

# United Farmers of Alberta

## Transportation Tariff

**T**HE Central office of the U.F.A. has received from J. Halstead, division freight agent of the C.P.R. at Calgary, a copy of the Special Tariff, covering the transportation of cattle and sheep and haying outfits from southern Alberta to northern Alberta, and the transportation of hay and straw from northern Alberta to southern Alberta. For the purposes of this arrangement the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta have been divided into two divisions namely, A and B; A is the southern territory, and B, the northern territory. In Alberta the dividing line is Penhold between the territory A and B.

The livestock branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture has made arrangements for the prepayment of freight charges on shipments made under this tariff. The farmer secures a certificate from one of the provincial government agents at Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Macleod, such certificate being signed by the deputy minister of agriculture, and presents this to the agent at shipping point, who then arranges to waybill the shipment "prepaid" to the point of destination. The certificate to be obtained signed by the provincial deputy minister of agriculture and countersigned by the shipper or owner must show: (1) That the cattle and sheep are intended for feeding purposes and are to be returned by the original to the original point of shipment. (2) That the haying outfit is to be used for harvesting hay and straw. (3) That the hay and straw is to be used for feeding cattle and sheep.

The tariff is all based on car-load shipments and the minimum weights are as follows: Cattle 20,000 pounds, sheep 16,000 pounds. On mixed loads the highest minimum weight applicable on any kind of livestock loaded in the car applies. The minimum weight on carloads of hay and straw is 20,000 pounds and hay outfits, 24,000 pounds.

Shippers or owners of livestock must pay all charges for feeding, etc., en route. The consignments are at owner's risk. Haying outfits may include the following: Second-hand mowers, hay rakes, presses, hay loaders, wagons and racks, horses and harness.

The special tariff became effective on August 12, and the last date for shipping cattle and sheep in carloads north is November 15, 1918, and the last return date, October 1, 1919. Hay and straw can be shipped south under this arrangement up to and including April 30, 1919. Haying outfits to get advantage of this arrangement must be shipped north before September 30 and be returned not later than December 31, 1918.

## President's Strenuous Trip

The Ellison-White Dominion Chautauquas have addressed the following letter to President H. W. Wood:

"Dear Mr. Wood: We wish to take this opportunity of expressing to you our appreciation for the splendid work that you have done this summer. We know that you have experienced many difficulties and have made many a tire-some trip, oftentimes without proper sleep and proper accommodation. These inconveniences have been accepted without a word of complaint. We want you to know that we appreciate what you have done for we feel that you have helped materially in furthering the work of the Chautauqua world movement. We are, cordially and sincerely yours, Ellison-White Dominion Chautauquas, Manager J. M. Erickson.

## Insurance and Loans

S. A. Gant, secretary of Caledonia local, Sedgewick, writes:

"We are getting a car or two of scrap iron for the Red Cross collected by the different locals around here. We are also discussing hail insurance policies which do not seem to protect the farmer very much, being drawn up to suit the insurance companies. I think

Conducted Officially for the United Farmers of Alberta  
by the Secretary  
H. Higginbotham, Calgary, Alta.

that a policy may be drawn up by the farmers for approval by the government as the farmers are disgusted with the deals they get and I don't suppose there will be much insuring another year if something is not done. It seems to me that both hail and fire insurance policies are drawn up unfairly and should be amended. It would be more satisfactory to the farmers if the banks would give the farmers longer time on loans. It seems a poor system to put the loans on six months' basis, when to count up profit and loss on a farm you have to count on very often 3 to 5 years. It is generally known that if the farmer does not pay up each year a chattel mortgage is demanded and then if payment is not made the farmer is pushed to mortgage his land in a loan company which is supported by the same bank."

## North of the Peace

Otto Bernstein, secretary of the Friedenthal local, reports that their picnic held August 4, was an immense success, it being the best U.F.A. gathering ever held north of the Peace. Between 250 and 300 farmers with their families were present. Both the Blue Sky and Waterhole locals had strong representations there, emphasizing the point of brotherliness of all U.F.A. farmers, and contributed largely to the success of the picnic. Special credit is due to the members of the Blue Sky local who appeared with their band. Their musical selections, both vocal and instrumental, injected life and high spirit into the gathering, most of the people had not had this pleasure for many years. While the sports program was being enjoyed a little shower which had been threatening for some time realized and the people had to take refuge in the host's roomy mill building, which was in readiness. A few short addresses were then given. T. Skinner, president of the Blue Sky local, spoke on various farming and U.F.A. problems, emphasizing particularly the need for steady interest in U.F.A. matters, and went on to state that enthusiasm as shown in this picnic may come and die without much helpful results, but to gain strength members of the local must attend the regular meetings as religiously as church and be alive and educated to all issues. The host, J. Grappe, then made a plea for increased membership and recalled the fact that this was the ninth anniversary of this prairie's settlement, and gave a very interesting account of his early experiences on the prairie. After a few more musical items supper was served, and then all went along to the schoolhouse where the party settled down to a jolly dance, accompanied by the brass band. The dance lasted until the early hours of the morning, when all went home delighted and forgetful of the frost's havoc.

There was a good deal of agitation for a stronger representation at the annual convention and for a Peace River District Association, but about this point it was thought premature as long as one-half of the settlement is connected to Spirit River and the other half to Peace River.

