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The editors hope that you have enjoyed reading The Guide and that you will send \$1.50 for your renewal at once. A blank coupon and addressed envelope are enclosed for your convenience.

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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

"Equal Rights to All and Special Privileges to None"
A Weekly Journal for Progressive Farmers

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The Guide is absolutely owned and controlled by the organized farmers—entirely independent, and not one dollar of political, capitalistic, or special interest money is invested in it.

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Advertising Rates

Commercial Display—20 cents per agate line. Livestock Display—16 cents per agate line. Classified—5 cents per word per issue.

No discounts for time or space on any class of advertising. All changes of copy and new matter must reach us seven days in advance of date of publication to insure insertion. Reading matter advertisements are marked "Advertisement." No advertisement for patent medicines, liquor, mining stock, or extravagantly worded real estate will be accepted. We believe, through careful enquiry, that every advertisement in The Guide is signed by trustworthy persons. We will take it as a favor if any of our readers will advise us promptly should they have any reason to doubt the reliability of any person or firm who advertises in The Guide.

CURRENT EVENTS

General Sarrail, commander of the allied armies at Saloniki has been recalled. His successor it is said will be General Guillaumet.

The tide has apparently turned for the Italians. Between the Brenta and the Piave rivers they have assumed the offensive with signal success on several sectors.

The food controller has announced that it may be necessary to take over the entire catch of Western fish. This is to prevent fishermen from withholding supplies for higher prices. It is believed that 300,000 pounds are being held back in the Western provinces. Precautions are also being taken to prevent the supply from being diverted to the United States.

Secretary Daniels of the U.S. navy department has announced that they have 424 warships in course of construction. This does not include submarine chasers, of which 350 are being built, and does not include small craft. The navy, said Secretary Daniels, now has 1,000 ships in commission as against 300 two years ago and an enlisted personnel of 280,000 officers and men as compared with 64,618 men and 4,336 officers when the country declared war.

J. Ogden Armour was named at the federal trade commission's investigation at Washington as the packer who aided F. H. Prince of Boston to obtain control of the Chicago Junction Railway and the Union Stock Yards company, and turn them over to the Chicago Stock Yards company, organized and controlled by the Armours. After reorganization a million of \$3,000,000 was cut and distributed.

THE RUSSIAN SITUATION

Civil warfare is rife in Russia. The news coming through is meager in the extreme but it indicates that in large territories the people are breaking up into warring factions. Cossacks are reported to have captured an important junction point on the Trans-Siberian railway 125 miles west of the Siberian frontier through which supplies from the east for European Russia must pass. Fighting continues in Odessa, in the Ukraine and around Astrakhan. One report is to the effect that the Grand Duke Nicholas is gathering a huge force of royalists in the Caucasus. Another states that Kerensky at the head of an army is marching against Moscow. Indications are that the Bolshevik movement is losing ground in the face of the opposition that is being imposed by the Ukrainians and the followers of General Kaledines. Indications are that there is not a full agreement between the Russians and the Germans on possible peace terms. Socialists are stated to be circulating a statement calling attention to the difference between the peace program of the workman's and soldier's delegates and the peasant's delegates and that of the German capitalists, landowners and military generals. These terms they claim contain irreconcilable contradictions.

THE GUIDE POST

A Great Benefactor, a real contributor to the welfare of humanity and one of the first citizens of this country is Seager Wheeler, the subject of one of the leading articles in this issue. He is one of those men who is helping thousands of others to make two blades of wheat or grass or two bushels of potatoes grow where only one grew before. He has made an inestimable contribution to his country and the world, and particularly valuable is his work in this crisis, when food is of such paramount importance in preserving the fold for the same evolution of democracy. Wheeler is a great man to whom some more real honor is due than anything yet done him but he is also one of the most humble and unassuming citizens. You will know this wheat wizard better after reading "Seager Wheeler and his Work," by the editor.

A Great New Movement, filled with immense possibilities for the future of agriculture everywhere is that of the county agent or district representative. County agents are highly trained, practical agriculturists, placed by the departments of agriculture in counties or districts throughout the country to give every possible assistance to farmers with their problems. Each acts somewhat as a deputy of the department of agriculture in his particular community and gives a close, intimate touch between the government and farmers. The work these men and women do is tremendous. Its value cannot be estimated. What they do, how they are trained and how their communities feel about their services are briefly outlined in this issue in the article headed, "The County Agent." This movement should spread in Western Canada as well.

When One Considers the immense volume of business which is done between Guide advertisers and Guide subscribers it is not to be wondered at that occasionally there is a little delay or some slip of a cog in the wheel of service on the part of some advertiser. When such a slip occurs we would like to

remind our subscribers that in most cases a courteous letter to the advertiser will have prompt attention and bring satisfactory settlement. We would recommend our subscribers to try this method before writing The Guide, but if they do not receive a satisfactory explanation or settlement within a reasonable time not to hesitate to write us. Some subscribers antagonize the advertisers by writing angry letters accusing them of unfair dealings before the advertiser has had reasonable time to attend to a complaint and it is well to remember that a little patience and good humor are often very much more effective than a threat of legal proceedings.

