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 First, A. Cochran, Stettler; Second, D. W. Warner, Edmonton; Third, M. E. Sly, Strathmore; Fourth, J. Quinsey, Noble.

What The Unions Are Doing

West Salisbury Union No. 323 submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved that this Union believes that the price of flour and oatmeal is from 50 per cent. to 150 per cent. above the cost of production, and that we believe that if this question was presented to the voters of the different large cities of this province, we could secure a municipal owned and operated flour and oatmeal mill and reduce the price of these two important articles of food and give the farmers a better price for their grain, and we could go into details and show that the profits in one or two years would pay for the plant.—Full support of West Salisbury Union 323.

For Independent Party

Resolved that this union is of the opinion that in order for the farmers and other wealth producers of this province to secure a square deal and a just proportion of the wealth they produce, it is essential for them to unite their forces and enter the political arena, and get control of the lines and govern this province in the interest of all the people, and prevent the privileged few from securing from 50 per cent. to 70 per cent. of the wealth produced by the toilers, and to do this we are firmly convinced that we must break away from both the old political parties and organize an independent party. By this means we can unite the reform element in both the old parties in one solid organization for a definite purpose.—Passed unanimously by West Salisbury Union 323.

The members of Sunnysdale Union No. 139 met in the schoolhouse on December 14, 1912. A letter from the secretary of the Manitoba League for the Taxation of Land Values was read in which attention was drawn to the fact that some dissatisfaction existed in certain quarters in connection with the system of land values as laid down by the Rural Municipalities act. After some discussion it was decided to send the following communication to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Edmonton:

Sir:—We have it on the authority of the Manitoba League for the Taxation of Land Values, that at the annual meeting of the Union of Municipalities the system of land values taxation, laid down in the Rural Municipalities Act, came in for considerable adverse criticism. The smaller towns complaining that they could not raise sufficient revenue by this means and wishing it could be supplemented by some other form of taxation. If there has been any difficulty experienced in raising sufficient revenue it would seem that the rate of taxation was not high enough. In any case the remedy cannot be hard to find. We are decided that no other method of taxation should be introduced, but that the act be amended in any necessary way so as to enable municipalities to raise the whole of their revenue by a tax on land values only. Signed, on behalf of the members of Sunnysdale Union,

WM. M. McLEAN, President.

F. WOOD, Secretary-Treasurer.

The following resolution was carried and the secretary instructed to forward copies to the Hon. A. L. Sifton and H. Bromley-Moore: Whereas it is just that the will of the people shall prevail in matters of legislation, and whereas the adoption of the Initiative and Referendum will enable the people to clearly express their will on each separate question concerning them; therefore be it resolved that a bill be introduced at the earliest possible time providing for the use of the Initiative and Referendum in all Provincial legislation.

The matter of sending a delegate to the U. F. A. convention was considered and, if possible, this will be done.

F. WOOD Secretary-Treasurer.

The Queenstown Local Union No. 160 held its annual meeting Dec. 13, 1912,

Alberta

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in the Queenstown school. Like the previous annual meeting it was well attended, the schoolhouse was crowded to suffocation. President's and secretary-treasurer's reports were read and accepted. Under new business it was moved and carried to ask Post Office Inspector to have Queenstown classed as third class post office with money order office attached. Moved and carried: That secretary write to Railway Commission about needs of railway transportation of the district. The question of dividing the Local into an east and west side branch was discussed and voted to lay the matter over till later on.

A committee who had been appointed to investigate prices of a flour mill reported and another committee was named to further investigate and find out what financial backing the plan would have in the district. Secretary read several letters from flour companies in regard to prices of flour per carload. It was decided to purchase a car or more of flour and a committee was named to confer with the Gleichen Farmers' Union in regard to co-operation in the buying of flour.

It was also decided to purchase a carload of cedar posts in the month of January. Secretary reported that the second carload of apples bought in conjunction with the Gleichen Farmers' Union had arrived and directed the members to where apples were stored. It was moved and carried to appoint a committee to draw up petitions for a railroad and send to the various railroad companies. Moved and carried that a resolution protesting against the navy contribution fund be drawn up and sent to our representative in parliament. President presented a bill for road work done on the grain trail. Money was raised by free contribution.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Geo. McComber (re-elected); vice-president, Frank Arndt; secretary-treasurer, John Glambeck (re-elected). Five directors were elected as follows: Wallace Hull, Chas. McIntyre, R. Shore, P. Sole, L. Aesgood. It was decided to have delegates to the Calgary Convention volunteer to pay their own expenses. The following volunteered to go: N. J. Hall, P. Mills, Geo. McComber, J. Glambeck. After the business meeting followed a short program of entertainment and supper and then a dance lasting till daylight.

JOHN GLAMBECK, Sec.-Treas.

