

## U.F.A. SUNDAY

At our last convention a resolution was passed adopting a U.F.A. Sunday, and May 21 has been selected by our executive committee as this day.

We believe that our organization represents a reform movement and that reform movements are efforts to make adjustments in accordance with the principles of right and justice; and, no matter what a man's orthodox opinion may be, if he is investigating the laws of right, he cannot afford to ignore the teachings of Christianity.

Practically all scholars accord Christ great wisdom (in fact the greatest wisdom), right living and high ideals. These are the great lights by which reforms must be guided. More men now than ever before are coming to believe that His teaching is the one and only key to the true and final adjustment of the elements of human affairs, social, economic and political. Certainly he is a dull Christian who is not at least beginning to see that the ultimate end of Christianity is social, rather than individual.

These things being true, it seems entirely fitting that we should set apart at least one day in the year to seriously measure ourselves, our aims and objects, by the standard of Christian teaching, and to endeavor to better understand these teachings, that we may make all possible practical use of them for our future guidance.

I earnestly hope that as nearly as possible every local in Alberta will in some way observe this day. If possible have some competent U.F.A. man to address you, dealing with Christ's teaching as a factor in the solution of our problems, the problems of civilization. Get as many ministers as possible to preach on some phase of the subject of "Applied Christianity." Get them to tell their people all they can as to how far they can depend on the church for leadership in making politics clean and decent, commerce fair and honest, and society elevating and satisfactory; how the door of hope, so long close barred, is going to be pried open to all the people; how the church expects to lead the people up to the overthrow of "Babylon," and how to organize and lead them in the preparation of the earth for the descent of the "Holy City."

Finally, I would urge you to get, as nearly as possible, everybody out to hear these addresses and sermons. Every member of the U.F.A. and every farmer should attend these meetings and help to make them successful.

Yours fraternally,  
H. W. WOOD, President.

## SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT RUGBY

W. M. Hodson, secretary of Rugby Local Union No. 327 reports that on March 17 they had a social in connection with a scheme to get a branch of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. at Didsbury. The schoolhouse was crowded, and B. Buckingham, district director, gave a long address which was well received, and resulted in ten shares being subscribed for. Eleven new members also joined the union.

## DISTRIBUTING GOPHER POISON

F. B. Johnstone, secretary of Irma Union No. 117, reports as follows: "We held a very successful meeting on the evening of March 27. J. W. Wood, our director, was present and gave a very instructive address. About twenty new members joined that night, and several others since. We hope to get well up to the 100 mark yet. What our people need is education along the lines of their own interests, namely, that production is good, but co-operation in the handling of our products is better. We have distributed about \$140 worth of gopher poison this season."

## LADIES GREAT HELP

F. J. Muskett, secretary of Peerless Local Union No. 310, writes: "Our regular winter meetings being now over for the season, we can report a short but successful series. Owing to heavy fall work, we did not meet till January 1, and six meetings have been held in all. The form of meeting we find most popular and successful is: supper, 6.30 p.m. (cake, coffee, etc.),

which gives a social opportunity. Business is taken next, and includes discussion on one or more subjects of interest to the community. The chief subjects this season have been the reports of the delegates to the convention, and cheap money for farmers. Then follows a short musical program. We have found the presence of our lady members a great help. Our membership now stands at twenty-eight, against eighteen last year, and we look for two or three more to join. We are arranging for a picnic between seeding and harvest."

## PATRIOTIC ENTERTAINMENTS

Naco Local Union No. 632 held a patriotic entertainment in the Naco schoolhouse on March 17. Mr. McClain, inspector of schools for Alberta, was present, also a soldier, both of whom addressed the meeting on present day conditions and our great war. They cleared \$75.00, which was turned over to the Patriotic Fund.

## SAVING ON PURCHASES

University Local Union No. 584 has now a membership of thirty paid up. Fourteen members attended the last meeting. They are not doing much co-operative purchasing this season, but have placed an order for formaldehyde with the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company. They have also been able to secure plow shares from local merchants at a considerable saving, which shows that the organization is useful to members.

