

Saskatchewan Secretary's Report

Following is the Report presented to the Regina Convention by J. B. Musselman, Secretary-Treasurer of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association

Immediately following your last Annual Convention by the retirement of F. W. Green from the office of Secretary-Treasurer, which he had held for four years, it became necessary for your Board of Directors to appoint another to that position. Mr. Green remained in office until April 1, on which date he handed over the management to his successor, your present Secretary-Treasurer. An audit was taken of the Association's accounts, which were found in good form. Your Secretary, therefore, has not prepared separate statements for the periods of Mr. Green's management and that of his own, but has in his reports treated the calendar year in its entirety.

Heretofore there has never been presented to the Annual Meeting a complete statement of the assets and liabilities of the Association. In consequence of this, there was paid from the receipts of the year 1914 a considerable amount which is properly chargeable to the expenses of the preceding year.

Co-operative Organization

At your last Annual Convention you unanimously passed a resolution, instructing your Board of Directors to act as wholesale purchasing agents for agricultural co-operative associations and your own locals. Nothing was done toward the organization of this work until after the change of management had taken place. To carry out your commands in this connection demanded the



J. B. MUSSELMAN
Secretary-Treasurer of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association

creation of new machinery quite different from that which the former activities of the Association had required. This field of activity was new and untried. There were no established precedents nor any accepted policy for the guidance of your Executive or your managing officers and, of course, there were no trading connections whatever. To energetically push this department of the Association's activities, as was essential to its success, and at the same time to harmonize it with and make it an integral and helpful part of your whole movement of educative and legislative propaganda, required the best effort and most concentrated attention of your leaders as well as the loyal support of yourselves, which you so nobly gave in generous manner.

The establishment of your Co-operative Wholesale Department, being a new venture, attracted widespread attention and was the means of invaluable advertising for your movement. It was unavoidable that during its creative period our trading activities should be

given considerable prominence. It is gratifying, however, to note that these activities have remained, as they ought to be, merely incidental to your great work of educating and organizing the farmers of Saskatchewan—a work which still is, and must ever remain, the paramount purpose of your existence as a body. To harmonize these lines of activity required nothing more than the placing of your trading undertakings upon a loftier plane than that of merchandising for personal gain. The controlling motive of your trading activities has been that of service and this must continue to be the motive which dominates all your activities as an Association if permanent success is to be maintained.

Organization Work

During the two months succeeding your last Convention there was marked activity in organization, but during the summer months receipts of membership

fees were comparatively low. With the advent of your trading activities early in the summer and the advertising which resulted therefrom there was an unmistakable revival of interest throughout the province in the Association and its work. From that time on new locals have been springing spontaneously into existence at many widely-separated points throughout the province, so that by fall there was every indication of the ripeness of the field for a vigorous campaign of organization.

District Conventions

During November and early December, district meetings were held in each of the fifteen organization districts with two in District No. 13. These meetings proved successful without exception, and gave a great impetus to the work of the Association. Very valuable assistance was given the management in arranging for and carrying out this series of meetings by various members

of your Executive. Thos. Sales and J. F. Reid were especially appointed by the Executive to assist your Secretary-Treasurer and your District Directors in carrying out this program. Their work was of the utmost value. A report on the district meetings will be presented to you by these gentlemen.

It has been the policy of your management during 1914 to press the work of the organization department as vigorously as the current receipts would permit. It was not considered good policy to plan for any further large increase of this department of the work. At the same time, it was recognized that every dollar of the Association's money expended should be expended to bring the largest possible returns. While the financial statement of this department shows a considerable surplus of receipts over expenditures, this is due largely to the fact that during the month of December the receipts were out of all proportion with the remainder of the year. During this month the receipts from membership fees alone represented fees of 4,678 members, and amounted to nearly half as much as the total membership fees received during any other entire year. The membership fees received during the five years, 1910-1914, inclusive, were as follows: 1910, \$4,820.80; 1911 (the banner year till last year), \$5,591.50, increase \$770.70; 1912, \$4,393.71, decrease \$1,197.79; 1913, \$5,428.35, increase \$1,034.64; 1914, \$10,080.82, increase \$4,652.47.

