

## OF ALBERTA

- Red Deer

- Calgary

- Innisfail

- Lethbridge

- Medicine Hat

- Regina

- Saskatoon

- Swift Current

- Weyburn

- Yorkton

- Moose Jaw

- Humboldt

- Lloydminster

- Poncha

- Carleton Place

- Ottawa

- Montreal

- Quebec

- Toronto

- New York

- Philadelphia

- Washington

- St. Louis

- Chicago

- Cincinnati

- St. Paul

- Minneapolis

- Duluth

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## COMMITTEE WILL SECURE SIGNATURES

The fourth meeting of Oxville Union was held on May 21st. The vice-president, Mr. Jas. E. McLeod, acted as chairman, and called the meeting to order. After roll-call, reading of minutes, and other routine business, the binder twine question was discussed and the orders given. The question of sending cream to the Lloydminster creamery was discussed, but no decision reached. The pork packing plant question was then taken up, and in view of the necessity of immediate action, as urged in the last circular letter from the general secretary, it was decided that a committee be appointed to canvass the district and secure signatures. On motion of Messrs Henton and Hannah, the following gentlemen were appointed the committee: Messrs. T. McLaughlin, F. E. Henton, Chas. Stoddard and M. Bradwell; and each member of the committee was instructed to take a sub-district and canvass it. The secretary also received instructions to have forms furnished these gentlemen as soon as possible. Six members present promised to sign contracts, aggregating seventy-five hogs. Nine new members joined the union and there was an attendance of twenty-three at our meeting.

WALTER S. MURRAY, Sec.

Oxville.

## CONTRACTS SIGNED

At a meeting of the Strome Union, held on May 22nd, four pork packing agreements were signed. It was also decided to send in the names of all the members to THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, and subscribe for same, in accordance with the offer received.

A. S. McCULLOUGH, Sec.

Strome.

## HERD LAW LACKS FORCE

At a meeting of Tring Union held last fall the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that, in the opinion of this union the present term of the herd law does not cover sufficient ground. We, therefore, deem it advisable to advocate the following addition to the existing law, viz.: 'In any herd law district the herd law may be extended to cover the full twelve months on application to the minister of agriculture by a two-thirds majority of the farmers of that district.'

We would ask the other unions to give us their support in this matter at the forthcoming convention, and would draw their attention to the following points:

1. The above addition cannot interfere with anyone because it is entirely optional to any district at present under herd law.
2. It is necessary in those districts, as without it it is almost impossible to raise fall wheat.
3. Owing to several bad seasons a great many of the farmers cannot possibly fence.
4. The present system is productive of the spread of weeds by cattle."

This resolution should have been presented to the annual convention, but owing to the rush of business presented at the last was overlooked. For this oversight the general secretary owes an apology to Tring Union and will present the resolutions to the unions at an early date for discussion. The work piled up so fast at the last of the convention that it is not to be wondered at that something was overlooked, but seeing that this was an important resolution for the Tring district we will push the matter to the limit and ascertain whether the resolution meets with the views of the members. If so it will be presented to the government for consideration at the earliest possible moment.

## SPRUCE GROVE HEARD FROM

Spruce Grove Local Union held its regular meeting on Saturday, May 28th. The president called the meeting to order and the minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as read on motion of Messrs. A. Kuhl and L. Ganne. There was an attendance of 16 members at this meeting. The secretary read circular No. 4, and laid before the members the necessity of pushing the pork packing plant proposition, and after a short discussion four more members signed the agreements and several more promised. A lengthy discussion took place over the woven wire fencing, and the secretary was instructed to write the general secretary and ask for several more of

the catalogues, also for quotations on binder twine. The matter of ordering woven wire was laid over till a later date.

C. WEIDENHAMMER, Sec.

Spruce Grove.

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PICNIC.

We had glorious weather at Valley District on May 24th, when our Union arranged to hold a picnic at the lakes near the school house. There was a splendid attendance, between 300 and 400 people coming, some from 15 miles away. The ladies provided a substantial lunch, and the bachelors paid for the drinks (strictly teetotal). During the afternoon football and baseball were played, followed by races. The ladies, married as well as single, made the dust fly in the fifty yards sprint, while three men folks tried to beat the record in the hundred yards. There were also races for the youngsters, with cash prizes collected on the grounds, as well as several tag-of-wars and pony races. The crowd left for home about 6 p. m. well pleased with the day's fun, and hoping the Union would make the picnic an annual affair.

