



SASKATCHEWAN SECTION

This Section of the Guide is conducted officially for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers Association by F. W. Green, Secretary, Moose Jaw, Sask.

Saskatchewan Executive and the Elevator Commission

Memorandum of Proposals as to Scope of Government Enquiry is Drawn up for Presentation—Hudson Bay Railroad Discussion—Faith Expressed in Government Promises—Test Actions to be Brought Against Railway Companies Regarding Damage From Prairie Fires

AN IMPORTANT meeting of the executive of the Grain Growers' Association was held in Moose Jaw, April 19. A mass of business was transacted necessitating an all day session. There were present, President F. M. Gates, of Fillmore; Vice-President J. A. Murray, of Wapella; A. G. Hawkes, of Broadview, and J. A. Maharg, of Moose Jaw.

Secretary F. W. Green took charge of the members when they arrived and conducted them on an automobile tour of the city. The schools system, exhibition grounds and the big flour mills of the Saskatchewan Flour Mills Company were visited in turn. The visitors expressed themselves as wonderfully surprised by the great development and busy scenes in evidence on every hand. Considerable information was given to them by the amiable manager of the mills, Mr. C. E. Austin.

After the pleasant trip the members of the executive met in solemn conclave to deal with the great mass of business which had accumulated since the last meeting. The most important of the business considered, perhaps, was that in connection with the elevator commission sittings which commence in Regina Tuesday, next. The advisability of presenting a memorandum to the commission and of securing a solicitor to take charge of the interests of the association during the sittings were considered. So also was the question of making presentation of the memorandum for the purpose of securing an itinerary that would be suitable to the local associations throughout the province and outlining what in their opinion should be the depth of enquiry into which the commission should go. In view of the fact that no plan could be prepared to cover the crop of the coming season, it was the opinion of the executive that every possible advantage should be taken of the opportunities offered to make a thorough investigation of all problems in connection with securing a permanent solution of the questions involved and suggested the following as the outline of what would meet their views.

(1) To gather evidence fully as to the practical methods necessary for instituting government owned and operated elevators at initial points.

(2) To secure necessary evidence and make proper representation as to the necessity of co-operation by the Dominion government in the matter of reformed facilities at terminals and in the matter of a grading system more in accordance with milling values, and of establishing a sample market; at the same time to secure evidence bearing on the question of advisability of Saskatchewan being formed into a separate inspection district.

(3) In view of the near prospect of the opening of proposed Hudson Bay route and of our wheat trade growing larger with the U.S., and the development of the Oriental trade, necessitating the routing of grain in various directions, and also building up of a large milling industry within the province; to consider whether the interests of this province and the producers of grain do not demand that the grade be determined nearer home and provision made for sample markets within the province.

(4) To enquire into the reasons causing the wide fluctuations which occur at certain seasons of the British markets in the price of Canadian wheat, exceeding the fluctuations affecting wheat grown in other countries, and also to enquire into the reasons why Minneapolis wheat should sell for more than Canadian wheat; while at the same time Canadian flour sells on the British market for the same

price as Minneapolis flour, with a view to suggesting a system of grading, storing, transportation and marketing which will ensure to the Saskatchewan grower the full value of the product.

(5) And to this end consideration be given to the matter of giving power to the permanent commission (which will operate the new system); to act as agents for the marketing of all the grain passing through the said system. In other words, that the commission of enquiry consider the advisability of applying the principle of co-operation to all grain passing through the new system as suggested in printed pamphlets as well as on the

intrinsic value of their wheat, less the cost of handling, the profits of all by-products being credited to the system in which all would share alike, both as regards profit and loss.

As regards the local itinerary the executive expressed themselves as satisfied with the proposed one published in THE GUIDE of April 13 by the secretary.

A number of other matters were considered by the executive. Communications of some length, being replies to resolutions passed by the association, in regard to a chilled meat industry and the question of dealing with glandered horses coming into the country were received from the minister of the interior. Replies were received on these questions also from nearly all western members of the Dominion house.

The Hudson Bay Road

The Hudson Bay Railroad came in for discussion by reason of the fact that many resolutions have been pouring into the office of the association urging that steps be taken in the matter for fear that the government would not proceed

A FERTILE VALLEY NEAR A MOUNTAIN TOP

The positions changed. Watch the Hummers!

Milden at the top with \$47.00 received for 1910.

