

gary and there seems to exist a strong prejudice against shipping thru that terminal. The convention backed the request. It was also requested by resolution that every railroad should allow suitable scales to be erected on the platform or ground adjacent thereto for weighing and shipping purposes.

S. S. Dunham called attention to the fact that the amendments to the Bank Act which had been secured on request of the United Farmers of Alberta last year were not working out to the greatest advantage because chattel mortgage security was required on bank loans. Many farmers had a strong prejudice against putting any of their stock under chattel mortgage and would prefer not to buy more stock if forced to give such security for it. The Canadian Council of Agriculture and Commerce had united in a request that this be changed so that security could be taken by lien notes and that this note could be registered at a fee not exceeding 25 cents. At present the cost of taking security under chattel mortgage frequently ran to \$7 or \$8, which made the expense altogether too high on a small loan. The resolution was unanimously carried.

The request of the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association asking for the retention of the Mounted Police to enforce the law in all rural districts was fully endorsed by the U.F.A.

#### Referred to Executive

Enough resolutions were referred to the executive to keep them well out of mischief during all of 1917. Here are some of them:—

Leifh Union requested a modification of the rules governing the issue of an Engineer's Certificate for operating Steam Tractors. They wanted something similar to that in Manitoba allowing farmers to run a steam engine without an Engineer's Certificate. One delegate thought that when farmers are granted certificates more or less indiscriminately as might be the case that every Tom, Dick and Harry would be running an engine and the idea of "Safety First" would be practically eliminated. Another showed that it was very easy at present for anyone to obtain a two years' provisional certificate. After he would have to pass examinations and if he were unable to do so after two years' experience he had no right to a certificate.

It was the opinion of the convention that Justices of the Peace were unduly prejudiced against farmers when it came to legal actions with hired men and it was left to the executive to consider with the Government the Master and Servants Act in order to give strict equality in this matter.

Autumn Leaf Local moved that a Municipality be given a power by legislation to drain water from public highways by the most natural water course and that underground drains be laid where open drains would damage property. President Wood stated that he scarcely regarded this as feasible because underground drains had not been a success in this country on account of the peculiar subsoil.

Compulsory distribution of Gopher poison was referred to the executive.

A resolution from Gleichen Local asking for an amendment to the Irrigation Act regulating increases in the charge for water rental went to the executive.

The same was done with the resolution asking for reduced freight rates on stable manure in order that more of this might be hauled from the cities out to the farms.

Mrs. Graham of Tring spoke to a resolution asking for the opening up of the North Saskatchewan River for transportation purposes. The executive will have to deal with this.

A large number of late resolutions referred to the executive were these:—

(1) Coalville Local advocated a public campaign fund drawn from the general revenue of the Province or Dominion which both political parties would have equal access. (2) Urging rigid inspection and restrictions by the Provincial Government of Alberta against the importation of animals afflicted with tuberculosis. (3) Urging the extension of the time limit for farmers loading grain cars. (4) Requesting the Provincial Government to furnish seed to needy

farmers on credit. (5) Endorsing the Chataqua and requesting that the executive supervise its introduction in Alberta. (6) Asking that the Provincial law be made to comply with requirements of the Dominion Forestry Service regarding protection from forest fires. (7) Requesting the assistance of the association in having local blacksmith shops keep open on Saturday afternoon. (8) Advocating a change in the present standard grades of wheat.

#### DR. JAMIESON'S ADDRESS

Dr. Jamieson, in his address before the women's section of the U.F.A. claimed that if he were not permitted to deviate from the subject laid down for him, "Co-operation Between the People and the Provincial Health Department," there would be no address to make since at the present there is practically no co-operation. He said that while each individual was very keenly interested in his own health and that of his family, there was very little concern for the health of the community and the nation.

The speaker dealt with the subject of disease in three age periods, from birth to school age; from school age to fifteen years and from fifteen to forty-five.

In the province of Alberta in one year there were 305 children stillborn, 13,452 living births and 1,283 deaths of children under one year of age. Many of the deaths of children before and after birth might have been prevented if the mother had had the proper knowledge of how to care for herself and the child.

Dr. Jamieson said that infantile death rate was the most sensitive index of the health of the community. In Alberta, which was practically a rural community, the infant death rate was 95 per thousand, whereas it was generally recognized that if the death rate was above 50 per thousand the children were not being given a fair chance. To show the seriousness of the condition in Alberta he pointed out that the death rate in New York City was only 98 per thousand.

