

# News And Views Of And For The Farmers

## WIDER MARKETS, CHEAPER MONEY, PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Are Ideal Urged by President Henders to Manitoba Grain Growers

**BACK UP RESOLUTIONS**

Mayor Cator Urges Association to Make Brandon Their Permanent Headquarters

With an exceedingly large attendance the Manitoba Grain Growers Association opened its convention Wednesday at the City Hall, there being now several hundred delegates in the city both to this and the Live Stock Associations. The Grain Growers opening meeting was principally taken up with the president's address, and the report of the directors.

Mr. R. C. Henders, the president, appealed for wider markets, cheaper money and public ownership of national resources. He urged the Association to stand behind the resolutions it adopted as otherwise it would never obtain the legislation which he said was desired.

The delegates were welcomed by Mayor Cator. He congratulated the members of the Association on their patriotic work saying it was perhaps better appreciated in the cities than among the rural districts. The mayor extended an invitation to the Grain Growers Association to hold their convention in Brandon next year also. He asked them as well to establish their headquarters here and remain in the city permanently.

Mr. J. L. Brown, of Pilot Mound, replied on behalf of the Association, thanking the mayor for the city's hospitality and expressing appreciation of the warm reception they had received.

In the course of his address the president, Mr. Henders, referred to the part being taken by the farmers in the war. The prices received by the producers of food supplies were abnormal but they would not be satisfactory in ordinary times. Enormous tolls were taken in handling these supplies and they should be carefully looked into.

Not many years ago, Mr. Henders continued, eight cents was considered a high ocean rate on wheat. Now over forty cents a bushel was being paid. The responsibility, he thought, rested upon the government to see that the

rate was reduced to a reasonable figure. As it is now, one successful voyage appears to pay for the transport. Referring to the patriotic work of the farmers, the speaker said he desired to have a definite plan mapped out. Every farmer should be given an opportunity to contribute towards the Patriotic Fund.

Touching on the war again, the speaker denounced the preparedness system, laying the blame for war upon it. He expected in the future that an international court supported by an international air, land and sea police can only preserve international peace. "Then," he said, "will every boundary be like the 3,000 unfortified miles between Canada and the United States."

More than ever before, Mr. Henders declared, the beginning of new things had been reached. For the first time the means of production were equal to supply the needs of the world. Poverty was no longer a necessity, but a crime.

But the wealth captured from the people must be paid for by all. Condemning speculation, he asserted that this national injustice must be remedied and some scheme of control devised. The reign of the people had come.

The aims of the Association in the future must be wider markets, cheaper money and national ownership of national resources. The President continued, "We must give our undivided attention to this. The farmers have the solution largely in their own hands."

"The men who send resolutions must stand by them. We can only get legislation that we want by making the legislators understand that when we send a resolution to them we stand behind it. Our business must be our politics and there must be no party."

The directors report read by Mr. P. Wright of Myrtle, showed that the membership was at a higher level than ever. District Associations had been formed last fall and conventions held in the latter part of the year.

While expressing regret that the agricultural industry was not better represented on the Industrial Commission the directors urged all the farmers to give the members of that body every possible assistance.

## Feed Steers to Use By-Products Mixed Farming

**W. C. McKillop, Superintendent of Brandon Experimental Farm Urges Winter Feeding**

**ADVOCATES WOVE WIRE FENCES**

An appeal for the development of winter steer feeding was made by Mr. W. C. McKillop, superintendent of the Experimental Farm, Brandon, in the course of an address delivered at the joint meeting of the Stock Breeders' Association which was held in the City Hall on Monday evening.

There were, he said, a large number of cattle shipped every fall to the United States. There was no reason why they should not be kept here and fed and so let the farmers get what ever profit there might be in the feeding. Fall prices were always low because the cattle were unfinished, being only "feeders."

The low level in prices was reached about December 1st and it held until a gradual rise carried the price up to a high point about May 1st. There was good opportunity in Manitoba for winter steer feeding, said the speaker. It was not likely that fall marketing would be interfered with for some years to any extent that would affect the market.

Mr. McKillop advocated the feeding of steers to use up the by-products of mixed farming. Grain growing, he pointed out, occupies the summer and steers are fattened in winter. They should be taken up with the object of making use of what there is on the farm rather than making the steers the main object.

