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Saskatchewan

This section of The Guide is conducted officially for the Saskatchewan
 Grain Growers' Association

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Laura G.G. Save \$1,144

The Laura branch of the Sask. G.G.A. held their annual meeting in the Orange Hall on Saturday, December 27. There was a good representative turnout. J. Johnston, president, occupied the chair. The secretary read the annual report and it was shown how much money was saved by buying co-operatively. The spread being between what was paid at the cars and what the same amount of stuff would cost if bought privately. The savings were as follows: On 6 car loads of cord wood, \$143; 1 car load of fence posts, \$75.84; 1 car load of apples, \$259; 1 car load of flour, \$217; 40 sacks of bran, \$16; 10 sacks of rolled oats, \$20; 522 lbs. of formaldehyde, \$78.30; 21,000 lbs. of binder twine, \$240; 50 tons of hard coal, \$65; 40 tons of soft coal, \$38. Total savings, \$1,144.14.

The next item taken up was the consideration of having the loading platform on the C.N.R. at this point extended, as the present platform only accommodated the loading of two cars at a time. A memorial was drafted up and it was moved by W. J. Hahn, and seconded by M. B. Clark, that all members sign the paper asking the Railway Commission to have the platform extended long enough to accommodate the loading of eight cars at one time. Carried. Moved by H. Stenkie, seconded by H. C. Kurtain, that all members sign a like paper asking the Railway Commission to have the station platform extended fifty feet on each end for the accommodation of passengers getting on and off trains. Carried. Other business in regard to co-operative buying was discussed with much interest, until the election of officers was called, which was got thru with in short order. As all the old officers appeared to have given good satisfaction during 1913, they were all re-elected by acclamation, as follows: President, J. Johnston; vice-president, J. W. Parker; secretary-treasurer, A. P. McLelland; directors, J. G. Wilkie, M. B. Clark and George Carr.

We believe our Association is on a fair way to success as all our members pull together. We have no complaining, but feel that if the members are benefitted by the Association, farmers who are not members also receive benefit from our labors. Hence the tendency to induce others to join. With the commencement of the New Year we hope to make it the best year since our Association organized.

A. P. McLELLAND,

Sec'y Laura Assn.

After the Hundred Mark

Please find enclosed \$1 for which I wish you to send me by return mail fifty membership tickets. When I ordered tickets last I thought fifty would be the limit of our membership, but up to date we have sixty-seven, and I think if we handle another car load or so of coal we will reach the 100 mark.

D. M. STRATH,

Sec'y Sceptre.

How Some Cattle are Lost

We passed a resolution calling upon the members of Parliament for this constituency to urge the appointment of a man to examine the brands of all cattle received at each marketing point, in order to prevent the possibility of cattle being wilfully or accidentally taken out of a district without the knowledge of the owner. If the shipper cannot show a bill of sale for all cattle he ships, the owner of the brand to be communicated with and paid for such cattle. This resolution is not well worded, but several farmers have (in this district) lost cattle that they have put out to graze and there is not much doubt that they have been shipped out with others to some of the central points such as Edmonton, Calgary or Winnipeg. There is, I understand, some such law as the above in the States, to protect the owner of cattle from such practices.

GEORGE H. HANANT,

Sec'y Newlands Assn. No. 1

Fern Glen's Difficulties

Please find enclosed \$2, being the balance of twenty-eight memberships paid up for 1913 for Fern Glen local. Those who have not already secured a copy of the Grain Act from Ottawa, evinced no interest. The majority of this Association have expressed the opinion that buttons are an unnecessary expense and the money could very well be spent to better purposes.

As far as this local is concerned, increase of membership has become a secondary question. The vital one is: How can we hold what we have? It seems that co-operative trading is the main attraction, the considerable interest is always taken in nearly all public questions by the members, but this Association is not, and likely never will be a centre for extensive debates or any of the other frills mentioned in one of your former letters. One thing which stands in the way of increased membership or regular attendance at our meetings is the bad roads and the broken nature of the country, two rivers cutting thru the township, and where they are unbridged our members have double the distance to travel.

