

Saskatchewan

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

EXECUTIVE:

Hon. President—E. N. Hopkins Moose Jaw
Hon. Vice-President—C. A. Dunning Regina
President—J. A. Maharg Moose Jaw
Vice-President—A. G. Hawkes Porcupine
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Fred W. Green Langham
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George Langley Maymont
C. E. Flatt Tantallon
W. J. Thompson Warman
J. B. Musselman Moose Jaw

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Dist. No.	Director	Location
1—W. H. Beasley	Balbeek
2—M. P. Roddy	Rouleau
3—G. E. Noggle	Lampman
4—R. M. Johnston	Eastview
5—J. W. Easton	Mosomin
6—F. W. Redman	Grenfell
7—C. O. A. Travis	Govan
8—Thorn F. Eddy	Bethune
9—John F. Reid	Orcadia
10—J. L. Hooke	Togo
11—T. Sales	Langham
12—Andrew Knox	Prince Albert
13—W. H. Lilwall	Wilkie
14—T. M. Morgan	Aqueduct
15—Frank Burton	Vanguard
16—W. T. Hall	Surliton

"LEGITIMATE TRADERS" WAIT ON GOVERNMENT

The twin bills, one to amend the act incorporating the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the other to amend the Agricultural Co-operative Associations' Act, which were introduced to the legislature by Dr. Lougheed, M.L.A. of Gull Lake, and which had received a first and second reading, were brought before the house committee on agriculture at Regina on the 17th inst. President Maharg and the writer were present to make any explanations required and to safeguard the interests of co-operative traders.

The Retail Merchants' Association of Saskatchewan had requested of Premier Scott that no definite action on either of these bills should be taken without an opportunity having first been afforded them to interview the government on behalf of the retail merchants. This opportunity was given them at this session of the committee where the retailers were represented in considerable force by their secretary, first and second vice-presidents, and several other influential men led by a prominent solicitor especially employed for the occasion.

The one outstanding feature of their solicitor's numerous addresses was the fact that he knew very little of what he was hired to talk about. It took about an hour of the committee's time and the best efforts of those present to persuade the solicitor of this fact and even the questions suggested to him by the officers of the retailers served only to make still more ludicrous the already ridiculous assumptions of the lawyer, who, when finally fully convinced by a member of the government that he was utterly incorrect in his premises made the extremely suggestive reply: "Well, you know we lawyers must do something to earn our money." He went out of his way, however, to pointedly remind the government that in the matter of "vote getting" the Retail Merchants' Association, with nearly 2,000 members was a body which was well worth taking into consideration; this evidently being his trump card with which he hoped to influence the legislature in favor of his employers.

The Retail Merchants' fought hard to force the Association to incorporate as a joint stock company, evidently being aware that a joint stock company, paying profits to its shareholders, could never fill the position of a great educative, propagandist and co-operative trading body such as the Association. Failing utterly to influence the committee of the house, the retailers took a different attitude and gave their lawyer a fuller opportunity to "earn his money" by instructing him to declare that the Retail Merchants' Association held that everyone has a right to compete in an open market and that they are in favor of all kinds of competition. This high sounding declaration was no doubt meant for public ear. The actions of the retailers are indeed contrary to this high sounding sentiment. They do not want a competition that is a saving on their own wasteful system of distribution or one that will save the farmer money. They have done their utmost to pledge all their members to refuse to purchase from any one who will sell to any co-operative organization, whether wholesale or retail, and especially to the Grain Growers. Such an attempt at a boycott might be the result of short-sighted or distorted judgment, but to couple with this deliberate attempt to create a boycott, the statement, "the Retailers' Association holds that everyone has a right to compete in an open market" denotes a moral sense so warped that it will cause many an honest merchant to blush with shame when he finds that the executive of his Association has thus represented in public the retailers of this province.

J. B. MUSSELMAN.

J. B. Musselman,

Central Secretary S. G. G. A.

