

Society Organized

The farmers and business men of this city and vicinity met on Tuesday afternoon and organized an American Society of Equity. The meeting was advertised to be held in the Opera House but was adjourned to the Council room. The organization was perfected under the guidance of O. G. Major, who had been commissioned for that purpose by the leaders in the movement. Informal speeches were made by O. G. Major and George Murray of Sherbrooke and a good many questions were asked and answered regarding the society and its purposes. Some thirty-five signified their desire to join and took part in the election of officers. The officers elected are as follows:

President—Hugo Gunkle.

Vice-President—Henry Patten.

Secretary—Jos. Heille.

Treasurer—Gene Tomlinson.

A committee of three, consisting of Peter Shellmon, W. A. Eggart and Tom Thompson, was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for the local organization.

The membership fee in the society is \$2 for the first year and \$1.20 for the succeeding years. With membership goes a subscription to the official organ of the society, The Up-to-Date Farmer. This paper is a weekly and besides giving the transactions of the society, publishes prices of farm products.

Literature of the society was rather scarce but such as had been sent was distributed.

Mr. Major has given us some facts in regard to the society in addition to those given in the article recently published in the Pioneer. The society already has a membership of over 700,000 and additions are being made at the rate of 1,300 a day. As an example of what the society has done, last year they controlled the price of tobacco and peanuts, raising the price of the raw tobacco from the former amount, three cents, to nine. This year an attempt will be made to regulate the price of wheat. It is not desired to raise the price unduly but only to bring it up to an equitable figure. That the need for money is not a total bar to the holding for better prices is shown by the experience among the tobacco raisers. Many of these men are very poor but they stuck by the society and secured the results desired.

At Sherbrooke a meeting is to be held tomorrow night to organize a branch of the society there and next week a meeting will be held at Finley for the same purpose. Later the different societies of the county will be joined into a county organization.