

Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. C. Henders, President, Culross, Man., to whom all communications for this page should be sent

TO SECRETARIES

Due to the strenuous efforts the farmers have to make during the seeding, harvest and fall seasons, the only time at their disposal for effective organization and educational work is the middle of the summer and winter season. Now that seeding is over our branch organizations should get busy and make special efforts to strengthen their organization during the months of June and July. You will be pleased to know that many new branches have been organized during the winter, and that quite a number of old branches increased their membership. Unfortunately, however, we have to admit that some of the branches have not been as active as the importance of organization demands.

The excessive cost of living both in towns and country and the high prices farmers have to pay for everything they have to buy is, speaking generally, the result of combinations and commercial organizations. The evil effect of these combinations on the general welfare of the country can only be successfully overcome by co-operation and organization among the producing classes. The remedy against combinations and trusts is co-operation on the part of the industrial and agricultural workers. Co-operation in selling farm produce and in buying of commodities needed on the farm can only be effected by a thorough system of local organization on the part of the agricultural classes. It should, therefore, be the aim of our branches to so perfect their local organization that they will be able to help themselves as a community, acting in conjunction with the general farmers' movement, in the disposal of their products and the purchase of commodities needed on the farm.

I would suggest to each of our branches to take into consideration the advisability of taking advantage of the provisions of the Manitoba Co-operative Act so as to be in position to do more effective co-operative buying and selling. Information on this point can be supplied from the Head Office of the Association on application.

The Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market in Winnipeg in its present form has been organized under the auspices of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association and the Market Gardeners of the district surrounding Winnipeg, for the purpose of providing an outlet for all kinds of farm produce. Now that the outlet is provided it is very important that the farmers should, thru co-operation get together in the matter of providing facilities for handling the produce of mixed farming and establishing an educational campaign in their district, to educate our members to produce farm produce up to the highest standard.

The main difficulty in connection with the marketing of farm produce is that the produce is dumped on the market during the summer season, making prices to farmers remunerative, and during the winter months produce is sold to consumers at famine prices.

The question of most importance in connection with the marketing of farm produce is the providing of storage so that a constant supply of produce to meet the consumption is on the market during the winter months. Our branches should consider the possibility of furnishing storage for farm produce at points in the province so as to feed the market as the demands require. Our present system of handling food stuffs grown in Manitoba is very irrational, it paralyzes production, and lessens the consumptive demand during six months of the year on account of the famine prices that are charged by those who get possession of the produce thru having cold storage facilities in the city. The promoters of the Central Farmers' Market will make it their aim to get data and information relative to the marketing of farm produce, and they will be always pleased to supply our

branches with that information, with the expectation that this question of marketing farm produce will be placed on a more economic basis than it has been in the past. Much of the success of this undertaking depends upon the co-operation and sympathy of the farmers' organizations in the province. Yours truly,

R. McKENZIE, Secretary

VALLEY RIVER APPROVES

At a meeting of the Valley River Branch, held on May 28, the action of Messrs. Nickle and Bennett in the House of Commons was highly commended. It was felt that these gentlemen should be let know the feeling of the association. The secretary was accordingly directed to forward to each of them the following resolution: "That this association desires to express its appreciation and thanks to W. F. Nickle, M.P. for Kingston, and to R. B. Bennett, M.P. for Calgary, for the fearless stand taken in the matter of the proposed aid to the C.N.R. and for steadfastly adhering to what they conscientiously believe to be in the best interests of the people of Canada."

A discussion ensued regarding the manner some grain dealers were abusing the privilege granted by the railway companies, namely the shipping of feed oats on the seed grain rate. Dealers in grain and feed should be exposed if found guilty of such conduct.

A long letter was read from Mr. McKenzie fully explaining the objects and the working of the Farmers' Market Association. All the members seemed to agree that this association was working along right lines, and entitled to support. Our annual picnic, which will probably be held during the first half of the month of July, will be arranged for in detail at a meeting on June 4.

R. F. BOUGHEN, Secretary

GRAIN GROWERS' HOLIDAY

Salem Branch held a meeting Tuesday night, May 20, and passed the following resolution, copies of which have been sent to R. B. Bennett, M.P. for Calgary, and W. F. Nickle, M.P. for Kingston: "Resolved, that we do approve of the stand taken by you on the Canadian Northern deal, whereas it enables the Canadian people to secure an intelligent grasp of the transportation situation as it affects the national life of Canada." A copy of this resolution will also be sent to the solicitor-general of Canada, Hon. Arthur Meighen, M.P.

At this meeting preparations for a picnic were undertaken. It was decided to hold it on June 22, in Dunn's Grove. There will be a physical competition in conjunction with this picnic, between the following schools: New Sydenham, Kelvin, Salem and Ridge Road. The Portage Orchestra will be in attendance. This should make a very interesting picnic, and there will be lots of sport for both old and young. Everybody invited. All are welcome.

We also made a start to get into line to make preparations to attend the G.G. holiday, to be held in Gladstone, on July 3, and would like to see all sub-associations well represented, so as to make this day an annual occurrence and long to be remembered.

B. N. THOMAS,
Sec., Salem Branch,
Portage la Prairie, Man.

MULVIHILL BUILDING HALL

The Grain Growers' Association of Mulvihill had the distinction of holding their first dance in their own hall on Friday, May 22. There was a large attendance, over eighty being present, and some coming over nine miles. The dance was held in aid of the building fund and the supper was provided by the Ladies' Auxiliary. Everyone had a most enjoyable time. The building is a two story structure measuring 30x40. The first story is to be used as a store eventually, whilst the second story is to

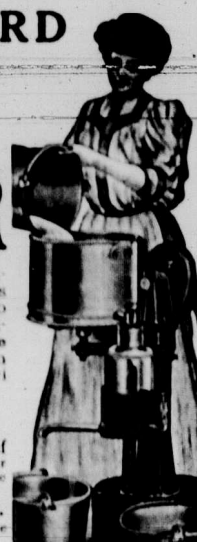
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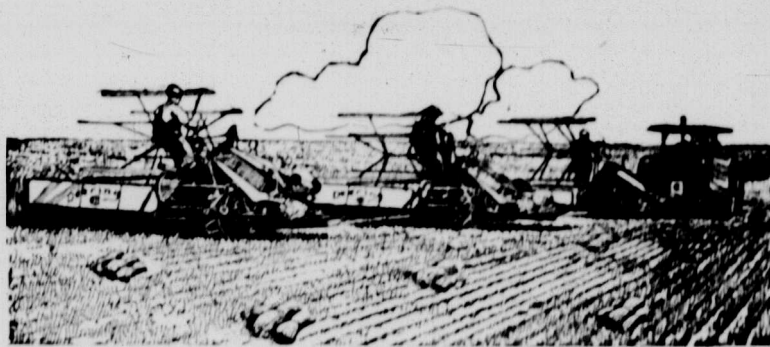


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be used as a hall for meetings and dances. The building is not yet completed, but we hope to see it finished by the fall. Great praise is due to the untiring energy of our president, E. B. Lindley, who has been spurring every

one on to do something towards the erection of the building, which has been built entirely by the hands of a few of the members of the association.

THOS. MITCHELL,
Secretary-Treasurer.