One of the greatest contributory causes to this loss of life was the improper feeding of children, chiefly due to dirty milk. As many as 17,000,000 germs had been found in fifteen drops of milk examined by himself, as provincial bacteriologist. A secondary cause was the prevalence of communicable diseases, such as whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever and diphtheria. He said that the first two of these diseases caused more deaths among infants than the last two, and that the very greatest precaution should be taken against their spreading among children.

Since medical inspection of schools became general in the cities, the average city child was in better health than the country child. It has been found that thirty-five out of every fifty school children had some curable physical defect, which medical inspection of schools would bring to light. It would cost each farmer only a few cents a year to have it in his school district and the value to the children would be very great.

In the period of middle life Dr. Jamieson attempted to deal with only one disease, consumption, and gave some startling figures to show the lack of equipment for dealing with this scourge. He estimated that at least 2,000 people in the province were affected. There was one sanitarium with twenty beds which were always full, some were in the isolation hospitals, some in the general hospitals and the rest were going about among the people and were a menace to the community in which they lived.

#### Mrs. McClung's Address

So many men wished to share the pleasure of the women in hearing Mrs. McClung that it was decided to have the women's convention move into the general convention to listen to this address.

Mrs. McClung spoke on women as the healers or binders-up in the community or state. She said that women had been discovered since the war began. They had always known they were there and were a national asset, but now the politicians had discovered them to be a war asset.

Woman was naturally, she said, the healer, the constructive force in civilization. Man was inclined to be destructive, and while it was this destructive force in man's character that made him the pioneer and the builder of great works, it needed in national life the modifying influence of women as healers. The cause of the war was that the world was suffering from too much masculinity.

She said that this war had brought us a new set of difficulties to face, and the problems were so complex that sometimes one's brain seemed to skid, and a good chain to put upon it at such times was love. It was easy to feel exasperation with people who differed from one in these times, and it was a good thing on such occasions to put on the brake of love.

Mrs. McClung made a strong plea for free medical attendance for the most remote settler, and an equally forceful protest against the patronage system.

She spoke at some length upon the matter of the Women's Co-operative Farm which some of the leaders in Alberta are trying to have established where women prisoners can be sent to reform and learn some useful occupation, instead of taking a post-graduate course in vice in some jail.

In conclusion, Mrs. McClung protested against military training in the schools. She said that she believed that the seeds of the present war were sown in the Prussian victory of 1870 and she thought it necessary that the people here should be watchful lest the victory for which we hoped and prayed should establish the same military spirit in our midst. We must never forget, she said, that we are to keep alight the fires of love, kindness and international good will.

She quoted a very offensive poem translated from the German language, full of anticipated gloating over victory, but she reminded her hearers that it was our habit to sing: "Confound their knavish tricks, etc." and "Britannia Rules the Waves." Why, she asked, should Britannia rule the waves, and declared that for her part she believed they should be free to all. She was willing that our boys should shed their young blood to bring this war to a successful conclusion but she was not willing that they should have died in vain.

#### U.F.A. DIRECTORS' REPORT

Eleven meetings were held during the year of the Executive Committee and four of the Board of Directors. The expense of getting together such a large directorate must result ultimately in placing more authority in the hands of the executive. It was recommended that the president of the U.F.W.A. be added to the executive, and that the three members of the women's executive be added to the board of directors.

A recommendation was made that the place of the annual convention be the city where the central office was located, which would now be Calgary.

Amendments to the constitution were proposed because the amendments which the old original constitution had resulted in an overlapping and consequent have been added from year to year to confusion of authority in some instances. The increasing tendency on the part of the locals, both those that were incorporated and those that are not, to engage in trading activities, to build halls, and to engage in co-operative work generally, not to mention the growth of the district associations, practically none of which work had been recognized in the old constitution, made it necessary in the best interests of all parties that provision should be made for these activities. The advent and rapid growth of the women's section, the necessity for closer co-operation between the two bodies, was another point which had to be taken into consideration. The Directors endeavored to incorporate these phases of the work into the new constitution without losing sight of, or interfering with, the old basic features which have played such a prominent part in the work of the organization to date.

The linking up of the commercial organizations, The Grain Growers' Grain Company and the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company, as later approved by the convention, was recommended for most favorable consideration by the board of directors. The

scheme of rural municipal hospitals, so fully endorsed by the convention, had been carefully considered by the executive and directors throughout the year.

