

the big manufacturing industries in Canada had received in the way of tribute under the protective tariff not less than \$1,000,000,000. Sir Richard was one of the greatest students of economics and trade matters that Canada ever produced, and if his statement at that time was correct then the manufacturers to date have taken at least \$2,000,000,000 out of the pockets of the people of Canada. Sir Wilfrid Laurier stated in 1894 that "under the protective tariff, for every dollar that goes into the treasury two or three dollars go into the pockets of the protected manufacturers." Thus the manufacturers of Canada today are being directly bonused to the extent of approximately \$200,000,000 annually. Yet in the face of all this evidence which cannot be contradicted, the Toronto News charges the farmers of Canada with receiving more assistance from the government than any other industry in Canada. And for this reason The News concludes that reciprocity would be a bad policy for Canada. It is interesting to note that this article in The News from which we have quoted has been put up in leaflet form, and is being circulated by the hundred thousands by an organization known as the Canadian Home Market Association. This is merely another cover under which the protected manufacturers are masquerading at the present time. It is easy to understand the attitude of the manufacturers in opposing reciprocity and spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to circulate literature in favor of their campaign. Reciprocity spells the doom of protection. Ten years from the time that the reciprocity agreement is ratified the Canadian citadel of tariff protection will be levelled to the ground. To protect the manufacturers and trusts The News makes this humiliating charge against the most independent section of our population. Even the figures in The News are misleading, as the \$3,000,000 is spent in educational work and not in the way of a bonus. Again, there are the experimental farms, and the agricultural colleges to show for the money. What is there to show for the hundreds of millions poured out to the promoters of other industries. Special Privilege has been given millions annually in Canada for the past half century with no return. Now, because some attention is being paid to agriculture during the last ten years, the farmers are taunted with the charge of "bonused industry." The farmers want no bonus; they want only a square deal.

ARBITRATION TREATIES SIGNED

Last week the general arbitration treaties between the United States and Great Britain, and also between the United States and France, were signed by President Taft and by the ambassadors representing the other countries. They now await ratification by the various Parliaments. These treaties represent the greatest step towards world peace in a century. If the same spirit is maintained between nations and Germany should sign a similar treaty with Britain and America, disarmament might follow in safety. Other nations would be compelled to arbitrate and disarm. There is no reason why nations cannot arbitrate their difficulties satisfactorily if their leaders desire it. Wars are usually the result of some very unimportant incident magnified and distorted for political or selfish purposes. When private individuals quarrel and kill, the offender is hanged; when nations do likewise and slaughter by the thousands it is "noble war" in defense of the home. The civilized people of the world want peace and governments could secure it were not politics too closely allied with foreign policy. The game of nations played by a few men at the head of each takes little account of the insignificant people. The few men make the blunder, and then order out the common people to shoot each other. When men in responsible positions sincerely endeavor to secure compulsory arbitration wars will soon

be no more. All nations may well be glad at the start made by President Taft and Sir Edward Grey.

FAVORED NATION TREATIES

Opponents of reciprocity have pointed out that the ratification of the agreement will permit twelve other countries to ship their natural products into Canada without the payment of duty. This statement is true, and is due to the fact of treaties made between Great Britain and these other countries. The favored nations and the date of treaties are as follows: Argentina, 1825; Austria-Hungary, 1876; Bolivia, 1840; Columbia, 1866; Denmark, 1670; Japan, 1906; Norway, 1826; Russia, 1859; Spain, 1713; Sweden, 1826; Switzerland, 1855; Venezuela, 1825. Thus it will be seen that Canada is bound by treaties by Great Britain, in some cases centuries old. At the recent Imperial Conference in London a resolution was passed asking the British government to have these treaties terminated in so far as they affected the overseas parts of the Empire. This was as eminently fair proposal on the part of the overseas premiers. Every one of the self-governing parts of the British Empire should enjoy its own treaty-making powers. The British government will no doubt see that this new arrangement is completed as soon as possible, which will probably be in the course of a couple of years. In the meantime no harm can come to Canada through these agreements, because the farmers of Canada have long faced competition with the world in the British markets, and certainly have nothing to fear from the invasion of the home market. It has been suggested that Argentine wheat will be dumped into Canada and sold more cheaply than Canadian wheat. But Argentine is nearer to Liverpool than to Montreal, and the Liverpool prices are at least 10 cents higher than the Canadian prices, while the Argentine wheat is of inferior quality to Canadian. The Canadian farmer is second to none in the production of crops suited to the north temperate climate. The chief difficulty in the "favored nation" situation is that the lowering of the duties against these countries is automatically due to the action of Great Britain, and not to any action on the part of Canada. Great Britain realizes that Canada should enjoy her own treaty-making powers and this matter will be remedied in the shortest possible time. The "favored nation" situation has no drawbacks comparable to the vast benefits of the wider markets secured by the agreement.

