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this question will mark an epoch in Canadian history. If reciprocity is defeated the shackles of protection will be more tightly riveted upon the Canadian people, privilege will entrench itself more firmly in our institutions and the progress of reform will be indefinitely delayed.

A verdict in favor of reciprocity will be a warning to the lords of privilege that the people of Canada are awakening to the iniquities of protection. It will mean the death knell of protection in this country, for as Clifford Sifton rises to remark, although the government has promised the manufacturers that there will be no further reduction of the tariff, that promise cannot be relied upon, because if reciprocity carries the people will force the government to make further reductions. Clifford is right.

It was public opinion which forced the American and the Canadian governments to act upon this question. Public opinion will not be satisfied with reciprocity and nothing more. Public opinion will not be satisfied to leave well enough alone. Public opinion will ultimately destroy all barriers to trade, and public opinion will finally force our legislators to adopt the principles of taxation laid down by Henry George. "No question is ever settled until it is settled right." The right way to settle the tariff question is to kill the tariff. The tariff is the most atrocious humbug that was ever foisted on a civilized people. It is foolish, immoral and unjust, when used for protective purposes, it robs the poor for the benefit of the rich. When used for revenue the burden of taxes falls most heavily on those least able to pay. Nobody knows how much he pays towards the expense of government, nor how much the government gets of what he pays. The tariff makes it more difficult for the people to get the things they want to get. It promotes ill feelings between individuals and hatred between nations. If we will liberate our trade from the shackles of protection and free our land from the grip of the monopolists, we can establish here a country that will astonish the nations of the world. If we fail to do this we will go the way of all flesh, and produce millionaires and paupers in about the same ratio as the older countries are doing and have done.

F. J. DIXON.

Winnipeg, Sept. 1, 1911.

**SASKATCHEWAN ELEVATORS**

Editor, Guide:—I notice in last week's Guide a very rose-colored interview of Mr. A. G. Hawkes over the signature of F.W.G. Now, sir, anyone unacquainted with the cold hard facts of the case would naturally suppose from a perusal of the interview that the getting of an elevator by a body of farmers who mean business at all, is as simple as falling off a log. However, as one of the number who have been up against the cold hard facts, I can assure neophytes at the business that their disillusionment may be slow but will be complete. We of this district have been agitating for an elevator all summer. We have sent up a delegate to lay our case before the provisional directors who were conducting affairs at that time; we have organized ourselves without any outside assistance; in short, I can safely say we have done more good solid hard work to get an elevator established at our point than any local yet organized, and still our elevator is in the clouds and likely to remain so for an indefinite period. When we see the company erecting elevators at points like Hanley with 100,000 bushels elevator capacity, Estevan with 175,000, Cupar with 115,000, Govan with 119,000 and Tugaska with 100,000, we have ground for suspicion that the splendid board of directors, to quote Mr. Hawkes, are using a certain amount of discrimination, to the detriment of the more outlying points that are unquestionably more in need of assistance. Charity begins at home is an old saying, but the directors seem to think it ought to stay there. In regard to the question of organization, this company was granted \$6,000 by the provincial government to defray the expenses of organization, and as far as I have been able to gather they have three organizers in the field. Now, sir, when can the directors hope to have all the points in the province that are in need of elevators covered? If they don't wake up this question will go down to posterity bracketed with the H. B. railway. But perhaps the directors think they can't find any more men in Saskatchewan capable of handling the job. As it is, it looks like the directors intend that these three men will divide the \$6,000 between them. Now, Mr. Editor, when can the

farmer hope for emancipation, when his own representatives, the moment they are pitchforked into a position of little brief authority, become as hidebound and apathetic as officialdom at its worst.

WM. RATCLIFFE, JR.  
Sylvania, Sask.

