

ORIGINAL MINUTES
A. G. M. 1918 - 1920
EXECUTIVE 1917 - 1921



The Alberta
Teachers' Association



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**Reprinted during the centennial year of
the Alberta Teachers' Association in 2017.**

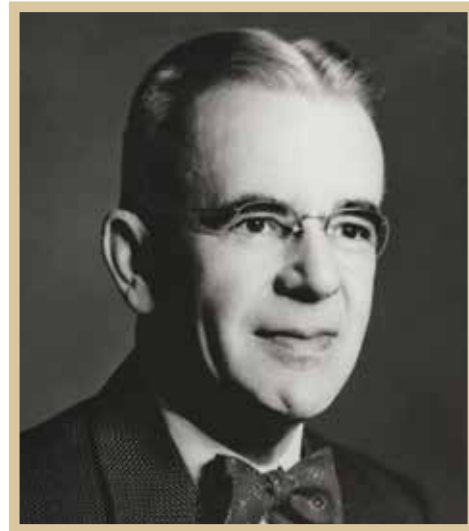
The First Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 1918, was a brisk evening on the prairies as members of the newly organized Alberta Teachers' Alliance gathered for the first annual general meeting at Edmonton's newly built First Presbyterian Church. They came in small groups, eagerly discussing the great matters at hand, climbed the stone stairs, entered the warmth of the new church through enormous oak doors and marvelled at the magnificent Casavant organ. Easter Sunday had just passed, and spring was taking hold in Alberta—a time for emerging from the winter cold and for undertaking forward-looking endeavours.

At 7:30, the evening session of the first annual general meeting was gavelled into session by President George D Misener flanked by John W Barnett, first secretary-treasurer of the Alliance. The democratic work of building the new Alberta Teachers' Alliance continued over the ensuing hours. The election was ratified, and amendments to the fledgling organization's first constitution were debated. Locals' eligibility criteria governing annual general meeting attendance were adopted, reflecting the principle of representation by population. The membership fee was set, as were the criteria for membership eligibility.



John Barnett



George Misener

The following day, the meeting reconvened at the Corona Hotel on Edmonton's Jasper Avenue. The foundational work continued, culminating with the decision to dispatch a delegation to the Honourable John Robert Boyle, minister of education (May 4, 1912–August 26, 1918) to request, among other things, “a scheme of Pensions approved by the A.T.A.”

The minutes of the first annual general meeting (later styled the “Easter Meeting” and, still later, the “Annual Representative Assembly”) are housed in the Alberta Teachers' Association Archives located at Barnett House. These minutes form part of an archival *fonds* preserving the earliest priorities, concerns, decisions and collective efforts of the teaching profession in the first years of the new province of Alberta.



First Presbyterian Church, Edmonton, circa 1920

GLENBOW ARCHIVES NA-1328-814



Corona Hotel, Edmonton, circa 1920

GLENBOW ARCHIVES NC-6-779

Annual General Meeting.

Time - April 2nd - 7:30 P.M.

Year - 1918.

Place of Meeting - 1st Pres. Church
Edmonton.

Amendments to Constitution:

Annual Report was given at afternoon session of the Alberta Education Assn. Annual Convention.

Report of Secretary Treasurer:

The report was formally moved by the sec. treasurer and seconded by Mr. Bailey, and was adopted by meeting without comment (copy attached below)

Scrutineers Report - Attached herewith.

The Election as carried out by Ballot thro the mails was confirmed.

Proposer: Mr. Clayton

Secunder: Mr. McBlaney

2. The objects of this organization shall be to advance and safeguard the cause of public education in the Province of Alberta and to bring about united action on any matter of common interest to teachers and supervising officers of the Public Schools of the Province.

3. The Alliance shall consist of all duly admitted and fully paid up members of local unions.

6. Delegates to the Annual Meeting shall be the President and Vice-president of local Unions in good standing, or two other members; and for Unions with a membership exceeding twenty-five, one additional delegate for each additional twenty-five or fraction thereof.

Amendments to Constitution.

Clause 2

Resolved

Proposer Mr Hoover Secunder Mr Rogers
"That teachers of the Schools under
the Jurisdiction of the Department
of Education of Alberta" be substituted
for "Teachers & Supervising officers of
the Public Schools of the Province."

Clause 3

Resolved

Proposer Mr McEleney ^{Rogers} Secunder Mr Varnum ^{Scott}
"That the term 'Local Alliance'
be substituted for 'Local Union'
throughout the Constitution"

Clause 6

Resolved

Proposer Mr McEleney, Sec. Mr Varnum
"That Clause 6 read as follows:
'Delegates to the Annual Meeting,
shall be members of Local Unions
in good standing. For Unions with
a membership of six and under ten,
one delegate; between ten and
twenty-five, two delegates; and for

8. Any person directly interested in education may join a union on being introduced by a member and paying the annual fee.

unions with a membership exceeding twenty-five, one additional delegate for each additional delegate for ~~each additional~~ twenty-five or fraction thereof."

Clause 4.

Resolved

Proposer Mr. Clayton - Sec. Mr. Freeman
"That General Secretary, Treasurer be substituted for Sec. Treas."

Resolved

Prop. Mr. Rogers. Sec. Mr. Martin
"That 'fifteen' days be substituted for 'thirty'."

