



ALBERTA SECTION

This section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by Edward J. Fream, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta.

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

Hon. President:
James Bower - Red Deer
President:
W. J. Tregillus - Calgary
Secretary-Treasurer:
E. J. Fream - Calgary

Vice-Presidents:
First, A. Cochran, Stettler; Second, D. W. Warner, Edmonton; Third, M. E. Sly, Strathmore; Fourth, J. Quinsey, Noble.
District Directors:
Victoria—P. B. Austin, Ranfurly; Edmonton—George Bevington, Spruce Grove; Strathcona—J. R. Pointer, Struma; Red Deer—E. Carswell, Penhold; Calgary—H. Sorenson, Strathmore; Macleod—G. W. Buchanan, Cowley; Medicine Hat, W. H. Henry, Bow Island.

Altorado Union listened to the delegates who had attended the convention at the last meeting, and all were pleased to know that it was such a grand success. We had prices on lumber and wire and these were quoted to the members. It was decided that our membership fees should be acknowledged for a year from the date of joining. We had a debate on the Initiative and Referendum, the affirmative being taken by J. C. Sullivan and H. McKenzie, and the negative by Dr. Duncan and P. Collier. No decision was given, but sentiment was strongly in favor of the affirmative. At our next meeting we intend to have a debate on "Resolved that Canada should build her own navy."

H. McKENZIE, Sec'y.
Faith, Alta.

Pincher Station Union has been considering the question of terminal elevators and it would appear that the matter is not working out as satisfactorily as we anticipated, so we have gone on record in the following manner: Whereas influences have been brought to bear to prevent the government fulfilling the pledge that the premier, Right Hon. R. L. Borden, made to the farmers during his campaign in the West re government ownership of all terminal elevators, and whereas it has been proved by years of actual experience that nothing short of government ownership of all said elevators can prevent manipulation of dishonest operators, therefore be it resolved that we do hereby instruct our secretary to strongly urge upon the premier the fulfilment of his pledge to the country. Further, that our secretary write our representative, Dr. Warnock, and ask him to strenuously oppose any other motion that may be brought forward as a substitute.

ED. McRAE, Sec'y.
Pincher, Alta.

The following communication appeared in the Vermilion Standard of Feb. 7, 1912:
Editor, Standard—I hope you can find room in your paper for a little information I would like to give to my friends and neighbors.

I loaded a car of wheat on Oct. 20, which I consigned to the Grain Growers' Grain Co., Calgary. This was sold Nov. 17, grade feed tough, 59 cents bus. 1046 and 30 lbs. I received cheque for \$453.74 Dec. 1 at Vanleek Hill.

I also loaded a car of wheat on Oct. 27, consigned to the British America Elevator Co. This was inspected on Dec. 1 and graded No. 6 tough. It was sold for 49 cents on Dec. 28 and weighed 1064 bus. 40 lbs. for which I received a cheque for \$354.25 on Jan. 20 at Vanleek Hill.

Now, sir, the elevator agent at Vermilion gave me the idea that they would do as well, if not better, than the G.G.G. Co. could do. I received price cards twice a week from the G.G.G. Co. and on Dec. 27 they were paying 57 cents for No. 6 and 53 cents for feed. When they claim my car arrived at Ft. William I told both parties to sell to the best advantage.

The above comparisons speak for themselves. As for me, it was the first wheat I consigned to an elevator company, and it is hardly necessary to state it will be my last.

Yours truly,
WILLIAM ROBINSON.
Vanleek Hill, Jan. 26, 1912.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed to the Grain Growers' Grain Co., Calgary, Alta.

Gentlemen—I hereby desire to express my appreciation of your company. During the past fall and winter, through our local organization at Warner, I was induced to ship some of my 1911 crop to you, and must say I am well pleased with the way you have cared for my interests.

The prices I obtained by shipping to you were much in advance of what I could have obtained through the local market.

For instance, I sold one car locally

and shipped one to you at the same time. These cars were of equal grading and size and the car shipped to the Grain Growers brought me \$179.00 more than the car disposed of locally. I am convinced the Grain Growers are working for the interests of the farmers.

Thanking you very much for your fair treatment,

Yours truly,
M. J. CONNER.
Warner, Feb. 23, 1912.

