

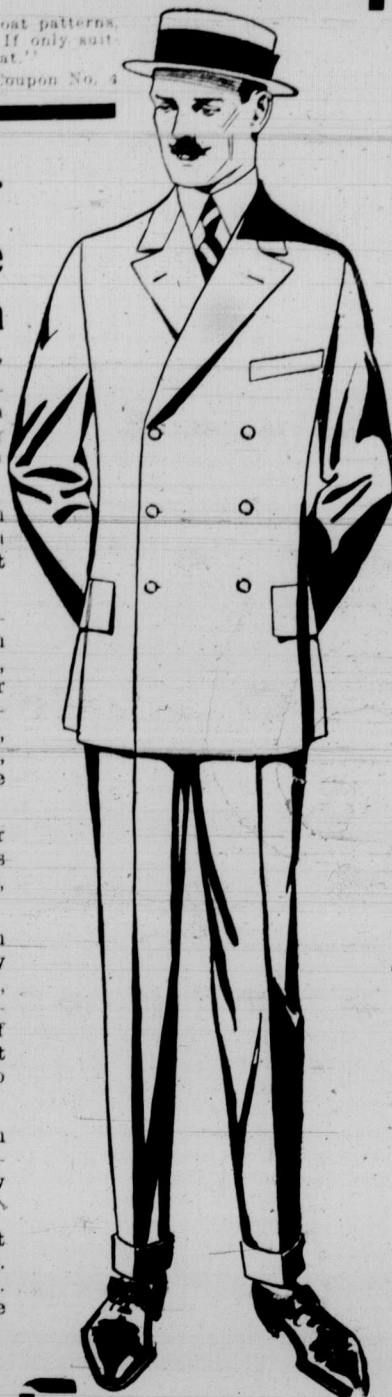
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Alberta

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

SECRETARY'S SUCCESSFUL TRIP

For the last three weeks or so the secretary has been away from the office on organization work, most of the time being spent in the district north of Red Deer around the Goose Lake line of the C.N.R. Altogether some 300 odd miles of country was covered outside of the railways. Fifteen meetings were held, including five picnics. A rough estimate of the attendance at the different meetings would probably be between 4,000 and 5,000 people. Among the different meetings would be included the picnic at Rainbow schoolhouse, under the auspices of Universal Union; a big joint picnic at the Dominion schoolhouse, under the auspices of Bigstone, Cabin Lake, Northampton and other unions; Clemens, Vandyne (where a new union was organized), Acadia Valley and Hillcrest, several meetings having been arranged for this section of the country; Fairacres, where a splendid meeting was held in the schoolhouse, between seventy and eighty farmers being present from five different unions; Cereal, a big joint picnic at Mere. Meetings were also held at Youngstown and Hanna. During the latter part of the tour D. Buckingham, director for the Red Deer constituency, was on hand dealing more particularly with the live stock end of the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. It was unfortunate that owing to lack of information it was impossible to locate the meeting place of the Sharrow Union in the Empress district. With this one exception there is every reason to believe that the tour was a great success, and as the result of a general talk and very many questions asked, interest in the U.F.A. has been considerably increased thruout the district covered. One of the most interesting features of the trip was not only the large number of questions asked in public at nearly every meeting, but the great variety of matters on which information was sought for privately by individuals after the close of the meetings. At several of the picnics and some evening meetings these little informal discussions were kept up till 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning before those interested finally broke up.

Almost immediately on the return from this trip the secretary was again called away to meetings east of Calgary, including the Queenstown, Cluny and Gleichen joint picnic, a further report in regard to which will doubtless appear at an early date.

P. S. AUSTIN ALSO ON THE TRAIL

I am also in receipt of a very interesting letter from P. S. Austin, director for the Victoria constituency, who in travelling round the country putting in work for the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. has certainly not forgotten the U.F.A. and has done some splendid work for the organization at one and the same time as he has been working for the Elevator Co. As Mr. Austin says: "I found local U.F.A.s were ready and did render valuable assistance," also "in every case I found we could make but little headway unless we organized a local U.F.A., putting into practice some of the first principles of co-operation. I have said the Co-operative Elevator Co. was a separate institution from the U.F.A. yet it is difficult to see how it can succeed without continual support of its parent; her economics are those we must preach to the shareholders of the Elevator Co." Mr. Austin has addressed U.F.A. unions at the following points:—Edgerton, Irma, Wainwright, Viking, Camrose, Kingman, Tofield, Thordensjold, Partridge Hills, Victoria, Vegreville, Minburn, Mannville, Bloomington Heights, Creighton, Broken Hill, Chasley, Green Lawn, Dewberry, Kitcooty, Blackfoot and Streamstown.

AMONG THE UNIONS

J. H. Beeley, in forwarding us \$42 membership dues recently, reports that Rimby Union No. 294, of which he is secretary, has a membership of 122 all in good standing. They held a very successful picnic on June 29, at which our

Director, H. W. Wood, of Carstairs, was present to address the members. There was a large and varied program, including horse racing, foot racing, ball games, etc., which was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody, as was also the all night dance with which the affair was brought to a close.

Berenice Local No. 531 held a very successful picnic on July 8. There was a very interesting program, including a ball game, which was very much enjoyed by those present. The meeting was addressed by a party of gentlemen appointed by the Mayor of Medicine Hat, the subject of the address being "What the city man is trying to do for the farmer." Mr. McLarnan, secretary of the Union, took up with them the question of having a number of different locals meet the mayor and his council to try and arrange for a market for the farmers in Medicine Hat. This they promised to try and arrange for.

The annual picnic of the Lakeview Union No. 71 was held at Lakeview on July 1. The day was an ideal one for a picnic. A large number of the members, their wives and families took advantage of the holiday. The arrangements for the day were in the hands of an energetic committee, who carried out their duties to the satisfaction of all. A lengthy program of sports was carried out and good prizes awarded to the winners. The ladies operated a refreshment booth, candy and fruit stall and did a roaring business. E. Carswell from the Central Office was present and gave a very instructive address on U.F.A. work generally and marketing hogs in particular. A dance was held in the public hall in the evening.

Wilkinson Union No. 636 held their regular meeting on July 4. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. It was moved that W. A. Wilkinson act as temporary secretary for this meeting. It was also moved and seconded that they write for the regulations regarding a Pound Law, and also that they send a letter regarding loans for western farmers for the purpose of securing stock. The crops in this district have proved a failure this year.

Olds Local Union No. 11 held their regular meeting on July 8. The debate was, "Resolved that the women of Alberta should have equal franchise with the men." Mrs. Ailsworth, of Olds, took the affirmative and Mr. Holden the negative. Both were bright, witty and amusing in their remarks. The speaking was of a very high class and the debate was a great success, as the ladies were well to the fore. The judges unanimously agreed that the affirmative side wins the debate by a small margin. The judges were: President J. Stauffer, Professor W. J. Elliott and D. L. Sturton, Olds.

At the meeting of the Raven Union No. 554, held on July 18, twenty members were present. The following financial report of the picnic was presented: Takings, \$51.50. Expenses, \$48.45. The following accounts were ordered paid: Sundries for picnic stall, \$38.45. Livery, \$10.00. Seven new members were admitted at this meeting. The secretary was instructed to write to a wholesale firm in Edmonton to see what they could do in the matter of supplying groceries. It was moved, seconded and carried that a committee of three be elected to investigate the putting up of a co-operative creamery. J. A. Arney, on behalf of the telephone committee, stated that there was nothing to report. The next meeting was fixed for August 5 at 2.30 p.m. and the meeting then adjourned.