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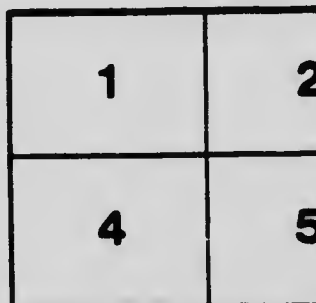
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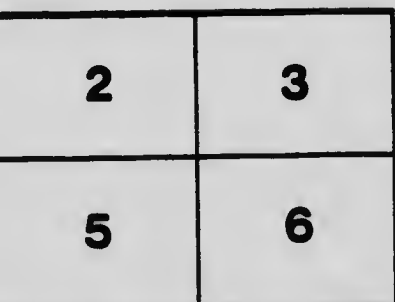
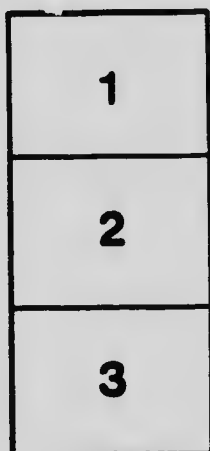
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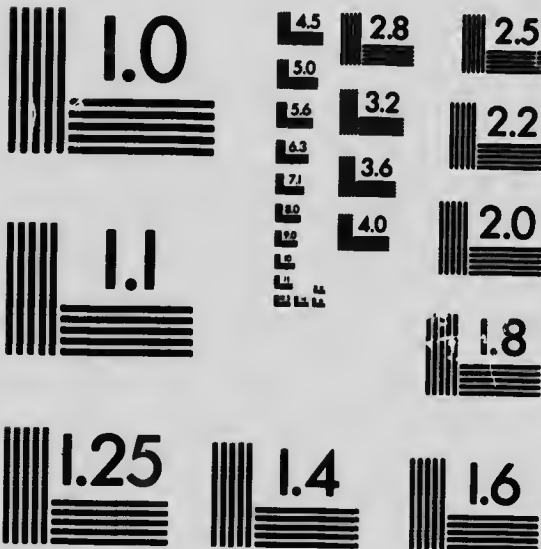
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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Being a complete revision of the
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1909. Revised January 21, 1912

