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This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

EGG MARKETING SERVICE

The following extracts are from the bulletin re the marketing of eggs referred to at our secretaries' convention:

A farmers' Egg Marketing Service has been organized and is now in operation, and offers its services to all farmers in the province of Alberta, under special arrangements made through recognized agricultural organizations. This Egg Marketing Service has established a central Candling Station at 348-11th Avenue West, Calgary. Until the farmers themselves are able to take direct charge of the management of this service, the work will be supervised by officers of the poultry divisions of the two departments of agriculture (Dominion and provincial). At this service station, shipments of eggs from any farmers' association will be received, candled, graded and marketed and the selling price, less operating charges, returned promptly to the shipping associations.

Briefly, the objects of this Egg Marketing Service are as follows:

(a) To provide the farmers of the province, including those in the most outlying districts, with the best possible marketing facilities.

(b) To provide for the efficient candling and grading of the product, which process is everywhere recognized as being an absolutely essential part of the preparation of this produce for market, if the highest prices are to be realized;

(c) To make it possible for the individual farmer to receive a price in proportion to the actual quality of his product;

(d) To ascertain through the examination of the eggs received what farmers are not following completely efficient methods, so as to be able intelligently to advise them and help them to produce of high grade product exclusively;

(e) To stimulate a greater production of poultry and eggs for the benefit of the farmers themselves, as well as for war purposes, believing that this can be accomplished most effectively by providing the farmers with better marketing facilities, such as the Egg Marketing Service will supply, by assembling the farmers' eggs at this service station and under government inspection, grading them properly before selling, and by giving the farmer the actual returns his product brings when sold, returning to him not one flat price for all eggs as formerly, but two prices, each amount worked out on a basis of the quantity of each of the two grades which he has supplied;

To eliminate the tremendous unnecessary loss which the industry now sustains as a consequence of following the present inefficient system of marketing, and to develop an unequalled reputation for Alberta eggs. Practical experience both in Europe and Eastern Canada clearly indicates that this improvement can be brought about most effectively by the adoption of the cooperative system of selling and the establishment of the system of quality payment in making returns to individual producers, both of which are provided for in the Egg Marketing Service.

Local Shipping Arrangements

Any farmers' organization, whether U.F.A., U.F.W.A., Women's Institute, Agricultural Society, Egg Marketing Association or Poultry Association, will have the privilege of making shipments of eggs to the Egg Marketing Service.

In the case of shipments being made by farmers' organizations, other than specially organized Egg Marketing Associations, it is suggested that the shipping arrangements be made and the work supervised by the executive of the organization or a specially appointed egg marketing committee.

The executive of committee in charge should first arrange for one or more collecting depots at the community centre or at the point of shipment, and make the necessary provision for the equitable distribution of the proceeds received from the marketing of the eggs.

In this connection it is suggested that the inclusion in this arrangement of the storekeepers who have been handling

the farmers' eggs up to this time would result in the more rapid expansion of the movement and make unnecessary any reorganization of present trade channels.

It is therefore suggested that the committee interview the storekeepers in the village or town, discuss the matter with them, and if possible obtain their support and co-operation, and have them appointed as local shippers for the association.

Under this arrangement it is suggested that each storekeeper be allowed one cent per dozen, or 30 cents per case, for his work, and that so long as eggs are received in any considerable quantities, separate shipments be made to the Egg Marketing Service Station, but when production falls off and the quantities are small, the several lots be assembled and sent in one consignment.

Local shippers should make it a point to send the eggs to the candling station as soon as sufficient have accumulated to warrant making a shipment.

Numbering the Eggs

All farmers in the community who are poultry-keepers should be allotted numbers by the shipper or shippers of the local marketing organization, each shipper using a different range of numbers, which should be agreed upon.

One shipper should use numbers ranging from 1 to 100, another those numbers ranging from 101 to 200, another those ranging from 201 to 300 and so on.

Then, providing each shipper is careful in registering the numbers, farmers may take their eggs at any time to whichever shipper or storekeeper suits their convenience, without fear of any mistake in identification at the central candling station.

This system will render identification of shipments and individual lots doubly sure, as in the case of tags accidentally being torn from cases in transit it will only be necessary to know the railway station from which the eggs were shipped to enable the candling station manager to tell by which storekeeper the eggs were shipped. For directions in respect to filling the egg-cases, and marking the egg-case plans, see the Egg-Case Plan pamphlet, page 6 to 10.