**THE LAND QUESTION**

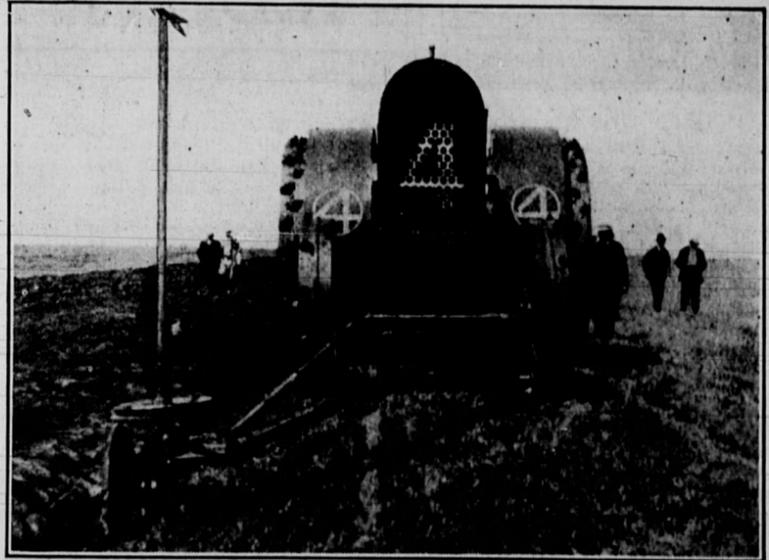
Editor, Guide:—In yours of August 30 you invite a full discussion of the economic aspect of the land question in your columns, and as I have made a special study of the land question during the last seven years, I cheerfully avail myself of the opportunity thus presented, and trust that it may be seed sown in a fertile soil. Farmers are discontented. Why? Because they see that, although they are the producers of the world's wealth, yet by one means and another the distribution of that wealth is very unjust, the farmer getting the smallest share. Hundreds of thousands of farmers are asking themselves the question:—How is it that we, the backbone of the country; we, who are up earliest in the morning and at work latest at night; we, who produce the crops, cattle, hogs, poultry, dairy produce, etc.; we, the admiration of the world; we, who are young in years though old in looks, wrinkled and warped and weatherbeaten; we, who are exposed to the heat of the summer and the blasts of winter—how is it that our homes are humble, scantily furnished and under mortgage at that, while a seemingly fortunate few live lives of ease and luxury although they toil not, neither do they spin? This condition is burning itself as with a red hot iron into the hearts of the thinking people everywhere and keenly they feel it as if they were the victims of some evil genius abroad in the world. For every effect there is a cause, and every cause has an effect. This is not a world of chance but of law, but it looks as if everything was the opposite of what it should be. Those who are poor should be rich, those who are toiling in their declining years deserve to have a bank account big enough to keep themselves comfortable the rest of their days. Many have arrived at the age of forty and fifty years who have not a dollar laid by for a rainy day and they ask themselves: "Where will I be when I get old and not able to work?" All power rests with the masses of the people, but that power they know not how to use, and until they realize their power and see what is taking from them the fruits of their daily toil, they must continue to be "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to a privileged class, who are their masters. Their not understanding what land is, how it differs from the many things produced by labor, what its value is, the nature of that value, how that value arises, who creates that value, who it belongs to and what God Almighty intended it for—until they understand these things and act upon the understanding, they are doomed to "drag at each remove a lengthening chain" and their every effort to better their condition only sinks them deeper, deeper in the quicksands of social injustice. The increase in land values that we hear so much about is a growing public debt on the farmers and toilers of all classes, and a growing debt without any compensating advantages. That growing debt is sinking farmers deeper, deeper in despair as the years go by. That value is not wealth but is power in the hands of the owner of the title deed to take more and more from the people who must use it. The land question is the only great economic question that must be settled, and once that question is settled all other economic questions will settle themselves automatically.

A GUIDE READER.

**HOME RULE FOR SCOTLAND**

The text has been issued of the Government of Scotland Bill, brought in by Sir Henry Dalziel and others. The memorandum states that the object of the measure is to provide for the establishment in Scotland of a legislative body, to be called the Scots Parliament, and for the devolution to that body of the power to make laws on matters exclusively relating to Scotland. By this means it will be made possible for matters of local importance in Scotland to be duly considered and determined in a local Parliament, and, in addition, the Imperial Parliament will, to a large extent, be relieved from the present pressure of business.

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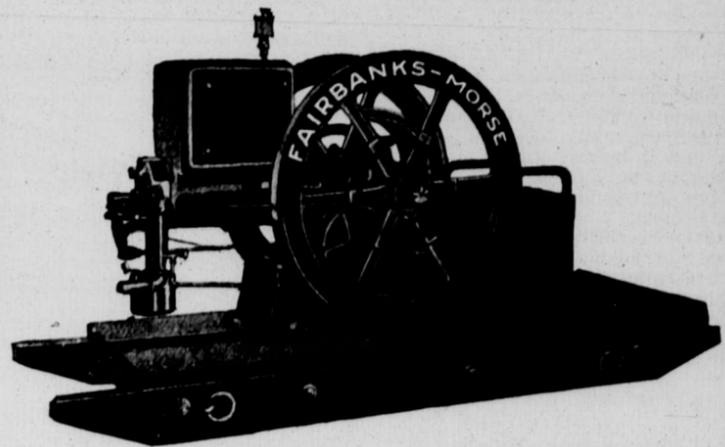
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