The Man of Sound Ideas is generally the man who knows much of what the thinkers of his day and of the past have taught. The one who thinks most and deepest is generally the one who draws most on books, those treasure houses of the world's greatest thoughts. But busy farm people have only time to read a few of them. To assist them in making a selection is the object of our book reviews. In this department the best current books are reviewed. The outlines are sufficiently ample to enable them to decide whether or not the book will fit in with their general scheme of reading.

The Cost of Growing Wheat is a subject upon which there is altogether too little information. Yet it is one upon which there should be definite information available. The Guide is endeavoring to arrive at a fair estimate of what the cost actually is of producing wheat under the three-year rotation that is quite generally practiced. In this work we solicit the co-operation of our readers. In this issue the plan that has been adopted is outlined. If further information is required it will be gladly furnished. If you are interested write for extended report forms. It is hoped that the co-operation of a large number of farmers will be freely offered in this important work. The high price of labor and other factors that enter into the cost of wheat make it necessary to have the cost on this year's operation.

PRIZES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Cash prizes will be given for contributions from Guide readers on subjects pertaining to farm life and work. These contributions should preferably contain not more than 600 words but well written articles will be accepted should they exceed this length. They should be written on one side of the paper only. For the best contribution on each subject a prize of \$2.00 will be given; for the second best, \$1.00 and others that are published will be paid for at the usual contributors' rates. The subjects are as follows:
It is easy to secure a loan for a suitable period from your local bank to purchase livestock or finance other farm operations necessary to increase production? If not, what is the chief handicap in doing so?

Should the farmer's wife have her own income and bank account or should she have one in common with her husband? Discuss the advantage of each method and give experiences of yourself and others.
Describe fully your method of feeding and housing sows through the winter to get the largest, strongest spring litters. What are the best feeds? How do you make sure they get enough exercise?
What, in your experience, is the best method of handling stubble land for spring seeding? Outline in detail your method from the time the snow goes off until cultivation is completed.
Contributions on the above subjects should be mailed not later than January 5, 1918. Address Editor, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

DECISIVE VICTORY FOR UNION

The result of the federal election on December 17, was a striking victory for the Union Government. The result was especially emphatic in the West. Only three Laurier liberals were returned from these provinces, one each from Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta. Saskatchewan voted solidly Unionist. Ontario returned 71 Unionist members and 11 oppositionists. Prince Edward Island went solidly for Laurier while Nova Scotia and New Brunswick taken together broke about evenly. As expected Quebec went almost solidly for Laurier giving him 62 supporters out of its 65 members. The members of the Government were all returned with the exception of Blondin and Sevigny who met defeat in their Quebec constituencies. A summary by provinces is as follows:

	Government	Opposition
Ontario	71	11
Quebec	3	62
Nova Scotia	5	9
New Brunswick	7	4
Manitoba	13	1
Prince Ed. Isl.	0	4
British Columbia	12	1
Saskatchewan	16	0
Alberta	16	0

Of the farmers' candidates who secured the Unionists nomination all were elected. The Hon. T. A. Cramer was an easy winner in Marquette. His majority was around 6,000. R. C. Henders, president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' and Unionist candidate in Macdonald, had a majority of 2,500, although when the campaign began, it was believed by some that he would have difficulty in carrying the constituency. J. A. Maharg, president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' was elected by acclamation at Maple Creek. John F. Reid of the Mackenzie constituency in Saskatchewan, is, it is understood, practically certain of the seat in spite of the fact that his opponent received the endorsement of both Borden and Laurier, and that the soldiers' vote therefore will be entirely against him. Andrew Knox is another farmers' candidate who won at Prince Albert, Sask. Among well-known supporters of the farmers' program, the returned are Robert Cruise of Dauphin, Levi Thompson of Qu'Appelle and others.

One of the features of the election was the enormous majorities piled up in some cases. Some were as high as 15,000, large numbers are returned with majorities reaching 4,000 and 5,000. This is so with both Laurier-Liberals and Unionists, as in Quebec many opposition members were returned with their constituencies almost solidly behind them.

TOTAL PROHIBITION PROMISED

The first step toward total prohibition throughout Canada is being taken by the government as one of the first post-election measures. Indications are that an order-in-council has been passed prohibiting the importation of alcoholic liquors into Canada. Still more drastic legislation is forecasted for the near future. The prohibition of the manufacture of liquor entirely, except under license for medical and necessary purposes, is stated as the next step. This line of action works to cut off the internal and external sources of supply, leaving only present stock on hand to be gradually absorbed.