Adopted
by the
Convention
January
17, 1912

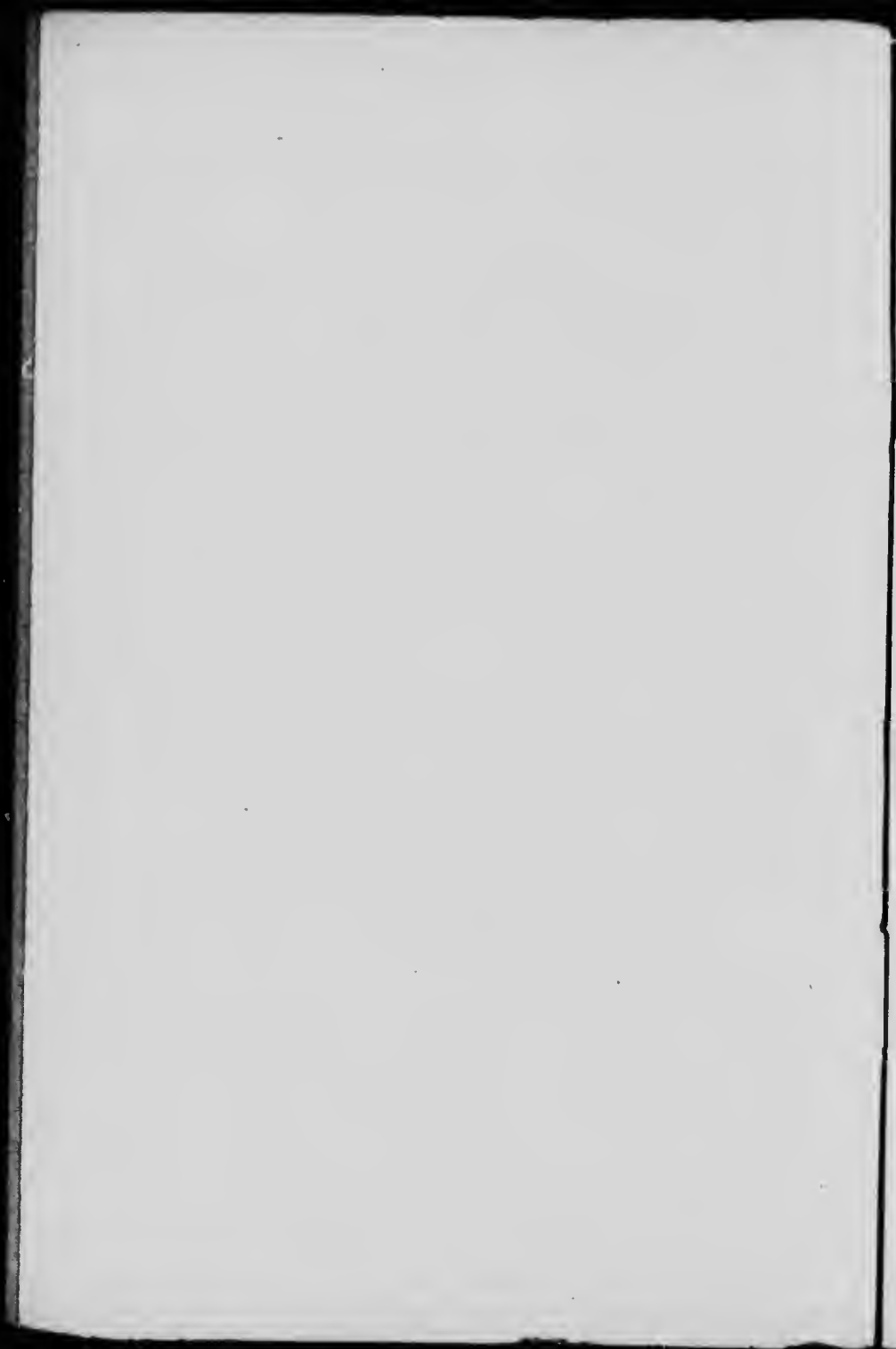


THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF THE
United Farmers of Alberta



OUR MOTTO: "EQUITY"



CONSTITUTION

NAME

1—This Association shall be called the United Farmers of Alberta.

OBJECTS

2—The objects of the Association shall be:—

(a) To further the interests of farmers and ranchers in all branches of agriculture; to promote the best methods of farm business; to seek to enlarge and increase our markets; to gather market information; to obtain by united efforts profitable and equitable prices for farm produce, and to secure the best and cheapest transportation.

(b) To study and teach the principles of co-operation, and to promote the establishment of co-operative societies.

(c) To watch, influence and promote legislation relative to the objects specified in the preceding sub-sections a and b, and to any other matter affecting the farmers' business, and to take any legitimate action necessary for this purpose.

(d) To promote social intercourse and the study of economic and social questions bearing on our interests as farmers.

(e) To settle disputes between members without recourse to law whenever possible.

(f) To take into consideration any member's case of grievance, hardship or litigation,

and to defend our members as far as it may be possible and just.

THE ASSOCIATION

3—The Association shall consist of all duly admitted and fully paid up members of Unions.

4—The Association shall be governed by the annual convention, to be held in the last half of January of each year, composed of delegates from each Union not in arrears to the Association, elected in the ratio of one delegate for every ten, and major portion of ten, paid up members.

5—The business of the annual convention shall be:—

(a) To elect a Chairman of the convention.

(b) To appoint a committee on credentials, whose duty it shall be to look into the standing of all candidates for office. No candidate for office shall be a member of this committee.

(c) To receive and discuss the reports of the Executive Officers and the Board of Directors, and to decide on any question arising out of such reports. All reports shall be printed and distributed to the delegates at the opening of the convention.

(d) To elect by ballot from duly accredited delegates present at the convention the Board of Directors, consisting of president and four vice-presidents, elected by the whole convention, and one director for each federal con-

stituency in the Province, such director to be elected by the delegates from his own constituency; and to elect two auditors. All officers shall hold their office till their successors are elected, and shall be pledged to the Initiative, the Referendum and the Recall.

(e) To decide on any new business brought before the convention by the Board of Directors, or by any Union in good standing. No resolution shall be submitted to the convention unless it has been sent to the General Secretary in writing on or before the 15th of December previous, properly signed by the President and Secretary of the Union. The date stamp on the envelope shall be final evidence as to when mailed.

(f) To decide on the place for the next annual meeting.

6—(a) The railway fare of all duly qualified delegates to the annual or special convention shall be borne equally by all the delegates, and for this purpose the Central Executive shall prepare a statement at each annual convention, and shall divide the railway fare between all the delegates, collecting or paying the difference in the fare from or to the delegates before surrendering the standard certificate.

