

Alberta

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta.

Supplement to Circular No. 15

Gentlemen: — The Central Office wishes each and all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. May this and succeeding years be years of continued progress. Progress in the home and on the farm. Progress in your U.F.A. Progress in your efforts to bring about the era of better farming, better business, better living through the glad spirit of co-operation.

Final Instructions for Delegates to the Convention

You have already been sent definite instructions as to your tickets and how to obtain them. Kindly make sure that you fully understand just what you have to do before you start, in order to secure free return fare, etc.

Always take the most direct route to Lethbridge, the "Convention City," from your nearest railway point. Some of our Unions in the south apparently do not understand this. The special train is only for the use of those delegates coming from north of Calgary, or those on the main line of the C.P.R. who would travel via Calgary in the ordinary way.

The Special Train will leave Calgary as soon as possible after the Edmonton train from the north arrives on Tuesday afternoon, January 20, that is to say about 4.30 p.m. The train will travel by way of Macleod, stopping at each station, if required, to pick up passengers, and is due to arrive at Lethbridge about ten o'clock that night. Special arrangements are being made for the accommodation of the delegates on this train and to ensure proper sleeping quarters for the night all delegates not having such arrangements already made should proceed at once to the offices of the Board of Trade in Galt Park just across from the station, where a strong committee will be waiting prepared to escort them to the houses ready for them. Fuller information will be provided on the train itself if possible for the guidance of all delegates.

Our committee, working with the Board of Trade, is making every effort and expects to be able to provide accommodation for all our delegates within the City of Lethbridge, in which case no sleeping cars on the railway will be chartered. The work of the committee is, however, of very little avail unless the delegates themselves will give the committee every facility to help them. We, therefore, ask all delegates to call at the Board of Trade rooms at once and state their requirements to one of the reception committee, all of whom will wear green badges.

Please remember the Special Train. We want all delegates from the north who can possibly do so to travel on this train from Calgary to Lethbridge. Remember, we have to put up a cash guarantee for this train, and we shall need every delegate we can get on it in order to save you extra expense and an unnecessarily high rate for the pooled fares.

Change of Address

Please note that we have moved from our old offices and in future kindly address all correspondence to 425-427 Lougheed Building, Calgary. Yours truly,

P. P. WOODBRIDGE, Sec.

On the evening of Dec. 16 the annual U.F.A. box social and dance of the Streamtown Union took place at the Streamtown schoolhouse, and without any doubt it was the best and most enjoyable event ever held under the U.F.A. It was thought that the proceeds of the box social and the annual U.F.A. whist drive on January 7, 1914, would be required to pay the delegates' expenses to Lethbridge, but with the usual kindness and generosity of the Ladies' Guild, who are always ready to help the U.F.A., especially on such occasions when the inner man of crusty old men and bachelors must be considered (the writer belonging to the former) everyone was more than satisfied with the spirited bidding of the young men who were fortunate

enough to be the holders of pretty decorated boxes. One could see these young gents looking for fifteen cosy corners in one large square room, which could not easily be found in a crowded house. The box social alone netted \$59.

Mesdames Tersty and Theroda, Messrs. Becht, R. McDonnell and Forseth freely gave the music on the organ and violin, which was a treat, keeping the lightfooted on the move until very late hours in the morning. During the evening the secretary acted as auctioneer and enrolled new and old members, and solicited shares in the new Alexandra Co-operative Association. Arrangements were made to organize another local at Warakom, south of the Leighton Union, the extreme east and north of the province.

The annual meeting was held on Dec. 12, when Mr. Savage and E. C. Davison were appointed delegates to the convention. The following officers were appointed for the coming year: Mr. Savage, president; G. Ives, vice-president; T. E. Law, secretary-treasurer. The directors will be appointed later.

The Lakeview Branch of the U.F.A. held its annual meeting at Lakeview on Wednesday, Dec. 10, J. R. Quinlan, president, presiding. After the usual routine business was transacted, the secretary-treasurer submitted financial and auditor's reports, which were considered satisfactory. The membership roll showed that the branch has sixty members, the largest number in its history. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: Pres. J. R. Quinlan; vice-president, F. Hogg; directors, P. Mitchell, E. Arnison, D. S. Milne, H. McKae, and E. Kelly; secretary-treasurer, D. Cameron; delegates to the annual convention at Lethbridge, P. Mitchell, E. Kelly, Geo. Hay, and D. Cameron.

Resolutions were passed to be submitted to the annual convention re a farmers' co-operative pork packing plant and also a U.F.A. co-operative store.

