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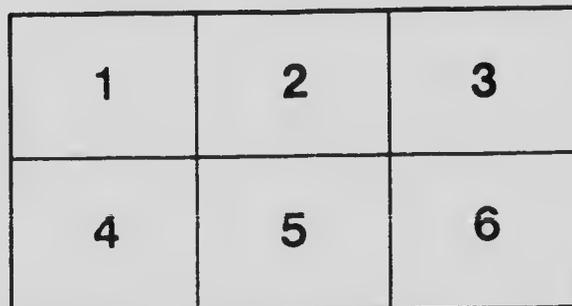
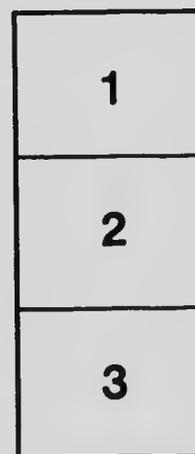
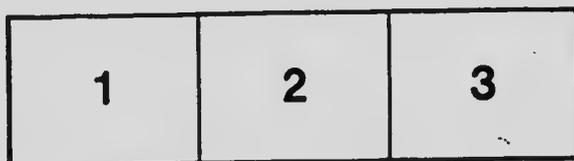
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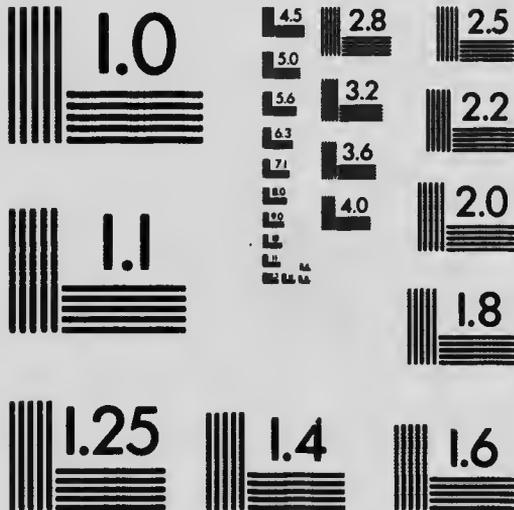
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The
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Grain Growers'
INTERNATIONAL

Association
OF SASKATCHEWAN



Incorporated by Spcial Act of the
Legislature of the Province of
Saskatchewan, June 15, 1908

What Is Its Work ?

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The Grain Growers' Association of Saskatchewan

WHAT IS ITS WORK?

1. What is Saskatchewan? It is the greatest wheat field in the world, the centre of the bread basket of the Empire, the most important Province of the most important Dominion of the most important Empire in the world.

2. Who are the Grain Growers? They are the most important part of the population, owners of the most important territory, engaged in the most important calling on the globe. This population is drawn from every part of the habitable globe, and the problem is to make out of this heterogeneous matter a homogeneous whole. We come with the pride, envy, superstition, conceit and deceit of the different races and nations from which we spring, which is to be gratified or crucified, conquer or be conquered.

OUR PROBLEMS

We have to learn to trust each other. We must have a common interest in a common cause, must learn our interdependence on each other, remembering that on us more perhaps than on any other class, depends the responsibility of laying the foundations of our national structure. In the men and women of our land, in our

rural homes, lies the material for the solution of our many moral, social, economic and political problems. They have in charge the land and its productions, and the sons and daughters reared in its environment.

THE LAND—THE FOUNDATION

The land furnishes the standing room for that sturdy independence necessary to command a prevalence of that which is best, and in accordance with the ideals of our Empire. To this end, no organization is destined to exercise a more powerful influence in the educating, drawing, binding and welding together of this people in this nationalizing empire building, than the Grain Growers of Saskatchewan.

COSMOPOLITAN

WHY? It matters not what is your color, race or creed; if you have land, Canadian land, we want you to come with us. We desire to get acquainted, to walk together, to talk together, and to think and plan together, for the general uplift and betterment of our class. We, on the land, all shades of politics, of religions, of opinions, our business to get together, and know all we ought to know, and learn to do all we should do, know our duties, responsibilities, privileges and opportunities.

