

OFFICERS:

Honorary President: J. W. Scallion Virden
President: R. C. Henders Culross
Vice-President: J. S. Wood Oakville
Secretary-Treasurer: R. McKenzie Winnipeg

SUGGESTION FROM MINITONAS

At our ordinary meeting of the local G. G. A. on the 21st inst. the following resolution for presentation to the resolution committee at Brandon Convention was carried unanimously on the motion of Wm. Sifton and G. N. Smith—That the Manitoba G. G. A. issue an adequate and uniform certificate of membership in keeping with the great importance of the movement. Also, by A. McLeary and J. Cox—That the M. G. G. A. have a number of good sized show cards got up, containing reminders of such things as the famous boast of the manufacturers some time ago. Also some of the great facts which have appeared on the front page of The Guide lately. A few of the best cartoons might also be included. These cards would hang on the walls of the meeting places of the association. The reason for this idea is that in most places the halls are used for meetings of all kinds, and it is well to keep our lights shining, particularly before the young.

I neglected to state in my last letter that we closed the last year with a paid-up membership of 36 and a balance of \$7.15 in the treasury.

D. BLAIN, Secretary.

The annual meeting of the above association was held in the municipal hall on Dec. 14. There was a fair attendance. The balance sheet showed a small sum in the hands of the secretary-treasurer. On the chair being vacated by the retiring president, Wm. Sifton was unanimously called to preside over the meeting, and delivered a rousing address showing how the manipulations of the landed interests were bidding fair to enslave unborn generations.

The following members were appointed office bearers for the ensuing year: President, A. Smith; vice-president, E. L. Sifton; directors, C. Henderson, A. McLeary, J. H. Cox, G. L. Smith, Wm. Sifton, Roy Johnstone.

D. BLAIN, Secretary.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE DISTRICT SECRETARY'S REPORT

At Edrans, on Jan. 15, a meeting to organize a Branch Association was addressed by P. D. McArthur, Longburn, and Mr. Mance, who represented The Guide. A Branch was organized, with the following officers: President, Jas. H. Farmer; vice-president, R. M. Sharp; secretary, W. A. Green; directors, W. Currie, J. Dahner, W. Anderson, J. Foxhall, M. Watson, J. Barber. W. A. Green was appointed representative on the District Board. Every man present either was a subscriber or subscribed for The Guide at the meeting. It was decided to instal a weigh-scale at once for the use of the members, and the secretary was instructed to send for one of R. McKenzie's books in which to keep the accounts of the Branch.

A very successful box social was held in Edwin schoolhouse on Friday evening, January 17. Wm. Crewson occupied the chair in a very able manner. After a good program had been rendered the boxes were auctioned by Bert Baker, whose powers as an auctioneer were shown by the proceeds of the sale which amounted to \$50.20, half of which went to the Ladies Aid and half to the Grain Growers' association. It is the intention of the Branch to send most of this to the Central secretary for organization purposes. H. Larkin, the energetic secretary, met the delayed C. P. R. train at Burnside, and arrived at the schoolhouse about 10 o'clock with F. J. Dixon and C. H. Burnell. Mr. Dixon addressed the meeting on Direct Legislation and made a goodly number of converts to the cause. C. Burnell spoke on the "Grain Growers' association and its work." Fifteen new members was the result of the meeting.

Portage la Prairie branch held a meeting at 2 o'clock on Saturday, Jan. 18, to hear the reports of the delegates to Brandon Convention. The president, Jas. Brydon, and vice-president, Jas. McKenzie, both gave very comprehensive and interesting reports. C. Burnell

was asked to give a report and replied briefly comparing the last convention with preceding ones. A number of members paid in their dues for 1913.

COLIN H. BURNELL,
District Secretary.

HOW CO-OPERATION SAVES

Dear President:—It will probably please you and help to brighten some of the cloudy spots in your endeavors toward the uplifting of humanity to know that we of this district have been slowly, 'tis true, but nevertheless surely, bending our steps towards the goal of justice, equality and freedom, that you have so bravely and unselfishly set before us.