## ENERGETIC LOCAL ACTIVE

L. R. Snapp, secretary of Energetic Local No. 502, reports that the union is on its feet again, and they are having fine meetings. S. S. Dunham gave them a splendid address on March 18, and fifteen new members were enrolled at that time. They have purchased a carload of fence posts co-operatively, and have also bought strychnine and gopher poison in large quantities, thereby saving a considerable amount of money.

## MEMBERSHIP INCREASED

H. Mather, secretary of Rulwark Local No. 416, reports that their meetings have been well attended lately, and their membership has considerably increased this year. They have ordered a car of cedar fence posts, and have almost completed an order for a second car, and also for a car of willow posts. Besides this, they have ordered 100 cunees of strychnine locally at a considerable saving. The union has just organized a local of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company at this point.

## LARGE NEW LOCAL

Halcourt Local Union No. 291 was organized on January 15 and has recruited dues to the Central office for thirty-four members. Walter Funnell was elected president, and J. K. Finnegan, secretary-treasurer.

## COMMITTEE HELPS SECRETARY

The farmers of Kleskun Hill and surrounding district organized a local branch of the U.F.A. known as the Kleskun Hill Local No. 376, on Jan. 15, 1916, starting off with twenty members. The following officers were elected: A. W. Carveth, president; C. W. Johnson, vice-president; L. D. Boxer, secretary-treasurer; also a board of six directors. The membership has since increased to thirty-eight and the prospects are that after the April meeting it will be fifty. The members have already started co-operative purchasing, orders being taken at the last meeting for wire fencing. A purchasing committee was appointed to relieve the secretary of some of the

work. The union meets on the third Saturday of each month in the Municipal hall, and judging from the interest which is being taken in the work, it looks as if Kleskun Hill is going to be the head of the class in Grande Prairie.

## RE-ORGANIZATION AT AMISK

The following report has been received from E. M. Ferguson, secretary of Amisk Local No. 258: "I have the pleasure to report that on March 25 the Amisk Local was re-organized with fourteen members. President Wood and Director J. W. Wood again convinced the farmers of the usefulness of farmers' organizations, and reminded us of the recent benefit secured, which aroused some enthusiasm. This being the fourth attempt in this community within the past three years, if we can show some usefulness this time, there is little doubt but a good many will become directly interested. At this meeting John Davidson was elected president; L. B. Ferguson, vice-president."

## DOING THINGS RIGHT

F. Olsen, secretary of New Norway Local No. 293, reports that the union held a meeting in the New Norway Union church on April 5, at 2 p.m., at which there was a large attendance. For the first time in the history of the local the ladies of the district turned out to take part in a U.F.A. meeting. Eight new members were enrolled, making a total of twenty-five. After the usual routine business had been gone thru, the program for the day was taken up. N. Y. Berger, of the Ferintosh Local, addressed the members on "What is the Battle of Life?" and treated his subject in a very able manner. The next on the program was a song by Andrew Rockstad, accompanied by Miss Ida Hawkedal, after which E. E. Oliver, the school teacher, who is a farmer's son and has had practical agricultural experience, gave an address on "The selection of the right kind of seed, and the right breed of stock, and how to get started in the right way." This address was very much appreciated. Mr. Westvick, the local merchant, also gave an address on the "Egg Market," mentioning that some of his customers were not grading their eggs as they ought to do, and pointing out that if the farmers would sell their eggs while strictly fresh, the prices would be higher and more of a standard. After this the secretary spoke a short while on co-operation, and concluded by expressing the wish that true co-operation would come into existence, not only in New Norway but all over the world. A splendid lunch was served by the ladies, and everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. It was decided that the next meeting would be held in Ellingson's hall, New Norway, on April 28.

