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**Direct Legislation**

The organized farmers have endorsed Direct Legislation, including Initiative, Referendum and the Right of Recall. In endorsing this plank the organized farmers are not demanding that it be given effect to in the federal field immediately. They want Direct Legislation provincially first. The highest court in Manitoba has declared Direct Legislation to be unconstitutional and contrary to the British North America Act. In endorsing this principle the organized farmers want the Dominion parliament to secure from Great Britain the necessary amendments to the British North America Act which will permit the provinces to enact Direct Legislation within their own borders. As soon as Direct Legislation is effective in the provinces, the next step will be to secure it in federal legislation.

4—The organized farmers in the interests of public morality demand publicity of political campaign fund contributions and expenditures both before and after elections. During each political campaign in Canada there is an immense amount of money expended; evidences of it may be seen in all directions. Yet no one is supposed to know where the money comes from and there is no explanation of how it is spent. It is well known, however, that the railway corporations, the protected manufacturers and other big interests contribute lavishly to the campaign funds of both political parties. This is a very fruitful source of dishonesty and corruption in our public life. The organized farmers have demanded that full publicity be given to all these contributions, so that the public may see who is financing the political campaigns and be in a better position to judge the merits of the respective candidates.

**Abolition of Patronage**

5—The patronage system is a great evil in Canada and the organized farmers have demanded that it be abolished. Under the patronage system both the Dominion and provincial government, in varying degrees, have given government work to their political friends without regard to the cost or the efficiency of the work. Every time a government changes a great part of the government employees are discharged and replaced by political friends of the government. Government printing and government contracting of all kinds is withdrawn from political enemies and given to political friends, and they are nearly always allowed to charge more than the fair market value for the work they do. The government of Canada employs a tremendous amount of labor and expends an enormous amount of money in public work. If the patronage system was eliminated, this work could all be done more cheaply and more efficiently. It would also eliminate a great deal of the graft and corruption which is now a part of the patronage system. Contractors getting government jobs as a rule are expected and do contribute to the campaign funds of the party in power. The abolition of the patronage system and the transaction of public business on a business basis would help immensely to clean up public life in Canada.

6—Another plank in the Farmers' Platform is that full provincial autonomy in liquor legislation—including the manufacture, import and export—be granted to the provinces. At the present time nearly all the provinces of Canada have declared for the abolition of the liquor traffic. For instance, Saskatchewan has closed up all the bars and the government liquor stores, but none of the provinces have power to prohibit the manufacture, export and import of liquor. Any person in Saskatchewan may manufacture liquor and ship it to Manitoba or Alberta. Similarly any person in Saskatchewan who wants liquor for his own use, may buy it in Alberta or Manitoba and have it shipped in. The organized farmers ask that the provinces be given full power to stop the liquor traffic completely within their own borders. This is a fair and reasonable proposition and the Dominion Parliament has full power to enact such legislation.

**Votes for Women**

7—Finally the organized farmers ask that where women are given the fran-

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