

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

OFFICIAL CIRCULAR NO. 8

Ladies and Gentlemen: I am enclosing herewith a sample copy of the official organ of the Co-operative Union of Canada, Brantford, Ont., known as the "Canadian Co-operator," published monthly at 50 cents per annum, subscriptions for which should be sent to the Honorary General Secretary, Co-operative Union of Canada, Brantford, Ont. I am in hopes that the circulation of this valuable little magazine will be pushed among our various unions; as it contains much information of a useful character. I am in hopes also that some of the matters dealt with in this magazine will form the subject for discussion and debate among our unions, particularly in the coming winter. I would refer you to my article on this magazine in the Alberta section of the Grain Growers' Guide, dated May 19, 1915.

Grain Growers' Guide

The opinion of our unions appears to be practically unanimous that we should make a more general use of the Alberta section of The Guide for conveying information to our unions and that only such circulars should be sent out as the Central Office may deem necessary. It will certainly be very much more economical and there is no reason at all why it should not be just as effective or even more so. So far as we are concerned, such a plan will enable us to deal far more fully with various matters than we could possibly do thru a typewritten circular, as the cost of printing this information in The Guide will be very much less. It will be possible for me to publish articles in the Alberta section of The Guide and draw them to your attention by means of a short paragraph as I have done in the one above, by merely quoting the date of the issue in which the article appeared.

Quarterly Report Forms

I enclose herewith copies of the new quarterly report form for our local unions. Our constitution calls for the quarterly return of membership dues from local unions, and while we appreciate that at all times and under all circumstances it is not possible to do this, we would like to see our unions adopting this plan as far as it can be done in reason. These quarterly report forms have, therefore, been prepared and will, I think, reduce the work of our local secretaries to a minimum as well as helping this office. The various items for which cash may be remitted are printed so that there will be nothing for the secretary to do except to fill in the number and the amounts, and the last page is left blank for a few general remarks. We hope that all of our unions will find time to fill in this last page, giving a brief account of the condition of their union and its progress or otherwise. We would be glad to receive a more detailed report from such of our secretaries as can find time to make same out. If any of our secretaries desire to use these forms as a monthly report form, we have no objection whatsoever and additional copies of the form can be secured on application.

Crop Reports

Acting in conjunction with this office, the Grain Growers' Guide has sent out a circular letter and form for securing crop reports, and we are relying on the secretaries of the organizations in the three Western Provinces to fill these forms out and return the information to the office of The Guide on the date requested. There is no doubt that the crop reports published from time to time by financial and other interests are largely framed to suit themselves and we probably do not even yet realize the effect which such reports have on the prices which we receive for our grain. The idea of securing reliable reports thru our local secretaries is not a new one, but this is the first time any serious attempt has been made to carry it out. I hope that every one of our secretaries will do his best to help us in this matter and that every one of our members will help to make the returns as accurate as possible.

Yours fraternally,

P. P. WOODBRIDGE,
Prov. Sec.

PROHIBITION VOTE OF JULY 21

I wish to recall to the remembrance of all our unions the following resolution passed in our annual convention two years ago:

"Whereas the present crisis in the struggle for the prohibition of the liquor traffic in the Province of Alberta is of intense interest and vital importance to the people of the rural districts:

"Be it resolved that the convention place itself on record in supporting unreservedly the principle of prohibition of the liquor traffic."

When your delegates in our last annual convention honored me by making me your president, I called your attention to the above resolution and to the fact that we would have the chance of showing on July 21, when the vote on the Prohibition Bill will be taken, whether we were in earnest in supporting the principle of prohibition. I asked you then whether you still held by that resolution. Enthusiastically you answered "Yes." I then called upon the convention to use all the power of our Associations, thru all the local unions to secure as large a vote as possible in favor of prohibition on July 21, and you heartily endorsed my words. Don't spare any effort. Don't lose one vote. Don't be neutral. Take the time to vote and to persuade others to vote. Don't say, there will be a majority anyway, my vote won't be needed. Over confidence is the only enemy that can defeat us. The prohibition bill, so far as I can judge, goes as far in prohibition as our provincial powers allow. I am glad to see that our Women's Auxiliaries are getting so earnestly into the work, altho they have no vote yet. The men who have votes will surely not fail to use them to promote this great reform.

Yours fraternally,

JAS. SPEAKMAN, Pres.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Following are the official minutes of an executive meeting of the United Farmers of Alberta, held in the Loughheed Building, Calgary, on Thursday, May 13, 1915:

The president called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Present: President, Jas. Speakman; vice-presidents, H. W. Wood, S. S. Dunham and Rice Sheppard; secretary, P. P. Woodbridge.

The minutes of the executive meeting of February 24 and 25 were read and approved on motion of Messrs. Sheppard and Wood. The minutes of the directors meeting of March 10 were received as read.

H. W. Wood reported re the trouble which had arisen in regard to the U.F.A. Hall at Heath. The following resolution was passed: That the secretary be instructed to keep in touch with the union, and that in conjunction with the president he be authorized to take whatever action may be found necessary.

The financial report was distributed and read.

The organization report was distributed and read. Discussion took place on same.

Resolution: That the president and secretary be authorized to secure such legal advice as may be necessary as to the best way to provide for the incorporation of the Association and that a report of same be submitted to the next meeting of the board of directors. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12.45 p.m. to meet again at 2 p.m.

Afternoon Session

The president called the meeting to order at 2.30 p.m.

Resolutions: That the financial report be adopted as read. Carried.

That the organization report be received as read, published in The Guide and a similar report prepared for the next meeting of the board of directors. Carried.

The president gave a report on behalf of the committee appointed in connection with the agreement of the elevator company. Resolution: That the report of the committee be received and filed. Carried.

