

sors in office, but their action in lending \$15,000,000 of the people's money to a company which has just beaten those same people out of \$13,000,000 does not indicate a very great anxiety to safeguard the public treasury.

CANADA'S ONLY NAVAL BATTLE

For one hundred years Canada has been at peace, broken only by the famous Borden-Laurier naval battle at Ottawa in the winter of 1912-13. The battle raged for five months, hostilities even continuing throughout entire nights. It was probably the only example in history of a great naval battle being fought on land, where all the combatants were allowed to sit in cushioned easy chairs and were within easy reach of refreshments, liquid and otherwise. The great naval battle of 1912-13 was also remarkable in another respect, namely, in that there were no fatalities. This was largely due to the fact that the only ammunition used in the historic battle was wind, which was hurled in large quantities by each of the opposing factions. As a sham fight it was a huge success and both gallant armies who fought Canada's great naval battle on land retired from the field feeling that they had each won the victory. Many of us were inclined to complain when the battle was in progress that it was a waste of time and that there was other work that needed attention. But perhaps, after all, we are more fortunate than we thought, and if in the next hundred years no greater calamity befalls this country than The Borden-Laurier naval battle fought on land at Ottawa during the winter of 1912-13, we may count ourselves fortunate. But nevertheless it was a great performance that the 221 soldiers in the House of Commons put up as they blazed away at each other week after week and the lofty chamber echoed to the windy broadsides hurled across the intervening space. And history will record how these valiant soldier-sailor-Jack-Tars remained under arms through long weary hours and how they bivouacked all night round the electric lights of the battle field in that bloodless struggle.

MANUFACTURERS AND LOBBY

When President Wilson made his sensational charges last month that professional lobbyists were interfering with the work of Congress, especially in its efforts to reduce the tariff, there were many who derided the idea. They thought their learned President must have been seeing ghosts. The special interests which were most guilty were the first to cast stones at President Wilson for daring to defy their power, and as the tampering with laws and law-makers is necessarily done in secret, it was hoped that exposure might be warded off and the people might discount the President's charges as being exaggerated by his zeal. The people were not left long in doubt, however. Up pops the one man who knows more about lobbying than perhaps any other in the United States, and he corroborates President Wilson to the last item. Colonel M. M. Mulhall, one of the chief lobbyists at Washington for the National Association of Manufacturers, has confessed that for years he acted the role of go-between in the dealings the Manufacturers' Association had with members of Congress. To back up his assertions Mulhall produces a bundle of letters which disclose his confidential relations both with his chiefs of the Manufacturers' Association and also with leading politicians at Washington up to the last presidential election. The American newspapers are devoting considerable attention to these lobbying revelations, and it may prove the last straw needed to decide the American people against carrying the burden of high protection any longer. One hundred million people will burden themselves for the benefit of a few thousand manufacturers only so long as they do not

see the folly of it, and this time seems at hand. The first and greatest commandment in the lobbyist's decalogue is "Thou shalt do thy work in secret." President Kirby, of the Manufacturers' Association, wrote to Col. Mulhall, on June 13, 1910, emphasizing the need for secrecy in the following terms:

"I am strongly impressed with the unwisdom of too much letter writing about matters of a confidential nature, having just passed through an experience which clearly demonstrated to me the danger of too free written expression on matters that should be carefully guarded and not subjected to the scrutiny of those who ought not to be conversant with them. The precaution is necessary to guard against leaks which would be apt to destroy the confidence imposed in you and, as a consequence, your usefulness also."

The room in which the manufacturers maintained their lobby was admirably adapted for the purpose. Situated on the lowest floor of the Capitol building, where there were no other committee rooms, and containing three entrances, it was regarded as an ideal headquarters for a lobbyist. Some accommodating congressmen assigned this office to Col. Mulhall for the Manufacturers' lobby. Here was where the practical and sordid work was done for the cause of Special Privilege. But it was the kind of work that counted, and so cleverly was it accomplished that President Taft and a large proportion of the nation were hoodwinked. The cry to "take the tariff out of politics" by the appointment of a Tariff Commission was originated by the American Manufacturers' Association to delay tariff reduction when they feared that President Taft would fulfil his pre-election pledge of 1908 to revise the tariff downward. Col. Mulhall produces a confidential circular sent out on July 14, 1909, by the executive of the National Association of Manufacturers urging activity in backing up the Tariff Commission proposal. On July 21 another circular, marked "Personal and Confidential" followed, instructing their forces to wire Taft, Aldrich and Cannon, insisting on the Tariff Commission. One sentence from the circular reads:

"If 5,000 telegrams could come quickly to Aldrich and Cannon, you may be sure that it would give the Administration very helpful support."

