

present time demand wide and exhaustive discussion.

The isolated life and difficulties of communication prevented or impeded concerted action tending towards any assemblage of individuals. All other interests were more favorably situated in this regard. Education, as commonly understood, ignored in theory and discredited in practice everything connected with the life work of the large majority of the population. Little wonder that the town which offered occupations less arduous and more remunerative drew to itself the more active and adventurous.

Influences tending to modification of such handicaps have been working for years, one of the most potent being the larger remuneration for the labor on the farm.

The political machine disregarded the farmer except as an election approached, for the rural district was divided on political lines and every man was labeled. Exceptional cases were the result of personal quarrels or of the glad hand and oily tongue of the candidate. It was easier to jolly a woe.

Many have been the organizations devised to better the lot of the farmer and many, many more have masqueraded for his dollars and his dimes.

When an united front was presented and the voting power behind it menaced the sitting members with political annihilation history presents no case where capitulation of the law-maker has not taken place. Internal quarrels, personal jealousies, unbusiness-like methods or the recklessness of charlatanism in loud-mouthed leaders have all served as rocks on which farmers' organizations have split. Hopeful signs of ultimate success are to be observed in the facts, that each new venture starts better, lasts longer and accomplishes more than its predecessor, and some have come to stay with yearly fresh evidences of their usefulness.

By their actions in the grain business the Grain Growers' Company have thrown down the gauntlet to the elevator interests—by want of candor, they have antagonized the commission men who might have been their friends and now they not only want the local government to establish internal elevators but a pledge is to be enacted from every candidate that he will insist on an act to provide government internal elevators. The government is to meet them half way and is disposed, we all believe, to do anything in reason to make farmers satisfied that what is coming to

them for their grain they shall have.

Now we have seen that the Grain Growers' Co. would like to manipulate the wheat market with consignors' wheat. With the much more efficient power of stores in internal elevators the temptation will be greater. Are the same men to manipulate wheat corners and are the elevator interests past masters where the others are novices, not going to play music it will take nimble feet to dance to? Surely these are questions that must engage the attention of the whole population of this province, and surely the other provinces to the west, now contemplating following Manitoba's lead, are so placed, that they cannot ignore the gravity of acts that are more likely to be followed by something similar in their own legislatures.

In effect, this taking a candidate by the throat and making one single promise the price of his election is worse than bribing a legislator after he is in the house.

Another phase of the question is this. Granted that our Grain Growers' Company can hold up the wheat to where they wish to put it, how will it affect those other western citizens who, not only do not share in the high price, but who are on the other side and have to pay the piper.

It is a much hackneyed phrase, that "legislation for a class will not stand the test of time." The desire is to pass acts that would be in the interest of the wheat grower but against those of all other citizens, not only in Manitoba but the whole Dominion.

Far be it from the intent of this article in any way to obstruct or oppose a system of government elevators if due deliberation is given to a scheme well thought out by experts in all the branches of the undertaking. The prospect of government operation of utilities should be no nightmare to anyone who has faith in the honesty of purpose of the Canadian citizen. That politicians have worked out many inventions is immaterial. If the country is possessed of ordinary human intelligence and common honesty, the more burdens and responsibilities laid on a government the more it is necessary for its own life to discharge the duties the electorate leaves to its care. Should it not be seized of the new responsibilities, new duties involved, there is more incentive to assiduous study on the part of the public, to find out the cause of shortcomings and to punish delinquents than if governmental duties are more restricted to administrative routine and the departmental foggy dozes in a fortress of red tape.

The adage that "any country is governed as well as it deserves" is worthy of the study of Canadians of all classes. Governments left to themselves and politicians recruited from second rate ability or "axe to grind" material is the result of the proper leaders being engrossed in personal in contradistinction from public affairs. The professional politician and the grafter are weeds in an untillied field. Though they exhaust the soil more than succulent root or nutritious cereal, the seed is useless, the leaf, root and stalk crowd out the yielding herbage and their vicinage swells to heaven.

