

The Farm Page

FERTILITY OF LAND SACRIFICED FOR BIG PRODUCTION

In "Good Old Days" Most Farmers Cropped Land Without Restoring Fertility.

Many of our city newspapers continue to harp on one thing—the farmer is charging too high a price for his products. They hark back to the "good old days" when the price of milk was seven or eight cents a quart, eggs twelve cents a dozen, and butter fifteen or twenty cents a pound, and with horror point to the prices of today.

Our city friends may be well informed as to the factors that make for the increased cost of manufactured articles, but, if their utterances are made in earnest, they show a lamentable ignorance of the factors that make for the increased cost of farm products. It would appear as if they believe that crops can be grown for all time on soil without the loss of its fertility. In the "good old days" most farmers cropped their land without paying attention to the matter of restoration of fertility. Cases are on record when the manure was dumped on the ice in winter, to be carried away by the river in the spring.

The products of the farm are primarily furnished by the land, and these products may be gradually increased, as they have been for many years, but if this increased production has been made by sacrificing the fertility of the land, then the future of agriculture is far from bright.

If, however, the increased prices mean that the producers are taking into account the loss of fertility and are trying to keep up the fertility, the consumer should encourage such a practice.

In the good old days the farmers made money by selling upon their stock of capital—the fertility of the soil—because they were able to furnish products cheaply. The farmer of today who is maintaining his capital intact is a true conservator and not a waster.

The city people who demand cheap food products and the farmers who sell cheap products are practically sacrificing the future generations for the present.

A woman's chance of marriage is greatest between the ages of 20 and 25 years, when 52 per cent. of the marriages take place.

DAIRY SHOW AND CONVENTION NEXT WEEK AT WINNIPEG

Arrangements are now completed for the staging of the Dairy Show and Convention at Winnipeg, February 16 to 21. The space allotted to exhibitors has been fully let, and the widest range of exhibits ever shown in Canada will be on view at the Convention Hall of the Industrial Bureau, from Tuesday, February 17.

The different sessions of the convention will be addressed by such men of nation-wide ability as Prof. Washburn, Dairy Commissioner Ruddick and Mr. Barr, from Ottawa. The Hon. D'Arcy Scott, of the National Dairy Council, Dr. Amyott, representing the Department of Health, Ottawa; Mr. Stenhouse, representing the Milk Producers of Ontario, of which body he is president.

DEPORT THE REDS BUT PROFITEERS ARE LET RUN WILD

Senator Capper of Kansas Gives Some Reasons for Existence of Bolshevism.

"When it comes to profiteers, the reds are in a pitiful minority," declared Mr. Capper of Kansas, in a speech in the senate. He said:

"We deport the reds, and I heartily approve the government's efforts in that direction, but our chief trouble-makers, the price gougers, we still let run wild. If we were to put half as many profiteers in jail, it seems to me we would be in far less danger of contracting the red tide of bolshevism."

The Kansas lawmaker showed that the net profits of the American Woolen company, after federal taxes had been deducted, were \$2,778,000 in 1914; \$5,100,295 in 1915; \$8,210,761 in 1916; \$15,664,985 in 1917, and \$12,234,084 in 1918. These profits were made on an invested capital of \$22,000,000.

"A year ago," said Senator Capper, "the watered stock of the American Woolen company, the chief textile company of the United States, was quoted on the stock exchange at 45. Today it is close to 150 and in recent weeks it has been quoted at 156."

Domestic servants in Berlin, Germany, are paid at the rate of \$4.66 a month and pay for all extra time.

LETHBRIDGE FARMERS WANT IRRIGATION

Some Farmers Willing to Pay As High As \$60 an Acre To Get Irrigation Project.

A census was taken last week of the farmers in the Lethbridge northern district, by the Lethbridge Board of Trade, for the purpose of ascertaining if the farmers of the district were willing to pay as high as \$60 an acre for irrigation in that section.

The project as at first outlined was estimated to cost about \$37 an acre but since then the estimates have been revised, and Geo. Anderson, the irrigation expert engaged by the provincial government to report upon the project has in his report placed the possible cost as high as \$60 an acre, this figure allowing for two years' interest.

