

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

A PLAN OF CAMPAIGN

From Springhurst comes the following:

I am planning to have a thorough canvass of the district tributary to Springhill Association, about the middle of March, before the spring rush begins, to give every farmer an opportunity to join the association, and also subscribe for The Guide.

I am drawing a plan of the district on a board 14½ by 17 inches, with a smooth surface painted white. I am making the sections two inches square and the road allowances one-quarter of an inch wide. I am writing the name of every farmer in the district on the particular quarter on which he lives, marking the location of his house. Then I will put a black tack on each place where the farmer is not a member and a brass tack for all who do not take The Guide, and I propose to see how many tacks I can get removed before the first of April. Besides this map of the district will be convenient to look up at any time to get a census of the district any time Central wants information. If I had the pledge forms in connection with the Grain Growers' Patriotic Acre, I could attend to that at the same time and make one round of the district do for all this work.

After the first week in March I calculate I could devote a couple of weeks to doing anything I could in connection with the association. I have been thinking that the only way unorganized districts could be reached in regard to the Grain Growers' Acre would be by a personal canvass by someone, whoever could do it.

A. J. M. POOLE,
Secretary.

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS ARRANGED

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association was held in the offices of the association, on Thursday evening, February 18, at 7.30 p.m. There were present: R. C. Henders, Peter Wright, J. S. Wood, P. D. McArthur, W. H. English, R. J. Avison, Frank Simpson and R. McKenzie.

The whole evening was taken up with a conference with the executive of The Grain Growers' Grain Company, in a discussion on the best methods to promote co-operative buying and selling. A committee was appointed to draft a form of rules and regulations adapted for co-operative societies organized under the Manitoba Co-operative Act.

The meeting was resumed at 9.30 a.m. on Friday morning, the 19th, all directors being present.

The question of arranging for district conventions was discussed fully, and the following conventions were arranged:

- In R. J. Avison's district:—
Swan River, March 2; Dauphin, March 4.
- Secretary R. McKenzie to assist.
- In Peter Wright's district:—
Morris, March 2; Morden, March 3.
- R. C. Henders to assist.
- In W. H. English's district:—
Deloraine, March 9; Brandon, March 11.
- Secretary R. McKenzie to assist.
- Carman, March 3. J. S. Wood to assist.

All these conventions will have an afternoon and evening meeting. Messrs. Wright, Henders, and McArthur were appointed a committee to wait on the railway companies at once respecting thru local rates.

Ladies Joining

The President reported that a committee of women members made a representation to him respecting getting the co-operation of the board of directors towards supplying petition for signatures asking the local government to pass a dower law.

The board received the proposal favorably, but considered nothing could be done for this session, owing to the shortness of time, but will prepare a petition and have it sent out to the

different branches for signature to be presented at the next session.

Satisfaction was expressed at the reports coming in that many ladies are becoming members since the constitution was amended giving them the full privileges of membership.

The directors taking charge of the district conventions were instructed to urge the branches to lay special emphasis as to enrolling as many ladies as possible as members, and encouraging them to assume the duties and responsibilities of membership, by electing them to offices and appointing them on committees that have to do with the social and educational features of our movement.

PROTEST AGAINST TARIFF

A very enthusiastic meeting of the Grain Growers' Association was held at Belmont on February 20. The new taxes were discussed at length and the boosting of the tariff was condemned unanimously. We realize a revenue must be raised, but why take the worst possible way? The stamp taxes are best of all because the full amount raised is received by the government. The one per cent. on the bank circulation will be added to the rate of interest and will be collected from the borrowers, who will also increase their prices.

The policy of the Grain Growers is for free trade. Numerically, the farmers of Canada outnumber all others, and while all are not in favor of free trade, there are enough free traders in other walks of life, if combined, to carry it.

It was agreed that we concentrate our efforts to knock out protection, as this is one of the worst injustices all have to contend with at present.

We hear a lot of the unity of the Empire and our government raises the tariff against Great Britain. We hope each branch of the Grain Growers' Association will go out after free trade, with vigor. Other reforms are needed, and the knocking out of the tariff will clear the way for them. Others, besides Grain Growers, are joining forces with us by joining our association to fight the tariff. It is only by meeting this robbery in an organized way that we can exert our full strength. Note how prices have gone up immediately the details of the increase are published.

The secretary was instructed to write a letter to our local paper, the Free Press, and The Guide, and a copy of each sent to our member, Dr. Shaffner. If each branch would take similar action, just a short letter, no doubt the three papers mentioned would publish it and by sending copies to your member would have a great influence.

We may not be able to change the proposed new tariff, but in a year or two at least, there will be a new election and by working hard in an organized way, we can get what we want.

J. T. SMITH,
Secretary.

PORTAGE DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Portage la Prairie District Association of the Manitoba Grain Growers is holding a convention in Portage la Prairie on March 10, 1915, to which all the ladies in the district are invited, and Mrs. J. S. Wood will be present to address them. A special effort is being made to have as many as possible of the public school teachers in the district present. R. C. Henders will be present, and give an address, especially prepared for the teachers. Rev. H. G. Crozier, of Neepawa, will also deliver an address suitable to the occasion.

This is the first time an attempt has been made by the Grain Growers to co-operate with the public school teachers, and it is hoped that the plan will work satisfactorily to all. Why should not the Grain Growers, who are the wealth producers of this country, have more to do with the educational system of this country? It seems impossible to make Grain Growers of all the farmers in this province at the present time, then why not raise up the next generation as

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.

