

United Farmers of Alberta

Secretaries' Convention

Conducted Officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by the Secretary

H. Higginbotham
Calgary, Alberta

It has been decided to hold the secretaries' convention this year at two points, viz., at Edmonton and Calgary, on the following dates:—Calgary, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 2 and 3; Edmonton, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 9 and 10. These dates are all during the Calgary and Edmonton summer fairs, when single fare plus one-third rates will be in effect on all railroads and a number of special trains will be run.

The Central office has worked out a plan by which a pool rate of \$5.00 has been fixed. Each secretary or accredited representative will pay \$5.00 to the transportation fund, no more or so less. In this way the cost of getting the secretaries together is evenly distributed. Also it should ensure a large attendance of delegates, as the expense for the secretaries coming from distant points will not be prohibitive. While those from the closest-in points will thus be paying a trifle more than the actual railroad fare, they will in return benefit from the attendance of the more distant secretaries as the convention would not be so valuable unless it is fairly representative.

Locals were recently asked for their views on the secretaries' convention. Nearly all the replies were favorable. Only one letter has been received expressing opposition to the secretaries' convention. This stand was taken by one of our locals on the ground that it might minimize the importance of the annual convention. In order that none of our locals might have a misunderstanding on this point, we would like to point out that there is no such likelihood. The secretaries' convention could not possibly take the place of the annual convention in any respect whatever; it merely affords the opportunity of local secretaries getting together to discuss their own problems as secretaries, and to find out from mutual discussion how to make themselves more efficient secretaries in the service of their local associations. It also gives the Central office an opportunity to get the point of view of our local secretaries in regard to service which should be rendered by the Central office.

Woodbridge Testimonial

Mr. Rice Sheppard, 4th vice-president of the U.F.A., is acting as treasurer of a fund for the recent secretary, P. P. Woodbridge, who is now farming at Gellatley, B.C. A number of locals have sent in resolutions to the head office regretting that Mr. Woodbridge's health necessitated his resignation and expressing appreciation of his long service to the U.F.A. A few of the unions have thought fit to make a more tangible expression of appreciation. The following amounts have been received:—

Strathcona Local No. 1	\$5.00
Painter Creek Local No. 296	5.00
Blackfoot Local No. 76	3.00
Vernon Local No. 309	10.00
Rocky Coulee Local No. 105	10.00
Wilkinson Local No. 635	5.00

The members of University local, at their recent meeting, instructed the secretary to write to the district director, asking him to request every local adjacent to Alasko to go to the Chautauqua on August 5. Twenty members of the local have promised to go, so if every local does as well there should be a monster U.F.A. meeting there, which would no doubt result in arousing enthusiasm, and securing new members. They are 20 miles from Alasko, but the secretary, W. G. Cowley, of Myleen, says they will be there. It was also decided at the meeting to send the secretary as a delegate to the convention of secretaries.

Hail Insurance Act

A summary of the Municipal Hail Insurance Act for Alberta appears on another page of this issue of The Guide. It is important that U.F.A. members be conversant with the terms of the act as it will be voted upon, undoubtedly, in a large number of municipalities this coming winter.

Relief Funds

Red Cross Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$7,413.35
Silver Lake No. 196	30.00
Ellsworth No. 455	50.00
Nilrem No. 741	108.50
Willow Hollow U.F.W.A.	21.00
Garden Plain No. 319	50.00
Bellecamp No. 135	42.60
Rocky Coulee No. 105	40.00
Riverton No. 339	40.75
Rockdale No. 773	120.00
Thordensfold No. 22	66.25
Ellsworth No. 455	152.71

\$8,135.16

Agricultural Relief of the Allied Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$ 5.00
Rowden No. 9	15.00
Raymond No. 47	5.00
Carmanagay Women's Institute	25.00
Verdant Valley Women's Institute	20.00

\$70.00

Belgian Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$4,402.09
Rocky Coulee No. 105	253.00

\$4,655.09

Blind Soldiers' Fund

Craigville No. 242	\$10.00
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Travellers' Aid Fund

Coutts U.F.W.A.	\$5.00
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Military Branch Y.M.C.A.