#### Relation to Women's Institutes

A grant of \$500 had been made by the board to assist in carrying on the work of the Women's Section. Grants given to the women's section during the past two years had been more than repaid. The directorate called attention to the false impression some were spreading that the system of women's institutes promoted by the provincial Department of Agriculture was practically identical with the U.F.W.A. The institutes are incorporated under a special act of the Provincial Legislature, which makes them essentially a departmental affair, with the Minister of Agriculture in supreme control, with power to create or destroy at his will. It is worth noting also that any property or goods which the institute accumulates during its existence, on dissolution from any cause, becomes the property of the department, and any balance left after all liabilities have been paid, belongs to the government. The Board which supervises the work of the institutes is purely advisory in character, and so far as the Directors were able to ascertain, it in no way interferes with the main features of the act, which vest supreme control in the person of the Minister of Agriculture. The board felt that these facts should be laid before the members, so that the true conditions may be known to them. There was no desire to belittle the work that the institutes are capable of doing, and the work that the institutes have accomplished in Ontario was duly recognized, but it was felt with the supreme control of these organizations vested in a minister of the government in power, they are not organized in accord with western ideas, or that in this province, where women have the vote, that they are any more suitable for the women than they would be for the men. Attention was called to this significant fact, also, that with the change of government in British Columbia, and the advent of equal suffrage in that province, the institutes are being cast to one side, as foreign to a real democracy, and the movement for an independent organization which will enjoy free speech and free thought, subject only to its own limitations, has sprung up and will undoubtedly be consummated with a constitution similar to the U.F.A., at a series of meetings to be held in B.C. this coming month.

#### Sale of Stock in Alberta

Affiliation with the Western Canada Livestock Union had been continued in 1916.

The executive entered into an agreement with the Calgary Branch of the Hudson's Bay Co. for the purchase of groceries and provisions by local unions and co-operative associations at wholesale prices. Had this met with success the plan would have been extended, but such did not happen, and the matter was pushed no further. An agreement was made with the Edmonton Cold Storage Co. whereby the company offered special terms to the U.F.A. unions and members in the storage and sale of their goods. A bond for the protection of those members using space is being arranged for and will be held by the Department of Agriculture.

Attention was called to the fact that under the law creating the Public Utilities Commission passed at the last session of the provincial legislature, no company, whether incorporated within the province or not, is allowed to sell stock in the province until it has been duly licensed by the Public Utilities Board. Every farmer, for his own protection, should demand of canvassers, this license.

Request was made early last spring by the Legion of Frontiersmen at Calgary for the co-operation of the U.F.A. in forming local units at country points, preferably as mounted infantry. The matter was turned over to a special committee, but serious trouble in the governing council of the Legion, and the almost complete enlistment of the Calgary command for overseas service left the proposition under a big handicap, especially in the south. A number of units had been organized in the north, however.

Pending the proposed amalgamation

Continued on Page 46

Wheat—D trading, mostly an increase of in all markets in Europe. Winnipeg Market of export interest Oats and l of oats futures

Wheat—  
January 23 ...  
January 24 ...  
January 25 ...  
January 26 ...  
January 27 ...  
January 28 ...  
January 29 ...  
Week ago ...  
Year ago ...  
Oats—  
January 23 ...  
January 24 ...  
January 25 ...  
January 26 ...  
January 27 ...  
January 28 ...  
January 29 ...  
Week ago ...  
Year ago ...  
Flax—  
January 23 ...  
January 24 ...  
January 25 ...  
January 26 ...  
January 27 ...  
January 28 ...  
January 29 ...  
Week ago ...  
Year ago ...

MI  
No. 1 Nov. ...  
No. 2 Nov. ...  
No. 2 Nov. ...  
No. 2 Nov. ...

#### LIVED

C  
Choice steers  
Best butche  
Fair to good  
Good to cho  
Medium to  
Common co  
Canners ...  
Good to cho  
Fair to good  
Best case  
Best butche  
Common to  
Fair to good  
Fair to good  
Best milk  
(each) ...  
Fair milk  
(each) ...

Choice h  
watered  
Light hogs  
Heavy sows  
Hogs ...

#### COUNTS

Batts  
No. 1 dail  
Eggs  
New laid  
F  
In sacks ...  
Milk  
Sweet cre  
Cream to  
(per lb)  
Dress  
Spring ch  
Fowl ...  
Ducks ...  
Geese ...  
Turkeys ...

H  
No. 2 Up  
No. 2 T  
No. 2 M

Date  
Jan 23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
Week  
ago  
Year  
ago