There were no requests made for either sample market pamphlets or annual reports, mainly because most of our members have seen these in The Guide. I would personally draw your attention to the fact that the copy of the annual report which we received was very poorly put up, a great deal of repetition and in two places parts were seemingly omitted. These two things being remarked by the members who looked over the report at the meeting following the receipt of it. Our Association will not likely have resolutions to present to the convention unless the one enclosed should reach the meeting.

Our meeting came too late to do anything with regard to the district convention and I must plead guilty to negligence in not at least writing Mr. Knox, without waiting for instructions from the Association so as to find out his intentions and been prepared to act quickly if he was holding a meeting. Our meeting was December 1 and the district meeting was December 5 and 6. The following officers were elected to fill the various offices of our Association for 1914: President, Peter Goodal; vice-president, W. N. McGown; secretary-treasurer, R. P. Willock; executive, R. Daniels, Wm. McGown, sr., N. Stanley, M. Fritshaw, G. N. McCullough and H. Daniels. The regular monthly meetings will be held the first Monday evening in each month at Fern Glen schoolhouse.

R. P. WILLOCK,

Sec'y Fern Glen Assn.

Membership and Interest Increasing

I hereby submit the annual report of our local Association for year ending December 31, 1913. We had thirty ordinary members and two life members. The financial standing of this Association is in rather bad standing, owing, to a great extent, to the entire failure of a picnic held on July 1, 1913. Elaborate preparations had been made for an enjoyable day of games, races and lunch stands, with a dance in the evening, but the day proved to be a wet one, raining heavily from early morning until night and, in fact, for several days. Consequently a large amount of the cakes, sandwiches, ice cream, etc., which had been paid for was spoiled. Not to be done out of a picnic, preparations were made for another day, which proved to be warm and bright and was a great success, as far as numbers and enjoyment went. Now that we have our new railroad here the farmers have most of their grain hauled, so we can give full attention to the Association. Meetings have been arranged for every second week and an ever increasing interest and ever increasing membership roll is anticipated for 1914.

GEO. O. CUMMING,

Sec'y Kincaid Assn.

Interested in Mixed Farming

I have pleasure in informing you that I have been appointed a delegate to the convention at Moose Jaw by this Association and shall be glad to receive credentials, etc.

We had a splendid supper and entertainment on January 15, given by the members of this Association. Two committees of three members each were appointed three weeks beforehand to look after the arrangements for the occasion, and the way in which the affair was carried thru shows that much time and labor was expended to make it a success. We hope to make it an annual affair. Mr. Pensom, of the Greenwood Association, was present as an invited guest and in the course of a short speech between the supper and concert he complimented this Association on the harmony which existed amongst the members and the splendid way in which they worked together. At our regular meeting on the 17th I read some of the resolutions to be submitted to the convention, which seemed to concern us, especially those with reference to co-operative trading and Direct Legislation. This district is essentially a mixed farming one and not suitable for large acreages of grain, as the country is covered with small bluffs of poplar and willow, and our members have consequently more interest in the live stock industry and are looking for some improvement in the methods of marketing live stock. With sincere wishes that the work of the Association may continue to prosper.

E. W. STEPHENSON,

Sec'y Harlan Assn.

Off to a Good Start

It is with great pleasure and satisfaction I report our first meeting to organize a branch of the G.G.A. The meeting was called here last Saturday afternoon in the Pleasant Butte schoolhouse. The attendance numbering about seventy-five. The meeting was called to order and James McCurdy appointed chairman. We were somewhat handicapped in not having an official organizer, but owing to some misunderstanding we arranged our meeting a few days too late to suit the date of the organizer who was coming in here. However, as Mr. McCurdy has been a Grain Grower for some years he was able to explain the advantages and benefits derived from the organization of the farmers and co-operative principles of the G.G.A. We enrolled thirty-nine members, of whom thirty-two have paid their fee of \$1 and the balance will come in at the next meeting. It was decided to hold our meetings on the third Saturday in each month. We expect to have ten or fifteen new members join at our next meeting. Great interest is being taken in the work of the Association in this district and we hope to have an Association 100 strong before long. The following is a list of the officers elected: President, James McCurdy; vice-president, L. Kulhmier; secretary-treasurer, J. R. Paisley; directors, J. M. Bailey, C. W. Bell, H. Heft, J. Scott, J. Low and J. T. Johnson. I am enclosing fees to the amount of \$16 and would ask you to kindly forward me all information available, also literature you may have.

