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**COMMISSION
EXCESSIVE**

Grain Growers Think Commission for Selling Oats is too High—Officers Elected for Another Year—Endorse Proposals Made to Premiers.
The annual meeting of the Regina Grain Growers' Association was held in the McCarthy Hall, last Thursday afternoon. About fifteen were in attendance.
In opening the meeting, President R. Moore, reported on the work done at the provincial convention held at Saskatoon last year, and stated that several things they had advocated had since come into being. The govern-
ment were being interested in the elevator question; the organization now had a paper of their own in the Grain Growers' Guide, and banking arrangements had also been satisfactorily accomplished.
Walter Simpson, was then called on and to some extent gave a report of the work done at the conference of representatives of the grain growers from the three provinces with the three premiers. He intimated that the views of the premiers would probably be given out before the annual convention of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association.
The following motion proposed by Thos. Stebbings and seconded by J. Brown was adopted:
"That this meeting of Grain Growers endorse the stand taken by the representatives of Grain Growers' Associations of the western provinces at the conference with the premiers of the three western provinces." The new officers elected are as follows:
President, R. Moore.
Vice president, E. Graham.
Sec.-Treas., Thos. Elliott.
Directors, R. McKell, R. J. Boyd, Chas. Simpson, T. Stebbings, Hugh Sutherland and W. Elliott.
Auditor, Norman McKell.
Delegates to the convention—J. C. Moore, Walter Simpson, and the pres-
ident, R. Moore.
The following motion by T. Stebbings and T. Elliott was also passed:
"That the delegates to the convention at Weyburn press upon the conven-
tion to bring pressure to bear to have the commission for selling oats reduced as this meeting considers one cent a bushel excessive."

It did not extend to the roof. No body dreamed that the chimpanzee could surmount this wall, and it was one of his three successful attempts to get out of his cage.
In the corner of the cage against the wooden partition was a large box in which the apes slept, and so heavy that they could not move it. One day the chimpanzee jumped up on this box and seemed to be critically examining it. He jumped into the air again and again with arms outstretched above his head, but he could not bring his fingers within three feet of the top of the wall. His attention suddenly became riveted upon a large tin globe which had been given to the animals to play with. It was made of thick plate and was so big and heavy it was not easy to handle. It was made for rolling along the ground.
Now was the time for Rosa to help, and she was summoned. To-
gether they hoisted the globe upon the box and rolled it into the corner. Here it was kept by the faithful and intelligent Rosa, while her fringed clambered up over her back to the top of the globe. Rosa still kept the globe in place while the venturesome chimpanzee jumped again and again for the top of that partition. But he could not reach it by several inches. Then he had a conference with Rosa. Just how he communicated his idea to her is not known, but she understood him some how or other.
The chimpanzee took her arm and helped her to clamber up on the globe. She stretched herself face downwards on the rounding surface. The chimpanzee mounted on her body and made another mighty spring into the air.
It was a great success, for he clutched the top of the partition and dropped down among the giraffes on the other side. He was not a bit concerned about leaving his friends, but unselfish Rosa had helped him to desert without reaping any advantage herself.
The keepers escorted the ape back to his own compartment and deprived the three friends of the globe that had given them so much amusement. They were very certain that the chimpanzee could not mount the partition again. They did not know the extent of the animal's resources. It was observed a few days later that the chimpanzee was having more fun than ever on his trapeze, and it looked as though he were continually trying to swing himself against the roof. At last he gathered all his energies for the biggest swing of all, and when he reached the summit of his flight he sprang off the bar and just managed to catch the top of the

