

consider the number of farms on which no provision is made for a good kitchen garden when, with a very small outlay of time, a large proportion of the food for the house could be raised at home and, with the provision of a cellar, vegetables might be obtainable nearly all the year round. The meat bill is another time of expenditure which might be very easily reduced if a beef ring were organized, a few dozen chickens kept and some pigs allowed to make use of the waste grain which otherwise would not be accounted for at all. Raising stock would naturally follow in many districts where conditions were such as to allow of plenty of rough feed and water being available, and this would tend to extend the work more evenly thruout the whole year rather than making it unduly heavy at one particular time with corresponding periods of comparative idleness. Many other means will be recognized whereby saving might be effected, but the main point to remember is that the farmer is a manufacturer and as such he must and does stand in competition with the rest of the world's business men. Accordingly it is necessary in this specialized age, where wastes in business are being narrowed down to a minimum by the application of scientific principles, that the farmer to be successful must make use of not only mixed farming but, by means of education, organization and co-operation, he must conduct his business upon the most economical lines possible.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN MANITOBA

In the Province of Manitoba suffrage sentiment has been growing apace and the Political Equality League, which began a little more than two years ago with a small knot of people congregated in the sitting room of a prominent member, has expanded into a society with six city and several outside branches. Last winter Premier Roblin was approached by a delegation from this society and asked to consider their demand for woman suffrage. The Premier replied that not so long as he was head of the Government would such a thing happen to the women of Manitoba. Following close upon the heels of this declaration of the Premier's came the Woman's Parliament in the City of Winnipeg, in which the women turned the tables and showed the men how it must feel to receive such treatment from one's country. Public opinion was plainly influenced in favor of the women. Nevertheless, when a suffrage resolution came up in the House a few weeks later Sir Rodmond informed his followers that he would regard it as a vote of want of confidence in him if any of them supported the resolution. Harvey Simpson, the Conservative member for Virden, who had brought in the same resolution himself the session previous, conveniently absented himself, and all the other Conservative members voted as they were instructed. Naturally the women were anything but pleased, and when an election seemed imminent the Political Equality League consulted the Opposition leader and his party as to the stand they were prepared to take on this reform. When they had secured from them a definite pledge endorsing it the members of the League turned in and worked with a will for the Liberal party. Canvassers went about the city, literature was distributed and speakers were sent out, the most distinguished of whom was Mrs. Nellie L. McClung, the well-known writer. So earnest and effective was the work done by the women that the Conservative party began to repent (when it was too late) of having antagonized them, and on the eve of the election they veered around from absolutely refusing to consider woman suffrage to the non-committal statement, "Woman suffrage in time? Yes." The election, with the greatly reduced majority of the Conservative party, has brought about an interesting state of affairs in relation to the

suffrage question. During the campaign as various Conservative candidates felt the antagonism of the women they declared themselves publicly and privately in favor of woman suffrage. Now there will be in the new Legislature an Independent member, F. J. Dixon, who has long stood for woman suffrage. If he were to bring in a woman suffrage bill and it received the support of the Liberal party, which has endorsed it, and of the Conservative members who have declared themselves in favor of it, the women of Manitoba would almost certainly enter into citizenship within the year, so that unquestionably, from the woman's standpoint, the next session of the legislature should be the most interesting in the history of the Province.

