

manufacturers' viewpoint is the only correct one and that the claims of the Western farmers and other claimants for justice have no merit. At least Mr. Parsons does not intimate anywhere that the Western farmers claims have any justification. Some day the East and the West will get together but it will be on a broader ground and it will be on a basis that will give wider opportunity to all men in Canada. We have no hesitation in saying that we do not believe that time will come until the political strength of the West is sufficient to compel a recognition of Western rights and also of the principle that no class in Canada is entitled to special privileges.

If Mr. Parsons would care to we shall be glad to give him space to reply to this article in The Guide without charge.

### Labor Exchanges

Reports from Ottawa indicate that the Federal and Provincial Governments are at last making a serious attempt to grapple with the labor problem and prepare for the returned soldiers. A plan is being formulated for the creation of federal and provincial labor exchanges where every jobless man and every manless job will be registered and adjusted to each other. Such an organization has been a long felt want in Canada, and if properly administered will improve conditions enormously. In Great Britain there are 400 government labor exchanges which have evidently rendered good service as it is recently announced that they will now be increased to 2,000. No details of the Canadian scheme are announced as to whether there will be any compulsory element in the plan. While the present labor situation is serious, the task of reabsorbing the returned soldier will be vastly greater and no time should be lost in preparing to meet this problem.

### Progress of Woman Suffrage

Woman suffrage is making progress that must be gratifying to even the most impatient advocate of "The Cause." In Canada the War Times Election Act enfranchised about one-half million women. The discrimination that it made was justly resented by many patriotic, intelligent women, but this much can be said that it committed the country to a policy of female enfranchisement. The program of the Union Government includes the extension of the full franchise to women. In the United States, President Wilson has thrown his support to the federal amendment for woman suffrage "as an act of right and justice to the women of the country and of the world." This brings federal enfranchisement within sight for the women of the great republic. In Great Britain the new franchise bill will add millions of women to the voters' list. In the new Russia that must eventually emerge from the present chaos women will undoubtedly be recognized as an integral part of the electorate. Even in

Austria-Hungary the movement is making progress. The tremendous part that women have played in all phases of war activity, except actual fighting, has done more than anything else to force the recognition of their just claim to the franchise. But the sacrifices they are making are arousing within them a determination that this horror must never be repeated. The power secured to them by the franchise will effectively assist in the establishment of permanent peace. An international council of enfranchised women would do much to dispel that international distrust and misunderstanding in which wars are germinated.

### Bran and Shorts

To prevent retail dealers taking advantage of the scarcity of bran and shorts to exact excessive profits over the price fixed by the food controller, the latter has ordered that the retail price of bran and shorts, where cash is paid, must not exceed by more than 10 cents per bag the cost f.o.b. track at the dealer's station. In cases where purchasers take delivery direct from the car the profit has been limited to a maximum of 5 cents a bag. An extra charge may be made where credit is given, and the bran and shorts delivered from the dealer's store, but this amount shall be only a reasonable charge representing the consideration of such services.

When the miller sells at the mill in less than earload lots, he is not permitted to add more than 5 cents a bag of 100 pounds to the price at which he is permitted to sell under the food controller's order of December 17, 1917, which prices were published in The Guide, January 23. When the purchaser

brings bags to the mill to be filled, the miller must not add more than \$2 a ton to the price at which he is permitted to sell under the order of December 17. In effect the miller must not charge more than the fixed Port William bulk prices, plus or minus freight to or from Port William, and in addition \$2 a ton as retail charges. For example, suppose that at a point in Western Canada the freight from Port William is 14.20 a ton. In this case the selling price for bran per ton when the purchaser supplies the bag would be \$24.50, plus \$4.20, plus \$2, a total of 30.70. The order applies to all millers and dealers in Canada.

### Farm Repair Week

The Dominion Government has suggested the week of March 11 to 16 as a "Farm Repair Week" throughout Canada. The idea is to have the farmer inspect his machinery, order extra parts, buy new or second-hand and dispose of what he does not need. Every wide-awake farmer of course, would be doing this anyway but it is not a bad idea to have one special week devoted to it. The whole purpose is to encourage maximum production and it would help in that direction. The Government urges the farmers to advertise any second-hand implements to be disposed of in the classified columns of their own papers. The idea is to get this second-hand machinery into somebody's hands where it will be working. In addition, farmers should dispose of all machinery they do not need and if they advertise it there will be some person who will find it quite suited to their requirements.

The breeding of meh pigs is only one of the problems in the hog production campaign. Feed is becoming very scarce. Labor is also a big factor in increased production. In this connection an article in this issue on reducing pork production costs by G. H. Hutton of the Dominion Experimental Farm, Lacombe, gives some remarkable facts on the use of alfalfa, rape and other pastures in saving grain, also on the saving in labor effected by the self-feeder. Mr. Hutton's experiments cover two years and are the most extensive conducted on the continent dealing with this problem. Every stockman owes a duty to himself and his country to study these results carefully.

The vegetable growers of Ontario are asking that the duty be removed from commercial fertilizers used in the production of vegetables and other farm crops in Eastern Canada. This is a very reasonable proposition and should receive prompt action at the hands of the government.

The farm garden is an economical food producer. Odd moments can be utilized in it and the women and children can help. Plan a good garden now and order seeds early. There will be a big demand in the spring, and seed stocks may become exhausted.

IF THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T HURRY UP  
AND BRAND THE MULE —



THE MULE WILL  
BRAND THE  
GOVERNMENT.

DELAY IS DANGEROUS