The regular monthly meeting of Valley District Union was held on Saturday, May 28th, with the president in the chair.

There were 40 members present out of a total of 47, and three new members were enrolled, the thirty mark being received with cheers. The picnic committee made their report and a small balance was handed in for the funds of the Union. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the committee and acknowledged by B. Whitbeck. It was decided to hold the picnic again next year on May 24th, and suggestions were made by members that we should try and get speakers from the general executive for that day. We hope to be able to arrange for this at a later date.

The chief business was concerning binder twine. The acreage in crop belonging to members of this Union amounts to about 2,000 acres. After considerable discussion it was decided to get prices from dealers and a special meeting was called for Saturday, June 11th, at 8 p. m. to discuss the matter further. We are inviting all farmers who use the same shipping point, whether members of the U.F.A. or not, to attend and we hope to be able to make up a good order and get better prices.

A. E. BUMPUS, Sec'y.

Lougheed

## AN INDEPENDENT COMMISSION.

At a meeting of Tofield Union, held at Kingham a few days ago, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas the Alberta government, having consented to consider the petition for government ownership of the interior elevators presented to them by the farmers and others, and having asked the executive of the U. F. A. to appoint a committee to frame a memorandum to present to the government in which will be laid down the plan upon which the farmers would ask the government to take over and operate the interior elevators of the province.

"Therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of Tofield branch of the U.F.A. do strongly recommend that the government elevators of Alberta be acquired and operated in accordance with the plan laid down in the Manitoba Elevator Bill, with the exception that there be an independent commission appointed, as asked by the Manitoba Grain Growers, and also that in consideration of the fact that a large amount of grain in Alberta is sold in smaller quantities, we believe that the officials to be placed in charge of the government elevators should be empowered by the government to buy grain from the farmers the same as street buyers.

"And be it further resolved that each local of the U.F.A. be asked to endorse this resolution."

Kingman JAMES FLETCHER

Secretary.

## PLEASANT SURPRISE PARTY.

On May 14th, Rose View Union held their regular meeting. A very large crowd turned out and a lively time we had; three new members were secured. Mr. Haley, general merchant from Rawdonville, became a member and made a very strong bid to supply the Union with binder twine. He also approached the Union to buy flour in bulk with him.

His offers were well received but on motion were tabled for further consideration.

The Vice-president approached the meeting with the suggestion that the Union should take a prominent part in the mass meeting to be held at Carbon on Saturday, May 21st, with the object of bringing pressure to bear on the government not to approve of the branch line of the G. T. P. from Tofield to Calgary unless it included the proposed eight mile spur into Carbon coal mines, as this spur would also serve a large agricultural district, which would otherwise be left without railroad facilities owing to the roads to the west being almost impassable on account of deep coulees, which the local improvement district is not at present strong enough to bridge and grade. On motion it was decided that the executive should meet and take the necessary steps so that the agricultural interests would be well represented at the mass meeting.

The business of the meeting was but half finished when a party of the ladies of the district arrived and turned the meeting into a surprise party. Business was laid aside until the next meeting, which will be held in the Rose View School House, when it is expected that a new Union will be organized at Rawdonville, on account of the members being scattered at too great a distance to be able to attend all the meetings. It is also expected that a Union will be organized shortly at Carbon.

This plan will place us in a position to organize the entire district. With three strong Unions organized there should not be a farmer outside the organization by the end of the year. Then in matters of business the Unions could work together through their respective secretaries and so place far bigger orders than is at present possible. However, the arrival of the ladies put an end to business and the rest of the evening was spent in an impromptu concert. A very enjoyable time was spent and the ladies served luncheon which was heartily enjoyed by all, and after three cheers and a tiger given for the ladies the meeting dispersed evidently well pleased with the enjoyable evening spent.

Carbon ROBT. S. SHAW, Sec'y.

## START A TEST CASE.

At the last regular meeting of Erskine Union, held on May 24th, a resolution was adopted requesting the general secretary to thoroughly investigate the Lighthouse horse killing case and if there seemed to be any chance of winning same for the United Farmers of Alberta to take the matter up and push it forward to completion. The members of Erskine Union are willing to bear their portion of the expense, if it is thought advisable to take action against the railway company.

Erskine S. S. JUDD, Secretary.

