

# The Country Homemakers

Conducted by Francis Marion Beynon

## WATCH THE WOMEN GRAIN GROWERS' GROW

I understand, from a letter I had from Miss Stocking this week, that fifteen new Women Grain Growers' Associations have been formed since the convention in February, and that letters concerning organization work are coming in by every mail from all over the Province.

Miss Stocking, as many of you know, is the new provincial secretary of the Women Grain Growers and from present indications I would judge that she will be a very busy young woman this year. I am taking this opportunity of announcing that anyone thinking of organizing a branch of the Women Grain Growers should write to Miss Erma Stocking, Delisle, Sask., for instructions and literature.

A little booklet is being prepared by the executive, setting forth the way of organization so clearly that he who runs may read, and these booklets will be distributed free of cost to all and sundry who are contemplating having one of these societies in their district. They should be ready for distribution in a few weeks.

It seems to me that there should be no limit to the activities of the Women Grain Growers, bound as they are by very close ties to the organized farmers, and free to tackle any problem, whether of local or national importance.

At the convention in Moose Jaw, someone asked how to get members to take an active part, and several suggestions were offered.

One was that some woman, who could cook something extra well, be asked to bring a sample of her specialty to the meeting and explain to the other women, step by step, how she achieved such good results.

Where the women are very backward about speaking, it was thought that a number might be asked to give short talks, of five or ten minutes, on some phase of a subject, in which case they would not be as nervous as if they were each in turn expected to be the chief attraction of a meeting.

In other districts these societies are already confronting community problems, such as co-operative buying and selling of produce, the improvement of the rural school, how to get cash instead of barter from the local merchant for butter and eggs, and having women on the school boards. Establishing a rest room in town for country women should be one of the very early aims of these organizations, and there are hundreds of other enterprises that will suggest themselves to the fertile brains of the women who are prominent in this movement. So I say, good luck to them, and may they grow and prosper.

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

## CO-OPERATIVE BUYING

Dear Miss Beynon:—Duty calls, and I obey, but it is a very pleasant duty to tell you of our first meeting since we were officially adopted as Women Grain Growers. The men invited us to hold a joint meeting with them, in the Keeler Hall.

As we had business of a private nature, we met in one of the ante-rooms and elected our officers for the coming year. Mrs. Haight and I, in talking over the situation, thought it best to elect all new officers, so as to interest the other ladies more, perhaps, but that was over-ruled. The same officers and board of directors were re-elected.

As one lady said: "We had just got broken in, and it was up to us to prove what we could do." Five new members joined, and as many more have promised to come in later. Then we joined the men, and a report was given by the two delegates who attended the convention—Mr. Brice, who represented the men's local, and your humble servant, the ladies' auxiliary. A vote of thanks was extended to the delegates for their reports.

It was decided at this meeting to

hold a social and entertainment on March 10, send for a good speaker, have a program of local talent, and a good lunch.

We will hold a joint meeting with the men in two weeks, to discuss co-operative buying of fruit, lumber and other commodities. We hope to do some good work this year.

Yours truly,

MRS. H. L. PEARSONS,  
Sec. Treas., Keeler Local No. 2

## PANGMAN W.G.G.A.

Dear Miss Stocking:—February 21 a meeting was called to decide about forming a branch of the W.G.G.A. Fourteen women were present, the majority of whom were strongly in favor, the two or three were undecided.

Our Grain Growers had sent two delegates to the convention, so we listened to their report. After that was over we began the business of choosing officers, with the following result: President, Mrs. Klinck; vice-

That point settled, we chose "Temperance" as our next subject. We did not determine further ahead, as we thought we had better see how things went on before trying to do too much.

We then decided to have another social gathering in a short time, and a committee was appointed to arrange a program, etc.

Ten women paid in the subscription, so we are just the number eligible to organize "on our own." Some others, who were absent, we are almost certain will join in the near future.

This seems to me a lengthy account of little accomplished, but when I started to write I did not think it would be nearly so long.

Yours sincerely,

K. CLEWS,  
Sec. Treas., Pangman W.G.G.A.

## ANNUAL MEETING SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

A well attended and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Roaring River

## UNSEXED

It doesn't unsex her to toil in a factory,  
Minding the looms from the dawn till the night,  
To deal with a school full of children refractory,  
Doesn't unsex her in anyone's sight;  
Work in a store, where her back aches inhumanly,  
Doesn't unsex her at all, you will note,  
But think how exceedingly rough and unwomanly  
Woman would be, if she happened to vote!

To sweat in a laundry that's torrid and horrid (erf)  
Doesn't subtract from her womanly charm;  
And scrubbing the floors in an echoing corridor  
Doesn't unsex her, so where is the harm?  
It doesn't unsex her to nurse us with bravery,  
Loosing death's hand from its grip on the throat,  
But, ah! how the voices grow quivery, quavery,  
Wailing: "Alas, 'twill unsex her to vote!"

She's feminine yet when she juggles the crockery,  
Bringing you blithely the order you give;  
Toil(ing) in sweat shops where life is a mockery,  
Just for the pittance on which she can live;  
That doesn't seem to unsex her a particle,  
"Labor is noble"—so somebody wrote—  
But ballots are known as a dangerous article,  
"Woman's unsexed if you give her the vote!"

