

COLONIAL NURSING ASSOCIATION

The following interesting letter has been received by the Central from Lady Piggott, the founder and vice-president of the Colonial Nursing Association. It demonstrates not only a beautiful spirit of interest and helpfulness on the part of these English ladies, but also a very clear perception of one of the vital problems of the prairie settler.—J.B.M.

The Colonial Nursing Association, Imperial Institute, London, S.W.

Dear Sir:—I have been advised to write to you on the subject of the great necessity for establishing fully trained maternity nurses on the prairies and outlying districts of Canada, and to ask you to discuss with your association the possibility and desirability of the women of Great Britain offering their help in this matter to the women of Canada. Very distressing accounts reach both this association and the British Women's Emigration Association of the mortality and grave difficulties experienced by young mothers in these places during and after childbirth, and in view of the great importance of infant life at this time of terrible wastage and mortality owing to the world war, it is felt that very serious efforts should be made within the Empire to avoid this preventable loss of life in many of its outlying parts.

Should this offer of help be welcomed by your association, it is suggested that a number of specially selected, fully qualified mothers' nurses or midwives be sent out to undertake a two years' tour of service in any part of the Dominion where their services are needed. It is thought that they might be placed at centres to be selected by your association, whence under medical control they could undertake maternity work in outlying districts.

It is understood that the Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada is unable to deal in any large way with this problem, owing to the scarcity of fully-trained nurses for these outposts, and also to the well-known dislike of such highly trained women for maternity work in isolated places. Our executive has a scheme in process of elaboration by which a certain number of suitable women whose homes have been broken up by the war—preferably widows or married women—might be trained specially as midwives, who in return for such training would undertake this two years' tour of service in any part of the Empire where their services are needed.

Outline of Scheme

This is a brief outline of the scheme as at present conceived; the maintenance and salary to be received by these nurses is to be the subject of future consideration, but I may say that the suggestion is that the funds for these purposes should be raised: (1) By the fees charged; (2) By local subscriptions and donations; (3) From funds specially raised, both here and in the Dominions. It has been suggested that your society might be willing to arouse interest in the scheme among the many existing women's institutes, so that help might be forthcoming in local organization of nursing centres, funds and so forth. You, of course, clearly understand that no "interference" or unwelcome assistance is intended from the mother country, but rather a message from the women of Great Britain to the women of Canada, "Can we help you?" It should be possible for a number of centres to be established where three or four of these mothers' nurses might live under proper medical supervision—either lady doctors or local medical men—whose services should be available for the scattered settlers and their families.

It would much gratify my committee if you would consider this informal letter carefully and let me have the views of your association as to the possibility of our assisting in any definite action.

Yours very truly,

MABEL W. PIGGOTT,

(Lady Piggott)

Founder and Vice-President, C.N.A.

ITALY'S LABOR CO-OPERATION

The greatest demonstration of labor's ability to dispense with the capitalist and private contractor is the experience of the workmen's organizations in Italy. In Bologna, the Laborers' Co-

Saskatchewan

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association by J. B. Musselman, Secretary, Regina, Sask., to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

operative Organization has successfully built a \$40,000,000 railway terminal by taking the contract directly. The laborers were backed by their own co-operative bank, and the contract was deposited in the bank as security for advances, as needed, while the work progressed. The laborers' organization employed the architects and engineers necessary, so there was no lack of technical skill, but there was a conspicuous absence of the fat contractor beating down the wages of the men who did the work. The laborer was worthy of his dividend—and he got it. There was a Bologna sausage that needed no mustard to make it go down.—Montana Equity News.

ENJOYABLE TIME AT AMULET

A very enjoyable picnic was held at Erickson's Lake on August 30 by the Amulet Grain Growers' Association. The weather being of the finest, a large crowd of over five hundred assembled to help the Grain Growers in their initial endeavor to promote social relations of the community and surrounding districts. All lovers of the old-time sport of baseball were not disappointed in the game between Mount Joy and Amulet. After a hard fought contest Mount Joy won by four runs, the final score being 7-1.

Races for the children and tug-of-war between the Grain Growers and the non-Grain Growers created a good deal of interest. The advisability of being a Grain Grower was proved by the result of the contest. Three prominent members of the association had built a gasoline launch, "The Tabose-will." The launch provided room for thirty-four and was the latest in modern ship building. Loaded to the gunwale and decorated with flags and pennants it added a very striking note to the festive scene. An old salt who came here as a homesteader seven years ago was so pleased with the unexpected pleasure of boat-riding that he never missed a trip.