## WILL WE GET A RAILWAY

A mass meeting was held at Carbon on Saturday, May 21st, for the purpose of trying to devise ways and means for securing a spur of railway into the Carbon district, as it is found that the last line of survey of the G.T.P., which is the nearest to the district, runs too far West to be of any great benefit to either the agricultural or mining interests of this district.

Senator Talbot and J. Stauffer, M.P.P., for this district, addressed the large crowd of farmers and business men who had gathered together to look after the interests of the district, and although fault might be found with the government for the manner in which they gave charters to the different railway companies without making satisfactory provisions to compel the companies to fulfil the terms of their charters within the allotted time, as disclosed by Senator Talbot in his address, still in the main we found the addresses of both these gentlemen decidedly interesting and instructive.

The officers of Rose View Union No. 63 of the U. F. A., were on hand, backed by a strong and representative gathering of farmers, to press the claims of the agricultural interests of the district, and a strong resolution, backed by a goodly number of signatures of the farmers, showing the acreage under crop this year and the prospective acreage for next year, was read by the secretary and presented to Mr. Stauffer with the request that he would give it to the Minister of Railways and use his influence to the end that this

district might speedily obtain railway facilities. The vice-president of Rose View Union also addressed the meeting and scored points which brought Senator Talbot to his feet in order to explain the position of the government with railroad companies, and it was during this explanation that he made it quite evident to the meeting that in some cases at least, these big corporations hold the whip hand over even the Dominion Senate. The business men of the village also had a resolution showing the position of the mining and business interests of the district.

The resolution brought forward by the farmers read as follows:—

"To the Honorable, The Minister of Railways, and Premier of Alberta,

"We, the members of the Rose View Union No. 63 of the United Farmers of Alberta, hearing that your deputy was to be at Carbon to look into the matter of railroad facilities for this district at our last meeting resolved, that we as a Union do all in our power to show you that a railroad into Carbon is an absolute necessity. We have a good country to the east, north and south that will have no accommodation whatever in the handling of grain crops, if the line of railroad does not come through the vicinity of Carbon, as it is an utter impossibility, now that the land is fenced, to travel east and west owing to the deep coulees running north and south, which are impassable, and will be until they are properly graded and bridged. The natural road for hauling is south into the village of Carbon and we wish the government to take note of this fact. The country that will be served if the proposed spur is built into Carbon will be about sixteen miles square, or an approximate area of 163840 acres. If we take one-fourth of this which will be cropped in the near future we have a maximum crop of say 1,638,400 bushels of grain to be shipped out of this district. This together with the fact that there are large areas of the finest domestic coal in Alberta and also that there are three mines in operation here, any one of which could supply the city of Calgary with coal if proper facilities were provided, ought to be an incentive to any railroad company to build the short spur necessary into Carbon, irrespective of the government taking the matter up.

"To convince you that it is imperative that a railroad should come via Carbon, we attach hereto a list of the names of the farmers of this district and the acreage under crop for this season, and the prospective acreage to be under crop next year, and we as farmers most respectfully demand as our right that the government take steps to provide this district with proper railroad facilities."

Carbon ROBT. S. SHAW, Sec'y.

## MODERATE SPIRIT

A London, England, cable of June 4 said: "Speaking at London yesterday Lord Salisbury endeavored to deal with the constitutional question in a spirit of studied moderation. He said it was not proposed the lords should invade the province of the house of commons. No one denied the ascendancy of the latter with regard to finance, but if a wildest proposal were ever made in public finance, he did not mean that the lords should not have something to say about it.

"So long as it came within the wildest definition of what was reasonable, no one would desire to change the ancient practice of the constitution. He added that they wanted a house of lords which had an independent character. Unless there was a second chamber not devoted to worship of the jumping cat, then it was not worth having. A majority of the present house of lords desired to approach the subject in a thorough and unaggressive spirit."

## OBJECTS TO CO-OPERATIVE SCHEME

Editor, GUIDE:—I have read with interest Mr. Fry's letter in the issue of THE GUIDE of April 6; also letter of A. D. in issue of May 11, and would join my protest with theirs that no change in the direction suggested by Mr. Partidge should be made in the present constitution of the Grain Growers Grain Co. Ltd. To my mind it would be both unjust and unwise at the present stage of the Company. If ever such a change should appear desirable, to others of the directorate, nothing ought to be done in favor of it without putting it to a vote of the shareholders.

Kaiser, Sask.

E. LAMB