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 Fourth, E. Carswell, Red Deer.
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FALSE ECONOMIC TEACHING

I am requested by our Hon. President, Jas. Bower, to publish the following correspondence having reference to the resolution brought before our recent annual convention, and which was referred by the directors to the Locals, and published in circular No. 1. The following clause appears in reference to this resolution: "And whereas they believe that a further attempt is being made by the same interested parties to inculcate in the minds of students in schools, colleges and universities, a false science of economics by causing to have placed in professors' chairs men who are of a theoretic but impracticable faith." Mr. Bower has received a request for explanation of this clause from one of the Unions and the following reply is the result of this inquiry:

"Dear Sir,—You ask for information re clause in resolution pertaining to the instruction in schools which appears indefinite. That it implies a charge without substantiating a charge I am free to admit, but that unfortunate condition is the very reason for putting forward the resolution at all. Were we in the position of making specific charges and tracing them down to their source, and proving them, we would not need to appeal to our fellow farmers for assistance. Time and time again our farmers have reiterated the statements that we are being placed in a state of economic bondage. That the bonds are being continually tightened we believe, but of all the unseen methods employed we are not aware, and to ask our fellow farmers to be watchful to detect those insidious methods, is the purpose of the resolution.

"The western farmers have for years been waging war against a high protective policy as being the chief cause of the economic bondage of which they complain, yet in spite of all their efforts, the false theory of a high protective policy is still being proclaimed, and strong efforts are being made to educate the people in that belief. It cannot be denied that the country is being flooded with free publications which promulgate that which is to us a false science of economics, neither can it be denied that men like Professor Leacock of Montreal and Professor Russell of Toronto have been the authors of many of these misleading theories. If they have done their best to inculcate these ideas in the minds of the people by press articles and public speakers, can we believe that they have not also done so in their professional capacity while occupying their chairs of economics in the universities? If the students who have listened to their lectures have imbibed their theories and passed them down through the colleges and schools, what wonder will it be if the whole educational system become permeated with the same malign influence? Following this up and knowing as we do that the farming classes holding our opinions have practically no representation on the senates and governing boards of the universities, and that the appointment of teachers is likely to be made by self-interested upholders of high protectionist ideals, is it not time for us to call a halt? Are we to calmly close our eyes while our homes are being flooded with literature of this kind of publication, which has cost money, and which has not been sent into our homes because of the publishers' disinterested love for us, or are we going to take chances of having our children's minds influenced by the theories which more or less must be handed down to them through the educational system? If the source of any stream be polluted, we cannot hope that the waters will be pure."

Bowell Making Good Progress

"I am enclosing herewith the financial returns from Bowell Union, No. 218, for the first quarter of 1913. You will notice that our membership is not so strong numerically as it was in 1911, but bears very favorable comparison with 1912, and what we may lack in

quantity, we make up in quality, as we are not carrying a single deadhead, every member is a live one, and we feel that we can accomplish as much with a dozen live ones as with three times the number of indifferent members. We have this year paid up members who never threw in their lot with us till this year, and we confidently expect to have with us again every one of last year's members. We have met regularly every two weeks since our annual meeting, and every meeting has been chock full of interest. Heretofore, we have taken too narrow an outlook, we have been content as a Union to consider only local affairs, and have failed to grasp the fact that we are part and parcel of an organization that is not bounded in its activities by prescribed district lines, nor by purely community affairs or quarter section fences, but is as large as our province in extent, and by its influence reaches out to all parts of our broad Dominion where producers of the necessities of life are exploited for the benefit of the few. Some of us have asked ourselves, 'What have I gained in actual dollars and cents, really visible cash paid into my own hand, by being a member of this Union?' and because we have not reaped from the rather thin seeding of our dollar per year, thirty, sixty, or one hundred fold in coin of the realm, we have gone sadly away grumbling 'It didn't pay, I'll quit it,' forgetting that however small our efforts may be as a Union, that effort, combined with just such efforts being made by other Unions all over the province, forms one great aggregate and mighty influence which will bring results, possibly undreamed of by those who are making the effort. But as old Rip Van Winkle said on one memorable occasion, 'Times have changed,' and like old Rip we have waked up. We no longer see as through a glass darkly, but with a clearer vision and a broader view. Our members are enthusiastic, and our executive energetic. Each and all are striving to do those things which we believe to be in the best interests of our members, our Unions and our Association. We are surely and energetically going after the second object of our Association—Education. We know that we have the organization all right, we are getting the education and soon we will be waist deep in co-operation, and as I said in my first letter to you this year, 'Keep your eye on 218 this year.' We have been varying our program at each meeting, having debates and addresses on important subjects, and are developing some quite notable talent. M. J. Slattery as a debater and advocate of progressive legislation, and Harry Johnson, father of the Bowell Union, as a lecturer on scientific subjects, are hard to get over. Market conditions for seed grain and potatoes are very favorable this spring, but bulk grain still remains low in price. Crop conditions look favorable and it is expected that a favorable return will be had this fall. Seed grain seems to be fairly plentiful and of good quality. There appears no possibility of shortage of labor for spring work and with good weather, seeding will go along merrily. Assuring you, sir, of the whole hearted support of our Union in the efforts you are making to roll the old U.F.A. chariot along the highway to success,

