

NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The convention will be held in the Presbyterian Church, 105th Street, just off Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, January 23, 24, 25, 26, 1917. The main auditorium will be used for the men's convention and the women's section will meet in the lecture hall, back of the main auditorium, entrance from the side door of the church. The central office will have its convention headquarters in the Sunday school, over the lecture hall, to reach which you will use the side entrance and walk up the stairs. Turn in your standard certificates at the office as soon as you can. A full stock of the supplies that you are likely to need during the convention can be secured at the office.

On January 23, the first day of the convention, the women's section will meet in the main auditorium with the men to receive the opening addresses and reports submitted by the various committees of the association of which they are a part. On January 24 the women's section will meet in special convention in the lecture hall to receive the reports of their own officers, to discuss their own resolutions and to attend to such other business as they may have to transact. All announcements will be made simultaneously in both conventions; ballots for president and vice-presidents will be distributed in both conventions. The women's section will meet in their respective districts with the men for the election of directors. All resolutions sent in by locals of the women's section will first come before the women's convention and provision will be made some time during the last day or the women's section to attend the general convention in a body and submit for the consideration of the general convention such resolutions as have successfully passed thru their own convention.

Program (Subject to Change)

Tuesday morning, January 23.—At 8.30 a.m. the church will be open for the registration of delegates in the office.

10 a.m.—Official opening of the convention. Invocation. Addresses of welcome: His Honor Lieut-Governor Brett; Mayor of Edmonton; Hon. Duncan Marshall, minister of agriculture. Election of chairman. Appointment of committee on credentials. Report of the president.

Tuesday afternoon, 3 p.m.—Report on U.F.W.A. by Mrs. Parby. Address on behalf of the Military Branch, Y.M.C.A. Report of the board of directors. Resolution and discussion re rural hospital. Report of the secretary. Financial and auditor's report. Report of the legislative committee. Report of the livestock committee.

Tuesday evening, 8 p.m.—Informal reception at the University of Alberta.

Wednesday, January 24, 9.30 a.m.—Report of the financial committee. Constitutional amendments. 11.30 a.m.—Business suspended for nominations for president. 12.30 p.m.—Adjournment.

Wednesday afternoon, 2 p.m.—Further consideration of constitutional amendments and resolutions. At 3 p.m. business will be suspended for ballot for president; 5 p.m. for the nominations for vice-presidents and executive committee.

Wednesday evening. Note.—At 7 p.m. the secretary will meet local secretaries and others interested, for an informal discussion on union matters, in the lecture hall. At 8 p.m. the convention will resume business. Consideration of resolutions. Address by Sanford Evans on the Marketing of Grain.

Thursday, January 25, 9.30 a.m.—The convention will resume its session. 10 a.m.—Business suspended for ballot on vice-presidents and executive committee.

Thursday afternoon, 2 p.m.—Nominations and election of directors by districts in separate committee rooms. Details will be announced from the platform in the morning session. 3.30 p.m.—The convention will resume its session.

Thursday evening.—Annual banquet at the MacDonald Hotel. Addresses by prominent public men.

Friday morning, January 26, 9.30 a.m.—Morning, afternoon and evening sessions will be open for the business of the convention.

Program of U.F.W.A.

Tuesday, January 23.—Delegates will meet with the men in the morning and afternoon. In the evening will attend the reception at the University.

Wednesday, January 24, 9.30 a.m.—Formal opening. Doxology. Roll call.

Alberta

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

10 a.m.—Greetings from local women's organizations. 10.30 a.m.—President's address. 11 a.m.—Address. 11.45 a.m.—Secretary's report.

Wednesday afternoon, 2 p.m.—Directors' report. 3 p.m.—Address, T. E. Benson, "Co-operative Poultry Associations."

Thursday, January 25, 9.30 a.m.—Reports of local secretaries. 10.30 a.m.—Address.

Thursday afternoon, 2 p.m.—Election of provincial directors with men. 3 p.m.—Address, "Reforming our Laws." Resolutions. 4.30 p.m.—Address, Mrs. McNaughtan, "Citizenship."

Friday, January 25, 9.30 a.m.—Reports of local secretaries. 10 a.m.—Election of officers. 11 a.m.—Address, Mrs. H. E. Spencer.

Friday afternoon, 2 p.m.—Address. Resolutions. 3.30 p.m.—Address.

The Resolutions

Following this paragraph is a summary of resolutions to be submitted to the convention. Your executive have decided to depart from the usual custom of printing and sending out to you all the resolutions in full, for a number of reasons, among which may be quoted the following: (1) Nearly one hundred resolutions have been sent in this year, or practically double the usual number. (2) Many of them are exceedingly lengthy with long preambles and the expense of printing

and some other new features of recent development or that are likely to develop in the near future.

Amendments to the Constitution

1.—Seven amendments to the constitution have been submitted by unions. Two are covered in the revised draft; two will be covered in the report of the finance committee; two ask for the election of our officers on the proportional representation system of voting. One asks for the election of vice-presidents, two from that part of the province north of Red Deer and two from south of Red Deer.

Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company and The Grain Growers' Grain Company

2.—Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company and The Grain Growers' Grain Company. Two unions have submitted resolutions endorsing the principle of this movement.

Re C.N.R. Car Situation

3.—Three resolutions are to hand dealing with this situation. The central office is taking the matter up immediately in order to save time. If necessary a resolution will be submitted to the convention by the board of directors.

The Canadian Patriotic Fund

4.—Three unions have submitted resolutions condemning the present voluntary system of raising the Canadian Patriotic

to meet the wishes of these unions in drawing up the program.

