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Manitoba Section

This Section of The Guide is conducted for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. C. Henders, President.

At a meeting of the Valley River branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association, on June 28, arrangements were made to hold our fourth annual picnic on July 11, jointly with the Ladies' Home Economic Society. We are endeavoring to make this event the best ever held in this district. A speaker is expected from the Central Association, there will also be a baseball tournament of farmers' teams, besides races and other sports.

Co-operative buying is growing stronger here daily; formaline, dried fruit and binder twine are necessities that we are dealing in co-operatively. Correspondence is being exchanged with Eastern growers re buying apples by car lot this coming fall. Farmers of this district are seeing more than ever before the benefits derived from the Manitoba Grain Growers' association.

BEN. F. BOUGHEN, Sec'y.

A number of farmers and young men of Soudan district celebrated Dominion day by gathering in the little country schoolhouse for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association. M. McCuish, who had spent two days in the district, was present and addressed the meeting at some length on the objects of the farmers' organization in the West. After dealing with a number of questions relating to the economic side of farm life, the meeting was thrown open for general discussion. After a short discussion it was decided to form a branch, to be known as the Soudan branch, with Mr. Brownie President, R. James Vice-President, and P. White Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. McCuish made a strong appeal to the young men present to join the Association and use it as a school of economic and social questions, and was tendered a very hearty vote of thanks.

On July the 5th, about thirty farmers and others met in the old hardware store at Keyes to take stock of the past year's labors and see what steps were to be taken to improve conditions in the future. Mr. McCuish, of Roblin, and Mr. McGregor, of Arden, were on hand to lay the claims of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association before them for consideration and when the chairman, Ed. Rose, asked for a show of hands in favor of the Association, the greatest enthusiasm prevailed and twenty-two put their names down to be in the front rank to fight for better economic and social conditions in Keyes district. As one speaker put it, "No farmer could afford to be outside the Association; as it was the only organized body openly fighting the triple alliance, the cause of so much poverty and crime among the masses."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIGHTING FUND

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The chief object of all education, and especially co-operative education, is to make people acquainted with the evolutionary process which is going on, not only in the organization of society, but also in the ideas which are held with regard to property. Co-operation, in some form, is recognized to be a necessity under present economic conditions; and it either takes the form of co-operation of a limited kind in the interests of the capitalists, or of a more general kind in the interests of the community. The tendency of the former of these is in the direction of monopolies and of the latter of a socialized organization of industry and commerce. This organization has many forms, from the ordinary co-operative society to the activities of the municipalities and the State. These latter are very numerous and are directly affected by legislation, so that co-operation cannot be separated from politics. —The Scottish Co-operator.

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