



ALBERTA SECTION

This Section of The Guide is conducted officially for the United Farmers of Alberta by Edward J. Fream, Secretary, Calgary, Alta.

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

President:
James Bower - Red Deer
Vice-President:
W. J. Tregillus - Calgary
Secretary-Treasurer:
E. J. Fream - Calgary

Directors at Large

James Speakman, Penhold; D. W. Warner, Edmonton; J. Quinsey, Noble.

District Directors:

P. S. Austin, Ranfurly; George Long, Namao; J. R. Pointer, Strom; E. Carswell, Penhold; M. E. Sly, Strathmore; S. W. Buchanan, Cowley; J. E. Ostrander, Gleichen.

WHAT THE UNIONS ARE DOING

Tepee Lake Union will expend the surplus from the picnic in starting a library for the use of the members, and a committee has been appointed to secure prices and particulars of books which will be suitable for a start. The secretary was instructed to ascertain from the department of agriculture why the nominees for poundkeepers in this district have not yet been appointed. Reciprocity and the advisability of having a farmers' candidate also came in for a share of discussion. Crop prospects are good in this district and all are optimistic.

H. KING, Sec'y.
Earlie, Alta.

Kipp Union has been discussing the pound district question, and the conclusion arrived at is that it is advisable that steps should be taken to have the fees for maintenance increased. The fee of 15 cents per day, as set by the ordinance at present, is rarely sufficient for the maintenance of the animal, without the taking care of it. Especially is this so in Southern Alberta, where feed is scarce and high priced, while in other districts water is very hard to get and is probably hauled for a considerable distance. The fee should not be less than 25 cents per day for horses or cattle, and in fact all fees for maintenance should be at least doubled.

ED. A. DIXON, Sec'y.
Kipp, Alta.

Buckeye has joined the ranks of the U.F.A., a union under that name having been organized by Mr. G. P. Rowe, of Reid Hill, on August 2. The night chosen for the first meeting was a very bad one, and therefore the attendance was not large, but enough members were secured to enable a good start to be made, and the others will come in at the next meeting. The first officers elected are Charles Wooters, president, and Roy Walker, secretary-treasurer, both of Reid Hill.

Lavoy Union is keeping busy, and at the last meeting a resolution was drafted expressing sympathy with the Vegreville Board of Trade in the action they are taking for the eradication of cut worms and gophers. The Vermilion Valley and Beaver Lake Agricultural Society, and the Vegreville U.F.A. are also working in this matter. The question of binder twine was brought up and practically settled. Our local dealers quoted excellent prices and it being considered right to support local industry, all local members have been written to in this matter. The following resolution on the barb wire nuisance was read and approved, and the secretary also read a paper on this question:

"That the sentiments contained in the paper read by the secretary be endorsed, and the following amendments added: That the tax on non-residents be made heavy enough to insure of sufficient revenue being raised to pay for all damage incurred by loose wire to stock, furthermore, that this tax be collected by the government in the same manner as ordinary school or local improvement taxes.

HUBERT MORTON, Sec'y.
Lavoy, Alta.

Aldersyde Union passed the following resolution at the last meeting:

"Whereas the provincial government intends to pass the Municipal Act; and whereas the government also intends every municipal improvement and other business of a local nature to be turned over to each individual municipality, therefore, in the opinion of this Union the secretary be instructed to write to Central and find out whether the government intends each municipality to build all bridges across large streams. If so, this Union objects, as some municipalities would have a great advantage over others, as some districts have no rivers and others a great number. For ex-

ample, our district is cut up by the Highwood river, Sheep river and the Bow river, all within a territory of twelve miles."

The binder twine committee reported that good prices had been secured, and their report was accepted.

E. H. WENGER, Sec'y.
Aldersyde, Alta.

Note: Although the government have not yet announced their intentions in regard to the Rural Municipalities Act, still it may be taken for granted that the work of building steel bridges could not come under the head of work of a local nature, and therefore it is hardly possible that the municipalities would have to assume this expense. E.J.F.

At the last meeting of Brunetta Union it was decided that on account of pressure of business coming on the secretary, the union being an active one, the office should be split in two, one man being the recording secretary, and the other the financial secretary and treasurer. Mr. W. H. Smith, of Brunetta, was elected recording secretary, while the former secretary-treasurer was asked to continue his office as financial secretary and treasurer. It was decided that in the absence of one secretary at any of the meetings, his place should be taken by the other one. It was also decided to purchase binder twine from a local agent, a substantial reduction having been secured for members of the Union.

H. E. HALLWRIGHT, Sec'y.
Brunetta, Alta.

A very enthusiastic meeting of the farmers at Sullivan Lake was held on July 29, over thirty being present, when R. J. McMahon, president of Castor Union, presided. Mr. Stanfield, local organizer, was then called upon, and after listening to a very able address on some of the work done, and the rapid progress of the Association, it was unanimously decided to organize a local under the name of Sullivan Lake. It was suggested that Mr. McMahon be the first president, but he explained that he now held that position in the Castor branch, and he did not feel justified in withdrawing from same at the present time, but promised to attend and do all he could to help the new Union. Mr. E. Hunt was then elected president; B. Goverts, vice-president, and Jesse H. Roberts, secretary-treasurer. There is every prospect of this being a large and active branch at a very early date.

JESSE H. ROBERTS, Sec'y.
Sullivan Lake, Alta.

A number of farmers in the vicinity of Sweet Valley intend to organize a new Union, as it is found that they have too far to go to attend the meetings of the branches to which they now belong. A school called Gold Coin has been erected in their neighborhood, and they will have a Union called after the school district at an early date.

HENRY J. ADAMS, Sec'y.
Sweet Valley, Alta.

