THE HEPPNER HERALD

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

S. A. PATTISON, Editor and Publisher

Entered at the Heppner, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class Matter

WHY GRAINGROWERS' ASSSOCIATION IS ATTACKED

The Northwest Graingrowers' association is subjected to a good deal of criticism. That was to have been expected, for it has seriously interfered with the business of many men through whom grain has hitherto been marketed. As the Irishman said, "That is the intintion." If co-operation does not take away a considerable amount of business from middlemen and thereby reduce the cost of handling and increase the net price received by the farmer, it fails of its purose. The interest of the middlemen affected is to prove that it has failed, and the association can only justify its existence by proving that it has succeeded. The final proof is furnished by the total sum received by the farmer for his entire season's crop. If in the general result the grower who has sold through the association has received mor per bushel for the same grades of wheat than he who sold to dealers, then co-operation is justified.

Much is said in the Price-Current Grain Reporter of Chicago about the chages made by the association to its members. These seem to be such as would have to be paid, no matter who handled a shipment, and they are printed on the statement of account that is sent to members. To them must be added the interior warehouse charge and freight to the terminal point, which the association cannot affect. The total of these charges, excluding the additions named, but including reserves held to the close of the season, is 12.2 cents. Critics compare this sum with the 2½ cents which is published as the association's handling charge, but the reply is that the 2½ cents only purports to cover administration and office expense.

The average price of 90.28 cents paid growers by the association for the 1922 crop is compared with higher prices paid to individual growers by dealers, but the former price is the average for the whole crop of all grades, high, middling and low, for the entire season, while the higher prices named may be for premium wheat, so that there is no parallel. It is said that many members are dissatisfied and wish to withdraw from the pool and that some have violated their pooling contract by selling to outside dealers. In a large organization having many members who make their first experiment with a new system, some are prone to discontent and to be influenced by those who are, or think they are, injured by its intrusion into their field. The disaffection is not of itself sufficient cause to condemn the organization or the principle that it practices.

The soundness of co-operative principle, when followed with good business judgment, integrity and economy, has been abundantly proved by its beneficial results in many trades, both in this country and in others. Given the conditions named, it has succeeded in face of criticism from those whose business it affects. In fact, such criticism should be helpful, for it may expose weak points which can be made strong, and it should impose caution on managers lest they commit errors of judgment which would justify it. Co-operation wins when an association springs from realization of merits among those whom it is to serve, when members give their attention to it and when expectations are not too high. Building strongly on a small scale, to be followed later by combination of a number of units, will conduce more to permanence than will an ambitious effort to cover a wide field from the beginning, for much is to be learned by experience. In that way doubters and critics may be convinced that co-operation has come to stay and may be won to its support.—Oregonian.

COUTTS AND SWEET GRASS

The international border runs between these two towns. Sweet Grass is in Montana; Coutts in Alberta.

There is a farmer Jones on the Canadian side who raises wheat and ships it to Fort William, Ontario. It costs him 27 cents a hundred pounds for the freight. Now there is another Jones south of the boundary line. He is a freeborn American, and proud of his ocuntry. He ships his wheat from Sweet Grass to Duluth. It costs him 43 cents a hundred for freight. The difference in favor of the Canadian farmer is 16 cents a hundred, or a fraction less than 10 cents a bushel.

You may think these freak figures and apply only to an exceptional case. Then let us consider the freight rates on wheat from Regina, Saskatchewan, and Poplar, Montana. The distance of these two towns from shipping points on the Great Lakes is practically the same. The Montana farmer pays 31 cents a hundred, the Canadian farmer 20 cents.

Or let us take Leeds, North Dakota, with a rate of 20½ cents to Duluth, 417 miles away, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, with a rate of 14 cents to Fort William, 420 miles away on the Canadian side of the lake.

Our farmers in the northwest—and in the west and south and in the corn belt, too, for that matter—declare that freight rates are too high. The railway companies say they can't be lowered. What do we expect our farmers to do? Move to Canada Some of them are doing that very thing.

Canada, by the way, produced nearly 400,000,000 bushels of wheat last year. It ranks second among the nations of the world as a wheat producer. It can supply all the wheat needed in the British Isles and have some left over for France and Germany.

And the Canadian farmers probably are chuckling because of the freight differential in their favor. What is going to be done about it?—Farm Life.

LUCIUS. THE GREAT THOROUGHBRED STALLION (Owned by U. S. Government))

This wonderful stallion will be in the stud at the Eastern Oregon Jack Farm, Morrow county, Oregon, from March 20, 1923, one month or later. $15 for the season with return privilege. Mares will be cared for and kept at $3.00 per month.

B. F. SWAGGART,
1-4p Lexington, Oregon.

STALLIONS FOR SALE

I have two registered and pedigreed Clyde stallions at my ranch 16 miles southeast of Arlington for sale or trade for work horses.

S. M. BURNETT,
47-50 Arlington, Ore

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mahoney, Mrs. W. P. Mahoney and Mrs. Walter Richardson drove over to Pendleton Saturday morning to meet W. P. Mahoney who returned from Hot Lake that day. Mr. Mahoney has been having treatment for rheumatism at the lake for a couple of weeks and returned home much benefitted.

Ted Leavitt, the noted whirlwind evangelist, will speak for the Christian church in the I. O. O. F. hall at 2:30 p. m., Sunday. Leavitt, who is now holding evangelistic meetings at Ione, has proven himself a wonder. Everyone in Heppner should hear him.

Jim Mollahan came in from his Sand Hollow ranch Friday evening during the big wind storm and says he does not care to repeat the experience. At times the gale almost carried his saddle horse off its feet and it was very difficult to keep on the road.