



SASKATCHEWAN SECTION

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

PLEASING CO-OPERATION

Our friend! Colonel Hughes, in the course of his two hour trade against the Grain Growers of the West, referred to them as the kind of fellows who pop up in blacksmith shop stonemasonry, the kind whose wives are at home wearing long boots and cleaning out the stables, while they are hanging around the blacksmith shop sporting stonemasonry for the world over. It is quite possible to infer from this, without any great stretch of imagination, that the good Colonel means that members of the Association are not good farmers, that they pay more attention to political matters than they do to the actual growing of grain. Probably if Colonel Hughes could see some of the splendid farms owned and operated by most of the Grain Growers, even he would be constrained to admit-for once that he was wrong.

At the same time it might be well to discuss the fact of our problems of production and our problems of distribution being handled by two distinct bodies. The experimental farms and the agricultural colleges have been engaged for many years in a splendid work connected almost solely with the problems of production. Our association came into existence to deal more especially with the problems of distribution, which in their ramifications touch most of our Canadian political questions. The various institutions devoted to the problems of production have certainly succeeded in their object, "making two blades of grain grow where only one grew before," but ignoring what seems to be the first principle that the greater the crop, the farmer produces, the smaller the price per bushel he receives, while the middleman must always receive the same amount of rake off. The Association on their part have possibly somewhat ignored the actual problems of production, and confined themselves to remedying the evils which existed in distribution. Along this line the associations have become powerful, so much so as to draw upon themselves the ire of reactionary politicians and advocates of Special Interests. We have, then, two very effective institutions at work in the interests of our farming community. Why should they not co-operate to the fullest possible extent? The Grain Growers have the organization! In Saskatchewan, four hundred and fifty communities are organized in such a way as to receive gladly any ideas which will tend to educate, whether they be in the direction of better farming, better business methods or better government. In this connection it is encouraging to note that the Grain Growers' speakers and an agricultural college man will occupy the same platform at the summer rally at Milestone, and the example could well be followed by others of our associations.

CHAS. A. DUNNING,
Moose Jaw, Sask.

A SCOTCHMAN'S IMPRESSIONS ON RECIPROCITY

"Both erudition and agriculture ought to be encouraged by government; wit and manufactures will come of themselves."

Agriculture is unquestionably the staple industry of the West, and Canada, if she fulfils the prophecies of our greatest and most learned men who have studied the world's problems for years, will establish herself not only as the Breadbasket of the Empire, but will, in a measure, act as such, in years to come, to the world in general. There is nothing perhaps at the present moment interesting the farmers more than the great question of reciprocity with the United States. No trade arrangements with any other country could be secured of greater support from our farmers than reasonable reciprocal free trade with the land of the Stars and Stripes. Think, then, what a boon it would be to this country to have reciprocal free trade in the following:

Agricultural implements, machinery, horticultural, agricultural and animal products, cement, fish, lumber and various other articles. We do not ask for tariff favors. What we want is to be relieved of the excessive burdens imposed on us by a protective tariff, which prevent foreign competition and allow Canadian manufacturers to fix their prices above those which would exist under free competition. Farmers know very well that a general lowering of the protective tariff and reciprocity will be opposed by the united strength of the protected interests which have grown exceedingly powerful and wealthy under the present system. This is only what we could expect; self interest stands out clearly. It is a crime, then, for the agricultural community to carry the war into the enemy's country and play the protectionists at their own game! Is it wrong for Canadian Yeomen to organize to secure that which is best for all?

The following quotation from an American contemporary is both instructive and true: "Reciprocity with Canada would be valuable as an entering wedge in the struggle for a lower cost of living; it would also be one of the steps toward peaceful feeling in the world, and therefore the endless advantages which continued peace will bring to those who do the world's work, pay the week's bills and in the past have been the catpaw of the few." It cannot be gainsaid that our greatest national asset is in the farms of our country. Our agricultural resources are our greatest national gifts, and to quote the words of our secretary, Mr. Green, "They have been bought with the priceless blood and treasure of the British nation and handed free to settlers of every nationality." Why, then, the annexation cry? Cannot we trust our new fellow subjects? We are all Canadians, no matter where we were born. We have been handed splendid lands of unsurpassed fertility free, to cultivate and call our very own, and we are all living under one flag in harmony. We might as well imagine our brethren in the old country forming a trade alliance with Germany or France, and we Canadians throwing out the cry of annexation and disloyalty to them. The idea is preposterous, spoof; you never hear anyone complain until the proverbial shoe pinches.

Let us have an increase of the British Preference with ultimate free trade within the Empire. The manufacturers, or allied business interests, we trust, will not offer serious opposition in this connection, since it will give them a chance to prove their much lauded loyalty to British ideals and interests. Let us have world-wide peace, "fighting with weapons mightier than the sword," and dispense with all those unnecessary armaments which only constitute a burden on everyone. Let us first organize, then educate to co-operate for that which is best for all. "Union is strength," "Education is power," and co-operation is to unite systematically all our units with a definite end in view.

JAS. L. MIDDLETON,
Moose Jaw, Sask. Asst. Sec'y.

ORGANIZATION AND A SUGGESTION

The object of an association or organization, such as the Grain Growers' Association is to unite all its units so that they may form one working body, under central management, to attain whatever reforms they desire for the benefit of the farming community of Saskatchewan and the country at large. The following could be our chief aims:

1. To unite all our locals into a systematic body to work together for a common end.
2. To unite in mutual and concrete relations and ideas.
3. To bring into systematic connection and co-operation parts of a whole.

4. To prepare for the furthering of our aims by electing and appointing officers over the whole and sub-divided parts of our organization, so that the duties of each shall correlate and co-operate with all.

