

Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by B. C. Henders, to whom all communications for this page should be sent

A FARMERS' MARKET

The Farmers' Market Association Limited, organized under the Manitoba Co-operative Act for the purpose of continuing the Central Farmers' Market, established last July under the auspices of the Million for Manitoba League, has secured a three-years' lease of the market annex to the Industrial Bureau in Winnipeg.

At a meeting of the association held a few days ago it was decided to open the market on the first day of May.

The board of trustees of this association is composed of three representatives each from the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association and the Market Gardeners' Association, one representative each from the Trades and Labor Council (representing consumers), the Million for Manitoba League, and the Industrial Bureau (representing business interests) with a view to getting the producer of farm products, the consumers, and general business interests associated so as to popularize the market and make it as far as possible what a farmers' market should be—a place where the producer will have an opportunity to expose his goods for sale, and the consumer an opportunity of purchasing his requirements of such produce direct from the producer.

Produce from outside points in any part of the province will be received and sold by the management of the market on commission, the aim being to ultimately have all kinds of produce grown on Canadian farms, including meats and fruits, exposed for sale on this market.

Study Thru Operation

One of the great unsolved problems confronting the people of the western provinces is an economical system of distribution of farm produce, a system that will get the consumer and producer as close together as possible. While a properly managed farmers' market will provide a means of distribution for farmers within a reasonable radius of that market, the question of providing a market for producers outside that radius is still unprovided for. One of the purposes of the Central Farmers' Market Association is to study that question thru actual operation and attempt to provide a remedy. The situation that has confronted producers of farm products in the West so far has tended to discourage production. At the season of the year when farmers have their products ready for market the prices realized, on account of lack of proper distribution, were unremunerative, while immediately after the products passed out of the farmer's hands the consumer was forced to pay exorbitant prices for same. For instance, several places in Saskatchewan farmers are selling eggs at 10c per dozen at the present time. The people of the towns and cities, next winter, will be paying 50c and 60c per dozen for the same eggs. Potatoes were sold last fall from 20c to 25c per bushel, f.o.b. Winnipeg, while the people of Winnipeg during the winter and spring pay as high as \$1.50 per bushel.

It will be part of the business of this market association to study these undesirable conditions and from actual experience endeavor to provide a remedy. Efforts will be made for different branches of the Grain Growers' Association to organize groups of producers and facilitate the shipping of commodities produced on the farm. A campaign of education for raising farm produce and proper methods of marketing will be carried on thru the different branches of the Grain Growers' Association. A proper farmers' market in Winnipeg should be an incentive for establishing market gardens, poultry and dairy farms in the vicinity of the city. This phase of the enterprise should strongly appeal to the business instinct of the citizens.

The officials and directors of the Farmers' Market Association are as follows: President, R. McKenzie, secretary Manitoba Grain Growers' Association;

vice-president, R. R. Grey, market gardener; secretary-treasurer, T. H. Ashton Martin; directors, T. A. Crerar, president Grain Growers' Grain Co.; C. H. Burnell, President Oakville Co-operative Society; C. H. Paul, market gardener; F. W. Haek, market gardener; F. J. C. Cox, representing Winnipeg Industrial Bureau; J. W. Ryckman, representing Million for Manitoba League; and H. Willoughby, representing Trades and Labor Council.

SOCIAL AT WOODMORE

A Grain Growers' social was held in Woodmore Hall on Friday evening, March 20. Unfortunately, the evening turned out very stormy and many found it impossible to attend, but those who braved the elements spent a pleasant and enjoyable evening. Ellery Post presided. T. W. Knowles, Emerson, was the speaker, and in a very clear and attractive manner addressed the meeting on the burning questions of the day, and concluded his speech with a very clever recitation. Miss Mary Law also gave a recitation in the Scotch dialect. A vote of thanks to Mr. Knowles was passed at the close.

PROTEST AGAINST SUBSIDIES

At a meeting of the Ashern Branch held recently the following resolution was passed: We would recommend this resolution to the careful consideration of all our secretaries and members.

Resolved that this association highly disapproves of more grants being made to the steel trust, railroad companies or other corporations, and consider that such grants would be more beneficial if applied to the farming industry thruout the West. That the secretary notify the central office, and request that the central office take this matter up with all branch associations, and send a combined protest to the authorities at Ottawa.

This branch is growing very rapidly. From 39 members last year we have increased to 108, which is not bad in such a short time. We have done a good deal of co-operative buying chiefly of groceries and flour and feed. We have handled six cars of flour and feed since the 1st of February and the seventh is now on order. The saving to the members on these six cars is approximately \$900, as compared with local prices. At the same time the quality of the flour and feed has met with general satisfaction. At present we are seriously handicapped thru having no building of our own to use for storage purposes. We hope in the near future to get over this difficulty by the erection of a building of our own. When that is completed we shall be in a very strong position in this locality, with every hope of our efficiency increasing as our membership grows.

