

Manitoba

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association by R. C. Henderson, President, Suite 4, Balmoral Court, Winnipeg, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

PATRIOTIC ACRE RECEIPTS

Previously acknowledged	\$3973.06
Per J. J. Shaw, Swan River	48.72
Manitoba Grain Growers' Ass'n.	32.00
Beresford Grain Growers Ass'n.	198.00
Thornhill Grain Growers, per	
Saml. White	30.00
John Sweet	25.00
Brook Morley	25.00
Thos. South	25.00
Thos. Mordy	25.00
A. Carrie	25.00
Harry Allen	20.00
John Durbin	20.00
Thos. Ward	15.00
J. Langney	10.00
Dan. Maloney	10.00
H. Thompson	10.00
Jim Broadbent	10.00
Wm. Bradley	10.00
Thos. Shortridge	10.00
Geo. Doney	5.00
J. R. Pearson	5.00
Jas. Duff	5.00
J. Stambuski	5.00
Fritz Stevens	5.00
Jas. Stokes	5.00
R. Skinner	5.00
T. Thompson	5.00
P. Robson	5.00
Fred Cardno	5.00
W. R. Furman	5.00
Wm. Bentham	5.00
Jas. Cowan	5.00
Mrs. R. Sweet	5.00
Chas. Gellert	5.00
Jas. Broadbent	5.00
Geo. Simpson	5.00
And. McNab	5.00
	\$ 360.00
Myrtle G.G. Ass'n., per	
W. H. Halstead	\$25.00
P. Wright	25.00
W. Murray	20.00
R. H. Waddell	24.00
A. F. Johnson	20.00
Alex. Mitchell	20.00
Bert Reid	15.00
Fred Webster	10.00
	\$ 213.35
For Patriotic Fund	
A. E. Hole	29.10
James Milne	15.00
Robt. Sargent	10.00
	\$ 4825.13

NINGA ANNUAL REPORT

As shown by secretary's report few meetings than usual were held. This does not necessarily mean less activity in our association, but that our energies were used in other ways. That interest is not waning is evidenced by our increased membership. Much work was entailed in the circulation of petitions re Equal Suffrage and Women's Right to the Dower, duties which the lady members successfully performed.

The Patriotic Acre pledges were circulated by your directors with gratify-

ing success. We might say that it was regrettable that all of the above petitions were not available for circulation during the winter months instead of July and August. Representatives from this Association attended a meeting in Killarney, and later in Boissevain, in connection with district association formation. Your directors have sought to have inter-municipal hail insurance tested at the polls this fall in the three municipalities by working in conjunction with the councils. Nothing definitely assured yet in two municipalities.

By acting promptly we were able to secure two cars of winter apples of extra quality and at a very reasonable price, considering the decidedly short crop. We have also been able to secure a large quantity of pure clover honey at a moderate price, enough to supply all the members.

We would respectfully suggest that a better system of carrying on co-operative work be arranged for, and think a few minutes in discussion might be profitable, when in order.

A suggestion was made at our last association meeting that some effort be made to provide a rest room for our wives and daughters when in town, which we would like to have taken up at this meeting. In conclusion, we thank you for your confidence and support in the year now ended. We ask you that in the election of officers for the coming year that you pass the honors of office to others and would also suggest in view of the past, that in the minds of some it is thought advisable to form more sub or rural associations, which would doubtless mean more meetings in the rural schools and ought to be decided now or can before the election of officers takes place. We, therefore, suggest that ample time be given for discussion, when in order to take it up.

We might also mention that one car of flour and feed from the Boissevain mills has lately been distributed at a considerable saving to this district. Another car has been ordered and is expected at an early date.

JAS. LYON,

Vice-Pres.

Note.—The above report presented by the officers of the Ninga Association to their annual meeting is an indication that the officers in that branch take their position seriously and discharge their duties to the Association intelligently. As a result of their intelligent activity on the part of the officers the branch is able to report a paid-up membership of 101 for last year. This is a clear indication of what can be done when the work of the Association is taken seriously. It would be interesting to know how many of the officers of our branches prepare a written statement of their activities throughout the year to be submitted at their annual meeting at the end of the year. Doing the work of our association systematically pays.