Grain Growers, teach them the principles and the advantages of organization in the school and when they become the farmers of this province they will be in a much better position to get a square deal from the privileged interests and the monopolists than the Grain Growers are at the present time.

BEN. RICHARDSON,
District Secretary.

A PROMISING START

This very encouraging report comes from the Inwood Branch:—

The Inwood Branch of the Grain Growers' Association is making great headway, fifty-four paid-up members and a great promise of another half-hundred before spring work begins. All this since January 14 of this year, when the organization started with ten members, is a record to be proud of and shows what can be done when the members are men who go about the job with the spirit of education, organization and co-operation in their hearts, and with a keen eye to business. It shows that they have not only been talking—they have been doing something.

At a meeting held in Cossett's Hall, Inwood, on Friday, February 19, the branch had the pleasure of a visit from M. McCuish, the official organizer, and there were about 200 people present to welcome him.

Mr. McCuish, during the course of his address, made reference to the many problems with which the Central Association and some of the branches have been confronted, and the way they have dealt with them. He spoke of the necessity of loyalty to the association, so that they may continue unhampered in their good work and urged the farmers to take advantage of the splendid facilities offered by the Central Farmers' Market for the co-operative selling of their farm produce.

Mr. McCuish also gave a great deal of valuable information which can be used to great advantage in running the business of the branch. During the evening, the branch enrolled its first lady member—Mrs. Sherlock, of Erinview, having driven sixteen miles on bad roads to set the good example. After the business of the meeting was over, dancing was indulged in and so a most successful and enjoyable evening was brought to a close.

HOW TO PREVENT CO-OPERATION

Article II. (Contributed)

If the local union of your town wants to co-operate in shipping live stock and produce, never ship with them, but immediately notify the stock dealer and produce merchant what is going on so that he can buy your stock at a little better price and enough of your neighbors' stock to make co-operative shipping impossible. By doing this you will be doing your community a good turn, because the stock buyer is usually one of your citizens and you must assist him in building up the community. Anyway, the extra money that you or your neighbor would get by co-operative shipping might cause a headache to find a place to spend it.

If you do not want to do this, then agree to ship with your neighbors; but at the last moment sell to the old line buyer for a little more money than you could get by shipping yourselves and in that way prove to the community that co-operation is all a humbug and that it pays well to be the sucker and the traitor.

If, however, the local union makes a shipment without your help and happens to sustain a small loss, due to inexperience or a fluctuating market, then get this information and make it your special business to see everyone you can and tell them about it and discourage all future shipments. Your neighbors will consider you as very much interested in their welfare, because you have shown your interest in trying to save them the trouble and expense of doing their own business.

DIRECTORS:

Peter Wright	Myrtle
J. L. Brown	Pilot Mound
P. D. McArthur	Longburn
Frank Simpson	Shoal Lake
W. H. English	Harding
R. J. Avison	Gilbert Plains

If the local union in your community insists on being foolish and continues its co-operative shipping then go to your stock buyer and persuade him to join the local union and offer to become their shipping manager. The stock buyer will be intelligent enough to handle the affairs in such a manner that the co-operative members will become discouraged.

If all of these suggestions do not work, then devise some other way and when you have found one that will work, give us the plan so that we can instruct others of your class.

Selling Grain

You, of course are aware that the farmers' organization has its own selling agents in the grain and produce markets and if you possibly can exert any influence over your local people have them ship their poorest quality of grain or live stock to the selling agencies, and at the same time ship the good stuff to the other fellow. If the farmers' selling agents cannot return as good a price on the poor stuff as the other fellows do on the good stuff, you can very easily demonstrate to the satisfaction of your people that the entire co-operative proposition is a failure and if you "holler" loud and long enough, the shipments from your community will go to the regular speculators and gamblers and the farmers' agency will be put out of business. You will be doing yourself and others a good turn because no farmers' organization has any business whatever in establishing their own market centres because the old system is well able to take care of the farmers' business, and you, of course, do not want to see such places as the Grain Exchange and the Boards of Trade being closed or perhaps used for the deserving poor that have become so because of the co-operative movement.

Political Action

If the organized farmers of your community get together and decide to take a hand in legislative matters and send some of their own representatives to the legislative halls, get busy right away and show your neighbors that that would be the height of folly because the politicians have been in control so long that they understand that business perfectly, and to send a number of green farmers to make laws might result disastrously for the country. If you will get in touch with the politicians immediately when you discover that such a movement is on foot, they will then lend you all the assistance possible. They might even send you a nice little bunch of money to be distributed in your community and to pay you for your trouble. In that way you would be the gainer, and those of your neighbors whose vote is for sale would also be the gainers in an amount according to the value which they place on their vote.

The politicians will consider you a very good and patriotic citizen, and that is all you care for, because the opinion of the farmers in your community does not amount to much anyway. They do not know what is good for them, and it is up to you to teach them.

If, in spite of all your efforts, they still persist in keeping up their local and apparently do good business to the satisfaction of all, then you had better sell out and go to some place where the people are more intelligent and don't believe in organization; for if you don't, before you know it you will get into their ways and the "big interests" will no longer receive your money and eventually might have to get out and work.

The first duty of a man is still that of subduing fear. We must get rid of fear; we cannot act till then.—Carlyle.

Conscription upon British lines means conscription of wealth as well as of life.—Mr. Blatchford.