

# Alberta Farmers' Elevators

Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Company Completes Organization.  
Forty-Six Elevators Under Construction

The first annual meeting of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company was held at Calgary on Tuesday, August 19. Upwards of 100 delegates, representing 46 locals, were present and all were enthusiastic over the splendid start which the company has made and the bright prospects for the future.

W. J. Tregillus, president of the provisional board of directors, occupied the chair and in his opening address spoke of the meeting as one which marked the beginning of a new era, the ushering in of a new movement, which, he believed, would be made more powerful and influential than all the economic forces which were arrayed against the farming community. Their company was based upon unselfish, equitable co-operation, but these principles must be applied in their fullest, broadest and truest form and supported faithfully and unswervingly by every one of them if they were to reap the full measure of success.

## Truly Co-operative

They were incorporated on true co-operative principles—one man, one vote, and the division of profits, after paying interest and expenses, according to the amount of business done by each patron—and if they were faithful to their company he was confident that they had before them success beyond anything the most sanguine had vision enough to realize. Briefly summarizing the history of the movement, Mr. Tregillus said that for years the U.F.A. had been trying to get a workable scheme which would help them in marketing their grain. An elevator committee had been appointed yearly, and at each convention had rendered its report, and at last when they hardly expected it the time had come when their hopes were realized and their efforts rewarded. This indeed was a proud day for many of them, a day brimful of hope and optimism. The act under which the company was incorporated had been criticized and he supposed it would be impossible to avoid some criticism, but the act, nevertheless, was a good one. They would have secured some alterations if they could, but it was difficult to get all that they wanted. The fundamental principles, however, were right, and if the company did not make the fullest success of it the onus would be upon themselves. Organization work had been prosecuted with vigor and 46 locals were

completed, each of which would have an elevator in the near future. These were well distributed over the province and he could assure them were the result of much work. All of the directors had been busy and had put their hearts into the scheme because they were interested in it and believed in it and the company had received the best services that could be given, services that could not be purchased because the desire to serve was more than the value of money. The success of the organization work was mainly due, however, to the work done by Mr. Fream, who, with his staff, had done all the office work connected with the organization of the company, which had been very heavy. Their organizers had also done excellent work. They had every reason to congratulate themselves upon the auspicious start they were making that day and he believed that when they met again next year they would

have to report an even greater measure of success.

## Directors' Report

The chairman's report having been accepted, the report of the provisional board of directors was read as follows:—Your provisional board of directors met on April 25 last and appointed temporary officers to carry on the work of the company, as follows:—President, W. J. Tregillus; vice-president, E. Carswell; secretary-treasurer, E. J. Fream.

As soon as it was possible to get supplies printed an energetic organization campaign was undertaken, and several men were engaged to carry on the work. It was found, however, that at the start the work did not proceed very quickly, many holding back with the fear that the project would not succeed. For this reason it was well on into July before the necessary 20 locals were organized, and the delegates appointed, but by that time the work was so far advanced in other districts that it was deemed advisable to hold off the organization meeting for a little longer for the reason that it seemed to be unfair to allow so many who were



THE ALBERTA FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE ELEVATOR CO. BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Seated (from left to right): E. Carswell, Member of the Executive; W. J. Tregillus, President; J. Quinsey, Vice-President; E. J. Fream, Secretary-Treasurer.  
Standing (from left to right): P. S. Austin, J. G. McKay, Provost; C. Rice Jones, Veteran; R. A. Parker, Winnifred; and Rice Sheppard, South Edmonton.

almost organized to be held over for another year.

The result is that instead of having only the 20 locals called for under the act, we have pleasure in being able to announce that 46 locals are now completed, at least 134 shares of a par value of \$60.00 each, or \$8,040, having been subscribed at each point.

The completed locals of the company which are represented at this, the first general meeting, and the information regarding them, are as follows:—

## A. R. & I. Co. Lines

	Share-holders	Shares	Value
1—Coultts	125	141	\$8450.00
2—Milk River	125	145	\$8700.00
3—Warner	91	143	\$8580.00

## Crows Nest Line, C.P.R.

4—Fincaisle	55	137	\$8220.00
5—Purple Springs	77	137	\$8220.00
6—Grassy Lake	90	137	\$8220.00

	Share-holders	Shares	Value
7—Burdett	85	138	\$8280.00
8—Bow Island	93	140	\$8400.00
9—Winnifred	120	145	\$8700.00
10—Whitla	108	139	\$8340.00

## Lethbridge-Weyburn Line, C.P.R.

11—Foremost	100	134	\$8040.00
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## Suffield Branch, C.P.R.