BY BERTON BRALEY, in "Cotton's Weekly"

A Suffrage poem kindly sent in by Edward B. Hill

president, Mrs. Isaac; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Clews.

It was then decided to write you for information, etc. In the meantime the men had settled among themselves that we should have a box social, as they were in debt thru sending the delegates. A joint committee of men and women was formed to make all necessary preparations.

The box social was held March 6, and proved a great success. A delightful program was first carried out, and then, after the boxes were auctioned, a no less delightful supper followed. That disposed of, the vice-president (the president was not there), of the G.G.A. gave a very short address, and after that we all joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," which ended a most enjoyable evening.

On March 7 the second meeting was held. Your letter was read, and all expressed their pleasure at receiving such an encouraging reply.

We next decided upon times for meetings in future. These were fixed for second and fourth Saturdays in the month, our next to be March 28.

The subject for the next meeting is to be "Gardening." As no one seemed willing to take the lead, we decided that each member should give her own ideas, suggestions, etc., and ask any questions. We thought that when once we got a start, members would not be so backward in being willing to take the lead.

schoolhouse, Friday, March 13, the second annual meeting of the Woman Suffrage Association.

The following officers were elected: Hon. president, Mrs. Lilley; president, Mrs. R. Richardson; vice-president, Mrs. Thos. Martin; executive, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Spicer, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Martin, Mr. Roy Ireland and F. E. Livesey, secretary-treasurer.

During the past year the Association has held eleven public monthly meetings, nine committee and three special meetings, one concert and a picnic. Our membership has more than doubled itself.

FANNIE E. LIVESSEY,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

Lack of space forbids our printing, in full, the balance sheet of this Association, which Mrs. Livesey forwarded with the above letter. During the year the Society has accumulated \$121.30, thru collections, a concert, a picnic and membership dues, and has disbursed \$92.98, leaving \$28.32 in the bank to begin the new business year.—F.M.B.

## NEW W.G.G.A. AT COLFAX

Dear Editor:—As a result of the convention held at Moose Jaw in February, the women of District No. 4 met at the home of Mrs. J. C. Hilton, at 2 o'clock, and organized a Women Grain Growers' Association. There were a good few interested people present, also a few visitors.

We elected a president and secretary

treasurer. After discussing various topics and singing several songs, a paper was read on the convention by Mrs. Howard, of the Lang Branch, which was greatly enjoyed by all present. It was agreed to meet the first Tuesday of every month. A sumptuous lunch was served, after which everyone left, feeling highly elated over the success of the first meeting.

MRS. J. G. RENNIE,  
Sec. Treas.

Good for you, Mrs. Hilton, and good luck to the new Society.—F.M.B.

## VOTING AND LOVING

Dear Miss Beynon:—I have read the letters in the Country Homemakers page for some time and find them very interesting. I get out of temper with some of the writers, tho.

They seem to think that a woman should remain at home and not do more than peep out around the corner of the door, lest her clear, innocent soul be blackened. In my opinion a woman like that is not worth her salt.

My ideal woman is one who has too pure and brave a soul to be smirched by the sight of evil. Instead of creeping under cover she should step out into the open and try to stop the evil.

A woman who thinks only of the good of her own immediate friends and relatives is selfish and narrow-minded. I do not mean that she should run about the country, helping others and neglect her own family. A good many people seem to think that when women get the vote they will neglect their homes and become, — well, "gadabouts." I am sure that I cannot see how going out to vote once in a while is to make her neglect her home duties. Surely the family can spare her for a short time each year or so.

I do not mean to say that all the evils in this world will be cured when women get the vote. That would be impossible. It takes time, and plenty of it, to drive out evil. But I do think that it would help to overcome a good deal of it. Anyway, why not give it a trial.

In the issue of March 4, "Della" suggests that women should stay at home and mind their own business. I may be wrong, but, somehow, I have always thought that the welfare of our country is everyone's business. Don't you think so, too, Miss Beynon? "Della" also mentions something about men liking their wives better if they did not get the vote, as they might vote for something the men did not like. A man who only loves a woman when she does what pleases him doesn't deserve to have a wife.

How many men consult their wives before they go to the polls? Or, if they do happen to consult them, do they always vote for what the woman thinks is right? A great many men vote for liquor against the wishes of their wives, yet women must go on loving them. That seems to me a one-sided view of things, "Della."

Yours for "The Cause,"  
ARDENT SUFFRAGETTE

Every mother of a small son knows how well-nigh impossible it is to keep a bandage on his finger. Also, how frequently little boys' fingers are in need of bandaging. Before throwing away old kid gloves cut off the good fingers for "finger stalls" for the boy. Cut the under side short, but let the top run back to the wrist of the glove; then split this strip to form straps to fasten around the child's wrist with a small safety pin. These stalls will be quite large enough to cover the bandaged finger of a small child and will save endless time and worry.

Act well at the moment and you have performed a good action to all eternity.—Lavater.

Every child is a child of destiny.