

Saskatchewan Grain Growers

Summer Meetings Over

H. McKINNEY, superintendent of organization, has returned from attending a two weeks' series of Chautauqua meetings in the southwest part of the province. A Grain Growers' meeting was held in the Chautauqua tent at the close of the lecture delivered by Mr. H. W. Wood, president of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, at the following places: Alaskan, Cabri, Bull Lake, East End, Vanguard, La Fleche, Moosebank and Briercrest. These meetings were generally well attended and will have very good results. The farmers were glad to have the opportunity of hearing this splendid lecture by Mr. Wood, who is recognized as the head of the organized farmers' movement of Western Canada. The subject of Mr. Wood's lecture was "Democratic Organization," and he urged the importance of organization which will promote democracy and develop those institutions and conditions of civilization which will further the welfare of the people. A full report of Mr. Wood's splendid lecture will be furnished to all who will ask for a copy. It should be read by every member of the association and by all the farmers of the province.

In the meeting which followed, Mr. McKinney presented the program of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, and made a strong appeal for increased membership. Other speakers also discussed different phases of the association's activities.

Maharg at Cabri

At Cabri, President J. A. Maharg made an address at the Chautauqua meeting, in which he outlined the public questions of the day and dealt with the problems which confront the farmers. He urged the very great importance of securing every possible member into the Grain Growers' Association.

Johnson at Briercrest

R. M. Johnson, member of the executive, attended the Chautauqua meeting at Briercrest on August 15, and addressed the Grain Growers' meeting following Mr. Wood's lecture. Mr. Johnson dealt with the policies of the association and discussed the plans which the executive have put in operation for increasing the efficiency of the organization and enlarging the scope of its activities. He emphasized the necessity for the fullest co-operation in all branches of the work and the spirit of loyalty on the part of the members. There are important problems to be solved which are a challenge to us, and we must develop all our strength if we expect to solve these problems successfully.

The summer meetings on the whole have been very successful this year and much good has been done. However, it is hoped that another year plans may be worked out which will result in a much larger number of our members having the opportunity of hearing the leaders in our movement and of discussing together the important questions which confront us. In a democratic organization such as ours there is the greatest need for frequent discussions which will bring about unity of plans and policies, and enable all of our members to have the fullest opportunity for bringing their views before the whole body in order that the program be objective of the association may be enriched by the best contribution which each one is able to make. It has been recommended that a series of three or four day rallies, similar to that which was held at Carlyle Lake, shall be arranged for next year. The people who attended the Carlyle Lake rally this year were all unanimous in wishing it to be made an annual affair. It has also been recommended that a similar rally should be arranged for Lumsden Beach, Crystal Beach, and possibly at Watrous and one or two other places in the province. Suggestions along this line will have the consideration of the organization department before arrangements are made for summer meetings next year. As soon as harvest and

Conducted Officially for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association by the Secretary

J. B. Musselman, Regina, Sask.

threshing are over the district conventions will begin and arrangements are already under way and plans are being made to make these fall conventions this year the best which have yet been held. It is hoped that these conventions may be thoroughly advertised so that they may be the largest possible attendance of the members in each district. It is also hoped that these conventions will have a very large influence in increasing the membership, as well as dealing with the important questions which are before the farmers for solution.

There never was a time when the association stood higher in public esteem and when there was more reason for our members taking themselves seriously and recognizing the importance of the influence which they are able to exert when they stand unitedly and work together for definite objects. "Organization, Education and Cooperation" will not only bring the farmers into their own, but will enable the farmers to make their proper contribution to the civilization of the world in these critical times, when the forces of democracy are engaged in this great struggle to make civilization safe for humanity.

Why Prices Increase

Why have the prices of boots and shoes doubled in the past few years?

If we ask this question of the average man he will doubt say it is due to the war. Well! the war has been responsible for much, and maybe it has had quite an appreciable effect on shoes. But the war ought not to bear more than its just share of the blame. If the Cleveland Citizen is to be believed the war is not the chief culprit in this case.

In the period 1911-1913, we are told, the Central Leather Company, a branch of the leather combine, took profits from the public amounting to \$2,100,000. This appears pretty reasonable for a big company in comparison with what follows. Last year's transactions, however, show a profit of nearly \$16,000,000, and we are told that this year's profits will be greater still. As the Cleveland Citizen points out, there is nothing very mysterious about prices when these facts are borne in mind. It is evident that the Central Leather Company has a somewhat capacious pocket, and that is where the money is going. Somebody has always got to pay the profits of the profiteer, and in this case, as in other similar ones, it is the poor consumer. But this is not the only case of profiteering by many, as we know to our sorrow, and one is inclined to wonder how long the public will stand it without spending too loudly. New Brunswick has taken the step of demanding restitution from some of its political grafters, and the long-suffering public might very well follow the example of New Brunswick in making the Central Leather Company and similar concerns disgorge. May the time come soon!

