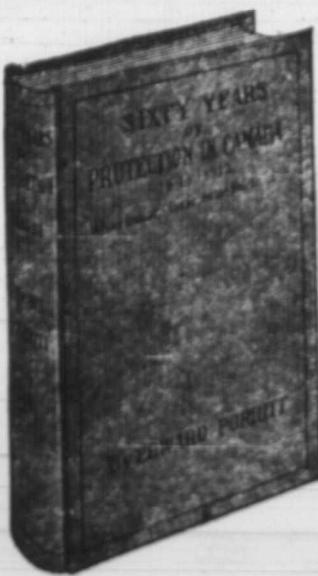


March 21, 1917

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United Farmers of B.C. Organized

Continued from Page 38

shareholders must be an actual producer. Subscriptions up to date \$70,000, 20 per cent. cash, balance promissory note for ten months, to be paid in ten monthly payments out of milk delivered. A trust fund is provided to take up the stock of any shareholder who ceases to be a producer. They propose to establish their own delivery plant in Vancouver, cutting out the waste that now obtains between the producer and consumer. The secretary informed me that banks were giving them every support possible, both by way of encouragement in getting shareholders and in granting loans. The business is under the direction of seven directors, elected by the shareholders.

The outstanding problem confronting the fruit growers and other farmers in British Columbia is that of farm labor. In former years ample supply of Chinese labor was available whenever a shortage of white labor occurred. This source of supply is now cut off, partly due to the excessive head tax imposed on Orientals, and partly due to the fact that Orientals are leasing fruit and vegetable lands which apparently they can cultivate more successfully than white people because of the facilities they have for securing labor.

An animated discussion on the question of Chinese labor took place at each of the farmers' conventions in Victoria during the convention week. A resolution was passed by the fruit growers asking the rescinding of the Chinese Head Tax Act. It was pointed out that its present operation militates against the white man, inasmuch as all Chinese labor is brought in by contract. The Chinaman will lease a farm, make contract for his farm help in China at a very low rate of wage, while the white man has to pay now as much wage for a Chinaman to cultivate his fruit crop as for a white man. There was a consensus of opinion among the fruit growers that Chinamen should be allowed to enter free, under contract, to operate on a farm for a certain number of years and then return to his native land.

GERMAN DEFENSIVE GIVING WAY

The objects aimed at when the battle of the Somme was launched have been attained. As a result of the great offensive, launched last July, the first phase of which lasted four months and was marked by the most stupendous artillery activity and some of the most desperate fighting of history, the dominating ridge from Thiepval to Combles was captured. This enabled the Allies to render untenable the parallel but lower series of ridges which lay beyond Bapaume and to the south, sheltering Peronne. The first great offensive was followed by steady pressure in the districts of the Somme and the Aisne with the result that the whole German front, from the neighborhood of Arras to Soissons, a distance of nearly 80 miles, has collapsed and the Germans, closely pressed by their foes, are now falling back upon a new line of prepared defenses which will run, it is believed, from Craonne, on the Aisne, to Laon and thence to Cambrai and to Lens. This will involve a retirement at the deepest point of more than 30 miles and hundreds of square miles of territory will have been regained for France.

The collapse of the German line on so wide a front marks the most important gain for the Allied forces since they hurled the invader back from the Marne in the early stages of the war. Coming as it does, with the triumph of the Duma in Russia, which shatters German hopes of a separate peace with that empire it will result in depressing the spirits of the German people. It is now believed that we are beginning to see the fulfilment of the prediction made, a year or more ago, as to the gradual exhaustion of the reserves of the Central powers simultaneously with the increasingly efficient mobilization of the resources of the Allies, resulting in the crushing in of the Teuton defences. It will be some time before the full force of the pressure of the Allies can be made effective. Russia is rearranging her internal affairs and will require some weeks to enable her to strike a heavy blow. The Italian offensive, halted by winter weather, will soon be renewed. Indications are that

the 1917 campaign will close with the end of the great struggle in sight.

LIVESTOCK COMMISSIONER

It was announced last week that W. W. Fraser, of Winnipeg and formerly of Emerson, Manitoba, has been appointed Livestock Commissioner for Manitoba by the Hon. Val. Winkler, Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Fraser was a well known farmer having exhibited stock at Manitoba fairs from ten to twenty years ago.

The appointment of a livestock commissioner has stood in abeyance in Manitoba for a good many months. At a meeting of the combined executive of the livestock associations in Brandon, during winter fair week, a committee was appointed by the executive to recommend to the Minister of Agriculture the appointment of J. B. Davidson, of Myrtle, Man., as commissioner. Apparently this recommendation was not made or did not meet with the approval of the departmental head.

Alberta Women's Institutes' Convention

Continued from Page 4

the women at the three agricultural schools during the school session, to give directors power to appoint committees at any time, and to give \$25 yearly to the agricultural school having the highest average attendance.

The following officers were elected: President, Miss Isabel Noble, Daysland; vice-president, Mrs. Fleming, Sedgewick; vice-president, Mrs. McKenzie, Nightingale; secretary, Mrs. A. H. Rogers, Fort Saskatchewan; directors: Mrs. Grisdale, Vermillion; Mrs. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin; Mrs. Hummidon, Carmangay.

The convention was brightened by an informal reception held at the Palliser Hotel on Wednesday evening, when the members had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with each other. Vocal solos were given during the convention by Mrs. Eaton, of Edmonton, and piano numbers by Mrs. Montgomery of Wetaskiwin.

The Baited Trap

Continued from Page 18
cat knows its lifelong home. What's the matter with you and I joinin' forces—"

But he got no further. Sherwood, eyes shining, was wringing his hand in a grip of steel.

"Bob—you'll let me call you Bob, won't you—you're a true-blue thoroughbred! We'll make a blazing success. With your practical experience and my scientific knowledge—you've got to use science in running a farm nowadays, Bob—"

A smart rat-a-tat-tat on the door interrupted him, and Dolores' voice called to them gaily:

"What are you two plotting in there? Mayn't I come in?"

"You sure may, Dolly!" shouted her brother, and flung the door open. "Bob and I are plotting to dig several pots of gold from the ground around here."

She stood, now in the open doorway, looking merrily from one to the other, eager to enter into their sprightly mood. And Bob, gazing upon her loveliness, added boldly on the moment's impulse:

"And I'm plotting to steal your heart!"

Which was, as he afterward confided to his wife the most important speech he had ever made.

(The End.)

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$5,596.17
Mountain Chase W.S.G.A., Last Mountain, Sask.	10.50
Albert Boston, Jaquie, Sask.	2.00
McBride Lake and Ardenville Local Union, No. 249, MacLeod, Alta.	21.00
Spruce Lake G.G.A., Emaville, Sask.	67.50
Andrew Rough, Norquay, Sask.	10.00
Part Princess of Colb Raffled by Homer Wailes, Clapton, Sask.	70.00
Total	\$10,177.67

RED CROSS FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$2,731.66
Spruce Lake G.G.A., Emaville, Sask.	67.50
McBride Lake and Ardenville Local Union, No. 249, MacLeod, Alta.	22.50
Proceeds of Dance held at Comoxona Local Union, No. 261, Kalkirk, Alta.	6.00
Total	\$2,827.66

SERBIAN RELIEF FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$187.50
McBride Lake and Ardenville Local Union, No. 249, MacLeod, Alta.	2.50
Total	\$189.00