

## OFFICERS:

Honorary President: J. W. Scallion  
President: R. C. Henders  
Vice-President: J. S. Wood  
Secretary-Treasurer: R. McKenzie  
Virden  
Culross  
Oakville  
Winnipeg

## STRATHCLAIR'S ENCOURAGING REPORT

Enclosed please find order for \$4.50, being balance on hand for this year. This brings our membership up to 67 for this year, and, besides, we have 49 paid-up members to begin the new year with.

F. WILLIAMSON,  
Secretary Strathclair Branch.

## A COMMUNITY CLUB

The following is not exactly a report from the Springhill G.G.A., but from a committee meeting in which the Grain Growers are very much interested. We are trying to work a scheme whereby we may all co-operate thru the church in our district, making it the centre of activities for the benefit of all. Following is the report:—

The Grain Growers have received from the Central Office a program of subjects on "Rural Citizenship," and purpose holding weekly meetings to study the different subjects of the program. Those interested in the church and the religious welfare of the community were desirous of starting some kind of weekly meeting in the church. A few of the active members in the church and the G.G.A. discussed the possibility of having the different organizations co-operate and centralize their efforts thru the church and make the church the social centre of the community. The result was that a committee appointed by the G.G.A. and one appointed by the church met on Monday evening Nov. 23, to discuss the matter and if possible decide on some course to pursue. After an interesting discussion, which brought out a variety of thoughts and ideas, it was decided to organize under the name, "Springhill Community Club" with an executive of two representatives from each of the following organizations in the community: The church, the Sunday school, the Women's Missionary Society, the Orangemen and the Grain Growers' Association. This executive is to appoint a president and secretary from among its own number. A program was arranged for the first two meetings, and the subject for the first meeting, Thursday, Nov. 26, is, "What Some Other Communities Have Done," taken by the Pastor, Mr. Kenner. The program for the following Thursday, Dec. 3, is divided in three parts, each speaker having ten minutes; first, "What Has This Community Done?" by Geo. A. Baker; second, "What Can This Community Do?" by W. A. A. Rowe; third, "What Will This Community Do?" by A. J. M. Poole.

The subjects for study and the nature of the meetings will be arranged by the executive from time to time so as to suit all concerned, and all meetings will be open for discussion. The object in starting this organization is to provide a way in which the community may help itself to develop socially, intellectually and religiously and bring about a better rural citizenship.

A. J. M. POOLE,  
Secretary of Committee Meeting.

## A SECRETARY'S LETTER

One of our secretaries writes:—  
"Some secretaries are a little bashful in asking for the \$1 for membership fee and evidently a great many need to be asked. I don't know why, seeing that each one saves a great many dollars on every car of stuff that we get in. When a car of apples or flour reaches here one would imagine that our Association must be very strong, when in fact, we are only thirty-two paid-up. Sometimes we are glad to get anyone's order, in order to fill the car, but the time is not far distant when this style of doing things will be done away with, then everyone will have to join to reap the benefit. Take our last car of flour, we got Royal Household at \$2.55, the same day I saw one farmer with a few sacks the same grade at \$3.25. I was glad I saw him

## Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. C. Henders, President, Culross, Man., to whom all communications for this page should be sent

as I had been anxious to have him join our Association. When I pointed out the difference, all he had to say was, 'For all he needed, it was not worth while joining our Association.' Then you will find some, rather than pay the dollar, they will get their neighbor to get them what they need. It's rather a mean way of doing, and a poor way to help the Association along. If those few who resort to such methods would only think twice over this they would see that they are reaping a benefit at other people's expense. I don't know whether a good or a bad secretary-treasurer is best. I know that the more satisfactory a secretary-treasurer the harder it is for him to secure meetings. At our last meeting to decide on a carload of flour and feed there was only three members, including the writer and one merchant, the merchant was there to try and secure the order and got it. Then some members are in the habit of paying membership fees in the fall, so I am expecting quite a few to join yet.

"I believe a good crop or two will see the farmers working more together than ever, that is, if the mortgage companies ever let the farmer get his head above water. It's a life and death struggle with a great many farmers this year to hold what they have, and unless cheap money shows up soon quite a number will go to the wall."