We have been buying co-operatively for the past four years, such commodities as twine, fuel, lumber, flour and feed, and each year has increasingly borne home to us the need of storage accommodation for such commodities and a suitable hall or building in which the social and educational instincts of the people can have opportunity to broaden and develop; with the result that the combined associations of Kelloe and King School have commenced a series of entertainments consisting of "Addresses on questions of the day, concerts, socials and dances," with the object of helping to raise funds for the building of above-mentioned accommodation.

We held our first entertainment yesterday evening, and on a charge of 25c. for adults, cleared \$45.35, and at the close of the fun the management received numerous requests for an early repetition, many of the requests coming from farmers who have been opposed to, or at best were lukewarm toward, the Grain Growers' movement.

The following is an exact account of our saving on a car of flour and feed:

No. of Sacks.	Kind of Goods.	Price to G. G.		Retail price in	
		buying Co-operatively	our nearest towns	Per sack.	Total.
158	Five Roses, 98 lbs. sack.	\$2.70	\$426.60	\$3.25	\$513.50
45	Harvest Queen, 98 lbs. sack	2.40	108.00	3.00	135.00
115	Bran, 100 lbs. sack, \$17 per ton . . .	.85	97.75	1.10	126.50
4	Shorts, 100 lbs. sack, \$21 per ton . .	1.05	4.20	1.35	5.40
17	Rollod Oats, 80 lbs. sack	2.10	35.70	3.20	56.40
Totals			\$672.25		\$834.80
Less freight			19.90		
			\$652.35		652.35
Net saving by Co-operative buying					\$182.45

This quantity was purchased by 14 farmers, making an average saving of \$13.03.

W. GIBSON,
Sec.-Treas., Kelloe G. G. Assn.
J. R. MUNSHAW,
Sec.-Treas., King School G. G. Assn.

BIRNIE GAINS FROM CO-OPERATION

The Birnie Grain Growers held their annual meeting on December 28, when they elected officers for the year and other important business was transacted. John Alexander was re-elected president; Geo. Luker, vice-president, and Wm. Denoon, secretary-treasurer.

Our Association is doing splendidly in the co-operative line. This year we handled four cars of flour and feed, one car of oats and one car of apples. On our flour we saved an average of 40 cents per sack, and on our apples \$1.25 per barrel, and \$700.00 on the lot. Two men unload each car, one to deliver out the goods and the other to take in the money. We find this a good plan as we are too far away from a bank to do our business. Our annual entertainment will be on February 20.

WM. DENOON,
Birnie, Man. Secretary-Treasurer.

ANNUAL MEETING AT DUNREA

Our closing meeting for the year was held in Dunrea on Saturday, December 28, Vice-President Wm. Coulthard in the chair. Wm. Higgs was appointed auditor and the accounts, amounting to \$58.60, were passed. Forty-six members' fees were received. It was decided to

send \$15 to the Fighting Fund. The following were appointed for the coming year: President, A. Parent, vice-president, Wm. Coulthard; secretary-treasurer, C. S. Watkins; directors, R. Booth, Wm. Higgs, T. Meahry, A. Spurrill, Geo. Rea and Norman Leslie.

After an interesting discussion on the advisability of getting a car of flour the meeting adjourned to assemble again on Saturday, January 11, to hear the report of the Brandon delegates.

C. S. WATKINS,
Secretary-Treasurer.

SOME SPLENDID PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FROM MR. LOVE

Dear President:—Having had the pleasure and profit of attending our late Convention I wish to extend to you hearty congratulations for the great measure of success the Association has attained under your leadership.

If there is any feature of the work that is in a measure disappointing, it is the slow increase in numbers. And this, I am willing to own, is not the fault of the Executive or Directors. After attending for the first time a convention three years ago, I concluded that if the members did a work at all in proportion to what was put upon and expected of the Central officers, we would as an Association within three years have above 80 % of the Grain Growers in our ranks. I see no reason to change my mind on that point. I firmly believe that individual effort is the secret of success.