Dear Sir:—I want to congratulate you on the firm stand you are taking re the

many communications coming to you on the independent or third party question. Your reply to Mr. Randall carries the feeling of all the members of the board with whom I have conversed on the subject and is in accord with my own opinion and wishes. Personally I am very sorry that there should be in our ranks any person who will endanger the continuity of the splendid work of our Association. I agree that many of our politicians on both sides of the house are seemingly unfit for the offices they hold, but what guarantee can our friends give us that the third party will keep their garments white? History is apt to repeat itself and there are those of us who have seen so-called independence tried out, but with disastrous results to various organizations working much for the same objects as ourselves. My own opinion is that we can never cleanse our politics by multiplying parties and that the only effectual way is thru Direct Legislation. Get every farmer of every nationality in our province into the Association, then demand Direct Legislation, to my mind the only efficacious instrument by and thru which we can ever hope to reach our goal.

I wonder if those espousing the third party cause (for the G. G. A.) ever sit down to think over what has been done thru our Associations of the three provinces during the past ten years, and ask themselves if such a splendid record lies now to our credit, what of the future, when we remember that even now the membership of our own provincial Association is larger than that of the three provinces combined two years ago. Should this splendid progress be retarded and shall we run the risk of frustrating our own plans and wrecking our Association, just as we are getting into a position, numerically, financially and intellectually, to ask and have?

I appeal to every lover of our cause, stand firm in the privileges, liberties and benefits we have received, remembering that they have come to us (as all we hope for and need must come) thru organization, education, co-operation and the never failing lever, moral suasion of the voice of 100,000 farmers of the three provinces within the next eighteen months.

Fraternally yours,

F. W. REDMAN.

Grenfell, Sask., Dist. Director.
June 21, 1915.

PATRIOTIC ACRES

The following is a list of canvassers, with the number of forms obtained and the number of acres promised since the last list was issued. From this it will be seen that G. Tarbat and Jas. Ransdell, of the Percy Association, who have canvassed the whole district in company, now head the list with 50 forms and 50 acres to their credit. Well done Percy! Yellow Lake will now have to look to its laurels.

Association	Canvasser	Forms	Acres
Percy	G. Tarbat and Jas. Ransdell	50	50
Bounty	Frank Weir	23	23
Markinch	E. H. McLean	21	21
Celand	Edwin Jones	20	20
Webb	Ivan Austin	20	20
Holar Birch Creek	S. G. Kristianson	20	18 1/2
Tallville	T. E. Hardy	15	15
Craik and Foxbury	D. Talloch	10	10
Victoria Plains	Thos. S. Stehling	10	10
Burrows-Hopchill	John Gemmell	10	10
Markinch	G. T. Edwards	10	10
Winnifred	Harold W. Hogg	10	10
Hutton	W. J. Heal	10	10
North Tisdale	F. Randall	10	8 & 1/2

EVERY MEMBER READ THIS

At our last meeting we held our election of officers for this local and the following were elected: President, J. Richmond; Vice-President, F. Buckingham; Directors: A. K. Field, H. McNeal, C. S. Brunton, W. Bruner, C. Bouma and T. Hill. Hon. auditor, J. Porter. At the directors' meeting, held on Saturday, W. E. Kimber was appointed secretary-treasurer.

I do not know whether it is necessary, but I am enclosing a copy of the directors' report. I am myself proud of the way our members have taken to the Association and the interest they have always shown

for its welfare and I should like it to be brought to your notice.

I have just received your receipt for our last dues, accompanied by some kind words of appreciation.

Finally your directors wish the Association the success it deserves and which they know it will receive and they are unanimous in promising it their entire support and help in any capacity in the future.

A. K. Field, President; J. Richmond, Vice-President; Directors: A. L. Crail, C. S. Brunton, W. E. Cummings, H. Foster, W. Willoughby.

W. E. KIMBER.

Sec. Parkside G. G. A.

Directors' Report—Parkside Local

Your directors have pleasure in submitting for your approval the following report for the Parkside Grain Growers' Association.

The Association was organized on March 7 with a membership of 28. It now totals, after nine months, 77 fully paid up members.

Your directors would like to point out that there must be some good in, some want filled by our Association, for it to have grown to such proportions in so short a time.

In your directors' eyes the objects of this Association are three, which are as follows: To buy together, to sell together, and to discuss together all matters relating to our interests. These all spell co-operation. With regard to buying together, we have handled in our as yet short life 5,000 lbs. of twine, two carloads of flour and feed, one large carload of apples and have now in hand half car of apples and also sugar and salt, and more flour and feed, and your directors estimate to save on these orders about 20 per cent. When these orders are all put thru the members of this Association will have bought together nearly \$4,000 worth of goods at an estimated saving of nearly \$800.00 to those who took advantage of buying thru us.

