



ALBERTA SECTION

This Section of the Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by Edward J. Fream, Secretary, Innisfail, Alta.

Delegates Meet at Lethbridge

An enthusiastic meeting of representatives from various unions in Southern Alberta was held in the Union Hall, Lethbridge, on Tuesday evening, August 30th, when upwards of twenty delegates, some from as far west as Cowley, were in attendance. The chair was taken by J. Quinsey, director for that district, and supporting him were President Bower, Vice-President Tregillus and Secretary Fream. In calling the meeting to order Mr. Quinsey said it gave him great pleasure to meet so many delegates from such a wide radius, and expressed the hope that good work would result from the meeting. He said that before proceeding with the business of the meeting he would call upon the executive officers present to address the delegates for a short time, first calling upon the president.

Mr. Bower briefly reviewed the work of the association, leading up to the appointment of the transportation committee, and the work of the association which has just been completed at Vancouver. He pointed out that this was only the stepping stone to greater things and the members must not be impatient if events did not move as quickly as they would like. This western transportation problem was a great one and required the vast amount of time and labor before the final success would be achieved. Mr. Bower also explained the work which was being done by the members of the U. F. A. in the neighborhood of Red Deer along the lines of co-operation. He gave the members some very valuable information on the marketing of farm produce by means of co-operation. At the close of Mr. Bower's address a hearty vote of thanks was tendered him for the interesting information he had given the members.

Mr. Tregillus took up the lines of the work being done by the association, showing how we were keeping to the front in every movement, and instancing this by stating that when a committee was appointed at a recent meeting held in Calgary to arrange for a Direct Legislation league, he was in the position that he informed the members that the idea of direct legislation was not a new one in Alberta, but that the U. F. A. had already passed resolutions in favor of same.

Mr. Fream followed, taking up briefly some of the questions which are interesting the members of today, and showing what is being done by the association. He also stated that the central office was at the call of all members and everything possible would be done to assist them, no matter what the occasion was.

At the request of Mr. Quinsey, Mr. Bower took up the question of the internal elevators and showed what the committee had done to date in trying to bring this question to a successful issue. He showed the different problems which have to be discussed here and settled, as compared with the provinces to the east, one of the most important being the increased storage required here on account of the western movement of grain.

The delegates then took up the matter of the resolutions for presentation to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the preparation of an address to accompany these resolutions. After some discussion and the draft address had been prepared, Mr. Barker moved, seconded by Mr. Blunden, "That this meeting, composed of delegates from several unions in Southern Alberta, do hereby endorse all the resolutions presented to Sir Wilfrid Laurier by the central board of directors at Red Deer, and that these resolutions be again presented by us to him at Lethbridge, together with the draft address as outlined

by the secretary. This resolution was unanimously adopted.

Delegates' Views

The delegates then took up the matter of considering other questions of interest to the various districts, to discuss the advisability of presenting same to the premier. Mr. Nathurst said he had been requested by Summerview Union to take up the question of the mail service and see if it would not be possible to have same increased to a semi-weekly delivery, instead of weekly as at present. Mr. Ross said he had been instructed by Cowley Union to take up the question of forest fires, and the prevention of same. He stated that a large amount of damage had been done and under the present circumstances it was impossible to secure any relief to the settlers, who might be called away in the middle of seeding or harvest to fight these fires and who received no compensation. Mr. Blunden said he had been instructed by Rocky Coulee Union to bring up the subject of securing an amendment to the Manitoba Grain Act, making Calgary an order point, and in support of his request pointed out that a great many farmers were losing heavily on account of being unable to consign their grain to Calgary for orders.

Mr. Nathurst pointed out the danger there would be of spoiling the presentation of the resolutions already adopted if all these questions were also taken up. Mr. Barker then moved, seconded by Mr. Nathurst: "That the matter of more effective means of fighting forest fires be taken up by the executive and presented to the conservation commission and the minister of the interior; also that the postal question be referred by the executive to the postmaster general." Carried. Mr. Isaac moved and Mr. Wilson seconded, "That the matter of having Calgary made an order point to be turned over to the executive for immediate action." Carried.