It is a cheering sign of the times that one, and that the chief interest in our community is aroused, if not to seek unselfishly the public weal, at least to force on the country's notice and demand government action in behalf of its class.

At the present writing the government and the Grain Growers' Association are conferring. It is not unworthy of notice that the Premier may be classed as an expert in the grain business, having been engaged in it for many years. His political astuteness is unquestioned so it may be stated, without raising the quills of political opponents, that the personnel of the tribunal is fairly equipped to work out a practical solution of a large question.

The Saskatchewan Government is not inferiorly equipped. The minister of agriculture having few peers in Canada on the questions involved.

The partisan "yap" in both provinces is limited to the cry "the government is scared of the farmers" or "the question will be shelved for another year." If there is nothing worse than that to say all parties are to be congratulated. The opposition was ready to taunt whichever way the government acted. Quiet and temporary peace will reign if action is taken but the country can worry through a whole year of careful working out a complete problem involving powerful conflicting interests.

The subject will be debated in the house and the Grain Growers will have to talk as they never talked before. Their clientele will expect them to demand everything in sight and will be impatient of any pause made or modification interjected by the government or anybody else. A little patience must be exercised in regard to pace made and the immediate results. Spectators interested and disinterested, must expect fireworks and buncombe from both sides; for each is playing to a gallery of gods whose conception of a good play is inseparable from spilled gore.

Imperial Bank

OF CANADA

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL - \$10,000,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - 5,000,000
RESERVE - 5,000,000
HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

Directors:
D. R. WILKIE, President and General Manager.
HON. ROBT. JAFFRAY, - Vice-President.
WM. RAMSAY, ELIAS ROGERS.
CANTERA MLOCK, J. K. OSBORN.
CHARLES COCKSHUTT, FELEG HOWLAND.
WM. WHYTE, WM. HAMILTON MERRITT.
HON. RICHARD TURNER.

Branches in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia:
Winnipeg, Man. Portage la Prairie, Man.
Brandon, Man.

Balgownie, Sask. Regina, Sask. Broadway, Sask.
Kesteven, Sask. Prince Albert, Sask.
Moose Jaw, Sask. Wilkie, Sask.

North Battleford, Sask. Edmonton, Alta.
Athabasca Landing, Alta. Lethbridge, Alta.
Calgary, Alta. Wetaskiwin, Alta.

Banff, Alta. Red Deer, Alta.
Arrowhead, B.C. Cranbrook, B.C. Golden, B.C.
Nelson, B.C. Revelstoke, B.C. Michel, B.C.

Vancouver, B.C. Victoria, B.C.
Fernie, B.C. New Michel, B.C. Kamloops, B.C.
Agents in Great Britain, Lloyd's Bank, Ltd., 75
Leicester St., London, Eng.

New York, Bank of Montreal, Bank of
the Manhattan Company, Bank of
America.

Chicago, First National Bank.
Boston, National Shawmut Bank.

St. Paul, Second National Bank.
Minneapolis, First National Bank.

Duluth, First National Bank.

WINNIPEG BRANCH: N. G. LESLIE, Manager

Do you want the
**BEST COMBINED FLUE
EXPANDER & CUTTER**
with or without Ratchet, ever
introduced on the market?
If so, don't forget our Special
Offer for this month only, 40%
Discount from our price list on
"TEDDY" Expander & Cutter
Write us for particulars of our
Latest Improved 1910 Model.
Fernyak & Stavenik Machine Co.
MANSFIELD, O.

FARMERS!

Grain Tickets, Notes,
Receipts, Cash, Mort-
gages, should be kept
in safe. : : :
**\$10 WILL BUY A FINE
LITTLE SAFE.**

THE WINNIPEG SAFE WORKS
WINNIPEG, MAN.

FIRE!

Howland Pump Oiler



Used the world over by Engineers
and Threshermen.
Delivers oil in any position at the
first stroke.
Spouts detachable and inter-
changeable.

Maple City Mfg. Co.
Monmouth, Ill., U.S.A.