

OFFICERS:	
Hon. President—D. W. Warner	Edmonton
President—James Speakman	Penhold
Vice-Presidents—	
H. W. Woods	Carstairs
S. M. Dunham	Lethbridge
W. D. Trego	Edmonton
Sec. Treasurer—P. P. Woodbridge	Calgary

THE PRESIDENT ON TOUR

During the last three or four weeks I have had the pleasure of visiting a good many U.F.A. unions and discussing many interesting questions with our members. My only trouble was that I could not divide myself into a number of pieces for distribution over a good many more parts of the province. On July 5 we had a great picnic at Ponoka, on which Mr. Bullock has reported. It was an encouragement to get into contact with so live a district. On July 7, I met the members of three unions, Red Deer, Edwell and Penhold, at a picnic at Horn Hill, the largest, I think, there has been in that locality. John Carswell, mayor of Red Deer, presided. Dr. M. Clarke, M.P., and myself gave addresses, and over a thousand people seemed greatly to enjoy the various games and the music by the Red Deer band. The war showed its presence even there; among other new recruits I found our Penhold secretary, L. Oldford, who will be badly missed. From there I went along the C.P.R. east of Lacombe to Halkirk, to attend a meeting of the Cornucopia district. The attendance was very fair, considering the unfavorable weather. In the afternoon the rain drove us into the school house, and as games were impossible there was plenty of time for questions to be asked, and we had a very lively and friendly discussion. In the evening I had a three hours' drive back to Halkirk in streaming rain.

On Monday, July 19, I started for a series of meetings along the line east of Wetaskiwin, arranged by the district director, Mr. Vickery. We began at Camrose on July 20, with a large gathering of farmers and townspeople. The latter closed many of the stores, and a very large audience listened to the addresses.

July 21 I should have gone to Amisk, but our people there telegraphed postponing the meeting on account of the unfavorable weather, so I spent the great day of the prohibition vote at Camrose, going to Sedgewick in the evening. On July 22 we drove south from Sedgewick to a picnic of the Green Valley, Fairgrove, Goose Creek and Parkhill unions. The attendance was not large, but we had an interesting meeting, and I look for an increase of interest in that district. In the evening Mr. Sparrow, president of Fairgrove Union, drove us back to Sedgewick. A big thunderstorm and heavy rain drove us for shelter into his house, and it was after midnight before we reached Sedgewick. Early next morning the train carried us to Killam, and we drove from there to a picnic at Willow Hollow, where we met a good gathering of members from Willow Hollow and neighboring unions. We had some lively discussions on the political situation, direct legislation, co-operation and other interesting topics, and I drove away happy in the feeling that I had struck a very friendly and intelligent bunch.

The next step from Killam was Strome, where I arrived on Saturday morning and was driven out to Wavey Lake to the house of Mr. Lyster, the president. The weather had been showery and unsettled, still there was a good gathering. We crowded into the schoolroom for our meeting, and were soon very much at home together talking over U.F.A. topics. On Sunday we had U.F.A. service at Wavey Lake in the afternoon and at Strome in the evening. On Monday morning we got back to Camrose and drove out twenty miles north to Hay Lake, where a large picnic of unions from New Sarepta, Thordensjold, Swan Hill and other places was being held. It was a remarkable collection of nationalities, and I gave them addresses in German and English. Our last visit was to Bawlf, where we met representatives of Melville, Snyderville, Ferry Point and Likeness unions. Some differences between members there were straightened out, and I hope to see a good district association doing business there

before long. Mr. Vickery was with me, and gave addresses in all the places. I was specially pleased to see the good crops in most of the places which we visited, and if we have decent weather, wheat cutting should be possible by August 15.

JAS. SPEAKMAN

BUSINESS AND PLEASURE

F. J. Bullock, secretary of the Ponoka District Association, reports that during the six months ending June 30, they sold 5,047 hogs, for which they received \$73,595.60, and purchased six cars of lumber for \$3,665.08; one car of wire, at \$951.11, and have two cars of twine on order. Besides this they handled a large amount of formaline, but as this was bought thru a local dealer, each secretary took out and paid for what was wanted in his local, so Mr. Bullock is unable to state the exact amount handled. Flour was purchased in the same way, as this year one of the local merchants sold it at such a reasonable price that the members did not consider it necessary to buy by the carload. On July 5 a U.F.A. picnic was held on the Ponoka fair grounds. The weather was ideal, and the crowd in attendance was probably the largest ever on the grounds. The speakers were President Speakman, of the U.F.A.; Dr. Campbell, M.P., and Geo. F. Root. Mayor Durkin made the opening address. There was a good program of sports, including baseball and football games, also several races. The refreshment booth more than paid expenses.

