

STREAMSTOWN RESOLUTIONS

We have the following from W. H. Tompkins, secretary of Streamstown local: "A short account of the regular meeting of the Streamstown local of the U.F.A. may be of interest to you and others outside our own local. The meeting was held at the school on February 23, when about 14 of the members were all that put in appearance. However, though small in numbers, those present were alive to their responsibilities and passed some important resolutions to be forwarded to Ottawa.

"Regarding the railroad situation, the union was strongly opposed to the proposal to take over the C.N.R. and the G.T.P. and not the C.P.R., and the secretary was instructed to send the following resolution to the premier, the minister of agriculture, and to our local member, Mr. Blair. The resolution as proposed by Mr. Savage reads as follows:—

"Whereas, under the present system and conditions of the C.N.R. and G.T.P. the farmers are unable to secure cars to ship their grain and other produce, in consequence of which the said grain and produce has often to be held from one year to another; and whereas, the farmer is thus forced to borrow money from the banks and pay unnecessary interest; and whereas, the proposed increase in the freight rates will bear unjustly on the farmers of the western province; resolved that this union request the government to take immediate steps to take over all the railroad systems of the Dominion and co-ordinate them into one national system operated by the government for the benefit of the people.

"Mention being made of the fact that the government had removed the duty from small tractors and cattle, it was resolved to send the following resolution to Ottawa: Resolved that this union commend the action of the Dominion government in removing the duty from small tractors and cattle, but at the same time this union does not consider that the government has gone far enough, and request that the government take immediate steps to place all agricultural implements and all labor saving devices on the free list. Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the premier, the minister of agriculture, and to our local member.

"A discussion taking place regarding the price of feed grain for hogs and cattle, mention was made of the fact that some of the local merchants were charging more than the prices set by the food controller, and the secretary was instructed to write to the food controller's office and get a list of the fixed prices on grain products used as feed, so that the members would be able to know exactly how much they should be charged for feed stuffs when purchasing them.

"Another question brought up was the advisability of forming a Stud Horse Society under the federal assistance plan. A committee was appointed to investigate the matter with instructions to report at the next U.F.A. meeting to be held on Saturday, March 16. The committee consists of Messrs. E. Davidson, F. Miller, B. Booth, E. Duckering and J. Smyth.

"As there is a considerable demand for barbed wire in the district this spring, it was decided to purchase a car of wire if sufficient orders could be secured, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with the Tying District Association of the U.F.A. to see if they could help in the matter. A report of the sports committee on their efforts to inaugurate a U.F.A. Baseball League brought a successful meeting to a close."

LONEBUTTE LOCAL ACTIVE

The Lonebutte local held their second meeting of this year on March 2. A good number of members were present and a number of very important questions were dealt with. The meeting was called to order by the president, W. W. Sim, and after reading the minutes of the last meeting the secretary read a price list of farm implements from the United Grain Growers.

Mr. Higginbottom then gave a report on the work of the telephone committee. The question being discussed for some time showed that most of the members

were strongly in favor of a telephone line through this district, and were ready to give their support to any measures for the building of such a line.

A report from the beef ring committee was also given, showing the possibility of organizing a beef ring in the district for the coming summer. It was then suggested that the secretary of the local should receive a salary, and without any argument or discussion it was decided to pay the secretary a salary for the able way in which he had served the local since its organization.

Another resolution, asking for the building of the branch line of the C.N.R. from Bonar to Medicine Hat was drafted, and after a very lively discussion the resolution was passed by the meeting, a copy of which was to be sent to the government, and H. C. Sim being appointed to interview Mr. Halliday, the member for this riding, in regard to the matter.

It was then suggested that something should be done by the local in the way of aiding or at least showing their appreciation for the returned soldiers of the district, and after a short discussion a committee was appointed to co-operate with the Red Cross committee in connection with such work.

Another suggestion was also made that a large entertainment hall was badly needed in the district, as the school house was too small to entertain such crowds as are sometimes gathered together there. This was also very interestingly discussed and everyone seemed to be strongly in favor of the scheme, but as it had not had time to be properly considered, the matter was left over until another meeting.