THE HARVEST HELP PROBLEM

Even though an election campaign is in progress and the issue a vital one to the farmers, yet there is even a more important problem facing them. "Will I be able to get sufficient help to harvest my grain?" is the question that every farmer is anxiously asking himself. The crop is large, but is useless unless harvested; it cannot be harvested properly without the aid of 35,000 to 40,000 additional able-bodied men. As in past years the men from the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario are responding to the call of the West. The railways are co-operating in every possible way by offering a \$10 fare from any point in the East to any point in the harvest fields. No doubt there will be men enough to handle the crop if they are wisely distributed. The difficulty in the past has been that the men frequently refuse to be distributed, and meander about carelessly. This, of course, is their privilege as citizens of a free country, but it creates a surplus of help in some localities and a dearth in others. The trouble frequently is that the men from the East want to go as far West as possible for their \$10. Thus, there is little difficulty in getting men at the ticket limit, while parts of Manitoba may suffer for the service of men who are looking for work further West, where the supply has already been filled. It

would be well if arrangements were made in advance as to the distribution of men and their transportation could be limited at Winnipeg to the requirements of the harvest. The harvest henceforth will tax the utmost efforts of the railways and government authorities. If this part of the work were taken hold of and assisted by the farmers' organizations it would be of value to the individual farmers as well as to the organization. With a tremendous crop to harvest the help problem will become acute in some sections of the West, and there will be an opportunity and a necessity for all the interested parties to get together and devise means to avoid trouble in the future.

ORGANIZATION WORK

The farmers cannot afford to neglect their organization, no matter how busy the season. There is no part of the prairie life that has been so productive of general good as the organization among the farmers. It has raised the general tone of agriculture and has given an impetus to improvements and reforms in all directions. The existence of the local organization in a community forms the nucleus of a movement that is felt throughout the civilized world. Even the smallest local organization may affect the trend of national affairs in most important matters. The organization in the three Prairie Provinces has grown at a remarkable rate in the past three years, but it is not half the strength it should be. Wisdom on the part of individuals will accomplish great things. No organization, no matter how strong, can be good for the country if not properly guided.

Six of the grain samplers employed by the government to collect samples from cars in the railway yards at Winnipeg have been found guilty of stealing goods from freight cars upon a large scale. The story is published in another column. This thieving has been going on for years. Is it not just possible that men of this character might be induced to change samples or otherwise manipulate them for the benefit of dealers? This, of course, could only be if there were any unscrupulous dealers.

One candidate has been nominated who subscribes fully to the Farmers' Platform. The independent electors in certain parts of the West will have an opportunity to test their strength without involving the organization. This will be of value to all thinking men and it will show how closely party ties are binding the Western people. No one can object to independent electors acting in accordance with the dictates of their own judgment.

When our readers note on another page how the mails are loaded down with campaign rubbish, what do they think of it? Here is enough good money wasted to finance the cost of Direct Legislation in any province in Canada. If we had a parcels post system probably our members of Parliament would send their wheat to Liverpool free. It would be just as much warranted as is the sending free of the rubbish sent out by the Canadian National League.

The Canadian National League is supposedly a patriotic organization working against reciprocity. But Z. A. Lash, the financier at the head of it, takes good care that the names of the contributors to his campaign fund are kept in the dark. True patriotism should not be ashamed of daylight.

We would call the attention of our readers to an announcement on page 8 of this issue, regarding the matter of domestic servants. We have made arrangements to assist our readers in securing this help and we trust they will appreciate it. A prompt application will be necessary.

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