ELM BANK CO-OPERATIVE REPORT

Our association engaged in the following co-operative activities in 1915:—
One car load extra manilla twine (24,000 lbs.) at 94c. \$2220.00
One car load stove coal, at \$9.55 175.99
One car load nut coal, at \$9.80 339.82
Two cars flour and feed (Grain Growers' special flour), at \$2.70 2041.35
Quantity of evaporated apples 55.00

Total \$4832.16

We bought the twine from our local agent on fall terms, the agent to take farmers' notes for same. The coal, flour and feed were all bought from The Grain Growers' Grain Company. The work of distribution has so far been left to the president and secretary. This year the president ordered the coal, becoming responsible for same and collecting for it on delivery. The secretary went good for the flour and feed and collected same on delivery, and they received nothing for their trouble. If we did not have these co-operative activities I do not believe we would have more than one-half of the members we have at present.

C. A. FOSSAY,

Secretary.

STRATHCLAIR REPORT

In this report I would like to impress upon you, how by all working together, we may make our Association more efficient and at the same time increase our membership. Let me illustrate:—

In the first class let us put all those in the community who are always ready to promote the interest of those living in their neighborhood and of the public in general. We always find these people the first to join our Association. The second class are those who stand back—afraid to risk a dollar or an hour's time until they know the thing is on a paying basis. They look on with suspicion and seem to think we are in it for what we make out of it, or else that we will never amount to anything. The third class we might call the indifferent or selfish class. They are not interested in anything that will elevate or improve the community spirit on which so much depends. They have always made a comfortable living for themselves, and that is all they ask for. They attend church once a week, but outside of that they take no interest whatever in anything that is going on. How the less fortunate are getting along is no concern of theirs. The fourth class, and possibly the one in which we should be the most concerned, is the farmer who has to work and scheme to make both ends meet. His sympathies are very often with us, but owing to straightened circumstances, caused very often by no fault of his own, feels himself unable to join with us.

In regard to the first class I have nothing to say. The second class we are able to bring into our Association by developing the co-operative side of our work. Where we show them that we can save them money by joining with us, and that the more members we have the cheaper we can buy, they are not long in coming in, and very often some of them make efficient members. Others, however, are irregular

attendants at the meetings; they leave the business for other members to do and often find fault with what is done. They will even send their orders to the secretary over the phone. The third class are a very difficult lot to deal with. They are very conservative in their ideas and find it hard to believe that we are working for their benefit as well as our own. They refuse to read or believe The Guide, but if any of their party papers say the same thing they will believe it at once. We have to have patience with this class and try to win them by education. Now comes the fourth and last class to whom we should all lend a helping hand, by doing so we will all do a service to the unfortunate farmer, who by force of circumstances finds that after working long and hard for a whole year he has nothing left, after all his debts are all paid, to buy any luxuries or even the necessities of life. It is up to us to keep after the powers that be and let them see how urgent it is that these farmers get a square deal, by getting cheaper money, thereby enabling them to co-operate with their brother farmers, and to enjoy some of the profits which are brought about by co-operation.

During the past year our association handled nine car loads of merchandise composed of the following:—1 car load of cedar posts, 3 of lumber and building material, 1 of binder twine, 1 of apples and 3 of coal, besides a quantity of honey and cheese. The total approximate cost of all goods purchased by us during the past year was \$5485.00 and we made an approximate profit to our members of \$1,200.00. We always have cars consigned to the secretary of the association, and when the draft comes he 'phones the president and together they go to the bank and make arrangements for sufficient money to cover their purchase. When the car arrives the secretary notifies the directors, who are generally situated in different parts of the community. They in turn notify all the members on the different 'phone lines. When they arrive the secretary delivers the goods, and collects the money for same. We generally add 2 per cent to the cost of our goods to cover cost of handling. We have found since we have been buying co-operatively that we have made greater strides and our members turn out better to our meetings. For several years after we organized we found it very difficult to get our members to keep their dues paid up. Some would be eight months or a year in arrears. We solved the problem by passing the following resolution:—"As soon as a member makes a profit by any of our plans of co-operative buying the price of his membership for ensuing year is added to whatever commodities he buys." This ensures his membership paid in advance. We do not supply non-members with anything, but some of our members buy for their neighbors. However, we do our best to guard against this.

F. WILLIAMSON.

There is not the same standard of honor in dealing with politics as there is in ordinary life.—Sir A. Markham.

Everyone is the son of his own works.—Cervantes.



DELEGATES AT U.F.A. CONVENTION, CALGARY, JANUARY 18-21, 1916