(b) In the event of any delegate to the annual or special convention failing to comply with Section 6 (a) of this Constitution, his Union shall be held responsible. The General Secretary shall be required to notify the Union sending such delegate, by regis-

tered mail, of their indebtedness to the Central Office, and if within a reasonable period a satisfactory settlement has not been made, such Union shall be suspended and disqualified from representation at future conventions, unless a satisfactory explanation of such failure to comply with the Constitution is submitted in writing to the Board of Directors.

7—Special conventions may be called by the Board of Directors through the secretary by giving at least thirty days' notice to each Union; such notice to state the business for which the convention is called, and no other business to be allowed to be introduced. The ratio of representation to be the same as in the annual convention.

8—No voting by proxy shall be allowed in any convention.

9—The Board of Directors shall hold such meetings during each year as the president or any three of the directors may consider necessary; they shall appoint a secretary-treasurer and shall fix the amount of his salary and the terms of his appointment.

It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to give effect to the resolutions of the convention and enlarge the organization either by their own action or through the executive, or through sub-committees appointed by the directors.

Any vacancy on the Board of Directors during the year shall be filled by the directors at the next meeting of the board.

All presidents of the Association shall, on retiring from their office as president, be appointed Honorary Presidents of the Association.

10—The executive of the Association shall consist of the president, vice-presidents and secretary-treasurer. They shall attend to the general current work of the Association and to such business as may be referred to them by the convention or the Board of Directors.

11—The year of the Association and the Unions shall end on December 31st.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS

12—District Associations may be formed by a number of Unions grouping themselves together on the basis either of electoral constituencies, federal or provincial, or on the basis of useful combination for marketing purposes. Such District Associations to be governed by conventions composed of delegates on the same ratio as Association conventions.

MEMBERSHIP

13—Any person directly interested in farming may join a Union by being introduced by a member and paying the annual membership fee of not less than one dollar. Each application shall be submitted to a regular meeting of the Union, and shall only be accepted by ballot, by a majority vote of the members present.

14—In every case where a married farmer becomes a member, his wife and daughters

may be admitted as full members of the Association on what shall be known as the family ticket, at a fee of 50 per cent. of the full membership fee.

(a) Sons of farmers who are members, under the age of twenty-one years, if living at home and working on their father's farm, shall be admitted as members of the Association on what shall be known as a family ticket, at a fee of 50 per cent. of the full membership fee.

15—A member six months in arrears shall stand suspended without action of the Union, but the secretary must report the same to the Association and correct the membership roll. A member suspended for the non-payment of dues may be re-instated by the payment of all arrears.

16—The secretary of a Union shall report quarterly to the Central Office of the Association, and shall forward with such report one-half the membership fees collected during that term, on the membership basis of one dollar, and no Union shall have status at an annual or special convention of the Association until the membership report, together with fees due has been forwarded.

(a) A Union six months in arrears for dues to the Central Office shall stand suspended without action of that office, and the name of the Union published in the official organ of the Association. Such Union may be re-instated on receipt of the proper dues, together with a satisfactory statement, properly signed by the president and secretary of such Union.

(b) A member will be accepted as a paid up member for the current year in any union he may designate, upon surrender of proper credentials, signed by the president and secretary of his Union, but before such credential can be issued, the member requiring same must have a receipt showing that all dues and assessments owing by him to that Union have been fully paid up.

UNIONS

17—Unions shall consist of members accepted into the Association according to sections 13, 14 and 31 of this Constitution.

18—A Union may be organized by at least ten qualified persons applying to a Union or organizer to be so organized, on receipt of which application the Union or organizer shall proceed to effect such organization and make due report thereof to the Association; or, not less than ten persons as aforesaid may assemble of their own accord and proceed to organize themselves into a Union by subscribing to this Constitution, electing officers therein provided and making due report thereof to the Association.

19—The officers of a Union shall be President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer, or Secretary-Treasurer, together with such officers as the Union may decide to appoint. The official term shall be one year, and regular elections shall be held in December of each year, by ballot, except that in the case of only one candidate for an office election may be had by acclamation.

All officers serve until their successors are elected and qualified, and any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled by the members at the next regular meeting.

20—Unions shall meet monthly, if possible, and it shall be the duty of the President, Vice-President and Secretary to see that there is an entertaining program or subject for consideration at each meeting.

