

As some of the members spoke of being willing to go at their own expense Messrs. Bessy and Presley were voted as delegates also. The subject of how best to increase interest in the work of the union was discussed and it was decided to hold a social meeting at which members' wives, families and anybody interested might be present, and at which speeches could be delivered with a view to increasing the membership and rousing the enthusiasm of present members. A strong committee was appointed to carry this plan out. The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring president for his valuable services during the past year.

G. M. DRINNAN, Sec'y.

Gadsby, Alta.

WELLSDALE WORKING

A meeting of the farmers of the Wellsdale district was held on December 29 in the Wellsdale school house for the purpose of reorganizing a local branch of the United Farmers of Alberta. The meeting opened with fifteen paid-up members and the following officers were elected: President, Frank Dawes; vice-president, G. E. Clinton; secretary-treasurer, Hugh Hagen; directors, C. Demers, W. MacDonald, C. A. Hodgins, C. A. Parker, A. E. Fiske.

HUGH HAGEN, Sec'y.

Wellsdale, Alta.

AN OLD FRIEND GONE

Olds local union held their annual meeting on December 15, the meeting being called to order by President Rands. After the roll call and reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting the following officers were elected by acclamation for the year 1911: President, Geo. Rands; vice-president, S. J. Craig; secretary-treasurer, J. Stauffer; directors, G. Haynes, W. C. Kalsey, G. D. Lambert, W. J. Pinkerton, P. Jaffray and G. Cipperey. The meeting was well attended and much interest was manifested and the prospects are very promising for a splendid union for 1911. The following were elected delegates to the annual convention at Calgary: G. Cipperey, S. J. Craig, G. Rands, W. C. Kalsey. The following resolution was unanimously adopted by a standing silent vote: "Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in His wise providence to take from our midst our beloved friend, Mr. George McDonald, we, the members of the Olds branch of the United Farmers of Alberta assembled do hereby place upon record our appreciation of his valuable services to this association as an ever active worker and wise executive officer in the benefits of whose labors and counsels we have often shared; and while deeply sensible of our common loss in his removal we at the same time would acquiesce in the will of Him who doeth all things well; and further, we hereby tender our profound sympathy to the sorrowing wife and bereaved family in their deep affliction and great loss, and we join in commending them to the care and comfort of the God of all grace and consolation."

J. STAUFFER, Sec'y.

Olds, Alta.

Mr. McDonald will be remembered as one of the executive officers of the Alberta Farmers' Association, he having been a director for several years. He was also one of those who worked for the amalgamation of the two societies in Alberta. In 1909 he was a director of the U.F.A. and retired at the last convention. Mr. McDonald was one of the bright, optimistic members of the association and his cheery words of greeting and wisdom will be sadly missed at our forthcoming convention. The sympathy of all members will be extended to the sorrowing family and to those who knew him a deep feeling of personal loss will be felt. He has gone but it can be truly said of him, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

E. P.

A CASE IN POINT

For some time back the rural school districts to the north of Edmonton have had trouble over their boundaries, and the following resume of one case will be of interest to the members. The village of North Edmonton (Griffin packing plant) was formed of a section of land in the Belmont school district. Some time afterward certain parties agitated for a school district of their own but these parties eventually left the district. In the meantime it was found that the number of children at North Edmonton was taxing the accommodation so the trustees of Belmont school district went

to Edmonton and saw the acting deputy minister of education who told them that there was no application from North Edmonton for a new school district on file and that the trustees of Belmont district need not, unless they liked, give up any area but in that case the trustees would have to provide proper accommodation for all the pupils. He further advised the trustees that owing to the fact that the separate school question would certainly come up it would be better to try and get North Edmonton to organize. The trustees saw the authorities at North Edmonton and they were willing to have a school of their own. A public meeting of the ratepayers was then called for the purpose of putting the matter before them. At that meeting it was resolved that the ratepayers wanted North Edmonton to organize but that owing to the fact that Belmont school district was not large and that the value of the land comprising the village was great enough to enable them to obtain sufficient taxes it was not possible to allow them any further area of land except that one south of them, making about one and one-half sections in all. A copy of this resolution was sent to the department. The North Edmonton people agreed to this proposal, but the next the Belmont school district heard of the matter was that the department had given parties living within half a mile of North Edmonton permission to organize a district, and taking some six or seven sections of land from the Belmont district. They were also giving North Edmonton some two or three sections out of the Belmont district. Belmont of course complained and in answer to their complaint the department wrote: "The minister has power as per the ordinance to alter any school district, but of course he only does so in the interest of justice and education." As a matter of fact the new district was formed to benefit a few subdivision owners and the owners of the majority of the land taken into the district were quite opposed to the change but they knew nothing about it until after it was done. The act distinctly states that the minister has power to make the alteration provided it is satisfactorily shown that it is to the benefit of all concerned, and this is very clearly not the case in this instance. Several of the land holders who are taken into this new district are farming large tracts of land and also mining coal. There are no children within several miles of them and yet they will be assessed as a village district because the small area comprising the district cannot exist as a rural district. This is one of the cases in point, and should be carefully considered by the members.

F. C. CLARE, Sec'y.

Edmonton, Alta.

APPOINTED PRESS AGENT

Stainsleigh local union held its annual business meeting on December 17, and the following officers were elected for 1911: President, A. Earle Mallough; vice-president, Arthur Risley; secretary-treasurer, Everard H. Tweddle; press agent, Fred Pegg. The press agent was appointed for the purpose of giving reports of the union meetings to the local papers for publication also to forward a report of matters of interest to the general secretary for publication in THE GUIDE. A number of the members of Stainsleigh union are joining Hayter union for 1911, the latter union being more convenient to them. B. H. Tweddle was appointed delegate to represent the union at the annual convention. A fowl supper and entertainment was held at J. H. Mallough's house on December 8 for the benefit of members, prospective members and their friends. It was a grand success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

E. H. TWEDDLE, Sec'y.

Trachlin, Sask.

FOR ANNUAL CONVENTION

At the last meeting of Rocky Coulee union the following resolutions were adopted for submission at the annual convention: "Resolved that in the event of the resolution presented by Rocky Coulee union for amendment to the constitution being carried that all candidates nominated by the Independent party be pledged to support Direct Legislation." "Resolved that the provincial secretary be required to publish in the official organ a list of the names, post offices and stations of each secretary of the local unions of Alberta."

C. BLUNDEN, Sec'y.

Granum, Alta.

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