## A GREAT STIMULUS

Enclosed please find express order for \$10, being membership fees for 1914. During the last week we have bought, thru the Grain Growers' Grain Company, two cars of coal which has been a great stimulus as regards enrolling members, as they are all highly pleased both with price and quality of same. Your truly,

H. J. ELLIS,  
Secretary, Homefield G.G.A.

## ORGANIZER McCUISH REPORTS

The following is a report from Mr. McCuish for two weeks ending Nov. 28:—

Leaving Winnipeg Nov. 10, my first stop was at Plum Coulee, here I got in touch with a number of farmers, but did not get encouragement enough to call a meeting with hopes of organizing. A number of Plum Coulee district belong to Winkler branch, where they get the benefit of co-operative buying. The educational and social feature of our work does not appeal to them. From Plum Coulee I went to Winkler and there I met Mr. Dyke, the secretary of Winkler branch, who was busy distributing two carloads of apples to the members. After a conference with him, I went to the village of Rinefelt, but was unable to organize. Returning to Winkler, Mr. Dyke gave me a letter of introduction to some farmers in Rhineland village. Next morning the Winkler livery man drove me out to the village, which is 14 miles south. Here I met a number who were deeply interested in our Association from a co-operative point of view. The following night, Friday, the 13th, we held a meeting in Froese's blacksmith shop. There were eighteen present, and seventeen joined the Association. Rhineland village is the oldest village in the Mennonite Reserve, being founded in 1875. Our Grain Growers' meeting was the first public meeting ever held there. After the election of officers, the Secretary, A. D. Hiebert, paid over to me \$7, being fifty cents for each member paying his dues, also two dollars for my livery hire. Returning to Winkler, Saturday morning, I drove out to Kronsart for a meeting I had arranged for for that night. On account of it being stormy and dark, many of the farmers who had declared their intention of attending, did not get out to the meeting. However, as is often the case where farmers are in earnest, there was no lack of interest.

We succeeded in organizing with Mr.

Wiebe as secretary, and A. Toews as president. There were eight present, six paid their dues and two dollars for my livery hire, returning to Winkler for Sunday. On Monday afternoon I went to Morden, where I met a number of members from the different branches in that district and made arrangements for a grand Grain Growers' rally to be held in Morden on Friday, Nov. 27. From Morden I went south 12 miles to North Star, where I had a meeting arranged for Wednesday night, the 18th, but the weather was against us, and as there is no shed for accommodation for horses at North Star school, only four farmers who were within walking distance were present. However, we had a round-table conference and finally decided to postpone further action till near spring.

Returning to Morden on Thursday, I went west to Whitewater, and assisted the farmers of that district to organize four miles south of Whitewater. The little country school house was well filled with farmers of the district. Thirty-two of those present joined the association and paid their dues. Returning to Morden on Saturday, I went on Monday in company with Robert Longhurst to Mountain City—Mountain City, by the way, was a place of some prominence before the C. P. R. built their Southern Manitoba line. Since then it has not had a place on the map till the farmers got together and organized a branch of the Manitoba Association on Nov. 24.

## CHEAP CORDWOOD

Some time ago I received a letter from you asking me to quote you prices on cordwood. I quoted you poplar at \$2.50, and tamarac at \$4.50, f.o.b., Arborg, but I have not received an answer yet. Some members have shipped cordwood both to Winnipeg and to the small towns south and west of Winnipeg and find the dealings with the farmers far more satisfactory than with the wood dealers in the city.

It occurred to me that you are in a position to get in touch with a lot of the Western farmers that have to buy fuel. If you could handle wood at the above mentioned prices please write to me, as farmers here have a lot of wood for sale.

W. SIGVALDSON,  
Secretary, Geysir Branch.  
Geysir P.O., Man.

## BRANCH ANNUAL MEETINGS

This is the time that all our branches should hold their annual meetings to receive reports of the officers for the last year, elect officers and make arrangements for carrying on the work for the coming year. The usefulness of the movement to every community, largely depends on electing officers who believe in the Grain Growers' movement and who have a conviction that many of the grievances and difficulties under which farming is conducted in this province can be removed by the farmers getting closer together and supporting the organized effort that is being made for improving rural conditions. We need men who have faith in themselves and in their fellow farmers, unselfish men who think it a privilege to help others and do good in their community.