Cards were circulated by the Board of Trade to the farmers concerned in the Lethbridge northern project, and of a total of 144 replies received, only six were opposed to the higher price. It is reported that some of the farmers were willing to pay as high as \$60 an acre to get the irrigation.

Whether the provincial government will give a straight guarantee of bonds to the Lethbridge northern irrigation district, for the construction of its 100,000-acre project, expected to cost between four and five million dollars, has not yet been definitely decided by the government, but an announcement of their policy may be made shortly. The question of the raising of the money is being fully investigated and several plans have been proposed.

While Mr. Anderson reports that the Lethbridge northern project is a most favorable one from an irrigation standpoint, he has placed the cost of the project at almost a million above the first estimate. He furthermore states that the project, with its possibilities, is quite capable of being developed into a \$20,000,000 project. This statement has led the government to very carefully consider the financial phase of the entire question.

Already two other projects have been developed from the Lethbridge northern, one northwest of Macleod covering 30,000 acres, and one in the Barons-Carmangay district covering 20,000 acres. It is stated that these projects can be extended from the Lethbridge northern project at a cost of about \$10 an acre, which would cut down the cost of the entire scheme to between \$35 and \$40. Application has already been made for establishment of irrigation districts to cover these latest projects. Another project was developed to the east for the Sundial district, but there is some doubt as to whether the water could be carried that far. Raymond district is another one on the list for irrigation.

BOILERMAKERS IN GREAT BRITAIN LIKELY TO STRIKE

Fight for Forty-four Hour Week Has Been a Long Drawn Out Affair.

John Hill, secretary of the Boilermakers' Society, London, England, in his monthly report to the members, writes: The question of working hours is likely to give trouble before the winter is over. In some districts our members have had shorter winter hours from time immemorial. Hours in mid-winter were as low as 40 a week. Now they are being asked by the employers to work 44 hours all the year round. When we went out for the 44-hour we were prepared to give up our winter hours on the six or eight weeks in which these winter hours fell below 44, but when the compromise of 47 hours was offered us, our members went strongly against the compromise. Last year the employers agreed that we should continue our winter hours, and we had the hope that we would have secured the 44-hour week before this winter, and in this way we would have solved the winter hours problem, but the lack of steadfastness among many unions has delayed our hopes and left us in a less favorable atmosphere for securing a 44-hour week than we were in just 12 months ago.

"I believe the 44-hour week is being taken up unofficially. The rank and file of the engineering and shipbuilding trades are getting a bit tired of our long-drawn-out negotiations. Honestly speaking, I think we need ginger on the question, but ask all such groups not to neglect the constitutional method of getting a resolution in their branch. This is more than a boilermaker's question, and it will require resolutions in the branches of all trades in the industry if we are to get a constitutional move on."

"I hope none of the trades will take direct action on the 1st of January."

Twenty-one American women will receive medals according to the latest list of citations announced by the French government.

SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN GROWERS CONVENTION HELD AT SASKATOON

The annual convention of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association is being held at Saskatoon on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. Among prominent speakers at the convention are Hon. T. A. Cresser and J. R. Muselman, secretary of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Mr. Muselman's address to the convention was on the subject "The Association and the New Political Group."

CANADA'S GREATEST ASSET RECEIVES NO FREE BONUSES

Farmers Turn Wilderness Into Productiveness But Pay 8 Per Cent. Interest on Loan.

Ottawa: Arrived representatives of 17 shipbuilding companies to urge upon the government the necessity of their being granted a bonus of Ten Dollars per displacement ton (displacement tonnage is the weight of water displaced by the hull of vessel) and Ten Dollars per indicated horse power on steamers built in Canadian plants for ten years. The reason given for assistance is the need of helping a new industry in its infancy.

