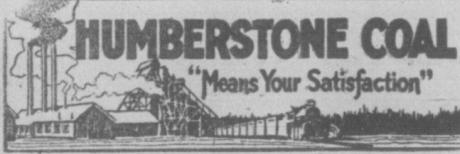


# The Farm Page



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## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IS IN GOOD SHAPE

Alberta Making Good Progress By Making Special Provisions

### PRACTICAL AND SCIENTIFIC Public and Agricultural Schools Showing Results of Efforts Made

The condition of agricultural education in Alberta is good. The Government of the Province and particularly the Department of Agriculture under Hon. Duncan Marshall has sensed the characteristic need of the province in giving the fullest support possible to agriculture, and in the judgment of Mr. Marshall, the best and soundest way to do this is through the education of farm boys and girls and city boys and girls, for that matter, by giving them systematic training in special agricultural schools. There are three of these schools already in operation—at Olds, Claresholm and Vermilion and in the last three or four years they have trained about 1,600 boys and girls, most of them taking the two years' course which lasts five months in the year. Three more schools are to be added this year at Raymond, Youngstown and Gleichen.

The courses in these schools are practical but there is a good basis of science for the explanation of practice so that the boys and girls become interested in the underlying principles which make for the success of country occupation. The courses for boys include crops and cultivation, live stock, dairying, farm mechanics, horticulture and poultry. The boys get lectures also in science such as soil and plant physics, elementary chemistry, bacteriology, botany, and in such general subjects as English, mathematics, farm management and accounting. The schools are increasing in popularity each year. Even during the war, the number of students attending these schools did not decrease though the proportion was rather larger for girls.

The girls' course is considered the best kind of training not only for country girls but for town and city girls who wish to fit themselves for good home-making. It includes foods and cooking, sewing, nursing, laundry, sanitation, household management, with horticulture, poultry and dairying optional and it is likewise understood that girls are not excluded from agricultural courses if they wish to take them. Their course is reinforced by science study and is liberalized also by teaching in English literature and expression, physical culture and rural organization. Athletics are also given a prominent place for both boys and girls.

These schools are absolutely free. There is no charge of any kind to students but they must provide their own books. Both boys and girls must be 16 years of age as the course is of a serious vocational kind and younger pupils would not be able to profit by it.

There are in connection with all the schools, experimental areas. Besides this, the schools are situated on the demonstration farms and lately, the farms and schools have been combined so that the boys have an opportunity to see a well managed and well equipped farm in operation. The live stock of the farm likewise, is used for demonstration purposes.

The College of Agriculture  
The other institution for the teaching of agriculture is the College of Agriculture which is part of the University in Edmonton South. Seventy of the soldiers have already been given a four months' course at the college and they are taking to the course eagerly. One class has just left the University and another will begin in the third week of May. The agricultural work at the University this year has all been soldier work as the under-graduates in agriculture all went to war. The work in the college begins where the work in the agricultural schools leaves off but the work for the soldiers this year has been of a direct practical sort. The instructors have taken the boys on where they found them and have given them the kind of work they can take and make the best use of when they go on the land.

### GOOD PROFIT FROM MARKETING STEERS

The Calgary Market Examiner prints some fact and figures regarding steers which were marketed by Mr. A. H. Robertson of High River that are very encouraging to those interested in stock. Mr. Robertson's statement is as follows: 16 head purchased December 1, 1918 for \$1441; 16 head sold April 9, 1919 for \$2851. Gross profit \$1410. Cost of feeding for a little over four months was: Linnseed cake, \$35; oats and choppings, \$100; 25 tons hay, \$250; interest on loan, \$25; total \$470; net profit without deducting labor \$1410, less cost of feeding \$470, leaves a balance of \$940, which represents labor and profit. The steers weighed around 965 pounds when purchased and averaged 1,240 pounds when sold. In connection with these figures, it may be said that the oats and hay which were fed were grown on his own farm.

## STOCKMEN BANQUET RETIRING MANAGER

Edward Evans, who is retiring from the management of the Alberta Stock Yards at Calgary, to assume the management of the new yards at Moose Jaw, was the guest of honor at a banquet which was held in the Palliser Hotel, Saturday last. Among the visitors from a distance who were there were J. H. Ashcraft, manager of the Edmonton yards; W. F. Stevens, live stock commissioner; T. Kelly, and T. Hult, representing the Edmonton Live Stock Exchange.

## JUNE 15TH FIXED AS U.F.A. SUNDAY

### President Enumerates the Purposes of This Day Among Farmers

By H. W. Wood, President U.F.A.  
June 15th, is the date fixed by the Executive Committee on which to observe our fourth annual U.F.A. Sunday exercises.

Our last year's date conflicted with the fixed date of special services of some of the churches, which the executive desires to avoid.

There are still inquiries coming to the central office as to the objects of U.F.A. Sunday. The object, briefly speaking, is to discuss the U.F.A. from a religious standpoint, and to discuss religion from a U.F.A. standpoint. On that day these two institutions should interpret themselves to each other.

The church in the past has placed its emphasis on making individuals better. Should there be a close connection between the two, or is there an impassable barrier between them? Does the church need a regenerated social system in which its individuals can live together in accordance with the higher laws of life? Does the U.F.A. need better individuals to build into its social system?

It is evident that we cannot separate the individual from society, or society from the individual.

