

LISGAR SECRETARIES AT MANITOU

A very instructive meeting of the secretaries of the Lisgar constituency was held in the Orange Hall, Manitou, on Thursday afternoon, February 22, at 2 p.m., Peter Wright, district director, presiding. A fair representation of delegates arrived on the train from the west, but the eastern part of the constituency was poorly represented.

A special program had been arranged for discussion and a copy had been sent to each secretary. The following subjects were discussed, in order: Hail insurance, rural credits, federation and co-operation, amendments to the Grain Act, appointment of a permanent Board of Appeal, duplicate sampling, rejection of wheat for wild oats, and progressive legislation as outlined in the Farmers' Platform prepared by the Canadian Council of Agriculture. Mr. Wright explained the function of each subject in turn, and it was thrown open for discussion. All the secretaries present received a better knowledge of the principles involved in the Grain Growers' movement. A morning session was arranged for, to meet at 9 o'clock, and a general review of the previous day's program took place.—A. R. GODKIN, District Secretary for Lisgar.

STARBUCK SAVED MONEY

The following are the officers appointed for the present year by the Starbuck Grain Growers' Association: President, C. Fossay; vice-president, I. Monkhouse; secretary-treasurer, A. Hertwig, and for directors, Messrs. Qualey, Anderson, Shanks, Kelbie, Flodden and Fred Schertcliffe.

The association has bought co-operatively the past year: One car flour and feed, value \$1,020; 10,000 pounds twine, value \$1,100; two cars coal, value \$550. On these alone we have made a saving of at least \$575 to our members by co-operative buying. We are quite satisfied that there can be a great saving made by co-operative selling as well by shipping our stock together, as there is now a stock department added to The Grain Growers' Grain Co., and a man at the stock yards to handle the farmers' stock. If farmers would pull together and try selling their stock co-operatively—getting together and making up a carload of stock—even a part of a car would make a saving to each farmer.—Contributed by P. Laidlaw, former secretary.

RAILWAY RATES FOR FARM LABORERS

Special rates will be given by all railways to bona fide farm laborers going to Manitoba farms. A rate of one cent per mile has been arranged between Winnipeg and all points in Manitoba, with a minimum fare of \$1.50. This rate went into effect on March 1 and will be continued until April 20, and may be extended longer if the needs of the farmers require it. On March 15 a one cent rate will go into effect between the United States border points and Winnipeg. There has been so far no great demand for tickets by farm laborers, owing to the weather conditions. It is believed, however, that a big rush will start during the coming week.—Winnipeg Free Press.

CARMAN CHANGES SECRETARY

At a meeting of the Carman Grain Growers' Association, held on Saturday last, a change was made in the officers, John Cole succeeding Albert Garnet, who has been the secretary for some time. The Mr. Garnett is severing his connection in this regard, he expects to be still actively interested in the Grain Growers' movement in his immediate district.

ANGUSVILLE MEETING

On the 16th instant the Angusville Grain Growers' Association purpose holding their last social meeting of the winter, and are trying to make it the banner meeting of the year. The meeting is to open with a full discussion on co-operation, followed by a report from the board of directors. They also purpose having some outside speakers present to give addresses.

Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. C. Headors, President, 404 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

MASS MEETING AT TILSTON

A mass meeting has been arranged for Wednesday evening, March 14, in the Tilston school house, in the interests of the Grain Growers' Association. This branch was formed over a year ago.

ROYALLEN RELINQUISHES COAL BUSINESS

The following from the Boissevain Recorder may interest other branches: We beg to announce that we have turned over the Boissevain branch of our coal business to Messrs. Holden Bros., who agree to supply Grain Growers coal at Co-operative Company's prices. This is not an arrangement in which the public have not been considered, as is often the case. The simple facts are that we have relinquished with regret a business which has been both pleasant and profitable in order that the coal consumer might have a more continuous and dependable service at fair prices.

The change has been made solely in the interests of the consumer, and if from any cause it does not bring the results expected, we shall not hesitate to resume business, as there is nothing to prevent us doing so. We do not anticipate, however, that there will be any occasion for this, as the arrangements made should prove to be of advantage to both buyer and seller.

There is no good reason why there should not be effective co-operation between a community and ordinary retailers if both sides reciprocate in the proper spirit. Their mutual relations may not be cordial enough at present to secure the best results, but merchants will surely learn in time that their most valuable business asset is the confidence of the community they propose to serve. When this is secured, satisfactory patronage will follow as a matter of course.

Some have expressed their disapproval of our decision in this matter, but I would remind them that the Grain Growers is not a commercial organization, and its engagement in trade is only incidental to the attainment of better economic and social conditions. To remove defects which cause dissatisfaction in the distribution of goods is the proper obligation of the retail merchants, and when they become thoroughly alive to the importance of the subject, we may expect to be relieved of further efforts in that direction.

The Grain Growers' Association will have quite enough to engage its whole attention in preparing the way for the changes which will surely follow the successful conclusion of the war. These changes will be, almost revolutionary, and it is well for the country that it has at this time such a widely extended organization whose high character has been freely recognized by the foremost leaders of educational, religious, labor and even political institutions. Here extremes may meet in the assurance that the claims of all classes will receive fair and full consideration, and a common course of procedure may be determined which will bring about a complete equality of opportunity and a total abolition of privilege.