There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, if taken at the flood leads on to victory. **GRAIN GROWERS OF SASKATCHEWAN, YOUR FLOOD TIDE NOW IS HIGH.**

WHY ORGANIZATION IS NECESSARY

Men desire their own good, but may not discern it. They may be deceived or inadequately informed. The selfish interest of the individual is often detrimental to that which is best for the whole. Then factions and associations form in defence of the interests of its own special class regardless of those of the others. When one or more of these dominate, the others are enslaved, and are compelled to organize in self-defence.

Individualism is foxy, wolfish, or like a bird of prey; and soon the individuals learn to hunt in packs, and you have the Union, Organization or Combination preying on each other and on the unorganized mass. The guiding star of all seems to be self preservation the first law—self aggrandizement the goal.

So, farmers, like others, organize for self preservation until such time as all classes will call a convention, and agree to a basis of equity that shall secure to each that which is best for all. Hence **THE GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN.**

OUR BIRTH

This Association came into existence at a time when our farmers were driven almost to desperation by a dearth of transportation facilities, and the exactions of the Elevator Combine, whose opportunities for extortionate dockages and the practice of other manipulations were facilitated and assisted in consequence of this car shortage, with the following a, b, c, as its guiding star.

(a) To forward the interests of the grain growers in every honorable, legitimate way.

(b) To watch legislation relating to the grain growers' interests, particularly that affecting the marketing, grading and transportation of their grain.

(c) To suggest to parliament from time to time, as it is found necessary through duly appointed delegates, the passing of any new legislation to meet changing conditions and requirements.

The young organization quickly got to work, and a distinct antagonism was very soon discovered in quarters which shows that railway officials, banks, elevator companies and the Grain Exchange were all interested, and free shipment by individual farmers, and loading into cars has been fought every inch of the way; but the organization is steadily increasing in spite of all.

REPRODUCTION

The organization rapidly spread over Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and much reform in shipment and grading of grain has been brought about by its efforts. Out of the Association grew the Grain Growers' Grain Co., which also has done much splendid work, giving information to the public regarding the working of the Grain Act and the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, but the struggle only goes to show that it is only a part of a greater struggle which has been going on for ages. It is the same monster that made slaves, and captured and sold men like cattle; a part of the great war our fathers were engaged in to secure what we call Freedom or Liberty. This monster is not in any one particular person or class, but it is the Jacob in the human constitution; and it is the duty of all, we grain growers in particular, to free ourselves from its thralldom, and carry on the unfinished task of our fathers.

OUR COMPOSITION

The Association is composed of local and central bodies. The local bodies are formed wherever ten or more farmers can be found who will associate together to study local conditions, to find out their general will regarding them, and send their findings to the central office. Delegates are chosen and sent once a year to a central convention, where the general will is found by resolution on the various questions suggested and presented by the delegates sent up by the local Associations.

CENTRAL

It is then the duty of the central Executive, which is elected at this convention, to present these findings to "the powers that be" and ask for action on the various questions involved.

The effectiveness of the central executive is gauged to a large extent by the number of local Associations, and the individual numbers they contain; and to some extent

by the amount of funds at its disposal. There are times when money in the central exchequer speaks with an eloquence more powerful than words. Whatever tends to increase its members, equip it with funds, and supply it with reliable and up-to-date information, gives it weight and power. But more important than all it is absolutely necessary that the unbounded, enthusiastic, determined, progressive spirit of the Association shall find expression through a carefully chosen, able, fearless, level-headed and true-hearted representative executive.

THUS FAR

Up to the present the Association funds have been derived from \$1.00 per member, 50 cents of which has been forwarded to the central office to enable it to carry out the work entrusted to it. The Association has now grown to such proportions, and the work so intricate, that it now demands closer attention than any farmer can give to it, and at the same time successfully operate his farm. A more permanent fund is now required in order to secure the services of a permanent office staff, if the Association is to maintain its position. This can easily be provided, and be no burden to anyone, by a universal adoption of the Life Membership plan outlined elsewhere.