## DONATIONS FROM MERE LOCAL

S. L. Hoopert, secretary of Mere Local Union No. 513 reports that although their membership is rather low, a healthy interest is being taken in U.F.A. matters, and in co-operative purchasing. They hope by the end of this quarter to be able to show a membership roll of at least fifty members. They have sent in the following donations to the Central office: U.F.A. Patriotic Fund, \$71.00; Belgian Relief Fund, \$48.00; Red Cross Fund, \$52.00; Polish Relief Fund, \$32.50—Total, \$204.00.

## RAPID DEVELOPMENT EXPECTED

On the evening of March 27, Kinross Local Union No. 215 was organized, fifteen members being enrolled. Owing to a very bad storm, the attendance was small, but they had a good hearty meeting notwithstanding. Messrs. Cameron, president, and Park, secretary, of Carlton Local, were present and had charge of the organization work. The

officers elected were: H. J. Hunt, president; Stanley Stiekaforst, vice-president, and D. W. Greer, secretary-treasurer; also five directors. There is reason to expect that within thirty days the union will double its membership, as they have a large community to serve. They expect to prosper and increase rapidly.

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR ACTIVE

J. L. Sparrow, district director, organized a union, to be known as Poplar Park No. 200, in the Poplar Park schoolhouse, near Killam, recently. The union started off with twenty-one paid up members. The meeting was addressed by J. L. Sparrow, Wm. Halliwell, secretary of Willow Hollow Union, and G. V. Godin. This union intends joining with other unions round Killam in co-operative purchasing, etc.

## NEW TAYLORVILLE BRANCH

A meeting was held on March 29 for the purpose of organizing the Taylorville Branch of the U.F.A. No. 217. Fourteen members paid in their dues. R. A. Nelson was elected president; Ed. Wolsey, vice-president; and J. F. Nelson, secretary-treasurer. A board of six directors was also elected.

## SUCCESSFUL BOX SOCIAL

C. P. Hutchison, secretary of Acme Union No. 62, reports that the prospects for the ensuing year are bright and they are adding new members at every meeting. They held a box social in the hall on March 28, at which \$60 was realized, clear of expenses, from the sale of the boxes. There was a good crowd in attendance despite the inclemency of the weather. After the boxes were sold, there was a good program of music, etc., also two addresses, one by H. W. Wood, provincial president, and the other by A. A. Hall, district director.

## SPRING BUSINESS BRISK

Jas. Hughson, secretary of Laurence Union No. 406, reports that this union seems to have taken on the spirit of the season. They have just received their orders of seed grass and formaldehyde. During the month of February two cars of coal were also ordered.

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY WORK

J. Bourne, secretary of Penhold Union No. 13, reports that they had a very successful meeting on March 30. A. A. Hall, district director, was present and both before and at the meeting, gave them some good sound advice in regard to their incorporation as a co-operative society, which he had gained from actual experience. As a result they were able to get five more shareholders and appoint a provisional board of directors.

## PATRIOTIC DONATION

J. W. Richardson, Wavely Lake Local No. 39, has forwarded us the sum of \$21.38, being a contribution to the Red Cross Fund. This amount was raised at a lecture given by Mr. Otte-Well, president of this union.

## FARMERS' ELEVATOR EXPECTED

D. R. Borthwick, secretary of Kinross Local Union, in sending us dues for fifteen members, states that they had a very enthusiastic meeting on Saturday, March 25, and the prospects of having a farmers' elevator in Kinross this fall look good, thanks to their president, who has worked hard for same. Directors were appointed, and a special canvasser has been sent out to get the remaining shares collected. The directors arranged to meet again on March 30 to make final arrangements for application to the head office of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co.

## ACTIVE INTEREST SHOWN

W. W. Goodbrand, secretary of Crocus Plains Local No. 444, reports that at the annual meeting new officers were elected for the ensuing year. Although the membership is rather small, owing to other unions being started in the district, there is still a good deal of interest being taken in the work by the members.