MANITOBA SECTION

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially by the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by S. McKenzie, Secretary, Winnipeg, Man.

MANITOBA GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Honorary President:
J. W. Scallion - - Virden
President:
H. C. Hembre - Calvas
Vice-President:
J. S. Wood - - Oakville
Secretary-Treasurer:
S. McKenzie - Winnipeg
Directors:
Peter Wright, Myrtle; R. M. Wilson, Morningside; D. D. McArthur, Lauder; C. Bardetto, Franwarren; W. H. Howell, Rosser; R. J. Avison, Gilbert Plains.

MANY RESOLUTIONS PASSED

The following branches have passed during the past week strong resolutions endorsing the action of the executive of the central association, on March 2nd, when they re-affirmed their stand on the reciprocity question: Griswold, Forwarren, Myrtle, Stone Hill, Shadeland, Deloraine, Dunrea, Crandell, Barnsby, Carnegie, Elm Creek, Shellmouth, Empire, St. Elizabeth, Boissevain, Letellier. The majority of these branches are sending copies of their resolution to their member in the Dominion House, to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the minister of trade and commerce and to Hon. Clifford Sifton.

THANK MR. SCALLION

At a special meeting of the Grain Growers held at Valley River, on the 9th inst., an unanimous resolution was passed endorsing the resolution of the executive, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. R. L. Borden, Glen Campbell, M.P., and to the press. The following resolution was also passed unanimously: "That we tender a vote of thanks to J. W. Scallion and other officers who so ably defend, through the press, the stand taken by the delegation of farmers on December 16 last, at Ottawa.

MILLER ENDORSES RECIPROCITY

At a meeting of the Griswold branch held March 11 a strong resolution was passed in favor of the ratification of the free trade agreement, and an increase in the British preference; also the placing of agricultural implements on the free list. W. J. Emerson, of Creelman, Sask., made an effective speech, and I. B. McKenzie, manager of the Echo Milling Company, also spoke strongly in favor of the agreement, expressing his opinion that it would not hurt the milling interests and also that it would considerably enhance the price of barley and flax, of which an increasing quantity is grown in this district. This branch has a membership of about fifty, and practically all the business men of the town are in sympathy with them.

LENA ORGANIZED

On Friday, March 10, an organized deputation from Killarney composed of Messrs. Campbell, Hayden, Stow, Magwood, Hodson and Finlay journeyed to Lena, and delivered instructive addresses on what the Grain Growers have accomplished and the benefits the farmers derive through the Grain Growers' Association. A local branch of the Grain Growers was then organized with a membership of twenty. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. Stewart; vice-president, A. Foster; Secretary, G. Church; directors, Messrs. Archibald, McIlroy, Anderson, Finleyson, Sproul, Barber.

ROSSENDALE FORMED

On March 11 the Rossendale farmers, with the help of J. S. Wood, of Oakville, organized a branch of the G. G. A. The following were elected as officers: President, R. Henry; vice-president, J. A. Nicoll; secretary, Wm. J. Love; directors, F. Sawyer, S. Farnell, A. Perkins, A. Ferguson, J. Koskyn. It was decided to petition the elevator commission for a government elevator at that point.

MOUNT PLEASANT IN LINE

On March 6 a meeting was held in Mount Pleasant hall, Brown, to consider the advisability of forming a branch of the association. J. Dudgeon, president of the Shadeland association, conducted the meeting, and Wm. Compton, of Darlingford, gave an address touching upon the early days of the settlement and the uphill road the farmer has had to climb since the beginning, and then explained the working of the association in a very interesting and helpful manner. The chairman read the constitution, and gave many good reasons why farmers should organize, and then followed a short address by Mr. Phillips, of Shadeland, who laid emphasis on the spirit of union and urged all to join. Fifteen members were secured and the following officers were elected: President, J. S. Gillis; vice-president, Wm. C. Meilicke; secretary, T. J. Gislason; directors, F. Dreger, A. Spangela, Otto Marquette, A. Olafson, A. Staple, H. Kristanson.

GLENELLA FAVORS PACT

W. Tompkins, secretary of the Glenella branch, writes us that they held their regular meeting on March 11, when the secretary read the circulars from Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Henders in connection with the passing of resolutions on the question of the tariff. At their February meeting they passed a similar resolution and sent a copy to Glen Campbell, M.P. at Ottawa.

GLENORA FOR RECIPROCITY

Owing to the strong opposition to the reciprocity agreement now before parliament, the Glenora branch of the M. G. G. A. passed the following resolution: "Resolved, that we, the members of the Glenora branch, re-affirm the resolution placed before the government at Ottawa by the farmers' delegation in December, 1910, and at the annual conventions during the last two years, for reciprocity with the United States and an extension of the British preference."

BAGOT RESOLUTION

At a meeting of the Bagot Grain Growers' Association held March 11 the following resolution was passed: "That this association condemns the attitude taken toward reciprocity by the Hon. Clifford Sifton, the Manitoba government, the Winnipeg board of trade, the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, etc., in that they do not properly express Western sentiment and that this association endorses the original position as presented by the delegation of farmers to the Dominion government at Ottawa."

Home of John E. Duxbury, Elkhorn, Man.

WOODNORTH LINED UP

An organization meeting was held at Woodnorth on March 4, and a branch of the association formed with the following officers: President, Chas. Weldon; vice-president, David Smith, secretary-treasurer, J. Matthewson; directors, W. Pigg, R. Mooney, Wm. Lyons, J. H. Stephenson, J. W. Burton, J. Rodjick. The directors were instructed to see about securing a station agent at Woodnorth, and also a blacksmith. The association starts off with a membership of twenty-nine and the future looks bright.

