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March 16th, 1910

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

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COWLEY UNION

A most successful meeting of Cowley Union was held in February 26, when in spite of the bad weather nearly thirty of the best farmers in the district gathered together for the annual meeting. The election of officers was first proceeded with and resulted as follows:—

President, G. W. Buchanan; Vice-President, J. F. Ross; Secretary-Treasurer, J. Kemmis.

Circular No. 1 was read to the meeting, and the following resolution in regard to the pork packing plant was adopted:

"Resolved that this union approves heartily of the scheme but the members not being likely to have many hogs for shipment do not think it necessary that a canvass be made of this district."

Cowley is in the fortunate position of being next door to the best fresh pork market in Canada and the members feel that they have no reason to put their pork into a packing plant, but at the same time they realize that a good plant on the lines suggested in the northern part of the province would help to hold their fresh pork market for them.

In regard to the hail insurance question it was unanimously resolved that the union was opposed to any form of compulsory taxation for hail insurance and did not approve of any of the schemes presented.

In the matter of the coyote bounty it was resolved that this union is in favor of the bounty being paid twelve months in the year at the rate of one dollar for dogs and cubs and \$2.00 for vixens, the money to be paid from the general fund of the province.

The gopher pest was discussed and it was resolved that every owner of land poison his land for gophers at least two days in every year, the same to be done before the breeding season in the spring, and in the case of government or privately owned vacant land that the councillor be empowered to employ men to poison the land and in the case of privately owned land that the cost be recovered from the owner. The meeting took the stand that it is up to the owners and occupiers of land to destroy their own pests, whether weeds or gophers.

Two cases were then taken up and it was decided to lay the whole matter before the central executive and request every assistance that can be rendered, as it is believed that the cases are worthy of consideration. These cases refer to the usual trouble with railway companies over stock being killed on the track, and as it is possible that this is the case the Canadian Council of Agriculture is looking for in order to establish their contention in the matter of fences and cattle guards the names will be omitted for the present. The facts, in brief, are as follows: In the first case the complainant had several horses killed on the track and immediately made complaint to the agent of the company and to the general freight agent, stating his case clearly, and in the course of time received an answer from the claims agent that as the animals were running at large during the night time and gained access to the railway at a public crossing and the law prohibits animals from being at large on public highways within half a mile of the railway crossing unless they are in charge of some competent person or persons to keep them from loitering or stopping on the crossings or straying upon the railway. The information and advice is also given that persons who allow their stock to run at large during the night time, where they are in danger of gaining access to the railway at public crossings, manifest a disregard for the safety of the travelling public, not to speak of the risk of damage to the company's trains.

This case will be pushed further and it will be ascertained whether the companies have as much power as they believe they have in these matters. The second case refers to elevators and deals with the issuing of tickets and the difference in the grades, although the grain was specially binned. An action at law has been entered in this case and the central executive has been asked to watch the case in the interests of the farmers and find out just what can be done.

Cowley Union believes a good start has been made for 1910 and if these cases can be successfully settled it will give the U.F.A. such a boost that everyone in the south country will be enrolled as members in a very short time.

HILL END UNION

On February 26, E. Carswell, director for Red Deer Constituency, accompanied by Messrs. Parcells, Pye, and A. Sprakman, of Penhold, proceeded to Hill End and formed a union of the U.F.A., with E. Songhurst as president and W. H. Healy as secretary-treasurer. Mr. Carswell gave a general discussion of the work which the association is doing and the members are very enthusiastic and will be heard from in the near future. The first business meeting of the union will be held on March 14.

SPRING RIDGE UNION

The last meeting of Spring Ridge Union was well attended, over 40 visitors being present, one-third of which were ladies. After the transaction of routine business, the question of "Resolved that a married man has greater opportunities than a single man in the west" was debated and it proved very interesting, the judges finally giving their decision in favor of the affirmative.

The school teacher and two of the young men prepared a paper on "The Spring Ridge Wireless Telegram" which also made a great hit, and was appreciated so much that a committee was appointed to prepare another paper for the next regular meeting. Besides this other attractions are in course of preparation for the next meeting and the members of Spring Ridge feel that they have solved the problem of getting people to their meetings, which is, make the meetings attractive and entertaining, and have business dispatch and a certain amount of decorum in the transaction of regular business. This will help the organization and keep the good work going after the organization is effected. It was decided to support Plan No. 2 of the Hail Insurance Propositions, although the members are willing to see the rate of taxation per acre increased if it is found necessary.

ALIX UNION

The regular monthly meeting of the Alix Union was held in Todd's Hall on February 19, Col. Marryat, president, occupying the chair.

A. C. Findlater was appointed secretary-treasurer for the ensuing year and W. R. Brown a director. The rules of the Red Deer Co-operative Association were

The secretary read quotations from the supply of furman for the season and it was decided to obtain same from the T. Eaton Co., Winnipeg.

FRED. JAS. POWELL
Secretary.

PRAGUE UNION

A union of the U.F.A. was organized at Prague on February 26, with a membership of 13, the following officers being elected for the ensuing year:

President, T. Thornton; Vice-President O. P'Dwyer; Secretary-Treasurer, W. W. L. Ruzicka.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Coburg school house on March 12, at two o'clock, and the chief subject for discussion will be that of a co-operative store.

The hail insurance question was discussed and it was decided to support Resolution No. 3 as submitted to the unions.

SPRUCE GROVE UNION

The last regular meeting of Spruce Grove Union, held on February 19, was an evidence of the enthusiasm now shown by the members of the U.F.A. at every meeting.