A splendid and enthusiastic meeting of the farmers of the Strangmuir district, situated about fourteen miles southwest of Strathmore, was held on Saturday, August 5, the occasion being the starting off of the members in their work in the U.F.A. Several farmers had met together some time previous, and decided that a Union was necessary, and this meeting was the result. About twenty-five farmers were present, and besides this Mr. M. Eugene Sly, director for the Calgary district, and Mr. E. J. Fream, provincial secretary, were present. Addresses were given showing the work which has been undertaken by the Association, and every farmer present then joined the Association. The officers elected are: President, Mr. Bergquist; vice-president, G. B. Field; secretary-treasurer, W. J. McComb, of Strathmore. More will be heard of Strangmuir Union at an early date.

Rose Butte Union held a very successful picnic a few days ago, there being a good attendance at same. Unfortunately, however, the day was cool and stormy, and for that reason the people were compelled to leave for home rather early. The president and secretary, and several of the members spoke of the past, present and future work of the Union and of the local, and were listened to very attentively. We have saved considerable money by co-operating for our twine, and have just completed arrangements whereby we will make a saving of at least 10 per cent. in the purchase of the lumber we need.

EMIL H. HANN, Sec'y.
Monarch, Alta.

Since the last financial report received from Fertile Plains Union, forty-one applications for membership have been received, but Bow Island has been organized since that time, and some of our members have transferred to that Union as it is closer for them, and our membership is, therefore, now 111. There are two or three districts that could be organized not far remote from us, but it requires a little instruction and pushing to get things going. After harvest, possibly, it will be found that these can be organized. We would like to make a suggestion in regard to the hail insurance question. This seems to be a problem on which our unions will be bound to divide. It is hardly possible that a compulsory scheme would be popular east of Lethbridge and south to the boundary, for hailstorms in these territories have not proven very frequent nor severe. When the province is divided into municipalities, as it is expected will be done at the coming session of the legislature, then recommend that there be local option on the matter, to be decided annually by the ratepayers of the different municipalities early enough to have the hail insurance tax placed upon the tax lists if the vote is for such a plan.

W. S. HENRY, Sec'y.
Bow Island, Alta.

It will not be long now until the farmers of the Flowerdale district are added to the U.F.A. membership, for steps are being taken to complete the organization at a very early date. We are all enthusiastic, and will be heard from quite often once our Union is organized.

J. H. LENNOX.
Flowerdale, Alta.

Nevis Union is steadily growing, and good reports will be received at an early date, as the attendance is increasing, and the members are showing great interest in the work.

R. E. KERR, Sec'y.
Nevis, Alta.

Castor Union is doing good work in the co-operative business, and is now securing a carload of lumber, while the first car of twine has been disposed of and the orders are not all filled. The matter of building a farmers' elevator has also been taken up and the result will probably be the building of an elevator having a capacity of 50,000 bushels. There are several places around Castor where good unions could be organized and we hope to see an organizer in this district in the fall.

IRVINE PICKLES, Sec'y.
Castor, Alta.

At a recent meeting of the United Farmers of Berry Creek, which now has a membership of about fifty, it was decided to apply for admittance into the ranks of the U.F.A., and as soon as the regular supplies are received we hope to get started as a good strong union.

P. H. HOLZWORTH, Sec'y.
Berry Creek, Alta.

I have received the supplies sent out some time ago, and have been approach-

ing the farmers of this district on the subject of organizing for our mutual protection. I found chances to hand out the booklets and information sent me, and all are now longing for the time when we can take part in the grand movement. We fully conceive the need of a strong, vigorous movement here to cope with the big private interests, for we are blessed with everything but fairness from the sources that are busy farming the farmers. We are meekly accepting every act without even a murmur, but we will be ready to join in the big movement just as soon as an organizer can get into our district.

CHRIS. THYGESEN.
Alsask, Sask.

Blindman Union has reorganized, the following officers being elected at the last meeting: President, Jos. Barron; vice-president, P. H. Lowe; secretary-treasurer, E. A. Wigmore. It was decided also to enter upon an active campaign and induce all farmers in the district to join the Association.

E. A. WIGMORE, Sec'y.
Blackfalds, Alta.

DIRECTORS' MEETING AT RED DEER

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the United Farmers of Alberta was held at Red Deer on Tuesday, August 8, 1911, at two o'clock. Present: Jas. Bower, president, in the chair; J. Speakman, D. W. Warner, G. S. Long, P. S. Austin, J. R. Pointer, J. E. Ostrander, E. Carswell, directors, and E. J. Fream, secretary.

A committee consisting of the president, Messrs. Speakman and Warner and the secretary was appointed to work with the Vancouver committee on matters of common interest.

The matter of appointing delegates to the annual convention of the union of Alberta Municipalities to represent the U. F. A. was left in the hands of the executive committee.

The president explained what had been done in regard to the amendments to the Railway Act, and it was decided that this matter should be further considered at the next meeting of the executive committee.

The president stated that he had clearly considered the objections which had been raised to the amendments and could not think that they were unsurmountable.

The secretary was instructed to communicate with Mr. Lancaster and ask him why he considered the amendments as had been proposed would not be acceptable as good law.

The president read a letter which had been sent by him to the members of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, and answers received from members of the Council in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan were read. The secretary also presented for consideration a letter which had been received from Lloydminster and resolutions adopted by Stettler and Sundial Unions, all dealing with the political question.

Favors Reciprocity

A general discussion of the whole situation then took place, and Mr. Warner then moved and Mr. Speakman seconded, "In response to the many enquiries received from our members as to the stand the central body of the United Farmers of Alberta is going to take in the coming elections, we have carefully considered the situation and have decided that while Section Two of our Constitution forbids our Association taking part in political action, yet in view of the coming election being brought about by a direct issue raised by the organized farmers of Canada, namely, freer trade,

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