

Maritime Rights

A NEW BRUNSWICK FARMERS' STANDPOINT By Wm. B. Fawcett

Never before were our annual bills for necessary goods, taxes, etc. With all...

most of the goods we must buy from fifty to one hundred...

of last year or two, has obliged Legislators, and Government...

Problem of Markets, and Marketing Facilities.

But Life is Too Short.

the farmers of these Provinces already too hard up, to wait...

Big Rates, and Big Pay, on Our Railways.

spells ruin, for most of our Basic Industries, in these Maritime Provinces.

Canadian National Carbon Company, Limited

EVEREADY Radio Batteries - they last longer

drawing away the cream of our Express, Freight and Passenger Traffic from every train, running over our rails.

Then again; not one of these delegations is hunting trouble. It yet seems far easier, and has long been more popular for any of our Governments to spend uncounted millions, of borrowed money, than to save, even a few thousands, by cutting down salaries.

The Hon. Premier King made a clever move, as a Statesman, when he employed Sir Henry Thornton, to remove the "Lions from his Path" that he dare not meet himself.

at present, because his hands were tied, at the beginning, by the sealed orders, given him by the Dominion Government, to "make the Railway pay."

Neither do I criticise our Railway people; or ask them to accept a smaller wage, or salary; if they will show the public just how our farmers can earn, four dollars (at the lowest), five, six, eight ten and even up to twenty dollar for an "eight hour day", with extra pay for overtime; with free trips for self and family, on our best trains all over Canada, and into the United States; with insurance against sickness and accident; and with a generous pension for old age.

But why build "air castles" for our fragile, self-defence, with iron inducements who always have worked, and are willing to work a ten to fourteen hour day; for less than half these Railway wages; provided that all classes are paid in a like proportion of cash and emoluments.

spells ruin, for most of our Basic Industries, in these Maritime Provinces. And all this New Year flood of so called "Optimism" is just as powerless to make it spell less, as it is to make two and two count only three. Not one of these

Industries, can now use our public Railways to export their bulky products (more than a very short distance) and continue to pay a living wage, to its labor.

Already our lumbering, mining, fishing, agricultural, and horticultural Industries are being strangled by the outrageous Express and Freight rates, of the last six years. The richest hay in the world

of our Acadian Pioneers, grows on the Dyke Lands of Cumberland, Westmorland and Albert Counties. For thirty years, in pre-war times, our old I. C. R. freight trains annually shipped out, these never failing crops; with profits to the railways and much financial gain, to thousands of farmers; traders, and laborers concerned.

Fortunate indeed, are the Apple and Potato Growers of the Annapolis Valley, with their deep water Ports at either end, and all along between. But the hardy fishermen, all around our Coasts, who brave the rough waters of Spring and Autumn, and the fearful expose of fishing smelt, through the ice, are losing their legitimate profits, by our still more ruinous Express Rates.

ever imposed on a thrifty, industrious, white people.

But why enumerate more of the misfortunes of these, three little Provinces down by the sea. Where and when can we find some measure of ready relief? Is our big problem, of the present hour, candidly, however, I have no faith in any further appeals to Ottawa for fair-play, or justice. Apparently the powers that rule us, do so on the principle that Might is Right.

Ontario is the centre of Industrial Canada; and forms the very Hub, of our far flung Railway system. In that central position, her immense traffic never feels the extreme cost of the "long haul" by rail; as ours does, down here, one thousand miles away, at the very rim of the wheel.

so regarded, by some Ontario center. It is easy to see why War prices are still maintained on all goods they have to sell. With her many factory towns situated at the very centre of Canada's home market; it is easy to see that High Freight rate and High Express rates are Fair Better than Low Rates, in assisting Ontario to more readily squeeze out, all further competition, and the very existence of our Maritime Industries.

Many years ago Ontario declared our Confederation Compact, a "worthless Scrap of Paper" by abolishing all Tolls on our National Canals, so as to move her own goods free; and then demanding our "Bond of Union" (the I. C. R.) be made to pay, with higher Rates to make matters worse (and to further impress the Maritimes) her chosen Hon. Minister of Rail-

God Helps Those Who Help Themselves, is Our Only Chance.

Speaking as a farmer, I make the assertion, that in ten months time, these three Provinces, can be made entirely independent of the millions of dollars worth of flour, mill-feed, oats, fruits, and meats, with Ontario annually sells us. If one and all, with simply abandon our modern ideas, of specializing in certain cash crops for export; and go back to The Better Business Methods of our Grandfathers, we can not only save these millions, paid out for the imports and exports, then, with such a prize to gain, let every man at once secure enough seed wheat, from local growers, to sow one half his potato land next spring; and at the same time, plenty seed oats, barley and buckwheat to sow twenty to forty-five per cent of his hay lands.

Thus cut off, from all markets West, by these prohibitive rates, on our own railroad; and with a Fordney Tariff, bating the doors of our former trade to the South; there is nothing left for the people of the Maritimes, but to do our best, in self defence.

the same time, insuring every city, town, and village grocery, a fully supply of home-grown canned goods better and cheaper, than the grades we get, from Ontario.

