

OUR GREAT GIFT TO THE EMPIRE

At last the first great shipment of Patriotic Acre flour is on its way, and by the time these words are read by our members, it will have aroused the enthusiasm of thousands of fellow Canadians in the course of its long journey eastwards. Of all the striking things that Canada has done since the outbreak of the great war with the Central Powers of Europe, there has been none, I venture to say, more striking than this, and none that will bring more honor to Canada and the West, or that will do more to increase and strengthen the ties that bind Britons together—East to West, and West to East—and our members in the future may remember with pride that this magnificent gift emanated from and bore the name of the association to which we all belong.

What does this great shipment represent? In the first place, patriotism. It was this quality of patriotism which first led T. M. Morgan, a former director of our association, to conceive the idea which eventually took shape as the S.G.M.A.P.A. Fund. Not only did Mr. Morgan show his patriotism by proposing the adoption of his idea and supporting it with his personal contribution, but he has since made the greater sacrifice of offering his services, and his life if need be, for his country, by joining His Majesty's forces. It was patriotism which led an army of canvassers in all parts of the province to give up time and leisure which many of them could ill spare in order to push this scheme along. It was patriotism which led so large a number of our members, and others who were not members, to attach their signatures to forms obligating themselves to make some contribution, whether large or small, to the Fund.

But it was more than Patriotism; it was a keen sense of duty; it was sympathy with suffering humanity; it was Brotherhood—a recognition of the fact that, after all, each man is in reality his brother's keeper; and it was Co-operation; each man contributing his mite to help to make up the enormous gift now on its way eastward. Thus we see that this gift is, in its essence, a complete exemplification and vindication of the principles for which our association stands, and for which, year in, year out, we are striving. It teaches us this great lesson—that it is not for the sake of the dollars and cents we are striving, but for the uplifting of humanity thru mutual service.

Forty Carloads in Shipment

There have been so many details of this scheme published in this page from time to time that it is unnecessary to go into it here at length. Naturally, however, our members will like to have the latest figures as to the amount of contributions, and these particulars I will give as fully as possible. The total promises are equivalent to 6,479 acres, it being a difficult matter to fix upon the exact number owing to so many promises being for broken amounts. Of this number about 4,200 have been redeemed, leaving the proceeds of approximately 2,500 acres still to come in. The total amount of grain contributed to date is 85,000 bushels, while the cash contributions amount to \$29,000.00.

The wheat contributed was, of course, of various grades, and it was, therefore, necessary that it should be sold and the proceeds turned into No. 1 Northern wheat, in order that the flour should be of one uniform grade. A sufficient quantity was therefore disposed of to enable us to purchase 80,000 bushels of wheat of the desired grade, and from this wheat there was manufactured 3,200,000 lbs. of the best flour obtainable. This huge shipment left Moose Jaw on Wednesday, the 9th inst., on its way to the Motherland.

It was decided that the shipment should be made in one trainload, instructions to that effect being given to the millers, the Robin Hood Mills Co., Ltd., Moose Jaw, Sask. An order was placed with the Remis Bros. Bag Co., Winnipeg, for 40,000 special bags, each to contain 80 lbs. of flour, and inscribed with the words, "Saskatchewan flour, milled from No. 1 Northern wheat, grown and donated to the Empire by the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Regina, Sask., Canada." They can bear an impression of the emblem

Saskatchewan

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association by J. B. Musselman, Secretary, Regina, Sask., to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

of the Association. The flour is loaded in 40 cars, each car containing 40 tons, making a total shipment of 3,200,000 lbs., or 1,600 tons of flour. Each of the forty cars is decorated with banners on both sides, which, as in the case of the sacks, also bear the emblem of the association, and the inscription, "This trainload of flour is a gift to the Empire by the Grain Growers of Saskatchewan."

On arrival at Montreal the flour will be shipped across the Atlantic free of charge to the fund, an undertaking to that effect having been given by Sir Geo. Foster, the minister of trade and commerce of the Dominion. An effort is being made to arrange for a public presentation of the flour to a representative of the government at Ottawa, preferably the Governor-General, the at the time of writing nothing definite in this respect has been settled.

The train was accompanied east by J. A. Maharg and J. B. Musselman, president and central secretary, respectively, of the association, who will hand over the necessary documents to whatever representative of the government may be appointed to receive them, thus consummating one of the greatest vol-

untary gifts to the Empire that Canada has ever made, and one which, I venture to say, will do much to strengthen the ties which already exist between Canada and the Motherland.

THE ELEVATOR ANNEXES

A wise man said, "There is nothing new under the sun," but every year shows some new adaptation of the old. Last season, with its marvellous growth and tremendous yields, producing transportation and storage difficulties, also



Forty cars of flour, the proceeds of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Patriotic Fund, leaving Moose Jaw for the Old Land. There are 1,600 tons in the shipment.

produced a new adaptation of the old, the elevator "annex." What a wonderful creation it was and is! A flat warehouse in disguise. When one recalls the spasms and contortions of a few years ago when a few farmers dared to build a flat warehouse to ship their own grain, the temerity (gall) of the line elevators in following suit is, to say the least, startling. Some of the farmers around Nings, Manitoba, have a lively remembrance of their struggle with the elevator interests for recognition, but farmers have short memories and this season was so exceptional, and the grain interests recognizing the great necessity and being magnanimously generous(?) built annexes to relieve the situation, not for themselves, but to benefit the farmer. It was a sight to make the gods weep. The elevators, the old time elevators, spending time and money not for themselves but for the farmer and his family, who, otherwise, would have suffered.

