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	Moose Jaw
	Regina
	Moose Jaw

GRAIN GROWERS' SECRETARY INTERVIEWED

I have just returned from a trip which included Brandon Grain Growers' Convention, to hear the talk; Winnipeg Grain Exchange, to watch the game; Grain Inspection and Warehouse department, to see other things; headquarters of various railways, to discuss car shortage and distributing matters. I then went on to Fort William, where I visited several large terminal elevators. I interviewed their managers regarding weighing and unloading, as we have many complaints re these matters. I went through some of the elevators from cellar to garret, and on to the great steamships in which some thirteen million bushels of our Western grain lies floating in these steel-bottomed bins on the bosom of the river.

If the same energy required to put the grain there had been applied to placing it in the interior terminal storage and the cars returned at once to the initial points, much suffering and loss would have been saved Western farmers. The terminal elevators down there are practically full. To look at the yards you might think some of them had bursted as heaps of grain here and there meet the eye. Five hundred cars of flax are standing in the yards awaiting their turn at the cleaning machines which are entirely inadequate to handle it. Again, why not some of these cleaners inland. Why not? Why not?

Several small cleaning mixing houses are running night and day, reaping a rich harvest by methods I may not stop to explain. Again, why not at Moose Jaw and Saskatoon? Much grain is sent down tough, damp and wet. Grain smutty, weedy and heated. Grain mixed in every conceivable shape. Much of it, doubtless, can be fixed up, is being fixed up, and why not at interior terminal points, and made ready for transit in its proper grade? Why not?

Car distribution at Fort William is more mysterious than Chinese legerdemain. Groups of men here and there chalking cars (which have come in loaded with grain) as "Unfit to load for the East," or "Fit only for loading westward." Scores of cars ordered to be trans-shipped while thousands of orders are on file for eastern shipment, terminal elevator men tumbling over each other after cars almost as bad as are our farmers at initial points, while here and there groups of grain dealers are looking for chances for empties at these small mixing houses or for cars of grain inspected in such a way that makes them fit subjects for the mixing art. As these men meet you you feel you are in the presence of a most cunning group, whose questions do not reveal the real object of their search.

What about the weighing? Well, to be frank, I do not think any system of watching will entirely prevent crookedness in the present private ownership of terminal elevators. If it would, the elaborate inspection system inaugurated by the commission would certainly make it faultless, and it will most assuredly prevent many mistakes and oversights, but if terminal operators are really crooked, no \$60.00 watchman can successfully watch four \$100.00 crooked operators.

What about tough grain? Well, I had that explained this way. Grain produced on irrigated land contains a much larger percentage of moisture than that grown by dry farming methods. Grain grown on a well prepared summer fallow contains more moisture than grain grown on stubble land, even though right in the same field, as the fallow had two years' moisture while the stubble had only one.

It was further explained that fallow grain with 15 per cent. moisture and stubble grain with 12 per cent. moisture were inherent characteristics. Let a rain fall on these stooks and each attach

2 per cent. moisture therefrom, which might be dried up by the morning sun, or the grain threshed and binned with that additional moisture, that to extract this added moisture and the inherent excessive moisture in the fallow grain were quite two different things. I was told that the wheat containing 15 per cent. moisture inherently would surely heat under certain temperatures and quantities, though as dry as powder to the touch when shipped, while the other, having only 12 per cent., might absorb the 2 per cent. added moisture without injury. It would appear considerable education is necessary in this matter of tough grain. The better we farm our land the more moisture the soil contains, and the more moisture the land contains the more will the product contain.

About the big Grain Growers Convention at Saskatoon, Feb. 12, 13 and 14—arrangements are about completed. A. G. Hawkes will be on the ground some days previous to the opening in charge of accommodation and pooling arrangements.

I have received word that Dr. Bland, of Winnipeg, has accepted our invitation to address the Convention on Civics and Citizenship. Dean Rutherford will also give us an address. Several railway officials will be on hand to take part in our discussions on transportation matters.

