

Fur and Hide Directory

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The Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. Limited

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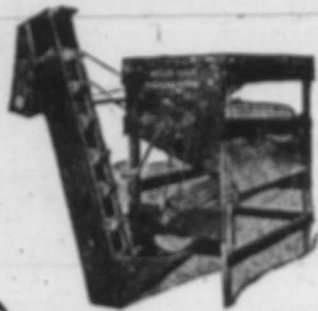
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This machine can be purchased with or without bagger, and will pay for itself in grading oats alone, even if you only intend sowing 30 acres. Mustard and wild oats are easily taken out. Because of the tumbling motion, which allows the oats to get on end, the thin ill-shaped kernels are cleaned out; the nice fat plump tame oats are saved for your seed. The same applies to cleaning wheat. These machines are made in two sizes. A remarkably cheap machine for the work it does. Write for Price Today

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to "carry on" till better times come. There are very few farmers in this district who would not have suffered heavily without an exemption law in force. Yet Mr. Hammer would hesitate to bring a charge of dishonesty against a whole district. However, a great many financial institutions outside the pawn-broking business have that infernal itch for security and would like to see the exemption laws abolished.

ALLAN J. HUDSON,
Parkby, Sask., October 28.

CO-OPERATIVE DIVIDENDS

To the Editor:—

In a recent editorial of The Grain Growers' Guide, relating to the enormous profit of the various farmers' companies, the editor claims that the money has been absolutely saved to the farmers of Western Canada. If these companies pay a dividend to their shareholders, and use the surplus of profit in expanding their business for the benefit of the shareholders only, it doesn't seem possible that the farmers, as a whole, have derived any benefit from them, notwithstanding the presumptuous contentions that they have kept the prices up. The editor of The Guide contends that the conditions which make such enormous profits possible are beyond control of the various companies. As a man who has arrogated the right to enumerate to the farmers the injustices that are being perpetrated upon them, it seems strange that he does not advocate a change in the existing laws whereby the matter could be rectified to the advantage of all, instead of becoming enthusiastic over the most bare-faced steal that was ever put across on a civilized people. But the editor—with characteristic deception in the matters which reflect upon the consistency of his arguments—contends that the farmers' companies are justified in making exorbitant profits, on the grounds that they enjoy no special privileges—like railways, banks and manufacturing. In reality, these latter are only adopted children in comparison to the farmers' companies. The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co. is the government's own baby—a nursing that sucks the cream from the provincial mammary with as much relish and gusto as its gluttonous contemporaries.

The versatile editor predicts that in the near future these farmers' companies will be operating their own timber limits, flour mills, abattoirs and other kindred concerns, and the shareholders are mollified by the prediction that they will be the chief beneficiaries (just like the shareholders of the big interests that The Guide condemns). The farmer shareholder is patted on the back, and glorified beyond his wildest dreams of aristocracy by this farmers' paper, but in all of the miserable article there is no hint, no suggestion that the patrons of these companies should share in the profits. Even the proprietor of a booze joint will give an acknowledgement of appreciation for patronage in the form of a material rebate, but The Grain Growers' Guide (that great upholder of the "common people's rights") contrives to dodge the vital issue of co-operation by becoming a parasite to the "shareholders" of a people's organization.

The Western farmer, as caricatured in The Guide's cartoons, is a stupid lout, who wears hob-nail boots, grows spinach and cultivates a grouch that was handed down to him by long forgotten forefathers. The Guide's cartoons, in caricature and constitution, are an insult to the intelligence of the present-day farmer, in the same way that its journalism is an insult to their sense of fair play and broadmindedness.

When the mass of people come to realize that The Guide is usurping their God-given right to think independently, and when they discover that their children are being handicapped in their rise to maturity by cultivating anew (to pass on to their progeny ad infinitum) a grouch that has been relegated to the back-ground, The Grain Growers' Guide will find a last resting place in the hot embers of the kitchen fire, where it has always belonged. FRANK MASON.

Note—The above letter appeared in the Courier of Unity, Sask., and several copies have been sent in to The Guide by our readers asking that it be answered as they do not agree with the views of the writer. The best answer to the letter is to publish it in full. We do not know the nature of Mr. Mason's complaint against The Guide in particular as well as the farmers' company and we do not propose to discuss the merits of The

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