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FARM HANDS AND DOMESTICS

This office has had under consideration for some time back the devising of some scheme to supply our members with domestic help and farm laborers. Negotiations to that end were entered into with the Immigration Department of the C.N.R. early in the summer. Within the last few days I have received the following letter from W. A. Nicol, of the Immigration Department, which explains the situation as it now stands.—

"Reverting to our conversation some few weeks ago with regard to bringing from the old country to the Prairie Provinces practical experienced farm laborers, I beg to advise that following up our interview I have discussed the matter with Mr. T. Howell, our General Immigration Agent, and I am pleased to advise that we shall be glad to see this proposition take concrete form.

"We have large numbers of applications from experienced farm laborers in the old country, on our files at our London (England) office, and providing we were in a position to advance part, if not all of their transportation, we would have no difficulty in securing their services for Western Canada.

"We have, as I informed you on the occasion of my interview with you, brought out a number of farm hands to the Saskatchewan Government and I am pleased to intimate that the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. A. F. Mantle, speaks in high terms of the type of men we have been successful in bringing into the Province of Saskatchewan, also the Saskatchewan Government have received many letters from farmers in the province who have been supplied with these men, speaking very favorably of their work and ability and altogether the scheme has been a good success. These farm laborers to Saskatchewan have been assisted by the Government on the understanding that they repay by monthly instalments. Our proposition to you would be to place an initial order with us for say 25 farm laborers on the advanced

fare basis and that we promise to deliver these men to you at Winnipeg. They will all be hand picked on the other side, and we will see that everything is done to protect your interests.

I shall be glad to have an early reply from you on this subject and thanking you in advance, Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. A. NICOL,
Immigration Agent.

I have information from other sources that the Saskatchewan arrangement is

FARMERS' FIGHTING FUND

S. Blackmore, of McAuley, Manitoba, has forwarded \$2.00 to the Manitoba Grain Growers' Endowment Fund, making the amount now \$596.00.

working out quite satisfactorily. You will notice the arrangement is on the advanced fare basis. That is to say the railway advance the fare to the laborers who have to be paid by his agent or the farmers when the men are delivered in Winnipeg. The fare is around \$52.00 plus \$2.00 for office expense. A number of men could be secured by cable in time for harvest if applications are sent in shortly. The men are required to sign a contract to allow a stated sum to be retained from their wages until the advance is paid and not leave their employer without cause until all advance is repaid.

This looks like a workable proposition to supply farmers with the necessary help, and though the season is too far advanced to give it a fair trial this year, it is to be hoped that enough will take advantage of the proposition to get it into working order for the next season.

Domestic servants for the farm can be secured on the same basis. Mrs. Lilley, of the Sunshine Guild, 328 Hargrave Street, Winnipeg, has this in hand. She distributed some 30 girls last Saturday, mostly to city people. Many of these could be secured for farmers if the applications were made in time.

Any application from Grain Growers for farm help or a domestic servant sent to me will receive every attention. I am anxious to have this scheme to supply farm help given a fair trial and to enlist the co-operation of our branches in meeting this present need.

R. McKENZIE, Sec'y.

MINNISKA BRANCH

We beg to acknowledge receipt of \$2.50 from Minniska branch of the Grain Growers' association.

E. E. GARNET, Sec'y.

ALEXANDER BRANCH

We are glad to acknowledge receipt through the Manitoba section of \$6.50 for thirteen paid-up members of the Grain Growers at this point.

ED. GRIERSON, Sec'y.

SALEM BRANCH

Mr. B. N. Thomas, Secretary of the Salem branch of the Grain Growers' association, remits a further \$7.00, making a total of \$30.00 paid into the Central office this year. We wish to thank Salem branch for the good showing they are making.

B. N. THOMAS, Sec'y.

CYPRESS RIVER BRANCH

We were glad to receive a call from Mr. W. B. Thomas, of Cypress River, to pay dues from the Cypress River branch of the Grain Growers' association. He reports \$13.00 for 26 paid-up members at the present time.

W. B. THOMAS, Sec'y.

SINCLAIR BRANCH

The Secretary, Mr. D. J. Brownlee, reports another batch of nine paid-up members, which makes in all 27 paid-up members.

Manitoba

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

PORTAGE DISTRICT ORGANIZED

Portage la Prairie Grain Growers met on July 8 and formed what will be known as the Portage District Grain Growers' association. It was decided to hold the annual meeting each year in December, when officers will be elected. To meet the expenses of the association, it was decided that each association in the district shall contribute 10 cents for each of its members. The object of the district Association shall be to promote the interests of the farmer and to assist in organization. At the afternoon meeting of the members they were addressed by F. J. Dixon, of the Direct Legislation league, there being a large number present. P. D. McArthur, of Longburn, presided. R. McKenzie, secretary of the Manitoba Association, also addressed the meeting. He stated that although fighting much opposition and attacked from many quarters, the Association had at present the largest paid-up membership in its history.

Directors:

Peter Wright, Myrtle; R. M. Wilson, Marringhurst; D. D. McArthur, Lauder; Frank Simpson, Shoal Lake; W. H. Bewell, Rosser; R. J. Avison, Gilbert Plains.

SOMERSET BRANCH

Somerset branch have written to say they are alive and remit \$6.00 for 12 paid-up members. Kindly accept our thanks for this amount. Much can be done through persistence in presenting to the people of your district the importance of increasing the membership of your branch.

J. B. FOSTER, Sec'y.

OAKLAND BRANCH

This branch of the Grain Growers' association reports eleven paid-up members.

M. D. McCUAIG, Sec'y.

SEEBORN BRANCH

Seeborn branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' association reports 33 members paid-up.

J. W. BELL, Sec'y.

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