This service is being provided as a result of numerous requests received from farmers' organizations and egg-producers throughout the province of Alberta. It is being organized and in its initial stages directed, by the two departments of agriculture jointly, with the understanding that the associations and producers utilizing the service will do their part towards the accomplishment of the complete success of the undertaking. The duty of the producer in this connection is to observe certain simple but very important precautions respecting the care of the eggs on the farm. The producer must make every possible effort to supply clean, fresh eggs.

MOYERTON'S PICNIC

Moyerton Local, No. 184, held their eighth annual picnic on July 18 and it was a decided success. The weather was ideal, just the right temperature with a nice breeze to keep the flies away and the leaves rustling on the trees, yet not enough to cause people to worry about their hats.

Director H. E. Spencer was expected to address the gathering, but owing to an accident to his car, he was unable to get there in time. About \$10 dollars worth of prizes were given, and after this and all other expenses were paid, a small balance was left over which was added to the reserve fund of the union. A cushion was raffled off the ground and netted the Red Cross \$9.00. The members used to thank the local merchants who did their best to help them make their picnic a success.

GOOD PICNIC AT CAMPBELL LAKE

The first annual picnic of the Islay and Campbell Lake Locals was held at Pleasant Valley on July 19 and proved highly successful. D. W. Warner, hon. president of the U.F.A., gave a short address, after which there was a good program of sports, including horse racing, foot races, baseball and other amuse-

ments. A big dance was held in the evening in the Morrison school and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

MADE MEMBERSHIP \$1.50

On Saturday, July 21, A. E. Ottewell, of the University of Alberta, visited Dewberry Local, No. 98, with his moving picture machine and a very enjoyable evening was spent. At the close of the meeting a collection was taken amounting to \$845, \$500 of which was handed Mr. Ottewell to go towards his expenses, and the balance was voted to the Red Cross Fund. This union after several months inactivity, reorganized in June last, at which time the members decided to pay \$1.50 membership fee, \$1.00 of which was sent to the Central office. From present indications we believe that Dewberry will rank amongst our most progressive locals from now on.

A RECORD PICNIC AT JARROW

Over \$500 by the time the acre of wheat, donated by R. T. Meekins, local secretary, is marketed, was the net amount realized for the Red Cross at the annual picnic and sports of the Jarrow Local, No. 258. So keen was the pleasure of supporting this worthy fund that when a heifer which had been donated was bid up to \$50, it was re-bid by the buyer, who at the second auction of the animal bought it at \$55. This price of \$105 for a Red Cross heifer is probably a record for the province, so it was no wonder that some were heard to remark, "Long may she live and may her tribe multiply."

A quilt, the work of the Ladies Aid, was bid up to \$12, a chicken brought \$8 and young pigs were sold as high as \$30. But financial contests were not the only fun, for there was added the series of races and games which were all keenly contested and proved of great enjoyment to all in the large crowd. The grand total of receipts from all sources amounted to the magnificent sum of \$658.15, from which was deducted the expenses of \$175.31, leaving a balance of \$482.84 placed in the local bank to the credit of the Red Cross Fund, and which the manager agreed to transfer to the Edmonton office free of charge.

The village of Jarrow presented a very gay appearance with its foliage, bunting and flags, the main street having been planted with trees the day before, by the townspeople, as a visible expression of welcome to the visitors. The Cold Springs band was in attendance, under the able leadership of Stuart Cappell. They entertained with fine music during the day, and donated their fees, amounting to \$25, to the Red Cross Fund. We regret that space will not permit us publishing the complete list of contributions here, but we must say that the residents of the Jarrow district have been very generous in this regard. A dance was held in the evening, the proceeds of which netted \$28, the proceeds of the refreshment department netted \$187.15, and a sale of tags made by A. Fugles and W. Conley netted \$95.25 for the fund. The sports program included several exciting races, and the usual athletic contests, baseball games, tugs of war and other interesting features. Altogether the event proved to be a very enjoyable as well as a very profitable one.

START SHIPPING ASSOCIATION

D. C. West, secretary of Waskatenow Local, No. 201, reports that the union held a very successful meeting shortly after his return from the secretaries' convention. The union is making splendid progress and they have recently added several new members to their list. As a result of information gained at the convention they are going to try and undertake their own livestock shipping and it is hoped that the first shipment will be made early in August. The members are also trying to arrange for a big picnic some time during the fall, probably Labor Day, and are getting in touch with Mr. Rids in the hope that he will be able to give them an address on that occasion. Efforts are being made to interest parties in the adjoining localities in U.F.A. work, the plan adopted being to get them to join the Waskatenow Local first, so that they may gain an insight into the working of the organization, and having gained the necessary experience they will then be able to go ahead and organize locals in their own districts. It is hoped that in this way they will be able to get sufficient locals organized to form a good strong district association.

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