

seem to be drifting towards national bankruptcy. If such a calamity should occur, it will not help us any to have our social system top-heavy with titled millionaires.

Now let us have a good look at The Authority and get a thorough understanding of the part it plays in the government of Canada. By The Authority, is meant that powerful group of men and corporations that controls both political parties. Only a brief review of political events is needed to show that these men and corporations get what they want, no matter which party may happen to be in power. Those of you who followed the fight that the "Farmer's Advocate" made for government inspection of the banks, will remember that, when the recent Bank Act was passed, giving greater power to the banks, instead of curbing them in any way, the vote was practically unanimous. As nearly as I can remember, only two Liberals and nine Conservatives voted against the measure. The Authority was entirely in evidence at that time and when it cracked the whip both parties obeyed. The case of the railways is the same. Both parties have given them the lavish assistance which amounts to a public scandal. Both parties have given the railways promoted during their periods of office, enough aid to pay the whole cost of construction, and yet those railways do not belong to the people who paid for them but to groups of millionaires who regard them as their private property. Governments may change, but the railways can always get what they want. The steel industry is in the same position. Bonuses were granted by the Liberal government until public opinion was aroused to a point where they had to be discontinued. Now it is proposed that these bonuses shall be revived by the Conservative government. The Steel Industry can get what it wants, no matter what party is in power. It is the same with the long list of mergers and trusts that control practically every line of business in the country. They have been favored by both parties when they had the power to give them the legislation they required, and neither party has taken an effective stand against these conspiracies against the trade of the country. The Authority is well served by both the Minority and the Majority—and there is a reason. The Authority contributes the campaign funds and has more to say about what party shall be in power than the people of Canada. Business methods have been introduced into our political campaigns and corruption has been reduced to an exact science. There is no waste of either money or wickedness. It can be demonstrated that a change of government can be effected in Canada by a few thousand votes, properly placed—about twenty thousand, if I remember rightly—and even at a hundred dollars a vote, this would be a trifle, compared with the special privileges that might be secured from a grateful party. What adds point and pungency to this situation is the firm belief in well informed circles, that in the last two general elections, the campaign funds of the winning party in each case were collected and administered by the same man. And presumably they were collected from the same source on both occasions—from the money-bags of The Authority.

Few people have any knowledge of the business and political corruption existing in Canada and the reason is simple. No matter which party you belong to, you must have noticed that the better class of papers are beginning to chafe against a political trick that has been introduced during the past few years—"The Saw-off." Political exposures are threatened, and then they are suddenly and mysteriously hushed-up. In spite of the fact that after every election, there are loud accusations of corruption very few protests come to trial. The wise men of politics have found a better way of dealing with such scandals, than allowing them to be aired in court and enlightening the people as to the true state of affairs. After an election, the machine managers of both parties get together, and examine the evidence in a fair and open-minded way. Suppose the managers of one party show that the East Riding of Umpty-umph was bought. The managers of the other party examine the evidence, and if it is conclusive, they acknowledge the truth of the accusation. Then they produce evidence to show that the North Riding of Tumpty-tum was bought by the other fellows. This evidence is considered by the parties of the first part, and if they find it conclusive they also acknowledge the corn. The situation now stands so that each party has a member who can be unseated. But what is the use of making a couple of scandals when neither party would gain in strength? The wise men decide on a "Saw-off." Instead of allowing the two cases to go to court, and having a member of each party unseated for corrupt practices all the evidence is suppressed. Instead of having two trials that would show people what is going on the people are kept in ignorance. In this way they deal with all the evi-

ence of corruption, and if one party happens to have a little more of it than the other, the other usually has knowledge of some other scandal that can be used to make the saw-off complete. Political parties now unearth scandals on each other not for the purpose of exposing them and purifying public life, but for the purpose of protecting themselves from the exposure of their own wrong doing. And this kind of "Saw-off" is not confined to electoral corruption. At the present moment there are ugly rumors to the effect that if the members of the Opposition do not oppose the railway policy of the Government the Staunton-Gutelius report on the National Transcontinental will be toned down so that it will be practically harmless. We must not have political scandals or the methods of The Authority may become known to the befooled and plundered people. The "Saw-off" is the most infernal trick ever introduced into the country and the decent papers and leaders of both parties are beginning to protest against it. A way must be found of bringing electoral scandals and political crookedness before an impartial court.

Last week, we reviewed the railway situation and pointed out the necessity of having these giant corporations controlled by the government, and compelled to give adequate public service in return for their franchises and the aid they have received. This week your attention is called to the proposal to restore the bounties to the Steel Industry. To spoon-feed any industry from the treasury is simply to increase the burdens of the people, and to promote lax business methods in the management of the favored industry. Moreover, the industries depending on the iron and steel trade have become adjusted to the present condition of affairs and any change may work hardships. It is intimated that the proposed changes will give advantages to certain corporations that will enable them to drive rivals out of business. If that is the case, the proposed renewal of the bonuses clearly indicates another grab on the part of The Authority. More light on the subject is urgently needed. In any case it is time that the people—the true Authority—took a hand in the government and insisted on a cleaning-up of both political parties.

Clipping Horses in the Spring.

While the advisability of clipping horses in the fall will admit of argument, no sound argument can be used against the wisdom of clipping a large percentage of farm horses in the spring. Horses that have been worked or driven regularly well fed, well groomed and generally well cared for during the winter, and as a consequence have clean skins and reasonably short and glossy coats would not be benefited by being clipped, but those that have been partially or completely idle during the winter, whose skins have become dirty and coat long, from want of grooming and general attention, even though they may have been well fed and are in good condition, and will be required for work during seeding will perform their work with much greater comfort to themselves and satisfaction to their drivers if they are clipped. Some claim that it is cruel to deprive a horse of the coat that nature has provided for him, that it renders him susceptible to cold and chills by exposing the skin without protection to cold winds, hot sun and the general and often sudden changes of temperature. This argument has force so long as we leave the horse in a state of nature, but nature never intended that a horse should be asked to do hard and regular work without being in a fit state to perform it.