Rural Hospitals

9.—A basis for constructive work in regard to rural hospitals has already been forwarded you by our directors. A resolution will be introduced asking you to endorse this basis for future work.

Provincial Matters

10.—There are twenty-one resolutions dealing with provincial law of which the following are representative.

(1) One advocates power under the Municipal Hail Insurance Act to assess at a higher rate in order to pay losses in full.

(2) Two unions advocate amendments to the Land Titles Act to remedy the existing injustice whereby a writ of execution against one party attaches against the property of all other individuals of the same name.

(3) Asks an amendment to the Master and Servants' Act, claiming unsatisfactory conditions under the present law where a laborer fails to live up to his contract.

(4) Asks for a simpler form of procedure in the collection of small debts.

(5) Asks for an order from the government delaying the issue of writs or seizure of property after judgment against a debtor has been given until the expiration of the period during which an appeal can be made to a higher court.

(6) An amendment to the Wild Lands Act modifying the cultivation requirements of that act, particularly in bush country.

(7) Asks for the establishment by legislation of a standard policy for use by all hail insurance companies.

Resolutions Affecting Dominion Legislation

11.—There are twenty resolutions affecting Dominion legislation of which the following are representative:—

(1) Asks for more stringent regulations governing the sale of seed grain.

(2) Asks for improved parcel post service in Canada which will give greater competition to the express companies and better service to the farmers.

(3) Asks for the enforcement of a reciprocal demurrage law.

(4) Asks for an increase in the fee for taking up bulls or stallions running at large, from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

(5) Asks for an amendment to the Irrigation Act regulating increase in the charge for water rental.

(6) Asks that pit cattle guards be substituted for those in use at the present time.

(7) Calls attention of the various governments concerned to the need for an outlet to the Pacific Coast for the products of the Grande Prairie and Peace River countries.

Women's Resolutions

The following resolutions have been sent in for submission to the convention of the U.F.W.A. All resolutions sent in by locals of the women's section must first be passed by the women's convention, and those adopted by that convention will then be passed on to the men's convention for their consideration. The same remarks apply to these resolutions as apply to those of the men's unions, and a number of them are already covered:—

(1) Asks for the compulsory segregation of the feeble minded and mentally deficient.

(2) Asks for rural medical inspection.

(3) Asks for Dominion wide suffrage for women and that homesteads be thrown open to women on the same conditions as men.

(4) Asks that a married woman who resides with her husband on land owned or occupied by him be given the right to vote on school and municipal affairs without having property assessed in her name.

(5) Asks that the property 'ows be changed so that the property of a husband, both personal and real estate, can only be transferred by the joint signature of husband and wife.

(6) That a Dower Law be enacted whereby the wife receives all property at the demise of her husband if there be more than one issue, otherwise that the wife and child share equally. Lacking any issue, that the wife receive all property for her life time.

The Central Office wishes you one and all a Merry Christmas and a Joyous and Prosperous New Year. We hope to see as many as possible at our Annual Convention in Edmonton, January 23, 24, 25, 26, 1917

them in full would run into hundreds of dollars. (3) A considerable number of them had much in common and composite resolutions drafted with proper care will undoubtedly meet the ideas of their authors.

The idea of sending out these resolutions is to give the unions a chance of considering them before the convention, and it is hardly likely that any union will be able to consider one hundred resolutions in the short time at their disposal, particularly if submitted in their original form. The revised constitution has also to be printed in full as it will be necessary to consider it clause by clause. The cost of paper and printing has increased considerably since last year and your executive consider it necessary to economize as far as possible in the matter of expense. We believe that the plan followed this year will not in any way interfere with the privileges which you have hitherto enjoyed, and we hope it will if anything facilitate your work in giving the resolutions a more thorough consideration. I need hardly add that the resolutions in their original form will be on file at the convention, and wherever deemed necessary by the convention will be read in full.

The Revised Constitution

Our constitution has been revised with a view to bringing it up to date. A large number of inquiries are received from time to time, particularly from new unions, asking for an interpretation of certain parts of the old constitution, and it is felt that the new constitution will eliminate a good deal of this uncertainty. The new constitution has been divided up into sections, dealing with each phase of our organization. The old constitution remains almost intact in the new draft so far as the general principles are concerned. The duties of various officers, both provincial and local, are set forth more clearly. District associations are provided for, also the women's section

Fund. The suggestions offered include taxation of land values, income tax and poll tax on all males over twenty-one years of age who are not property owners.

Agricultural Credit

5.—Three resolutions have been submitted on the agricultural credit question. The directors will recommend the uniform plan for the three prairie provinces which has been worked out by the governments of these provinces in connection with representatives of the farmers' organizations. The plan will be submitted in detail to the convention.

Mutual Fire Insurance Company

6.—The directors will recommend a plan for the organization of a mutual fire insurance company in connection with our organization.

Declaration of Principle

7.—Twelve resolutions have been submitted covering such principles as Free Trade, Nationalization of Railways, Direct Legislation, Proportional Representation, Abolition of the Patronage System, Abolition of Election Deposits, Competitive Examination for Civil Service and the Liquor Question, while two ask for a Farmers' Platform to which all candidates for political office will be pledged, and one asks for Independent Political Action. The directors will draft a platform in accordance with the decision of the Canadian Council of Agriculture already given, embodying the principles laid down in the resolutions submitted, and will ask you to vote on same as a farmers' platform to which all candidates for political office will be asked to pledge themselves, irrespective of any party affiliation.

Speeches at Convention

8.—Two requests asking for more time for consideration of resolutions are to hand and the executive have endeavored