DIRECTOR FOSTER'S LETTER

To the officers and members of the U.F.A. in the Bow River constituency: We all know that the organized farmers have accomplished a lot in the past, also that there is a lot for us to accomplish in the future, and I believe before we can expect to accomplish what will be in the future imperative for our welfare, that we must greatly increase the membership of our organization. Never before in our history have organized capital, financial journals and other forces been so active in endeavoring to place our membership in a false light before the world. We are referred to as "unscrupulous profiteers," whose only thought is to make gain out of the present world conditions, and this too in face of the fact that we neither fix the prices of the things we sell nor of the things we buy. It is possible that the reason for seeking to create this false impression is so that more than our fair share of war taxes may be placed upon us.

Now gentlemen, organized as we are, not only for protection but rather for co-operation, each and everyone of us should do all in our power to increase our membership and encourage loyalty to the U.F.A. Bow River is a very large constituency and cannot possibly be covered successfully by your director. To be successfully covered several organizers must be put into the field and paid. A good organizer in a new district should easily be able to do work that would not only pay his wages and expenses, but would materially assist to finance our Central office, that is, out of the dollar that is to be sent to the Central office for each member of the local. Now at the first directors' meeting arrangements were made whereby each director was empowered to appoint organizers who will be paid, so that the organization will be extended to new fields.

This year I hope to see the membership of our association in Bow River constituency increased as it never was before. To do this I require great assistance. I require information so that I may know where the greatest assistance is required, and if you will be good enough to have the attached form

filled out and returned to me at an early date, I will endeavor to have assistance given where I believe it is most needed.

G. A. FORSTER.

Director for Bow River constituency.

TO BATTLE RIVER MEMBERS

To the U.F.A. members of the Battle River constituency: While out visiting locals the suggestion has been made to me that we should hold a convention for the Battle River constituency in Wainwright on the second Monday in July next. The point is central and has the attraction of the Buffalo Park. The purpose of the suggestion is for a reunion of our members, to further a better understanding, a more general brotherhood feeling, and to encourage our members in U.F.A. work for a fuller and more earnest organization.

Many members cannot get away to attend the provincial convention in winter, and this will give them an opportunity of meeting men from a distance who are working for the same cause. The work of the convention could be as follows:—

1. A few prominent speakers on U.F.A. work might be asked to give an address.
2. Resolutions framed for January convention next could be discussed.
3. Papers could be given on co-operative buying and consigning of livestock.
4. A general discussion for a better organization.

Nothing would be binding, as convention would not be constitutional, so any member would be welcome. If a two-thirds majority are in favor of the summer meeting, I shall be pleased to go ahead and make arrangements. As it will be an open meeting for members and the motor will be the most convenient conveyance, it is suggested that all visitors assume the responsibility of paying their own expenses and the necessary expenses of hall.

If the locals are in favor of the convention, I would ask an active man from each of the four lines of railway crossing the constituency to act as an advisory committee in arranging the program, and would advise all locals at a later date what we decide to do.

The above are merely suggestions, and I shall be glad to know if they meet with your approval. Kindly advise me at your early convenience.

HENRY E. SPENCER.

Director for Battle River constituency.

The usual monthly meeting of the Kinsella Local No. 277 was held on Saturday, March 2. A good attendance met to hear Mr. Foster of the department of agriculture give an address on "Farm Weeds." The lecture was illustrated by mounted specimens of many noxious weeds and much valuable information was given, both with regard to the identification of weeds and to the means which should be adopted first to prevent their becoming a pest, and secondly the means to adopt if unfortunately they secured a footing. Mr. Foster strongly recommended the full use of the fanning mill, and then placed next the intensive cultivation of the farm. The secretary reported 25 paid-up members on the roll.

A very successful box social was given recently by the Spruce Grove U.F.A. and Red Cross on February 22. There was a very large number in attendance, including people from Stony Plain and Edmonton. The evening opened with a short program; solos, vocal and instrumental. J. McKinley took the chair and gave a short address for the occasion and also expressed his opinion on the work of the Red Cross. After the program D. Tweedale was called upon to be auctioneer and proceeded to sell the boxes.

The proceeds of the evening amounted to \$298.53, which is to be handed in to the Red Cross.

Alberta

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