

TRIBUTE FROM SASKATCHEWAN

A tribute from Saskatchewan to a good worker in the cause of the U.F.A., notice of whose death appeared in The Guide a few weeks ago:

"In The Guide of July 12, in your Alberta page is a report of O. W. Rowland, of Blackie Union, No. 309, and recording the death of Dr. A. E. Shuttleworth. I am much interested in knowing if the deceased was formerly professor of chemistry at the Ontario Agricultural College. If so, I am sure that hundreds of his former pupils in Canada will, like myself, greatly deplore the death of a teacher whose character and influence as a man, and whose broad, thorough culture as a teacher was a constant inspiration and a deep stimulus of enthusiasm for the best that was in life for the helping and progress of others. The writer, especially, is under a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Shuttleworth personally, for the many hours privately given to him at a time when he was under a bitter struggle, mentally and materially, in acquiring a college education, which in after years I was able to turn to so much profit and happiness."

"W. J. THOMPSON,
Saskatoon."

It is hardly necessary to remark that the Dr. A. E. Shuttleworth referred to and the late member of Blackie Union are one and the same.

LACK INTEREST IN LOCAL

The following letter expresses conditions which are by no means uncommon:

"I have yours dated the fourth, and you enquire how we stand. The reason for our quietness is that in the first place perhaps we took in too much territory, being promised a railway line. We thought we could split up again. The U.F.A. was apparently a great help to our members when in adversity. When the municipality threatened us with the sheriff the local was instrumental in getting them to wait and we were successful at other times along similar lines. I have tried twice to get the members together, but after the big crop and four lean years they claim they are too busy. I felt if they would not attend the meetings I would be justified in getting my own work done. Personally, I thoroughly appreciate the big volume of good work the Central is doing. We have no dues on hand that should have been remitted, as I did not take the very few renewals that were offered. We have a balance on hand which belongs to our members and we may re-organize this fall, say about November. When Mr. Blore, of Craigmyle, was near this district I was as anxious as he was for an interview, but somehow we failed to meet. I am just as keen on the U.F.A., co-operation and Free Trade as ever. I may say that no doubt, indirectly, the local U.F.A. did a lot of useful work. We are now troubled with the unfair way of recording of votes for the Herd Law, but the members don't seem keen enough for a meeting. At the last election we polled nine to one for Herd Law, and then were defeated because it reads 'resident elector' instead of 'resident elector-voting.' Thanking you for past favors."

Secretary's Comment

How is it that with such a practical demonstration in the early stages of the value of united effort, a union of the U.F.A. which provides what is practically the only meeting place for the discussion of matters which should be of interest to all members of a community, is allowed to drop out of existence? The community must suffer as much or more than the individual himself. It will be a good thing for Alberta, and Western Canada generally, when every community realizes that the value of land in their particular district, in fact, the value of property of any kind in their district, depends not on their power of boosting and advertising, or on the particular success of one or two individuals. As many are beginning to realize, we are now past the old real estate days, and from now on the value of farm land or property in the community will be judged by those who have money to invest on the economic conditions which exist in that community quite as much as on the climatic or soil conditions. The

U.F.A. is the common meeting ground for all classes of the community and should be the means for making that community a desirable place in which to live.

In reference to the last paragraph re voting on the Herd Law, if any of our other unions have any experience or objections in regard to this matter, they should draft a resolution for the convention or advise the Central office so that necessary action can be taken.

ALBERTA TIMOTHY SEED

The Central office has been in touch since early summer with the Provincial Department of Agriculture and the Dominion Seed Branch, in reference to the sale of timothy seed grown in Alberta. As a result of our joint efforts a pamphlet has been issued by the Provincial Department of Agriculture and widely distributed. Probably most timothy growers have received a copy of this pamphlet; if they have not they can be secured by application to the Department of Agriculture, or to this office. I reproduce herewith a circular issued by the Dominion seed commissioner, which I understand has been distributed fairly freely, but possibly it may reach some interested parties thru this page who otherwise would not know anything about it. It is unnecessary for me to go into the matter in detail as this circular, with the pamphlet issued by the provincial department, gives the whole situation in regard to timothy seed very clearly:

Terminal Elevator Handles Seed

The 1916 crop of Alberta timothy seed would seem to require special facilities for marketing, and the following tentative arrangements have been made, subject to change as experience in handling the seed may warrant.

