

# The Farm Page



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## U.F.A. LOCALS PROTEST AGAINST FRANCHISE BILL

Send Resolutions to Central Office Condemning Passing of the Bill

Central Office of the U.F.A. at Calgary is in receipt of many resolutions from various locals throughout the province, protesting strongly against clause 10 of the new franchise bill, which will make it a crime punishable by two years' imprisonment, for any association not formed exclusively for political purposes to engage in any political activities whatsoever, or to contribute to funds for political purposes.

A resolution from Ramsey local, No. 400, states: "We regard it as our right as enfranchised citizens of the Dominion of Canada to nominate and secure the election of a parliamentary candidate who will serve the interests of our country best, and whereas in order to do this we expect to and are willing to finance the election of such a candidate, and whereas the bill now before parliament contains a clause that will not only debar us from taking such action, but positively prevent the candidature of those men who we believe will best serve the people. Be it resolved that we, the members of the Ramsey local of the U.F.A. most bitterly condemn the passing of the franchise bill in its present form, and demand the deletion of the objectionable clause; and we further instruct the office of our organization to use its utmost endeavors to secure this alteration."

Similar in tone are resolutions from other locals who offer their support to the central committee in any action that may be deemed necessary.

## UNITED TRADE UNION ACTION FOR OVERTHROW OF PRESENT SYSTEM

The committee of the British Socialist party, on Monday, voted 62 to 11 in favor of a resolution advocating "unit trade union action to improve the prospect for successful overthrow of the present system prevailing in the world." The committee decided the time was opportune for success of the workers' program in the struggle which inevitably will arise from the present chaos brought about by European capitalism and united action was advocated to sectional strikes.

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## WANT C.N.R. LINE BUILT THROUGH TO GRANDE PRAIRIE

Delegation of Northern Alberta Men Now at Ottawa To Wait on Government

Armed with the endorsement of some of the most prominent public bodies in the province and knowing by actual experience the requirements of better railway facilities, there is a strong delegation of northern Alberta men now in Ottawa to press on the government the absolute necessity of better railway accommodation in the Grande Prairie district. This they propose should be affected by the extension of the Canadian National line on from Whitecourt through the Grande Prairie district.

Last week C. A. McDonald and Capt. R. B. Howell, of Grande Prairie were in Calgary and while there were got in communication with the board of trade by W. F. Stevens and having laid their case before the special committee received its endorsement and will no doubt receive the support of the entire board. This has already been secured from the Edmonton board.

The delegation is representing the U.F.A. district organization, the Great War Veterans and the Grande Prairie board of trade and are prepared with a strong case to lay before the minister of railways. It is unnecessary to dwell on the criminal inadequacy of the railway facilities which have caused such serious hardships and financial loss not only to the settlers of the northern part of the province, but to the province as a whole during the past winter. In the case of Captain Howell himself, as a concrete instance, he has 8,000 bushels of registered seed oats which would be worth at least \$125 a bushel if it could be got out to supply the demand which exists in Alberta and other western provinces. But it is all in storage yet and only a small proportion will be available for seed and that chiefly in his own neighborhood. In addition he has registered Red Bobs and Ruby wheat for which he could get from \$11 to \$12 per bushel for seed if he could get it out, but it is also tied up.

When the instance cited is multiplied by the thousands of other sufferers in the Grande Prairie and other districts tributary who are in the same serious predicament, it is quite easy to understand the earnestness with which the members of the delegation are setting forth on their mission to Ottawa and that they have received the strong endorsement which is backing them up.

The organization has been the formation of the Farmers' Publishing Company, Limited, with 1,700 shareholders, which now owns 'The Farmers' Sun,' issued twice a week, to upwards of 35,000 subscribers.

## UNITED FARMERS AND LABOR JOIN HANDS IN ONT.

(Continued from page 4.)

ness had increased to \$8,500,000 and is now amounting to over 1,500,000 per month.

Democratic Principles Have Always Been Evidenced.

"The company, in February of last year, established a Livestock Commission Department at the Union Stock Yards in West Toronto, which is now handling over one-third of the cars coming to Toronto. The farmer has found that by shipping co-operatively he receives the highest market value for his stock with the lowest margin of expense attached to selling. A second branch is to be opened at Montreal within the next couple of weeks. We have 5,000 shareholders who have each year received a dividend of seven per cent. (the maximum allowed by our charter) on their capital stock.

"Democratic principles have always been foremost in the management and work of the organization. At the very first meeting back in 1914 it was decided that the plan of 'one man one vote' and 'no proxy voting' should be used. All directors and officers are appointed yearly at the annual convention held at Toronto in December, and which last year was attended by upwards of 2,000 rural people.