partition. The next moment he was among the giraffes again. That very day the partition was extended to the roof and fight in this direction was out of the question.
This next attempt was to break the fastening on the door of the cage. He observed with much apparent interest that when the keeper entered the cage he handled a bunch of keys, one of which he inserted in a padlock. The keeper sometimes gave him the keys to examine them one by one, and often he would strain to against the wire to look at the padlock outside. For the idea seemed to dawn upon him that it had something to do with getting into or out of the cage.
One day Jacob managed to break the wooden piece on the swing and this put an implement into the hands of the chimpanzee. The bit of tough hardwood was about three feet long and it was broken so that one end was almost a point. Dr. Sokolovski could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw the ape thrust his stick outside the wire, push the thin end up through the staple that held the padlock and then pry with all his might to force it out. The keeper was notified, the performance terminated, and the chimpanzee was deprived of his new tool.
As he felt his restraint so deeply it was decided to give him a little occasional exercise in the open, and so one day the keeper took him out into the garden for a stroll, leading him by a small chain. It was a great lark for the ape and he plainly manifested his enjoyment and all the more when they reached a fruit stall at the gate, where he was regaled with bananas.
He had the time of his life, and the very next day he decided that he wanted another stroll and more bananas. He set to work on the wire of the cage, which was merely meant for summer use, but was supposed to be strong enough to hold any animal that was put into the cage. The chimpanzee confined his attention to the smaller wires that were bent around the network of larger wires to keep them in place. He bit and tugged at one wire with his strong teeth until it broke, and then uncoiled it with his fingers and threw it on the ground. He treated a number of these wire bands the same way, and then with his enormous strong arms and hands he bent the larger wires until he had cleared a hole big enough to crawl through.
It was high time to sound the alarm, but before anything could be done the chimpanzee was out in the garden and Jacob and Rosa were at his heels. The leader was making straight for the fruit stand when the

DO APES REASON?

An ape, reared from babyhood at the Biological Institute in Amani, German East Africa, has accomplishments as a bicycle rider. There was a demand from Berlin for so gifted a specimen of the anthropoid ape, and he has now been added to the collection in the zoological garden of that city. Perhaps it is not very remarkable that an intelligent ape, with innate love for feats of balancing and gymnastic stunts on the branches of trees, should learn to ride a bicycle. His trainer reports that his patience and time were not overtaxed in teaching him to ride. The ape was a little slow in grasping the idea that by working the pedals he could propel the machine, but when light dawned upon him, his education as a wheelman was almost complete. He is not yet sufficiently observant of obstacles on the road, but he is improving, says a writer in the New York Sun.
Just now the German public is most interested in the studies that Dr. Alexander Sokolovski has been making of three anthropoid apes at Stellingen, near Berlin. His scientific specialty is zoological psychology and he has been observing the life of two orang-outang, male and female, called Jacob and Rosa, and an unnamed chimpanzee. He has convinced himself that these animals have not only instinct but also elementary reasoning powers.
The three animals are excellent friends, but there are marked temperamental differences between the chimpanzee and the orang-outang. The former is full of life and doing something every waking minute. The latter are more quiet, sit repositively for long periods on the floor, and when they attempt the swinging bar they are slower and more cautious than the chimpanzee, who is reckless. He likes rough and tumble play with Jacob, but Rosa is his favorite. There seems to be a perfect understanding between them and she is his dutiful servant in many of his original performances.
To facilitate Dr. Sokolovski's studies, the keepers give a good deal of latitude to the three animals. The own way to an unusual extent. He acts more naturally when he does not know that he is under human observation, and for hours every day he has been apparently by himself, though watched every moment.
Some of the most interesting results of Dr. Sokolovski's studies grew out of the chimpanzee's desire to escape confinement. He does not like it, though his two friends seem content. They occupied a part of a very large wire cage, more than half of which was used as the summer sleeping place of the giraffes. The board partition dividing the cage into two compartments was high, though

force keepers corralled the party and forced them back into the cage.
This is only one series of observations among many which led Dr. Sokolovski to the conviction that these animals, while less than human, are much more than brutes. He learned many things from the orang-outang, but they were not so bright and interesting as the chimpanzee.
One of the peculiarities of this fellow was his antipathy for everything human except his keepers. Jacob and Rosa would blandly extend their hand for a cordial shake with the public, while the chimpanzee lurked behind for a good chance to snatch off the headgear of the visitors. Spec-
tacles aroused his greatest ire, and he had a way of sweeping them off the nose with a sort of backhand claw that hurt and almost stunned the victim.
Dr. Sokolovski says that a number of young men trained in zoological or comparative psychology be stationed in the native homes of these animals to make a thorough study of them. He does not think that the anthropoid ape was the direct ancestor of the human race, but he believes man originated through some striking differentiation from them.

