

in the Farmers' Platform calls for the setting forth in plain public view of the facts of the ownership and control of daily newspapers and other periodical publications. Among the things essential to making the world safe for democracy is public enlightenment. What is democracy, after all, but public knowledge and public opinion in action? To make democracy safe, there must be public enlightenment. Public opinion must be based on the truth, not on falsehoods and deceptions. As it was written of old, "You shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free." The power of the press in shaping public opinion is subtle and it is powerful; it works in many ways and it works all the time. Newspapers are too important agencies in influencing public opinion to be allowed with safety to democracy to operate with their ownership and control concealed from public view.

### Arguing Both Ways

A high tariff "Reconstruction" editorial in large type is printed on the front page of The Financial Post, of Toronto in the course of which occur these sentences:—

The fact that a continued high market for wheat is assured should be the great stabilizing factor in Canada.

A price of better than \$2.20 is guaranteed for wheat until August 31, 1919. The United States has extended guarantees until April, 1920. This practically means the two-dollar standard for the crop now being marketed and for the crop of 1919. Wheat sets the standard of price for other agricultural products to a large extent.

With such prices prevailing for farm products a large income is assured to Canada. At the same time the cost of living will also remain high. And if the cost of living does not come down every effort must be made to keep wages up.

Looking at the situation from this standpoint it does not look as though there will be any sudden collapse in prices.

Strange to say, in the selfsame issue The Financial Post, defending the exorbitant profits of the milling corporations, argues that it is wholly justifiable for those corporations to accumulate millions of super-profits "to meet a condition that is certain to arise in the future, when the price of wheat is liable to decline \$1.00 a bushel in a few months!" The interests which grow fat by means of high protectionism and the methods of high finance certainly have some zealously ingenious arguers enlisted in their service.

### As To Tin-Pot Aristocracy

Titles belong to an organization of society for which there should be no place on Canadian soil. They are surviving symbols of caste-divisions which democracy, as it progresses, does away with. Their importation into this country, for the social gilding of new-made millionaires and their consorts, is an evil which should never have been allowed to have a beginning.

The declaration in the Farmers' Platform against any continuance of that evil is one with which there will be hearty agreement by the mass of the Canadian people. The establishment in Canada of figments and trappings, which are mere pinchbeck imitations of the vanished era of feudalism, is an offence against the spirit of true Canadianism.

### A Very Much Alive Question

The comments in the newspapers from end to end of Canada on the Farmers' Platform are piling up proof every day that the question of tariff taxation stands in the front of the national problems of the Canadian people. There are no individuals in Canada more thoroughly aware of this fact than the organized beneficiaries of the tariff system, whose unprecedented profits have whetted their hunger for more, and who have not failed to take time by the forelock in their planning with that purpose in view.

In his first speech as the star apostle of the Canadian Industrial Reconstruction Association's propaganda, which he made in the manufacturing town of Galt, Ont., on July 17 last, Sir John Willison said that the Canadian people had no time now to waste on such defunct matters as "the ancient tariff quarrel, which is as musty as the tombs of Egypt." When he thus airily dismissed the question of national fiscal policy and waved it away outside the region of practical questions, Sir John can hardly have believed there were many among his hearers so guileless as to imagine that complete knowledge of the aliveness of the tariff issue and much strategic thought in that regard were not at work beneath the surface of the Willisonian oratory.

The existing tariff system in Canada is a system of organized injustice to the agricultural industry of the country. It is a system of special privilege, which for the profit of

those who are its beneficiaries burdens heavily the many Canadians engaged in agricultural industry, the basic industry of the country and the main source of the wealth of the country. Politicians of every stripe are thoroughly well aware of how very much alive the tariff question is.

There can be little doubt that as a result of the general election in Great Britain next Saturday the government will be given a mandate, not only to retain in its hands the operation of the railways, but also for the acquiring of the coal mines and the transmission of power for industrial purposes from central generating plants in the colliery districts to all parts of the United Kingdom. Public ownership and control of public utilities is denounced by gentlemen of importance in Canada as visionary nonsense. But practical John Bull seems to think otherwise.