Previously acknowledged	\$2,948.07
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Serbian Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$96.50
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U.F.A. Patriotic Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$2,253.55
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Canadian Patriotic Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$1,584.75
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Polish Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$144.50
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Armenian Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$5.00
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Navy

Previously acknowledged	\$44.14
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Halifax Relief Fund

Previously acknowledged	\$85.00
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A meeting of the Dunmore local was held on May 4. The subjects under discussion were the holding of the annual picnic and a canvass for the Y.M.C.A. Military Fund. In regard to the Y.M.C.A. Military Fund, eight members were appointed to make a thorough canvass of the district and report at the next meeting. No action was taken in connection with the picnic. The secretary, G. O. Sallows, of Coleridge, remarks that their union stands a very good chance of increasing the membership this year. They have recently secured 14 new members, and hope to greatly increase this number in the June drive.

U.F.A. Briefs

The Fullview Local Union No. 778, of which Stuart Bake, of Hardisty, is secretary, had a very good attendance at their meeting on April 15. There were quite a number of ladies present, who took an interest in all the proceedings, and are now making all arrangements for a picnic in the near future.

Farmers who are desirous of obtaining boys under the Soldiers of the Soil movement should make application to A. L. Marks, Department of Agriculture, Parliament buildings, Edmonton, who is taking charge of this work.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The last two weeks of June, from June 17 to 29, have been definitely set apart for the big membership drive. It was thought better not to extend the campaign into the fore part of July, as this would conflict with the Calgary and Edmonton fairs. We hope to publish a complete schedule of the meetings arranged in The Guide of June 12.

E. H. Keith, secretary of scenic Heights Local Union No. 154, in remitting dues for 20 members, reports that the roads have been in such bad condition and the weather generally so disagreeable that they have been unable to get around and get the dues, but they expect to make their enrolment of 57 last year even better this year.

Already they have ordered and received a carload of machinery, and have put in a requisition for twine, both from the United Grain Growers. They find these co-operative purchases resulted in a big financial saving to the members.

G. A. Gant, secretary of the Caledonia local, reports that at their recent meeting binder twine, livestock shipping and a co-operative store were among the subjects discussed.

R. J. Webster, secretary of the Bellcamp local, has forwarded to the Central office \$51, being contribution from the local to the Y.M.C.A. for their work among the soldiers and sailors.

The secretary of Boxsmith local, Allan Mercer, writes: "It is a pleasure to enclose money order for \$52 in payment of 52 new members." Organization pays—ask Secretary Mercer.

Normandale local, which was recently organized, is making very satisfactory progress. The secretary, W. R. Fitzsimmons, of Normandale, says they have a real live local, which he hopes will make for itself in the future.

Julian F. Clarke, secretary of Sullivan Lake local, in a recent communication, states that they are planning to enter the membership campaign early and stay late.

At a meeting of the Wheatland local, on May 10, it was decided to affiliate with the Fairgrove local in purchasing twine. A committee was appointed to confer with Fairgrove and Caledonia U.F.A. in regard to opening a store in Selkirk.

Irma local No. 117 is preparing for the big membership drive and expect a considerable increase in their membership. The secretary F. D. Johnstone, of Irma, writes: "The big drive is on for membership. Please send me 150 membership cards." We wish them every success in their endeavor.

More new locals have been organized this year than last year. A number which had been inactive have also been revived. Keep up the good work.

Read the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association pages also. You will see some good hints there which you can apply to your own local.

Tring local held a very successful meeting on April 27. Their next meeting will take place on May 25. The newly-appointed secretary, H. W. Humphrey, of Tring, states that they have great prospect of enrolling quite a few new members and making the local quite a live one.

I. M. McCune, secretary of the Irricana local, No. 91, recently paid a visit to the Central office and reports their local is doing well. The farmers of the district are realizing the benefits derived from the U.F.A. A lumber department is now being added to their co-operative store. Up to the present time the co-operative store has been doing a very good business.

Joe Stauffer, of Olds, director for the Red Deer constituency, has been instrumental in organizing a new local at Eckville. He is very anxious to see his district thoroughly organized, and after seeding expects to devote a lot of his time to organizing locals.

Cummings local union No. 326 has recently been reorganized. A. J. Morrison has been appointed secretary, and reports that all the members are enthusiastic and taking a great interest in U.F.A. work.

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