Bryan a Good Shot

Galveston, Texas, Dec. 10.—Col. Wm. J. Bryan was given a taste of Texas game laws when he was charged with having exceeded the limit in the destruction of mallard and canvasback ducks at Lake Surprise. The law permits no one hunter to kill more than 25 ducks in any one day and these he can neither sell nor ship.
Lake Surprise the game preserve of Banker Moody, is located in Chamber's county and is only accessible by water and part of this through the private channel owned by Col. Moody.
The game warden of Chambers county had been tipped that the Bryan party of four huntsmen were slaughtering ducks without regard to number. Gaining access to the preserve, he counted the dead ducks and found 145, and average of 36, or 13 above the limit. The three other members had been complimenting Bryan on his marksmanship and had credited him with half of the sport until the officer appeared on the scene when Col. Moody and his two associates declared that Bryan had killed more than twenty. Charges were preferred against the quartette.
It is understood that three of them will plead guilty to protect Bryan from the penalty of the law.

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The "Sask-alta" Way
Another way produces unevenly broiled meat and unevenly toasted bread and taxes the patience of the housewife. This way is represented by most Ranges. The reason: Some Ranges have "only" a Broiler Door, others have a contrivance like that illustrated in top small drawing; both of which enjoy the distinction of tiring the arm that holds the broiler and tiring the eye that directs the arm.

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Women's Sphere
We are all of us familiar with the urban joke at the expense of the small town or village. The reproach of dullness is brought against the smaller community with the charge that nothing is talked of, save the neighbor's petty household affairs. This criticism came to mind after a visit to two Ontario towns, almost on a level as regards population, but far apart as regards quality. The one appeared to be dull and given over to small feuds and ambitions, the other had a considerable number of citizens who would compare favorably with the more serious minded in large centres. What made the difference? It was decided on comparing notes, that it was largely due to feminine alertness in the latter community. There has been a great flood of ridicule poured on the Women's Clubs of the United States. They are by no means perfect institutions, and some of them mistake what Dr. Van Dyke calls "culturing" for genuine growth; but they have proved the salvation of the social circle in many a small town. In the better of these two Ontario towns, the women had formed several reading clubs, which made no pretensions to ponderous undertakings, but which created a breadth and freedom not to be found in the small town given up to petty things. A modern bishop has prayed that we may be kept from becoming small while doing small things. It is a remarkably sensible petition. Commonness is in the spirit rather than in the task. In this town which had found itself there was a travel club, which took the most delightful excursions over the face of the earth and in which the members learned that Buenos Ayres is a capital of cosmopolitan beauty and that Fort Wrangel is becoming a livable spot.
"Of course some people made fun of it first and make fun of it still," said the energetic president, "but when I came here from college, it seemed as if there was nothing to talk about but Mrs. Smith's new parlor carpet and how Brown's paid their bills. I found that several others were longing for more stimulating topics; so we started a travel club and we've been journeying ever since. If we must gossip, it's healthier and safer to gossip about the Fiji Islanders than the people next door. It has got into our domestic life too and we've been trying foreign dishes on our unfortunate families."

Christmas Stamps
A Million to be Sold Before Christmas.

Every penny from the stamps, after paying for printing and distribution, will be used for the maintenance of poor patients at the **MUSKOKA FREE HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTIVES**, and for extending the fight against the dread White Plague.
This Christmas Stamp idea was started in Denmark about four years ago, where the cash returns have built and financed a Consumptive Hospital. A year ago, the Red Cross Society of Denmark sold over 400,000 with the co-operation of stores, churches, clubs, and boys and girls. In fact, everybody helped in this popular movement, and this year their National Red Cross Society is selling the stamps all over the States.
A STAMP FOR CANADA
The neat little stamp in red and white, like above is cut, and selling at one cent each, is published by the National Sanitarium Association in the interests of the Muskoka Free Hospital. The stamp does not pay postage, but may be put on letters, packages and Christmas cards of all kinds, and will bear the happy Season's Greetings everywhere.
Willing workers all over the Dominion are organizing little bands for stamp selling. The hospital board is hoping that over a million stamps will be sold before Christmas, and the work for the consumptive poor from sea to sea will be greatly strengthened. Other interesting information may be obtained by writing Mr. J. S. Robertson, Secy.-Treas. of the Association, 247 King Street West, Toronto.

BAD FOR LOCAL OPTION
Owen Sound, Dec. 10.—A local option saw a witness for the defence in a liquor case too drunk to give evidence. He was told so plainly by the magistrate and advised to go home and get to bed. Wm. Stevenson was the first witness. "This man is not in shape to be a witness," said the magistrate. "I will tell you right here, a man who's drunk I am not going to believe. If you cannot

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