The last meeting of Daily Creek Union was well attended. Our president, Mr. D. H. Nichols, who was also our delegate at the convention, delivered his report and was very enthusiastic as to the prospects of the future of our unions. Our members also showed great enthusiasm and are working to increase the power and respect of the U.F.A. The secretary was instructed to correspond with other local unions in the vicinity of Granum in regard to building a warehouse and putting in a scale in said town.

A resolution was passed requesting the government to introduce a Direct Legislation Bill at the present session of the legislature and refer the bill to a vote of the provincial electors at as early a date as possible. It was also resolved to request the government to introduce a bill providing for a general loan fund for the purpose of making loans to farmers and others upon good security at a low rate of interest not to exceed 4 per cent.

M. MUHLY, Sec.-Treas.

The members of Richdale Union are having a very enjoyable winter, partially on account of the mild weather, but mostly for the reason that they belong to the U.F.A. The one drawback in regard to our local is the distance our members live from each other, but we have split up into a north crowd, where the president lives, and a south crowd, where the secretary lives. We are holding social gatherings both in the north and south at different places every week, and we are having debates, mock trials or other amusements right along. Our mock trial takes the best. We have a set of by-laws to live up to, also lawyers, judges and court constable. Our laws are second to none, although they might not be recognized in the civil courts. They do fine for us here as we have nearly 50 cents already through fines. These social evenings, which always last all night, keep up the interest in each end, then at stated intervals we come together and do things up good and plenty. We gave a dance on January 16 and had a splendid turnout and cleared about \$5.00 after paying all expenses; then there is going to be a hard times dance at an early date and any gentleman coming dressed in anything better than a pair of overalls, or wearing patent leather shoes, etc., is subject to a heavy fine. Ladies are also being requested to dress suitably for the occasion. This we are doing so that we can demonstrate more clearly than is possible in words just what the farmers of this district are gradually but surely drifting into without railroads, Direct Legislation and co-operation. It is the talk of the country round here and we expect to have a bumper crop if it is a good night. Our work is also bearing fruit in another way as we now have a membership of 40, and will add several more to our list soon.

J. E. HUNTER, Sec'y.
Sheerness, Alta.

Gleichen Union is meeting regularly and attending to work in plenty. The question of irrigation has come in for considerable attention and we are investigating conditions relating thereto. We have sent in a strongly worded resolution to the government protesting against any change in the clauses of the Grain Act relating to the distribution of cars. The price of flour was taken up and the secretary received instructions to secure quotations. Several members renewed their membership to the as-

sociation and several subscriptions to The Guide were taken.
Gleichen, Alta. W. D. TREGO, Sec'y.

Despite bad weather there was a good turnout of farmers at Unceda schoolhouse, 5 miles from Moyerton, on February 13, when Unceda Union was organized. Mr. Swain, of Paradise Valley, was on hand and told us about the last convention, and we found him a tower of strength in our work. We are meeting again on February 29 and expect to add largely to our numbers at that time.

JOHN CLARKE, Sec'y.
McDonaldville, Alta.

The monthly meeting of Lake View Union was held at Lake View on Saturday, January 27, when the following names were added to the membership roll, A. Jack, P. Moore, L. D. Campbell, T. Berrington, P. Mitchell, S. Robinson, Wm. M. Graham, O. Larson. Mr. L. McComb reported the formation of a new branch of the U.F.A. at Hogodon; this is most encouraging. On behalf of the Lake View branch we extend to the Hogodon branch a friendly greeting, and cordial welcome into the family circle of the U.F.A.

DONALD CAMERON,
Sec.-Treas.

A very successful concert and dance in connection with the Streamstown branch of the U.F.A. was held at Hilltown school on Wednesday, the 31st of January, and there was a record attendance from all parts of the district. The Ladies' Guild was as usual well to the fore, both in providing refreshments and in the compiling of the program, which was ably rendered by home talent and visitors. Miss Almond gave two graceful dances in good style, and the little Misses Golithly charmed all by their clever sword dancing. The other artistes all did their parts well. Dancing went with a swing until 4 a.m., Mr. and Mrs. Kieser delighting all with their splendid music. Mr. J. Stewart ably officiated as M.C. Several new members were enrolled during the evening and everything points to a year of great progress.

