

Manitoba

Association by R. C. Henders, President, Cuiross, Man., to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

FREE WHEAT

Notwithstanding the representations made by the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association to the Dominion government and pressure brought to bear upon them from other sources, the indications are that the government is going to refuse the request of the Grain Growers to place wheat on the free list. The pressure being brought to bear on them by "big interests," especially the big milling firms and the transportation companies. is more effective than the representation of the Grain Growers. Forty per cent. of the shipments of wheat are inspected "tough." The spread between "straight grade" and "tough" last week was 8 cents. The United States millers are buying this tough wheat in very large quantities east of the lakes, paying duty and also straight grade price—that is to say, the United States millers are paying 18 cents per bushel more for tough wheat than the Canadian millers. The United States millers compete in the European markets with the Canadian millers in the sale of flour. No wonder the Ganadian millers are opposed to free wheat and can show the government convincing reasons why the duty should not be removed.

A BUSY WEEK FOR GRAIN GROWERS

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The Grain Growers are going to have a busy week in the city commencing on Monday, November 8. On that evening the directors of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association will have a meeting to arrange a program for the work of the Association for the coming winter; fix the date of the annual convention and make tentative arrangements for the same. At this meeting the committee of women that was appointed at the last annual convention will meet the directors in conference to devise the best means of encouraging the farmers' wives and daughters to identify themselves with the Grain Growers' movement. The members of the committee are: Mrs. Bennett, of Pine Creek Station; Mrs. Henders, of Culross; Mrs. J. O. Smith, of Eli; Mrs. Scharff, of Dauphin; Mrs. Davidson, of Newdale; Mrs. Barret, of Bagot; Mrs. Gee, of Virden; Mrs. Me-Lead, of Goodlands; Mrs. Scharff, of Hartney, and Mrs. Wood, of Oakville. On Tuesday evening the Canadian Council of Agriculture will meet in the offices of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. Many important questions will come before this meeting of grain, farm credits, improved methods of handling livestock, inspection of grain, and an interchange of speakers in a general propaganda work. It is expected that two representatives of the United Farmers of Ontario will attend this meeting. On Wednesday there will be a conference between the representative of and Credit Men's Association, to discuss the advisability of appointing some form of organization representative of farmers and business men to promote reforms that would be in the interest of Western Canada in the matter of marketing and. transporting the products of the Prairie Provinces and promote educational, social and economic conditions surrounding rural life.

On Thursday and Friday the annual meeting of the shareholders of The Grain Growers' Grain Company will be held in the Industrial Bureau.

A GOOD EXAMPLE

The most up-to-date branch of the Grain Growers' Association that we have in Manitoba is at Oakville. Nearly all the farmers in the immediate neighborhood are members of the Association there. They devote a good deal of attention to co-operative buying and co-operative marketing, and were the first society in Manitoba to start a cooperative store. They are making a success of the business. Not only have they nearly all the men in the district, but they have also nearly all the women. Thirty-two ladies are now members of their Association. In connection with their store building they have provided a hall in which all their co-operative meetings are held. The lady members in addition to attending the regular meetings of the branch hold a women's meeting once a month and recently have been meeting every two weeks to provide clothing, etc., for the Red Cross Society. One of the good features of the work of the Oakville Association is the attention they pay to meetings, which are always made attractive and useful.

This Association is fulfilling the function that the Grain Growers' movement ought to discharge in every community. The community spirit manifested in the district bears testimony to the value of a properly organized Grain Growers' Association.

A PROGRESSIVE DISTRICT SECRETARY

William Allison, secretary of the Souris District Association, has sent the following circular to each of the branches in his district. Mr. Allison's example should be followed by other district secretaries. There is nothing that will elicit the co-operation and confidence of others as much as placing some responsibility upon them and taking them into our confidence.

To the Sec. Local Branch M.G.G.A. Dear Sir:—The executive of the Central Association has decided to carry out a vigorous educational campaign during the fall and winter months, covering the province as fully as possible. They look to the district Association officers to carry out the arrangements for meetings, etc. The Souris District Association, on

account of only coming into existence at the beginning of the farmers' busy season, has had little opportunity of carrying on the work set out for it so far. But the officers realize the great importance of adding to our members, thereby wielding a still greater influence on the public life and its business than they have yet been able to accomplish, and are prepared to sacrifice both time and money in co-operation with you to make your branch of the Association the strongest it has yet been; the social centre of community life; the training ground for young men in the art of public affairs; a means to create a larger and fuller knowledge of economic conditions that with a view to better administration in the future; to allay suspicion and jealousy (the bugbear of rural life) and altogether to press for conditions that will mean less drudgery and slavery. to occupation; to strive for more freedom and time to think and plan their work; more freedom to mingle with their fellow workers amidst pleasanter surroundings, making rural life more attractive and elevating.

With a view to taking full advantage of the unrest created in the minds of the citizens of this great West, thru war and economic conditions, the executive seek your advice and assistance in laying the plans for this — our fall and winter work, and will be pleased to receive any suggestions as to the best methods of procedure.

Awaiting an early reply, I remain,

Yours truly, WM. ALLISON, Sec. Souris Dist. Ass'n Deloraine, Oct. 15, 1915.

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Thos. Paterson . . Springfield 30.00 The officers of our branches should, as soon as possible after the first rush of threshing is over, exercise all diligence in completing the canvass for the Patriotic Acre and get the contributions that have already been made collected.

Providence has been kind to the prairie farmers this year and it is only fitting that they should express their gratitude by helping those who are suffering in fighting for the cause of freedom and liberty on our behalf.