



MANITOBA SECTION

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

MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

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MR. AVISON REPORTS

Director Avison furnishes the following facts regarding a series of meetings he has just concluded.

Minotona:—The meeting was largely attended by a very enthusiastic lot of Grain Growers. The secretary, Mr. Marr by his enthusiasm contributed largely to the making of the meeting a splendid success. While here I had the pleasure of attending the annual entertainment given under the auspices of the Young Peoples' Local Improvement Society, under the able management of Mr. Nichol. The play put on was entitled "The Deacon" and the rendering so satisfactory that the whole audience were most enthusiastic in their expressions of commendation. The proceeds of the entertainment were given to the village band.

Benito:—Here we had a very successful meeting. A large contingent from Thunder Hill was with us and added very much to the interest of the meeting. The Grain Growers at this point are determined to provide for the storing of their grain before the harvesting of another crop and to this end have organized a Farmers' Elevator company; appointed a board of management; sold 150 shares of stock and advertised for tenders for the erection of an up-to-date elevator.

The statement made by the speaker that the Ogilvie Milling Co. were selling their flour on the Old Country market at a lower price per cwt. than they were in the home markets and that because of this the Hudson's Bay Company had found it advantageous to buy in the Old Country and freight it back to Canada to be re-tailed to their trade, was challenged by a farmer who was at the meeting. Apparently this farmer does not take sufficient trouble to keep himself posted, as the above statement verified by actual quotations of price for the same class and weight of flour both in the Old Country and Winnipeg have been made a great many times and have never been contradicted.

Pretty Valley:—A large and enthusiastic gathering of Grain Growers greeted me at this place. The fact that there was a serious car shortage at that time, which made it necessary for the farmers to build granaries in town in order that they might get their grain hauled out before the roads broke up and seed time came did not in any way deter the farmers from giving proper consideration to the other more important departments of their work, viz. the providing of proper market conditions and the development of such social surroundings as will make life on the farm more attractive and enjoyable.

Durban:—At this place public sentiment was running high with regard to the facilities provided for the shipping of grain and the strongest indignation was expressed against any interference with the car distribution clause in the Grain Act. Transportation facilities are bad at this point. The people are suffering very great hardships from not being able to realize on their grain. Accounts are not met; nor can they be until the where-withal is provided out of the proceeds of the sale of last year's crop, which crop (much of it at least), has not yet been marketed. At this meeting there was an expressed determination manifest that the work of the G.G.A. was their work, and that in the future it would receive their undivided support.

Bowman:—A successful meeting was held in this place. This branch has settled down to practical, permanent work. That they are helping themselves by purchasing co-operatively, is manifest by the

SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE

Hereafter all reports of local branches or other matter intended for publication in the Manitoba Section should be sent to R. C. Henders, Culross, Man. Don't send it to The Guide as Mr. Henders is conducting this work at home. All contributions to the Farmers' Fighting Fund should be sent direct to The Guide.

fact that they are running a co-operative store. A further evidence of their enterprise is seen in the fact that they have provided themselves with a commodious hall in which to hold their meetings. These steps are in the right direction. Many other associations would do well to profit by their example. One of the best means to control prices and reduce the cost of living to a proper basis is to put ourselves in such a position that we can look after our own interests.

Lidstone:—Our meeting here was quite successful. At this place special emphasis was placed on the work of the delegation of the central association then in Ottawa, showing the reasonableness of the farmers' position in the car distribution clause and also on the question of a sample market.

FARMERS' FIGHTING FUND

Subscriptions to the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association Endowment Fund are still reaching The Guide office slowly. The amount received to date totals \$380.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED

Amount previously acknowledged	\$361.50
Geo. F. Ebbert, Binscarth	1.00
Geo. Gimby, Cartwright	1.00
Lonsdale G.G.A.	10.00
Ivanhoe G.G.A.	6.50
Total	380.00

The Grain Growers are not opposed to a sample market when such conditions are provided as they are satisfied will result in the greatest good to all and they have clearly stated on more than one occasion that until the storage facilities are taken entirely out of the control of the parties who are handling the grain, a sample market cannot possibly be of advantage to the producers of grain. The members of this association are also helping themselves by buying co-operatively.