J. DARRAUGH, Secretary."

A Year's Program

I am in receipt of a very interesting letter from the secretary of the Riverton Union No. 339, Mr. E. S. Babcock, of Dewberry. The following is a brief outline of the program which this Union has drawn up for the year, except that I have omitted to include the names of the individual members who are slated to carry on the discussions. I consider this well worth the space, for, as Mr. Babcock says, "We consider a definite program one of the main features for keeping the interest up in the work."

Alberta

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta.

Riverton Union, No. 339 Program for 1913

- Jan. 15, 2 p.m.—General discussion.
 February 22, 2 p.m.—
 1. Pure bred bull.
 2. Pests—gophers.
 3. How to treat seed grain.
 March 15, 2 p.m.—
 1. Preparing fall plowing for spring seed.
 2. What is the best time for deep plowing?
 3. The best way to raise calves.
 April 19, 7 p.m.—
 1. Spring pigs—How to care for sow and pigs at farrowing time.
 2. Does it pay to buy feed to raise pigs?
 May 17, 7 p.m.—
 1. Spring colts. How to care for the mare and colt at foaling time.
 2. When and how to break prairie land.
 3. Summer fallowing.
 June 21, 7 p.m.—
 1. Extermination of weeds.
 2. The law in regard to threshing machines carrying weed seeds.
 July 19, 7 p.m.—
 1. When to disc and pack breaking.
 2. Home-made rollers. Which is the better, the roller or the packer?
 3. Rainy day occupations.
 4. Hay. The best way to cure tame hay.
 August 16, 7 p.m.—
 1. Harvest—How to shock grain.
 2. Threshing—Shall we shock or stack thresh?
 September 20, 7 p.m.—
 1. At what age can we market cattle most profitably?
 2. How to prepare for fall plowing.
 October 18, 2 p.m.—
 1. Manure—How to fix and spread same.
 2. Market produce—Does it pay better to feed the grain or team it to a town 20 miles away?

District Directors:
 Victoria—P. S. Austin, Ranfurly; Edmonton—George Bevington, Winterburn; Strathcona—J. R. Pointer, Strathmore; Red Deer—D. Buckingham, Stettler; Calgary—Henry Sorensen, Strathmore; Macleod—J. H. Lennox, Granum; Medicine Hat—A. Rawlins, Taber.

- November 15, 2 p.m.—
 1. Preparing for winter. Ideas in plastering.
 2. When to house cattle.
 3. How to feed peas—Their value as feed for hogs.
 December 3, 2 p.m.—Annual meeting.
 December 20, 2 p.m.—
 1. Farm papers—Which to subscribe for—Their benefit to farmers.
 2. Devices for time, labor and money saving.
 3. Poultry.

This Union has also for several years had a Women's Institute acting as an auxiliary, and the following items are included in the program:

Union Social Evenings With Women's Institute

- Jan. 15—Character costume party.
 Feb. 14—Valentine social.
 Mar. 17—St. Patrick's dance.
 May—Government speaker to Women's Institute.
 July 1—Union picnic.
 Oct. 31—Hallowe'en party.
 Nov.—Thanksgiving party.
 Dec. 3—Annual meeting.
 On the last page is printed a list of officers of the Executive Board.
 In view of the interest now being taken in Ladies' Auxiliaries, it may be of interest to the readers of this page to know something of the kind of program that this Auxiliary of the Riverton Union carry out. Mr. Babcock very kindly forwarded me a copy of this program. I can readily believe that, as Mr. Babcock states, "the Institute or Auxiliary is in a flourishing condition." He further states that since the organization of Riverton Branch they have been in active co-operation with the men, holding joint meetings where topics of mutual interest could be discussed. He also lays emphasis on the fact that the ladies have been of material assistance to the Riverton Union, especially along social lines.



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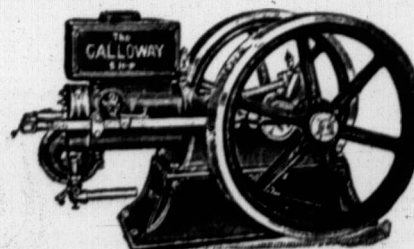
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