Another master-stroke of business, would be, for each Local Government, to handisame bonus, one or more, canning plants, within its own borders; and thus provide every farm boy, and girl, a regular home-market, for all canning fruits and vegetables, their industry and skill produces. And at

is excitedly stampeding the development of its water powers, and wholesale Forest depletion. Neither is it safe to depend for our bread, and our revenues; on those seven to ten, million dollars, each Province is reported to receive, from our Tourist Trade. These imaginary estimates, make valuable Propaganda for "National High-campaign of Passive Resistance way Promoters." But when we try to locate these millions of cash, we find them as elusive as the "pot of gold," at the foot of Nature's artistic Rainbows. Let us be haied that far East, at a loss, to the Railway.

I appeal to our Provincial Governments to let our Rivers run free; and our young Forests grow to double size, and value, a few years longer. In the very near future, paper and pulp wood, are bound to be as cheap, and unobtainable as potatoes and lumber are today. The whole Northern Hemisphere Sackville, N. B. Jan. 21, 1925.

Space forbids further details. The writer seeks only, to draw a rough plan; which the business genius of our people will round off, and finish, into an effective campaign of Passive Resistance way Promoters.

With sincere thanks to the Editor.

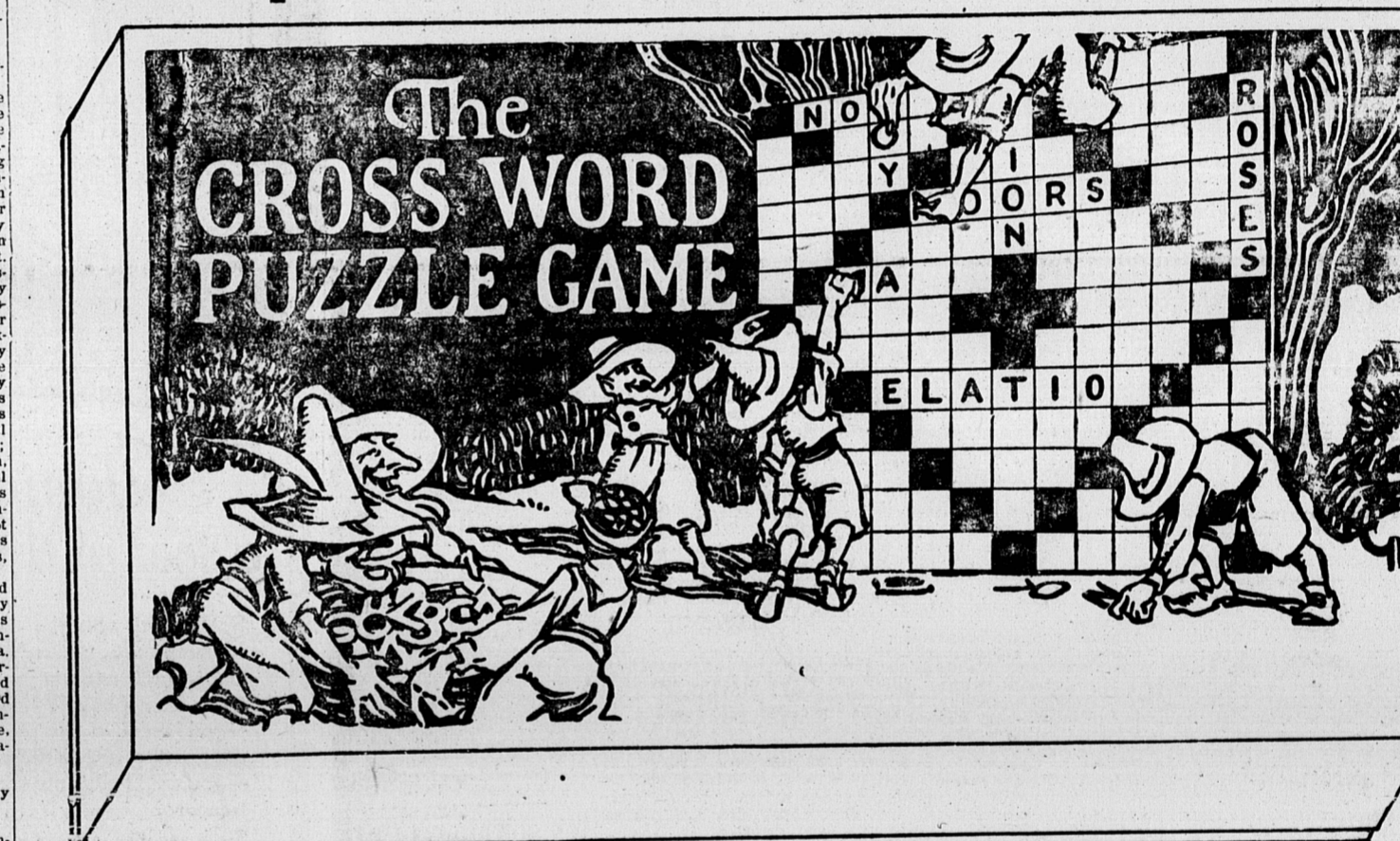
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BRINGING UP FATHER



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