## BRANDON CONVENTION

Do not forget the Brandon convention. That is where the policies of the organization are decided on. Let every branch have their delegates there and have their say in what we ought to do in the future. Bring your wives to the convention. There is a place in every phase of the Grain Growers' movement for the farmers' wives and the farmer's family. Special efforts are being made to make this convention attractive for the women from the farm. A program is being arranged and one evening of the week is going to be devoted exclusively to the social side.

## Directors:

Peter Wright, Myrtle; R. M. Wilson, Marringhurst; P. D. McArthur, Longburn; Frank Simpson, Shoal Lake; W. H. English, Harding; R. J. Avison, Gilbert Plains.

## WAR RELIEF FUNDS

## Bernie Heard From

I am sending you \$130, being the proceeds of our Patriotic Concert held here. This we want to go to the relief of the Belgians. Be sure this money goes to this cause.

WM. DENOON,  
Sec.-Treas., Bernie, G.G.A.

## Angusville's Contribution

Please find enclosed money order for \$79.50. Please apply \$75.00 of this to the Belgian Relief Fund from our branch; the balance of \$4.50 being dues to the Central Association.

Angusville Branch Man. G.G.,  
per J. W. BELL, Secretary.

## From Valley River

Enclosed please find money order for \$80 to be applied to the Belgian Relief Fund. Some of our members have not yet paid in; this will follow shortly. Most of the subscribers favor the money being sent to the relief of the Belgian sufferers.

BEN. F. BOUGHEN,  
Secretary, Valley River G.G.A.

## Beaver's Gift

Enclosed please find \$76.25 from the Grain Growers of Beaver to be applied to the Belgian Relief Fund.

BEN. RICHARDSON,  
Secretary, Beaver G.G.A.

## Miami, also

Enclosed please find order for \$31, a donation from the Miami Grain Growers' Association. The following are the names of those who have contributed to this fund up to date:—J. Bowman, \$5; H. Humphrey, \$5; A. C. Hamilton, \$5; C. F. Smith, \$3; J. Parker, \$2; J. A. Kennedy, \$2; H. Johnson, \$1; W. Montgomery, \$1; D. Lawson, \$1; J. Weiner, \$1; West Cassett, \$1; F. Sisp, \$1; J. Trill, \$1; C. W. Hefford, \$1; W. Sprout, \$1.

## WAR RELIEF FUND

Previously acknowledged....	\$1,480.85
Valley River .....	80.00
Ninga and District .....	327.00
Bernie .....	130.00
Angusville .....	75.00
Beaver .....	76.25
Miami .....	31.00

Total .....

\$2,200.10  
The secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association last week issued a cheque for \$2,000 to A. J. H. Dubuc, Belgian Consul, as the first instalment of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association branches' cash contributions to the Belgian Relief Fund.

Mr. Dubuc states that there is yet urgent need of relief to the Belgian people. Imagine a population of nearly seven million men, women and children, nearly the whole population of a nation, facing the cold winter and destitute of food and clothing. Ruthlessly deprived of everything they owned, thru no fault of their own, but to gratify the lust for power of a supposed Christian nation, the need of these people appeals to all right-thinking people. That the sympathy of the people of Canada and the United States is aroused in their behalf is indicated by the carloads of food stuff and other supplies that are now being sent to them. There is yet very great need for more. In addition to cash contributions, any donation of food, clothing, new or old, for women, men and children, blankets of wool, shoes or any other article of practical use to people who are destitute will be gladly received.

Arrangements have been made with the railway and express companies that any contributions in kind addressed to A. J. H. Dubuc, Belgian Consul, Winnipeg, for the benefit of the Belgian sufferers, will be carried free of charge. These contributions will be collected in Winnipeg and as soon as a carload is collected it will be forwarded to Montreal, where shiploads are accumulated and from which port it is sent direct to Belgium.