

# Saskatchewan

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association by J. B. Macdonald, Secretary, Regina, Sask., to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

H. H. McKinney, the new superintendent of the organization department, accompanied by the central secretary covered some seven hundred miles by automobile in a tour of meetings, July 31 to August 9, including such points as Herbert, Gull Lake, Roe School (near Abbey), several meetings in the country around Cabri, White Bear and Riverhurst.

The trip was of more than usual interest in that it was the first time that the central secretary and the new superintendent of the organization department have travelled amongst our locals together and appeared upon the same platform. Also the crops all along the line were at their most interesting stage. The meeting at Herbert was in connection with the Herbert Fair, an interesting feature of which was several booths of exhibits by locals of the association in the Herbert district, very tastefully arranged and exhibiting excellent samples of grain of various kinds as well as alfalfa.

At Gull Lake, which was the next point visited the local has just completed a very creditable store and warehouse and judging from the zeal and intelligence manifested by a large number of the leading men of this local we confidently predict continued success for Gull Lake. From Moose Jaw to Gull Lake all along the main line the crops were quite inferior, with the exception of fields of fair yields. Running north from the main line at Gull Lake to the Empress-Bassano Branch, much rough land was encountered, but when the district along the latter branch was reached the writer had something of a revelation in the appearance of that beautiful country in and around the Cabri district as well as the splendid promise of good crops along this line wherever the land had been thoroughly well cultivated.

Purely by coincidence, though certainly a fortunate one, it happened that the Sunday which it had been planned to spend at Cabri had been advertised for observance as Grain Growers' Sunday, it having been impossible for the minister in charge to observe Grain Growers' Sunday on the day officially set for it. Three addresses were therefore delivered upon this day in and around Cabri by Superintendent McKinney and the central secretary, and it was found that the people who attended the meetings are just as much interested in a Sabbath day in all the best and loftiest things for which the association stands as they are upon week days. The meetings were all union services under the Rev. Mr. Koepke. Mr. Koepke is the man who travelled twenty-seven thousand miles in one year in a Ford car as secretary of the Danish Bar movement, doing probably more than any other one man in crystallizing sentiment in favor of closing these hot-beds of iniquity once and for all.

## Fording the Saskatchewan in a Ford

An enthusiastic and well attended meeting was held the following night at White Bear hall, far north of the Saskatchewan river in a country remote from railroads and towns. Here an exceedingly arduous trip was made across country, much of it without any sign of trail through the Cottens to Belmar Ferry, taking all day in an incessant rain from early morning till evening, only to encounter the necessity of fording more than a hundred yards of the great Saskatchewan with its treacherous bottom in order to reach the ferry, which was quite unable to approach the western shore on account of sandbars. The writer has accomplished some feats with a Ford car, but is free to admit that to drive it into the uncertainties of the great Saskatchewan river was something of a hair-raising experience. All would have ended well, however, but for a thoughtless moment's hesitation in midstream when the treacherous quicksand bottom sucked in the tires and the car was effectively stalled so that "Tom and Dolly" and a logging chain had to be requisitioned before the ferry was finally reached. However, the car redeemed her reputation by climbing the exceedingly steep and slippery hill on the east side in spite of a number of offers by spectators to bet that it could not be done.

One of the most encouraging locals encountered was that of Riverhurst.

This local had planned with five or six others for a monster picnic and celebration on Tuesday, the day on which the rain never ceased, and when the energetic secretary, Mr. Lock, discovered the following morning that the secretary and Mr. McKinney were still in the district he insisted on their staying over, and arranged a meeting on short notice for the following evening, which proved one of the largest and most enthusiastic gatherings of the entire tour. Eight new Life Members were secured at this meeting alone.

The spirit of Riverhurst local is splendidly demonstrated by an incident which the writer cannot forbear to relate.

Recently a Mr. McDonald, one of the directors of the association had the misfortune to have his splendid barn and contents destroyed by fire at a time when he was absent from home fighting a prairie fire. The neighbors rushed to the scene in their automobiles immediately the alarm had been given, and another officer of the association in a heroic effort to save some of Mr. McDonald's horses was very severely burnt about the face and hands. The members of the local made up a contribution of \$650 which was presented to their fellow member outright, gave him his twine free of charge for a season's cutting, he having already purchased his twine through the local and having lost it in the fire, and since have been rendering him every assistance in re-building his barn. This was such a fine manifestation of the true spirit of co-operation which should permeate Grain Growerism wherever it is organized that no one will marvel when the writer states that this is one of the most progressive and active locals in the province.