In order that a horse may be really fit he should be given a regular course of training, which in this case consists in at least five or six weeks of preparation, commencing with a little light work daily and gradually increasing the amount of work performed and the amount of grain consumed, with of course regular grooming and good general care. This course gradually gives tone and strength to the muscular and respiratory systems, (which have lost tone during the previous period of idleness) regular grooming cleans the skin and gives gloss to the coat and the regular pressure and friction of the harness gradually hardens and toughens the muscles and renders them practically immune from soreness when the pressure of hard work is unavoidable, always provided, of course, that the harness fits properly, is kept properly adjusted and clean.

But unfortunately there are many horses that have not had this course of training, hence are not "fit". Their skins and hair are dirty and long as noted, and their muscles lack tone hence will be very susceptible to soreness and rawness. When at work they perspire freely. The pressure of collar and other parts of the harness working upon the long wet hair, which tends to become uneven and lumpy and underneath which is dust and dandruff which have been accumulating for months, must of necessity tend to cause scalding and soreness followed by rawness. When the

horse is put into the stable in the evening he is wet. He cannot be well groomed until dry, it would be practically an all night's job for the teamster to rub his team dry, hence he gets little or no grooming. He is still wet in the morning and is again taken out to work in this condition. Under such conditions he is never comfortable, unless he be given a day or two of rest and be well groomed to take the matting out of his hair. If he gets through seeding time without suffering from sore shoulders, sore neck, and sore back, it will be due to his immunity to such ailments rather than to good management.

A great deal of this discomfort to the horse can be prevented by clipping him. When clipped, of course his skin can be easily cleaned by brushing and rubbing. He will not perspire nearly so freely, and there being no hair to hold the moisture he will soon become dry. There is no hair to roll up under the collar or other part of the harness and provided the collar and harness fit properly, the tendency to soreness is reduced to a minimum. It will be found that he does his work with much more comfort to himself and satisfaction to his driver, and will keep in much better condition than he would on the same rations if unclipped. Of course the teamster must always remember that even in the spring, a clipped horse must, in some respects, be given greater attention than an unclipped one. It is wise to blanket him when in the stable and when standing idle in harness, unless the weather be quite warm. When in action he is safe, but when standing he will miss his coat, the cold and wind has practically his bare skin to act upon and this must be guarded against by providing artificial covering, else trouble will probably follow. In clipping in the spring, it is probably wise to leave the legs unclipped. This especially applies to horses of the Clydesdale or Shire type. A horse whose body is clipped, but the legs not, has not an attractive appearance, but in the cases under discussion, comfort and service are of more value than appearance. In a few weeks' time the new coat will have grown and the horse will have regained his normal appearance, while if he be a hairy-legged fellow, and his legs are clipped, it will require several months for the feathering to grow full. In fact we rather prefer leaving the legs of all horses unclipped in spring clipping. Those who object to clipping at any season cannot wisely object to at least the clipping of the shoulders, in order to prevent scalding and consequent soreness.

WHIP

P. E. Island Notes.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The seed fairs are now all over. There were five of them this season, all of which were pronounced successes. These shows have grown up and improved to a great extent during the last few years. There are ten exhibitions now where there was one a few years ago, and the keen competition has raised the quality of the exhibits to a very high standard. From the exhibits and the lectures given at these meetings a demand has come from our farmers for seeds of the best quality, and a large part of our grain crop is now disposed of for seed in this and the neighboring provinces at a price of about 15 cents a bushel. The establishment of these seed fairs and the cost of running them is abundantly justified by the results. People who take an interest in good seed are also more interested in good cultivation, and will be more particular to get the weeds out of their fields, and thus raise not only the quality but the quantity per acre, and so get much larger returns for their work. These seed shows along with the "Field Competitions" which are now closely contested by a large number of our farmers, are the means of bringing up the average yield of our cereal crops to a much higher standard.

Stimulated by the higher prices there are more and better beef cattle being fed this year, and there seems to be a general move toward getting back to the beef breeds by those who have always followed a system of mixed farming. We hear a good deal of talk in some of our Farmers' Institutes about the dual-purpose cow. Though a considerable amount of milk is sent to the cheese factories by most of our farmers, it is a fact that there are only a few who have made a specialty of dairying. These few who have done so and have acquired good producing dairy herds will do well to stay by dairying, as they have acquired the skill necessary to make it pay. Others who follow a mixed system will perhaps do as well with a good dual-purpose herd the way things are going now—with the best cattle selling at \$8.00 per hundredweight. With a mixed system of farming, where beef and milk are both produced, it is necessary to keep a much larger herd than if engaged in dairying. The beef man has to raise many more calves to keep his herd up. To do this it is necessary to have the skim milk to feed the calves. This fact is leading many thoughtful farmers to conclude that the butter factory is the one to patronize. A number of cheese factories have

already patrons others w ing rapid land but their ma able ter to watch them w milk is without, paying credit brought the past very low system a year They pr over 60 being f business to the creased sentativ near up starting ter has do in a P. E. "W Editor In y article L. Mar to com friend in a s the ex remedy answer ple (u organi nought the fee is pa especia than i Great expend stand unprod money dismay tion o if arm decade practic as Si chester naval all th this m ship Europ Britai direct his ke be re step, Great its sh havin power chanc Mr and a that plemen Amen we sh and v ceeds concl Euro their we re we a tiplic persu woul man have have Brita add on to since worr Brita by a it ha shou is un allow land I th it n her Sho "Ye when Ma