A Woman Administrator

Women in these days is surely coming into her own. We have seen many

new developments in the direction of women's labor. We have also seen women taking a part in war work at the front, which would have been deemed impossible only a few short years ago, and now comes the announcement that the first appointment of a trade union woman to an administrative office in a national executive department has just been made. The woman in question is Miss Mary Anderson, a member of the executive board of the International Boot and Shoe Workers Union, and she has been appointed assistant chief of the new Women's Bureau in the United States Department of Labor. Miss Anderson has risen to this position from that of a stitchee in a Chicago shoe factory.

With the coming of woman into public affairs the woman's view of things is sure to find expression, and Miss Anderson recognizes that the greatest problem she will have to face will be the obtaining of an equal standard for both men and women. Equal pay for equal work must have recognition in the near future. Women have been so willing to accept positions in the past at lower wages than men simply because they were women, that it has become a kind of tradition, and it is an exceedingly difficult thing to persuade many men that the position is a wrong one.

"The need for a woman's bureau, and our great hopes as to what it will do," says Miss Anderson, "grows out of the fact that the peculiar problems surrounding woman in industry have never received enough attention. The reason they have not received enough attention is, I think, that the woman's point of view has never been represented in the policy making boards. Until the traditions are broken and men acquire the habit of putting women in administrative and consultative positions as readily and as frequently as they put men in those places, the Women's Bureau has a big work cut out for it."

What it Costs Canada to be Sick

According to information sent out by the Commission of Conservation of the Dominion Government, the annual monetary loss to Canada through sickness that might be avoided by an intelligent socializing of the results of science and experience is somewhere near \$200,000,000, or about the same as the war is costing us. If avoided, the annual saving would be sufficient to liquidate our appalling national debt in five years. This way lies true national economy.

But the monetary loss is the least. The vital loss is more serious. At a time when Canada's greatest need is increased man power, not only for the period of the war, but for carrying after the war burdens, thousands of lives of young and old are being snuffed out by diseases that are amenable to medical treatment and race hygiene. It is surely a more patriotic policy, as well as better business for the government, to take steps to conserve and develop the native life of Canada than to seek immigration from abroad. The loss of national spirit is the

most serious of all. For a nation is not made great by its material wealth or the number of its citizens, but by the spirit of the people, and a nation that allows its citizens, and especially its children, to die through national indifference, apathy, and neglect, can not long maintain a soul that will save it. To lose its community soul would be the greatest loss to Canada, for it would be the loss of Canada itself.

Women's Co-operative Guild

The members of our Women's Section will be interested in the following tribute to the good work accomplished by the Women's Co-operative Guild of Great Britain, many of the activities of which are very similar to those of the W.G.A. Mr. Maxwell, the writer, speaks with authority, he being a veteran in the Scottish co-operative movement, and president of the International Co-operative Alliance, which seeks to weld together the whole movement in whatever part of the world it exists. The Women's Co-operative Guild has a membership of considerably over 30,000 co-operative women in England alone, and is certainly the most influential body of women in the kingdom. The message in question is as follows:—

"As an old co-operator who was at the inception of the Women's Guild in 1883, I cannot help expressing my great pleasure in seeing the wonderful advance women of our movement have made during these 35 years. The Congress at Bradford was to me a revelation. The tact and firmness with which the congress was guided by the president (Mrs. Booth), the pointed and logical addresses of the various speakers on subjects that formerly were generally thought to be the property of men only, and the earnest and enthusiastic attitude of all the delegates in matters concerning the prosperity of co-operation in every country of the world left me pleasantly bewildered at the tremendous progress our women have made as a faithful auxiliary of our cause. I felt that this great and intelligent power for propaganda was not utilized as it might be. One felt, if he was not in perfect agreement with everything said, that he could at least greatly admire the earnest effort and the splendid enthusiasm of every speaker. Complex subjects, such as the 'War and How It Should be Ended,' and 'The Necessity for a League of Nations That Would Prevent War in Future,' were discussed with a familiarity as to detail, that showed close study and clear thinking. Let us recognize, in every society, the immense power for good that has developed in the Women's Guild, and give them every encouragement to still further carry on their great and good work."

—Wm. Maxwell.

Locals Want Prices Fixed

We are in receipt of the following resolution from the Maple Creek local. While publishing same, however, it must be distinctly understood that the Central Association does not necessarily endorse every statement made therein. The resolution reads as follows:—

"Resolved, that it is imperative to induce the grain growers of Saskatchewan to give their best effort in production of wheat in the year 1919 in the large quantities demanded to sustain Canada and the Allies in the great war. That the price be fixed at an early date, also that the price of all goods entering into the production of the said cereal be put on the same basis at the same time, so that the burden of the war shall be equally borne by all the people instead of a part thereof. This local is of the opinion that the large acreage required will not be put in if the above is not done."

"That copies of this shall be printed and sent to the various Grain Growers' locals for them to take such into consideration with the hope that some combined effort may be made as may be deemed fit. (Signed) Charles Briggs, President; E. H. Abbott, secretary."



The above basket was designed and worked by Mrs. McDonald, a member of the Maple Creek local, and won the first prize at a Basket Social held by the local a short time ago. Note the ladder leading up to the emblem of the association, typical of progress in the association's principles.