J. B. M.

## WANT FREE TRIPS TO COLLEGE

Below is a copy of the resolution passed at a meeting of the Horse Lake Grain Growers, Kelliber, Sask.—Resolved that this Local is in favor of arrangements being made between the railroad companies and the agricultural college and government departments offering free trips to the college and experimental farm during the months of July and August annually, and to select 25 farmers from their respective districts to visit these institutions.

PHIL IRONSIDE

Secretary, Local 240, 43.

## FIR MOUNTAIN HELPS RED CROSS

The Fir Mountain local has just made the largest contribution to the Red Cross Fund which has been made through the central association by a single local for the last four months, viz., the sum of \$240.

This result was achieved at a picnic which took place on July 7, at which 700 to 800 persons were present. There were all kinds of sports in the afternoon to delight the hearts of the spectators and try the skill and powers of endurance of the participants, and the evening was whiled away with dancing in the barn of R. Nepton, the secretary of the local. The speakers were Mr. Emery, district director of Assiniboia and Mr. Atkinson.

The Fir Mountain local has a membership of 31. Some of these live at a distance of 20 miles from a railway, while a number of them are shareholders in the Woodrow Co-operative Trading Company. Mr. Nepton does all the secretarial work gratis and just how successful he has been may be judged from the fact that the local has formed a "Special Study Committee" for the promotion of educational work. The committee has also sent to The Grain Growers' Guide for books to form the nucleus of a library.

The Fir Mountain local is to be congratulated on the success which has attended its efforts up to the present, and on the good example it is setting to many larger locals whose opportunities are correspondingly greater.—R. W. Y.

## SHIPPING GRAIN TO MINNEAPOLIS

I wish to ask you if there is any protection if a person ships grain from Canada to the States. I shipped a car of wheat to the Minneapolis market, May 17, on that date I telegraphed the Company to sell the wheat as soon as they received the telegram and as soon as the car came to Minneapolis it had to go according to grading.

On May 17 I also sent them a letter with bill of lading. I stated in this letter to sell at once and not wait for the car, and when the car came to the city it had to go according to grading.

I thought everything was O.K. but they did not sell and I did not know until about two days before it was sold. This happened June 1. Wheat had then gone down every day; but June 1 it tried to go up and then they sold. This was awful when I needed the money and was lucky to hold the wheat that long.

I went to Minneapolis and they said they did not have a big enough sample to sell. Why did they not telegraph me and I would have sent a large enough sample? This they could not answer. This was a great loss as wheat was about \$3.00 a bushel and I only received \$2.19 and \$1.99. I did not know who to write to in the States, so I wrote a milling company. Would you kindly let me know to whom to send?

MEMBER.

Midale, Sask.

Answer:—After careful perusal of your favor of the 17th inst. I have to state that if your instructions to the company to whom you consigned your wheat for sale were as indefinite as they would appear to have been from your letter you cannot hold the company responsible for failure to carry out what you consider your instructions to have been.

Your letter states that you wired the company on the date that you shipped to sell upon receipt of your telegram as soon as the car arrived. This message therefore contained a dual instruction, the one contradicting the other. Later on you state that the car was to sell on inspection, that is, whatever grade it proved to be after officially inspected. It was therefore absolutely impossible for the company in question to sell your car before inspection as the grade would not be known. Further on you speak of sending the company a sample which they in turn maintain was too small a sample. If your grain was to sell on grade there was no occasion for sending a sample. Furthermore the company could not sell your grain on the basis of a sample which you privately sent to it. If your grain was to sell on sample it would have to be a sample taken by the government officials from your car at the sampling point in the United States, not on a sample privately forwarded by yourself. I fear therefore that you will have no recourse providing the company sold your grain promptly upon arrival at Minneapolis and secured for you its current value upon that date.

Your difficulty could probably have been overcome and your large loss obviated if you had consigned your grain to the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, which holds a seat on the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce and if you had carried on your negotiations direct with the head office at Regina of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Company, and I should strongly advise in future that in forwarding grain to Minneapolis for sale you carry on your business through this, our own company. You can then bill through a local operator of this company or through the head office at Regina, with which you will be in very much closer touch than with anyone in Minneapolis.

CENTRAL SECRETARY.

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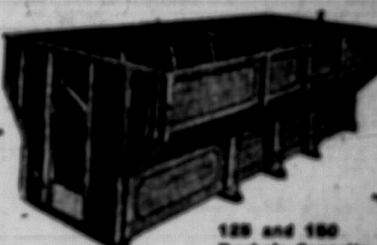
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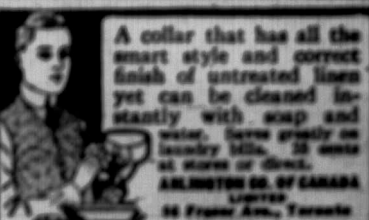
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