



ALBERTA SECTION

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VIGOROUS PROTEST AGAINST PROPOSED ROUTE OF C.N.R.

If concerted and determined efforts on the part of the settlers in the interested districts of Alberta and the business men of Strathcona, can cause the Canadian Northern to build the proposed line from this city to Calgary, farther west than is evidently provided for by the recent survey, the commencement of construction on this railway will see a beginning of a remarkable era of progress for the vast country lying tributary to the city in the south-west.

Several petitions have been circulated in the districts to the south-west and covered with the signatures of hundreds of settlers who protest against the construction of a branch of the C.N.R. on the present survey.

As a result, Ald. Calder and F. C. Jamieson were appointed a committee to draft a resolution bringing before Mr. J. M. Douglas, M.P., the urgency of immediate action at headquarters to induce the company to make this diversion.

The resolution is as follows: "This board having received information that the Minister of Railways and Canals has approved of a plan of location of a line of railway of the Canadian Northern Railway Company from Strathcona to Calgary in an almost straight line passing east of Pigeon and Gull Lakes and in view of the fact that the north half of the proposed line of railway will parallel the Calgary and Edmonton Railway at a distance from five to ten miles west, thus injuring existing towns on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway, whilst affording a very small measure of relief in the way of railway facilities to the large and important settlements lying west of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway and south of the North Saskatchewan River;

Some Important Settlements

"That this board is aware that in this district there are many of the finest and most important settlements in the province, viz., Calmar, Conjug Creek, Wilton Park, Buford, Bonnie Glen, Pigeon Lake, Buck Lake, Bluff Center, Battle River Valley, Medicine River, Rimbo, Blind Man Valley and many others;

"That this district contains very large and most important lumber, coal and other mineral areas;

"That as the timber areas are not tributary to any stream they cannot be developed without railway facilities;

"That in this district are several of the most important fishing lakes of the province;

"That these settlements are thickly populated, producing a large amount of grain and other agricultural products which cannot be profitably marketed without railway facilities;

"That there are already established numerous butter and cheese factories throughout these settlements;

"That the roads are almost impassable at the seasons of the year when these agricultural and dairy products must be marketed, and many settlers are moving out of these settlements on account of inadequate railway facilities;

"This board therefore places itself on record as strongly in favor of the said line of railway being located west of Pigeon and Gull Lakes;

"And we urge Mr. J. M. Douglas, M.P. for the Strathcona electoral district, and Dr. Clarke, M.P. for the Red Deer electoral district, to use every effort with the Minister of Railways and Canals and with the railway company to secure the desired change of locating and a speedy construction of the line."

GALAHAD UNION

Although this union has been in existence over a year it has not been able to make itself known until quite recently, but the labors of a few are at last rewarded for things are going strong now. Since entering on its second year no less than twenty-two members have been enrolled, making a total of thirty-seven, with

prospects of others coming in. The ladies are also attending the meetings, which are of a very interesting character, debates being held after the transaction of the regular order of business. This plan can be recommended by the officers of Galahad Union, as it has done much to make this union the talk of the community.

INNISFAIR UNION

The regular meeting of Innisfail union was held on Friday, January 24, there being a good attendance of members, to hear the report of the delegates to the convention. Mr. W. L. Center reported a very enthusiastic convention, and said the work of the Central Association alone was enough to justify us in continuing to do what we could in our local unions, and urged every member to secure



Homestead of Jacob Welds, Bitter Lake, Alta.

additional members. President Speakman commented on the various resolutions passed on hail insurance, removal of duty on farm implements, government ownership of internal and terminal elevators, A.B.C. route for grain, pork packing plant, co-operative marketing, agricultural college and chilled meat project. At the next meeting Mr. W. Hilborn will address the members on details of billing freight, making drafts and shipping produce.

R. STUART, Secretary.

LAKE VIEW UNION

The annual meeting of Lake View Union, No. 71, was held on January 15. A resolution was passed favoring the present system of working out road tax, instead of a straight cash tax.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Donald Cameron; Vice-President, R. Hogg; Secretary-Treasurer, A. R. Stewart;

Directors, Wm. Mudge, Dan McKay, J. Hays, W. Myers, A. R. Stewart, J. R. Quinlan.