LADY SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. M. E. Graham, secretary of Tring Local Union, No. 24, writes as follows:

You will be pleased to learn that Tring Union, No. 24, was not dead as reported. It was dormant for a time, but seems now to be quite as progressive as it was when farmers' organizations in Alberta were in their infancy and many of the locals were not yet in existence. It holds meetings every two weeks until the back work is disposed of. It has yet no permanent meeting place, but all seem to enjoy going from house to house and to appreciate the refreshments served by the various hostesses, who are all active members of the local. We have at present only seven women members, but prospects are good for quite a number of others. We have a total of twenty-eight members on the roll, and there are still some in the district who have not been able to attend, but intend doing so. The Gleichen resolution was discussed at the last meeting, and was considered sufficiently important to form the subject for a debate at our next meeting on August 7. No doubt Mr. Austin will already have reported his visit to Tring and to our annual sports, which were inaugurated by this local as early as 1909. Some of the members who worked for the success of this organization have moved to other parts of our land, and some to more distant lands. It must be gratifying to these as well as to the present members to know that so many of their efforts for the betterment of the farmers have been successful, and others that they wished to achieve are on the way.

THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION

Following are some extracts from a letter received from George Keen, honorary secretary, Co-operative Union of Canada:

"The Co-operative Union of Canada is an educational and propaganda body which seeks to co-ordinate all co-operative efforts and develop the movement, industrially and agriculturally, along common lines, looking eventually to the evolution of a co-operative commonwealth, based not upon political systems, but upon the quality of character and intelligence of the common people.

So far the societies affiliated have been co-operative stores, but we are, of course, desirous of getting into the union all kinds of genuine co-operative societies. The fact that so far the union has consisted of the store societies exclusively is no doubt in consequence of their members being better acquainted with true co-operative principles. Many of the agricultural societies are really economic organizations for industrial purposes only, and no one connected therewith has made any study of the principles of our international movement. It is of the essence of our propaganda that the social spirit should be cultivated.

"The social principles we cultivate are absolutely essential. I should imagine, to the success of your organization, altho subjects may be dealt with by you which, strictly speaking, would be outside the scope of the Co-operative Union, and, in fact, irrelevant and dangerous if undertaken by us. You have a good illustration of this in the great political strength of the Independent Labor party in Britain, and of the efficiency of the trades union movement there. The co-operative movement has given many thousands of workingmen practical business experience, knowledge of political economy, and capacity to deal with public affairs which they have, outside our own movement, used for the general public advantage along political and other lines. In many cases such subjects of public importance would be quite unsuitable for discussion inside the co-operative movement. We attach far more importance to the development by co-operative means of character and intelligence of the common people than upon any political propaganda in which they may engage. In other words, whether a man, in political life, is a Socialist, Radical, Liberal or Conservative, in the actual result achieved there will be not much substantial difference if he approaches the matter from the viewpoint of a co-operator.

"The purpose of the movement is to eliminate the element of profit and substitute that of service, so that a genuine co-operative society must either pay dividends in proportion to patronage or retain surplus profits for social uses. By surplus profits I mean the net revenue over and above a fixed and normal hiring rate for the use of money.

"In reply to your enquiry, the Canadian Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited is organized on the same basis as the English and Scottish C.W.S. It is owned by retail societies in Cape Breton, N.S., but its operations are largely on a commission basis, getting goods from manufacturers direct and distributing to the retail societies there which are in a considerable way of business."

Note.—I would like to draw your attention to the second paragraph in particular, and the latter part of it most of all. Is there not something worth pondering over in those few lines? Here is a high ideal to work for founded on good commonsense, and, better still, borne out by actual fact in countries where co-operation has passed the experimental stages.—P.P.W.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY REPORTS

The following reports have come to hand from Mrs. R. W. Barritt, Mirror, provincial secretary to the women's auxiliaries:

Mrs. J. L. Carter, secretary-treasurer, Lorraine Women's Auxiliary, writes as follows: The third meeting of our auxiliary was held July 21, at the home of Mrs. H. Sheardown. Mrs. Fleming, vice-president of the Women's Institute of Alberta, read us a splendid paper on "The Aims and Objects of a Women's Institute and How to Make it a Success." Mrs. Fleming understood that our club was a Women's Institute, so had her paper prepared for the institute work, but said as our objects were nearly the same as those of the institute, the advice set forth in her paper

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Victoria—P. S. Austin	Ranfurly
Edmonton—George Long	Names
Strathcona—H. G. Vickery	Strome
Macleod—G. W. Buchanan	Cowley
Calgary—J. A. Bishop	Beddington
Red Deer—D. Buckingham	Stettler
Medicine Hat—E. E. Sparks	Jenner

would help us in our work. The attendance was not as large as we would have wished, owing to the fact of our meeting being held on the Liquor Act polling day; the men were nearly all away to the polling place and a number of women had no means of conveying them to the meeting. We received two new members at our last meeting, making a membership of fourteen with the promise of several more.