**Proper Fencing Urged**

Mr. D. S. McLeod, of Deloraine, who was to have read a paper on "Farm Fencing," was unavoidably prevented from being present. Accordingly Mr. J. Strachan, of Pope, who was to have led the discussion on this subject, told of his own experiences with fencing.

Saying that he believed in all lines of stock in mixed farming, he urged the necessity of fencing and of promptly constructing fences on the land, rather than waiting for an indefinite time.

Mr. Strachan advised the use of a woven wire fence with a strand or two of barbed wire on top. This, he said, was always the best. Fencing was necessary with live stock, but it was also desirable even if no stock were kept. He explained the best and most permanent methods of constructing fences.

**Draft Horses**

The history and characteristics of the five draft breeds of horses was the subject of an interesting address by Mr. Alex. Galbraith, of the Alberta Department of Agriculture. A number of lantern views were shown to illustrate his lecture.

While minor breeds of French horses were recognized in the United Kingdom and in the States, he said, only five, the Percheron, Belgian, Suffolk, Shire and Clydesdale, were recognized in Canada. The Percheron suited the average man better than any other breed.

Tracing the development of this horse, Mr. Galbraith said that during the last thirty years about 400 lbs. had been added to its weight. Fifty years ago it was a lighter horse, still being used for the busses of Paris. The ancestors of all the draft horses were Flemish, coming from Belgium and Holland.

Belgian horses, Mr. Galbraith declared, were now some of the best horses on this continent. Of Suffolk horses the supply was very limited. The largest breeder in the United States had only about seventy head of Suffolk horses.

The Shire, Mr. Galbraith described as a splendid draft animal. He was not seen to the best advantage on the continent. Heavy hair was the principal disadvantage of the horse, but if this and a few other weak points were got rid of it would be one of the best of draft horses.

The origin of the Clydesdale, the speaker continued, was practically the same as that of the Shire. There was the infusion of Belgian blood centuries ago in both. Clydesdales were of lighter weight now than in the past. The volume of body was being lost in getting the finer points. This Mr. Galbraith did not consider necessary and he claimed that had the breeders in Scotland paid attention to that point they would not have lost the American market.

The number of delegates present at the meeting was not very large, but it is expected that more will be present at the later meetings of the different associations. Mr. A. C. McPhail presided at Monday night's joint session.

## WINKLER PROPOSES TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DEMONSTRATION FARMS

**Minister of Agriculture Favors About Five with Model Buildings and Crop Rotation**

**TO SETTLE THE NORTH**

**Advocates Giving Poor Settlers in North Five Cows to Start Dairying**

Proposed new legislation which included a scheme for changing the system of demonstration farms in the province and reducing their number was outlined by the Hon. Valentine Winkler, Minister of Agriculture, in an address at the joint meeting of the Live Stock Associations on Tuesday night. He also explained his new famous cow scheme.

There are in Manitoba, Mr. Winkler said, eleven demonstration farms. He objected to them; they were not desirable. The farmers were paid for all the work they did and then were given the grain.

The average farm in Manitoba was of about 230 acres. "I believe the Government should pick out about five of these farms," the minister said, "and equip them with model buildings such as any farmer could erect. They should be farmed on the rotation system."

Weeds were the greatest problem in Manitoba, Mr. Winkler said. To eradicate them he proposed placing a tax of from fifty to seventy-five cents per acre on lands on which sow thistles or Canadian thistles were growing. The owner would however be given two or three options in the matter. He might for instance sum-merrallow instead of paying the tax.

The municipalities would all have to have good weed inspectors, and if they would guarantee that an owner of weed land was taking advantage of one of the options given him the charge against the land would not be enforced. This legislation would be introduced at the coming session of the legislature.

The extermination of weeds on road allowances is also under consideration. The horse breeders' enrollment act had been referred to at a previous meeting.

Regarding his cow scheme, Mr. Winkler said that the department was much troubled with settlers from the northern part of the province, who were very poor. The heads of the families would come south to work in the summer and the \$75.00 or so they would earn would be the only support of a family often of five or six for the winter.

Something must be done for these people, the minister thought, and accordingly he advocates giving each family say five cows. The scheme could be started with \$100,000, but later dairies would have to be furnished. The dairies would keep the people employed profitably and eventually all the money expended would be paid back.

"The whole of Northern Manitoba would be populated," the minister said, "and without this it would never be settled."