1. The Dominion Department of Agriculture and the Board of Grain Commissioners agree that the widely and favorably known system for grading, handling and marketing of grain should so far as possible be made available for timothy seed.

2. For this year the government interior terminal elevator at Calgary will be fitted for the handling of timothy seed. Timothy seed will be received in bags, the bags returned to the shipper whose name is contained thereon, farmers' lots being kept separate, the quantities of less than car lots. The seed will be cleaned and graded and warehouse certificates issued for the net weight and grade or grades of seed obtained after cleaning. The total charge for receiving, cleaning, elevating, sacking and loading ex. elevator will be five cents per cwt. Large bins will be provided for extra No. 1, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and rejected grades. After cleaning, farmer's lots of timothy may not retain its identity but may be bulked with other lots of the same grade.

3. Alberta timothy seed growers will do well to remember that upwards of two million bushels of timothy seed are produced annually in the North Central States. That this seed is marketed, commencing about August 15, and that agents of the large American seed houses canvass Eastern Canada, taking orders during the months of November, December and January, for the seed to be delivered the following spring. It is therefore highly desirable that Alberta timothy seed growers should hold warehouse receipts for their re-cleaned and graded seed as soon as possible, so that the quantity of timothy seed available, together with the holders of warehouse certificates may be listed from week to week for the information of prospective buyers.

4. The Chicago market virtually controls the world's prices for timothy seed. The freight rates on seed from Chicago to points in Eastern Canada, plus the import duty, are approximately equal to the prevailing freight rates between Alberta points and Toronto or Montreal.

Alberta

This section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by P. P. Woodbridge, Secretary, Calgary, Alberta, to whom all communications for this page should be sent.

The secretary of the Calgary Grain Exchange has undertaken to procure the closing prices for prime timothy seed on the Chicago Grain Exchange from day to day and provide such information for general publication in Alberta daily newspapers.

GEO. H. CLARK,

Seed Commissioner.
Dominion of Canada Dept. of Agriculture,
Seed Branch, Calgary.

AN ANAEMIC UNION

The membership fees are for P. S. Austin, C. A. Johnson, Jas. McMath, E. A. Rodwell and J. S. Thompson. There seems nothing to report here as things are at a pretty low ebb in U.F.A. work. I think it possible a more energetic secretary or one who can spare a little more time would help, but they are all too modest and retiring. Hoping for a better time this winter.

LACK DRIVING FORCE

Another letter from one of our unions in danger of getting on the suspended list. There is no lack of good example but the necessary driving force seems to be conspicuous by its absence.

"Enclosed please find \$1.00 membership fee for myself. I am sorry to say our local is not in very good standing, but will take it on myself to ask you to keep our local on your list until fall work is over, as we are all busy at haying and harvest just now. I will try to get them together then and make a new start; if not, I will write and let you know, and also send you a report. Thanking you for past favors."

ENTHUSIASM AT BEAR LAKE

H. L. Dundas, secretary of Bear Lake Local, No. 148, reports: At the monthly meeting of Bear Lake Local the attendance of members was small, although several farmers were present who have not yet enrolled themselves under our banner. One male member and two female members were elected into the ranks. The promotion of a better understanding between the business men of Peace River and the farming community of Bear Lake was the subject for discussion. A conference between the two classes, business men and farmers, is agreeable to both. Refreshments were served and "a very enjoyable evening to all" was the general comment. Miss Miller, who has been so industrious in getting subscriptions for The Guide, obtained by canvass the names of fourteen ladies who favor the project of forming a Ladies' Club. The distance to be covered in order to reach our meeting place will deter many of the ladies from appearing at our assemblages, but the interest is there. The crops, especially the wheat, have been severely damaged by the frosts of last week and the previous week. At present it looks as if most of the wheat will be fit for feed only. Oats according to the general opinion, will be useless for feed, but of course good for feed."

OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES

In forwarding \$23.25, contribution to the Patriotic Fund, which was raised at the annual picnic of Summerview Local No. 147, N. H. Nathorst, secretary, reports:

"This sum is a good deal smaller than we could wish, but the weather was rather windy and cold, and consequently the crowd was somewhat small. Another rather more deterrent circumstance was that we are unfortunately dependent on what, I suppose for the resemblance to the real thing, someone has been pleased to call a ferry. As it can only be operated successfully under very exceptional circumstances, such as when the water in the river is neither high nor low, you can easily understand of what use it is to a farming community. As the river on picnic day was rather on the high side, the ferry was not running (which, in fact, it has not done for about the past two months) and this prevented a good many people from town, and others to the south of

us, willing to participate in our annual event, from joining us. This was a disappointment, the more so as an exceptionally good program had been prepared by the committee and a good deal of work expended to make this picnic a more than ordinary success. However, the crowd that did come had a good time, and good sport, and proved themselves liberal spenders. The sum enclosed is the net proceeds from the booth, after all other expenses were paid."

COMMUNITY WORK VALUABLE

The following report has been sent in by one who has been closely connected with the U.F.A. and the Central Office for a number of years. This community work is something that every U.F.A. union should be undertaking, because, as I have already stated in another paragraph the U.F.A. provides a common ground on which all interests can meet for the discussion of matters of mutual interest. There is no room for religious or political discussions as other organizations are already provided where you can discuss these things to your heart's content. While the writer of this report suggests that the U.F.A. did not participate in this community work, I am inclined to think that it is more than possible that the seed from which its growth originated was probably planted at the time the U.F.A. union was introduced into the neighborhood, and that the fact that the work which is now being done is not more closely associated with the name of the U.F.A. is due to the fact that the local union has not shown itself equal to retaining the interest of the strongest characters in the district in U.F.A. work as a whole.

Perhaps one of the best instances of community work and its value to the district in which it was tried has been furnished in a certain locality in the Calgary district. A year ago it is a positive fact that many of the farmers and their families did not know their own neighbors or, at best, their acquaintance was only a casual one. It is true that most of the men folk belong to the local U.F.A., with its centre in a nearby town, but for the greater part of the year there was no occasion for the members of the community to meet one another socially. Last winter a few more of the progressive people of the community inaugurated a series of dances and social entertainments with the object of getting acquainted with one another and on Sundays they all met at the school-house for church services. Today the spirit manifest in the community itself is vastly different to what it was a year ago. A splendid foundation has been laid for future community work and it is safe to say that during the coming year other lines of work will be of even greater benefit to the community at large than their work undertaken last year, which was with a view solely of getting the people together. It is to be regretted that the local U.F.A. is not in a position to participate in this work, for it would undoubtedly have resulted in the local itself being placed in a stronger position in many ways. In fact it may be that it is because some such feature is lacking in this local that it has not been more successful up to the present time, but is, during a large portion of each year, in a comatose condition.

SERBIAN NEED GREAT

The following letter has been received from J. S. Dennis President of the Serbian Relief Committee, Calgary, and is commended to the attention of our members:

"At the request of the British organization, we have lately organized a branch of the Serbian Relief Committee in Calgary, of which I have been elected president. As you are probably aware, practically the total population of Serbia has been expelled by the Austrians and Bulgarians, and they are being looked after by the Allied Governments. Their need is very pressing, as they have lost all they had, and as they are our allies in this great struggle, we should do what we can to assist them in their need. I will, therefore be very much obliged if you will put this matter before the United Farmers of Alberta, with the request that they will, as far as possible, assist us in helping these Serbian refugees."

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