It is time that the science of government was made a diligent study by everyone who has a right legally to the franchise. And as there is no school so well fitted for the purpose as ours, we invite not farmers alone but all who have any interest in the future welfare of the state to join us in an earnest endeavor to solve the problems which the temporizing practices of professional politicians have made too dangerous to permit of future delay in settlement. That the masses might join the classes in building up a nation which shall be truly great, contented in the consciousness that their disabilities will be removed as they appeal, and they need not be concerned as to what they shall eat or what they shall drink

or where withal they shall be clothed, is our wish.—The Royallen Co-operative Co., per F. Howell.

ELM CREEK LOOKS AFTER SOLDIERS

Elm Creek, with a population of 300, has contributed fifty-eight to the colors, and altho only one has returned from the front, the people have taken steps to form an association to take care of returned soldiers. There was a meeting held this week to further the objects of such an association.

GRAIN GROWERS MEET GOVERNOR-GENERAL

When the Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada, was in Winnipeg last week, he was given a reception at the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. The Board of Trade and other representative organizations, including the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, were represented. From the Grain



HIS EXCELLENCY THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE
Governor-General of Canada, who has been visiting
Winnipeg and Brandon recently.

Growers' Association there were present: J. S. Wood, vice-president; Peter Wright, Frank Simpson, F. H. Weinicke, F. C. Buckland and G. F. Chipman. The Duke made a special request that some of the leading practical farmers be presented to him, and he engaged the Grain Growers for some little time in conversation on agricultural conditions in the West.

PORTAGE DISTRICT MEETING

The Portage la Prairie District Grain Growers met in convention in the Municipal Hall, Portage la Prairie March 2. The president not being present owing to lack of proper train service, Jas. McKenzie was voted to the chair. The secretary read the minutes of the last convention and of an executive meeting since. They were adopted on motion of Messrs. McArthur and Smallpiece. The first business taken up was the Workmen's Compensation Act. F. Berry and G. N. Quin presented a petition from a large number of farmers and threshermen in their districts. These gentlemen stated that everyone was opposed to the act as it was passed by the government, but were in favor of an act insuring all rural laborers, and the necessary funds to finance it to be collected by a poll tax. A large number of delegates then reported for their

different associations. This was followed by a long and interesting discussion on organization, and the meeting adjourned to meet at 1.30.

The afternoon session opened on time, with the president, C. H. Burnell, in the chair, who gave a good address on how we could help our district association. Mrs. Jas. McKenzie then spoke on organization, co-operation and the kind of education the women will have to have before they will be able to vote intelligently. Mrs. A. Tooth, of Eli, addressed the convention on the tariff, and showed how it affected the women and children in the homes.

Adopt Farmers' Platform

The following speakers then addressed the convention on the farmers' platform: Jas. Barrett spoke on the need of such a move and how it would help the farmers. Mr. Qualley spoke on the Free Trade plank, and Mr. Rogers on the taxation plank. It was then moved by Mr. Fulton, seconded by P. D. McArthur, that we adopt the farmers' platform as laid down by the Canadian Council of Agriculture. Carried.

The following resolutions were then passed: Resolved, that we, the Portage la Prairie district convention, recommend that steps be taken by the Grain Growers' Association towards facilitating an arrangement between farmers and terminal elevator companies whereby the farmers get the better class of wheat screenings under an arrangement to have them ground thoroughly before being shipped back. Moved by Jas. Bousfield, seconded by W. Stewart. Carried.

Whereas, under the Workmen's Compensation Act it is difficult to determine what farm laborers come under the act; and, whereas, the amount of insurance proposed to be levied on operators of threshing machines appears to be exorbitant, and as there is no provision made whereby the majority of the people receiving protection contribute to the fund for their protection; therefore, be it resolved, that we are in favor of direct government accident insurance covering all rural workers and also that the money necessary be collected by direct poll tax. Moved by F. Berry, seconded by R. Richardson. Carried.

Whereas there is considerable public discussion of plans and methods of re-establishing returned soldiers into their economic and social relation with the community; and, whereas, there seems to be a tendency to attempt to reward them for their services and sacrifices by colonizing them on the bleak and desolate land outside the pale of civilization and thereby condemn them to a life of physical hardship, social isolation, mental restriction and economic failure; be it resolved that the judgment of this convention is that those of the returned soldiers who by voluntary inclination desire to engage in agricultural pursuits should be located upon land within settled areas and should be helped to help themselves by every means at the disposal of the Dominion, provincial and municipal governments. Moved by G. W. Quin, seconded by Jas. Barrett. Carried.

Resolved, that we the Portage la Prairie District G.G.A., are very much in favor of medical inspection of schools and urge rural councils to take the matter up with the provincial health board. Moved by A. Smallpiece, seconded by F. Berry. Carried.

The secretary then spoke for a short time on the relationship between the Grain Growers' Association and our educational system, showing why there should be more co-operation between the two and how they could each help the other. Inspector McGuire spoke for some time along the same lines and endorsed what the secretary had said.

The annual picnic was then discussed, and it was moved by Fred Metcalf, seconded by Mr. Crewson, that the picnic be held in Portage la Prairie. Moved by R. J. Caskie, seconded by W. Miller, that all arrangements be left in the hands of the executive. The convention closed by singing two verses of the national anthem.—BEN RICHARDSON, District Secretary.