Regarding what had been done in the past, Mr. Winkler referred with some pride to the dismissal of Conservative employees of the Government and the appointment of Liberals.

"We felt," he said, "that the Agricultural College should be on the highest plane possible; so the principal had to be changed. I considered if my duty to do this and the change was made."

Some additions were made in various departments also, the minister said.

Of new plans there was also the intention of the Government, he continued, to erase the co-operative act from the statute books and substitute one that would be workable.

In conclusion, Mr. Winkler criticized the present system of financing the farms, saying that every community should have sufficient funds to finance itself. A group of farmers could, he thought, put up a sum of money and make loans to other aspiring farmers.

A paper on "Corn, Silo Construction and Filling" was read by Mr. J. D. McGregor, who explained the system followed upon his own farms near Brandon. He had had, he said, much success with wood silos. By the use of silos last year he had saved fifty per cent on the feeding of cattle.

This subject was continued by Mr. W. J. Cummings, of Glenlea, who told of the increase in cattle in this province and the consequent need for greater attention to their care. He praised Mr. McGregor for proving to the rest of the country that Brandon could produce better cattle than any other place.

Mr. A. Graham, of Pomeroy, also spoke briefly on the subject of silos, answering some questions that were

## STOCK INDUSTRY IN MANITOBA IS COMING TO ITS OWN

**G. H. Grieg, Secretary of Live Stock Associations So States in His Report this Morning**

**LIVE STOCK INCREASES**

**Swine Breeders' Association Elects Officers for 1916—Three Addresses this Morning**

That the live stock industry is at last coming into its own in this province is the conclusion reached by the secretary of the Live Stock Associations, Mr. G. H. Grieg, in his report of the year's work presented at the Swine Breeders' Association meeting at the city hall on Tuesday. The industry, he said, is making steady progress and the live stock population is on the increase.

The suitability of climate and soil for the economic production of livestock has been thoroughly tested and proven, the report continued. The absolute necessity for a more scientific system of farming has been fully demonstrated, but many things are still to be worked out as to pasture crops, application of manure, rotations, fencing, and in some localities, permanent water supply.

To ensure the general adoption of stock raising throughout the Province it remains, however, to provide market conditions that will ensure confidence in the mind of the producer that a fair and just recompense for his products will be available.

In connection with the production of live stock, the following statistics show the development being made:

The figures given in the report of the Provincial Department of Agriculture for the past twenty years show generally an increase in all kinds of stock, except sheep, which fell from over 35,000 at the beginning of that period to 14,000 in 1907 and then began to increase, jumping from 17,900 in 1909 to over 32,000 in 1910. Since the Sheep Breeders' Association began annually to import breeding ewes from the Western ranges for distribution in small lots among the farmers, the increase has been remarkable, reaching 75,000 in 1914. For the past two years the figures are as follows:

1913—horses, 300,753; cattle, 456,936; sheep, 52,142; swine, 248,254.

1914—horses, 325,207; cattle, 498,040; sheep, 75,100; swine, 325,416.

The Associations have been very active throughout the past year, and many important matters have received attention.

**Co-Operation in Handling Wool**

The Sheep Breeders' Association being unable to finance the handling of wool for its members, was gratified when the Department of Agriculture undertook the handling of wool on a co-operative basis for the farmers of the Province, and the results proved most satisfactory. About 75,000 lbs. of wool were handled, netting the shippers over twenty-five cents per pound and incidentally raising the price paid by the dealers, and so very greatly benefiting all sheep breeders throughout the Province, whether they joined in the co-operative movement or not.

Owing to the difficulty of securing suitable breeding stock at anything like reasonable prices, the Sheep Breeders' Association had to discontinue their annual distribution of breeding ewes this last fall, which was unfortunate as the demand was greater than ever, owing, doubtless to the high price of wool, mutton and lamb, and to the increasing attention being given to sheep breeding throughout the Province.

**Stallions Must be Enrolled**

All interested in horse breeding will be gratified that the "Horse Breeders' Act" has been made operative, and that all stallions will henceforth require to be inspected and enrolled with the Department of Agriculture.