All this is very interesting to Americans, but we may think it is no concern of ours. The fact is, however, that the tariff history of the two countries for the past few years is suspiciously similar. In Canada, too, we have had years of agitation against the iniquity of high Protection. And in Canada, too, just when it seemed that something must be done to appease the outraged commonsense of the country, lo! the same plea as in the United States: "Let us take the tariff out of politics by appointing a Tariff Commission." That proposal Mr. Borden adopted, and announced on many Western platforms during his tour before the general election of September, 1911, which placed him in power. That Tariff Commission plea is the only defence offered by Hon. Mr. Meighen, the new Solicitor General, for not insisting that the Government do something in harmony with his speech for the reduction or removal of the duty on agricultural implements. In Canada, as in the United States, the manufacturers have engineered the cry to "take the tariff out of politics" by the appointment of a Tariff Commission, and for the Government, under shelter of this sham argument, to delay justice to the producing classes of this country is nothing short of a monstrous fraud.

NEED OF EDUCATION

A friend of The Guide in Saskatchewan, writing to us the other day, made the following remark:

"Most of my neighbors are willing to accept any benefit to be derived from the influence and power of The Guide, but are very reluctant to part with a dollar to help in increasing its circulation."

It is this narrow-minded attitude on the part of many farmers that has made them the

prey of all other interests for centuries past. There are a lot of farmers in this country who have profited in dollars and cents to a considerable extent by the tremendous fight that has been put up for improved conditions by the Grain Growers' Associations, the Grain Growers' Grain Company and the Grain Growers' Guide, and yet many of these farmers refuse even to spend a dollar to join the Association or subscribe to The Guide, and will absolutely refuse to take any stock in the Grain Growers' Grain Company. They realize that they can get many of the benefits without giving any assistance in return, and their natures are so fashioned that they are willing to accept all and give none. We must do a tremendous amount of educational work right among the farmers all round us, and show them that they must get a new outlook upon life and learn to be a little more human than they are at the present time.

The Board of Management of the Winnipeg Exhibition, in refusing to allow the Political Equality League to have a tent anywhere upon the Exhibition Grounds has discriminated against the ladies of this organization in a way that is difficult to understand. Fraternal societies are allowed to conduct their propaganda work in their own tents on the grounds and Temperance organizations are also allowed to be present. The ladies of the Political Equality League, however, are not allowed to have a tent of their own and serve tea and meet their many friends from the country who would be looking for them. Even though the gentlemen in charge of the Winnipeg Exhibition may be opposed to Woman's Suffrage it is not a private concern they are conducting and they should remember they are only holding positions of trust. However, instead of being an injury to the cause, this unfair discrimination should merely prove the necessity to the ladies of Western Canada of carrying on their campaign until they secure the justice that is their due.

Sir William Mackenzie returned to Toronto last Tuesday and handed out the following statement:

"There is every indication that the wheat crop this year will be equal to the best yield in the past, and the Canadian Northern Railway will be in better shape than ever before to take care of it."

It will be good news to the farmers of Western Canada that the Canadian Northern Railway will be in better shape to handle the crop than ever before. It could be in a whole lot better shape than ever before and still have room for improvement. Sir William's report on the crop means nothing as yet. There are districts through which his road passes that will have practically no crop. Talk of huge crops is premature.

The Winnipeg Free Press says "men with honest political work in hand do not collect money secretly for the carrying on of that work." The funds of both political parties in Canada are raised secretly. Does the Free Press mean that neither party has honest political work in hand?

What does Hon. Arthur Meighen, M.P., Solicitor General of Canada, think of the speech made in 1911 by Arthur Meighen, M.P., opposition member, in favor of a reduction of the duties on agricultural implements?

The tightness of the money market is not an unmixed evil. It is making some people who were living on real estate speculation go back to honest productive work.

The corrupt politician fears Direct Legislation as the burglar fears the policeman's flashlight.

The harder the farmers work the more money the real estate speculators make.

If you believe in Free Trade work for it, and when you get a chance, vote for it.

"It get th third game pretty countr fairly tempt being a spec lending good thirty-revenue solicitin worked and th turns. busines these I doing t vertisin After would I promise "We' Street s generou poration campai drygood ished to the pub and the the new "But I protest "Do Friend a scorn. the eyes. the mone space. A it the pi worse thi reading make our though w of release and the e on good t Monday press-ager from the right dow officers, people, so them—kn on Mond from gett and the m for it." Durredg infinite cor into all ou "Get yo up," I tol on Congres piers of the We took were eight in Riverpo the largest its morning ly. Durrec reached b suasive pov priation an its owner, v in Riverpor ness in a Times, the Gazette wer account one advertising in line. "So far as I laughed t worth, the o He's heavil a good deal most of thos of the Comst been after me I've given it they keep Fe Durredge "That put again!" he sa worth. He r hate you for me at the Cou that was the r