

freely supporting any general movement to properly direct the politics of the country in the interests of transportation as well as of their most numerous customers.

The agricultural interest, however, is by far the most important, the worst organised and the most difficult to organise. Let a general movement be set on foot to organise in all the rural districts the interests of the farmers, and their right to obtain such an advantage as is offered to them by Mr. Chamberlain's policy. When the present Liberal Government appealed to the country on the lines which have been suggested throughout this book, they were returned to power with a very large majority, but there is always a danger of general interests being neglected, if particular interests are more persistent and more concentrated in their efforts. Let some of our greatest and most intelligent farmers who thoroughly understand the interests of their people, take the lead in calling a convention for the consideration of needs of the agricultural classes; let them abandon the niggardly habits that have always crippled agricultural organisations. Let the wealthy among them come down handsomely, and let all the farmers make small but regular contributions for keeping up a national agricultural association, which will gain and preserve the confidence of their fellow farmers throughout Canada. Such a movement must be made rigorously national in character. Unless the wisest and best of their number take hold of the matter, it might be very easy for the object to be defeated by international rings, whose interest would be to prevent the successful attainment of their object. Therefore the first principle to govern such an organisation should be absolute fidelity to the general interests of Canada, with a proper recognition of her rights and obligations as a part of the British Empire. I would suggest such a name as the Imperial Farmers' Association so as to exclude by its very terms those who would disregard our interests, rights and privileges as part of the British Empire. This would also emphasize the idea that they have common interests with the agriculturalists of the mother country in securing an adequate recognition from their respective Governments of the rights of the agricultural community. There might even be similar associations formed in the United Kingdom, if they do not already exist, and to defeat the attacks of those who would try to make it appear as a movement in favour of the land-