Since the outbreak of the war, Manitoba has furnished, according to an

## ALLIES BOUGHT 50,000 HORSES IN ALL CANADA

**Alex. Galbraith, Formerly of Brandon, Now of Alberta, Sums Up Situation**

**STATES SOLD HALF MILLION ABOUT \$10,000,000 DISBURSED IN DOMINION FOR HORSES—TOOK ONLY THE VERY BEST**

That while some half million horses have been purchased in the United States by the Allies, only about fifty thousand have been taken out of Canada, where the supply is still only slightly interfered with, was the statement of Mr. Alex. Galbraith of the Alberta Department of Agriculture in an interview with The Sun. He severely criticizes the short-sighted policy of the British before the war in permitting German agents to buy up the best horses from the British Empire at sometimes double the prices paid by our own army.

Mr. Galbraith is here attending the annual meetings of the Live Stock Associations of Manitoba, before a joint meeting of which he delivered an address on Monday night. He is in close touch with the horse situation in the west and is in a position to sum up the present state of affairs with considerable authority.

Canada Mr. Galbraith says, has not been drawn on to any extent for horses. The United States had about half a million before the war and about 21,000,000 before the war and about the Allies at a cost of about \$100,000,000. Canada's supply of horseflesh was 3,000,000, and it has been drawn upon to the extent of about 50,000 horses, or about \$10,000,000.

Of the 3,000,000 horses that the Dominion contained before the war, Mr. Galbraith said, only about half a million were suited to military service. The pick of these have already been taken in that first 50,000 and henceforth the quality will be poorer. Often in buying horses the remount commissions will choose only one out of half a dozen offered.

In this way all the better horses were taken. Young animals were refused, however, and due attention was paid to the breeding necessities of the future, so that Canada can still supply very large numbers of horses for the service of the British troops.

Regarding quality Mr. Galbraith criticized the British policy of low prices for horses. Prior to the war, he said, German agents bought the cream of the horses of the United Kingdom. Now the British have to do with the skim milk.

A price of only \$200 was paid by the British army for horses. In contrast to this the Germans would pay half as much again and sometimes even double the amounts offered by the British. This policy Mr. Galbraith condemned, but he nevertheless thought that for all practical purposes the British had won the war.

Prior to the war the world's supply of horses was 92,000,000. The Allies had a total of 47,800,000, while Germany and Austria together only possessed 37,000,000 horses.

Of Canada's share of the world's total of horses Ontario possessed the largest number, having 905,000. The other provinces showed the following positions: Quebec, 372,000; Manitoba, 317,000; Saskatchewan, 610,000 and Alberta 520,000.

The position of the nations of the world in regard to the supply of horses shows that the following countries at the commencement of the war had the following numbers of horses:

Britain	2,150,000
Canada	3,000,000
Australia	2,400,000
New Zealand	4,000,000
South Africa	700,000
British India	1,500,000
Russia	33,000,000
France	3,200,000
Italy	900,000
Belgium	260,000
Servia	150,000
United States	21,000,000
Argentina	3,800,000
Germany	4,500,000
Austria	4,200,000
Other countries	6,000,000

## STOCKMEN LOSE THOUSANDS BY SHIPPING FEEDERS

**O. Gleason, Superintendent Stock Yards at St. Boniface, Tells of Loss to Canada**

**BETTER DAYS COMING**

**When Cattle Now Shipped as Stockers are Finished for Market on Canadian Farms**

That there was something seriously wrong when hundreds of thousands of dollars were being lost to Canada on the cattle industry was the statement of Mr. O. Gleason, superintendent of the Union Stock Yards, St. Boniface, in an address at the meeting of the Cattle Breeders' Association on Wednesday. He looked forward, he said, to the time when Canada will get all the profit.

Mr. Gleason told of the large quantities passing through the stockyards. At present, he said, stockers and feeders were going south, being bought by speculators. They were shipped to and sold at St. Paul. Then they were sent out to Montana and the charges in all ways had mounted up to a considerable amount before they were brought back to Chicago.

Speaking of horned and dehorned cattle, Mr. Gleason strongly advocates the latter. Much higher prices were paid for them, he said.

How the farm can be kept free from tuberculosis was the subject of Mr. C. D. McElvray, D.V.M., Health Officer of Animals Branch, Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg. The chair was taken by Mr. J. G. Barron.

The election of officers of the Cattle Breeders' Association resulted as follows:

President, J. R. Hume, Souris; vice-president, W. Cummings, Glenlea; directors, David Stewart, Gilbert Plains, J. A. Chapman, Hayfield, J. G. Barron, Carberry, and John Graham, Carberry.