The members present expressed their appreciation of the work done at the annual convention. The proposed agreement for signature in reference to the pork packing plant was read by the secretary and discussed, and it was unanimously agreed to accept the agreement. It was decided to arrange for the Live Stock Commissioner to visit the union and give an address on this subject, and the members will endeavor to get all the farmers in the district at the meeting.

The hail insurance proposition was discussed and the members expressed themselves in favor of Resolution No. 7, presented by Melville Union.

It was decided to request an organizer to be sent into the Wabanum and Lorraine districts to organize.

STETTLER UNION

The regular meeting of the U.F.A. was held in the town hall Saturday afternoon, Feb. 26th. The purpose of the meeting was to hear the delegate's report of the general convention which convened in Edmonton the last week in January. The meeting was a large and

President Adair suggested that each member come to the next meeting with a letter written giving his experience in the raising of hogs.

The matter of organizing a co-operative association for Stettler similar to one at Red Deer was brought up and a lengthy discussion followed. A number of animated speeches were made, all of which were heartily in favor of the movement.

Dr. Staples moved, seconded by L. Ward, that a committee of five, the president to be an ex-officio member, to confer with Red Deer and other places and get all information obtainable as to the best manner of procedure in the organization and operation of the same and that the committee meet a week before the union meets again.

The following committee was appointed: H. Coldwell, Mr. Lincoln, D. Buckingham, A. Cochrane.

Meeting adjourned to meet again the first Saturday in March.

ORGANIZATION WANTED

The following letter has been received and is a sample of the kind which is arriving all the time now:

"Kindly inform me at your earliest convenience as to the necessary numbers of members to form a branch association at Carbon. I was enrolled at Sunnyslope, 20 miles distant, which is too far, and as Carbon is my post-office and fairly well-known and frequented by many of my acquaintances I would like to start an association there.

TOFIELD UNION

The regular meeting of Tofield Union was held at Bardo school-house on February 19, there being a good attendance of members. A strong resolution was adopted demanding that the Dominion government build, own and operate the Hudson's Bay Road and all farmers were asked to write to their members of parliament and oppose giving any assistance to Mackenzie and Mann to build the road.

Another resolution was adopted protesting against any extension of time for locating South African scrip.

The hail insurance question was discussed and laid over till the next meeting of the Union, and the secretary was instructed to secure figures showing the losses sustained by hail last year, and the estimated amount of taxable land in Alberta at the present time.

Tofield Union is growing and now has a membership of 40.

JOHN KNOX UNION

On February 26, in answer to numerous requests, Mr. F. L. Langston, director for Strathcona Constituency, visited John Knox school-house for the purpose of re-organizing the union at that point. In calling the meeting to order, Mr. Peterson the chairman, read two letters from W. F. Stevens, live stock commissioner, in reference to the pork packing plant. Mr. Peterson also stated that probably the re-organization of John Knox Union, and for this purpose called Mr. Langston to the platform.

Mr. Langston after an address called for members and sixteen in all responded. The following officers were elected:—President, Alex. Cummings; Vice-President, A. Lundblad; Secretary, Otto Schoening.

It was decided to meet on the first and third Wednesday in each month and the next meeting will be held in Whare school-house, four miles north of John Knox, when it is expected that a lot more members will join.

Mr. Langston was called upon to give more particulars in regard to the pork packing project and the hail insurance question, and this latter subject will be fully discussed at the next meeting.

Haydn Newton, of Roseland Union, then addressed the meeting on the subject of the co-operative store, and answered a large number of questions on the subject.

When Subscribers wish to have the address to which their paper is being sent changed, they must always give their old address as well as the new one. The change cannot be made unless this is done.



"Making Things Hum," Milnes Farm, Claresholm, Alta.

read by the Association and the secretary was instructed to write Mr. Pearson, of Red Deer, for literature in regard to cow testing. Eleven new members joined the union at this meeting.

PRAIRIE DELL UNION

The members of Prairie Dell Union have voted in favor of Plan No. 2, as presented for discussion by Prairie Center Union, in regard to the Hail Insurance proposition. The secretary was also instructed to secure definite information as to when a member's time expired, and to order some supplies from the central office.

EDWELL UNION

Notwithstanding the severe cold there was a fair attendance of members at the monthly meeting of Edwell Union held on February 23. Considerable discussion took place on Circular No. 1 from the executive and in regard to the Hail Insurance question, and the members voted in favor of Resolution No. 8, the secretary being instructed to fill up and return the voting slip. A letter from the live stock commissioner enclosing forms of agreement re the pork packing plant was read, and it was agreed to leave this matter over until the next meeting when E. Carswell was expected to attend and address the members on the subject.

enthusiastic one, there being forty members present.

The secretary then read a communication from the Stettler Board of Trade in reference to a position for a Head Land office and a sub-custom office for Stettler. The matter was discussed by several of the members after which John Uttlev made the motion, seconded by D. Buckingham, that the President and Secretary be instructed to sign same if in their judgment they saw that it did not contain anything detrimental to the association.

The secretary then read the contract re the pork packing plant which the government requires to be signed by the farmers agreeing to furnish so many hogs to the plant each year and imposing a fine of \$2.00 for each hog not furnished according to contract. The contract was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Adair said that Capt. Warsnop, the terminal elevator man, had received a bonus of \$25,000 which had later been increased to \$50,000 from the Dominion government to advertise Alberta wheat in Mexico. He shipped a thousand tons of Alberta Red Winter wheat from Vancouver and distributed it among the Mexican millers and each one of them reported after same had been made into flour to be superior to Manitoba No. 1 Hard.