Roaring River:—The last of the series of meetings held at the above place, was possibly the largest and most enthusiastic of all. The building was taxed to its utmost capacity to provide the necessary accommodation. One thing which particularly impressed me in this meeting was the large number of young men who were present and seemed to be thoroughly interested in our work.

I wish to express my very high appreciation of the very kindly reception which I received at all of these meetings and I particularly wish to refer to the earnestness and enthusiasm Mr. McClary evinced and to say that I consider it had a great deal to do with making these meetings so successful.

EMPIRE BRANCH

An interesting meeting of the Empire branch was held on the 12th inst. The following resolutions were unanimously endorsed:

"That the annual membership fee be raised to \$2.00, said advance to take effect at once."

The above recommendation was given a very hearty response.

"Whereas, an amendment made in committee of the whole House to section No. 207 of the Canada Grain Act gives the proposed Board of Commissioners for Canada the power to destroy the effect of the car distribution clause in the following manner: Whenever after due examination the board considers it necessary and advisable in order to relieve the congestion and to facilitate the despatch of grain, and,

"Whereas, the transportation companies can create a congestion whenever and wherever they please and can thereby indirectly control the distribution of cars to any part they desire.

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of the Empire branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association, view with disapproval the proposed change as it can be used to destroy to a large extent the usefulness of that most important organ of the Grain Act, and

urge that the said clause be struck out of the said bill before it is finally passed."

ELM CREEK BRANCH

A meeting of the Elm Creek branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association was held in the Dacotah schoolhouse on February 22.

After the usual routine business was disposed of, Mr. T. Halford gave a full and interesting account of the Brandon convention, which was very enthusiastically received by the meeting, and for which he received a very cordial vote of thanks.

A strong resolution was passed endorsing the stand taken by the executive of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association regarding the car distribution clause of the Grain Act.

President Barager then gave an interesting talk on Direct Legislation. An interesting discussion followed after which the meeting by resolution heartily endorsed the same. An interesting conversation then took place on the matter of co-operative buying, after which committees were appointed to look into the matter of the purchasing of flour and feed and binder twine.

The following resolution was unanimously endorsed:

"Whereas, the purchase of American made machinery enriches our government treasury to the amount of the import duty, therefore, be it resolved, that we, as loyal Canadian citizens, favor the purchase of such machinery."

An interesting conversation took place on some matters that tend to the perfecting of our organization and among the points brought out was the following: "That monthly meetings held at stated times in the adjoining schoolhouse would tend to greatly increase the interest of the farmers in each school district in the work of the association."

H. GRAHAM, Sec'y

ST. LOUIS GUILBERT

A very successful meeting was held in the interests of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association at the above named place on March 27. President Henders gave an instructive address on "The Aims and Objects of the association," which was thoroughly enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience. A local branch was organized and forty-two members enrolled. The first Monday in each month is the date fixed for holding regular meetings. Between now and the first regular meeting the directors are making a thorough canvass for members and confidently expect to have an enrolment numbering 100 before seeding time. The Grain Growers' Guide will be a welcome weekly visitor in a large number of the homes of this community. St. Louis branch is fortunate in having secured a very enthusiastic set of officers and directors and no doubt a good work in the interests of a "square deal" will be carried on.

WM. MUSEER, President.
T. FAVEL, Secretary.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATORS COMING

A. B. Wier, director, and W. F. Stewart, commercial manager of the flour mills of the Scottish Co-operative Societies, left Great Britain on Saturday, April 6, for a tour in Canada and the United States. They will reach Winnipeg about the middle of this month.

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