

## OFFICERS:

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Vice-President:	Oakville
Secretary-Treasurer:	Winnipeg
R. McKenzie	

## SUPPLY OF FARM HELP

One of the outstanding difficulties the grain growers have to overcome is a supply of suitable farm labor; and domestic help in the home. The Executive of the Grain Growers' association has been for some time in communication with different parties with a view of devising a feasible scheme for securing desirable help for our members from the Old Country, and have now concluded arrangements, that promises to afford some relief if we get the hearty co-operation of our branches.

The negotiation commenced last summer, but was concluded too late to be of any service this season. We are now, however, in a position to secure help for farmers who make application on proper forms. These application forms will be supplied from this office on demand. The farm labor will be specially selected from the rural districts of the Old Country, and from a class of farm laborers who have been brought up upon farms, and who are not in a position to pay their fare.

In order to secure the best class of labor the plan adopted is on the advance fare basis. The railway company will advance the transportation in the Old Country and it will then have to be paid to them at this end, whenever the laborers are delivered in Winnipeg. The employees sign a contract that they will refund out of their wages the amount advanced and should it happen that those supplied are not rendering satisfactory service, they will be placed in other employment under condition that they return the amount advanced for their fare, so that the danger of the farmer losing the money advanced is reduced to a minimum.

As much as possible yearly engagements, and at any rate six months' engagement is most desirable. No employee will be furnished on a shorter engagement than six months.

The first party will arrive in Winnipeg about January 20, next around February 15 and March 1 and fortnightly thereafter.

Applications are to be filed in this office, and the labor supplied in the order in which the applications are received. Copies will be sent to the office of the Immigration Agency, in the Old Country, and selection made as nearly as possible of the kind of help wanted, and the man shipped direct to the applicant, so as to lessen the danger of them not reaching the proper party on arrival here. The fare will be about \$52.00 and a cheque for that amount should be sent to me with the application. The cheque will be retained here until the arrival of the help, and will not be used until the help is provided.

I would specially urge that anyone who desires a man for next year will send in his application as soon as possible, as the men will be hand-picked, it will take some time to secure in every case the kind of man required. There is a keen demand for the right kind of farm help all of which makes it the more necessary to have applications in as soon as possible.

Domestic servants will also be supplied on the same terms, to any farmer who makes application. If applicants state the kind of help they require special selection will be made, so as to meet their needs.

Any applications received before the end of November will be supplied out of the party that will arrive about January 20. An early application for either farm help, or domestic servants, so as to admit proper selection being made, will make it easier to supply the kind of help applied for.

Kindly bring this matter before the members of your association as soon as possible. This is a new enterprise on the part of the Grain Growers, and our Executive bespeak the sympathy and co-operation of our members in making this move helpful to farmers and their wives.

MAN. GRAIN GROWERS' ASS'N.  
R. McKenzie, Sec'y.

## THE FARMERS' DUTY

To the Local Secretaries:—

Now that the strenuous efforts of raising the crop has passed for another season, grain growers will have an opportunity of once more giving some thought and attention to the work of organization and the study of public questions.

During the summer season the minds of all grain growers are so absorbed in the problem of producing crops that they unfortunately forget that there is another side of their operations which is just as deserving of their attention, that is the marketing, or the exchanging of products for commodities necessary in the business of production, and requisites for the farm and home. Here is where the urban population gets the advantage of the rural. The farmers are so absorbed in production that they leave the conduct of public business, the passing of legislation, the administration of laws, and questions of trade and economics to others.

Farmers foolishly neglect the economic side of their business, hence the urban population secure privileges that are oppressive to the rural classes. While farmers are devoting their whole thought and energy to the raising of crops, other interests are paying attention to organization, controlling legislation, and creating conditions that enable them to get an undue share of that crop, at the expense of not only the farmers, but the consumers of farm products as well. Hence the importance, yes, the absolute necessity of the farmers paying more attention to the work of organization, during the slack period of the winter months, if we are to enjoy equitable distribution of the wealth produced on the farm.

The Grain Growers' association, since its inception has accomplished much for the benefit of growers of grain. The abnormal spread that used to exist between street and track prices of grain has practically disappeared. Their right of equality with other shippers in securing cars for shipping their own grain is no longer questioned or denied. Railroads recognize that farmers who ship their own grain are just as much entitled to that privilege as the man who buys it from him on the primary markets. All this is the direct result of organization.

While much has been accomplished, there are yet greater things to be achieved. Though conditions surrounding the disposal of grain at primary points is much improved there remains much to be done in extending markets and safeguarding grain in transit to the consuming markets. Due to divided counsels our success in this direction is not so marked as we had reason to hope for. The conditions under which all other farm produce in Manitoba is marketed, is, if anything, worse than they were ten years ago, and so far have received no consideration from grain growers.

The people in Canada are confronted with a solution of many important questions such as the taxation of land values, the right of the public to the unearned increment, the operation and public ownership of public utilities, direct legislation including the Initiative and Referendum, the encroachment of corporations on the rights of the individual, protection, which in essence is the right of certain interests to levy a tax on all consumers of goods they manufacture, are questions which have become acute in Canada, and must be dealt with in a public way in the near future. No class of our population are so concerned or will be so vitally affected in the proper solution of those questions as the farmers. Interests who are beneficiaries of the existing fiscal and economic systems through organization, prepare themselves to advance the views of those questions that promote their interests, and spare neither time nor money to maintain conditions that are so advantageous to them.