PLEASANT VALLEY UNION

Mr. Rice Sheppard addressed a meeting of about twenty farmers in the Pleasant Valley school house on Thursday, January 13, and delivered a very eloquent address on the work of the U.F.A. He made an appeal for membership, with the result that a union was organized with a membership of thirteen, under the name of the Pleasant Valley Union. The first officers elected are: President, Hugh Taggart, Islay P.O.; Secretary-Treasurer, Sydney R. Giles, Islay P.O. Mr. Giles was elected the delegate to the annual convention and the meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Sheppard for his excellent address, and

ment ownership of elevators and the sample markets for grain. At the close of the address it was decided to form a union and nineteen members signed the roll, eleven paying up. A full list of officers was elected, the secretary being Mr. W. H. Haskell, of Grainland.

COWLEY UNION

At the last meeting of Cowley Union, the secretary, Mr. A. H. Gunn, resigned his position as he was leaving the village, and Mr. J. Kemmis was appointed in his stead. In sending in his first report the secretary states that although the Cowley Union has not been heard from lately still it is the intention of the members to do something from now on. The new secretary has been busy talking GUIDE and the Grain Co., and is making an impression. It is expected that in a very short time the membership of Cowley Union will be largely augmented. Mr. Kemmis intends to make a personal canvass of his district and show the need of the organization work being carried on, and the need for the farmers to become members of the U.F.A.

MILTON UNION

There was a representative meeting of farmers at the meeting called for January 4 to hear Mr. Rice Sheppard's address and they all listened with very close attention to his very able talk on the need of a farmers' organization and what the U.F.A. had done, what they had attempted to do, and what they were trying to do, with special reference to the proposed pork packing plant.

At the annual meeting held on January 12 there was another good attendance and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year. President, C. C. Wolfe; Vice-President, G. H. Grant; Secretary-Treasurer, T. F. Roberts. The president was elected the delegate to the annual convention, and a long session followed, instructing him regarding the various resolutions to be submitted to the convention.

MOUNTAIN PEAK UNION

The farmers of the Mountain Peak district, Stavely P.O., met on January 12 and organized a union of the U.F.A., to be known as Mountain Peak Union. The secretary is C. A. Heisey, of Stavely.

INNISFREE UNION

Two meetings have been held by the Innisfree Union lately, one the regular meeting of the union, and the other a special meeting addressed by Mr. Rice Sheppard. At the regular meeting it was decided that the vice-president, Mr. John Newberry, Senior, should prepare a paper for presentation at the next meeting on "The Hired Help Problem." A resolution was passed allowing the delegate to use his discretion in voting on the subjects that will be discussed at the annual convention. Mr. Chas. Johnson, of Ranfurly, was also in attendance and gave a very interesting address on the subject of the benefits to be derived from organization and co-operation. Among other things he said we wanted to get the local tradesmen with us as they were often as much up against the wall as the farmers.

At the second meeting Mr. Rice Sheppard spoke for nearly two hours on the work being done by the U.F.A., explaining in detail the ideas embodied in the scheme which the central executive has on hand in regard to the pork packing, chilled beef and elevator propositions.

NAMAO UNION

Namao Union starts out the year 1910 with an active membership list of 24, and with the following officers: President, Joseph Rye; Vice-President, G. Long; Secretary-Treasurer, J. B. Richardson.

ROSELAND UNION

The annual meeting of Roseland Union was held on January 11. It was decided that in future the place of meeting should be the Gwynne Co-Operative Store in place of Roseland school, as being more convenient. The officers for 1909 were unanimously re-elected for the ensuing year.

ORGANIZATION NEEDED

The demand for organization on the part of the farmers of Alberta is making itself heard more and more all the time, as the following extracts from a letter will show, this being a sample of what is coming in at all times now:

"Yours of the 25th of last June received in due course, but at that time I was so pressed for time I found it impossible to attend to the matter of becoming a member of the U.F.A., as I wished to read the matter up some. I have now been looking into it, reading your constitution and reports of conferences held by the U.F.A. and have decided if I may be accepted to join your organization. In your above mentioned letter you advised me to become a member at large, if it was not convenient to arrange for a union in our district. Now I would wish to do the former and enclose my fee of one dollar for same, and when I receive your certificate of membership I will at once proceed to arrange for the organization of a Union here. I believe now we are destined to have the grandest organization the world has ever seen. If you will please send me full instructions as to how to proceed in the organization of a Union I will at once take the matter up. I had quite a good talk with several with regard to this a few nights ago, reading to them reports of conferences and meetings reported in the GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE and all were pleased at the outlook.

Needless to say all the information asked for in this instance has been given, and this kind of a letter is great encouragement to the officers of the Association, for it shows that at least the work they are trying to do is appreciated.