Grain Growers' Women's Congress

But perhaps the greatest innovation of all is a Women's Congress in connection with our Convention. Women take part and are entitled to full membership in our local associations. You see you can't have a home without a woman. Home problems are farm problems. Dean Rutherford has agreed to give the use of the University buildings and further assist in the entertainment and instruction of farmers' wives who may attend the Convention. We have secured Mrs. Nellie McClung the well-known authoress; Mrs. A. V. Thomas, president of Political Equality League, who organized the Home Makers' Club, and Miss Francis Beynon, who edits the Women's and Sunshine pages in The Grain Growers' Guide, all of whom will give addresses and otherwise assist in making the Convention helpful. A program is being prepared in which several leading Saskatchewan women will be asked to take part. The railways have agreed to carry delegates' wives attending the Convention on same conditions as other delegates. All women paid up as regular members in our Local Associations will be given delegate's standing in the Convention. What is now wanted is that delegates shall arrange to bring their wives, and that our lady members who will attend, send notice as quickly as possible to my office at Moose Jaw, that proper provision for accommodation may be made. I attach herewith a letter received today from Dean Rutherford.

"Saskatoon, Jan. 17, 1913.

"Dear Mr. Green:—

"I have talked over with President Murray the matter referred to in your letter and we shall be glad to give you the use of the assembly room at the University each afternoon, beginning at 2 o'clock during the days on which your convention is here. Our morning work would not admit of its being used for your purposes for forenoon sessions. I think, however, when you think it over this will suit your purposes pretty well, as the women who come in to the convention will be only too glad to use the forenoons in looking about, doing some shopping and attending to other matters which an opportunity of a visit to the city affords them.

"We are very glad to know that Mrs. Thomas and Miss Beynon are going to take charge of the work, and we shall do all in our power to make their visit to the University an interesting and profitable one.

"Thanking you for giving us this opportunity of entertaining the wives of

the delegates and hoping for a very interesting meeting, I am,

"Yours very truly,

"W. J. RUTHERFORD,

"Dean of College of Agriculture."

BOUND TO HAVE IT

I have had your letter re organization at Tako some time, but literature so far has not come to hand. As it will be essential to have it on hand at the meeting, I concluded to ask you to send forward another batch, as the first has evidently got lost. We are going to have the meeting on Jan. 4, and are expecting to organize a G.G.A. and also form a local for co-operative elevator. I have written to W. Sirrs but received no reply. I have since extended an invitation to some of the other officers and expect to have some of them present. Trusting to hear from you with literature.

FRANK KRIPPS,

Tako.

Enclosed find 75c for which please send me 100 membership tickets and oblige.

J. W. KEOWN,

Secretary, Spring Creek Association. Good for Spring Creek! Sell them quick!

A Popular Park

Secretary, Saskatchewan G. G. A.:— Please find enclosed postal note for \$10 being membership fees for 1912 for Poplar Park association.

JOHN HALLIDAY,

Sec. Poplar Park Assn.

One and Thirty

Please find enclosed \$8.00 in payment of dues to Central on sixteen yearly members. Our total membership to date is thirty-one, including three life members.

JAMES WATSON,

Sec., Sifton G.G.A.

A Searching Question

I enclose herewith express order for \$8.50, \$7.50 of which is balance of subscriptions from this association due Central and \$1.00 for literature received during the summer. We started a series of meetings during the winter months and would like to be kept posted as to what the Executive are doing from time to time.

H. G. LANGLEY,

Sec., Etonia G.G.A.

Find enclosed money order for \$10.00 membership fees for 20 members of the Glenavon Branch of the Grain Growers for the year 1912.

A. W. BARBER,

Sec., Glenavon Branch.

I am sending herewith draft for \$40. I am sorry the funds have not reached you before this. Kindly let me know how many life members you have Cupar credited with. Also how much is expected from life members per year. I have your letter of the 28th ult. Will try my best to hold a meeting as early as possible and take this matter up.

W. H. NEWKIRK,

Sec., Cupar Branch.

W. H. Newkirk, Esq.:—Yours of the 3rd inst. to hand containing order for \$40.00 membership fees. We thank you very much and enclose herewith our receipt.