(a) Five regular members must be present for a quorum.

(b) The President on his own initiative may, or at the request of at least six members shall, call a special meeting, and all members of the Union must be notified of the time and place of such meeting and the object for which it is called. At special meetings no business shall be transacted not mentioned in the notice.

21—Unions shall have power to deal with their members for offences against the Union, and shall be governed by the rules usually applied in such cases. The President shall preside at all trials (unless himself be the defendant or the complainant, in which case the Vice-President shall preside), and the rules of evidence and methods of procedure shall be, as near as may be, the same as those observed in the courts. On conviction, to be determined by a vote of guilty or not guilty, punishment may be reprimand, suspension or expulsion, also to be determined by a vote, voting first upon the severest penalty. If that fails to carry, then on to the next and

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so on until a penalty be fixed. Should no penalty be voted after a conviction the presiding officer shall administer a mild reprimand and dismiss the case. Suspensions shall not exceed six months, and the Association must be notified of expulsion.

22—The executive of a Union shall consist of the officers of the said Union.

23—Each Union shall hold an annual meeting during the month of December, at which all officers should be elected, the report of the executive officers received, delegates to the Association and an auditor elected, and such other business transacted as the members may decide.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

24—The President shall preside at all meetings, shall maintain due decorum, decide all points of order (subject to appeal), and see that the laws and usages of the Association are observed and enforced. He shall neither make nor second a motion, nor shall he vote on any question except to give the casting vote in case of a tie, but he shall not be denied the right to vote in the election of officers.

25—The Vice-President shall assist the President in his duties when called upon, and in the President's absence he shall perform the duties of that station. In the absence of both President and Vice-President, a chairman may be chosen by the members present.

26—The Secretaries of the Association and the Unions shall keep a correct record of all

proceedings and a complete and correct membership roll, showing the date of joining, etc., an account with each member showing dues when paid, and everything necessary to keep a record of each member's standing. They shall keep all books necessary to the proper discharge of their duties, and shall conduct all official correspondence. They shall collect all fees from members, keeping a correct account thereof, and paying same over to the treasurer. They shall be the custodians of all books, papers, etc., and shall promptly turn same over to their successors in office. They shall make all reports required, and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be required. The General Secretary shall also be required to submit by special circular to the Secretary of each Local Union all resolutions to come before the annual convention, in accordance with section 4, such circular to be mailed not later than the first day of January in each year.

27—The Treasurers shall have custody of and safely keep all moneys belonging to the Association or Unions, keeping a careful account thereof, and in the case of the Unions they shall pay out no money except on order of the Union, attested by warrant signed by the President and Secretary. They shall make a complete and itemized report at the close of their term of office, and at any other time when required to do so, and shall promptly turn over all money, books, etc., to their duly qualified successors in office. Any Union may require the Treasurer to give good and

sufficient bonds in such sum as may be fixed by vote of the said Union.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

28—At least one week's notice shall be given of each annual or special meeting of the Union, naming time and place of meeting.

29—Four weeks' notice for all annual and special conventions of the Association shall be given by mailing notice thereof to the Secretary-Treasurer of each Union.

30—At least ten days' notice shall be given for all meetings of the Board of Directors or executive committee of the Association, provided that an emergency meeting may be held at any time upon waiver of notice being given by all members of the Directors or Executive.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

31—Any member may, by sending his name and address with the sum of twelve dollars to the Central Office of the Association, become a life member, but without convention privileges, unless duly elected a delegate by a Union, and such life member shall pay one-half the annual membership fee to the Union to which he belongs in order to have standing in that Union. Two dollars of this membership fee shall go to the general revenue of the Association, and the balance may be used for organization purposes or by investing same in a reserve fund, or for both, as

the annual convention may determine, so that the proceeds thereof would make for the permanent establishment of the Association.

FRAMING BY-LAWS

32—The Board of Directors shall frame such by-laws and regulations for its own and the Association's government as are in its judgment for the best interest of the Association, and not inconsistent with this Constitution.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

33—Any member desiring to introduce any addition or amendment to the Constitution shall submit a draft thereof to the Secretary at least sixty days prior to the date of the regular annual meeting, and the Secretary shall forthwith communicate the same to each Union by circular letter.

(a) Any amendment offered by a Union to such proposed addition or amendment to the Constitution may be submitted to the convention by being sent in writing signed by the President and Secretary of such Union, to the Secretary of the Association before the opening of the convention and after being approved by the resolution committee.

