

OFFICERS:		
Honorary President:		
James Bower	Red Deer	
President:		
W. J. Trugill	Calgary	
Secretary-Treasurer:		
E. J. Fream	Calgary	
Vice-Presidents:		
First, A. Cochran, Stettler; Second, D. W. Warner, Edmonton; Third, M. E. Sly, Strathmore; Fourth, J. Quinsey, Noble.		

Official Circular No. 12, 1912

Gentlemen:—The following resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors of the United Farmers of Alberta at a meeting held at Calgary on October 29, 1912:—

"That we support the resolution adopted by the Dominion Grange of Canada at a meeting held on September 4, 1912, requesting that the question of naval assistance or defence should be submitted to a referendum of the people before governmental action is decided thereon, and that the Secretary be instructed to prepare petitions and have same circulated for signature."

The resolution adopted by the Dominion Grange was as follows:—"That whereas the Dominion Government has under consideration the matter of assisting the Mother Country in naval defence, and whereas we believe this question should be submitted to the people for consideration before final governmental action is decided upon; be it resolved that the various organizations be requested to co-operate with us in the circulating for signatures of monster petitions, requesting the Dominion Government to consult the people on this question."

In endorsing the proposal of the Dominion Grange the Board of Directors wish to point out to you this fact that we are not asking you to commit yourselves in any way by affixing your signature to the petitions. All that is asked is that the proposal for naval assistance, whatever it may be, shall be submitted to the people in the form of a referendum or plebiscite to the end that they may decide by their vote just what steps should be taken. The reason for this is that the question is a large one, the opinion of the people has not been given, and as we pride ourselves on our democratic form of government it is only right that we should have some voice in the matter. To this end we solicit your co-operation and ask you to circulate the petitions at once, and get them signed as largely as possible, and then mail them to the Right Hon. R. L. Borden, Premier of Canada, Ottawa. The petition can be sent to the Premier postage free.

We are asking you to do this so that we can place on record our belief in the principle of self-government, and in the principle of allowing the people to decide on questions of such vast importance, a principle which took many years of education and struggle to secure, and which should be used to a far greater extent than is now done.

Time is the essence of this movement as Parliament has been called to meet on November 21, and it may be expected that any announcement on this question will be made at an early date after the opening of the House.

If you are interested in this please get these petitions signed up at once, and send them on their journey.

If you require more petitions just write us and we will mail them to you at once.

Thanking you for your co-operation.
Yours very truly,

EDWARD J. FREAM,
Secretary.

Eight Mile Lake union has reorganized with Mr. G. E. Voisey, of Champion, as secretary-treasurer. All arrangements are completed to carry on an active membership campaign during the coming winter months, and Eight Mile Lake will be heard from quite often.

A letter has been received from Mr. E. Sterling Rose, of Steveston, stating that Creole Belle union has now a membership of thirty, and that the regular meetings of the union, for the winter months, will start about the latter

part of November. There is a strong demand for locals of the U.F.A. at Cravath Corners, Wainwright, Pollockville and Cessford; and an effort will be made to fill this demand at an early date.

Working Among French-Speaking Farmers

It is with a great deal of pleasure that the opportunity is taken of thanking Mr. P. X. Boileau, of Duvernay, for the assistance he is giving to the organization work of the U.F.A. Realizing that it is not possible to proceed rapidly among the French-speaking farmers for the reason that there is no literature in the French language giving the objects of the association available for distribution, Mr. Boileau is helping us by taking some of the leading articles in The Guide and translating them into French, and then making arrangements to have same printed in "Le Courrier de l'Ouest," the French paper published at Edmonton. This kind of assistance helps materially and means that the information will reach farmers who would otherwise be of necessity out of touch with the work. Many thanks, Mr. Boileau, for your kindness and co-operation.

All arrangements have been completed for the annual convention of the U.F.A., to be held in Paret Hall, Calgary, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 21, 22 and 23, 1913. This hall is a splendid one, a little bit the best that the U.F.A. have ever met in. It will hold at least 700, so there should not be much danger of overcrowding, and there is a good platform to enable the speaker to be easily heard. This is just a little hint to you, in the hope that it will stir the members up to attend the convention and pack this splendid hall to the doors.

Westcott union, No. 327, is getting ready for a hard winter's work, and will hold a rally on November 29. All arrangements are being made for a big meeting and there will be something doing pretty soon.

An enquiry has been received asking for information as to when the annual meeting for the election of officers of a local union should be held. This union was organized in February last, and was undecided as to whether the annual meeting should be held in December or February. Section 23 of the constitution gives the necessary information, and there can be no mistake about the time of the meeting, the first part of the section reading: "Each union shall hold an annual meeting during the month of December, etc., etc."

The farmers of St. Kilda's District are taking quite an interest in their union, Deer Creek, No. 411, and it is progressing as well as could be expected. We hope in the course of a few months to have at least 75 per cent. of the farmers surrounding here members of the U.F.A. We want to get all the information possible on the work of the association, the benefits to be derived and how best to proceed with our work, and are looking for pointers from our friends in every district.

GEO. H. INGLE, Sec'y.
St. Kilda, Alta.

Mewassin union will try to induce the G.T.P. to erect stock yards at Mewassin, to fix the crossing at that point and to take the gates off the main roadway to Duffield Station, and a report on progress will be made later.

R. P. SHAW, Sec'y.
Mewassin, Alta.

At the last meeting of Bigstone union the question of the price of coal at the pit month was taken up, and after explanations had been given it was decided that the price as charged was

satisfactory. It was resolved that during the winter months we would meet in the day time and that the meeting day should be Thursday, this being the mail day in our district. Mr. Wm. Suggerson gave us an interesting talk on the breeding and keeping of hogs, which was greatly appreciated, and Mr. Suggerson had to answer quite a lot of questions pertaining to this subject.