Re disposal of relief funds, the following resolutions were carried:

That the sum standing to the credit

of the Belgian Relief Fund be turned over to the provincial headquarters with instructions that same be forwarded to the special committee in charge of distribution in cash instead of goods. Carried.

That the sum standing to the credit of the Red Cross Relief Fund and the Canadian Patriotic Fund be turned over to the provincial headquarters of the respective societies. Carried.

That the secretary be instructed to immediately forward \$600 of the U.F.A. Patriotic Fund to the British authorities, and that any further donations received be forwarded from time to time in sums of \$500. Carried.

Re change of office, it was resolved: That the president and secretary be authorized to secure new offices, 432-434 Loughheed Building, on terms as outlined to the meeting and that they be given the necessary authority to secure such furniture as may be required for same.

A letter re the attitude of the Association in the next federal election was read by the secretary.

Resolution: Whereas the resolution of the Gleichen Union submitted to all our unions calls for the nomination of political candidates;

Whereas we have letters from a number of members asking what action they ought to take in the next elections; and

Whereas the executive has no authority to decide this question:

(1). Be it resolved that the Central office shall group the unions in the new federal constituencies.

(2). Send a circular to all our unions informing them of what is their new federal constituency and asking them to appoint delegates and form a district convention for the area of their federal constituency according to section 12 of the constitution for the purpose of considering what political action they desire to take.

The conventions to be called by the Central office after receipt of notice from the unions that delegates are appointed. Carried.

Resolved: That the president and secretary be authorized to draw up a circular for the unions in regard to the above resolution, same to be published in The Grain Growers' Guide. Carried.

Correspondence with Winona Union, No. 161, re Temperance Essay, was read.

Resolved: That the president and secretary be authorized to insert a notice in The Guide offering a gold and a silver medal to be competed for by the winners in local unions contests, provided not less than ten unions competed; the competition to be based as far as possible on the terms of the Winona competition, and the Central office to arrange such further details as might be found necessary. Carried.

On motion of Messrs. Wood and Dunham the secretary was instructed to summarize the new fireguard regulations for publication in The Guide.

The president reported his work in connection with the application of the Edmonton Board of Trade to the Railway Commission for new freight classifications.

Resolved: That this board heartily approve of the president's work in this matter. Carried.

An outline re proposed new regulations in the matter of grazing leases was briefly reviewed and the secretary instructed to send copies to all the directors.

The meeting adjourned at 6.50 p.m. to meet again at 8 p.m.

Evening Session

The president called the meeting to order shortly after 8 p.m.

Re new Brand Act regulations, it was resolved that the secretary be instructed to write to the Stockbreeders' Association, asking for an outline of their reasons for having opposed these new regulations, also to the recorder of brands for reasons as to why the changes had been made. Carried.

Re resolution from Brunetta Union asking for well drilling in districts where settlers could not get water, the president reported his correspondence with the Dominion and the Provincial Governments on the matter and Mr. Dunham promised to secure information from the

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

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

Lethbridge Board of Trade, who had already had considerable correspondence in this matter, this information to be forwarded to the Central office.

The resolution from Custer Union was referred to the board of directors' meeting.

In arranging for the next directors' meeting it was resolved: That the half-yearly meeting of the board of directors be called for Thursday, June 17, 1915, commencing at 10 a.m. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

A PROVINCIAL CONTEST

Some time ago we published a note describing the plan of the Winona Union of a prize oration contest on the prohibition question. The idea was that the young people connected with the union should write papers or deliver addresses on the question of the prohibition vote on July 21 next. Winona Union thought that this would stimulate interest in the prohibition fight and perhaps help in the vote. The union thought that a similar plan might be adopted by other unions, and so to some extent a provincial contest might be organized, and we published the Winona suggestion in The Guide for this purpose. We have not yet heard from any other union in the matter, but to encourage the plan, the executive has just resolved to offer a gold and a silver medal as prizes, to be competed for by the winners in the local contests, if at least ten unions enter into the contest. The local winners would have to send their "orations" as essays to the Central Office.

TONGUE CREEK NEWS

We are just in receipt of \$7.00 membership dues from Tongue Creek Union, No. 322. The secretary reports an increase in the membership of the union. At the last meeting there was a very good attendance and an election of officers took place, J. McIntyre being elected President; Joe Hesaman, Vice-president and W. A. Lind, Secretary-Treasurer. A committee was appointed to prepare a program for the next meeting, at which some topics on farming will be dealt with for a short time, and the ladies have also been asked to contribute papers on their line of work. Each member of this union has been asked to try and secure another member and it is hoped that there will be a large increase in the membership in the near future. The members also hope that their union will prove a benefit to the community both socially and financially. The secretary states that he thinks The Guide an excellent medium for the publishing of our circulars, as every member should be a reader of that paper.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$2,417.40
Gough Lake Union, No. 465	25.00
Kitcoy Union, No. 436	60.00
Climax Union, No. 451	3.75
Total	\$2,506.15

U. F. A. PATRIOTIC FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$ 618.95
Walter Simpson, Leduc	5.00
W. H. Shield, McLeod	1.00
Sterling Union, No. 687	22.50
Buttes Union, No. 666	100.05
Roseview Union, No. 63	20.00
Sharrow Union, No. 612	2.70
J. H. Garbutt, Nanton	25.00
Total	\$ 795.20

RED CROSS FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$ 325.05
-------------------------	-----------

PATRIOTIC FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$ 149.95
-------------------------	-----------

Mrs. N. N. Hayes, of Gleichen, has called our attention to an error which was made when contributions were acknowledged in the issue of May 5. The amount which we stated was received from her was really donated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and was forwarded by them thru Mrs. Hayes.