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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

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WINDTHORST GOES FORWARD

At the annual meeting of our association which took place last Saturday, the following resolutions were passed:

C. May—F. A. Rieder: "That this Association favors the appointment of a travelling agent for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association for the purpose of discovering the cost of production of the staple commodities which we buy."

E. Dean—Thomas May: "That this Association favors the principal of a universal land tax to establish a Government Hail Insurance system." S. Glydon

—John Grylls: "That this Association is of the opinion that Canada should contribute towards the Imperial navy."

A. Banninger—W. H. Wilton: "That this Association is of the opinion that the farmers should sign any contract to use the Government elevator if one is built here, but that it be left to the discretion of every individual to do it or not to do it."

S. McGuire—Th. May: "That this meeting is of the opinion that the farmers should allow their grain to be handled by the commission as well as by the elevators." S. McGuire—S. Glydon: "That this meeting is not in favor of the Life Membership plan as a means to strengthening our organization."

S. Glydon—C. May: "That the matter of recommending a suitable man who could act as central secretary and editor of THE GUIDE be left for the convention to deal with."

Thos. Kearns—John Grylls: "That this Association regret the recent reduction in grants to elementary schools."

C. May—M. Batters: "That in the opinion of this meeting there should be more and better grain loading platforms."

S. Glydon—W. H. Wilton: "That this meeting is not in favor of raising the annual membership fee from \$1.00 to \$2.00 and that it be left to the discretion of every individual to subscribe to the GUIDE."

C. May—F. Pridmore: "That in the opinion of this meeting there should be a reciprocal demurrage law." W. H. Wilton—Thomas Kearns: "That the three prairie provinces should build the Hudson Bay Railway."

A. S. Elliott—C. W. Hill: "That this Association would favor a central point, where all future Grain Growers' Association conventions shall be held."

Percy Argue—Thos. Kearns: "That the question of separating the rural electoral districts from the cities and towns be left over for the convention to deal with."

R. M. Crowe—W. H. Wilton: "That it is not in the best interest of the grain growers associations and the Agricultural Societies of this province to amalgamate, but that both societies should nevertheless be on the most friendly terms possible."

W. H. Wilton—Thomas Kearns: "That the secretaries of the Windthorst Grain Growers' Association and of the Windthorst Agricultural Society get together and work together for the purpose of securing as members to both associations every available farmer in the district."

The election of officers resulted as follows: R. A. Paul, president (re-elected); Wm. Jaegle, vice-president; Arthur Banninger, secretary-treasurer (re-elected); directors, Percy Argue, H. Millenacker, M. Batters, F. A. Rieder, S. Glydon, A. S. Elliott.

F. W. GREEN HONORED

Appointed to the Advisory Board of the Saskatchewan Agricultural College

At the afternoon session of the Agricultural Societies Convention at Regina, January 28, F. W. Green, of Moose Jaw, general secretary of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, was appointed by the convention as the second representative on the advisory council of the Saskatchewan Agricultural College. Mr. Green's colleague on the council is Mr. Angus McKay of the Government experimental farm at Indian Head.

PROPOSE AN OFFICIAL BADGE

A meeting of the Fort Pelly branch of the Grain Growers' Association was held on Feb. 2 at Pelly, to discuss the questions proposed for the general convention to be held at Prince Albert. The large attendance was a gratifying feature of the meeting, not only members of this branch being present, but also members of a newly established branch whose recent organization did not permit of their sending a delegate to the convention. The general participation of all members in the debates was an evidence of the intelligent interest awakened by the importance of the farmers' movement.

Dr. A. White who personally wrestles with perverse nature on a farm, as well as with bodily ills, and is alike successful in both, was chosen as delegate to the convention, the members supplementing the low balance to the credit of the association by an additional assessment of two dollars per member to defray the delegate's expenses.

The meeting arrived at a unanimous decision on all questions submitted with the exception of one, i.e.: "Would you allow your grain to be handled by the commission as well as the elevators, and by so doing take the grain trade out of the hands of speculators?" The wording of this question being obscure and the definition of the term "handle" not being clear, it was thought after much discussion to pass this question with a mark of interrogation affixed.

After disposing of this schedule, certain propositions were advanced for the consideration of the convention. That a badge in the shape of a button be conceived so as not to offend the artistic eye of the farmer, and designed, and placed within reach of our purse. The meeting was greatly indebted to Mr. J. W. Robson, M.P.P., Benito, who with his well-known zeal addressed the association.