The farmers on the other hand, have suffered in the past because they are not prepared to grapple with those ques-

tions in an effective way. If they are to make progress in securing reforms, they must learn to organize and act unitedly, they must familiarize themselves with the underlying principles of problems that are now before the public for solution and furthermore become trained in the art of public speaking and debate that they may be capable of intelligently placing before the public the viewpoint of farmers on questions affecting the welfare of the people. It is, to say the least, humiliating that the farming profession delegate to men trained in "commercialism" and in the atmosphere of "privilege" the advocacy of their needs, and the protection of their rights from the encroachment of "privilege."

The great need of Manitoba farmers today is co-operation, UNITED EFFORT, co-operation for better schools, better roads, better farming, more economical marketing, more economical purchasing of farm appliances and necessities for the farm home, a system of exchange that will enable the farmer to secure more of these necessities in exchange for his products. No man can co-operate by himself, no matter how influential. You cannot get the right kind of progress in your neighborhood pulling alone. You must sink your individualism and act in co-operation with others. You must have everybody lined up in the same endeavor, you must have the whole neighborhood interested in the same sort of thing.

What is there equal to a really live, wide-awake Grain Growers' association, whose first aim is to help the farmers forward and improve everything that makes for a better rural life so well adapted to meet this need or so potential in making farmers self-reliant? Experience in other countries has shown that there must be determined heading forward, pulling together, before that form of progress is found. There is also better schools, better roads, better marketing methods, co-operative buying, rural telephones and everything else that goes to help the individual community where organized effort exists. In short, you would find a neighborhood that is well organized, you find united effort at high tide.

Special effort should be made by the director of each branch to have a successful annual meeting so as to give an impetus to the work of the winter.

R. McKENZIE,  
Secretary.

## TO MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS

An appeal to the members of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association.

The extreme pressure under which we have been laboring in the production and handling of the harvest of this year has made it well nigh impossible till now for us as grain growers to give much thought or study to the work of our association.

## Directors:

Peter Wright, Myrtle; R. M. Wilson  
Marrington; D. D. McArthur, Lauder;  
Frank Simpson, Shoal Lake; W. H. Bewell,  
Roussar; R. J. Avison, Gilbert Plains.

Now that this pressure has somewhat subsided we will have opportunity to give both time and attention to our work of organization and also to the systematic study of economic questions which have a vital bearing on our relation to good citizenship. In order that the very best results might be obtained I have thought it advisable to ask the president and secretary of each local branch to call a meeting of their board of directors at as early a date as possible (say before the 20th inst.) for the purpose of devising the best ways and means of making their association a vital educational force in their community. At these meetings I think it would be profitable to deal with the following topics as well as any others that might suggest themselves and that would have a practical bearing on carrying out the work of our association.

1. What can we do as a board to secure the enthusiastic co-operation of all our members in the work of our association?

2. What do we consider the best method to adopt to secure the enrollment in membership of every eligible person in our community in the Grain Growers' association?

3. How can we, as a local branch, help the Central Association?

4. How can Central Association render more efficient service to the local branches?

5. What do we consider some of the most important matters to be dealt with at our next annual convention and how they should be disposed of?

6. What suggestions have you to offer as to topics to be discussed in a program of study, to be taken up systematically in all our local branches during the months of this fall and winter?

After you have called the above referred to meeting, I shall be glad to have the secretary of each local branch write me the result of your deliberations and will, through our space in the columns of The Guide, give publicity of the same for the benefit of all concerned.

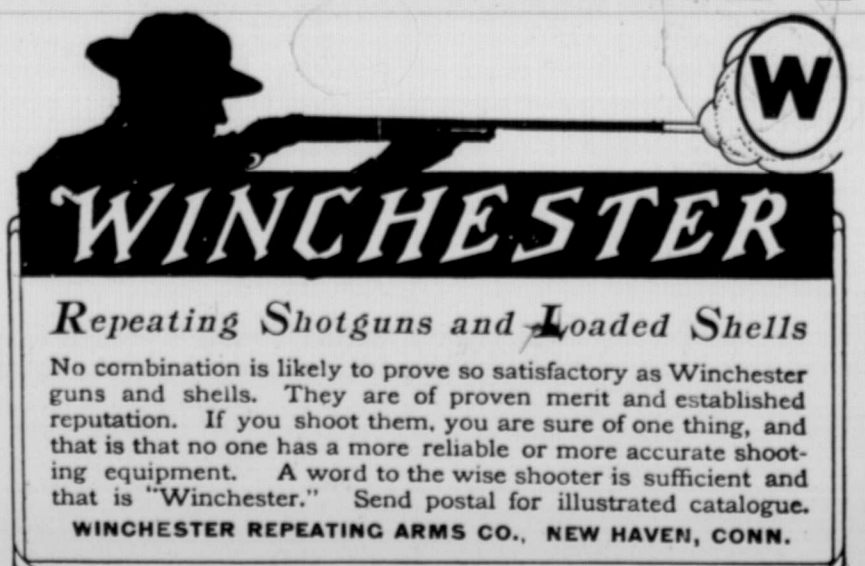
I would urgently ask all our local secretaries to act as promptly as possible in preparing and sending in their report. As it will be necessary for me to call a meeting of our central board of directors not later than the end of this month, it would be of great advantage to us to have these reports before us at that time as they will have a direct bearing on, and will materially assist in preparing our program of winter's work.

In furtherance of the above outlined work, I have asked our secretary at all points where district organizations exist to arrange at the earliest possible date for a meeting of such district organization and will, if it is thought desirable, provide that the president or secretary, or both, or some other members of the board of directors will be present at that meeting.

Yours truly,

R. C. HENDERS,  
President.

Winnipeg, Nov. 6.



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