J. R. PAISLEY,

Sec'y Pleasant Butte Assn.

Enclosed find money order for \$1.50, membership fees due the Central. We now have thirty-three members, twenty-five of which are paid up. We have not as yet given up the hope of reaching the forty mark, altho it has not been going as fast as we, in our new-born enthusiasm, anticipated. To put the society here in a good working condition is not an easy task and can not be done in a twinkling. All have grown sick at heart, of the way the affairs of this branch have been administered, especially during the past year. They had all begun to believe that the officers were but using the society for purposes of their own, a

stepping stone to favor in the eyes of the "powers that be." It will be the purpose of the present administration to prove that they can forget themselves in the interest of the society, something, it seems, that was hard for the former leader to do. It will take lots of patience and lots of perseverance. This we are aware of, but in the end we will prove that this is one place, at least, where any man may raise his voice and be heard, and not a society where one man's will is law. Looking back one must reflect. One need put forth no special effort to kill an Association. One man can do it without much pain. If the president is selfish, wants to be "too much," or just uses the Association as a feeding trough for personal conceit, the Association is bound to disintegrate.

At our last meeting, January 15, we endorsed the resolution of the Tantallon branch re Direct Legislation. We also drew out a resolution re finishing of road work started here immediately before the last election and left unfinished. All work on this road being stopped almost as soon as the result of the election was known, altho we had the promise that this road would be completed. A motion was also put thru admitting the ladies to membership for a fee of 50 cents. We believe that our meetings will improve if we can have a good attendance of the gentler sex. I was instructed to enquire whether or not the Central would be willing to allow us half of these membership fees as they do on the full fees, believing, as we do, that these fees are really extras, which would not have come in without the reduction. We elected as our delegate to the convention our popular president, A. E. Sahlmark. Please send credential card. At our next meeting, February 26, we intend holding a basket social, the proceeds to help pay our delegate's expenses, and to pay up past indebtedness "wished" upon us by the old administration.

B. R. EDQUIST,

Sec'y Ohlen Assn.

Branch at Spring Lake

We organized a local of the G.G.A. at Spring Lake on December 27 with thirty members, and enclose herewith \$15 membership fees. The following officers were elected: President, David Whipper; vice-president, John Hannah; secretary-treasurer, A. F. Loyst; directors, Peter Martinson, A. F. Smith, J. E. Littlehale, W. Helme, A. F. Loyst, M. A. Townsend. Kindly send me information re purchasing car load lots of lumber, flour, coal, fence posts, etc.

A. F. LOYST,

Sec'y Lucky Lake Assn.

Standing Rock Organized

I am now ready to send you a reply to yours of November 21 as we have now organized a local here. A meeting was announced to be held at Standing Rock schoolhouse on January 21, where a travelling organizer of the G.G.A. was to address the audience. However, the organizer did not come. I was there and had with me your letter of the 21st November, also constitutions you sent me. The meeting was called to order and a chairman appointed and I explained the object of the meeting and read the constitution. All those present then voted in favor of organizing. We organized with fifteen paid up members, for which please find enclosed herewith \$7.50 due Central. The following officers were elected: President, John Colter; vice-president, Lewis Pope; secretary-treasurer, George Strom; board of directors, W. Bell, Donald McLacklin, David Dunlop, G. W. Westall, Thomas Wilson and M. Hovland. It was voted that the name of our local be Standing Rock. Will you kindly forward tickets and information you may have.

GEORGE STROM,

Sec'y Standing Rock Assn.