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FARM AND DAIRY & RURAL HOME



We Welcome Practical Progressive Ideas



Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.—Lord Chatham

Vol. XXXIII.

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 26, 1914

The Recognized Exponent of Dairying in Canada

No. 13

The Farmers of Ontario are Uniting

THE farmers of Ontario have commenced to organize. At the largest and most representative meeting of the kind held in Ontario for years, and which was held in Toronto Thursday and Friday of last week, two provincial organizations were formed. These organizations are modelled on exactly the same lines as the Grain Growers' Associations and the Grain Growers' Grain Company, which have proved so wonderfully successful of late years in Western Canada. The prospects are that within two to three years 15,000 to 20,000 farmers in Ontario will be united with these two organizations in an association that will rival in strength the strongest farmers' organization in the prairie provinces.

THE FARMERS OF ONTARIO ARE UNITING

The first association organized last week will be known as The United Farmers of Ontario. Its objects are to further the interests of farmers in all branches of agriculture, by fostering mutual understanding, by promoting social intercourse and a study of economic and social questions, by the holding of debates and lectures and the dissemination of literature, by watching legislation relating to the farmers' interests and by urging through duly appointed delegates or otherwise the passing of legislation required to promote the best interests of agriculture. The study and application of principles of cooperation will be encouraged. The constitution and by-laws of this organization are published in full on page 29 of this issue.

OFFICERS ELECTED

The officers elected to have charge of the work of this association are as follows: President, E. C. Drury, B.S. A., Barrie, Simcoe County, Ont.; 1st Vice-President, G. A. Brethen, Norwood, Peterboro County, Ont.; 2nd Vice-President, R. H. Halbert Melancon, Northumberland County; Secretary, J. J. Morrison, Arthur, Northumberland County, Ont.; Directors, John Service, Warkworth, Northumberland County, Ont.; R. H. Johnson, Omeme, Victoria County, Ont.; T. H. Adams, Essex County; A. E. Vance, Lambton County; J. F. Breen, Dufferin Co., Ont.

A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

The second organization that was formed will be known as The United Farmers' Cooperative Company, Limited. A charter for this organization has been obtained under the Ontario Companies' Act. It will be a purely

business enterprise and will devote its attention entirely to the purchase and sale of articles produced and purchased by farmers with the object of assisting the farmers of Ontario to cooperate as the Eastern representative in Canada of the Grain Growers' Grain Company of Manitoba. The buying mill feeds from that company for the farmers of Ontario and importing Western products in return for the products of Ontario farms.

OFFICERS ELECTED

The following officers were elected to have charge of the affairs of the United Farmers' Company. It will be noticed that some of the officers of the company are officers also of the United Farmers of Ontario. This will ensure the two organizations working in close harmony: President, W. C. Good, B.S.A., Paris, Brant County; Vice-President, Anson Groh, Preston, Waterloo county; Secretary-treasurer, J. J. Morrison, Arthur, Wellington county; W. Gurney, Paris, Brant

County; C. F. Whittaker, Williamsburg, Dundas County; J. Z. Fraser, Burford, Brant County; John Pritchard, Gorrie, Huron County; Arthur E. Vance, Forest, Lambton County; C. F. Rath, Lansdowne, Leeds County; George Carlaw, Warkworth, Northumberland County; A. A. Powers, Orono, Durham County; James R. Anderson, Mountain View, Prince Edward County; E. C. Drury, Barrie, Simcoe County.

The fact that the officers of these two organizations are thoroughly representative of both the leading political parties, shows the non-partizan character of the organizations, and is an indication that the farmers of Ontario are beginning to drop partyism with the object of advancing farming interests in general.

GROWTH OF THE MOVEMENT

The decision to organize the farmers of Ontario on a provincial basis is indirectly an outcome of the success that has attended the farmers' organizations in Western Canada. The three farmers' associations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, with their 52,000 members, and their successful cooperative enterprises, which are handling upwards of \$100,000,000 of business a year, have accomplished so much for the farmers of Western Canada during the past few years, the feeling has spread rapidly throughout Ontario that the farmers of Ontario should be organized on a similar basis.

In December 12 representatives of farmers' associations of Western Canada waited on the Ottawa government, and later attended the meeting of the Dominion Grange in Toronto. Following the meetings in Toronto they scattered and addressed a number of meetings in both Eastern and Western Ontario. At every point they addressed largely attended meetings and urged Ontario farmers to organize. At the meetings in Toronto it was decided to try and organize the farmers of Ontario and a committee composed of Messrs. W. C. Good, Brantford, E. C. Drury, Crown Hill, H. B. Cowan, Peterboro, Henry Glendinning, Manilla, J. J. Morrison, Arthur and E. Lick, Oshawa, was appointed for that purpose. During December and January organizers were sent to visit the various granges and farmers' clubs throughout the province to see if they were ready to unite in a strong central organization. Everywhere they went from Lambton

Why Two Organizations ?

The question has been asked: "Why have the farmers of Ontario formed two organizations? Why could not one organization do the work of both, and thus greatly simplify matters?"

Two organizations have been formed because two are needed. Granges divide their work. Social and educational features are placed in charge of special committees. The purchasing and handling of supplies is assigned to another committee or special officers. When such a division of work is found advisable in the case of small, local organizations it will readily be seen that in act operations on an infinitely larger scale, it is essential that there shall be an even more distinct division of work.

The United Farmers of Ontario will be a purely educational and social organization. It will devote its attention (See the by-laws published on Page 29) to uniting the various local organizations of farmers into one strong provincial organization that will have for its object the promotion of every worthy movement for the improvement of farming conditions. For instance, it will urge on the Dominion and Provincial governments the need of legislation providing for the incorporation of Cooperative Associations. This legislation has been blocked hitherto by the organized opposition of the Retail Merchants' Association and other similar interests. It will hold an annual convention for the consideration of questions affecting the interests of farmers. Just as the Manufacturers' Association protects the interests of manufacturers, and as the Trades and Labour Congress advocates the cause of organized labour.

The United Farmers' Cooperative Company Limited will be purely commercial in character. It will devote its whole attention to the purchase and sale on the best possible terms, of articles produced or bought by farmers. In this it will cooperate closely with the various branches of The United Farmers of Ontario.

There will be a close identity of interests between the two organizations. Several of the officers of one are officers of the other. Thus they will work in harmony with each other. They will be like a man and his wife. They will be united but separated inasmuch as while working together each will be specially tended and qualified to carry on the work for which it was in-

(Continued on page 6.)