"Among the things accomplished by

the organization has been the formation of the Farmers' Publishing Company, Limited, with 1,700 shareholders, which now owns 'The Farmers' Sun,' issued twice a week, to upwards of 35,000 subscribers.

Save Million of Dollars to the Consumers in Freight Rates.

"If prevented for many months, by the evidence given by its representative, the increase in freight rates sought by the railways, thus saving many millions of dollars to the consumers. It made a strong plea before the Board of Railway Commissioners for free interchange between the Bell Company and local companies on long distance telephone calls. Late in 1918 it opposed the application of the express companies for an increase on the rates of carrying cream and milk and succeeded in having the move defeated.

"And not by any means the least, through its educational campaign, it succeeded in having forty-five members elected to the Ontario Legislature, who have now formed a government, and also have two U.F.O. members in the Federal House at Ottawa.

"And what of the future? We believe that the principles of co-operation which will lower the cost of living, and our Co-operative Company is already doing great work in supplying goods from the producer to the consumer, with the least middleman's profit will prevail. Last year we sold nearly one million pounds of binder twine; in three weeks we sold two thousand tons of standard stock feed, and we have handled over one hundred cars of live stock in a single day and feel that as yet we have only touched the fringe.

"The Company has recently acquired a cold storage plant at Morrisburg, and will specialize in the handling of produce, more especially eggs, both for domestic consumption and for export. Several other new lines of business are also under consideration.

"Our farmers are thoroughly aroused and are determined to bring about not a revolution, but a reformation of Canadian public life. They believe that the principles set forth in the Farmers' Platform will prove to be the salvation of the country in its present financial condition and will mean greater prosperity for everyone. They are determined that Canadian public affairs shall be conducted upon a higher plane and that special privileges shall be abolished from our midst.

"These ideals are appealing with ever-increasing vigor to all classes of the people, who realize that they are the selfish aims of the class which forms the backbone of the nation."

## SCHOOL TEACHERS AT MILWAUKEE RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL RAISE

Milwaukee, Wis.—The salaries of high school teachers here at last have been raised. The action follows warnings that the cream of the city's high school teaching force contemplates leaving the profession to seek more profitable work. All class B teachers, those not heads of their departments, will be raised from \$180 to \$200 a year, according to the length of their service. Class A teachers, those who head their department are to receive from \$270 to \$380 more than last year.

## PRODUCTION OF TIMOTHY SEED IN ALBERTA

Large Home Market Is Open to the Timothy Seed Grower at Present

The Department of Agriculture has recently been investigating the possibilities of timothy seed production in the Province and likewise of marketing the seed profitably. There is no doubt about the possibility of producing a superior class of seed or of marketing the seed readily at a satisfactory profit. Timothy is a successful crop over a considerable part of the Province in the centre and north, in scattered districts along the entire western part of the Province and on the irrigated lands.

To produce seed that will bring high prices in any market it is necessary to manage, handle and thresh the crop for the special end of seed production. Up to the present time comparatively little timothy seed has been produced in any of the Prairie Provinces. During 1915, however, sufficient Alberta grown seed was marketed to test the requirements of the Eastern Canadian trade and likewise to establish the standing of Alberta seed in Eastern markets. Since the beginning of the year six or eight cars of Alberta seed have found their way to Eastern markets. Reports from the trade emphasize the distinct superiority of the Alberta seed with respect to bold, plump kernel and good size in comparison with the United States product which at present constitutes a large proportion of the supply for Eastern Canada.

## Canada Imports Timothy Seed.

There is open to the timothy seed grower at present a large home market and perhaps also a good foreign market. The Dominion alone requires between 600,000 and 700,000 bushels of timothy seed annually of which sixty or seventy per cent, or about 400,000 bushels, is imported from the United States. On account of the adaptability of our soil to timothy growing over a considerable area and of the superiority of the Alberta grown seed, it would appear to be sound economy for Alberta farmers who have the right kind of land, to give some attention in the future to the production of this crop for the Canadian market.

## The United States Market

There is equal opportunity for securing a good market in the United States. Canadian grown timothy seed is admitted duty free to the United States where the demand at present is very keen and the price correspondingly high. While the United States exports considerable timothy seed, conditions are favorable to the putting of Alberta seed on the United States market. A considerable proportion of the timothy seed of the United States is produced on the heavy lands of the Central States such as Ohio, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Missouri. Iowa alone produces over 1,000,000 bushels annually and on land ranging in value from \$75 to \$150 per acre.

