

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

CHATEL MORTGAGE SHARKS

The secretary of one of our branches writes as follows: I would draw your attention to a very sad case of a poor man losing his team last night for the paltry sum of \$119—he has already paid on this team \$550. This man's first troubles began with a threshing outfit, finally losing his farm. He has a large family and will have a hard time from now until July, when there is a chance of making a few dollars on the roadwork.

There was a lot of talk when the moratorium put a snub on the mortgage companies last fall, but it is a pity that a check hadn't been put on those with chattel mortgages. They are a much harder crew to deal with than the loan companies; 10 and 12 per cent. is nothing to them, and unless the government take a hand at once there will be more misery and hardship than if one was at the war.

They say "War is Hell," but its nothing compared to the men that are up against their chattel mortgages.

When we find two bailiffs from the same town the same day passing within one mile of one another it will give you an idea of what times are like in some parts of Manitoba, and they are just beginning.

We are having it preached into us to grow more grain, so as to be doing our duty to the Empire. How are we going to do it unless we get some protection, if it is only for six months, that would allow us to get our crops in. As the Scots poet says:—"Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn."

SHADELAND HAD GOOD YEAR

The secretary of the Shadeland Grain Growers' Association writes: We held our annual meeting on the 19th of December, 1914. We did not have a very large attendance, but there were some good thoughts brought up in connection with our own association. The total receipts for the year 1914 were \$1,424.15 and the total expenditure was \$1,384.94, with which we purchased wire, salt, fodder, seed corn and a carload of apples, subscribed to the Patriotic Fund and used for expenses of other different things in connection with the association work. At the annual meeting James Dudgeon resigned as president and J. C. Smith was elected in his place. Sam Andrew was elected vice-president and George W. Sandy secretary-treasurer for the year 1915. The following members were elected directors: T. Slute, A. Armstrong, John Ching, James Phipps, S. B. Charters and Alex. Young. Ten members joined the association the day of the annual meeting, and I expect that every one that belonged to the association will join again and a few more. It is our desire to get every one to join if we can. So you see we have had a very fair year. There has been some other business done by the members privately, the report given here is just what went thru the secretary's hands.

KEYES ANNUAL

The secretary of the Keyes branch writes as follows: The annual meeting of the Keyes Grain Growers' Association was held on December 28. The attendance at this meeting and interest taken is good evidence of progress here. William Johnson gave a good report of the Portage district convention, to which he was a delegate. The finance report showed this branch to be in good standing and to have bought \$6,587.33 worth of goods in 1914. We bought mostly by car lots, but our local merchant supplied us with about \$530 worth of sugar and formaldehyde. A motion was passed that each member give one or more sacks of wheat to the Belgian Relief Fund. Five delegates are to be sent to the annual convention—this is our limit. Officers for the ensuing year are: I. N. Hurd, president; Wm. Johnson, vice-president; A. W. McGregor, secretary-treasurer; R. G. Lodge, J. Foster, R. Younger, E. Knox, Wm. Milne and Wm. Patterson, directors.

Would it be possible to find out at the convention members who have oats for sale? We could handle a car of seed oats here.

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

CARMAN MEETING

Our organizer, M. McCuish, writes, under date of January 1, 1915: I returned to Belmont last night from Carman and will get out on the Hartney line this afternoon. When I was in Belmont last spring I understood this branch was in good shape. They have held no meetings since spring and have twelve members for 1914. I have met the secretary and president also Mr. Myers. On Friday, January 8, we are going to try and hold a meeting in Belmont.

The Carman meeting went off fine. A. Garnett is again secretary; R. T. Elford, also a young man, is president and D. Stewart, vice-president. They will make a good team. In a short time I look for Carman to be near the top of the list in Manitoba.

J. S. Patten, secretary of the Benito Grain Growers' Association, writes: We had our annual meeting on December 26 and the following officers were elected for 1915: W. W. Graham, president; E. Halthby, vice-president; J. S. Patten, secretary-treasurer. Two delegates were appointed to attend the annual convention, Daniel Hawe and W. W. Graham.