Souvenir Booklet and Pictures

The association has undertaken the publication of a souvenir booklet, a copy of which will be forwarded to every contributor and to every elevator company, milling company, railway company and others who have co-operated with us in the undertaking. Already there is considerable demand arising for copies of this booklet for distribution. This booklet will contain a record of the contributions. It will show the enormous yield, running as high as fifty and more bushels per acre which were obtained by some of the contributors from the acre, the proceeds of which were promised to this fund, and it will contain a number of illuminating cuts dealing with the production, milling, transportation and presentation of the gift. Furthermore, we are having prepared a thousand feet of moving picture films which we think should hold very great value for Saskatchewan as well as for Canada at large. This film is intended to show true life on the broad prairies of Saskatchewan: Such scenes as the breaking of the sod, various tillage operations, cleaning and picking of the wheat for seed, seeding and harvesting operations, threshing operations true to the prairie, as well as the marketing of the wheat in open boxes from a threshing machine to our typical western elevators. There will be a scene of the dumping of the wheat at the elevator which is peculiar to the American West. We purpose showing in greatly magnified form the finest of our wheat as well as an analysis of the wheat kernel layer by layer, illustrating just how the very best flour is produced, the various stages of milling operations, the loading of the grain into cars, our own train load of

Time they certainly spent to work out the scheme; but money, those annexes were built with money taken directly from the farmers. Just as soon as one of these buildings was ready for storage, there being no competition from co-operative elevators or any where else, one cent per bushel was paid less than market price to cover cost of this annex, built specially by the elevators for the farmers. Moreover, in the long delayed transport service of the C.N.R. there is now movement, and the grain in these annexes is being moved before anything else on the grounds, since it is spoiling. Affidavits to that effect having been taken, cars are forthcoming. The sheds were not made weatherproof, they never were intended to be, only sufficiently so to give a minimum of spoiled grain and a maximum of transportation.

What of the farmers who borrowed money to build weatherproof granaries? They have been and are paying their

nine per cent. at the banks, they are paying their ten per cent. on overdue notes to their implement dealers, they are facing the probability of having to build another set of granaries for this year's crop, and what can they do about it? It is all within the law. It might be worth while to follow some of the grain from these places and see how much goes for treatment. In the meantime the patriotic progressive farmer waiting to ship his grain will have time to peruse the latest production bulletins.

M. P. FLOYD.

Marshall, Sask.

GREAT ORGANIZATION WORK

Central Secretary:—This is to report that we are having great success in our work of organization. At the close of a big railroad meeting held tonight, under the management of the Clayton Grain Growers, 30 new members were enrolled, which brings the total for this branch up to 44 paid-up members.

This is a very satisfactory view of the fact that the Clayton Local was only formed two weeks ago. It is also encouraging to note that this branch is not overlooking its share of the expense of organization, and all the other work in connection with our great movement.

A picnic has been arranged for Thursday, Aug. 3, the primary purpose of which is to get a little money in the local treasury. The holding of picnics by the different locals has proved a popular and fruitful method of raising money. On July 19 the Corlander local held a huge picnic, over 700 people were in attendance and one thousand dollars was taken in. The Diebolt Grain Growers' held their fifth annual picnic on July 14. Their gross receipts for the day were between four and five hundred dollars, and the event was celebrated by over 500 grain growers, their wives and families. The other locals who have held picnics are Waldville, Roche Plain, Cannock and Amelia, each clearing over \$100.00.

Two weeks more will practically complete the whole program of organization. By August 1 this part of the province lying south from the Frenchman River and east for 20 miles will be one vast organized unit, stretching for over 100 miles long by from 30 to 50 miles wide. This has virtually all been accomplished in two months. I venture to affirm that this is getting results. I very much doubt if the like has ever been done before in any country—certainly not in the West. We are not boasting about our work, for manifestly it is only a great need that could make such results possible—The need of a railroad. We simply have to have a railroad in this south country to live!

Central Secretary:—This is to report another successful railroad meeting in the Yellowstone District. Our previous record held by Karluck, where 50 members joined at the first meeting, was broken tonight, when 60 enrolled in what in future will be known as the "Yellowstone Local." Yellowstone's other unique claim to distinction is in getting thru all their business at their first meeting. They have already mapped out their boundaries, taking in three townships, one, two and three, in range 25 west of the 3rd meridian. At all this territory is well settled we may look forward to a very large and thriving branch of the Grain Growers' Association in the Yellowstone district. The officers chosen to direct the business of this Local impressed the writer as men of uncommon ability, who will do things—big things—and get results. The following were elected: President, Wm. Spicer; vice-pres., I. H. Butler; secretary-treasurer, E. D. McConally; directors, F. Garris, J. Berenjak, T. Adlerson, F. Tyminsky, R. Raeburn, R. H. Boggs, C. Mason, A. Mikkelson, Jas. McWilliams, A. E. Holstine, R. Mason, S. Moore, E. Conn, I. Stanley, H. Badger.

This branch also appointed their special director, J. H. Butler being elected to fill this important office. Mr. Butler has had a great deal of railroad experience. He has worked for years at construction on both sides of the international line. He will prove a valuable addition to the board.

GEO. SPENCE,
Official Organizer.

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