Addresses given by Messrs. T. E. Gamble and Hawkes on "Education of the Rural Population," "History of the Grain Growers' Association" and "Co-operative Trading," respectively, were much enjoyed by everyone. Possibly the most enjoyable feature of the whole day was a supper served by the wives of the Grain Growers. By the report served they proved themselves experts of the culinary art. A platform for dancing had been built and an orchestra of three pieces provided good music for all those who wished to take part in this favorite form of amusement. Altogether an enjoyable time was spent and the picnickers went home trusting that a similar form of entertainment would be provided next year.

T. E. STEUCK,
Sec., Amulet G.G.A.

SUCCESSFUL PICNIC

Central Secretary:—On Wednesday, July 19, the Coriander Local held their second annual picnic at the Coriander school. Over eighty people attended, the weather being ideal for a picnic. The day passed quickly, as there was barely time for the lengthy program after the crowd arrived. After supper all were well entertained by a very impressive address by George Spence, official organizer of the proposed Grain Growers' railroad.

GEORGE HURST,
Sec., Coriander Local.

CONTRIBUTE TO EMERGENCY FUND

Central Secretary:—I have much pleasure in informing you that we held a most successful picnic here on July 20, 1916, at which we had boating and all other kinds of amusements, as well as sports with suitable prizes for the Sunday School children, which were organized by the ladies' auxiliary, who also helped us materially in providing for the liberal supper which fol-

lowed. In accordance with our pledge given at the Saskatoon convention to do something towards the emergency fund—legal fund—of the association, we decided to give half the proceeds of the picnic, for which please find enclosed \$31.80. We, as a local, feel that this is a fund the good results of which can hardly be estimated too highly, especially on account of its moral effect, and we feel that every local should make an effort to do its share towards this fund, especially as all alike receive benefits from it, which are not always apparent. I might say that this contribution is in a great measure part of the fruits of the address given us by W. J. Thompson, district director, on March 29.

H. S. LOXTON,
Sec., Spring Lake, No. 3.

OUR PRIVILEGE ABUSED

The following is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Forgan Grain Growers' Association Limited, August 4, 1916:

"Whereas the privilege afforded by the ruling of the Board of Grain Commissioners re the securing of special cars to handle the exposed grain of the 1915 crop has been abused by many unscrupulous grain dealers and farmers and used as a means to secure cars out of turn, as shown by the car order book, and whereas much inconvenience and actual loss has been sustained by many farmers who provided for the proper housing of their grain, and whereas this ruling if again passed by the Board of Grain Commissioners will place a premium on the careless housing of grain, and whereas the crop of 1916 promises to be more abundant than that of 1915 and may lead to the same conditions as existed in the handling of the 1915 crop,

"We, the Forgan Local of the S.G.G.A., place ourselves on record as opposed to any similar ruling by the Board of Grain Commissioners re the handling of the 1916 crop, and beg the board to take immediate action in acquainting all grain dealers and farmers that they must prepare to properly house all grain in their care or suffer the consequences."

A. C. READY,
Pres., Forgan G.G.A. Ltd.
F. B. McNAUGHTON,
Sec., Forgan G.G.A. Ltd.

ORDER TWINE EARLY

Central Secretary:—Our twine came in August 14, and find it O.K. I have been cutting this week. I would like to make a suggestion to the executive board if they care to consider it, and that is to ask every local in Saskatchewan to send in their orders for twine for next year not later than December 1, 1916, with the deposit of \$50 per car, with the privilege of cancellation for half, etc. Our local, I am sure, could handle three cars, and I don't know a better way to hold our members together. For one local to send in their deposit won't amount to much, but if they all do you should have money enough to fasten our twine for 1917.

M. R. BROOKS,
Sec., Aneroid Local.

ANSWER

Dear Sir:—Many thanks for your suggestion, which we have pleasure in inserting on this page. The chief point in your letter is that a deposit of \$50 should be sent in to the Central office with each car of twine ordered for 1917, in order to enable the Central to fasten the orders received. At the time of writing orders for about thirty cars of twine have been received for delivery in 1917, none of which, however, were accompanied by deposits. It would, without a doubt, be to the interest of every local to send in a definite order for twine as soon as possible for delivery next season, tho there might be some difference of opinion on the question of deposits.

R. W. Y.

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