SPRINGHILL'S PRESIDENT RETIRES

From the Springhill branch comes the following: We held our annual meeting on December 18. At the opening of the meeting two auditors were appointed to audit the books of the secretary. After examination of the books they reported everything satisfactory and the report was adopted. The following resolutions, to be forwarded to the convention, were passed:

Moved by George A. Baker, seconded by George Potter:

"Whereas the Empire is at war and will require all our energy and means in helping the Motherland at the present time, and

"Whereas a general election would not only detract from interest in the war, but cost a lot of money which could be put to better use in helping the Motherland, and

"Whereas a Dominion election, instead of welding the Canadian people, would separate them, which would create and be a serious situation.

"Therefore be it resolved, that we, the members of the Springhill Grain Growers' Association, are opposed to a Dominion election being held until after the war is over."

After considerable discussion the present system of weed inspection was considered a complete failure and the following resolution was passed, on the motion of W. A. A. Rowe, seconded by J. M. Poole:

"Whereas the present system of weed inspection in force in Manitoba has not had the desired results at one time anticipated,

"Therefore we would recommend that the provincial government repeal the present Weed Inspection Act and further recommend that the government appoint a man qualified in agriculture, having full powers as weed inspector, whose duty would be to instruct farmers how to treat different kinds of soils, as well as efficient methods of weed eradication, and also to hold weekly meetings for the instruction of farmers in agriculture throughout each municipality."

Moved by W. A. A. Rowe, seconded by George Potter:

"That we approve of the directorate of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association being made to conform with the Dominion constituencies."

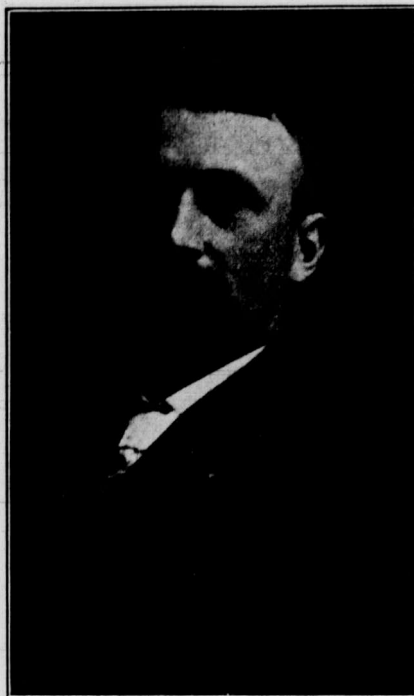
Moved by A. Willerton, seconded by W. H. Jackson:

"That we approve of amendment No. 2 to the constitution."

All present paid their dues for 1915 and the business of re-organizing was proceeded with.

Our president, John Clark, is confined to his bed most of the time, troubled with sciatica, and as he will not be able to attend any meetings during the winter, he asked to be relieved of the duties of president. Mr. Clark has been president

of our association since it was organized in March, 1908. No more faithful president in the ranks of the Grain Growers could be found than Mr. Clark. In spite of the fact that he lived six miles from the place of meeting, he was always on hand at our meetings. His enthusiasm for the cause of the great plain people enabled him to overcome weather elements, or any other obstacle which might present itself, that would have daunted much younger men, and much more convenient to the place of meeting. Mr. Clark was not only regular in attendance, but a wide reader, a deep student of conditions relating to agriculture and always came to the meetings with words of encouragement and inspiration. Altho we would have liked to have Mr. Clark for our president, yet we felt under the circumstances we would be doing him an injustice not to relieve him. But as a recognition of faithful and efficient service, and so as to still have him for



JOHN CLARK
Elected Hon. President of Springhill G.G.A. after seven years' faithful service as President

an officer, it was moved by George A. Baker and seconded by J. M. Poole, that Mr. Clark be elected honorary president, which was carried unanimously. Fred Harper, who has been co-worker with Mr. Clark as vice-president since the association was organized, and one of our most enthusiastic and widely read Grain Growers, was, on motion of Joe Pekary, seconded by Stanley Baker, elected president.