"The United States Department of Agriculture estimates the advance in the capital valuation of land to be twenty-five per cent. over the past four years, which constitutes a considerable additional cost in the price of land products. In addition to the handicap of heavy capital investment as compared with Alberta the United States timothy seed producer has to meet a tariff amounting to 17 1/2% in entering Canada. During the past ten years the wholesale price of timothy seed on the Chicago market has increased from \$4.50 per cwt. to \$7.00 per cwt. which is the average price over the twelve months of the year 1915. The price closed in December of 1915 at \$8.00 per cwt. Under these conditions and with no trade barriers and a superior quality of seed, there should be no difficulty in entering the United States market.

## Northern Grown Seed

Independent of local or temporary conditions which favor the production of seed there are general and fundamental reasons why the special work of seed production over the whole series of field crops should become thoroughly established in the Province. It is a recognized principle in seed production that the farther north a crop can be made to grow beautifully and mature satisfactorily the better constituted the seed is. This has already been demonstrated in Western Canada with respect to the cereals. Alberta Red advanced perceptibly on the Turkey Red from Kansas as to size of kernel, quality of content and weight per bushel.

## GARDENING IS NOW RECEIVING MORE ATTENTION

Ease With Which Garden Produce Can Be Grown Makes It An Economy.

The breaking of the land, the growing of crops and the introduction of livestock have so far been given first place by the farmer; and rightly so, as his bread and butter has depended upon their success. It is, therefore, not surprising that the making of a garden has been neglected for a time.

The ease with which garden produce can be grown and important place such produce occupies in the economy of the farm home, however, makes the garden an enterprise that should not be overlooked for one day longer than is necessary. Every farmer should have a garden, for he can grow in it a great variety of vegetables and fruits needed on the table. Not only every farmer should have a garden, but it would be a matter of economy for every family of the city, who have some space in their back lot, to raise a garden.

Many have not had a garden because they do not know anything about the making of one. They seem to think there is some mystery about it beyond the capacity of the average person and that it is only meant for the fortunate one under whose magic touch every plant seems to thrive. Such is not the case. With a little care and thoughtfulness any one can have a nice garden.

The location of the garden is an important consideration. Suitability of soil, good natural or artificial drainage, convenience of access, suitability of exposure, should all receive consideration in the location of a site for the vegetable garden. The garden should be located as close to the house as possible, this makes the caring for it and the harvesting of the crop easy.

Land with a gently rolling or undulating surface with a southern to a south-eastern exposure is the most desirable for general gardening operations. It can be worked much earlier in the spring than that having a northern exposure. Such crops as tomatoes, that require a long season and a warm location to mature, can be grown successfully on a southern slope, while on a northern slope maturity would likely be impossible.

A good garden soil should contain a liberal amount of sand. The best soil for most vegetables is a rich black loam or a sandy loam. The quality of vegetables depends largely upon the quality of the soil on which they are grown. Vegetables of much finer texture are produced on sandy soils than on those of a clayey nature. Heavy clay soils are cold late and hard to work. Garden land should be well drained since crops on well drained land suffer less from drought as well as from excess of water than they do on undrained land.

As a general rule it may be said that it is best to plow deep. Seven to ten inches is about the right depth, especially on the better soils. On extremely light soils shallow plowing is advisable, unless the garden has been heavily fertilized with stable manure thoroughly mixed with the soil. Deep plowing is undesirable where the subsoil consists of a cold and heavy clay. A good plan is to change the depth of plowing every two or three years. Fall plowing for the garden is to be preferred, though good results can be obtained if spring-plowed land is thoroughly prepared. If the land is plowed in the fall it becomes disintegrated and packed by settling, and from the action of the weather, and when the upper surface is cultivated and put in good condition early in the spring, a better seed bed is secured than is commonly the case with spring plowing.

Experience has taught that, in Southern Alberta particularly, where irrigation is not practised, one half of the garden should be summer fallowed thoroughly each year. This assures an abundant supply of moisture, plenty of available plant food for the next year's garden crop, and freedom from weeds. Harrow the first time in the spring with the drag harrow to conserve the moisture and prepare the seed bed.

(Next week the subject of when to plant and the method of planting the garden will be dealt with.)

The Alberta oat has practically made a new standard of weight per bushel fashionable for the greatest of feed grains. Good seed is the first condition to successful production of crops. Alberta cereals are already finding their way east and south through wholesale seed houses. The value of seed is a question of constitution depending upon symmetry and perfection in kernel. The recognized plumpness of the Alberta timothy kernel is the latest evidence of the fitting and inevitable survival of northern grown seed.

There is every reason to expect that we shall have a general development in the special production of seed in all field crops including cereals, grasses and alfalfa. The combination of advantages represented in cheap land, suitable soil and climate and unlimited markets makes failure in the work practically impossible under reasonable management.

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