

James Bay to the boundary, it would carry by a three-fifths majority of actual voters and an unanimous standing vote at the final decision. The deep undertone of this opinion is almost unbelievable. Effort and action are near at hand. No section of Canada is bound to Confederation for all time, and the people of the West know it and are being prepared and driven to this unwished for break-up of a united Dominion. We can shout British loyalty and all the rest until doomsday. These things are the rational outcome of equity, justice and judgment to all people and sections of a nation. The Parliament of Canada may just as well race the truth and unrest and govern themselves accordingly.

There comes up from over the hills from the master (f) minds assembled on Parliament Hill, the ill-timed advice that the West go into mixed farming, and the latest is that it would relieve the possible congestion of traffic next December. Just think of it. Pure bombast! It has taken Denmark forty years to change to diversified agriculture. Ontario and Eastern Canada have been fifty years trying to evolve mixed farming, and is still short of perfection. Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and the Dakotas have been working tooth and nail for forty years to bring into line their states as diversified farming districts and not one-half their territory is yet subdued. Western Canada is in a state of evolution towards the same end, and is progressing as rapidly as any country ever did, and it will take at least fifty years for the West to be brought up to anything like a diversified farming community. In the face of these facts, the advice is the most insulting "bosh" that has ever been hurled at any people. When we consider the motives from which it sprung, it is absolute insolence to Western Canada. All the condensed ability, intelligence, cunning, borrowing power of the federal parliament, plus the boasted investments of the privileged interests combined, could not change the West into a mixed farming community in the next twelve months. It is the weakest absurdity to think of such a thing, much worse to advise the miracle. The West has been brought into its present condition by the energy of interested sections of Canada's people, and it is under these conditions we find the West today. We are bottled up by the abusive use of Federal privilege and action, and if federation cannot be so conducted as to deal equitably and justly with West British North America, a way must be found or made out of the dilemma. We visited this country some twenty years ago and found the people of that time sweltering under the abuse of federal rule. And as time passes the matter increases in intensity, and it is doubtful if the West and East can ever work satisfactorily under Confederation as it now exists, and is operated. Physical conditions, position to markets, commercial and manufacturing centres, transportation problems, and not least the vastness of Western agricultural possibilities in the production of various products are so divergent from the East that it looks at present as if the idea of Western autonomy is conceived in wisdom and born in justice to two Canadas. The West is too progressive and flush with modernism to go hand in hand with the slow, conservative, selfish East any longer. The parting of the ways is getting nearer and nearer and we must soon shake hands and bid farewell.

J. E. FRITH.

Moosomin, Sask.

NOTE.—A considerable number of our correspondents have voiced the views of Mr. Frith's letter. But we consider such an agitation at the present time quite impracticable. When the West is strong enough at Ottawa to take such a course it will be strong enough to secure a square deal by legislation. What we require is to educate all our people and all our representatives to the needs of the West. It will be unwise to divide our strength on such questions as autonomy.—Editor.

SINGLE TAX FOR CHINA

Yuen Shi Kai, President of the new Chinese Republic has announced himself in favor of the adoption of the taxation of land values for the raising of the revenues of the country.

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