T. B. BOMFORD, Sec.

ROARING RIVER MEETING

A special meeting of the Roaring River Branch was held on April 9, to discuss a letter received from The Grain Growers' Grain Company re binder twine. Every member present placed his order with the secretary, who was instructed to forward the order to The Grain Growers' Grain Co. We obtained several new members as a result of the cheapness of the twine. After the special meeting we held our regular meeting, at which the following resolutions were passed: "That we pay for the Brandon Convention reports which we have received." "That this Association is in favor of free wheat and agricultural implements, and that we protest against the government bonusing the steel and iron industry and the imposing of a duty on fence wire, and that the secretary write Premier Borden, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Mr. White, and Robt. Cruise, M.P., to that effect." "That the secretary write the three political candidates and invite them to address us at an early date." "That the secretary write to Mr. McKenzie of the Central Associa-

tion for an explanation of the transferring of \$1,500 from the Fighting Fund to the General Fund, and that this association refuses to make any further contributions to the Fighting Fund till we have a satisfactory explanation of the matter." "That we spend \$2.00 on co-operative literature." At our next meeting we are going to consider the question of inviting the Grain Growers' Associations in this district to hold a meeting at an early date for the purpose of starting a co-operative store in Minnetonka.

JOHN LIVESEY, Sec.

DUNSTAN'S ANNUAL

The Dunstan branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association held its annual meeting at Shannon school on Wednesday, April 14. A. Parry, president, in the chair. The meeting was well attended, and the interest in the farmers' welfare seems to be growing stronger among the farmers of Dunstan. Five new members joined, and we are hoping for a large membership in the near future.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, A. Parry; vice-president, J. Godkin; secretary-treasurer, J. B. Weber; directors, W. Keir, E. H. Spencer, R. I. Cummings, Wm. Keith, H. Loughheed, D. F. Stewart.

The next meeting will be held in May, and we cordially invite every farmer who believes in organization and co-operation to be present and join hands with the Dunstan Grain Growers.

J. B. WEBER,

SPRINGHILL ENTERTAINMENT

It is needless to say that our entertainment of April 8 was a decided success. The program all the way thru was good, being a source of education as well as entertainment for those present. The attendance was all that could be expected, owing to very little advertising on account of not being positively sure of our speakers till near date of entertainment; also that there was to be a magic lantern show the following night. There were eighty grown people besides some children in attendance. Mr. Henderson, one of the singers, is an Irishman sure, with considerable of Paddy's wit. His second song, "It's Just Like Being at Home," was too good to pass, and he was encored back again. Mr. Henderson is a valuable addition to the community when we want to get up a program for an entertainment. Rev. Robert Patterson, of Eden, kindly consented to help with the program, and his song, "A Hundred Pipers," proved that the sons of Scotland can hold their own when it comes to singing a real good song. Geo. Poole, our youngest member and one of the promising Grain Growers of the future, gave a short speech on the "Trust Question." Mrs. W. A. A. Rowe, our elocutionist, gave an excellent reading, "A Yankee in Love," which was so well rendered that the secretary was very much impressed with the idea that Mrs. Rowe would be a good addition to the list of speakers of the Political Equality League. Miss Flett, of Winnipeg, gave a splendid address on "Woman's Suffrage," putting up some very good arguments. Woman's Suffrage is quite popular in this district. At the close of Miss Flett's address it was moved and seconded that we approve of the principle of Woman's Suffrage by a standing vote. All present stood up but about half a dozen. Only one woman refused to vote for the resolution. There is considerable agitation among some of our women folk to organize a Woman's Suffrage Auxiliary to the Grain Growers' Association, and we are inviting the ladies to our next meeting, May 1, to consider the matter. Mr. Dixon's address on the "Single Tax" brought forth a few questions and some discussion. He has got the people here thinking. We are to discuss the Single Tax at our next meeting, and it will soon be as popular as Direct Legislation. At the close, A. J. M. Poole read the paper given at the Brandon convention by D. S. McLeod, on "How Can We Increase the Efficiency of Our Association?" The program was well received all the way thru, and was brought to a close by singing the national anthem.

A. J. M. POOLE

The Importance of Making a Will

Too Many Neglect This Important Matter

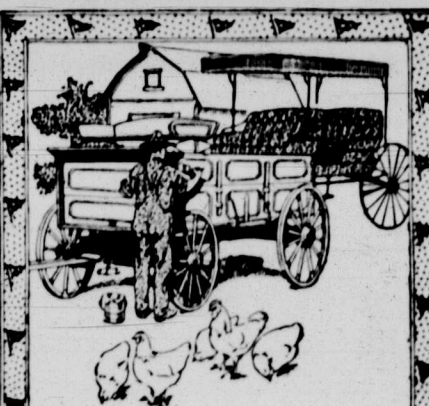
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