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Saskatchewan Grain Growers

To our Organizers, Local Secretaries, and Interested Friends—Ladies and Gentlemen: We are very desirous of getting new locals organized in all parts of Saskatchewan, and we would very much appreciate your furnishing the names of leading farmers in any community where there is at present no local organized. We will correspond with those whose names are furnished, and will refer to our organizers the information which we receive. When you send in names and addresses of people we will very much appreciate your giving the number of the section on which they reside, together with the township and range, and also tell the nationality which prevails in the community. Kindly use the enclosed form for furnishing this information. We are prepared to furnish our literature in English, German, and French, but have not so far issued printed matter in other languages.

It is generally recognized that our association is able to accomplish valuable work in the cause of democracy, educating its members along certain important lines, and helping to unify the opinions and efforts of our citizens. We think, therefore, that you will be rendering a valuable service to the province as well as to our association, when you assist us with this organization work. Not only do we wish to double our membership during this year, but we desire to get locals of our association formed in every important community centre in the province.

Any information or help to this end will be very much appreciated. Very truly yours, The Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association Ltd.—H. H. McKinney, superintendent of organization.
P.S.—We would like to have you become a life member of the S.G.G.A.

To All Local Secretaries

Dear Sirs: It has been decided to observe Grain Growers' Sunday on June 16. The arrangements for the day are entirely in the hands of the local secretaries. It is for your local to decide how you will have the day observed in your community. At the Central office we will be glad to be of any assistance possible in helping you to work out your plans for the day. Last year the locals arranged with the regular ministers of the different churches to give addresses, or with certain special speakers who were secured for the occasion. A considerable number of our directors and prominent leaders spoke on Grain Growers' Sunday last year.

It is hoped that the occasion this year will have the influence of bringing the churches and the association into closer relationship. There is certainly a great need for united action in improving social and moral conditions in the various communities of our province. Now, as never before, all of the organizations which seek to improve the conditions of our like should co-operate and harmonize their activities in order to secure the most efficient service.

We will be glad to have you advise us of your plans, stating whether or not you will have a service conducted especially for the members of your own local, or whether you will unite with some other local for this occasion.

The Central office recommends that a special collection be taken on Grain Growers' Sunday for the benefit of social service work in this province. We are enclosing herewith some printed matter outlining the work which is being done by the Social Service Council. We have been giving a great deal to many other patriotic causes, and much more must be given. At the same time, we should not neglect to give for the important work which is needed here at home, not only to help us carry on the war in better fashion, but to improve the conditions, both now and after the war. We cannot afford to neglect the questions of health and morals which confront us in our own province, nor can we postpone action in these matters until after the war. Let us continue to give to the Red Cross,

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

J. B. Musselman

Regina, Sask.

the Military Y.M.C.A., and other patriotic efforts, all of which are most worthy and most urgent, but let us not neglect to support the work of education and moral reform which demand special attention and heroic efforts during these trying times.

We will be able to supply a limited number of speakers and will be glad to have you advise us if you have not been able to arrange for a speaker otherwise. We will send out printed matter to any minister or speaker who will apply to us for information about our association work.—Very truly yours, H. H. McKinney, superintendent of organization.

Salaried District Organizers

A letter was recently received by Mr. C. M. W. Emery, director of District No. 2, from Mr. Geo. W. Atkinson, in which the latter outlined a scheme for the employment of salaried district organizers, the cost to be met by voluntary contributions from locals. The suggestions of Mr. Atkinson are well worth earnest consideration, and we have pleasure giving his letter herewith:

I have just received a letter from Mr. Devlin, which emphasizes the importance of the salaried district organizer.

Let the matter be presented somewhat fully to the locals at the summer meetings and otherwise. The suggestion is that each local wishing to participate (it is hoped that that will mean all locals) shall tax itself \$10.00 per annum (or \$15.00 if \$10.00 is too little) to pay for the services of a district organizer to work under the general supervision of the district director. Such organizer to visit every contributing local at least once a year, and as often besides as possible and advisable. Through these visits and through correspondence he should keep in touch with the activities and needs of each local, and should inspire and assist in the taking on of new activities especially of a social and educational nature, as rapidly as the expanding ideas of the members will permit.