H. Garrison, the newly appointed secretary of Buffalo Bird Union 534, reporting on their annual meeting states that J. P. Rorabeck was re-elected as president; R. McCollum as vice-president; also four directors. The annual meeting was held on Dec. 12, and, as Mr. Garrison says, was a "grand success, and the largest attended meeting in our district and, best of all, nine new members joined, also two old ones paid up. We started the ball rolling for some co-operative buying and are sending our president, J. P. Rorabeck, to the Lethbridge convention."

H. Wilkinson, of the West Lethbridge Union, No. 197, reports: "This is my annual statement as secretary of this Union. We had thirty-three members on the roll, but only twenty-six paid up. Over the year's work we are \$12 in hand, and with this we are sending two delegates to the convention. Many others are willing to attend as visitors. We got a car of lumber by clubbing orders, saving \$4.50 on every thousand feet. We have attempted to organize a rural mail delivery so that we can take advantage of the parcel post when it comes into law. We have been trying to form a mutual benefit society or farmers' co-operative society, but have come to no actual conclusions."

Mr. Wilkinson also makes inquiries for suggestions as to starting a co-operative credit system among themselves.

Fred Bartlett, of Tinchebray, reports: "I am pleased to report that Painter Creek Union held a meeting on Dec. 6 last. I might say the only live meeting we have had since June. We have been hibernating, so to speak, but we are almost awake, and I hope we will be very much so during the coming winter. While there were not many members at the meeting they were of one mind as to making our Union a live one, and while we are small in regard to numbers, we

are some size in regard to intentions. It is the aim of this union to build a hall 20x30 ft. some time in the near future for the purpose of holding our meetings for business or pleasure, or both, and it seems easy to take when mixed."

Carbon Union No. 378 report poor attendance at their annual meeting. They, however, held their elections and arranged to send one delegate to Lethbridge. It was claimed by some of the members at the annual meeting that a paragraph had recently appeared on this page crediting Carbon Union with only twenty paid-up members for the year. The secretary cannot find that any such report was sent in and thinks that probably the report published for another union in the district was confused as referring to Carbon Union No. 378. Carbon Union No. 378 is credited on the books at Central Office as having 57 paid-up members for this year and the reports and remittances from the secretary have been very regular throughout the season.

W. L. Simmons, of Jackville, in reporting the organization of West Hope Union No. 560, of the U.F.A. writes as follows: "I enclose herewith postal note for \$5.50 being dues for 1913, for the West Hope branch of the U.F.A. which was organized last February. I have been somewhat late in reporting same as some of the members were slow in paying up. We have only eleven paid up members at present, following being the list of names: George Proudfoot, president; W. L. Simmons, secretary; J. R. Shell, James Briggs, Wm. Harder, Phil Foot, J. Banta, A. Alexander, E. M. Nattrouer, J. Havens and J. W. Simmons.

R. Coates, Secretary of the Cowley Union No. 106 recently sent in a further remittance for membership dues, bringing their total membership up to 150. This now makes the union the largest in the province, with an increase of more than 60 per cent. for last year. The union proposes to send 15 delegates to the convention.

The following is the annual report of the Horse Creek Union, No. 347, of the U.F.A. as sent in to the provincial secretary:

This event took place at 2 o'clock on Saturday last, the 20th instant, and was attended by about forty members, being the largest and most enthusiastic meeting of the kind ever participated in by all present. The last year's good work speaks for itself and shows wonderful results and a calculated saving of \$1,600 to the members as a body. Thirteen carloads of goods passed through the "347" branch, and the contents of the cars represented about \$9,000 worth of feed, coal, lamp oil and fruit.

At the beginning of the year the branch had less than thirty members. It has now 108 fully paid up and we understand is second only in size to one other which has 126 members.

D. McEachen, its most excellent and popular president, was re-elected for 1914, as were also J. Boston as vice-president and R. Whitfield as secretary-treasurer. The directors for 1914 are: Messrs. Cooper, D. Kerfoot, H. M. Lumsden, D. Shine, C. Webb and R. Whitfield.

The delegates chosen to attend the convention at Lethbridge in January, 1914, are D. McEachen, R. Whitfield and Mr. Mortimer, from Beaver Dam. There was strong opposition to sending three delegates as it costs money and we have no special proposal to put before the convention. Two would have been ample. However, the feeling of the meeting was for three so the "ayes" carried it. Mr. Whitfield in a neat speech reviewed the year's operations and was suitably recompensed for his past courteous and obliging work.

The Lake Alice Union held their annual meeting at Wright Bros. on November 29. The official report was read and approved. J. J. Murphy and A. Sangster were appointed delegates to the convention. Carl Jacobson was appointed to take the place of William Wright, former secretary, who will be away for some months. One new member was admitted. A general discussion took place in regard to buying in carload lots for distribution among the members of the local, after which the meeting adjourned.

CARL A. JACOBSON,
Sec.-Treas.

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