Re life members—You have five: Thomas Hoff, William Thane, I. Harrington, J. B. Musselman and Dr. Rutledge. These men do not have to pay the Central fees. They pay their local dues, that is 50c per member. The Central dues are paid by the operation of their life fee. Now, why can we not have 25 life members from Cupar? I am actually ashamed of the way this life membership has been taken hold of. It would be the simplest thing imaginable to make a permanent organization of farmers that would startle the world. Simply \$12.00 each, \$10.00 of which

Directors:

At Large:—F. W. Green, Moose Jaw; George Langley, Maymont; A. G. Hawkes, Porcupine; J. B. Musselman, Cupar; James Robinson, Walpole; F. M. Gates, Fillmore. District:—No. 1, O. R. Gould, Manor; No. 2, Thomas Allcock, Belle Plaine; No. 3, Frank Burton, Herbert; No. 4, J. F. Reid, Orcadia; No. 5, W. H. Lillwall, Colonsay; No. 6, G. H. McKeague, Fertile Valley; No. 7, O. W. Hawkins, Valparaiso; No. 8, A. Knox, Prince Albert; No. 9, A. J. Greensill, Denholm.

should go into this trust fund. Practically 1c a bushel on one car of wheat, which you pay to commission agents on every car of wheat for not one-quarter the work that is being done by this association. Can you not secure 25 or more life members this good crop year, this beautiful weather, this bright Xmas tide?

Nevertheless, bear in mind, I thank you for your fees for 80 members. But suppose they were life members? \$12.00 each—\$960.00. Would that not set the pace for all Saskatchewan to get your members all in for life? I should like to speak to your people at Cupar, where you have the biggest elevator and where you have learned to co-operate so well. I have never been there but I know you to be movers. Keep going. Draw your men closer together. Cast off all your old rags of party politics and go in for the up-building of an educated co-operative land-dwellers' board of trade and legislative union. I expect you will think this flighty. But think of it, think of it. If you do, I know you will act.

F. W. G.

Short and to the Point

Herewith enclosed find postal note for \$6.00, being fees collected to date for 1912.

A. E. RAYNOR,

Sec., Ituna G.G.A.

Enclosed find \$5.00 membership fees from Antler Association.

A. G. DAVEY, Sec.-Treas.

A Narrow Squeak, But Strong

Not dead yet, though we had a narrow squeak for it! I am enclosing \$13.30, being \$7.00 membership fees for 1912, \$5.00 for one box of buttons, \$1.00 for membership tickets, 30c for Association and its work. Kindly forward these as soon as possible as we expect to have something special on the 27th inst and wish to have them on hand! We held our annual meeting on the 16th and put in the following officers for 1913: President, Peter Allan; vice-president, George White; secretary, D. H. McNaughton; directors, F. Wells, Edgar Last, Robert Mott, E. B. Hunter, Charles Taylor, Abe Bregg.

I brought up the circular re fire guards but it was thought advisable not to deal with it as there is no railroad through the district near enough to be taken as an example. We intend holding another meeting shortly to select our delegates to the Convention and would like to have a list of the most important questions to be brought up so as to get the opinion of the members. Our membership has fallen off during 1912, but we expect to be larger than ever in 1913.

D. H. McNAUGHTON, Sec.

Oh, Say! Look: A Big Gully, But a Fighting Fund

The annual meeting of the Middleton Branch of the G.G.A. was held in the schoolhouse last Thursday. The treasurer reported \$66.55 in the treasury and he was instructed to send \$20.00 of this to the emergency fund and 50c for membership fees, leaving a balance of \$46.05. The following officers were then elected: President, A. Lunquist; sec. treas., J. W. Landell; and six directors. After listening to a program of songs, speeches, recitations, given by Rev. B. S. Summers, Mr. Rouwick and Mr. Johnston, the meeting closed. We are 10 to 20 miles from the railroad (Maidstone) and in great need of a railroad as we have a big gully to cross and we cannot continue to haul grain that distance and even the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator in Maidstone is doing a shameful business. Some investigation should be made.

J. W. LANDELL,

Sec. Middleton G.G.A.

Warm songsters. Thanks.—G.