A PROTECTIONIST BOOMERANG

The leading apostles of Protection, inside and outside of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, have always contended that it is impossible to build up manufacturing industries without the support and shelter of the protective tariff. They have most feelingly portrayed the desolate condition which is bound to exist in Canada if the protective duties are removed. Indeed the protectionists have gone so far as to paint pictures of ruin for Western Canada itself if the high tariff wall against our neighbors and other countries is not maintained to the highest point. It never seems to occur to these pocket-book patriots that the very arguments which they set forth with such vim make the strongest possible case in favor of Free Trade from the standpoint of Western Canada. At present there are comparatively few manufacturing industries in the Western Provinces. The manufacturing district of Canada is confined very largely to Ontario and a part of Quebec. Between the Eastern manufacturing districts and Western Canada there is complete and absolute Free Trade, and an industry that is started on the prairies today is compelled from its birth to face competition from similar industries in Eastern Canada. This competition, even tho it comes from Canadian industries and corporations, is quite as keen and quite as unscrupulous as the competition that comes from foreign manufacturing concerns. The big manufacturing industries in Eastern Canada have no desire to see competing establishments rising in the Prairie Provinces. They much prefer to supply the western field from their eastern factories as long as it is possible to do so, despite the fact that it would be much better in most cases for the Western people to have the factories located in their midst and thus create a "home market" which the manufacturers are continually using as an argument in favor of Protection. If the tariff wall were abolished Eastern Canadian manufacturers and American manufacturers would undoubtedly come into Western Canada in large numbers and erect their factories in order to hold the field. If we are going to have large industries in the Prairie Provinces, then, according to Sir George Foster and the High-Tariff Brigade, we must protect ourselves against the large and "highly specialized" industries of Toronto. Therefore, if he is consistent, Sir George Foster should propose on behalf of the Western people that a high tariff wall be erected at the Great Lakes to protect Western Canada from the injurious competition of Eastern Canada. The Western people as a whole, however, have long ago discovered the fallacies of the Protectionist doctrine and would much prefer to have the tariff wall completely removed so that competition from every part of the world may be free. The consequent reduction of the cost of living and the cheapening of raw material would bring manufacturing industries into Western Canada and establish them on a sound footing quite as fast as the needs of the country demand.

From the time of the Canadian Pacific scandal in 1873 down to the present day corruption in political life in Canada has been on the increase and the public mind gradually became callous to exposures. It has been taken for granted that the party in power will secure for its own purposes a large campaign fund by some species of graft and corruption. In addition to securing campaign funds, undoubtedly a large number of our politicians have lined their own pockets by using their public positions for private purposes. This graft and corruption has become so glaring and open in recent years that the public is again becoming aroused and there is a feeling thruout the length and breadth of Canada that it is time to clean up our political life. Political grafters must take a back seat and give place to honest men.

If the Postmaster-General really wants to make the post-office more profitable, let him restrict the franking privilege of members of Parliament to bona-fide correspondence on the public business. Tons of political campaign literature are sent thru the mails every year for which the post office does not receive one cent of postage, because it is mailed at the House of Commons post-office and bears the rubber stamped initials of a member of Parliament. The Postmaster-General would be much better employed in preventing this wholesale defrauding of the mails than in endeavoring to impose discriminatory postage rates upon weekly papers.

It is to be hoped that Mackenzie and Mann will exercise proper care in the expenditure of the \$45,000,000 they recently got at the expense of the public credit. If these two gentlemen are careful and do not go into too great extravagances they ought to be able to live at least a couple of years on this sum. It is pretty safe betting tho that they will be back in Ottawa in another two years for more money.

Altho hard times are upon us there is no doubt about the future of this country when it gets down to a legitimate basis. We have a fertile soil, a good climate and an abundance of other natural resources. We can produce all kinds of feed and fodder crops in abundance. When the farmer is given a square deal and farms as he ought to, this country will come into its own, and not before.

As long as the Canadian millers can keep the Canadian consumers bottled up by the Protective Tariff fence, just so long they will force the people to pay a high price for their flour. When free wheat comes, as it is bound to come very shortly, the Canadian miller will not sell his flour cheaper in England than he does in Canada.

The farmers' grain companies during the past year have handled fully a quarter of the inspected grain. Slowly but steadily the volume of grain being marketed by the farmers themselves is increasing. It is only a matter of time until the private grain speculator is a thing of the past.

The hard times thru which this country is passing and which will continue for some time to come will in the end be a good thing for the people, because it will teach them that large immigration, real estate speculation and the continual noise of boosting does not mean real prosperity.

It would be in accord with the Golden Rule for those farmers who have good crops this year to assist the large number whose crops are completely ruined by hail or drought or other cause.

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