12—Retlaw	108	134	\$8040.00
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## Lethbridge-Calgary Branch, C.P.R.

13—Barons	109	134	\$8040.00
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14—Carmangay	98	136	\$8160.00
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15—Champion	160	216	\$12960.00
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16—Vulcan	118	135	\$8100.00
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## Macleod-Calgary Branch, C.P.R.

17—Macleod taking over farmers' elevator			\$10000.00
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18—Granum	100	134	\$8040.00
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19—Clareholm	106	169	\$10140.00
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20—Stavely	85	134	\$8040.00
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## Main Line, C.P.R.

21—Suffield	124	144	\$8640.00
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22—Carlstadt	109	153	\$9180.00
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23—Gleichen	52	134	\$8040.00
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24—Langdon	60	135	\$8100.00
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## Acme Branch, C.P.R.

25—Acme	78	134	\$8040.00
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## Lacombe Branch, C.P.R.

26—Stettler	85	150	\$9000.00
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27—Federal		134	\$8040.00
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28—Consort		134	\$8040.00
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29—Veteran		134	\$8040.00
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30—Loyalist		142	\$8520.00
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## Wetaskiwin Branch, C.P.R.

31—Provost	93	136	\$8160.00
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32—Czar	120	134	\$8040.00
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33—Hayter	104	134	\$8040.00
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## Main Line, C.N.R.

34—Blackfoot	87	135	\$8100.00
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35—Kitscoty	132	135	\$8220.00
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36—Minburn	67	142	\$8520.00
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37—Ranfurly	68	136	\$8160.00
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## Calgary Branch, C.N.R.

38—Red Willow	84	134	\$8040.00
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## Goose Lake Branch, C.N.R.

39—Chinook	133	157	\$9420.00
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40—Stammore	133	150	\$9000.00
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41—Craigmyle	137	150	\$9000.00
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	Share-holders	Shares	Value
42—Chauvin	98	139	\$8340.00
43—Viking	161	179	\$10740.00
44—Holden	100	134	\$8040.00

## Calgary Branch G.T.P.

45—Swalwell	118	148	\$8880.00
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46—Beiseker	63	135	\$8100.00
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Besides this negotiations are being carried on for taking over some farmers' companies.

To enable your board to carry out the preliminary organization work the Alberta government made a special grant of \$5000 and this has assisted materially in carrying out the work, which has proceeded, after the first six weeks, with great rapidity in all parts of the province, and the result is as above shown, when representatives are present from Coultts on the international boundary in the south to Blackfoot the most easterly station in Alberta on the Canadian Northern Railway.

## Organization Work

To carry on the organization work your board deemed it advisable to engage several organizers, among them being Messrs. Quinsey, Buckingham, Rawlins and Austin, who are officers of the United Farmers of Alberta, and Messrs. Peck, Buchanan, Trickett, McKay and Lennox, and all these gentlemen have done splendid work in their respective districts, and much of the success of the organization up to the present can be traced to the splendid manner with which they have undertaken the work which was entrusted to them. All shareholders have been allotted the amount of stock subscribed for by them respectively and arrangements are being made for the issuing of the allotment certificates and receipts for first payments at once, just as soon as they are signed up by the permanent officers of your company. It is gratifying indeed to be able to state that this company has now over 3,500 shareholders, and that the subscribed capital now amounts to over \$360,000. This, of course, places the company in the front rank right at the start, and with the large number of shareholders at every point where a local has been organized the company should be in good shape to transact business for its members. No doubt what made the work considerably harder at the start was the backward spring we experienced and the long spell of dry weather, which made, for a time, many farmers feel doubtful as to the crop prospects for this year, and then when the change did come conditions altered at such a rapid rate that reports tend to show that the crops are further advanced than usual at this time of the year, and on this account it is now known that many of the delegates here today are in attendance at considerable inconvenience to themselves. Your board feel, however, that it is better for the company as a whole to have the larger representation at this meeting and hope that the work of the past few months will be only the forerunner of several years of successful and progressive organization work by the company, so that all parts of the province will be covered by a chain of elevators and warehouses owned by the farmers themselves, and that the

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