At the same time he should labor to secure the formation of new locals wherever possible, and foster in them an interest that will produce the continuous activity that alone can make a permanent working local. As soon as the contribution of locals grow to a sufficient amount the organizer should devote his whole time to the work. So far from his activities taking the place of any volunteer work, they would operate to mobilize and effectively direct all present workers, and also enlist many who at present are not helping.

I think that you will agree with me that very much of the director's organization and development work goes for nothing, because he is not able to follow it up. The salaried organizer would be able to stop this dissipation of energy, this back-sliding, this checking, and stopping, and reversing of progress once begun.

Of course this is asking a great deal of the organizer. He must in the first place be a true missionary. Other qualities are important, but this is essential. While difficult, I do not think it impossible to find a suitable man. I have two in mind that I am inclined to think would do. Perhaps you could name one or more. In any case, since the success of the plan would depend very largely on the success of the first appointee, the election should be made with care.

I would appreciate a free discussion of this scheme. If desirable and feasible, it ought to be put through. If otherwise it ought to be set aside for something else. The present temper of the people calls for progress. Where shall it start?—Yours fraternally, Geo. W. Atkinson.

We have much pleasure in acknow-

ledging receipt of the following contributions from several of our locals, which are greatly appreciated, viz:—
Thistle Local, Emergency Fund \$12.50
Thistle Local, Agricultural Relief of the Allies 12.50

Ladstock Local, Y.M.C.A. Military Fund 30.00
Ladstock Local, Red Cross Fund 50.35
Hamel Local, Red Cross Fund 43.35
Thunder Creek, Red Cross 97.25
Parkburg Local, Red Cross Fund 51.00
The contribution from the Ladstock local includes a donation of \$2.00 from Mr. A. Fudge, and \$10.00 from Mr. K. Halvorsen.

Lockerbie Man's View

Mr. Percy Arkle, of Lockerbie, does not believe in any time limit in rounding up the farmers; at least he is going to keep at it "as long as 1918 is a year" and no harm will be done if he keeps on through 1919, unless he has exhausted the field in the meantime. Mr. Arkle's idea of a map with the name of every farmer in the district inscribed on it is a thoroughly good one, and will make it impossible for any one to be overlooked. There is many a potentially good citizen outside our association, and the point is to find out why they are outside. You must diagnose the disease before you can hope to cure it, and this is Mr. Arkle's method. He will make a good doctor, and should effect many a cure. He writes as follows:—

Have received your circular re membership drive and am pleased to report that so far as we are concerned we are doing all we can to increase our membership and make the association what it ought to be. We have held rallies, one in particular at Horizon, when four locals were represented. We had somewhere around 175 persons present, and several new members were secured for the various locals. It is a good thing to strike whilst the iron is hot, but to me it is better to keep the iron hot all the time. With that end in view I am going to ignore any time limit set by the association to secure new members, and keep at it as long as 1918 is a year. I have one idea which has been discussed by our local and will be put into operation. I purpose for each local to have a map of its immediate neighborhood, with each settler's name on. (A municipality map is good). Mark off every name that is on the membership list, and then go personally after the rest, visiting each one at their own house, finding out the reason, if any, why they are not members of our association, tabulating those reasons, and if unsurmountable as far as that individual is concerned, turn such a one into the hands of the Central officers. By this method we shall secure much valuable information, helpful to all of us. I can give you three names now of farmers north and east of here in the Adell school district who are absolutely prejudiced with no satisfactory reason, and yet we must have them, and once we get them they will become good citizens. Pardon this long epistle. I address a meeting here on the 15th, and one at Pretty Valley on the 20th, and am hoping for more to address on co-operation.—Sincerely yours, Percy Arkle.

Writing at a later date, Mr. Arkle says:—

Our oyster supper last night was blessed with fine weather and a big crowd. I do not know what results were obtained; but some new members were received. Mr. Devlin gave us a talk on the association's work, which was well applauded. Musical items were rendered, and then I finished up, making an appeal for members. We are alive alright. I will send you a report on the Pretty Valley's meeting next Wednesday when I get back. I believe largely in the educative work, and would like nothing better than to be kept going all over the province. I have had nine years or more experience in addressing audiences on each side of the line, and so am heart and soul in the movement. Please send me another Life Membership button. I am sending an order for stationery for myself next week.—Yours truly, Percy Arkle.