18 (110).

THE GRAIN GROWER'S GUIDE



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January 27. 1915

had not paid any interest. Last year the government had allowed the deferment of the interest. After discussion on the subject the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

"Whereas, it has become evident that there are parts in Alberta where a homestead of 160 acres is not sufficient to maintain a settler; and

"Whereas, we further know that many settlers have left, and are leaving Canada for the United States on that account;

"Therefore, be it resolved: That the board of directors of the U.F.A. do urge the Dominion government to appoint a commission or commissioner to investigate this matter with a view to classifying land in such districts in a way that will enable homesteaders to prove up on a homestead of 320 acres or more, instead of a maximum of 160 acres, the regulations drafted in regard to such homestead to be drafted in such a way as to prevent this privilege being abused by land speculators."

"Whereas, the present regulations provide that when a settler has proved up on his homestead he shall not be permitted to homestead elsewhere within the Dominion, and

"Whereas, it has been found that certain sections of the country are unsuitable for ordinary farming operations, and

"Whereas, numbers of the settlers are leaving these districts for other countries, and "Whereas, there is good reason to be

"Whereas, there is good reason to believe that the majority are doing so on account of our present regulations;

"Therefore, be it resolved: That the Dominion government be asked to revise the homesteading regulations in such a way that where a settler has found from experience that his original choice is unsuitable for the profitable carrying on of his farming operations, he may be allowed to return his patent to the government and to receive permission to homestead in a more suitable section of the country under special provisions covering improvements already done on his original homestead."

A Partial Moratorium

A resolution was passed asking that the Alberta government secure legisla tion extending payments on lien notes, mortgages and agreements of sale till after the next harvest. The following resolutions were carried after brief discussion:

Limitation of School Taxes

"Whereas, there is at present no limit to taxation in rural school districts in Alberta comprised within the limits of a rural municipality;

"Resolved, therefore: That the United Farmers of Alberta in convention assembled at Edmonton, do instruct their board of directors to take up this matter with the provincial government with a view to getting legislation passed fixing a limit to school taxes in rural school districts comprised within the limits of a rural municipality."

Liquid Measure

"That the convention use its efforts to draw the attention of the authorities to the prevalent use of wine measure and trade terms of quarts, cases, etc., instead of the imperial measure, and that the use of them be discontinued and the imperial measure be used for all liquids, and the quantity to be stamped on vessels or cases containing the same. If it is a criminal offence now, to see that it is enforced."

Rural Municipal Elections

"Resolved: That the present law as governing the election of the reeve, who is the chief executive officer in connection with our municipal government, is not conducive to the best interests of good government, inasmuch as it does not meet the popular opinion of the people in regard to responsible government on the one hand, and on the other it does not bring out our best men to serve in the most responsible position. We would look with favor on a change in our present municipality law that would place the election of this important office in the hands of the electorate of our municipalities."

Taxation of Grazing Leases Whereas, the provincial government Continued on Page 27