No doubt there is room for great improvement on our present standing and plan of operations, and it is the desire of the present Executive to extend its operations and usefulness. They desire to enthuse every farmer with a desire to get together, shoulder to shoulder, to acquire the fullest information about every detail of his business and duty, and get into a position to get the very best out of a healthful spirit of co-operation, embracing every farmer and his family in Saskatchewan.

The organization has lacked permanency, continuity and universality. A real live progressive policy can not well be adopted. Memberships are only for one year and then have to be renewed, taking up half of the time and energy of the workers; and the central Executive are never sure of a regular fund.

A NEW AIM.

To overcome this, the Life Membership plan has been inaugurated. \$12.00 is the Life Fee. \$10.00 of this goes into a trust fund, to remain intact, and only the interest from the fund so received and invested is to be used for carrying on the work of the Association. This fund will pay a member's dues to the Central forever. Each member will increase its weight and momentum, and each one will become a missionary for the movement. The \$2.00 extra goes into the Maintenance Fund, to provide for working expenses until such time as the revenue from the Trust Fund accrues.

We aim to get every grain grower in Saskatchewan as a Life Member. There are now 100,000 farmers in Saskatchewan. This would make a fund of \$1,000,000, and at 3 per cent. per annum an annual income of \$30,000 would thus be permanently secured for all time. This would enable us to secure expert advice and students to study the various problems and secure reliable data to put us in a position to more intelligently present our case to the powerful bodies and legislatures with which we frequently have to deal.

This is not \$12.00 per annum, but is once and for all. Our fathers left us this great land, freedom of speech, the press and the ballot; but there is still a great unfinished task for us, and we can do nothing better than establish this organization of farmers on a permanent basis, so that it will grow deeper, stronger, wider and higher as the years go by, and become a mighty weapon in the hands of those following us in bringing about not only equal rights, but rights that are equal. Not only a right established by might, but the discovery of a might which is right. **IT IS OUR PLAIN DUTY.**

CAN IT BE DONE ?

We propose that each Local Association shall appoint a life membership secretary, and that he shall push this in his district. If each member will catch the

missionary spirit in this matter we can, in a very short time, build up an organization, the like of which has never been known in this country. Our Association is now incorporated by special Act of Parliament, and is regulated by the Trust Ordinance of the Province. We have got started, and we now have money to loan.

We have now over 325 associations, and more can soon be formed. There are eight officers in each, making some 2,600 officers. If these were all Life Members our fund would be \$26,000 as a start. If twenty members in each organization would become Life Members, the fund would be \$63,000. The organization will not be completed in a month or a year. **IT IS A GREAT WORK,** but if every Local Association will take the matter up and look upon it as a part of their work to build this organization up until it embraces every man in the district, **AND UNTIL EVERY DISTRICT IS ORGANIZED, IT NOT ONLY CAN, BUT WILL BE DONE.**

THE FIELD OF THE LOCAL.

The possibilities for power and influence of the Local Associations can hardly be estimated, when we consider that we farmers come from every country, and that we are now citizens, yeomen, of no mean country, engaged in the work of a great empire, which has a powerful influence to exercise in the world. We are facing problems all the way up from our rural municipalities, Provincial and Dominion, to those that are Empire wide, and that reach out to those of the whole Anglo-Saxon race, and the establishment of better conditions, brotherhood of men and the reign of peace; as well as those involved in the struggles of our own particular class, and human structure.

OUR DUTY.

In view of this, we farmers, we men with the vote (an instrument more powerful than a sword), must study, together with our boys, who will be fathers and

voters, and our girls who will be mothers, and may be voters, and our hired men and women. Let us Grain Growers meet once a week and make all these matters a study, practice and train ourselves in the duties, privileges and responsibilities of our common citizenship; thus making our homes brighter, social life sweeter, improve our mental, moral, and material prospects, and make it unnecessary for farmers to hunt for lawyers and doctors to represent them in our legislative halls, and lay a foundation for the realization of our national ideals in the heart and life of every individual.

