

OFFICERS:

Hon. President—D. W. Warner Edmonton
 President—James Speakman Penhold
 Vice-Presidents—
 H. W. Woods Carstairs
 S. S. Dunham Lethbridge
 Rice Sheppard Edmonton
 W. D. Trego Gleichen
 Sec. Treasurer—P. P. Woodbridge Calgary

DIRECTORS' MEETING

A meeting of the board of directors of the United Farmers of Alberta was held in the secretary's office, Calgary, on June 17 and 18, morning, afternoon and evening sessions being held on each day. There were present: James Speakman, president; H. W. Woods, S. S. Dunham, Rice Sheppard and W. D. Trego, vice-presidents; P. S. Austin, Geo. Long, J. A. Bishop, E. E. Sparks, H. G. Vickery, D. Buckingham and G. W. Buchanan, directors.

Two resolutions previously passed dealing with the appointment of honorary officials were rescinded, and it was resolved that the appointment of honorary officials be for one year only, unless otherwise decreed by the annual convention.

The committee on agricultural credits reported progress, and was given another three months in which to complete its report. In the meantime the committee was asked to prepare articles for publication in The Guide on the agricultural credit systems of other countries.

Mr. Buchanan reported that satisfactory results had been achieved in regard to the sheep trailing grievance.

Crop Reporting

The president was requested to write an article for The Guide, showing the importance of correct crop reports.

The question of the incorporation of the United Farmers of Alberta was left in the hands of a committee for further consideration, a vote of thanks being passed to Mr. Dunham for his valuable assistance.

W. F. Stevens, livestock commissioner for the province, waited upon the board and explained his proposals for the administration of Dominion lands non-operable for farming purposes, and a resolution was passed heartily endorsing the principle of Mr. Stevens' suggestions. J. H. Ashcroft, of the Edmonton Stockyards Limited, also attended the meeting and gave an outline of his company's scheme. Mr. Stevens and Mr. Ashcroft were both accorded a hearty vote of thanks for their interesting addresses.

The board was instructed to call a district convention in any district as soon as the majority of the locals in such district asked for a convention.

The Temperance Vote

With regard to the temperance vote to be taken on July 21, the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas the sentiment at our annual conventions in favor of the suppression of the liquor traffic has been so strongly expressed by the delegates thereat, and

"Whereas we feel that the misleading and untruthful articles appearing in many newspapers as advertisements should be answered and this great question placed before the electors correctly and truthfully;

"Therefore be it resolved: That we, the board of directors of the U.F.A., feel it our duty to do all within our power to further the wishes of our association in this matter, and

"Be it further resolved: That this meeting of the directors instruct our Central office to prepare a special circular bearing on this matter, placing before our unions the clear duty of all voters to record their own vote and get as many other votes as possible in favor on July 21 next; also that a facsimile of the ballot be obtained and enclosed with this circular with instructions on the proper method of marking same."

NEW NORWAY NEWS

New Norway Union reports a total paid up membership of thirty-one, and that it is expected that a local of the Co-operative Elevator Co. will be built there this summer. Crops are looking good in the district, and the secretary has returned the petition re prohibition question with a goodly number of names attached.

AGAINST POLITICS IN U.F.A.

The following letter has been received from Stretton Union, No. 17, re district convention:

"With reference to Circular No. 7, re Gleichen resolution, I am directed to state that this union is not in favor of political action being taken by the U.F.A., also I am to state our reasons therefor. In 1911, this union proposed a similar resolution to the convention at Edmonton, which was opposed by almost every other represented union. We were then at the stage of development attained lately by the Gleichen Union. We have learned since that if we allow contentious matters of that kind to enter the union, then the union is detrimental to our organization. This will occur in the U.F.A. later when more progress is made and men find that creating a farmers' party is only juggling names in a system already obsolete. If a district convention is held in this constituency, kindly inform us so that we can send a delegate."

