



ALBERTA SECTION

This Section of the Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by
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Want Chilled Meat Industry

A meeting of the Edmonton Union of the United Farmers of Alberta was held in the City Hall on Saturday last, the 11th inst., and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, a communication from President Bower re his visit to R. C. to look up a market was read and discussed.

The question of binder twine was brought forward, and quotations from various firms were given into. It was however, decided to canvass the members as to their requirements and if no better price could be obtained to give Ross Bros. the business at 9 1/2 c. per pound for Plymouth Brand 350 feet.

The urgent necessity for some tangible form of assistance on the part of the Federal government towards establishing a meat export trade between the Western Provinces and Great Britain was keenly discussed and the following resolution was drafted for presentation to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, when in the city early in August.

"Whereas, the question of a steady and profitable outlet for live stock is one of the most important and vital matters for pressing consideration at the hands of the government,

And whereas, the farmers of the west are not working for posterity, but for the immediate wants of themselves and families, they will therefore of necessity be compelled to devote the bulk of their time and labor to the production of grain for export so long as the live stock industry is on the present unsatisfactory basis.

"And whereas, this country neglect of live stock will soon begin to tell a tale even in this fertile West, in impoverished soil and diminished yields, farms full of weeds, and doubtless largely abandoned.

"And whereas, the live stock industry of the country will make no headway until it is made worth the farmers' while to produce and finish more and better stock.

"And, whereas, No steadiness with regard to prices, sufficient to warrant the farmers going into the business of producing and finishing with anything approaching animation, is at all possible without a modern and continuous system of meat exporting.

"And, whereas, This country has clearly shown how admirably adapted it is for the production and finishing of all kinds of meat animals, animals, which if slaughtered, handled, transported, and placed upon the English market in a scientific and modern manner, would command a high price, and their production furnish a very paying proposition to the farmers and prove immensely beneficial to the building up and real and permanent development of agriculture throughout the whole country.

"And, whereas, With a stable and profitable market, such as the chilled meat export trade would give, thousands of meat animals would be produced and properly finished where not one is forthcoming to-day, and Canada would rapidly take her proper place as a meat producing and meat exporting country.

"And, whereas, The inauguration of this industry under government control, and established on a healthy and durable foundation, would give the necessary confidence to produce and finish, would stimulate the production of all kinds of stock, and meat exports would very speedily become one of the Dominion's most valuable assets.

"Be it resolved, That the government be urgently requested to either erect the necessary works and operate this modern and up-to-date method of exporting our meat animals, or assist in some practical way towards establishing the industry under government control, and with the interests of the producer safeguarded.

"Further, that a deputation wait upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier, when in Edmonton, and in presenting this resolution endeavor to make it clear to the Prime Minister

the real and pressing need that exists towards hastening the establishment of this much needed industry, and that representatives from as many of the local unions as possible be asked to join the deputation."

It was further resolved that Messrs. Clare, Burnell, Wilson and Candy (with power to add to their number), be appointed the deputation in conjunction with the representatives from the other unions, to present this resolution to the Prime Minister."

It was also resolved that the necessity for government ownership of terminal elevators be strongly brought to the notice of Sir Wilfrid.

FARMERS' MEETING IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA

Barons, Alta., situated between Noble and Carmangay, is not a year old till August, and yet it has its bank, hotels, stores, implement houses, livery barns, schools, churches and every other sign of active business and social life. The growth has been simply marvellous, the stubble from which last year's crop was taken is still in evidence in the gardens not cultivated, and around the newly built houses.

The farmers within a radius of many miles (one driving from Snake Lake, 60 miles distant) gathered there June 18, for a picnic under the auspices of the local union of the United Farmers of Alberta; the whole town seemed to be alive, rigs everywhere, teams tied to anything that seemed safe to hold them.

The proceedings commenced with a meeting in the public hall which seats 500 persons, and it was fairly well filled with the farmers and their families.

his profession. He should realize his great opportunities, his advantages and his responsibilities. The fact that farming was the most ancient, most honorable, most healthy and by all odds the most important calling is the reason why farmers should dignify it by fitting themselves for it and endeavoring to set it on the plane that it should occupy.

Farmers are Exploited

Mr. Tregillus said that although the farmer was the most important member of the community, no other man was exploited to the same extent. Great combines were formed to handle his products and obtain them at lowest possible prices and also to return them to him after they had been manufactured at extremely high prices—these combines making prices for both the farmers' products and the goods they sold him.

He asked if this was just, if the farmers were content to allow this state of things, and said: "It seems to me the farmers of the Barons district are determined not to submit any longer, but are organized into one of the largest unions of the province, numbering some 120 members, and are now establishing a co-operative society somewhat after the same model as the Red Deer Co-operative Society. I heartily congratulate you on your enterprise and wish you every success. You have taken up the only means of solving your difficulties and removing the obstacles that confront you. If you are faithful to your association and to each other, your difficulties, your obstacles will disappear as the dew before the morning sun.

"You will meet opposition, but all broad, right thinking men of your community will soon see that any scheme

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

PRESIDENT

JAMES BOWER - - - RED DEER

VICE-PRESIDENT

W. J. TREGILLUS - - - CALGARY

SECRETARY-TREASURER

E. J. FREAM - - - INNISFAIR

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

James Speakman, Penhold; D. W. Warner, Clover Bar; L. H. Jelliff, Spring Coulee.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

T. H. Balaam, Vegreville; George Long, Namsa; F. H. Livingston, Rossmore; E. Carswell, Penhold; J. Quincey, Barons; E. Griesbach, Gleichen; A. Von Mieleicki, Calgary.

some length on the grading of grain, in and out of the terminal elevators. He quoted the Manitoba Grain Act, which said that all grain carrying a certificate with dockage should be cleaned before being stored and that the mixing of grades was prohibited. "Notwithstanding this," said Mr. Swift, "according to C. C. Castle's report, the Empire and Port Arthur elevators had graded out of their elevators 606,884 bushels more Number 1 Northern than they had taken in." "This was Number 1 Northern wheat grown while you wait," said the speaker, and this was received with laughter.