To arrive at the total amount of bonus or gift asked for out of the public treasury, we will have to do so approximately as the steamers to be built will vary in size. Today the largest steamers, such as the Britannic and the ex-German Imperator, are 50,000 tons, the turbine motor in the Britannic develops 16,000 horsepower. The Empress of Russia, the C.P.R. trans-Pacific liner, is 30,000 tons displacement. The plants of Canada do not construct such steamers, but take orders for cargo and tramp steamers, say an average of 8,000 tons displacement, and 2,000 horse power at \$10 per ton, and \$10 per horse power, will mean a bonus of One Hundred Thousand Dollars per steamer, or Five Hundred Thousand Dollars to each plant, provided they launch five steamers each year. This means a total bonus for each year to the 17 companies of \$8,500,000.00, and in ten years ending 1930 a total gift out of the public treasury of \$85,000,000.

The Canadian government has been very generous assisting financial magnates to start new industries, seeing to it that they are assisted by bounties, bonuses, subsidies and high protective tariffs over the tender years of infancy, but the infant industries have grown into lusty youngsters, and by a continual howl backed with campaign funds have refused to loosen their hold on the public treasury and today our manufacturers continue to press for higher and still higher tariffs.

Against this generous treatment accorded financial company promoters compare the treatment handed out to the farmers—those pioneers who with their wives and children have gone out on the frontier, to blaze a trail miles and years ahead of the railroads, changing the vast areas of the unbroken prairies into fields of waving grain and pastures of grazing stock, creating for Canada its most valuable asset. In many cases the pioneer farmer and his family passed from the scene of their struggles, the father and mother broken in health, the children uneducated and discouraged, the fruits of their toil passing on to the steamship, railroad, manufacturing, wholesale, retail and mortgage companies and banks.

What bonuses or gifts out of the public treasury do the pioneers receive for their mighty efforts. A financial baron may point to the government's advertised free gift of 160 acres of land. Come forth ye baron or ye baron's son and go forth 80 miles from the end of the road, carry out the government's homestead regulations, prove it up, receive title and then announce to the Canadian taxpayer the amount of your bonus.

This spring on those parts of the west where farming is still in the infancy stage many farmers owing to the past dry year will require seed and feed. The farmers' organization sees to it that the government is made fully aware of the necessity of financing the farmers for these necessities, the government does so, it is given out in the form of a grant or bonus out of the public treasury? Not so! The money is advanced as a loan at interest on the best of security, namely against the land or stock of the farmer. After the dry year of 1914 the government assisted those farmers in need of relief, taking the best of security and in the bumper crop year, 1915, placed government agents in elevator towns to see to prompt payment by those who had accepted aid.

This is the case as a matter of fact. The financial interests in promoting and starting a new industry receives a cash gift from the public treasury for a period of ten years, or as long as their persuasive powers can retain it. The pioneer farmers in their struggle to turn a vast wilderness into Canada's greatest asset receives help over difficult periods in the form of a cash loan at eight per cent interest for which they give the

MANITOBA FARMERS INTENT ON ISSUE OF TARIFF REFORM

Anticipate Attempts to Side-track Issue of Freeing Country From Tariff Incubus.

In a recent issue of the Grain Growers' Guide, Manitoba farmers are warned of the many attempts that will be made to side-track the issue of the tariff reform.

"There are many lesser issues," says the Guide, "each with an importance of its own, but our people have before them one issue which is alone in its class—the issue of freeing the productive activities of the country from the paralyzing tariff incubus. As an immediate objective the radical readjustment of the fiscal system must take precedence of every other. Other things are pressing for attention, other reforms must come and come soon. But if the lords of tariff privilege are permitted to retain their seats and to rule parliament, the value of all else that may be obtained will be of little account. If the war debt is going to be saddled upon the basic industry, any imagined progress in things in general will be more than counter-balanced by the intolerable fiscal bondage that will have to be endured. The one thing that must not be left undone is the settling of the national fiscal policy on a basis of equal rights to all."

There will be many attempts to side-track this issue. In scores of ways the United Farmers will be urged to think about something else—to do something else. All the old methods, the annexation bogey, the patriotic stunt, the "fad and fancy" idea, the Bolsheviki scare, the "occupational politics" notion—all of these and some new ones will be tried. The herring across the trail will tempt some. The "divide and conquer" policy will be applied if at all possible. The farmers will be told that they are being corralled by crafty leaders. In some quarters they will be accused of lining up with the Tories. In others they will be bitterly accused of being "a bunch of Grits."

