

Preference! Readjustment of freight rates? Establishment of branch factories in the far West?"

The readjustment of freight rates and the establishment of branch factories are good points. The first, however, is one which gets little support from the Canadian Manufacturers' association because there is too good an understanding between the railways and the manufacturers. The establishment of branch factories means the expenditure of money. Obviously the manufacturers would prefer to have the British Preference wiped out and the tariff raised on imports from Britain. This suggestion puts an end to the fake patriotism of the Canadian Manufacturers' association. They would as soon shut out British goods as any other. Also it shows how much or rather how little they care about the Canadian people. Let them keep on. Once we get these manufacturers uncovered their plunder will soon be cut off.

SHALL THE PRESS BE FREE?

The Guide is now four years old and we can say without fear of contradiction that in steady growth and popularity it has made a record without parallel in journalism in Canada. During this time The Guide has been devoted solely to the interests of the farmers of the Prairie Provinces, not in any narrow and selfish way, but in support of a policy which we believe to be in the best interests of all Canada. The Guide is the official organ of the organized farmers and as such has championed their cause against Special Privilege in every form. Working together, hand in hand, The Guide and the Grain Growers have waged a successful fight with the elevator combine. The farmers today are getting a larger portion of the real value of their grain than when the elevator ring had a monopoly. The protected manufacturers today have their backs to the wall and are sweating out their tariff plunder in a desperate struggle to retain their power to levy tribute. The railways are not so arrogant as a few years back and prospects are good for lower freight rates. Direct Legislation is in sight in Saskatchewan and Alberta and the spirit of reform dominates the West. The Guide has been in the thick of all these fights for justice and has done its level best for the farmers. The farmers have recognized the services of The Guide in a splendid manner. They have aided us in building up a list of 23,000 subscribers, which is larger than that of any other Western farm journal. We feel sure that during the coming winter this list will increase to 30,000 or more. The farmers have also aided us to secure a large advertising revenue. When we supported the farmers in their demand for free trade and exposed the iniquity of the protective tariff some Canadian tariff barons said: "We will kill off this Grain Growers' Guide by withdrawing our advertisements." Many of them did so, and we told our readers the story of this attempt to muzzle or ruin the farmers' paper. The result was that the farmers have said by thousands: "We will, as far as practicable, buy our goods from the firms that advertise in The Guide." In this way the protectionists have been foiled. The farmers have loyally supported the journal that has stood by them through thick and thin. We have tried to secure the advertisements of Canadian firms doing business in the West. Many of them have been broad-minded enough to separate business from politics and have advertised in The Guide. Many others who make a portion of their profits by levying tribute under shelter of the protective tariff have said: "We will not advertise in any paper that attacks the protective tariff." This has happened in many cases. The result has been more and more that American manufacturers are advertising in The Guide. They can easily sell in the Canadian market, as the Cana-

dian protected manufacturers add the full amount of the duty to their selling price. The American manufacturers are doing a tremendous business with the Western farmers. The Eastern Canadian protectionists by boycotting The Guide are only injuring themselves. The Guide is not going to be driven to the wall by the Canadian tariff barons. We have our readers at our back, and if the protected interests boycott The Guide they will simply "cut off their nose to spite their face." We are fighting for the freedom of the press. The protected manufacturers of Canada have controlled the press far too much for the welfare of the Canadian people. We again ask our readers in buying to give a preference to our advertisers. In this way they will make The Guide a great free journal that dares to tell the truth all the time. We do not ask any reader to lose money by supporting our advertisers, nor do we mean that every advertiser who does not use The Guide is opposed to our tariff policy. But the general facts are as we state. We are not advocating a boycott, but merely pointing out to our readers a method by which they can help us and at the same time help themselves. We try to see that no advertisement except for reliable concerns are published in The Guide. Every complaint received has been investigated by us and we have helped to adjust many misunderstandings. If our protectionists prefer to give the Western market to American manufacturers they are going at it in the right way. The Western farmer buys where he can get the best value for his money. The advertisers in The Guide are not only doing business with our 23,000 readers, but they are also aiding in the struggle for justice. Let us have another four years like the last in the fight for a square deal and the protective tariff wall will be crumbling and the farmers will be free to buy where they can buy cheapest and to sell where they can get the highest price. The Guide is getting in a stronger position financially every week. We intend to stay with the fight as long as the farmers want us.

