

Farm Women's Clubs

NOTE.—Any woman in Saskatchewan who feels that she would like to have a Woman's Section of the Grain Growers' Association in her district, should communicate with the provincial secretary, Miss Emma Stocking, Regina, Sask.
Any Alberta woman who would like a Woman's Section of the United Farmers in her district should write to Mrs. R. M. Barrett, Mirror, Alta., who is the woman's provincial secretary for Alberta.

FORTUNE CLUB ACTIVE

Fortune Women Grain Growers have had a most successful year. Their new officers are:—President, Mrs. Bookbank; vice-president, Mrs. Boyle; secretary, Mrs. Javens; directors, Mesdames Franklin, Macey, Crossman, Brooks, Ward and Miss J. McMechan.

They have taken up a line of work I am glad to hear about, in helping the hospital at Rosetown. The personal interest that members show in their nearest hospital is a means toward building up that necessary institution. The club has also done Red Cross work, remembering also the sick and dying on the field of battle. We are proud of the topics Fortune has discussed during the past year; they make me wish I had heard some of them: An Ideal Home, Influence of the Home and Surroundings, Sunday Dinners for Summer, Home Nursing, Etiquette and Good Manners in the Home, Canning and Preserving, Ways to Lighten Labor, Principles of Cooking and Food Values.

BURNHAM ELECTS OFFICERS

The Burnham members are enthusiastic workers and are willing to meet twice a month. Mrs. Runyan, their new secretary, writes that at their annual meeting Mrs. Madden was elected president, and Mrs. White vice-president. We are certain that their meetings will go far toward giving them a social and unselfish interest in each other.

WORKING FOR REST ROOM

Netherhill has reported again and given some interesting news. We would like to hear from them more frequently. There are twenty members, giving them a splendid opportunity to do much for their community. They made a good start by renting a room to use for a rest room. The method did not prove satisfactory and they are attempting to establish a permanent room. We wish them success.

In July they gave a picnic that proved a good the arduous way of adding to their treasury. Their desire to aid the Red Cross Society prompted them to give two teas in their rest room; one half of the members giving one and the other half the next one. They sold dressed chickens, pies, cakes, buns, vegetables, etc., and from the two teas realized \$26.70, after deducting expenses. Good use for a rest room, wasn't it? Miss Stirling, their secretary, writes that the members are scattered over a wide area, ranging from fourteen miles north of the most central place and eleven miles south. We admire the "stuff" those members are made of.

LAURA WOMEN'S GREAT WORK

We can all join in praise of the Laura Women Grain Growers. In conjunction with their Grain Growers' Local they have raised \$500 for the Saskatchewan unit of the field hospital. They have received the heartfelt thanks of the medical association of the province for their generous gift. How did they raise it all? Every way from donations to a pie social. They also had a big Christmas cake made and sold tickets for it to help with the fund.

Their membership is now up to twenty-four and still growing. Their December meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Winch. A paper on Christmas gifts was given by Miss Douglas. Mrs. Jefferson was asked to continue as president, Mrs. Carr was elected vice-president, and Miss Douglas secretary.

Dear Miss Stocking:—The reason that I have not furnished you this year with any report of the activities of the Silton Women Grain Growers is that since the passing of the resolution last spring at the convention, whereby the women had to pay one dollar membership fee for a year, 50 cents of which went to the Central Association and 50

cents to the men's local association, I have not been able to do anything among the women at all. As you know, a great many of the women in this country have not been accustomed to attending meetings and discussing questions, etc., and have to be gradually educated up to it.

In 1914 I sent written invitations to every country woman in this district who could write and speak English, and after a lot of hard work I got a good turnout to a meeting to organize an auxiliary. We agreed to hold our meetings and discuss and study such subjects as women are interested in, according to the program suggested in the 1914 Year Book. Because of illness I was unable to keep up the work for two or three months. In the summer, when a picnic was held, we sold strawberries and cream and earned \$5 over all expenses. We had another meeting before Convention, and I suggested that we use what money we had with our membership fees and send our president to Convention. Several of our members went as visitors at their own expense. All went well until the resolution came up about joining the men's local, and that spoiled the whole work that I had done. They came home with this idea: "Oh, we will all go to the men's meetings and help them. They told us at the convention that we could help the men better by having our meetings together." There are only three women who attend the men's meetings, and there is really no use of their going, even tho they are interested in the questions that the men are discussing. The men would not waste their time discussing what they call the trifling questions that interest women. Then we have no funds to work with now, not even our own membership fees. The men use all the fees as their funds to work with. I hope that you understand the difficulties under which we work. The women would turn out and get interested in meetings of their own, if they had a chance, which they don't.

MRS. B. J. ANDERSON,
Secretary Silton, W.G.G.

I am glad that the secretary of Silton has told me their troubles, and for fear that the same difficulty may have occurred in other clubs, I will print the above letter.

When women join the local existing in any community, they have voting privileges therein, by virtue of the membership fees paid. The Local is theirs, as well as the men's, and they have a voice in the disposal of the funds. Then the women members can form a Women's Section of that Local, have their own officers, make their own program, hold their own meetings, manage their affairs in a very independent way. But no club or Local is doing its duty when it does not plan for the betterment of its community. For community work, both men and women are needed; by belonging to one Local they both have a vote in common matters when they desire to meet together for the common good. Perhaps the combined meeting will occur only once or twice during the year, or as often as the spirit of co-operation draws them together. But there are many, many times the women want their own meetings; and they have the privilege to hold separate meetings when they form a Women's Section of the Local. They can control all funds that they make, apart from the fees, which stay in the treasury of the Local. But those fees can be used to pay expenses of delegates to convention, for every club should be represented by a delegate. Hold those fees as a reserve fund for delegates' expenses, for delegates must be sent from the combined Local or they do not have voting privileges in the main convention. By thus using the fees to send women delegates, it looks to me as tho we have put it over the men, whatever way you look at it, only don't let them know it. E. A. H.



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