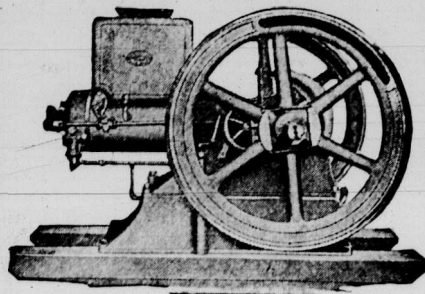


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Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by E. O. Henderson, President

STONEWALL'S CONCERT AND SUPPER

The first annual concert, supper and ball of the Stonewall branch of the Grain Growers' Association was held in Stonewall Town Hall, on the evening of Friday, January 16. The hall was crowded and a most enjoyable evening was spent, thanks, in a great measure, to the indefatigable efforts of Messrs. R. D. Laing, Krufisz and Hand, who succeeded in securing local amateur talent of no mean order for the concert. It would be insidious to name in any special manner any of the artists, ladies or gentlemen, as all acquitted themselves in a highly creditable manner, and gave the gathering the opportunity rarely afforded of hearing the ability that is in their midst. The supper was provided by the Grain Growers' wives, and reflects great credit on them, as ample refreshments of the finest quality, well cooked, were furnished, and the ladies who saw to this part of the evening's entertainment most assuredly deserve the best thanks of those who partook of the repast. After supper a dance followed and about seventy couples tripped the light fantastic till about 2 a.m., when the meeting broke up, all well satisfied with the night's proceedings. Music for the dancing was furnished by members of the Association, and was of the proper kind for thorough enjoyment. Mr. Stanbridge, President of the branch, very ably presided during the evening. What astonishes us is the fact that only twenty-five cents per head was charged for the night's enjoyment, and we understand the result of the meeting has added a tidy little sum to the coffers of the branch.

Farmers in the Stonewall district who are not members of this live and prosperous branch of the Grain Growers' Association are realizing that they are missing a good thing.

MEETINGS ARE SOCIAL CENTRES

The Ladies' branch of the Mulvihill Association held their first social on Friday, January 23, in Mulvihill school. Over a hundred men, women and children were present, some coming six or seven miles with ox teams to attend the social. The larger portion of the evening was taken up by a select program of songs, readings, recitations, etc., largely by the younger members of the community. M. McCuish, organizer for the Grain Growers' association, being present on invitation, addressed the meeting on the work of the Association.

Mulvihill is situated in the newer districts about one hundred and twenty-five miles north-west of Winnipeg. They are taking hold of the work of the Grain Growers' association with vigor, and are making the meetings of their Association the social centre during the winter for the community. We believe that this is the first branch in Manitoba that has organized a ladies' branch of the Association, and they are to be congratulated on the enterprise that they have shown and the vigor with which they are taking hold of the work of the Association.

The officers of the ladies' branch are: Mrs. T. W. White, President; Mrs. E. B. Lindley, Vice-President; Mrs. T. Mitchell, Secretary-Treasurer.

FROM OUR LARGEST BRANCH

The following interesting letter is from the secretary of the largest branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association, Eriksdale branch, which was formed only last summer and now has a membership of 188.

We were pleased to have a visit from the provincial organizer, Mr. McCuish. We advertised one meeting at Hartfield school, where we had a nice meeting. Mr. McCuish related some of the benefits we were now enjoying as a body of farmers in Western Canada, and also some of the benefits we have derived locally thru the work and efforts of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association. After the address of Mr. McCuish the meeting was open for questions and discussion. Mr. McCuish acquitted himself well and proved in my estimation well worthy of his position, and the good work the Association is doing for the

farmers. Everybody seemed to enjoy the splendid meeting we had.

We then proceeded to Pine View district and had another meeting in the Clydebank school. The attendance was not as large as it might have been, but Mr. McCuish was not discouraged, his efforts were untiring and he handled the subjects he took up well, and went on to show what the Grain Growers had attained and to what objects they were attaining. We had a nice fireside talk after Mr. McCuish was thru, and I can assure you it was very edifying to sit there and have an exchange of views with Mr. McCuish to help us out. That morning I handed Mr. McCuish over to the care of the president, as I was unable to go with him the next day. At the last general meeting of this branch, it was the wish of those present that the secretary communicate with Central in regard to the advisability of nominating a Farmers' or Independent candidate for the Provincial House at the next general election.

JAMES FORSYTH,
Sec. Eriksdale Branch.

GLENELLA DOUBLES MEMBERSHIP

At the annual meeting of the Glenella Grain Growers' association, we had the best attendance we have ever had. The annual report of the secretary showed the membership had doubled during the year, and the finances of the Association very satisfactory.

After discussing the advisability of forming a Co-operative Society, a committee was appointed to investigate the cost of a site and building and report to the next meeting. Officers elected for 1914: T. Wilson, President; R. H. Smith, Vice-President; Austin Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; C. Wilson, Auditor.

