to Western Canada and the farmers than some of the other government assisted enterprises we have at the present time. That is in looking to the future of the nation. What is the cause of most of our troubles as farmers? Ignorance, lack of interest; and as long as this condition lasts, just so long will we continue to be exploited by privileged interests and have our provincial and Dominion affairs conducted by governments rotten with graft of every description. We need educators or speakers who not only know their subject well, but who have personality, force, enthusiasm, call it what you like; men who are able to arouse the people and lead them to think along the right channels. Without right thought there will not be right action.

While I would not be intent in any way to throw cold water on Mr. Atkinson's welcome, I am convinced it is inadequate. I would simply submit my views of the situation for the consideration of your readers, and I think it would be well at this time, seeing that nothing was said at the convention putting the matter on any real foundation, that some of our leading men should give us their views on this matter. In any case it is not one which can be passed over lightly. Some makeshift for the present won't do. Education has become within the past two years a thing which is more vital to our organization than ever. It has got to be, now and always, the main aim of the Grain Growers' movement. I will leave it to the leaders of our locals if this has not been their experience regarding this matter of debate as a means of educating their members. --

AGAINST PRIVILEGE

Editor, Guide.—I am informed that those privileged traders, the Hudson's Bay Company, are claiming sovereign power by defying the people and governments of the West. I beg to state that the Hudson's Bay charter was granted to the company of adventurers a century before Great Britain owned Canada, and, therefore, I believe it has no legal existence. I beg to say that said charter did not give said company a foot of land west of the Great Lakes, and that the Canadian gov-