R. S. DUNDAS.

THE VIGOR OF ATWATER

That the Grain Growers' Association is a live body in the Atwater district was proved at the Second Annual Meeting, held on January 28. The interest of the farmer in the Association was evinced by the large attendance and the fact that nineteen members were added to the list, making a total of thirty-four members.

A feature of the evening was a stirring address by Mr. James Nixon, of Kinbrae. The following officers were elected: President, S. Mitchell; Vice-President, Wm. Murrill; Secretary-treasurer, W. L. Robert. An entertaining programme of songs and music followed, in which some very creditable local talent was displayed.

At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the ladies for providing refreshments; also to Mr. J. Nixon for his able speech.

WALTER L. ROBERT

Sec.-Treas. Atwater G.G.A.

BEAVERDALE PLANS FOR SUCCESS

A meeting of Beaverdale Grain Growers' Association was held in the schoolhouse on January 25. There was a good attendance. The president, Mr. Skea, being away from home, the vice-president, Mr. J. B. Swallow, presided. The members were kept pretty busy discussing the various questions submitted to them by the Central Association, so that the delegate to the convention, Mr. C. Dunning, would be in a position to know the wishes of his Association.

Consolidation of schools aroused considerable discussion and difference of opinion, but finally concluded it would work out alright where schools, or rather settlements, were fairly close together; but so far as this district and surrounding ones are concerned, they are too far apart to be practicable. Mr. C. Dunning proposed a resolution that this meeting heartily approve of the Provincial Government's action in the purchase and construction of trunk telephone lines and hopes that the Government will be in a position to take over all the telephone systems in the province. Resolution carried.

The members decided to meet again after the convention. A committee was appointed to carry out arrangements for a social entertainment in connection with the Beaverdale Association, to be held in the near future.

C. EVERETT, Secretary.

RUDDELL PROUD OF ITS BANQUET

The Ruddell Grain Growers' Association banquet, January 20, was an event of which the people of this vicinity feel proud. Mr. Davies, president of North Battleford association, congratulated Ruddell on the number present and the flourishing condition of the branch. He spoke at considerable length on the benefits of organization and said: "All other forces of business life are united; the manufacturers have their societies; they have members in the lobbies of parliament to carry out their legislation; bankers are amalgamated, the railways, etc., and the last in particular are paying 50 per cent. more wages today, owing to their workmen being in associations.

Who pays this advance? Not the directors, but the consumer. The largest consumer is the farmer, and he feels the brunt of things. Our Department of Agriculture also tells us how to improve our lands and destroy weeds, etc., and spends hundreds of dollars doing so, but does not tell us how best to market our grain. We need to know all we can about this. This is the work the Grain Growers' Association is doing." In conclusion, he congratulated Ruddell branch in having so many ladies present.

Address by Mr. Langley M.P.P.

Mr. Langley, M.P.P., then spoke for the local branch. He thought Ruddell branch was in a good way and was very healthy. He said there are no troubles today like there was in 1903 for the farming man could not sell his grain only to the elevators and was completely at their mercy. Often when taking in a good No. 2 wheat they would be informed that the elevator man was very sorry but all his No. 2 bins were full, and he had a little room left in his No. 3 bin, if that would do. This is what was going on when this association came into existence.

Speaking of his visit to Ottawa some time ago, when the Royal Grain Commission had been sitting for 10 months and was about to make some alterations in the Grain Act. They asked the association to send delegates down, while the legislature was sitting. Himself and Mr. Partridge were selected for the west. When they got there they notified the Minister of Agriculture that they had arrived and were given a date, and on presenting themselves in the committee room were astonished to find waiting for them representatives from the railways, banks, mills, grain exchange and other associations who were there looking after their own interests. The minister turned to the delegates of the association and told them that they represented the most important community there and then asked them to introduce the proceedings, which, after beholding such an array of learned talent, they hardly felt able to do. However, they did what they could and certain alterations were made. One very important thing being the alteration in the car distribution clause. This being the direct result of forming the farmers into an association.

Continuing, he said if we, as farmers, want our interest looked after, we shall always find it the best thing to choose our men from the same class as we belong, because he has found out himself that men who are dabbling in real estate or other mercantile business are only looking after their own interests. Where the farmer wanted to sell his grain he had to pay exorbitant freight rates. Mr. Langley further said, "Don't think, when we have settled the elevator question, that this is all. It will not be so. Look at the matter of implements. Out of our tariff we pay on implements \$30 in every \$100, and not only on imported goods, but local goods the same. Massey-Harris goods are dearer here than in England; and then again, after paying 30 per cent. on implements, it does not bring it anywhere near the cost of the machine." He made a strong plea for organization in concluding his remarks.