It was moved by George A. Baker and seconded by Joe Pekary; that J. M. Poole be vice-president. An amendment was moved by J. M. Poole, seconded by George Potter, that George A. Baker be vice-president. The amendment carried.

A. J. M. Poole was elected secretary-treasurer for another year. A. Willerton, W. H. Jackson, Tom Pearson, George Potter, J. M. Poole and Rich Jackson were elected directors. George Potter and W. H. Jackson were elected delegates to attend the convention. Roy McCollam and Joe Pekary being appointed substitutes, in the event of one or both delegates being unable to attend. It was decided to have an entertainment during the winter and the proceeds sent to the Central Association. I am enclosing \$34 for the Belgian Fund, making a total of \$101 from Springhill.

ORGANIZER'S REPORT

R. McCuish, Organizer, reports on his week's work as follows: Leaving Winnipeg December 14, I went by C.P.R. to Carberry, where I met a number of farmers who at one time belonged to Carberry Branch. With one exception, they were in favor of

DIRECTORS:	
Peter Wright	Myrtle
R. M. Wilson	Marrinhurst
P. D. McArthur	Longburn
Frank Simpson	Shoal Lake
W. H. English	Harding
R. J. Avison	Gilbert Plains

trying to reorganize. They referred me to H. Mathews, Agent to the Grain Growers' Grain Company for that point. After having an interview, we decided to call a meeting in the Town Hall at Carberry on December 12, to be addressed by R. McKenzie, Secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. Leaving Carberry, my next stop was at Wellwood. Here I met a very active association, but as a number of the members stated that if a meeting was called to be addressed by a representative from the Central Office, they felt sure that they would get many others to join their branch. I made arrangements for a meeting on December 11, and phoned the Central Office to furnish them a speaker. From Wellwood I journeyed west to Brookdale. Brookdale is one of the points where our Association has ceased to be active. The day I arrived, there was a special school meeting called, so I had an opportunity of meeting a number of the farmers. In trying to find out the cause of the failure of their local branch I did not get the same reason from any two farmers, nor did I get encouragement enough to justify me in calling a meeting at that point. From Brookdale I drove by livery across country to Ingelow to attend the annual meeting of the Ingelow Branch. I addressed the gathering briefly, outlining the activities of the Grain Growers' Association and the Grain Growers' Grain Company during the past year. Also spoke of the "Outlines of Study" prepared for use of the Association during the winter months, and furnished them ten copies of the booklet, "Rural Citizenship." Ingelow Branch is in a very healthy condition, and they are running their own store. I next stopped at Harte on the G.T.P., as the roads were very bad and the telephone out of commission I was unable to meet any of the farmers of the district. From Harte I was obliged to double back to McGregor and went west to Douglas. I was again unfortunate in running into bad weather, bad roads and telephone also out of commission, owing to frost gathering on the wires and breaking them, so I went to Wawanesa. At Wawanesa we had, some four or five years ago, a very active association, but thru lack of interest and general prosperity of the farmers of the district, their branch ceased to be active, but with the assistance of the energetic agent of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, Oliver Elliott, we succeeded in getting a very representative meeting together in the I.O.O.F. Hall, Wawanesa, on Saturday, December 12. After I addressed the meeting on the past, present and future of the farmers' movement, it was decided to reorganize. O. T. H. Elliott was elected President; H. S. Henderson, Vice-President, and C. H. Rutledge, Secretary-Treasurer, with six directors. Wawanesa branch took on a new lease of life with eighteen paid-up members. From Wawanesa I went east to Hilton, also one of the points where the farmers have not given the Association the support justly due to it. However, I met from 10 to 12 farmers, who agreed to attend a meeting in Hilton Town Hall, on December 14, but I was greatly disappointed when only three came out to the meeting. As the Secretary-Treasurer of the Hilton Branch had on hand \$7.00 and some cents it was decided by those present that it should be sent to the Provincial Secretary.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$3,907.05
Reston, per W. H. Duncan	10.00
Birtle, second contribution	40.00
Rivers and Wheatland	10.00
Springhill, second contribution	34.00
Forest	102.00
Total	\$4,103.05