During the whole evening the discussions of the delegates were listened to with a great deal of interest by several members of the labor unions of Lethbridge, and as these were now preparing to leave, Mr. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Nathurst, "That a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the union men of Lethbridge for the use of their hall for the meetings of our members." The resolution was unanimously adopted and responded to by one of the Lethbridge representatives. Mr. Dazell moved and Mr. Wilson seconded: "That Mr. Quinsey act as spokesman in presenting the resolutions and addresses to the Premier, and that Mr. Barker act as his seconder, further, that these gentlemen be given power to add to their number." Carried. Mr. Wilson moved: "That Mr. Ross be authorized to present his forest fire case to the premier should the opportunity arise." Mr. Bower presented a draft of the papers prepared by him for presentation to the premier and asked the opinion of the members on same. These papers met with the approval of all present. Mr. Isaac then moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson: "That we do now adjourn till Wednesday morning at eleven o'clock." Carried.

A Large Meeting

Wednesday morning's session was considerably augmented by the arrival of several delegates as representatives from other unions in the district. After calling the meeting to order Mr. Quinsey read the address which had been prepared at the previous session, and same was found satisfactory. R. Henderson, of Pincher Creek, presented an address prepared by the unions in the Pincher electoral district, and asked the opinion of the delegates on same. Mr. Barker moved and Mr. Dazell seconded: "That Mr. Henderson be made a committee to present the addresses to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and that he be requested to read the address prepared by the unions in the Pincher Creek electoral district."

Carried. At the request of some of the members present Mr. Nathurst read a paper which he had prepared on the tariff question.

Mr. Tregillus moved and Mr. Wilson seconded, "That if time permits that Mr. Nathurst be requested to present his paper on the tariff to the premier." Carried. Mr. Henderson moved and Mr. Barker seconded, "That we request our secretary to place himself in communication with the parties making the arrangements for the meeting and state that we prefer to meet Sir Wilfrid Laurier in a public hall and request that this be arranged for." Carried. Mr. Nathurst moved and Mr. Isaac seconded, "That we do now adjourn to meet again in this hall at two-thirty o'clock." Carried.

In calling the meeting to order on Wednesday afternoon Mr. Quinsey stated that it would be as well to call upon some of the members present for short addresses, so that all could become better acquainted with one another. He then called upon Mr. Tregillus. Mr. Tregillus briefly took up the work of the association, and showed how it was benefitting the members. He also explained the need of Direct Legislation and expressed the hope that it would be only a short time until this would be placed upon the statute books. Mr. Wilson, of Wheatland Centre, was then called upon, and spoke for a short time on the need of loyalty among the members. Mr. Bower took as his subject the need of more organization work, and appealed to all members for assistance along this line. He showed the need of the organization and the work which was being done. Mr. Fream took up the question of Direct Legislation and instanced the work which was being done in this direction in Oregon and other states.

Mr. Blunden, of Rocky Coulee, asked if the time had not arrived when the farmers should have independent candidates in the field to represent their interests. Mr. Blunden was answered by several members and the consensus of opinion was that such a thing would eventually mean ruin to the association. Better work could be done along the line of education than by going into party politics. Mr. Henderson, of Pincher Creek, stated it was the intention of the unions of Pincher Creek District to hold a district convention sometime during the month of November, when the different questions which would be up for discussion at the annual convention could be considered. He invited the unions present to send delegates. Mr. Barker took as his subject the need of making Calgary an order point, and showed how many members were losing heavily by the present reading of the Manitoba Grain Act. He also pointed out the need of loyalty by the members to the association. Mr. Quinsey then thanked the members for their attendance and asked them all to be on hand the next morning when the resolutions and addresses would be presented to the premier. The convention then closed and all present were of the opinion that the meeting would be a good one and would result in much good to the association in Southern Alberta.