"Proof" will be offered that the movement is departing from its principles, that its leaders are unworthy, that it is heading for destruction. The same man will reflect that a body of privileged corporations are out fighting for the means through which they expect to continue to enrich themselves, and that they do not scruple to spend millions nor to adopt any tactics that offer any hope of success. He will refuse to be caught with shaft or with blaster or with anything the purpose of which is to defeat the attainment of our Central and primary object.

For this task the federal constituencies are today, with more concentrated force, more co-ordinated method and more united and enthusiastic sentiment than ever before, lining up for action. From one after another comes the word of adoption of the proposals of the Central political executive. District organizers are being put on the job. Local areas are being delimited and assigned to captains who will be personally responsible for seeing that every township is provided with two canvassers who will interview every elector and seek to induce him to enroll in the provincial phalanx that is enlisting for the coming day of testing. These arrangements are being made over practically all the province. The week of March 8 will see the workers fully mobilized and between that date and the 13th it is expected that the province will practically complete organizing itself for the attainment of the one primary objective—the election of Manitoba's quota toward the defeat of special privilege and the realization of the New National Policy for Canada.

CUMMINS R.R. BILL IS CAUGHT IN DEADLOCK

More This Legislation is Discussed By Public the Stronger the Opposition.

The Cummins and Esch railroad bills, passed by the senate and house respectively several weeks ago, are in conference, with the conferees deadlocked. At this writing there is no prospect of reaching a compromise.

The more this legislation is discussed by the public the stronger the opposition grows, and it is whispered that in view of the fall elections, some senators and congressmen would lose little sleep if the bills never got out of conference.

Strong differences center around the Cummins bill, with its "can't-strike" provision and the section guaranteeing dividends to railroad owners. The intent of the labor section is understood by the workers, and as the average congressman has troubles enough now, he is not willing to take on excess baggage very best security.

J. T. A., in Western Independent.

ONTARIO LABOR ASKS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Unemployment insurance is one of the chief executive amendments which will be asked of the Ontario Provincial government during the coming session of the legislature by the Labor party of the provincial coalition.

Other measures of almost equal importance to the organized Labor movement which will be sought by the Labor members are the adoption of legislation establishing a scale of widow's pensions, amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, amendment to the various educational acts, old age pensions and a number of minor issues.

U.M.F. POLITICAL EXECUTIVES PLAN FOR CAMPAIGN

Complete Organization of Province By Constituencies Is Main Feature of Plan.

The political executive of the United Farmers of Manitoba in discussing the plans for the effective prosecution of Manitoba's share in Canada's task of realizing its public life the principles of the New National Policy, have agreed to suggest to all the constituencies a common plan of operation. As it is desirable that the general plan of action should be understood by all the locals, the main features are being published in the Grain Growers' Guide.

First they plan for a constituency organizer who will give his whole time to seeing that every corner of every township is organized completely for the contest. It is suggested that he be paid a salary of \$150 per month and expenses, his work to begin in February and to continue until the drive is complete.

It is suggested that each constituency be subdivided into districts approximating eight townships in size. A district captain will be placed over each of these, who will be specially entrusted with responsibility for that area. The captains to be paid \$3 per day and expenses, and his work to cover from a week to three weeks' time.

The object of the canvass is the organization of existent sentiment and principle to elect the largest possible number of supporters of New National Policy and to secure the foundations of an intelligent and interested and active electorate by the extension of the United Farmers' organization and continued circulation of its literature, periodical and occasional.

The method of the canvass is that which has come to be known as the "Six dollar proposition." This means that the amount to be solicited from the elector is \$6. The decision to make this the standard amount was arrived at after very careful and extended deliberation. It is not an arbitrary figure but designed to fully meet the actual necessities. The \$6 is made up of \$3 for the Grain Growers' Guide, \$2 for U.F.M. membership fee and \$1 directly for the campaign fund. Of the \$3 for a new subscription to the Guide, \$1.50 is being returned and added to the \$1 for campaign fund makes \$2.50 for that purpose.

