

## SUMMER MEETINGS

June 3, 1916

To the Local Secretary:

Under date of April 22 you were forwarded a circular outlining the plans of the central executive for the holding of a series of meetings throughout the province during the summer months. The circular explained that it would be impossible for a member of the Central executive to visit each of the locals. A series of meetings has therefore been decided on, arranged according to the best judgment of the Central officers.

Under separate cover a number of posters announcing the place and date of meeting to be held in your district and the speaker from the Central who is to be present have been forwarded to the secretaries of the locals contiguous to the meeting point. The secretaries receiving these posters are kindly requested to distribute these throughout the district in which the members of their locals reside and otherwise publish the place and date of meeting to the best of their ability, urging every member who possibly can to be in attendance.

The executive member who will address the meeting will be fully conversant with all the affairs of the Association and will be pleased to discuss with the men and the women present any phase of the Association's activities or indeed any question of general interest to the farmers of your community which any member may wish to introduce. He will also have full information regarding your trading relations to the Central and will be pleased to discuss in meeting any phase of the development of Saskatchewan's great co-operative movement that is desired.

Not only do your elected leaders anticipate very great development in co-operative activities during the next few years, but large numbers of the most prominent business men in Western Canada have expressed themselves as of the opinion that the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association's co-operative activities are but the nucleus of a co-operative trading undertaking by the consumers of this province which will prove to be the very greatest force yet evolved for the economic and social emancipation of agriculture. Those who have depended for their earnings not so much upon the labor of their hands as upon their power to exploit the farmer are fairly panic-stricken by what they also consider to be the beginning of a huge movement thru the instrumentality of the Grain Growers' Association for the liberation of the agricultural producer from the exploitation of those in control of the means of distribution. Their one hope, however, is that in the future—as too often in the past—the indifference of the farmers themselves and the lack of interest of a very large percentage of them in their own movement may prevent that movement from accomplishing all that it otherwise might.

I therefore again urge upon you the necessity of endeavoring to secure the attendance at these meetings, not only of every member of the Association, but of every farmer of the community in order that they may learn more of the enormous benefits which have accrued to the farmers generally thru the organized effort of some of them.

Fraternalty yours,

J. B. MUSSELMAN,

Central Secretary.

## Dates of Meetings in District No. 2

Thursday, June 22, at 8 p.m., La Fleche; Friday, June 23, at 2.30 p.m., Limerick; at 8 p.m., Assiniboia; Saturday, June 24, at 3 p.m., Wilcox; at 8 p.m., Redlyn; Monday, June 26, at 3 p.m., Mullrany; at 8 p.m., Willow Bunch; Tuesday, June 27, at 2 p.m., Ferbane; at 8 p.m., Fife Lake; Wednesday, June 28, at 2 p.m., Eddyville; at 8 p.m., Harptree; Thursday, June 29, at 2 p.m., Viceroy; at 8 p.m., Horizon; Friday, June 30, at 3.30 p.m., Amulet; at 8.30 p.m., Pangman; Saturday, July 1, at 4 p.m., Rhedive; at 8.30 p.m., Axford; Monday, July 3, at 2.30 p.m., Brookings; at 8 p.m., Radville. Speaker, Mr. A. G. Hawkes, Percival, vice-president, S.G.G.A., and Mr. T. E. Gamble, Director for District No. 2.

## Dates of Meetings in District 7

Monday, June 19, at 3 p.m., Spy Hill; at 8 p.m., Tantallon; Tuesday, June 20, at 2.30 p.m., Stockholm; at 8.30 p.m., Rosanville; Wednesday, June 21, at 3 p.m., Lemberg; Thursday, June 22, at 8 p.m., Lipton; Friday, June 23, at 8 p.m., Balarres; Saturday, June 24, at 3 p.m., Duff; at 9 p.m., Melville. Mon-

day, June 26, at 1.30 p.m., Bulyea; at 8 p.m., Duval; Tuesday, June 28, at 3 p.m., Govan; at 8 p.m., Nokomis; Wednesday, June 28, at 2.30 p.m., Young; at 8 p.m., Watrous; Thursday, June 29, at 2.30 p.m., Tate; at 8 p.m., Semans; Friday, June 30, at 8 p.m., Kelliher. Speaker, Mr. John F. Reid, Oreadia, member of the executive S.G.G.A.

## Dates of Meetings in District 16

Monday, June 19, at 9 p.m., Surliton; Tuesday, June 20, at 8 p.m., Conquest; Wednesday, June 21, at 8 p.m., MacKlore; Thursday, June 22, at 8 p.m., Sovereign; Friday, June 23, at 3 p.m., Rosetown; Saturday, June 24, at 3 p.m., Beadle; at 8 p.m., Kindersley; Monday, June 26, at 3 p.m., Fiske; Tuesday, June 27, at 3 p.m., Delisle; at 9 p.m., Zealandia; Wednesday, June 28, at 3 p.m., Vanseoy; at 8.30 p.m., Tessier. Speaker, Mr. John N. Barril, Indian Head, member of the Executive S.G.G.A.