5. To dispense altogether with party politics when discussing association business. Keep the farmers' interests always at the front irrespective of party views.

These rules show the necessity of organization, that is to say, the co-operative working of the central and the officers of our locals. Any association that is not so working soon comes to grief. Lack of harmony and cohesion has wrecked many an institution. They start out with the best intentions but do not pay enough notice to affairs within. The undernourished burning topics, vital to the interests of farmers, could be discussed fully at our meetings all over the province at the present time, and would form a sort of chart, as it were (just as an architect plans a house), namely, tariff, Hudson's Bay Railway, terminal elevators, railway regulation, co-operative legislation, chilled meat industry and the conservation of natural resources. The laying out of such a chart not only educates but would tend to stimulate the interest of our readers in our association's work, and lead them to take a prominent part in the government of the country. The necessity of organization with a definite end in view, in an association of such magnitude as the Saskatchewan Grain Growers, is of course too obvious to require comment, but I think from the foregoing our members will understand my meaning.

Meeting the financial problem, before our association can actually become a dominant factor in the government of this country it must be established permanently, permanent working funds being necessary. As small streams merge until they form mighty rivers, so must our life membership fund increase, until we have a substantial working capital at our disposal to fight the capitalist with his own weapons. The little rivulets, our locals, should take hold of the great proposition and converge into one mighty river, sweeping everything detrimental to the interests of Canadian yeomen before it, until it ultimately finds its way to the great sea of justice.

JAS. L. MIDDLETON,
Moose Jaw, Sask. Asst. Sec'y.

ENDORSEMENTS FROM ADA

Secretary Dickson writes us that: 1. We, the Grain Growers here, are greatly in favor of co-operation, and we wish it, and hope it will become the universal mode of business in Saskatchewan and Canada; therefore we heartily endorse same. 2. Also that the Hudson's Bay Railway ought to be put through as fast as the government of Canada can do so, as we think it will be one of the greatest benefits to Western Canada, owing to the great distances from the Mother Country of which I give an example:

Regina to Montreal	1,770 miles
Montreal to Liverpool ..	3,000 "
	4,770 "
Regina to Fort Churchill ..	740 "
Fort Churchill to Liverpool ..	2,920 "
	3,660 "

We endorse this railway owing to the many other advantages the people of the West will receive from same.

3. We also resolved that the tariff be removed from agricultural implements insofar as that we may be able to buy them as reasonable as people 4,000 miles away. We hope the day is not far distant when we may see all tariff pertaining to the farming fraternity removed so that we may have a fair show in the West. 4. Also that the terminal elevators become government owned and government controlled. 5. That railway companies be held respon-

SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Hon. Life President:
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President:
J. A. Maharg - Moose Jaw
Vice-President:
Chas. A. Dunning, Beaverdale

Secretary-Treasurer:
Fred. W. Green - Moose Jaw

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District Directors:
No. 1, Jas. Robinson, Wapogo; No. 2, J. R. Symons, Fairville; No. 3, T. Wood, Caveling; No. 4, C. A. Dunning, Beaverdale; No. 5, W. R. Fels, Hinton; No. 6, Dr. T. Hill, Kinlay; No. 7, Thos. Cochrane, Melfort; No. 8, A. Knox, Prince Albert; No. 9, A. J. Greenall, Hinton.

sible for any damage done by their rolling stock owing to insufficient fencing or carelessness on the part of said companies.

The foregoing is the gist of a very interesting letter received at this office from the Ada branch of our association, located near Lake Johnston. This local was only formed recently and they are going to have a monster picnic on the 16th of this month for organization purposes, with Thos. Conlan, of Newberry, to act as spokesman on association matters. We wish them every success in their undertaking and we are glad they are working in the right spirit.

ITUNA'S MOTTO

J. W. Grant, of Ituna, called at the central office this week and gave us a lot of useful information respecting his organization. He informed us that their local was very much alive, had sixty members and were taking a great interest in affairs in general. During the course of conversation he informed us that the following was the motto of our Ituna branch: "Internationalism truly unites; nationalism antagonizes." This represents a word for each letter in the word "Ituna." Mr. Grant is desirous of having all the secretaries of our locals in the federal district of Humboldt communicate with him re organization.

NEWSY BRIEFLETS

Naseby sends membership fees and a request for pamphlets. They are also interested in the elevator question.

Lake Johnston District.—The farmers in this district are taking a keen interest in association affairs. Several enquiries have been received at the central office re organization meetings. Thos. Conlan, of Newberry, has charge of this district and proposes going on a tour early this month.

Balmoe Association has twenty-two paid up members and is increasing in numbers. They have sent us a donation towards our coronation fund which we have acknowledged.

West Eagle Hills proposes having a grand picnic early this month and has sent us a cheque for buttons to be worn on that occasion. We wish all our members would go in for those. They look O.K. and a credit to the association. Arthur Long is the new secretary, and we hope he will be as successful as his predecessor.

Coronation Fund Donations are coming in nicely. The scheme is now an assured success. Keep on sending your contributions; better late than never in such a good cause.

Ellisboro.—Secretary Berry writes us a nice letter stating that he has now got this association fully under way for the coming season. They expect to make a substantial increase in their membership. We wish them luck.

Valparaiso is after membership cards, and has sent us a donation towards our coronation scheme.

Ivor Grain Growers, near Outlook, a new branch, are very enthusiastic and have sent us a request for a supply of our pamphlet entitled "The Association and Its Work." They have sent us their membership fees and wish us every success. We reciprocate their good wishes.

Maldstone Grain Growers held a meeting on the 27th of last month and elected officers. They went through a

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