TRULY A GREAT SUGGESTION

The Canadian Miller and Grain Elevator has this to say:—

"Postpone the cry for reciprocity a few years and it will be recognized that the need for it—if any ever existed—will have passed away. By that time, too, the West will have large manufacturing interests of its own and it will be crying as loudly for legitimate protection as now it demands free trade."

We should like to know why the Western farmers should so punish themselves for fifty years for the benefit of the flour millers. The millers hate to see any move that will squeeze the water out of their stock.

THE TIDE INVINCIBLE

For the encouragement of those who are fighting for a square deal we publish the following letter just received:—

"We have just had a meeting of the homesteaders in this new country south of Moose Jaw, and have decided to augment the great army of Grain Growers by forming Pleasant Valley branch. We had a wonderful meeting; many of us greeting each other for the first time, because we have been seventy miles from a railroad. Twenty-four farmers handed over their subscriptions to The Guide after joining the new association. I enclose their names and addresses. The good news of what the brother farmers are doing by co-operative buying caused the greatest enthusiasm. We have been fleeced right and left. Flour is \$3.65 and \$3.70; lumber, \$40.00 per thousand; coal oil, 40 cents per gallon. All these prices are charged at the nearest railroad town. The great railroad from Weyburn to Lethbridge, however, will be here by next year, and we shall follow the idea of the other branches of Grain Growers by getting lumber, flour, coal oil, formaline, twine, etc., in bulk and distribute among the members according to their needs and orders. By this means I notice some of the branches have saved a thousand dollars in one season to members. It is a wonderful sight to see how the money grabbers are driving the

farmers together. Co-operation is our salvation. We toil early and late for the implement men, flour millers, banks and loan corporations. Hurry up the day when farmers can get money at four or five percent. and the day of the Grain Growers' Flour Mills, not forgetting that great need, lumber, to keep our little ones warm (God bless them, they have had a rough time) from chilly blasts of winter, and our stock from dying when the blizzards arise. Yes, if mixed farming is our salvation let's have lumber for building reasonable. I will send you more subscribers if possible next meeting. (Signed) WALTER EAGLESTONE.

Deanton, Sask., July 30, 1912.

Think of it! Seventy miles off the railway. Some of our readers are living today three hundred miles from a railway. Many more are living twenty-five miles from railway facilities. Why? Is there no vacant land nearer? Lots of it, but speculators are holding it out of use while the farmers work to increase its value to fill the speculators' pockets. And the law is on the side of the speculator. This letter shows how economic necessity is driving the farmers into organization to protect their wives and children from the greed of the protected manufacturers and the Special Interests. There are audible murmurs of discontent in the Prairie Provinces. There is good cause. Soon it will be a roar that will sound even within the walls of Privilege. The tide has been going out for many years but now it is coming in with resistless force. Free born men with the slightest spark of manhood in their make up will not tolerate being corralled and fleeced by a handful of millionaires. It will be as easy to chain the ocean's tides as to keep in subjection the men on the Western Prairies.

On August 5 the tanners' section of the Canadian Manufacturers' association met in Montreal and decided to increase the price of leather ten per cent. The boot and shoe manufacturers naturally with one accord decide to boost the prices of their product fifteen per cent. But there is no combine and these prices will really not make boots cost any more. Oh, no, of course not. The whole proceeding will well illustrate the "gospel of scarcity" so ably supported by the protected manufacturers.

We are glad to publish Mr. Scallion's exposure of Editor Willison's protectionist arguments. Special Privilege may dictate to the Western people for a time but there is a rift in the clouds. Men are beginning to see that they have used their ballots for their own undoing. Mr. Scallion's letter voices the feeling of the Western people. Mr. Willison's address voiced the opinion of the protected interests. Which will eventually triumph?

A protectionist farmer declares that the tariff does not cost him \$200 a year "nor anything like it." We have an idea that he doesn't know what the tariff costs him. Let him take the tariff schedule and do some figuring and he will soon see where his \$200 goes.

The Winnipeg Telegram is endeavoring to show that the Manitoba government was not in any way responsible for the failure of the elevators and is making all sorts of vicious charges against journals that say otherwise. Now, if The Telegram wants more information on the elevator question we are prepared to give it and substantiate it.

We clip the following from the editorial column of a daily paper in Saskatchewan:—

"The political 'sewer sheet' that is issued every morning by fox-faced derelicts, from the basement of the narrow block, shows signs of waking up to civic conditions."

We judge this is meant to be a rebuke to the offending editor. Evidently the editors of these two journals are not members of the Association of Brotherly Love.

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