HELPING NEIGHBORS

Stainsleigh Union held its regular meeting of Saturday evening, August 20th, there being a good attendance of members. After roll call and disposing of minutes of previous meeting, a letter from Mr. Guy W. Johnson, of Provost U. F. A., suggesting the formation of an agricultural society to cover the district lying between the Ribstone Creek and the Fourth meridian was read. It was resolved that the Stainsleigh Union should co-operate with the Provost Union in the organization of such a society. On account of ill health Mr. Taylor found it impossible to act as president and sent in his resignation, which was accepted. Mr. Fred Fegg, an energetic and prosperous farmer of the district and an enthusiastic member of the U. F. A., was elected as Mr. Taylor's successor. There being no elevators or store room at Hayter, it was suggested by

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

PRESIDENT:

JAMES BOWER - - - RED DEER

VICE-PRESIDENT:

W. J. TREGILLUS - - - CALGARY

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

E. J. FREAM - - - INNISFAIR

DIRECTORS AT LARGE:

James Speakman, Penhold; D. W. Warner, Clover Bar; L. H. Jelliff, Spring Coulee.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

T. H. Balaam, Vegreville; George Long, Namsa; F. H. Langston, Rosenroll; E. Carswell, Penhold; J. Quinsey, Noble; E. Griesbach, Gleichen; A. Von Mieleicki, Calgary.

Mr. Pegallie that the farmers of this district form a joint stock company to build, own and operate an elevator at that point. The suggestion caused much discussion but nothing was done, the matter being held over till the next meeting. A case of distress was brought before the meeting by the Rev. A. A. Thompson. A homesteader in the neighborhood is unable to work and is without money or means of support. A committee of six was immediately appointed to canvass the district to solicit aid for the person in need.

E. H. TWEDDLE, Sec.

Macklin.

INTERESTED IN HAIL

Carstairs Union met on August 20th for the first meeting since its organization. Owing to the pressure of harvest work only ten of the members were present but much interest and enthusiasm in the work of the association was displayed by those present, and when the harvest rush is over we hope to have well attended meetings and to secure a substantial addition to our enrollment. Owing to our district having had the misfortune of being visited by a very destructive hail storm last week, much interest in the hail insurance bill was manifested. We were very glad to note from the earlier circulars issued from the central office this year the progressive policy in regard to this business which the provincial government has adopted. We highly commend the stand taken last spring by the executive when protesting against permission being granted to private companies to solicit hail insurance business within the province and in general commend all that it has done towards persuading the government to continue the business. We heartily hope that from the data that will be collected this year means will be found for putting the business on a satisfactory and paying basis. Several of our members have expressed a desire for information in regard to the pork packing proposition and we would like to know the present status of this proposition and also a supply of the contract forms.

R. R. WOOD, Sec.

Carstairs.

TRING KEEPS BUSY

At a general meeting of Tring Union, held at the residence of R. W. Humphrey on Saturday evening, August 20, there was a good attendance of members and much interest displayed in the different reports presented. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been disposed of a lengthy report of the doings of the eight delegates sent from Tring Union to meet Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Lloydminster, and amalgamate with the other unions to present a petition to him, the petition being presented by Mr. Rackham, of Lloydminster, was read. The delegates were presented by our member, Mr. Bramley Moore, to the Hon. A. L. Sifton, premier of Alberta, and presented to him our plea for a railway through the north-westerly part of the country. Mr. Sifton saw the great need of a railroad through that country and took our petition, promising to look it over and do what lay in his power to assist. The delegation thanked him and withdrew.

A letter was read from the Dewberry Union as to their proposal to establish a creamery, government or otherwise on some convenient place near the Vermilion River. There appeared to be a

 Lack of space forces holding
 over the account of the meeting
 of the U. F. A. with Sir Wilfrid
 Laurier. The article will appear
 next week.
