

OFFICIAL CIRCULAR No. 6

To the Officers and Members of.....

Local No.....

Ladies and Gentlemen:—You will find enclosed herewith special forms for use in making application at Sarcee Camp for assistance in harvest work. I think that the form itself is fully explanatory, with the possible exception of the blank space left in the first line. The idea here is that the soldiers should be sent out with instructions to report to a certain party who will give them the necessary instructions as to how to reach the farmer to whom they are allotted. Our unions can arrange this thru their secretary or some responsible party in town. Application forms should be sent to Mr. Hartman, government agent for the employment of labor, Sarcee Military Camp, Calgary.

Re Recruiting

The following proposition has been submitted to us by Major G. W. Kerby, chief recruiting officer for the province of Alberta:

1. That each U.F.A. Union in the province be asked to supply two volunteers from among its members for the purpose of forming a U.F.A. battalion for overseas service.

2. That the remaining members of the union staying at home pledge themselves to maintain and operate, free of charge, the farms of those who volunteer, for the benefit of their dependents.

This matter was raised for the first time at our executive meeting recently held in Edmonton on August 7. Your executive were entirely opposed to committing the association in regard to this matter in any way without first getting the opinion of our individual unions. Below you will find a series of questions in regard to same, and on behalf of our executive, I would ask you to submit these questions to the next meeting of your union and return the answers to this office. The questions are printed separately at the bottom of this form for your convenience. Simply write in the answers, tear off the bottom of the page and mail it back to the office.

Yours fraternally,

P. F. WOODBRIDGE,
Provincial Secretary.

1. Are you in favor of the U.F.A. recruiting a battalion for overseas service from among its members?

2. Are you prepared to send your quota of two volunteers towards the formation of such a battalion?

3. In the event of such a battalion being recruited, are you prepared to guarantee the maintenance and operation of the farms of those who volunteer for the benefit of their dependents, free of charge?

WOMEN'S MEETINGS

The following reports have come to hand from Mrs. R. W. Barrett, provincial secretary of the United Farm Women of Alberta:

The High River U.F.W.A. held its second meeting on July 28. It seems that a suggestion had been made to our women that they join the Civic League of High River, and that all become a Women's Institute. However, they decided to stand by their husbands and remain a U.F.W.A. There are twenty-one members enrolled and they are anxious to make the meetings pleasant and profitable. From our impression of High River, it should be one of our most progressive and interesting clubs.

Blackie reports a joint meeting on August 5, with Mr. Brown as speaker, and Mr. Benson is scheduled for a talk on the egg circle at the next meeting. The attendance is good. A U.F.A. hall is under construction, and when it is finished meetings will be held every two weeks.

Acme sends reports of two meetings. On June 24 a paper, "The Dominion," was given by Miss McFadden, who, we presume, is the school teacher. That is right, Acme. Work your minister and teacher for all they are worth. On July 29 there was a joint picnic, and from

the booth the U.F.W.A. took in \$24.53. An address was given by Professor Elliott, of Olds. We are glad to see that literature from the Grain Growers' Guide re prizes for seed grain was distributed. Fruit to the value of \$60 has also been ordered thru the club. Sounds progressive, doesn't it?

CO-OPERATIVE EGG CIRCLE

A special and well attended meeting of the Blackie Farmers' Co-operative Egg Circle was held in the U.F.W.A. rest room on Saturday afternoon, August 19. A very satisfactory business statement was presented to the meeting, showing that the members had received an average price of twenty-two cents per dozen for the eggs marketed from April 26 to August 4, and arrangements were discussed for extending this movement and still further improving market conditions. T. A. Benson, Dominion poultry representative for the province of Alberta, who is working in co-operation with the provincial department of agriculture organizing the farmers of the province, addressed the meeting on the subject of production and marketing of poultry products, and we are sure that Mr. Benson would feel that his address was a help to the people as he was well applauded and the members showered him with questions in regard to the poultry business. Refreshments were provided by the lady members, and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to Mr. Benson for his address.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS

B. E. Wise, secretary of Lobstick Local, No. 393, reports that at a special meeting on August 12, the following changes in officers took place: B. E. Wise resigned his office as president and was elected secretary. H. Weaver was elected president and A. Beamish, treasurer. Five new members were enrolled at this meeting, which makes a total of twenty-eight.