We aim to teach each man and boy to take the chair and conduct a public meeting, to understand the rules of debate and give all a chance to practice. Get those who sing to sing, those who read to read, those who recite to recite. We aim to have our nights with Burns, with Tennyson, with Shakespeare, and others. We have our social evenings, where a few innocent games are introduced, and refreshments are served at times, as all these things have their little part to play, but only allow those things which tend to uplift and make better. We also aim to have a number of standard books to form the nucleus of a library, which, together with a plan of listing the books owned by each member, and a system of exchange operated by a Librarian appointed by the Association, makes a nice collection of books available.

Our aim is to find every one a place where he or she can develop and improve their capabilities. We already have several associations working along the lines suggested. These associations have also got in the telephone, and the marked improvement in the whole social atmosphere makes it, we think, a worthy plan for emulation, and a stepping stone to better things.

HOW TO ORGANIZE

One of the best ways is to get two or three good men and women together to talk the matter over after

they have read this little book, and have a desire to take an active part in lifting the social tone of their community, to each be a missionary carrying a little paper, similar to the one attached, and get each person interested to sign, and when sufficient are secured, call your organization meeting, and proceed along the lines laid down here and in the constitution.

"We, the undersigned are desirous of having a branch of the Grain Growers' Association formed at.....
.....and agree to become a member, and attend its organization meeting at.....
.....when called, and pay the regular fees necessary for such purposes.

HOW TO PROCEED.

We meet the first week in November, and appoint a Chairman, if our President is absent. We then proceed to sing Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Oh! Canada, or the Maple Leaf. It is not a prayer-meeting, but we are not pagans, or without patriotism.

We then appoint three committees, viz.: Social, Literary and Commercial, whose duties are to arrange and plan work in line with the topic card for the winter.

The Social Committee takes charge of the singing, music, refreshments, etc.

The Literary Committee manages lectures and poetical, historical and biographical studies, recitations, etc.

The Commercial Committee takes charge of the topic papers, debates, etc.

Each committee takes charge of the meeting on different nights, but each utilizes the others' services, so that more or less all are interspersed through each night's programme.

We attach a copy of a programme rendered by each committee at our local association. Not that it is ideal, or cast-iron, but simply a sample to serve as a guide and might easily be improved.

Literary Committee

NIGHT WITH BURNS.

- 1.—Opening song, "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace Bled."
- 2.—Reading and adoption of previous minutes, also unfinished business and new business.
- 3.—Appoint a programme chairman.
- 4.—Chairman's address.
- 5.—Current events, discussion of same.
- 6.—Little boy recite "Merry Ploughman."
- 7.—Paper on Burns life and poetical ideals.
- 8.—Recitations "Man was Made to Mcurm," "Cotter's Saturday Night."
- 9.—Song, "Highland Mary."
- 10.—Topic card: Paper.
- 11.—Recitation, "To a Mouse on Destroying her Nest While Ploughing," "The Wounded Hare," "The Mounta'n Daisy," and "A Man's a Man far a' That."
- 12.—Appointment for current events.
- 13.—Auld Lang Syne.

Of course much is left to the committee regarding the method of study, according to number and talent.

Try this Night with Burns. Learn those poems. You will be largely benefitted.

Social Committee

"CHAIRMAN TAKES THE CHAIR AT 7.30 P.M."

- 1.—All sing "O Canada."
- 2.—Reading and adoption of previous minutes, also unfinished business and new business.
- 3.—Current events paper presented.
- 4.—A Scotch song by two girls.
- 5.—Discussion of current events, three minute speeches.
- 6.—Musical selection by three boys.
- 7.—Reading from Tennyson's "Maud."
- 8.—Topic card paper.
- 9.—Recitation.
- 10.—Song by ten girls.
- 11.—Poetry puzzle, prize for best composition of four verses.
- 12.—Sandwiches and coffee.
- 13.—Musical selection.
- 14.—Chairman's Address—Criticism and advice for future improvement.
- 15.—God Save the King.