"This is the wheat which reaches the Old Country markets and has to compete against wheat from other parts of the world. It has been proven to contain as much as 4 per cent. dockage (dirt) and the producer has to pay a penalty for this dockage which the inspector inflicts. A staff of seventy men is employed to see that the grading is done properly in the elevators, yet they see nothing wrong."

Fines of Elevators

He told of the case where the privately owned elevators were fined and said that it was tried behind closed doors. This was not right. The case had been tried on April 22, but the reports did not appear in the papers until the 27th. Publicity was dreaded by these people.

C. A. Magrath, M.P., Lethbridge, then spoke, and said he was very pleased to be present and had learned a good deal by coming. "I have been at Ottawa for some time," he said, "and am glad to get back. It is very wearying listening to so much hot air and one gets sick of it. I am doing my best to get acquainted with the requirements of this country, and how to get what is wanted. I am especially interesting myself in the post offices and the question of supplying water to certain districts. I will do my best to serve my constituents, and for Alberta, and am willing to serve them as long as they are satisfied, but am ready to step down as soon as they are not."

Mr. Lloyd was next called on to read the proposed constitution of the co-operative society to be formed, and explained it. He then showed the advantages a similar society had given its members.

Subscriptions were then solicited and a large number obtained.

The meeting was then brought to a close and the chairman invited everyone to supper, provided in the room under the hall.

Over 500 persons sat down to a splendid spread, which was provided by the local union and free to all, showing what can be done by co-operation. The waiters had aprons with "U. F. A." worked in red, and it showed up well on the white. After the supper, the people chatted and had an hour around the town. At 7.30 a dance in the public hall was provided for the young people, who came for this amusement, and many did. Another public meeting in the Methodist church was arranged and was crowded. This meeting was addressed by Mr. Barker, of Jumbo Valley; Mr. Glanbeck, of Snake Lake; Mr. Lennox, of Rocky Coulee; Mr. W. Isaacs, Keho, and others. The addresses were interspersed with recitations by members of the union and musical selections by Mrs. Quincey and Mr. Evans, on violin and piano, these being much enjoyed.

The weather was perfect and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day. Great credit is due to the various committees, who had

Pincher Creek Farmers Organize through the Influence of the United Farmers of Alberta

The farmers of Pincher Creek have organized a company known as the South Alberta Hay Growers Limited, and have elected Jno. Kemmies, president; A. Pelletier, vice-president and E. G. Ambrose, secretary-treasurer. It is the intention of all the members of this company, which now number something over 100, to sell all their hay and farm produce through their secretary-treasurer, and thereby obtain the consumer's price and cut out the profits of the middlemen. They propose to make strict grading rules and guarantee their products, and this will no doubt tend to establish a good name for themselves and the Pincher Creek district. The secretary-treasurer has instructions to take orders from the members of the company in the way of wholesale buying of lumber, coal, cement, wire, twine, machinery, etc., and they feel satisfied that they have launched a venture that will without doubt be a grand success. The by-laws of the company are now in the hands of the printer and we will publish them in full in some later issue.

The time announced for the meeting was 2 o'clock, but it was quite 2.30 before it commenced. Outside speakers were invited, and the following spoke: C. A. Magrath, M.P., of Lethbridge; W. J. Tregillus, of Calgary, vice-president of the society; T. A. Swift of the Grain Growers' Co., and C. A. Tregillus, both of Calgary. The chairman of the meeting was W. H. Snell, the president of the union who called on W. J. Tregillus to address the gathering.

Mr. Tregillus, Address

Mr. Tregillus said the magnificent meeting before him was further evidence of the great awakening among the farmers for the need of organization and co-operation. When a farmers' union could carry out such a program as has been undertaken by the farmers of Barons, what could they not accomplish. He very much appreciated being asked to pay this visit and having this opportunity of meeting such an enthusiastic, progressive and determined set of people as the inhabitants of Barons.

After speaking of the calling or profession of farming and comparing it to other callings, and showing that agriculture was the foundation, the very main-spring, the very heart beat of all industrial and commercial activity, he said any man undertaking to farm should realize this, and should aim to be equal to

that can be adopted for the benefit and well being of the farmers must benefit every other member of the community not only of this generation, but all generations to come. We want general prosperity that will benefit all humanity, not that prosperity that will make a few very rich, at the expense of the many."

Mr. Tregillus then explained the objects of the society and urged the members to be earnest individually and endeavor to be helpful in every way to that society, and said they would be furthering their own interests only in so far as they realized their responsibilities and faithfully carried them out.

How Co-operation Works

The president then called on C. A. Tregillus, who described co-operation and its workings in the countries of Europe, showing that it had been equal to every emergency and had successfully overcome every difficulty when properly applied and faithfully carried out. He was glad the farmers of Barons were determined to put it to a practical test and was sure it would be found the only solution by which the farmers could overcome their existing troubles.

Mr. T. A. Swift was the next speaker, and said he was delighted to be present and address this great gathering. "You are earnest people—this meeting is proof of it," and then this gentleman spoke at