IRMA LOCAL ENERGETIC

P. D. Johnstone, secretary of Irma Local Union, No. 117, reports that they have now a membership of ninety-three men and ten ladies. This year they have distributed \$180 worth of gopher poison and a car of twine. Director J. W. Wood visited the union in March last and rendered them valuable assistance.

BUFFALO LAKE ORGANIZED

At a meeting held on August 19, Buffalo Lake Local, No. 124, was organized, starting off with a membership of twelve. It is hoped that several more will join at the next meeting. Jas. A. Somerville, of Spitfire Lake, was elected president and H. Tuffill, secretary-treasurer.

CO-OPERATIVE SEED DISTRIBUTION

The following report has been received from John Mathewson, secretary of Nakamun Local Union No. 226: At the last monthly meeting of the above local, which was held in the Nakamun schoolhouse, a fair attendance of members being present, after some minor matters had been attended to, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, whereas this district is well suited to the raising of potatoes of extra good quality, and whereas, for purposes of marketing it is much to be preferred that carloads be all of a particular quality, color and name; therefore we would suggest that it is now an opportune time to consider whether our local unions could not organize a system of distributing seed to our members to this end before next seeding

time. A copy of this resolution to be sent to the following locals: Dunstable, Rich Valley and Onoway."

STRATHMORE LOCAL MEETS

A meeting of the Strathmore Local, No. 58, was held on August 12 last, at which Messrs. A. A. Hall, district director, and J. C. Buckley, of Gleichen, delivered addresses. Eleven subscriptions resulted and prospects of an increase are very promising.

SAVING IN BUYING TWINE

Nollin Huseby, secretary of Maple Leaf Local, No. 504, reports: This union held their second annual picnic on July 1, when a very pleasant day was spent by all those present. The weather was very nice, so there was a good crowd in attendance. The teachers and pupils of the two schools had a good program which was enjoyed very much by all. This was followed by a good program of horse races, foot races and other sports arranged by a committee of three members, namely, D. H. Williamson, N. C. Larson and F. A. DeLisle. Ice cream and soft drinks, fruits, candies and cigars were sold on the grounds by J. C. Larson and F. LeBere. A dance was held in the hall in the evening, which lasted until 12 p.m., when everybody went home well pleased. Our members are well satisfied with the twine purchase arranged with dealers in Medicine Hat. We saved three-quarters of a cent per pound on our order. We hope to get in line and buy other goods and provisions thru the union this fall.

PRACTICAL ORGANIZATION RESULTS

The following letter has been received from E. H. Keith, secretary of Scenic Heights Local, No. 154, another of the unions recently organized in the northern part of the province: "It might be of interest to you to cite our recent experience in buying twine for our members. Of course when our union was organized we thought we would be able to procure said twine from the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. at Calgary, but a wire informed us that our order was too late and that all the twine had been sold. Then our executive got busy on the dealers thruout the district up here. We received offers from several, but unsatisfactory. Finally our local had to pose as representatives for all the unions in the district, which represent the major portion of consumers of twine. The fact that the dealers had this twine on hand and we held the orders for practically all the twine in this locality made an interesting predicament for said dealers to be in. It was this co-operation that made it possible for us to get our twine from two to three cents per pound cheaper than the retail price. The lesson is a good one. It shows us what co-operation can do. Another year, however, I hope we will have a central organization up here, the secretary of which will receive the orders from all the unions in the district, he in turn ordering the amount from headquarters. In this case we will have to get a warehouse or else an elevator. Such arrangements we will try to get in working order this winter."

CO-OPERATION SHOWS RESULTS

D. R. Borthwick, secretary of Kinsella Local, No. 277, reports: A joint meeting of the U.F.A. and shareholders of the A.F.C.E. Co. was held on Saturday, August 5. Two cars of coal were ordered. Most of the farmers around this district lost heavily thru hail storm, some of them 100 per cent. Our first fall fair was held on Thursday, August 10, also picnic under the auspices of the U.F.A. and Women's Institute. There was keen competition in all classes, vegetables, flowers, domestic science, needlework and poultry. Mrs. Block and Mr. Elliott were judges and everyone seemed well satisfied. The sports at the picnic were keenly contested. The Irma Brass Band was in attendance. There was a picture show and dance held in the evening.

Alberta

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



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