This changed my mind on the Life Membership scheme. True we need money badly, but we need men more. We must have numbers to give us prestige. To judge from the response we had to the emergency fund the first day

of Convention we can get the money much quicker and easier than men.

This, perhaps, touches on a resolution passed in Convention re the appointment of two organizers. I fear that too much will be expected of them. I fully agree with the resolution as meeting the requirements of neglected or unorganized districts, of which there must be very large districts when we consider the proportion of Manitoba farmers within our ranks.

If I were asked to put in a sentence the secret of success in our organization I would say, individual effort. And surely there are enough individuals in any well organized district to look after in the best possible manner the canvassing for membership and looking after renewals. I claim that the principal work and the best thing possible for local associations is to see that the membership is ever increasing. Which reminds me of a joke. A prominent business man wrote a drummer just starting out for their firm thus: "Your success will depend on three things—The first, that you send in orders soon; second, that more orders will follow on frequently; and thirdly, that they be large orders." Now co-operation was dwelt on pretty fully and shows many advantages, something that should appeal to the people through their pockets as well as their heads, so I will not deal with the commercial side of it; but I would like to see more co-operation among the members in securing fresh members and not expect too much of the secretary.

I have perhaps written too much and

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.

fear will tire you, but would request that you would appeal to the Association for united effort for enlarging our borders and thus strengthen our position. An appeal through The Guide should suffice.

With hearty good wishes for a prosperous year in Association work. Fraternal yours,

GEO. LOVE,

Ninga, Man.

FARM HELP FROM BRITAIN**Convention Adopts Scheme for Securing Men and Domestic Servants from Britain by advancing Fares**

A proposition for securing farm help from the Old Country by advancing fares was laid before the Brandon convention by Secretary R. McKenzie. Mr. McKenzie said, arrangements were made last year to co-operate with the C.N.R. in this work, but it was not until harvest time that the scheme was under way and shortly afterwards the C.N.R. withdrew, partly because of the loss of one of their ships, and consequently not much had been done. W. A. McNichol, formerly immigration agent for the C.N.R., had now severed his connection with that company to go into immigration work on his own account, and he was prepared to represent the Grain Growers' association in Great Britain and to send carefully selected and experienced men on the advanced fare basis. It was well known that there were many farm laborers in the Old Country who would make very desirable settlers, but who had not the means to pay their own fare, and the proposal was that farmers desiring men should fill out an application form showing exactly what kind of man they required, the work he would be expected to do, and the wages offered, and that Mr. McNichol should select men suitable for the positions. The amount required to be advanced was \$52, and it was proposed that the association should place a sum on deposit with a London bank, from which the fares would be paid, the association collecting the \$52 from the farmer when his application was received. To ensure the man whose fare had been advanced reaching his intended employer, it was proposed that his steamer and railway tickets and his baggage checks should be held by the conductor of the party until the destination was reached. Men brought out in this way would be hired for at least six months or a year, and the amount advanced for the fare would be repaid out of their wages. The wages usually paid under these circumstances were \$250 a year, for which plenty of first class men could be secured. Mr. McNichol would make no charge to the association for his services, but some arrangement would have to be made to make the scheme self-supporting at this end. The proposal was well received, a number of delegates speaking very highly of men whom they had secured through personal friends by advancing fares, and who would not have been able to come to Canada if their fares had not been advanced. Mr. McKenzie said Mr. McNichol would not undertake to secure domestic servants, but arrangements could be made with Mrs. Lilly for this branch of the work.

At the same time a labor bureau could be opened to supply labor at harvest and other busy seasons.

After a number of points had been explained, the following resolution was unanimously passed on the motion of J. W. Shanks:

That the board of directors establish a labor bureau in connection with the office in Winnipeg, to supply the members with farm help and domestic servants from Great Britain on the advanced fare basis, as well as temporary help for summer and harvest, and in order to make this bureau self-sustaining each applicant be required to pay to the bureau a fee of \$3. Further, that the executive approach the provincial government for a substantial grant to be used in establishing the said bureau.