Get acquainted. See how kind and social you can be.

Commercial Committee

"CHAIRMAN TAKES THE CHAIR AT 7.30 P.M."

- 1.—All sing "The Maple Leaf."
- 2.—Reading and adoption of previous minutes, also unfinished business and new business.
- 3.—Election of programme chairman, and his address.
- 4.—Paper on current events.
- 5.—Song, "A Little Farm Well Tilled."
- 6.—Discussion of current events.
- 7.—Recitation, "What is the Flag of England." Kipling.
- 8.—Paper, "Twenty Years of Elevator Monopoly in the Canadian West."
- 9.—Musical selection.
- 10.—Discussion of above paper..
- 11.—Recitation. "Canadians on the Nile" (W.Y. Smith).
- 12.—Debate, one speaker on each side, "Resolved that a loading platform to cost the same price as a loading bushel elevator would be a cheaper, quicker and better method of loading grain."
- 13.—God Save the King."

Often this committee introduces their subject by a mock parliament, or choosing sides taking in all in the meeting.

Topic Card

Your committee could introduce what they liked. This topic card is illustrative.

PROGRAMME OF STUDIES

- 1.—Rules of debate, how to conduct a public meeting, and the advantage of high ideals.
- 2.—What advantage is the loading platform to us, and how can it be improved?
- 3.—Advantages and abuses of the present Elevator system.
- 4.—Advantages and difficulties in connection with the establishment of a government owned and operated system of elevators.
- 5.—The ideal system of wheat handling, and how to obtain it.
- 6.—Our Association. What it is, and what it may become.
- 7.—How to reach our ideal as an organization.
- 8.—Partyism in politics. How can we merge into patriotism?
- 9.—Would it be advantageous for farmers to act in unison in politics.
- 10.—The number of farmers in Saskatchewan and their nationalities.

- 11.—The value of our export crop of 1909, and where it went to.
- 12.—What part of the price, paid by the consumer did our farmers get? What portion did the dealers and transportation companies get?
- 13.—Can farmers get together as a class?
- 14.—What is the labor cost and raw material of a twenty-five horse power traction engine?
- 15.—What is the labor and raw material cost of a gallon of whiskey?
- 16.—What is the labor cost and raw material of a binder?
- 17.—What is the labor cost and raw material for a pound of butter?
- 18.—What is the labor cost and raw material of a bushel of wheat.
- 19.—Hail insurance. Its advantages, inequalities, and the ideal hail insurance system.
- 20.—Canada's opportunities for the Empire.

It will thus be seen that there is a very wide field for our operations. The work of the local association is very important. The focusing of all the locals into one at the central, and the compound nature of the central executive in securing all kinds of information for the use of the locals, and at the same time executing the will of the locals as made known at the conventions, and the training of the whole into one grand co-operative effort. Not to oppress others, not to tyrannize over any, but only to secure that which Justice, Fair Play, and Equity demand, and to command a prevalence of that which is best for all. A right established by a might that is right.

There are some men and women in all districts who are splendidly adapted for leading in such work as herein described. They are the ones to take hold, and make your little district in this new land, one of the most intelligent, brightest, contented and useful communities in Saskatchewan; and Saskatchewan in turn the most useful Province in the Dominion.

Will you take up this plan of weekly meetings this winter and improve on it? Will you do your part in this great work? Will your Association appoint Life Membership Secretary, and help establish this bulwark to our rural communities?

We hope to arrange for a grand prize for the Association which sends in the best set of papers taken from this topic card. We also hope to offer a grand prize for the three Associations sending in the largest number of Life Members..

Two issues of this little pamphlet have been exhausted, and we have much pleasure in sending out this second 10,000 edition. We are sure if it induces action along the lines it advocates, untold blessings will follow its track.

Write central office for supplies or further information.

Yours, in the work,

F. W. GREEN,

Secretary-Treasurer.