Mr. Boerma spoke for the Grain Growers' Grain Co., and reviewed its successes to the present time.

T. Murtage related the benefits and possibilities of having an official organ such as THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, and expressed the pleasure at the number of farmers being present.

The United States, he said, has built up their cities and large institutions by looking after their farmers. Canada, undoubtedly, has a better country than America and more resources to back her up. He could not see why men could not pay one dollar a year for a paper solely printed for the farmers, and one of the best papers printed today.

M. J. Sample then gave the toast to "The Ladies," and the proceedings were closed by singing "God Save the King," and "The Maple Leaf Forever."

There were about 100 at the banquet and a large crowd to hear the speeches.

The speeches were interspersed with a splendid musical program in which songs were rendered by Messrs. Boerma, O. Harper, F. Turner, Gilbert and E. Myhea.

G. McADAMS.

ANOTHER GAP FILLED UP

Several farmers of Turner, Sask., held a meeting January 22, and organized

a branch of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association. Nine members joined and all subscribed for THE GUIDE. R. A. Hall was elected president, Wm. Magoon, vice-president, and Jno. Holnay, secretary-treasurer. The farmers are anxious to join and get busy and by the outlook we will have forty or fifty members by spring. This is a good, live neighborhood and first class farming country, and the farmers are going to push this enterprise right along.

Here is wishing you all success.

JOHN HOLNAY, Sec. Treas.

ORGANIZE FOR DEFENCE

The annual meeting of the Spring Creek Sub-Division Grain Growers' Associations was held at the residence of O. P. Ketcheson, on Monday, December 20th, H. Martens in the chair.

Twelve new members were enrolled and reports received from eleven cars of grain shipped, the reports showing grading, price, weight and dockage to be satisfactory and prompt, with the exception of one car, where a short delay was reported. The election of officers resulted as follows:

Pres.—O. P. Ketcheson.

Vice-Pres.—W. C. Bruce.

Sec.-Treas.—J. E. Easton.

Directors.—H. Martens, J. F. Brooks, H. C. Manners, R. Hollingsworth, J. C. Garner and Mr. Yeoward.

Representatives to Central Assn.—O. P. Ketcheson, J. W. Easton, and W. C. Bruce.

J. W. Easton asked that for the benefit of the delegates the feeling of the meeting be taken on the question of Government ownership of terminal elevators and the establishing of a sample market.

A general discussion ensued, during which many points of interest were raised.

The question of Government control of interior elevators was then taken up.

Messrs. Manners, Bruce, Ketcheson, Hollingsworth, O. P. Ketcheson, Yeoward, West and others speaking on the question. No decision was reached, it being the feeling of the meeting that more information should be obtained before expressing a decided opinion.

J. W. Easton spoke at some length, calling attention to the serious aspect of pushing the Grain Growers' Association as a hope of defence and a means of advancement.

J. E. Easton, on moving a vote of thanks to the retiring president, called attention to the growth of the Spring Creek Sub-Association during Mr. Martens' term of office, and citing the increase in car shipments of grain as evidence of one of the objects accomplished. Much of the success of the association has been due to the untiring effort of the president.

ENDORSED GOVERNMENT ELEVATORS

The first annual meeting of the Itona-Hubbard Association was held on Thursday evening at the school house, Itona, when a goodly number of farmers turned out.

Matters of general interest were discussed, among them government ownership of elevators, the association endorsing same. I have distributed freely pamphlets, sent to me by Secretary Green, of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Moose Jaw, also copies of THE GUIDE.

Our next meeting takes place next month. In the meantime, I will try to obtain subscribers for THE GUIDE. I feel sure that anyone who reads it cannot fail to be interested.

Our society was organized last February and we now have fifteen members.

A. E. RAYNER,

Itona, Sask.

Sec.-Treas.

A LUSTY CHILD

On Monday, January 17, a meeting was called at Victoria Plains to form a local branch of the Grain Growers' Association, when twenty-nine members were enrolled. Officers as required by the constitution were elected.

A long discussion was held on questions to be discussed at the coming convention at Prince Albert and great interest was taken on the subject of government owned elevators and also the building of the Hudson Bay railroad; three delegates were elected to send to the convention. The officers are: President, Hugh Sutherland; vice-president, B. E. Graham; Thos. S. Stebbing, sec.-treas.

THOS. B. STEBBING, Sec.-Treas.