

annual report shows about twelve per cent. net profit; Cropsy has recently built a 40,000-bushel oat-house in addition to their elevator of 75,000 bushels capacity; the elevator at Cocksville has a capacity of 70,000 and handles about 400,000 bushels yearly; the company at Colfax owns two elevators and handles 200,000 bushels of grain annually, and the Farmers' Elevator Company of El Paso does the same; the Carlock Elevator Company reports a prosperous year, there being an undivided surplus of \$2,000 on hand January 1, which they voted to keep in the treasury increasing the capital stock to \$8,000 and then issuing a stock dividend of 33 1-3 per cent. on all stock outstanding at the first of the year. This company handled nearly 250,000 bushels of grain and 750 tons of coal the past year. The Rooks Creek Elevator which has been doing business about eighteen months has a surplus of more than \$1,200, and besides receiving good prices for their grain the company accumulated twelve per cent. on its capital stock. The Elevator Company at Monticello operates two elevators, and one day last fall there were counted 238 wagons loaded with corn standing in line waiting for their turn to be unloaded. The Cerro Gordo Company handled 217,414 bushels of grain in 1907; also 1,950 tons of soft coal and 281 tons of hard coal. The total amount of business for the year was approximately \$160,000 and a profit of \$1,193 was realized after paying all expenses.

Since the organization of the Co-operative Elevator at Mason City already referred to, in 1899, additions have been built to the elevator which holds 25,000 bushels, at a cost of \$3,500; cribs which hold 6,000 bushels of corn, and also two large coal sheds. All of these have been paid for out of the earning of the company, and in addition to this the company has paid \$3,500 in dividends. They will soon put in a drier and make some other improvements, which will cost about \$5,000. This company handles between 300,000 and 400,000 bushels of grain a year.

In Iowa the success has been even more marked. The State organization was formed two years later than that of Illinois, but it has outstripped its predecessor in the number of elevator companies formed. The struggle in Iowa was similar, though a more bitter fight was waged against the little co-operative companies than in Illinois. The first society of the state was at Rockwell, Cerro Gordo County, and their success is largely attributable to the clause incorporated in their by-laws, providing that a commission of one-half cent. per bushel should be paid into the company treasury by their members for every bushel of grain sold either to themselves or to their competitors. When sold to their own company this represented the cost of handling the grain, and when sold to a competitor it was paid into the treasury just the same, and in this way the farmers' company was provided for, no matter how much the line elevator people raised the prices in their endeavor to force the farmers' company out of business. The trust fought the farmers' company at Rockwell, and fought them with every trick known to modern political business, and to the everlasting credit of the little group of staunch and faithful farmers they failed. But, though the trust was beaten at Rockwell, the fight had been so hardly won that other sections of the state hesitated before organizing their own companies for fear of a similar experience.

Mr. C. J. Messerole, who has been identified with the movement from its inception and who is now secretary of the state organization, in relating the history of the fight says that "The policy of the combine for the time being was to ignore the Rockwell society, and after being driven out of that market paid little attention to them, but when a dozen or more of these companies were organized and the movement threatened to become general, then it was that the real purpose for which the Iowa Grain Dealers' Association, under the leadership of the Line Elevator interests had been reorganized was disclos-

ed. Blacklisting the co-operative companies and boycotting all commission houses who dared to receive the business of the co-operatives, bulldozing local merchants with threats of putting in department stores, filling the local press with false reports of financial difficulties of co-operative companies, formed a large part of the activities of the trusts' Iowa representative. Realizing that the net was slowly but surely encompassing them, a call was sent out in the month of October, 1904, from Rockwell for all co-operative companies of the state to meet at Rockwell on November 4th, for the purpose of organizing an association, the object of which was to be a more intelligent and vigorous effort towards the promotion and organization of co-operative societies and unite and solidify the existing companies for the struggle which all knew was to come."

Mr. McCreery, of the Illinois State Association, Mr. W. M. Stickney and Mr. Messerole were invited to assist at the organization. "We were met at the train by a little band of pioneers," continues Mr. Messerole, "and escorted to the dining-hall. The town was decorated with flags and bunting and magnificent displays of the products of orchard and field."

The organization resulting from this meeting elected Mr. N. Densmore president, Mr. Messerole secretary, and J. H. Brown of Rockwell, treasurer. Twenty companies joined the Association at the start and that number has increased until at present there are over 200 companies belonging to the state organization, with a membership of 30,000 farmers.

This Association publishes the Co-operative Journal, a monthly exceedingly well edited by Mr. Messerole, which contains considerable news of the advance of the co-operative movement among the farmers. The Journal, which is published at Chicago, is endorsed by all the state organizations, and is a great factor in bringing them into closer relationship with each other, and in promoting actual co-operation between them.

Nebraska has also a state federation, and their fifth annual convention was held at Lincoln on the twenty-first and twenty-second of January. About 2,000 farmers attended these meetings. There are 140 co-operative elevator companies in this state and a large number of co-operative shipping companies. The association has declared itself strongly in favor of federal inspection of grain and weights, and is throwing its weight in favor of other legislation which will be of benefit to the farming interests.

In Minnesota there was recently organized a state association of which Burr D. Alton of Ceylon, who is connected with a half-dozen co-operative societies in the state, was elected president, and R. L. Johnston, of Austin, secretary. As there are nearly 185 farmers' elevators in the state the need of a central organization is apparent, and it is sure to promote the cause of co-operative industry to a great extent. The co-operative creameries of Minnesota, of which there are over 600, are co-operating in this movement also.

South Dakota held a convention in February for the purpose of forming a state society, and other near-by states are realizing the need for taking such steps.

The sales of the two co-operative wholesale stores in Great Britain amounted to over \$144,000,000.00 in 1906.

Co-operative stores on the Pacific Coast have for some time co-operated with one another in buying by means of their wholesale at Oakland.

The movement to establish a co-operative wholesale store in Minneapolis has taken form and a start will soon be made. The League stores are already doing about \$100,000.00 worth of business per month. Over one half of this can be done through the co-operative wholesale which is to be established.

MANI

Montre
Manufactu
committee
the statem
reasonable
ditions of
interest.
of lading.
part as f
annual cor
riers to st
tion, also
endorsed b
proved of
referred fa
board of
plying e'th
part of a
Montre
passed res
Intercolon
way comm
the associa

In intr
speaker sa
report so
before had
seemed bri
the questio
light, shov
attained s
specific ins
was unable
This led u
person of
was discus
sent form
real branch
permanentl
sion on the
SE

How fa
tariff so as
the pertine
of the Ca
representin
a spirit of
both object
of the east
west is goi
commented
day, Louis
Company,
was made
bad a posi

PU

It is s
the princip
way as in
awake to t
are active

The lat
by the farm
results of
The Grain
14,000 west
the interior
ference was
Alberta an
taken. The
valued at