The following representatives were elected: Brandon summer fair, J. Duthie, Hartney; Brandon winter fair, W. H. English, Harding, J. R. Hume, Souris, and A. Graham, Pomeroy; Western Canada Live Stock Association, A. Graham, Pomeroy.

## Horse Versus Farm Tractor

**Introduction of Machine Owing to Scarcity of Horses—Each Has Uses**

**SMALL TRACTORS GOOD**

Horse-versus tractor was the subject of an address by Professor F. S. Jacobs of the Manitoba Agricultural College at the meeting of the Horse Breeders' Association on Tuesday afternoon. While the advantages of the horse were supported the onward march of the tractor was not denied.

Explaining the advent of the tractor, Professor Jacobs said that it had come not because of the failure of the horse but because of the lack of horses many years ago. Its success then had suggested its future use.

The sort of work, however, had changed somewhat and in favor of the horse. There was relatively less breaking to be done and more ploughing. However, the small tractor had been introduced and was becoming popular.

While the cost of keeping horses was rising the cost of gasoline had also gone up. However, it could not be denied that horse power was costly because of the small motive unit and the large proportion of man labor that was required.

With the tractors there was the trouble that specially trained men were needed to work them. Also it failed in the small work. If a mechanical motor could be placed on the farms that could do the odd jobs as well as a horse that animal would soon vanish.

An increase in horse efficiency should be developed, Professor Jacobs said, and they should be used as much as possible all the year so as to spread out the cost as far as possible.

In the absence of Mr. A. J. McMillan, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. G. H. Grieg explained the workings of the enrollment act at some length, reading much of the legislation for the benefit of his audience.

**Enrollment Act Will Benefit**

Speaking of the results shown by stallion inspection, Mr. W. A. Shoultz, V.S., said that of a hundred horses which he had examined between Portage and Virde, twenty-two were good, thirty-eight fair, nineteen indifferent and twenty-one inferior. He explained the various weaknesses of the animals inspected.

Mr. S. Cox, V.S., explained how the enrollment act will benefit horse breeders, saying that it was bound to result in a great improvement in the quality of the horses. It would tend to keep the good horses in a district and he asked the co-operation of owners in notifying the Government of animals which were not enrolled and which were known to be travelling.

The market for horses would, he thought, continue good and there was an excellent opportunity for breeders to take advantage of the situation.

Mr. John Bright, the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, was to have spoken on "Federal assistance to horse breeding." He was unavoidably prevented from being present, however, and Dr. Creimer, the representative of the Department at Qu'Appelle, took his place. He explained the system of breeders clubs and the assistance they were given by the Government. There were now a dozen of these clubs and it was expected that several more would be formed this year.

The election of officers of the Horse Breeders' Association resulted as follows: President, J. G. Washington, Nings; vice-president, John Sorel, Hartney; directors, W. McKirdy, Neplinka, Freeman Rice, Binscarth, W. Galbraith, Hartney, and A. C. McPhail, Brandon.

Mr. J. G. Washington presided at the meeting.

## Farm Auction Sales

**To the Farmers:**

Mr. W. M. Pineo, of Virde, who has been conducting Farm Auctions successfully for the past twenty years in Western Manitoba, has formed a partnership with Mr. Thomas Harkness, of Brandon, to extend operations to Brandon and adjoining districts.

They solicit your patronage and trust you will call and arrange for dates.

Office—Corner 8th and Princess (opposite City Hall).

W. M. PINEO, Auctioneer.  
THOS. HARKNESS, Sec.-Treas.

References—Mr. Pineo's former customers.

### SHORT COURSE SCHOOL

Plan to Attend

**FREE**

THIS SERIES OF LECTURES IN AGRICULTURE and HOME ECONOMICS will be the greatest Short Course event in the history of agricultural education in Manitoba. The wide range of subjects and the high reputation of the long list of speakers will make it memorable for its VALUE and INTEREST. See the Posters for full announcement. EVERY FARMER and FAMILY in this district is cordially invited to attend. Board and lodging in the town will be arranged for you if you will send in your name AT ONCE.

Apply to J. H. EVANS, VIRDEN, Organizer, Dept. of Agriculture.

**at VIRDEN, Jan. 10-Feb. 5**