AGAINST ELECTION DEPOSITS

The following resolution has been passed by the Custer Union and it is recommended for the consideration of all our unions:

"Whereas the Dominion Parliament has enacted a law requiring a cash deposit of \$200, and likewise the Alberta Legislature has enacted that a \$100 deposit be made by each and every candidate for said Parliament before they are eligible to election to either of the respective Parliaments, and

"Whereas we believe the law acts as a curtailment of the free expression of the desires of the people, and

"Whereas this money is forfeited if fifty per cent. of the number of the votes cast for the winning candidate is not polled by the other candidate or candidates, thereby penalizing an important minority, and

"Whereas this law is contrary to the principles of a pure democracy which we are supposed to have in this country.

"Therefore be it resolved that we demand the repeal of the law and respectfully ask the co-operation of all other unions in this demand."

The Olds Local Union is still in the co-operative purchasing field, having secured a car of salt, several cases of jam and a carload of binder twine at a considerable saving to their members, besides securing a higher quality. The union has 34 paid-up members, and meets at the Hainstock Hall the third Saturday of each month.

I am in receipt of the following letter from E. Snowsell, secretary of the Fairgrove Local Union, No. 337, and same is submitted for the consideration of other locals:

"At a meeting held today it was unanimously decided to request the government to assist us in forming a unit for home defence. I was also instructed to write and ask you to ask all the branches to take this matter up, as it is felt to be of the utmost importance under existing circumstances."

Claysmore Local, No. 660, met recently with eighteen members in attendance. The union has arranged for its supply of twine, same to be delivered in August, price being \$9.40 per hundred weight for 550 feet twine. The union has also purchased a barrel of machine oil at a considerable saving to the members.

We are in receipt of a cheque for \$16.50 from Mrs. Irene Parlyby, secretary of the Alix Women's Auxiliary of the U.F.A. This represents one-half in that auxiliary to date, and easily places this branch as the strongest numerically that has yet reported to this office. I take this opportunity of congratulating Mrs. Parlyby and the Alix auxiliary on their good showing.

The Stern Local, No. 568, reports

fair progress. The business done by the local covers five carloads of fence posts, two carloads of lumber, besides wire fencing, etc. They saved on these goods at least one-third of the regular retail prices. The secretary complains, however, that the members cannot be got together for the holding of meetings, the executive doing practically all the work, which means that the members entirely fail to appreciate what co-operation means, and that in all probability something will happen one of these days, when someone else will get the blame, whereas it is entirely due to the indifference of the members themselves in looking after their own business.

One of our new locals, Fawn Lake, No. 703, reports two very successful meetings at the Highridge schoolhouse. Nine new members were accepted and several are on the waiting list. This union provides a good program at each meeting of singing, instrumental music and speaking. The secretary states that they find it helpful to pay attention to the social side, particularly during the summer months, as it assures a good attendance for business. The average attendance of members at the meetings of this union works out at around 75 per cent. of the whole.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The following reports are to hand from Mrs. R. W. Barritt, provincial secretary of the Women's Auxiliary:

Mrs. F. L. Crawford, secretary of the Cayley Women's Auxiliary, writes as follows, with minutes of their third meeting attached: I was very delighted with the sentiments expressed in both your letters, which I read to the members of the auxiliary on Saturday, June 12. With regard to the first of these I might say that everyone was ready to help that woman who stated her wants. We hope to be able to send her a barrel of clothes in a week or so. The petitions I distributed to the women, who, I think, will do their very best in this all-important question. I am enclosing a report of our last meeting. Shall be pleased to receive any information which will benefit our association.

At our June 12 meeting the business committee transacted all business in the matter of purchasing fruit. The social part of the evening was then entered upon. Mrs. Frank Walker read a paper on "Why we should abolish the bar." Mrs. Walker dealt with this subject in a very able manner. This paper could not help but arouse the most indifferent mind to a sense of the responsibility that now rests upon us during this coming struggle. References were made to the statements of Kitchener, Lloyd George and other prominent men. The reader drew a comparison in her own native State of Kansas before and after prohibition. After hearing of the misery before and the prosperity after prohibition was established, one could not help but say, "Let us now be up and fighting. If Kansas could attain to such heights then surely Alberta can." A discussion followed this paper, and then some petition forms were distributed to the women present. The meeting was closed with repeating the Lord's prayer.