The 1914 fees represent an actual paid membership considerably more than double that of the two preceding years or any two successive years, and with the life members (947) make the grand total of 21,109 paid members.

The new locals registered since last convention number 295.

Carrying Unfortunate Members

But for the serious crop failure which a very large portion of Western Saskatchewan suffered during the past year, there can be no doubt that a still larger number of membership fees would have been received. The unfortunate condition of many of your fellow-members in these areas impelled your Secretary, without authority, to make a ruling that in crop failure districts any local should be permitted to retain in membership any who, being unable to pay the fee, would sign the roll and declare their purpose to pay the same not later than December 1 next. As this was practically in contravention of the constitution, your Secretary has to look to this convention for vindication of his action in this matter.

Banner Districts and Locals

The statement which is in your hands of the membership fees received from the various organization districts and from the locals within these districts, respectively, will indicate to you where the growth of your membership has principally taken place. The three districts which remitted the highest number of membership fees are the following in order:

District No. 13, Director, W. H. Lillwall.

District No. 15, Director, Frank Burton.

District No. 14, Director, John N. Burrill.

The three locals making returns for the highest membership are the following, in order:

Davidson, Secretary, H. W. Ketcheson.

Lampman, Secretary, G. E. Noggle.

Zealandia, Secretary, A. J. Wilkie.

The Office Staff

With the rapid growth of the Association and its activities, there has been

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association,
Moose Jaw.

Gentlemen:—I hereby certify that I have audited the books, vouchers and records of your Association for the year ended December 31, 1914, and herewith submit statement of receipts and expenditures for the period under review. The records were found to be clear and concise, and all the necessary vouchers have been produced.

I have checked the bank accounts in detail, and found them to be correct, and as further proof have obtained a certificate of the balances from the bankers.

In conclusion I wish to thank your officers and staff for courtesies extended during the course of the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) W. E. HODGE,

Chartered Accountant.

Moose Jaw, Sask., February 4, 1915.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

For Year Ending December 31, 1914

RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS	
Balances brought forward Dec. 31, 1913—		Salaries	\$ 6,033.60
Cash on hand..\$	2.58	Literature, Printing and Stationery	1,522.24
Bank balances—		Office, Postage and Express Expenses	323.15
Gen. Acc't ..	9,077.75	Organization Expenses ..	1,071.90
Emerg. Acc't	2,139.85	Convention Expenses (February, 1914)	1,026.03
	\$11,220.18	Rent, Light and Heat....	616.65
Membership fees	10,082.80	Office Furniture and Fittings	375.80
Grants—		General Expenses	237.70
Sask. Co-operative Elev. Co. \$2,000.00		Premium Bonds	41.25
Grain Growers' Grain Co.	1,750.00	Travelling Expenses	569.50
Dept. of Agric.	500.00	Buttons	320.00
	4,250.00	Directors' Meetings	400.95
Interest (bank)	384.90	Telegraph	68.99
Buttons	463.61	Telephone	62.60
Literature	293.65	Legal Expenses	51.00
Life Membership Interest	771.49	Executive Expenses	253.90
Membership Tickets	308.69	Automobile Repairs and Renewals, etc.	166.65
Emergency Account	60.00	Exchange	7.60
Emergency Interest	106.60	Dis. Directors' Expenses..	996.95
Convention: Badges, etc....	119.80	Canadian Council of Agriculture (advance exp.)..	145.70
Sundry	7.00	Canadian Council of Agriculture (grant)	100.00
		Women Grain Growers' Assn. (advance)	213.00
		Sask. Grain Growers' Association (trading acct.)	1,000.00
		Auditors' Fees, 1913	65.00
		Cash on Hand	2,320.08
		Bank Balance—	
		General	\$8,339.68
		Less outstanding cheques ..	507.65
			7,832.03
		Bank Balance—Emergency	2,246.45
			\$28,068.72
			\$28,068.72

Audited and found correct, subject to the fact that all transactions for the year have been recorded on the books of the Association.

(Signed) W. E. HODGE,

Chartered Accountant.

Moose Jaw, February 4, 1915.