A. A. DUNKLY, Sec'y.
Bigstone, Alta.

Want Parcel Post System

The semi-monthly meeting of the Lake View branch of the U.F.A. was held at Lake View on Saturday, October 26, 1912. The attendance was fair. A carload of flour was ordered from the Robin Hood Mills Co., Ltd., under special brand; brand to be named "U.F.A. Special."

The following resolution re a parcel post system was unanimously adopted: "Whereas the rates charged by the express companies operating in the Dominion are exorbitant, causing a needless hardship on settlers in rural districts especially, and whereas practically all nations worthy of the name have a parcel post system, be it resolved that we the members of the Lake View branch of the U.F.A. urgently request that the Dominion Government enact legislation at the coming session of Parliament, whereby this nation in this matter may be at least brought abreast of the times with semi-civilized nations, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Clark, M.P., for the constituency, and also to the Central office."

Binder Twine for all Alberta

"In view of the fact that for the last two successive seasons members of our organization have been put to considerable inconvenience and extra expense in securing their supply of binder twine; be it resolved that this union endorse the Aldersyde union resolutions re twine, viz., that all the unions in the province make an estimate of their requirements for binder twine for 1913, estimate to be in the hands of the executive by New Year, contract to be let to a factory with special safeguards for its due fulfilling that this twine be brought into the province in train loads, and distributed to the various branches as per estimate furnished."

DONALD CAMERON,
Sec'y Lake View Union.

The meeting of Strathmore union was held on November 9. President Sorensen was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of farmers. A paper was read from the general secretary with regard to the naval proposition of the government, asking that a petition be signed requesting the government to refer the matter to a general vote of the people. The petition was left in the hands of the secretary for the purpose of obtaining signatures. The question of the loading platform was again brought up and the secretary was instructed to write to the commissioners stating the condition of the present platform and asking them to take steps to have the matter attended to at once. The question of the rural free delivery of mail was left over until the next meeting, pending the arrival of further particulars. The question of the annual meeting of the local branch was discussed and it was decided to hold same on Saturday, December 28, the secretary receiving instructions to notify all members and request their attendance. Mr. J. W. Mercer was appointed auditor. A few remarks were made on R. B. Bennett's proposal of a government owned railroad, and several matters relating to the irrigation question were discussed.

The members of Sunprairie union had a little trouble recently over a carload of posts ordered by them. It appears

District Directors:	
Victoria—F. S. Austin, Nanbury; Edmonton—George Bevington, Spruce Grove; Strathcona—J. R. Polster, Strone; Red Deer—E. Carswell, Pashold; Calgary—H. Sorensen, Strathmore; Macleod—G. W. Buchanan, Cowley; Medicine Hat, W. R. Henry, Bow Island.	

that the secretary wrote asking if posts could be delivered at Nanton in carload lots, at a stated price and when delivery could be made. The owner of the posts mistook the letter of enquiry for an order and immediately consigned a carload, as the price mentioned was satisfactory to him. On arrival of the car at Nanton, although it was unexpected, arrangements were being made for unloading same when it was discovered that the posts were apparently of poor quality. The result was that instead of unloading the car was refused. The owner of the posts was on hand in a few days and the matter was then fully gone into, with the result that a satisfactory settlement was arrived at, satisfactory not only to the shipper but to the consignee as well, as the posts were found to be of good quality after the few top layers were removed, and it appears that these must have got on to the top of the car in error. The farmers are now well satisfied with their bargains as by means of this co-operative buying they have been able to make a considerable saving in the price of their fence posts.

Moverton union holds its meeting at the Moverton schoolhouse, on section 28-47-3-4, and its membership is drawn from the adjoining districts. There has been no meeting since the summer picnic, the farmers having been too busy with their haying, harvesting and fall work, but as the ground is now frozen it will not be long before there is something doing.

Our union met on November 2, and through the influence of Mr. T. L. Swift added eight new members. Mr. Swift is a very able and interesting speaker, and his visit was enjoyed by everyone present.

CLYDE SMITH, Sec'y.
Sounding Creek, Alta.

Local union No. 408 met on November 4, with a good attendance of members. The first thing taken up was the matter of securing a continuous telephone service in our district. A petition in favor of same was signed by the majority of our members. Monthly circular No. 7 was then taken up and read, and a resolution was passed favoring the Stettler resolution on the taxation of farm lands in city limits. Another motion supporting Sunprairie resolution re drawing of machinery notes to come due on May 1 instead of November 1, was unanimously adopted. The circular dealing with loans on farm lands in Australia was read but discussion and action thereon was held over till the next meeting.

W. TWEDDLE, Sec'y.
Leduc, Alta.

Hillsdown union have resumed their monthly meetings. At the last meeting the secretary was instructed to write the postmaster-general about the parcels post, and the members for the Dominion House, with reference to the removal of the duty on gasoline, also to the provincial member concerning a uniform machine contract. All three have given a favorable reply and the provincial member wants a copy of the machine contract desired.

J. H. MITCHELL, Sec'y.
Pine Lake, Alta.

Uneeda union is looking forward to an interesting time on Saturday evening, November 30, when Mr. F. S. Austin is billed to address the members on matters of interest to the U.F.A.

JOHN CLARK, Sec'y.
McDonaldville, Alta.

Gwynne union is getting down to work for the fall months, and as a start sends in a report for thirteen more members.

A. P. MOAN, Sec'y.
Gwynne, Alta.