You will find the annual report for our Union. Our last meeting was held at Nanton on December 14, 1912. It proved a very successful meeting; besides the twenty-one members who were present several visitors were present also. Several good samples of Marquis wheat were presented for the inspection of the Union, but no order was placed as other samples which were expected had not arrived. A meeting will be held at the town hall at Nanton on Dec. 21, 1912, at 2 p.m., at which our order for a carload of seed wheat will be definitely placed. Election of officers was held; the following were elected: President, E. S. Boomer; vice-president, J. H. Barbutt; secretary-treasurer, W. D. Ransom; auditor, Mr. McKay; directors, J. H. Chandler, Jno. May, Geo. Armstrong, W. A. St. Clair, J. P. Ransom, Jno. M. Hughes, E. C. Carr. The following delegates for the annual convention were elected: H. A. Dennison, Geo. Armstrong, J. H. Chandler, Jno. M. Hughes, J. P. Ransom, J. Cooper, W. D. Ransom, E. C. Carr. and if we have sufficient members by time of convention, Ed. Newton and C. J. Steen will be added to delegates. It was decided that each delegate bear his own expense. I think most of our delegates will be present. As yet we have done nothing with the fire guard question, but it will be dealt with at our next meeting.

H. A. DENNISON, Sec.-Treas.

On Dec. 7, 1912, a meeting was held

in Seaforth school, of the members of the Galahad Union No. 45, to decide whether the Union should be carried on or discontinued altogether, as the affairs were in bad shape through the poor support of members and non-attendance. The outcome of the meeting was that Galahad Union in name be declared dead, and that a fresh start be made with the funds, thinking that a new place of meeting would stimulate old members and draw in new, and the name be changed to Seaforth Union, with such number as you think fit to allot.

The officers were elected in proper form as follows: President, M. Genteman; vice-president, J. Farmer; secretary-treasurer, F. Vincent. A membership of ten was present.

Please send along a few copies of constitutions and any other literature that may help us, also, can you tell how we will stand as regards delegates at convention, and will you inform me what the expenses were last year after being pooled, to each union, so that we can form some idea as to what it will cost us?

F. VINCENT, Sec.-Treas.

Moyerton has safely steered this, its first box social, and landed on a shore where everything is gold and diamonds with the sun shining and not a cloud in sight. This social was commenced about a month ago by some of the boys with the purpose in view of buying an organ for use in the school for entertainments of different sorts. As a result of Wednesday night's auction the Union has a balance of \$106.85 on hand for this purpose and the boys also have an idea that bigger things are possible. The ladies certainly did splendidly, the variously decorated baskets did them great credit. The bidding commenced almost as soon as each basket was produced and no great effort on the auctioneer's part was necessary to run the bids to \$4.00 or \$5.00. A concert lasting three hours took place before the auction and the young people did extremely well considering the short time allowed for practising. Many thanks are due to outsiders who very willingly assisted to make the affair a success. After the good things in the baskets were disposed of the floor was cleared and the dancers kept things lively till daylight when everyone went home perfectly satisfied that the affair was a glorious success.

E. H. BENNER, JR. Secretary.

Fix Prices for Selling and Buying

Mr. W. H. Turner writes as follows: "I am glad to report a better meeting on Dec. 7. The flour mill scheme seems as if it would add greatly to our list of members. It is something practical, it is something that everyone can see. The following resolution was passed in reference thereto: We, the River Bend Union No. 388, endorse the resolution bearing upon the flour mill scheme, provided that the stock of each member be limited and inaccessible, and each shareholder entitled to only one vote. A lengthy discussion was held upon the financial help to farmers, and although no resolutions were passed it was felt that this, too, should be managed by the U. F. A. and the Grain Growers' Grain company, also that they should evolve a scheme whereby farmers will not be forced to market their crop below a remunerative price. Unless something is done along these lines the situation will be very ugly as the crop gets greater every year and is sure to continue to get greater." Mr. Turner tentatively asks how soon it will be before "each district has its own elevator, appoints its own manager, who will once in each month (or oftener) meet at a central bureau to fix prices both for selling and purchasing, with a live agent at Liverpool and other large centres? Then all surplus grain (lowest grades) can be consumed and converted into meats. This should be one of the

District Directors:

Victoria—P. S. Austin, Ranfurly; Edmonton—George Bevington, Spruce Grove; Strathcona—J. R. Pointer, Strome; Red Deer—E. Carswell, Penhold; Calgary—H. Sorensen, Strathmore; Macleod—G. W. Buchanan, Cowley; Medicine Hat, W. S. Henry, Bow Island.

great aims of the U. F. A. It would do more than anything else to raise the farmer out of the mire. Is anything upon this line before the convention this year?"

From Elnora Union No. 373 we hear, "I am sending you some membership fees amounting to \$2.50 for five new members. Our union is doing very well. We have bought a car of lumber and saved about 20 per cent. on the whole amount. We are thinking of buying another, also shipping our hogs co-operatively and so on, thus doing good business."

ROBT. BARCLAY, Sec. Treas.

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