(b) Any addition or amendment to the Constitution shall require a three fifths vote of the members present at the annual meeting to pass.

Signed on behalf of the United Farmers of Alberta.

P. P. WOODBRIDGE, Secretary.
P.O., Calgary.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1—The members of the Association are expected to extend fraternal care to one another in sickness, misfortune or distress, and to their families in bereavement, but it is a cardinal principle that he that won't work neither shall he eat. Industrial habits are as important qualifications as any principles of benevolence and charity; we do not require the industrious to lightly bestow their substance upon the shiftless and improvident.

2—All members of this Association are expected to cultivate harmonious relations with every other farmers' association or organization.

3—Members shall favor each other in their business relations, and they should never go to law over their differences until all other means of agreement and settlement are exhausted. In all such cases the Association recommends arbitration.

4—Due decorum must be observed in all the meetings, and presiding officers are given ample power to enforce order. Cushing's and Robert's Manuals are held as authorities as parliamentary rules and usages.

5—Every effort should be made to encourage young persons to take part in the exercises, and all should regard the meetings as schools of progress and advancement. The members are enjoined to faithfully attend the meetings, and to spare no pains to make them profitable and interesting.

6—Co-operation is the great means by which we are to overcome the evil effects of hurtful combinations, and members are urged to avail themselves of every opportunity for profitable co-operation with each other, but we should never let this purpose breed a spirit of antagonism between legitimate local interests. Farming is a business, and farmers should not antagonize other legitimate and proper business interests.

7—Co-operative marketing is the means in our hands for compelling equitable prices for our products, and members should hold it their duty to strictly adhere to that principle and urge that their neighbors do the same, even if not members. Adherence to this principle is a test of good membership, and all are expected to direct their best efforts thereto.

The following by-laws are suggested as an order of business at all meetings of the Unions, and are given as a guidance in preparing by-laws for the government of the Unions, an attempt being made to cover all points.

BY-LAWS

1—The following shall be the order of business at the meetings of the Unions:—

(a) Call to order by President or Chairman. (See Sections 24 and 25 of this Constitution.)

(b) Call the roll of officers, noting those present. The Chairman will fill vacancies.

(c) Call the roll of paid up members, noting those present.

(d) Reading and disposing of minutes of previous meeting.

(e) Reading of all official communications received by the Secretary.

(f) Call for application for membership.

(g) Reports of committee.

(h) Unfinished business.

(i) Addresses and discussions.

(j) Opening of question drawer.

(k) Election of officers. (Annual meeting.)

(l) New business.

2—Does any member know of a case of sickness, distress or death in the neighborhood that needs special attention.

(a) Appoint a special committee to take up such cases, and devise ways and means for handling same.

3—Business of general interest to the Union.

(a) Members wishing work.

(b) Members requiring help.

(c) Members wishing to selling anything.

(d) Members wishing to purchase anything.

(e) Members wishing to report a grievance.

(f) Report on market conditions affecting the products of the neighborhood.

(g) General crop prospects of neighborhood.

(h) Any matter for insertion in official bulletins of Association.

4—Discussion of topics for general good and welfare.

(a) Debates or addresses on specified subjects.

(b) Social entertainment.

(c) Devising ways and means for increasing efficiency and membership. (It is to be understood that the ladies and the young people are always welcome at the meetings, and a special effort should be made to get them to take part in all discussions and programs that may be arranged.)

5—Report to Association on work of Union so that the Alberta section of the official organ can be made interesting.

6—Has the regular report been forwarded to the Central Office?

7—Adjournment.

The following are also suggested as rules for conduct of business.

1—Except by permission of the presiding officer no member or other person shall speak except to ask a question or to introduce or speak to a motion.