The results from this arrangement will be fourfold. The enrollment of the U.F.M. will be largely extended, the Guide, as the organ of the movement will be more widely circulated, the campaign will be adequately supported,

ONTARIO FARMERS' GOVERNMENT WILL INVESTIGATE

Vested Interests May be Surprised To Realize They Have Lost Ownership of Government.

Writing editorially the Western Independent says the charges of the Ontario farmers' government against the wholesale and retail merchants is one of the first real attempts made by any government in Canada to deal with profiteering. They are charged with offence against the Combines and Fair Prices Act. The investigation is to take place February 16th. There have been other investigations by other governments, innumerable investigations, but these usually result in justifying the exploiter in his profiteering game. We think that the farmers mean business in Ontario; that their charges are not a bluff to appease the wrath of the consumer, but that if it is discovered that these grocers are violating the Fair Prices Act the Drury Government will see to it that they will be punished accordingly.

It will be somewhat of a surprise for the vested interests of Ontario to realize that they have lost the ownership of the government; and consequently must stand in the same relation to justice as other citizens. The Drury government, we hope, is not going into the white-wash business, but is going to make that Fair Price Act act.

and another step will be taken toward the establishment of a thoroughly-informed and interested electorate as the necessary basis of a real democracy.

The provincial association is advancing the money for the printing and other initial expenses and the Central political executive will undertake to give publicity to the canvass through out the province and to provide all necessary literature.

Big Clearance

of odd and broken lines after Stock Taking

Young Men's Suits. Reg. to \$30.00 for \$23.95

Child's Knitted Suits. Reg. \$3.50, for \$1.95

1/4 Off All Men's and Boys' Overcoats

The H. C. MacDonald Store

9610-9614 Jasper

TO MY CUSTOMERS

This week sees the end of the Lake Fishing. I thank you for the support given to me.

At the commencement of the season I announced that I had made arrangements to take fish direct from Fishermen. Much of these anticipated supplies was cut off from me, and under great difficulties my order requirements were met. Your kind support has enabled me to come through my effort without loss, which at one time looked certain for me.

THE CITY FISH MARKET IS HERE TO STAY

This week I am complying with my old promise to give one real Tullibee to any one person. My object in doing so is to educate the public to know the difference between the different varieties of fish. These fish, like many others, are at one season of the year unfit for food, but after nature has done its work they become clean and wholesome.

THESE ARE MY PRESENT REGULAR PRICES FOR CHOICEST SELECTED FISH

Fresh Choicest Large Halibut	25c	Fresh Frozen Black Cod	17½c
Fresh Choicest Chicken Halibut	22½c	Fresh Selected Ling Cod	20c
Fresh Frozen Large Halibut	23c	Fresh Frozen Ling Cod	17½c
Fresh Frozen Chicken Halibut	20c	Fresh Smelts	25c
Fresh Selected Spring King Salmon expected shortly		Fresh Frozen Smelts	20c
Fresh Frozen King Salmon	30c	Fresh Herrings	12½c
Fresh Frozen King Salmon, whole fish	26c	Filletted Soles or Brills	20c
Fresh Frozen White Salmon	20c	Soles or Brills, whole	12½c
Fresh Selected Black Cod	20c	Smoked Black Cod, finest quality	25c

All kinds of Smoked and Dried Fish at lowest prices consistent with quality. The above prices are more likely than not to be reduced. For the supply of the above fish I have arranged to deal almost exclusively with Prince Rupert.

LAKE FISH		Choicest Selected Pike or Jackfish	8c
Trout	15c	Large Tullibee	7½c
Choicest Selected Queen Whitefish	12½c	Small Tullibee	5c
Choicest Selected Pickeral	12½c		
Choicest Selected Calling Lake Small Pickeral	10c		

All Fish is weighed and charged for to the cent.

Price of All Fish Marked in Plain Figures	HONEST WEIGHT BEST QUALITY FAIR PRICES NO BOGUS PRICES NO CATCHY SPECIALS A REAL MARKET	Strict Personal Attention
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Now Watch Us Grow—Just Look for This Sign

JAMES JONES