

MANITOBA SECTION

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially by the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. McKenzie, Secretary, Winnipeg, Man.

MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

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EAGER FOR RECIPROCITY

That great interest is being taken in the work of the Grain Growers' Association throughout the constituency of Killarney was evidenced when some sixteen delegates from the various associations in the district met in Killarney to perfect the organization of a central executive. The following members were present: J. W. Stow, president; Alex Rankin, George Campbell, D. N. Finlay, S. M. Hayden, representing Killarney; W. Mahon, L. Williamson, R. P. Williams, representing Neelin; J. S. McKelvey, representing Holmfield; Dr. Duncan, T. J. Taylor, representing Cartwright; H. T. Jones, John Redhead, representing Ninga; D. L. Stewart, representing Lena. R. M. Wilson, of Marringhurst, was also present and gave a most interesting address. President Stow, in a short speech, outlined the objects of the executive. The meeting then spent some time in passing the various by-laws. A somewhat lengthy discussion arose over by-law No. 11, which states that the executive shall not in any way become affiliated with either of the existing political parties, or form a new one. It was unanimously decided to let the clause stand as originally drafted. It was suggested that all meetings of the executive be held in private. This suggestion was unanimously voted down, and all meetings will therefore be open to the public. After some little discussion along the lines of the reciprocity agreement with the United States, it was decided to re-affirm their position and a committee appointed to draw up the following resolution to be presented to D. Schaffner at his meeting on Wednesday evening:

"Mr. Schaffner: We, the members of the central executive of the G.G.A., of the electoral division of Killarney, representing the associations at Ninga, Killarney, Holmfield, Cartwright, Neelin, and Lena, wish to take this opportunity of re-affirming the farmers' platform as unanimously passed by the great farmers' Association and made a strong appeal to farmers to give them their support. 'It is your own system, the system that you asked for, and if you want it to become a success you must support it,' said Mr. McCuaig. The addresses in the hall were all interspersed by music from the Gilbert Plains band, which had earlier in the afternoon marched to the grounds. The Gilbert Plains Association, in arranging for their picnic, while they did not forget sports, made the speaking in the hall the big feature.

delegation in convention at Ottawa, December 16th, 1910, notwithstanding what has been said by the Opposition speakers since that date.

"And that we heartily endorse the reciprocity agreement as laid before the House at Ottawa by Messrs. Fielding and Patterson, and accept it in part fulfilment of our demands as laid down in the said platform."

The meeting then held a somewhat lengthy discussion upon the present political situation as affecting the Grain Growers. Mr. Williamson said that he spoke from a purely independent standpoint. He had watched the movement of governments and had been strengthened in his position; politics had wrecked the Patrons of Industry, yet he believed the time had come when the Grain Growers must do something. He was in favor of reciprocity and would support it regardless of where it came from. For himself he believed that they should have their own candidate, but failing this should support the man who would give it to them. There should be neither Grit nor Tory among Grain Growers. Reciprocity was the beginning of the end of protection. Mr. Taylor believed this to be the most important meeting ever held by the Grain Growers in Killarney. It gave them an opportunity they would not have for another five years. He believed they should have their own candidate. Mr. Redhead, of Ninga, believed that Direct Legislation was the only thing that would give the farmer his rights. He was a free trader and thought reciprocity would be a benefit to the country. All members took a prominent part in the discussion and while all expressed themselves as approving of the reciprocity agreement in unqualified terms, believed that they should be careful of endorsing any political party. The discussion finally crystallized itself into the following resolution:

"That a committee of three be appointed to watch all legislation affecting the interests of the Grain Growers (as laid down in the farmers' platform) and also to attend all conventions with a view to having candidates favorable to the Grain Growers' platform nominated."

BEAVER MEMBERS PICNIC

The Grain Growers of Beaver picnicked in a grove a mile south of the station on the afternoon of Friday, June 30. A drizzling rain in the forenoon discouraged many from coming. However, there was a fair representation of the farmers of the district, more especially the young people who gathered in the middle of the afternoon. R. McKenzie, secretary of the Association, gave a short address, after which the picnicers enjoyed a game of baseball. Supper was furnished on tables in the grove by the ladies.

NINGA DISTRICT CROP REPORT

Taking Ninga as the centre, to the south, after a few miles the crops are badly in need of rain, some of the fields are about to be plowed up unless moisture comes soon. East and south it is some better, although below the average, especially on fall plowing and the coarse grains. North and east a good average crop is growing. Towards the northwest they are needing moisture badly, but on the whole a fair harvest is promised. The average may be 15 bushel per acre. This is the report as presented by the committee appointed in each district, and can be relied upon.

GILBERT PLAINS OUTING

The Grain Growers of Grand View, Ashville and Gilbert Plains held a union picnic in the agricultural grounds at Gilbert Plains on June 29. It was a beautiful, sunny, breezy day and the Grain Growers gathered in large numbers to enjoy themselves in the shade of the beautiful groves that are enclosed in the agricultural grounds. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the picnicers were gathered in the agricultural building to hear addresses from D. W. McCuaig, chairman of the elevator commission,

R. McKenzie, provincial secretary, and E. J. Dixon, lecturer for the Direct Legislation League. The hall was filled to its full capacity, a large number being ladies. The feature of this gathering was the large number of young people who listened to the addresses. Mr. McCuaig explained the operation of the elevator commission and stated that it was not their intention to buy or build any more elevators this year and that they were now commencing to remodel one elevator at each point at which they purchased elevators so as to adapt them to storing grain in special bins and that the operations of the commission would be confined this year to the points where they have already built or purchased. He stated that it would take an average of \$2,000 to properly equip the elevators purchased in order to handle the grain in the manner asked for by the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association.

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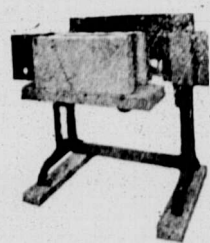
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