Our next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Robertson. The subject for discussion is to be "What a child should know before going to school," the paper to be prepared by Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Bell. We are all new at this work, but all anxious to gain help and knowledge.

Mrs. Bower, of Veteran, writes as follows: A branch of the Women's Auxiliary of the U.F.A. was organized in May by Mrs. Cecil Rice Jones, and we have had three very interesting meetings already. We meet on the second Saturday of each month, as that is the date of the U.F.A. meetings. Our first two meetings were held at the homes of two of the members, but it was rather inconvenient for some to attend, so we decided to meet in Veteran, and one of the restaurants has kindly loaned us a room for a couple of hours in the afternoon.

On May 24 an old-fashioned basket picnic was held at the home of Mrs. Jas. Dowler, our president, where a large number of children and grown-ups enjoyed themselves with swings, merry-go-round, tennis, ball games and races. Supper was served in the open air and enjoyed by all.

We have now twenty-one members, and in the August meeting are going to talk over methods of canning and preserving fruits.

The officers are as follows: President, Mrs. Jas. Dowler; vice-president, Mrs. H. A. Shirriff; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. J. E. Bower; assistant secretary, Miss I. Martin; directors, Mrs. M. North, Mrs. W. R. Armstrong, Miss E. Cook and Mrs. Jas. Seby.

THE LEADING UNIONS

The following is the standing of the unions to date, July 31, 1915, compiled from dues received this year only:

No. 367, Sun Prairie, 114 members; No. 363, Veteran, 100; No. 259, Cayley, 90; No. 557, Highland, 85; No. 415, McCafferty, 78; No. 673, Empress, 76; No. 388, River Bend, 68; No. 62, Acme, 68; No. 96, Gleichen, 68; No. 188, Travers, 67; No. 104, Botha, 63; No. 569, Alix, 61; No. 106, Cowley, 60; No. 412, Champion, 60; No. 724, Dunmore, 60; No. 50, Melville, 57; No. 160, Queenstown, 57; No. 635, Twin Lakes, 57; No. 472, Pandora, 56; No. 79, Claresholm Five Mile, 51; No. 685, Pickardville, 51; No. 466, Sulphur Springs, 50; No. 513, Mere, 49; No. 674, Talbot, 49; No. 277, Kinsella, 47; No. 276, Consort, 46; No. 362, Coal-dale, 45; No. 575, Camrose, 45; No. 471, Floral, 44; No. 609, Kerriemuir, 44; No. 416, Bulwark, 43; No. 684, University, 43; No. 264, Endiang, 42; No. 348, New Bridgen, 42; No. 129, Gadsby, 41; No. 460, Horschaven, 41; No. 461, Dalemead, 41; No. 347, Horse Creek, 41; No. 689, Twin Creek, 41; No. 81, Argyle, 40; No. 161, Winona, 40; No. 459, Morrin, 40; No. 406, Laurence, 39; No. 687, Sterling, 39; No. 332, Willow Hollow, 38; No. 429, Chinook, 38; No. 105, Rocky Coulee, 37; No. 629, Dowling Lake, 36; No. 668, Bideford, 36; No. 312, Sullivan Lake, 35; No. 630, Turkey Hill, 35; No. 671, Pancras, 35; No. 11, Olds, 34; No. 400, Rumsey, 34; No. 426, Gilt Edge, 34; No. 13, Penhold, 33; No. 98, Dewberry, 33; No. 420, Sunnyvale, 33; No. 546, Hindsville, 33; No. 72, East Lynne, 32; No. 3, East Clover Bar, 31; No. 22, Thordensjold, 31; No. 149, Dalroy, 31; No. 293, New Norway, 31; No. 310, Garden Plain, 31; No. 694, Ferintosh, 31; No. 109, Wheatland Centre, 30; No. 247, Brunetta, 30; No. 484, Cluny, 30; No. 691, Duhamel, 30; No. 721, Gros Ventre, 30; No. 728, Beaver Mines, 30.