

Alberta

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta, to whom all communications for this page should be sent

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT EYE HILL

The Eye Hill Union No. 553 has held fortnightly meetings during the winter months, and during the summer is holding a regular monthly meeting on the second Saturday of each month. The membership stands at 32, all of whom are fully paid up. The officers are good live men, who do all in their power to make the meetings interesting and educational, and they expect to have a strong union by the end of the year. The monthly meeting held at the schoolhouse on June 13 was well attended by the members, and also a number of ladies were present. A. C. Muir was in the chair. Mr. Murray, the representative to the district association at Provost, gave his report on the co-operative purchasing of fencing and binder twine, also the decision in regard to the U.F.A. picnic. As the fencing ordered some time ago had not arrived yet and the prices of binder twine were not on hand, that part of the report was not as favorable as could have been wished, but the report that the picnic was to be held at Provost some time in July and arrangements were being made to secure several good speakers on the work of the U.F.A., brought back the wanting smile. A debate on mixed farming vs. grain growing in this district at the present time then took place, and after a lengthy and thorough discussion and the pointing out of many good and instructive views for and against both systems of farming, this proved to be a very close combat. The judges gave the verdict in favor of the negative. The meeting was then brought to a close, and after singing the national anthem, all started on their way homeward thoroughly convinced that the U.F.A. is the best organization for education and co-operation for the rural population.

RUTHERFORD PICNIC

G. M. Drinnan, secretary of Gadsby Union, No. 129, attended the picnic of the Rutherford Union, No. 565, on July 1 to address those present, and the following report has been forwarded to us by him:

The picnic grounds were about eight miles north on the farm of Mr. Hare and no better place could be desired. On my way up I was pleased to see flags displayed at one or two places, and on the grounds beside the refreshment stand a fine pole was erected from which floated a large Canadian flag. The committee managed the refreshment booth themselves, and the prices were decidedly moderate, the business done looked like adding something to the local funds. There was quite a large crowd, many of whom came from quite a distance in autos, demerats, buggies, and some in the more humble but commodious wagon. Rallying round the flag, the proceedings opened with "The Maple Leaf," sung by the children to an organ accompaniment. The local parson gave a humorous recitation and two ladies obliged with a solo each, one very Scotch and the other just as decidedly Irish. Both were much appreciated. At this point I was asked to address the gathering and spoke for twenty minutes on the aims and objects of the U.F.A. and what it had accomplished in its seven years of life. The ladies are a very strong force in this district, and the speaker alluded to the fact that this support which was being given in every part of the country was a recognition of the part played by the organization in reducing the cost of living and putting many things within reach of the slender purse that had previously been debarred by its cost from appearing on the poor man's table. With the singing of the National Anthem the program concluded and it was ball games and athletic events for the rest of the day.

RAIN BADLY NEEDED

The Lomond Local, No. 562, held a rousing meeting on the new Lomond townsite at the end of grade on the Suffield-Blackie branch of the C.P.R.

on Saturday, June 20, in the new pool hall. The largest crowd of members on record turned out for the occasion, with a goodly sprinkling of visitors. Altho no actual new members were added, a number promised to come again and join in a short time. The chief business consisted of arrangements for the picnic to be held here on July 10 and a good deal of enthusiasm was shown in the spirited discussion of ways and means. \$100 was subscribed as a working fund, to be returned after the picnic day. Several committees were appointed and motions of confidence were passed in same. A. Hartwick volunteered to supply a tank of water for the day. The president, Mr. Smith, felt obliged to resign for business reasons, and A. W. Tulloch, present vice-president, was elected president by acclamation and J. Rodgers vice-president, both gentlemen being accorded a hearty clap. It was decided that owing to drought making it unlikely that there would be a crop to cut around here this year, no twine should be ordered, but if before next Saturday sufficient rain should fall to make better prospects, all interested in ordering twine from the Grain-Growers' Grain Co. should meet here on Saturday evening at 7 p.m. and place orders, depositing 5% of the price as good faith guarantee. We expect to have a co-operative elevator built at Lomond this year and we hope to co-operate along other lines too, both buying and selling.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PICNIC

The Gwynne branch, which long has had a reputation for the most enthusiastic membership in this part of the province, held a very successful picnic near Gwynne station on Saturday, July 4. The day was all that could be desired and a large crowd took advantage of this opportunity to enjoy themselves. Owing to the short time at our disposal we were unable to secure a speaker, but there was no lack of entertainment. The Crooked Lake Brass Band furnished music for the occasion to the entire satisfaction of everyone. The Gwynne and Pashville baseball teams played for a purse and the prize was carried off by the home team. The horse racing was a very interesting feature of the sports. As very few farmers in the surrounding country are members of the U.F.A., the Gwynne branch is determined to secure several speakers next year and thus take advantage of the opportunity to swell the ranks of its membership.

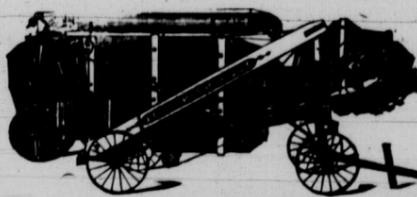
MR. SPEAKMAN ON TOUR

Vice-President Speakman has just returned from an extensive tour in the Macleod district. The first meeting addressed was the picnic of the Summerview Union, north of Pincher station, on July 1. On July 2 the meeting of the Rathwell and McBride Union was well attended, the event being somewhat of a social nature and great enthusiasm in the work of the U.F.A. was shown. At Ardenville the following day the attendance was small, but those present seemed very much in earnest and it is hoped that this union, which had been dormant for some time will again take its place in the work. On July 4 a picnic was held at Spring Ridge, with a good attendance, but unfortunately rain interfered with the program with the result that a return visit was arranged for on the 6th, when a very enthusiastic meeting was held. On the same day, July 6, a good meeting was held at Utopia, while one of the best of the tour was held at Glenwoodville on the 7th. On the 8th there was a picnic with good attendance at Macleod. On the 9th Hazlemere was visited, followed by a splendid meeting at Watertown on the 10th. A new organization was started at this point; everyone joined and the union starts with over twenty members to its credit. The attendance at Howe on the 11th was not very large, but at Orton on the 13th the whole village and district seemed to be in attendance. The union was re-organized amid great enthusiasm and some twenty odd members paid in their dues at the re-start.

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