ENDORSE EXECUTIVE

At the last meeting of the Somerset branch of the Grain Growers' Association, the following resolution was moved and carried unanimously: "That we, the members of the Grain Growers' Association, of Somerset, duly endorse the resolution presented by our executive, in favor of the ratification of the reciprocity agreement now before the House of Commons."

BARNSLY MAKES START

The president and secretary of the Carman branch assisted in organizing a new branch of the Association at Barnsly, six miles north of Carman, on March 7th. There was a good attendance and about fifteen joined. This ought to make a thriving branch, and judging from the interest the members take in the work, they will very soon have a membership of forty-five or fifty.

REPUDIATE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION

A. Garnett, secretary of the Carman branch, writes us as follows:—"The Carman branch of the M.G.G.A. held a concert in the central school on Friday evening, March 10. The concert was an entire success in every way, the school room was packed, and an excellent program was provided. The ladies provided lunch, and although this is the first concert of the Grain Growers in this district, it is not going to be the last. We are planning to carry our meetings through the summer, and intend to meet at least once a month if possible. Next fall we aim to start a literary and debating society in connection with our association. Our aim is to get the young people interested and provide a place where they can enjoy themselves socially, and improve themselves intellectually. The great question everywhere is reciprocity. You can hardly meet a man anywhere but what he has something to say on reciprocity. From what I can hear from farmers and business men the agreement has very few opponents. No doubt there is going to be a big fight and our members realize that we must lose no opportunity to express our views and repudiate the views of those who should represent us, but very often misrepresent us instead. Our members and many others, in both town and country regret that the Hon. R. P Roblin, our member for Dufferin, has put himself on record as being against reciprocity, and they condemn him in no uncertain way for the stand he has taken, as the following resolution will show. "Whereas, the Manitoba legislature has by a resolution declared against the reciprocity agreement now before the Canadian parliament, and whereas, Hon. R. P. Roblin, our member in the local legislature claiming to speak for the people of Manitoba generally and the people of Dufferin constituency in particular, has from his place in the legislature and elsewhere declared that reciprocity with the United States is not in the best interests of the people of Manitoba; therefore, be it resolved that we, as members of the Carman branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, claim that in our opinion the resolution passed by the Manitoba legislature does not represent the popular opinion of the people of Manitoba, and further, we emphatically assert that the above-mentioned gentleman by his public utterances has absolutely misrepresented the opinion of the members of this association." The association also passed a resolution endorsing the resolution passed by the executive of the Central association on March 2nd.

WANT RESIGNATIONS

The Sinclair branch of the M.G.G.A. held a well attended and enthusiastic meeting on March 10. D. D. McArthur, representing the central association, was present and delivered a very interesting and instructive address upon the work of the association, the terminal and line elevators and the tariff question. A short musical program followed by refreshments served by the ladies helped to make the evening pass very pleasantly. Resolutions favoring reciprocity, abolition of duties on agricultural implements, an increase in the British preference, were carried unanimously. Also, "in view of the stand taken upon the reciprocity question by our representative in the House of Commons, and our representative in the Manitoba legislature, from the constituencies of Virden and Arthur, of which our members are electors, therefore, be it resolved that we ask for the resignation of Hon. Clifford Sifton, H. C. Simpson and A. M. Lyle." This resolution was carried unanimously. After a vote of thanks to the speaker, the meeting was brought to a close by singing the National anthem.

SWAN LAKE RESOLUTION

J. Eglocking, secretary of the Swan Lake branch, writes us as follows: At a meeting of our association today the following resolutions were passed: "Whereas, the Manitoba legislature have, by resolution, declared against the reciprocity agreement with the United States, it is hereby resolved that we express our conviction that in so doing the legislature entirely misrepresented the feelings of the vast majority of the voters of Manitoba, and that we look upon the said reciprocity agreement as a beginning only of an entire change in trade matters which will be to the advantage of the entire population of Canada; and further, be it resolved that we, the members of the Swan Lake branch, are agreed in asking for: 1. Ratification of the reciprocity agreement with the United States during the present session; 2. That agricultural implements be placed on the free list; 3. That the British preference be increased to fifty per cent. of the general tariff during the present session, and believing as we do that these changes will be of the greatest benefit to every branch of industry and to Canada as a whole, we will use every legitimate means to have them effected."

OFF TO A GOOD START

The Grain Growers at Elva held an organization meeting on the evening of March 7 and the hall was filled to the doors, with an enthusiastic crowd of Grain Growers and their wives, and although Mr. Kerr was unable to be present as expected, a first class program was given by our local talent. Hy. Bird presided in a very able manner, briefly outlining the work of the association and the reasons for organizing at this point. An intermission followed and those who wished to become members were given an opportunity to pay in their fees, after which the business of electing the officers of the year was proceeded with. A. G. Fulton was chosen president; H. Bird, vice-president; Alex. Mattice, secretary. The branch starts out with a membership of forty-three, thirty-eight gentlemen and five ladies, and bids fair to become a live factor for good in this district. We intend to hold monthly meetings, and each will be of a social order, which will keep up the interest in the association.

ALEX. MATTICE, Sec'y.
Elva, Man.

SPRINGFIELD MEETING

At a meeting of the Springfield branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, held March 9, the following resolutions were passed: "That we reaffirm the resolution as passed by the Manitoba Grain Growers' executive in Winnipeg on March 2." "That in the opinion of this meeting it is very desirable that steps be taken to bring into effect, within the municipality, municipal school boards and consolidated schools." "That this representative body of Springfield taxpayers would petition the government that an equalized levy be levied on all lands for school purposes in this province."

ELM BANK MEETING

The regular meeting of the Elm Bank branch was held in the Elm Bank school on March 4. Nine new members were added to this branch, which has now got a live membership of twenty-one. The following resolutions were passed, a copy of the resolution on the