Fertile Valley next with \$44.50

Cory running hard with \$43.00

North Battleford close behind with \$42.00

Roleau gaining speed with \$41.00

Cuper closing in with \$38.00

Saltcoats chasing with \$35.00

Wapella running well with \$32.50

Lumsden fresh with \$31.00

F. W. GREEN,
Secretary.

draft presented by Mr. F. M. Gates, through the columns of THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE in reference to quantities of less than car-load lots."

In regard to sub-section 5 of the memorandum the suggestion referred to is the following:

"That provision be made by the system for handling single loads or quantities less than car lots, and arrangements made whereby the owner of such loads may receive an advance of not less than 65 per cent. (possibly 80 per cent.) of the estimated value, if he so desires."

The executive feel that if the commission could adopt a plan in line with this clause it would be a solution of the whole vexed question. The ultimate result of such a plan would be a Saskatchewan system of initial elevators with their own terminals, the wheat being grouped as per its intrinsic values, sent direct to the world's market in direct control of the commission appointed by the people who produced the wheat, and in whose interests the whole could be managed. They would get the in-

with the construction of the road. The executive of the association felt that the most definite promises that the road would be proceeded with had been given by the government and until they had something from the government itself which would contradict these, they took the position that any action on their part was unnecessary, they having the utmost confidence that the promises made would be carried out and that construction would be started immediately.

Test Cases Against Railways

Another important decision arrived at was that in connection with test cases being started against railroad companies for prairie fires caused by sparks from an engine, and for killing of stock on railroad lines. It was felt that many farmers were injured through these happenings, who were unable to take action against the railroad company, whose servants or engines were the prime causes of these injuries. Not only were the farmers injured, but in many cases the companies were enabled to evade



Farm House of Alfred Moffat, Frohisher, Sask.

SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

HONORARY PRESIDENT:

E. N. HOPKINS - - - MOOSE JAW

PRESIDENT:

F. M. GATES - - - FILLMORE

VICE-PRESIDENT:

J. A. MURRAY - - - WAPELLA

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

FRED. W. GREEN - - - MOOSE JAW

DIRECTORS AT LARGE:

E. A. Partridge, Sintaluta; George Langley, Maymont; F. W. Green, Moose Jaw; F. C. Tate, Grand Coulee; A. G. Hawkes, Percival; Wm. Noble, Oxbow.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

James Robinson, Walpole; J. A. Maharg, Moose Jaw; Charles Dunning, Beverdale; John Evans, Nutana, Dr. T. Hill, Kinley; Thos. Cochrane, Melfort; Andrew Knox, Colliston; George Boerma, North Battleford.

responsibility through trailing on the ignorance of the farmer.

The secretary was instructed to take action and proceed with such cases of the kind as came under his notice and which appeared to offer a reasonable likelihood of a verdict in the farmers' favor being returned.

Other matters dealt with were those pertaining principally to the organization. The summer meeting tour, the appointment of two organizers, the securing of a solicitor for the association, and the question of preparing a memorial in reference to the amendments of the banking act of Canada were among the business transacted. In regard to the latter question, no decision was arrived at and it will be dealt with at a further meeting of the executive. Mr. George Boerma, of North Battleford, tendered his resignation from the directorate, which was accepted with regret.

The quantity of important business constantly accumulating, makes it evident that frequent regular meetings of the executive will have to be held, and it is likely that a decision on this point will be made at the next meeting.

CARNDUFF WANTS GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

The secretary at Carnduff writes as follows: Our directors met Saturday night and discussed the questions with regard to government acquirement of elevators. I have pleasure in reporting to you the decisions arrived at. We believe that a system of elevators to handle our grain from initial shipping points to ultimate markets should be established, but that the acquirement by the provincial government of internal elevators, without government ownership, and management of the terminals would not give satisfaction to the farmers. We think it would be unnecessary for the government to purchase all the internal elevators, as in fact there is more than is necessary now at some older points at least, that is with a reasonable supply of cars by railway companies. As there will likely be railways built paralleling and crossing present lines, we think that this should be kept in view and that it would not be necessary to buy up all the present line elevators. (It is possible some of the elevator companies may realize after awhile they have some not very good stock on their hands).

Re management: Our directors think that a board consisting of the minister of agriculture and two nominees of the Grain Growers' Association, one of the latter to seek re-appointment every third or fourth year, would be a good plan.

In regard to a sitting of the elevator commission at Carnduff, we would be highly pleased to have the commission visit us. Let us have definite information as soon as you can, and I will get into communication with the secretaries of the near associations and ask them to get representatives from their associations to meet you here. I think this would be a good plan. Should you favor us by coming would you kindly let us know as early as possible and oblige.

J. SHIER, Sec.

Carnduff.