T. E. LAW, Sec'y.

The regular meeting of Moyerton Union was held on February 1. Mr. Wm. Ashworth, of Stretton Union, addressed the meeting, explaining the manner in which the farmers interests were being taken care of by the executive of the U.F.A. Other speakers of the afternoon were Mr. Lively, of Islay, Mr. H. C. Graham and Mr. Marlowe. All the most pressing questions were thoroughly discussed by these gentlemen, including Direct Legislation, hail insurance, co-operative elevators, railway facilities and cold storage. The efforts of these gentlemen have awakened renewed interest in our cause and many of the members who have been careless and have neglected attending the meetings have expressed a desire that the work be carried on with more energy and the greater interest already shown will no doubt be an incentive to many to join.

HENRY BENNER, Sec'y.

We are pleased to report that Hiawatha Union has made a fresh start for the year. We had a good meeting and all present were determined to increase our membership this year. The election of officers for 1912 resulted in Mr. L. Loveless being elected president, Mr. J. Wild, vice-president; and Mr. Geo. S. Samson, secretary-treasurer. Circular No. 1 was read and discussed and the opinion was unanimously expressed that the Central was doing all it could in the interests of the farmers. We are purchasing formaline and strychnine, for gopher poisoning, co-operatively, and have secured quite a reduction in prices thereon.

GEO. S. SAMSON, Sec'y.
Rivercourse, Alta.

A most successful farmers' meeting was held at the Fraserton post office a short time ago for the purpose of calling atten-

tion to the expediency of a system of government loans to farmers. Enthusiastic support was unanimously given to the proposed scheme by those present, lively interest being shown throughout the meeting. The proposal approved was that the government should obtain money by the sale of bonds at 3 per cent. interest, loaning it to the farmers at about 4 per cent.

ARTHUR L. SMITH, Sec'y.
Fraserton, Alta.

A meeting of Rathwell Union was held in the McBride Lake schoolhouse on February 9 to consider the question of amalgamating the two districts in U.F.A. work. It was felt all round that the move was a good one as the two districts are too weak to form strong separate unions, and therefore in future we will be known as the Rathwell and McBride Lake Local Union. Messrs. F. Stenson, Davis and T. F. Stenson were elected directors from the McBride Lake district. Communications were read from Hon. A. J. McLean and R. Patterson, M.P.P., assuring us of the installation of rural telephones during the coming summer. A resolution was passed protesting against any permanent change being made in the car distribution regulations of the Grain Act. The president, secretary and J. Stenson were appointed a committee to report on some plan to finance a system of co-operative buying, in carload or smaller lots as required, at the next meeting, also to secure information and prices on coal, flour, formalin, etc., from the local merchants. The topic for discussion at the next meeting will be co-operative buying.

W. H. SHIELD, Sec'y.
Macleod, Alta.

The annual meeting of Moyerton Union was held on February 14. The financial statement showed a balance of \$8.88 and assets valued at \$7.00. The officers elected for the ensuing year are: Hon. president, A. McDonald; president, T. V. Hodgson; vice-president, J. Mayo; secretary-treasurer, Henry Benner. The convention reports were read and some of the resolutions passed were discussed. The question of the supply of gopher poison, formalin and binder twine was taken up and the secretary instructed to secure prices. At our next meeting an interesting discussion on co-operation is expected.

H. BENNER, Sec'y.
Vanesti, Alta.

The Horse Creek district has organized as a local branch of the U.F.A. with a membership of twenty, and with every prospect of a large increase at the next meeting. Mr. Walter Crowe, who undertook the organization work, was elected president, while Mr. H. M. Lumsden was appointed secretary-treasurer. The members are all enthusiastic and we will be heard from in the near future.

WALTER CROWE, Sec'y.
Cochrane, Alta.

A local union has been organized at Ryley and all arrangements are completed for a good strong branch at this point. I am optimistic enough to look forward to sending good reports after each meeting from now on.

C. M. WATSON, Sec'y.
Ryley, Alta.

Cornucopia Union is in favor of the formation of a Women's Auxiliary of the U.F.A., also of the flour mill proposition, and we will do everything possible to make the proposals a success.

D. C. MILLER, Sec'y.
Leo, Alta.