The U.F.A. should make a close investigation of foundation principles, and should be told by the church whether or not Christian teachings offer any information that will be of assistance in social regeneration. The fight is on between Democracy and Autocracy, between God and Mammon, and this fight is to the finish.

## UNIFORM EFFORT MOST NECESSARY

### Co-operative Action Required for Desirable Results from Potato Growing

Co-operation among the farmers of any certain district in the raising of potatoes is advocated by the Department of Agriculture, with the object of that district specializing in some special kind of potato and building up a record for their community in that special kind of variety. A renewed interest is taken in the growing of potatoes throughout the province and a number of requests have reached the Department of Agriculture for literature bearing on the subject, and as a consequence a Bulletin on Potatoes has been issued.

The farmer has not been in the habit of clubbing with his neighbors to secure outside markets; he rather follows the line of least resistance, and disposes of his crop at the local market. The surplus production the majority of the farmers have is likely to be under a car load in quantity, which fact makes it unprofitable to market at a distance. By co-operating with his neighbors it is possible for him to secure the outside markets. The farmers of the Stony Plain district have recognized the fact that there is a big field for improvement in the production and marketing of potatoes in Alberta and have profited by the scheme proposed by the Department for co-operation.

A committee composed of farmers, buyers and departmental officials selected six well known favorite varieties. Quantities of these potatoes were furnished to farmers named by the Stony Plain Agricultural Society, and these men, in co-operation with the local Demonstration Farm, conducted a comparative test. A potato fair was held in the fall and a committee of Edmonton Buyers acted as judges, scoring the six exhibits of each of the farmers according to a score card prepared by the department. Later an institute meeting was held at which the people of Stony Plain decided that, if sufficient seed could be secured, they would unite to grow Wee Macgregor potatoes. Thus by co-operation the farmers of Stony Plain are building up a future record for their fame in the potato industry.

## POLITICAL ACTION TO BE DECIDED BY ALTA. FARMERS

### Convention Called in Various Political Ridings to Discuss Issue

### FOR MAY AND JUNE Only Two Locals So Far Held From Oppose Political Action

Below is a list of the dates and places set for the conventions in the various Federal Ridings to consider political action, by the United Farmers of Alberta:

Constituency	Place	Date
Macleod	Macleod	May 27-28
Lethbridge	Lethbridge	May 29-30
Bow River	Calgary	June 3-4
E. & W. Calgary	Calgary	June 5-6
Red Deer	Red Deer	June 10-11
Victoria	Camrose	June 12-13
Battle River	Wainwright	June 17-18
Strathcona	Wetaskiwin	June 19-20
East Edmonton	Edmonton	June 26-27
West Edmonton	Edmonton	June 26-27

These conventions are being called by the Central Office in accordance with the resolution passed by the annual convention, and upon requests of 10% or more of the locals in each federal riding. In most cases considerably more than the necessary 10% of requests have been received. It is significant that of the replies to questionnaires recently sent out, only two replies have been received from locals which are opposed to taking political action.

These dates have been set by the executive after consideration of the replies received to the questionnaires. Practically all the constituencies ask for a convention to be held during the month of June. The questionnaires from the Southern part of the province indicate a desire for the conventions being called somewhat earlier than those in the north, and owing to the fact that seeding is over earlier in the south, it was decided to commence in the south and go northwards. Practically all the constituencies request the attendance of President Wood at these conventions and the executive has decided that the provincial secretary should, if possible, attend each convention to assist if desired. As the dates are arranged it will be possible for President Wood and the provincial secretary to be at each convention. As far as possible the conventions have been arranged to suit the majority of those who will travel by train.

## NEW MANAGER CALGARY YARDS

E. Ward Jones, for the past three years Dominion markets representative at Calgary Stock Yards, has been appointed successor to Edward Evans as manager of the Alberta Stock Yards, and assumed his new office on May 1st. Mr. Jones is quite popular with the commission men and country buyers, with whom he is in constant association. He is a western man, having attended Manitoba Agricultural College and later becoming professor of animal husbandry at that College, holding that position until the time of his acceptance of the position in Calgary under the Dominion government.

## EDMONTON YARDS SHOW LARGE GAIN

Receipts at the Edmonton Stock Yards during the month of March included 2,533 cattle, as compared with 1,408 for the same month last year, and this did not include 588 calves, which was more than double the number for last year also. Hog receipts for March, 1919, were way down, the figures showing 2,729, as compared with 4,676 last year in March. Sheep receipts were 2,410 for March, 1919, as compared with 11 the year previous, rather a remarkable showing, and horses passing through the yards this year were 534, as compared with 203 last year for the same month.

The cattle receipts for Edmonton this year to date show a wonderful increase, considerably more than doubling last year's figures for the same period. The official figures for this year are 12,917 cattle, as compared with 5,248 last year. These totals include 1,234 calves this year and 720 last.

Receipts of hogs for the same period show a decrease from 12,375 last year to 10,411 this year. Sheep receipts to date this year are 8,949, compared to 155 in 1918, and horse receipts at 1,272, are nearly four times the receipts of last year for the same period.

## S. G. COWAN WILL MOVE

S. G. Cowan, the Delta Aberdeen-Angus breeder, is going to move from that district soon, and will hold a sale of his effects, including some of his pure-breds. He will settle in another part of the province where there is more range.

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