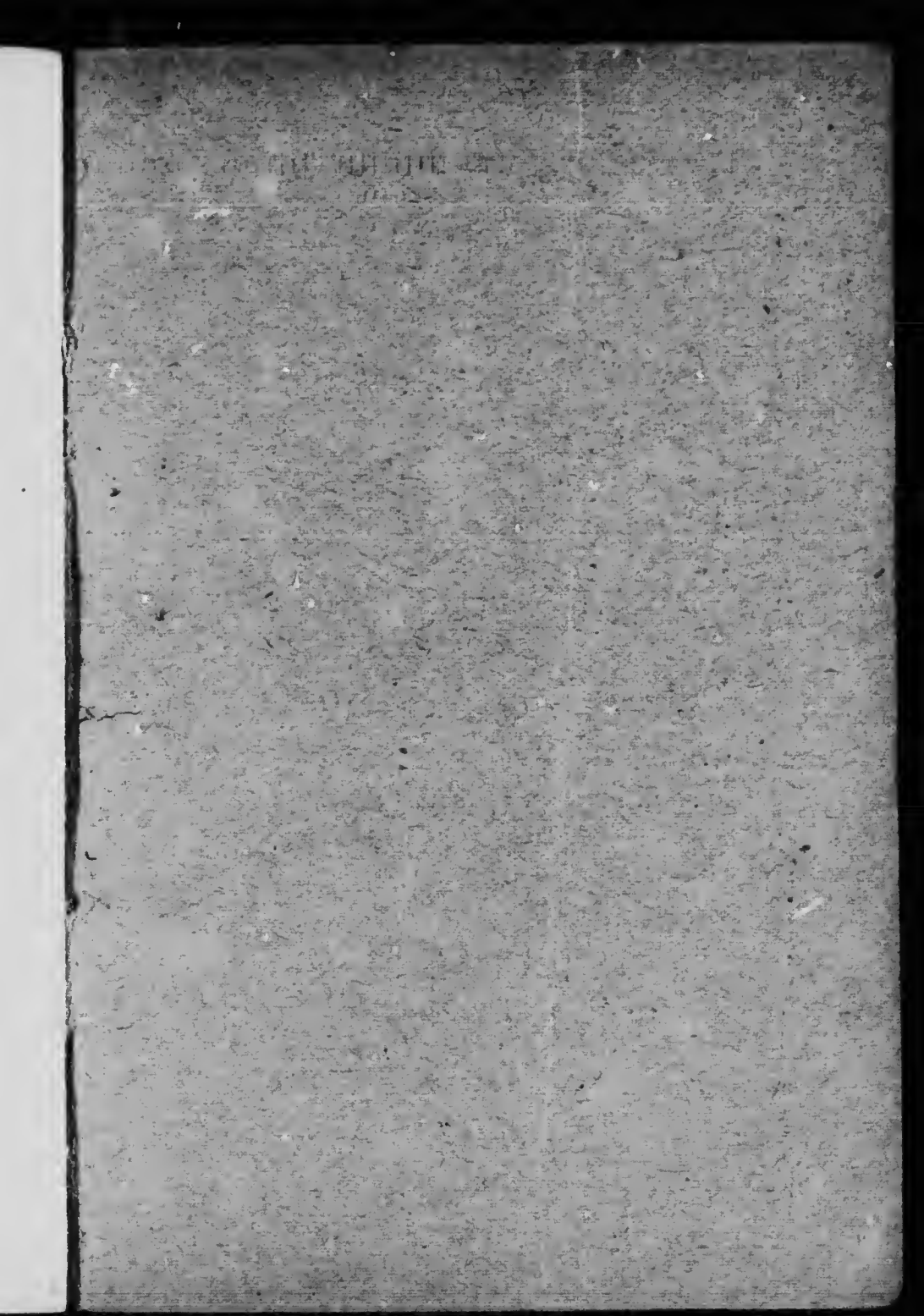
2—In the discussions following the introduction of a subject no person shall speak more than twice, or for a longer time than five minutes, except by a vote of the meeting.

3—When a question is under consideration no motion shall be in order except in the following: (a) to adjourn; (b) to postpone; (c) to amend. These motions take precedence in the order named, and the first two shall be decided without debate.

4—Before the vote is taken on any motion or amendment, the President shall ask: "Is the meeting ready for the question?" The motion shall not be put so long as any member desires to speak and is in order. Any member desirous of asking a question on the subject introduced may do so verbally; but if he desires to ask more than two questions he must submit them to the Secretary in writing.



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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE
Winnipeg, Manitoba



We want to hear from you, and we would like the opportunity of explaining just what the United Farmers of Alberta means.

We are anxious to extend our membership to all parts of the province. Can you send us the names of farmers who are interested and who require further information about our Association?

Are you helping us in the work? We want the whole hearted support of every farmer in Alberta.

If you know of anything of interest write the General Secretary at once.

Help us to co-operate.

**P. P. WOODBRIDGE
GENERAL SECRETARY
CALGARY, ALTA.**