W. TOMPKINS, Sec.
Glenella P.O., Man.

MEMBERSHIP BOOSTED BY 36

The Branch at Ashern seems to be in a very flourishing condition. They have increased their membership by 36 since the annual meeting, due almost entirely to the enthusiasm of the secretary and other officers of the Branch. This shows the necessity of our Branches, when electing their officers, being sure to elect good live men who have the good of the Association at heart, as the efficiency of almost any organization depends very largely upon the officers of that organization.

MOLINE BUSY CO-OPERATING

Perhaps a summary of what this Branch has been doing during the past year may be of interest to some of your readers, and also may, incidentally, encourage some other Branch that has as yet not tried anything along the line of buying in car-load lots.

It was with some fear and trembling that we ordered our first car of flour last February, but it went off all right, under the able management of the president and secretary. Then two cars of wood were disposed of, then a second car of flour. Later a car of apples, three cars of coal, two more of wood, and there are on order now two cars of fence posts and one of cordwood.

An arrangement is made with the bank (by a business committee) to pay the sight drafts for these cars as they come to hand, but we hope in the near future to provide a contingent fund by which this financing may be done without the charge of interest and exchange.

Our regular meetings are held at 8 o'clock p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month, but owing to the interest in, and the amount of business on hand, during the winter months we have been holding two meetings each month. At the first meeting in January, 1914, the formation of a beef ring was discussed and a clear and concise address on the subject was given by Mr. Wolstenholms, of Pettapiece. The "bill" is to come up for its final reading on March 3. At the second meeting in January the formation of a co-operative society, with headquarters

at Moline, was the subject under discussion. Mr. Shanks and Mr. Hindson both gave interesting addresses on the subject and prospects are good for something being done along this line very soon. We have also been favored by a visit from the representative of the Robin Hood Mills of Moose Jaw, but he found business in this locality exceedingly dull.

A social evening, a visit from Mr. Kennedy, and the Grain Growers' lantern lecture are some of the items on the program for future meetings.

SOCIAL SIDE OF GRAIN GROWERS

A box social was held in the school house at Oatfield, Man., on Friday, Jan. 30, in connection with the building fund of the Mulvihill Branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. It is the first of a series to be held there in order that funds for the building of a store can be raised by the members of this branch who live in the district of Oatfield. Dancing commenced at 8 p.m. and was continued till 12 p.m., when a short program was arranged, which was met with loud applause. M. McCuish delivered a very interesting address, in which he gave us sound advice on our present undertaking, and also explained, for the benefit of those who did not understand, the method by which we intend to work our co-operative store. Mr. McCuish then sold the boxes, which were most beautifully decorated. One box reached the price of \$2.75. The sale realized the sum of \$12.00. After supper dancing was continued until 3 a.m. The president, Mr. Linley, and the secretary, Mr. Mitchell, drove out from Mulvihill with a couple of sleigh loads in order to give this Oatfield dance a start. We organized a sub-committee of ways and means which will look after the dances there and report to the main ways and means committee. We also enrolled two new members. Mrs. Thos. Mitchell, secretary of the ladies' auxiliary of the Grain Growers' association of Mulvihill, was also present and was successful in enrolling several new members. On the whole a most pleasant time was spent and was very successful.

We would recommend the above to all of our branches as one of the best methods there is of maintaining an interest in the Grain Growers' association, and at the same time raising funds for the building of a co-operative store, hall or any other project that the members may want to enter upon. Many of our ranches do not pay enough attention to the social side of the community and therefore interest lags. Getting everyone out, men, women, boys and girls, to these socials and giving them instructive addresses on the social and economic questions that are affecting the farmers at the present time, interspersed with music, songs and other forms of entertainment, is one of the best means of holding the interest of the older members and instructing the younger ones in the questions which most affect them.

ASSOCIATION LETTERHEADS

In the Manitoba section of The Guide, under date of February 4, I notice an excellent letter from B. N. Thomas, and your own comment on same. I just wish to give you a little experience with the use of the Association letterheads, to back up what was said about advertising our Association. Some time ago I wrote to a machinery firm in the United States asking for their catalog and price list of stumping machines, etc., and I used our Association letterheads (as I do in all my correspondence). In replying they sent their catalog, containing the regular prices at which their machines were being sold, but they stated in their letter that noticing the Manitoba Grain Growers' letterhead they were enclosing a slip containing their regular trade discounts to agents, and as our members might be needing a number of machines we could get one or more at these prices. Now their discount was from 50 to 60 per cent. on their different machines. Take for instance one machine, costing \$40.00. I could save \$20.00 which would pay for my stationery for a good many years. I hope the time will come when every member of our Association will use our Association letterheads.

COLIN H. BURNELL,
Sec., Oakville.