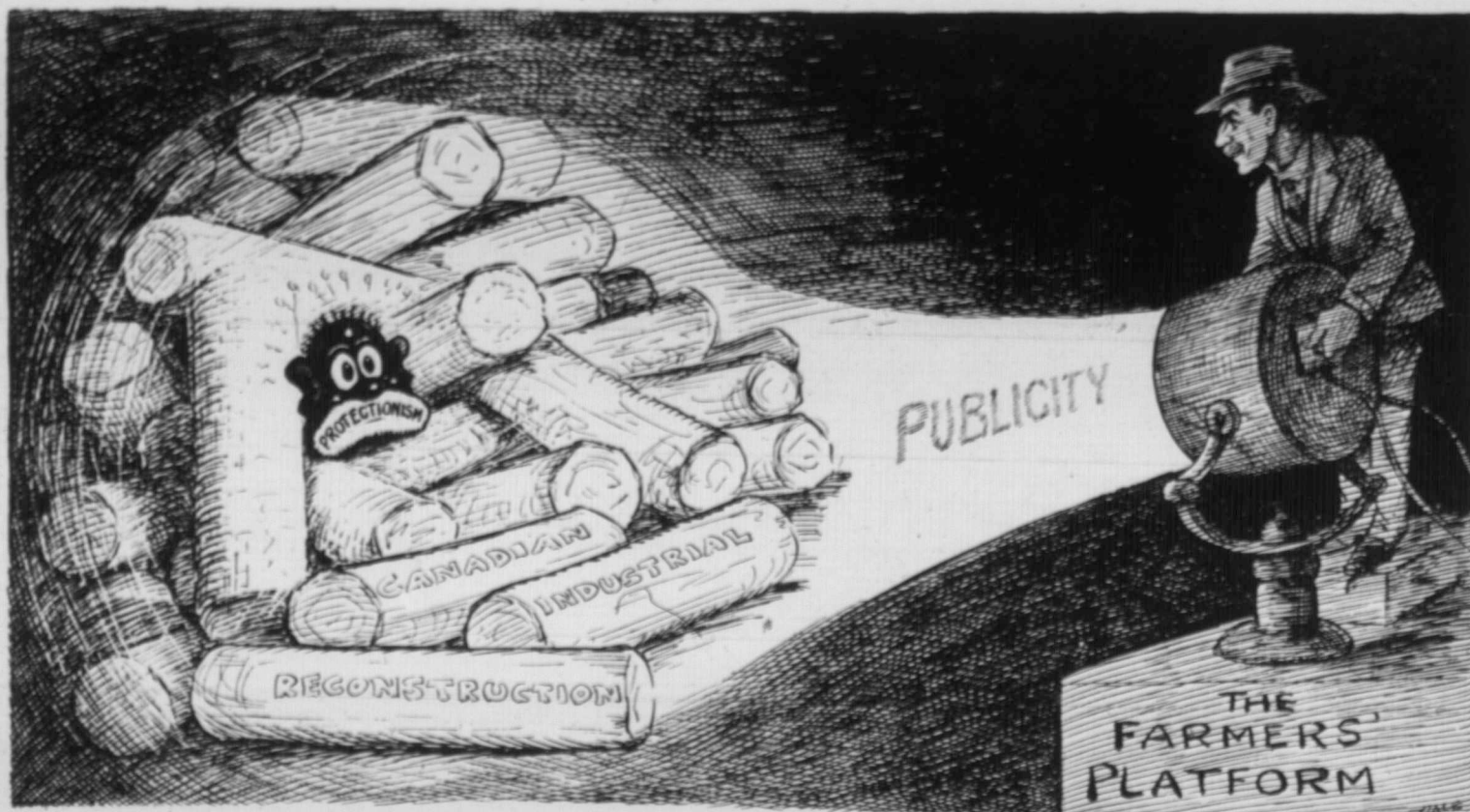
An Eastern Journal complains that The Guide is unreasonable in its attitude towards the "National Policy" of protectionism. How about the attitude of the protected interests in whose behalf the News is so assiduous an arguer? Is there, for instance, anything reasonable in their persistence in demanding that the Order-in-Council of February 8 last, authorizing for 12 months the refunding of the 27½ per cent. duty on light tractors, which are not manufactured in Canada, be rescinded without further delay?

### Says the Toronto News:—

The Grain Growers' Guide praises the Dominion Government for the service which it has rendered the Canadian West in establishing the milling values of Canadian wheat. The tests have been conducted in the Government laboratory at Winnipeg, under the supervision of Dr. Birchard, the Government expert. The results achieved mean much for the prairie grain growers.

They will mean nothing until the milling and baking values are used in fixing the prices of the different grades on each year's crop—something which has never been done yet.

Nothing could be of happier omen for the world's future than the family reunion of all the English-speaking people, which is now going forward so joyously.



THE DARKY IN THE WOODPILE

DEMOCRACY  
action  
real w  
sum t  
its inc  
have worked  
as their own  
on conviction  
genuine opin  
and honestly  
Opinion is!  
And just as  
counterfeit l  
bogus dollar  
also are ther  
not ring tru  
opinions, inh  
bought opin  
opinions. T  
of counterfe  
part, they  
been rightfu  
rightfully b  
Opi  
But true,  
must count  
tender of d  
the individ  
his own an  
Out of th  
democracy  
—enlighten  
greatest fo  
proved in t  
world's fre  
But it is  
that enlig  
normally  
And so eve  
self-interes  
common  
home with  
in co-oper  
purpose is  
lightenme  
increase th  
Do not  
in the fore  
selves str  
who cons  
ment of t  
after the-  
pared at  
adian Co  
That c  
policy n  
associati  
Council v



Wh