## Can You Beat This?

One of the most enthusiastic men we have seen in the Central office recently is Mr. E. A. Reid, secretary of the newly organized local at DeWinton. This local was organized during the membership drive at the end of June last. Mr. Reid attended our Secretaries' Convention in Calgary, and apparently got started out in the right track immediately. Up to the date of Mr. Reid's visit to the Central office on August 29 three meetings of the DeWinton local had been held, a number of co-operative purchases had been arranged

for, a car of livestock had been shipped to the United Grain Growers, and a number of local matters which had been troubling the farmers for some time had been successfully attended to. This is an excellent record for a local less than three months old, and we wish to congratulate DeWinton on the excellent start they have made.

## Organization Goes Ahead

Andrew Rafu, Bon Accord, writes: "Your letter of August 2, in regard to St. Paul de Metis, received. Thanks for the information; just at present I can't do anything with it. The place is too far away from 'anywhere' just yet. St. Paul de Metis P.O. is in Township 58, Range 9, which means 12 miles north, and 90 miles east from Bon Accord, no railway yet."

The much discussed C.N.R. Edmonton-Battleford line is to go through there. Waskatemow, Warspite, and Smoky Lake locals are on the same line. Whenever that is built there will be lots of organization work to do in that direction."

## Colinton Picnic

On July 19, the Colinton local held their annual picnic, and everyone seemed to have left their troubles at home and come out to enjoy themselves. The star item in the sports program was the baseball game between Pine Creek, "All Colored Gentlemen" and Colinton, which resulted in a win for Colinton after an exciting game.

The dance committee had an outside pavilion to dance in but throughout the night a heavy rain storm drove them all inside, but the crops needed rain badly and though it hindered the dance, nevertheless the rain was a blessing. The crops in this district were looking well but the frost on July 23, almost wiped out the wheat and barley and everyone is busy cutting the wheat for feed.

## Hardisty Picnic

The U.F.A. picnic of the Hardisty and Arnold locals was a great success, both financially and socially. The weather was almost too cool for a picnic, but people came from far and near, there being a large number of cars on the ground. The basket ball was won by Rosyth from Argyle and the baseball was won by North Hardisty from Rocky Ford. The bucking contest was wild with excitement.

Mr. Smith, of Sedgewick, was the U.F.A. speaker, and delivered a very able address. He told what had been accomplished by the U.F.A. and what they proposed for the future. He stated that it was the action of the U.F.A. which got the price of wheat raised from \$1.30 to \$2.20 and the government officials would sit up and take notice when the farmers acted in a body. J. G. Turgeon followed with a ringing speech on behalf of the Red Cross. In speaking of the U.F.A. work he said the organization had obtained some good results. The Hardisty orchestra furnished music for the dance. Everybody was in the best of spirits and when all was over said long live the U.F.A. The Red Cross had charge of the refreshments; the amount taken was \$640. The U.F.A. committee, after paying all expenses, found they had a balance of \$96, which they turned over to the Red Cross. The gratitude of the members of the U.F.A. is expressed to all who helped make the picnic a success, especially to the Arnold folks who did the lion's share of the work.

## Keeping up Interest

D. C. West, of Pine Creek, secretary of the Waskatemow Local has for-

warded the sum of \$16.00 to the Central office for the Y.M.C.A. fund, being collection taken up at the service on U.F.A. Sunday.

At the last meeting of the Waskatemow local arrangements were made to have the secretary attend the secretaries' convention in Edmonton. The meetings often take the form of a social entertainment and debates, and are thus found more interesting and a better attendance is secured.

## Discuss Cream Price

John G. Wraith, secretary of the Elbow River Local, reports that he expects to secure several new members. At their last meeting Cullen gave a talk on the milk situation in Calgary, and the following resolution was passed:

"It was moved, seconded and adopted that the price of cream paid by the Union Dairy Company to the producers be 60 cents per lb. better fat for city sweet cream from August 1 until September 30."

## U.F.A. Briefs

Good progress is reported by the Duchess local of the U.F.A. organized last spring. The local has a strong membership and is attacking a good many problems. Being in the C.P.R. irrigation district, the members who own irrigated lands have a good crop this year in spite of the drought. It is probable that the move to form a water users' association will be made through the U.F.A.

Secretary E. Holt, West Peace River, states they would be pleased to hear from stock owners requiring their cattle wintered. In the opinion of most of the farmers the oat crop is not badly damaged by the frost. As most of the farmers in the district have only a very few head of stock there will be a surplus of feed, but as the district is pretty brushy there will not be as much as in the district further west.

What's in a name? Chipman, one of our newest locals, started off by enrolling no less than 127 members on the opening night. This is a record for a new organization. Editor Chipman of The Guide ought to feel complimented.

G. F. Hobbs, secretary of the Iron Springs local, recently paid a visit to Turin and reorganized the local at that point. Seventeen members joined up. The officers elected are: F. Hanson, president; J. Borgard, vice-president, and Norman Nelson, sec-treas.

The regular meeting of the Harvest Vale local was held on August 1. Several visitors from the Bowell local and from Redcliffe were present. The elevator question was discussed at length and proper steps are to be taken with a view to securing a government-assisted elevator.

Bonnie Brier Local was re-organized on July 17 by director C. H. Harris, 36 members signing the roll. H. E. Francis, who has been appointed secretary, states that there is no doubt but a large membership will now be secured in the locality.

A new local has been organized in the Duhamel district, which begins with a membership of 20, and it is expected that number will be doubled before very long. Wm. Eikerman has been appointed secretary.

J. Smith, secretary of McCafferty local, when remitting membership dues for new members a few weeks ago, reported a membership of 98, remarked "That hundredth member will be smart if he escapes capture." Mr. Smith now writes: "What I have been aiming to effect in this local has been realized. We have not so much as a village or hamlet in our territory, but we have now 101 paid members."