## Dates of Meetings in District 12

Monday, June 19, at 8 p.m., Tisdale; Tuesday, June 20, at 2 p.m., Melfort; at 8 p.m., Star City; Wednesday, June 21, at 8 p.m., Kinistino; Thursday, June 22, at 3 p.m., Birch Hills; Friday, June 23, at 8 p.m., Prince Albert; Saturday, June 24, at 3 p.m., Shellbrook; at 8 p.m., Leask; Monday, June 26, at 8 p.m., Blaine Lake; Tuesday, June 27, at 8 p.m., Denholm; Wednesday, June 28, at 3 p.m., Hafford; Thursday, June 29, at 8 p.m., North Battleford. Speaker, Mr. Thomas Sales, Langham, member of the Executive S.G.G.A.

## LOCALS CAN HELP CENTRAL

A large number of letters are received at the Central office in the course of a week in which matters referring to trading, organization and other departments of the work of the Association are dealt with indiscriminately, that is to say, all these matters are often included in one letter. This involves an enormous amount of needless work on the part of the staff and at the same time greatly increases the risk of delays in dealing with the business in question. I do not blame our secretaries for this, as it is no doubt due entirely to their want of familiarity with the method which is necessarily adopted in dealing with the correspondence of this or any other large business concern.

As we have at present a large number of new secretaries it will perhaps be well to outline our method of procedure in this respect. First, it should be understood that the Central office staff is divided into several departments, this having become absolutely necessary owing to the great growth of the work of the Association. We have first the organization department, which deals with all matters relating to the formation of new locals, the arrangement of meetings, the provision of speakers, the supply of literature, buttons, etc., the Red Cross and Patriotic Funds and all similar matters. Then there is the trading department, which is subdivided into the purchasing, order, correspondence and claims, accounting and invoicing departments, and lastly the Patriotic Acre department. As the correspondence is opened up it is distributed to all the departments concerned. But suppose a letter is received in which reference is made, say, to an order for groceries, to the holding of a meeting, to a Patriotic Acre contribution and to a claim for damage to goods received; how are all these matters to reach the various departments which must eventually deal with them? This is where the trouble begins. Before anything can be done with them each subject has to be extracted or re-written on what is known as an extract form. This means that the one letter has to be split up into four different letters before any part of it can receive attention. The making of these extracts is a very great handicap to the staff, and causes the work of opening up the mail to take at least twice as long as it ought, besides greatly increasing the risk of matters of importance being overlooked.

It will greatly conduce to efficiency in the Central office and to the securing of better service to the locals if correspondents will get into the habit of writing

about one subject only in any one letter. This does not mean of course that postage is to be paid on each letter, as there is no reason at present at all events why several letters should not be mailed in the same envelope. It is perhaps too much to hope that this making of extracts can be altogether avoided, but if correspondents will try to follow out the method outlined above it will carry us a long way on the road to efficiency. S. W. Y.

## GRAIN PRICES BY PHONE

From several points correspondence has come to the Central office suggesting that the department of telephones of the Saskatchewan government might make arrangements under which every central telephone office in Saskatchewan would receive daily the closing prices of wheat on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. The suggestion seems to be a thoroughly good one and one that could be carried out practically without expense to the provincial government. The matter has already been discussed with a member of the executive who has promised to present the petition to his colleagues. It might be well, however, for our locals to follow this matter up in order that it may be apparent to the government that it is a popular demand. J. B. M.

## WANT DAILY GRAIN PRICES

Central Secretary.—Yours of the 16th inst. to Mr. Wilson, secretary of the Tugaskie Local, re daily prices of wheat over long distance telephone system, was read at our meeting on the 27th. As I was the instigator of this movement in our local the meeting insisted that I should answer your letter of the above date asking for an article on the same.

In the first place I might say wheat and the growing of other grains are the staple products of our province. As a great amount of this grain is placed on the market in carload lots by the farmer with a circulation of market prices as we have it in the province, namely, thru the mails by letter, daily paper or sometimes weekly papers, it places the farmer at a disadvantage to realize the highest price for his grain, or in other words, selling at a time he thinks is the most opportune. Probably when he goes to town and receives his mails, sees the boom in the market, which is always one and sometimes two days late, and then enquires about the present day's market, he finds prices have again dropped.

Under the system asked for if the said farmer owned a rural telephone he could step to his telephone about three o'clock in the afternoon and get the closing prices of the same day of the Winnipeg market. Then if the prices suited him he could sell by telephone or telegram at what he thought would be the best time, having nobody to blame for mistakes but himself.

It is also a well known fact that a certain grain company whom a great many ship to when loading over the platform has simply refused instructions such as "sell to best advantage or use your own judgment." On the one hand the company does not want to take the risk of displacing the farmer, and on the other the farmer is at a disadvantage to know the latest price to please himself.

I think I have said all that is necessary on this important subject to bring it into action in the near future and I see no reason why the farmers should not have the above privilege, which would mean so much to them at practically no expense to any one. I am more than pleased to note in your letter that the colleagues of the member spoken to are at the present time in favor of the proposition. I place all confidence in you and the rest interested to have this important matter placed again before our government and have the same brought into action as soon as possible.

ALEX. FOULSTON.

Tugaskie, Sask.

Central Secretary.—I have pleasure in letting you know that those shares (extra ones) arrived in just the nick of time. Kindly accept my thanks for your prompt attention in this respect. The gang is O.K.

Yours, a satisfied Grain Grower,

DAVID GIBBONS.

Cadillac, Sask.

## Saskatchewan

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association by J. B. Musselman, Secretary, Regina, Sask., to whom all communications for this page should be sent.



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