Just Beginning

Mrs. J. L. Carter writes as follows: Your letter of April 5 received. Thanks for the information re organization of women's auxiliary. We held our first meeting May 19, and had a good attendance. Twelve members joined our club. I am enclosing copy of minutes of our first meeting, and ask that we hear from you whether we have followed the proper form for organization. I am sending the fifty cents of each membership fee to Mr. Woodbridge. Our next meeting is to be held June 16, and trust we will hear from you, with instructions where to get aid for our

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Victoria—P. S. Austin Ranfurly
 Edmonton—George Long Namao
 Strathcona—H. G. Vickery Strome
 Macleod—G. W. Buchanan Cowley
 Calgary—J. A. Bishop Beddington
 Red Deer—D. Buckingham Stettler
 Medicine Hat—E. E. Sparks Jenner

work, in time for our next meeting. We need plenty of help as we are all beginners at this work.

The minutes show that the meeting was held at the home of Mrs. J. B. Fulton, who took the chair, with Mrs. Carter as secretary. Mrs. J. B. Fulton was elected president, Mrs. E. L. Warren vice-president, and Mrs. Carter secretary-treasurer, with a full board of directors. The meetings of the auxiliary are to be held the third Wednesday of each month, from 2 to 5 p.m., and each member is required to bring to each meeting a proved recipe and a useful household hint. The auxiliary has adopted the motto of "Help one another." Lunch is provided at all meetings, consisting of tea and coffee, with one kind of cake and sandwiches. Mrs. Smith was asked to prepare a paper for the next meeting on preserving fruit. Arrangements were made for the holding of a buttonhole contest at which suitable prizes were to be given. The next meeting was arranged for June 15, at the home of Mrs. J. L. Carter.

The ladies of the Sarcee Butte Local, No. 462, have decided to remain for the time being as regular members of the U.F.A., rather than organize an auxiliary. The ladies of this local recently raised the sum of \$13.50, proceeds of a concert, and this amount is being forwarded to Mrs. R. W. Barritt, to be used in alleviating distress in the area stricken by drought last year. This contribution is very greatly appreciated.

A splendid picnic of the Mere, Alask, University, Carlisle and Acadia Locals took place at Sibbald, on Thursday, July 1. Altho the day was cold, between six and eight hundred people were present, including J. A. McColl, M.P.P. for the constituency. Baseball, football and other sports were indulged in all the day long, and at night a big dance took place in Harry Ball's new store. The Oyen band was in attendance and did much to enliven the program. Regret was expressed that no speaker from U.F.A. headquarters was present.

A very optimistic report is in from the Empress Local, No. 673. The membership of this local now numbers 110, showing an increase of 89 in the first six months of the year, the local only having been organized December 12, 1914, with 21 members.

Belmont Local, No. 537, reports a few more members but small attendance at meetings. It is hoped, however, that this condition will be improved upon if the present outlook in regard to crops is realized.

Have you noticed a competition in our official paper, the Grain Growers' Guide, for a free library? If you have not, why not make it a point of discussion at the next meeting of your union? You have a great opportunity to start a good library in this competition inaugurated by The Guide, and however far you may be advanced in the work of our organization, neither the ownership of a library by your union nor the increased circulation of The Guide is calculated to do you any harm.

—P. P. W.

As the result of a visit by the provincial secretary on July 10, Crossfield District Association has completed arrangements for the incorporation of the district. The proposed articles of incorporation were discussed and adopted and, with the acceptance of the by-laws by the registrar, the district will be on proper footing for the continuation of the business, which already aggregates more than \$30,000 for the first six months of the year.