Your directors have done nothing as yet with regard to selling together, feeling that that end of our business will be developed better if not forced.

The opportunity is here taken of calling your attention to the absolute necessity of putting our buying and selling on a proper business footing. Our 1914 way of trading suited us very well as a starting point, and it has succeeded in so far that we can now see the tremendous advantage we derive from buying our necessities together, but it is too haphazard and has too many drawbacks to succeed in a large way. We have grown so large and strong that unless we cramp ourselves, we must incorporate into a limited liability company.

With regard to the third object, your directors feel that this is a very important one and are satisfied that it is being properly carried out. The records of the meetings point to an increasing interest being shown in all matters requiring our interest and they feel that our Association fills a firm in our community and that it is firmly established here, with its future assured.

Your directors wish to thank the members for their loyal support in all business that has been undertaken and which, by reason of that support, has been carried thru. They acknowledge that without that support success would not have attended any of their efforts, however well made. This proves again that farmers working together and staying together can and will make themselves a very powerful organization for their own good.

A GOOD PROGRAM

Enclosed is check value \$5.00, being the amount due to the Central for ten new members. I have great pleasure to report our membership has now reached a total of 36.

We held our annual meeting on Wednesday last. Our attendances have been good for the year and our meetings have been instructive and interesting.

We have not accomplished anything great, as the members of our local are new settlers, but the spirit is willing.

Our next quarter's program is as follows: Newspaper cutting night, destruction of gophers, exchange of ideas, musical evening, political evening, mixed farming, papers on summerfallow, invitation to old timers and experiences.

I thought you would like a slight idea of our meetings, so the above represents a few of our evenings' work during the following quarter.

E. O. HILLIER.

Sec. Eastleigh G. G. A.

ENTHUSIASM AT MINOT

The largest gathering we have ever had at our schoolhouse assembled when our Association gave an oyster supper. After supper a literary program was rendered, consisting of songs and recitations, followed by three able addresses. Mr. Grenache, of Neville, spoke on the war, which he charged up to commercialism. Frank Burton, of Vanguard, the local organizer for this district, spoke of the Grain Growers' Association, its accomplishments and prospects. He made us feel like pressing on in the good work. The third speaker was Sam Moore, editor of the Swift Current Sun, on the war. The addresses were all well received and much enthusiasm prevailed.

We have done some co-operative buying during the past year—a carload of posts, \$75.00 worth of plow shares—a saving of nearly half on that—a carload of coal at \$6.00 per ton—a saving of from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per ton—a part of a car of apples—a saving of \$1.50 to \$2.00 per barrel. Our Association is located near Bourgogne, P.O., eight miles south of Neville, Sask., in the drought district, and these little savings seem a good deal to us.

I herewith enclose \$10.00 to pay for 20 members; there will be as many more soon.

At our last meeting our Association passed the following resolution: Resolved, that this Association favors a closed herd law and each municipality should decide the question for itself.

J. A. HORNBACK,

Sec. Minot G. G. A.

CATARAQUI ANNUAL

At the annual meeting of the Cataraqui Local, No. 131, the following officers were elected: President, Harry Eastwood; Secretary-Treasurer, Herbert Milne. Directors: S. H. Platt, Solomon Bell, John Urton, J. A. Milne, Sidney Jenkins and Henry Milne.

HERBERT MILNE,

Sec. Cataraqui G. G. A.

CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your check in settlement of shortage in car of potatoes, also excess freight rates charged by the railway company.

In conjunction with our local body here I wish to thank you most heartily for your promptness and ability in dealing with this matter, which has been done so very satisfactorily to us here. No doubt we can do business in the future as the method adopted by you over the potatoes has won a good many staunch friends who I am sure will stay with us to the bitter end.

Again thanking you, I remain,

J. H. PARKS,

Sec'y Warman G.G.A.

A START MADE

You will see by enclosed that we are still growing. We have done some trading in cordwood and fencing which has broken the ice as it were and have almost cut the price of cordwood in half, which means something.

Would you send me prices on binder twine. We will likely decide about getting it at our next meeting.

I enclose \$7.50 entrance fees for fifteen members.

ALEX. CUMMING,

Sec'y Tessier Local.