Clause 8

Resolved

Prop. Mr. Schorfield - Mr. Scott.
"That clause 8 read as follows:
'Anyone who has been actually engaged in teaching for some time during the preceding twelve months, except a permit teacher, and is recognized by the Dept of Education of the Province of Alberta, shall be eligible to join the Alliance on payment of the Annual Fee.'"

7. At the Annual Meeting the President of the Alliance shall preside. This meeting shall receive and discuss reports of the executive officers and decide on any question arising out of these reports. It shall decide on any business brought before the meeting by the executive officers or by a union in

good standing. It shall elect a president and vice-president of the Alliance to hold office for one year who shall nominate a secretary-treasurer that will meet with the approval of the meeting. It shall set the annual membership fee for the Alliance.

13. The Executive of the Alliance shall consist of a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

It was understood that the term 'permit teacher' referred to those whose academic standing was inferior to Grade XI.

Clause 12

Resolved:

Mr Rogers - Mr. Scott.
"That the Alliance consist of five members - President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Retiring Pres. and one elected member, and that three constitute a quorum for the transaction of business"

Clauses - additional to Constitution

Resolved that the following clauses be added to constitution:

- (a) Mr. Scott - Mr Clayton
"A vacancy on the Executive arising during the year shall be filled by the Executive."
- (b) Mr Hoover - Mrs Kelly
"In case of the inability of the Present President to act, thro' death, sickness or removal, or resignation, the Vice president shall take office as President, and should the Vice president also

16. The officers of the Union shall be a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

19. The election of officers for Local Unions shall take place in the month of December.

21. The executive of any Union shall frame such by-laws and regulations for its own and the Unions' government as are in its judgment in the best interests of the Union and not inconsistent with its constitution.

be unable to serve owing to some other considerations, then the ex-president shall fill the vacancy!"

Clauses re. Local Unions.

Clause 18

Resolved

Miss Pier - Mr Mc Allister

"That the Executive of a Local Union shall consist of at least a President, Vice-president and Secretary-treasurer"

Clause 19

Resolved

Mr Todd - Mr Mc Eleney.

"The Annual Election of Officers of Local Unions shall take place not later than the month of December."

Clause 21

Resolved

Mr Newland Miss Pier.

"That the formation of a Local Union Alliance, its constitution and its by-laws be subject to revision by

23. Any of the above sections that apply to the constitutions of Local Unions shall in no way prevent the reception of organized bodies of teachers into the Alliance as a local union.

AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

24. Any member desiring to introduce any addition or amendment to this constitution shall submit a draft thereof to the secretary of the Alliance 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.

9. A member six months in arrears shall stand suspended without any formal action on the part of the Union, but the secretary must report the same to the Alliance and correct the membership roll.

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and approval of the Provincial
Alliance Executive".

Clause 23 ^{Prop.} "That this Clause
be omitted - Mr Clayton - Mrs Dees.

Clause 24 re amendments to Constitution
Resolved:

Mr Hoover - Mr Varnum
"Substitution of 'thirty' for
'sixty'"

1918 Adjourned annual Meeting
Place Corona Hotel, Edmonton.
Date April 3 - 1918.

Amendments to Constitution.

Clause 9

Resolved:

Mr Scott - Mr Hoover.

"That members of Local Alliance
whose fees are not paid by the
end of the calendar year shall
stand suspended "et c"

Additions to Constitution

Resolved:

Miss Puri - Mr McAllister

"The Executive of the Alliance may amend the Constitution or take any decisive action necessary after securing the approval of the members by a two thirds majority of the Total Electoral Vote throughout the Province"

Resolved:

Mr Newland Mr Varnum

"A majority vote of a regularly called meeting of a Local Alliance shall control the entire Electoral vote of the Local Alliance, and the local secretary shall promptly notify the general Secretary-treasurer of the result"

Resolved

Mr Hoover Mr Long

"A Local Alliance shall be entitled to ~~as many~~ ^{the same} number of Electoral votes, as Delegates it would be represented by at the annual meeting."

Resolved

Mr Clindinin Mr Clayton.

- That the Executive recommend to the Annual Meeting the payment of an honorarium of \$50⁰⁰ to J. H. Barnett as a small appreciation for his work rendered during the year as general secretary-treasurer.

Resolved:

Mr Hoover Mr Mc Allister

- On the nomination of the Executive Mr J. H. Barnett be elected general secretary-treasurer for the ensuing year."

Resolved

Mr Scott - Mr Bailey.

- That the salary of the Gen Sec-treas for the ensuing year be \$100⁰⁰ but that the Executive be empowered to increase this amount should an unexpectedly large amount of business warrant it."

The fee for the year 1917-18 shall be thirty-five cents per member.

Financial Estimate of Expenditure
for the ensuing year.

Secretary	\$ 100
4 Spec Meetings	150
Other Trav. exps.	100
Stenographers	30
Print + Stationery	45
Postage	25
Misc.	20
Incorporation	_____
	500.

Annual fee for 1918-19

Resolved: - Mr Clayton - Mr Martin
 (Mr Dodd's resolution that the annual
 fee be \$2⁵⁰ was not recorded.)
 "That the Annual ^{to the Gen. Sec.} fee, for the
 ensuing year be 4/50 per member"

Addition to Constitution, re
Members at Large:

Mr Martin - Miss Peck
 "A teacher eligible for membership
 but who is so located as to be unable
 to join any local alliance may become
 a Member at Large" on payment of the
 Annual Membership fee together with

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an additional 25¢ for administrative purposes. The Executive afterwards reserves the right to attach such member to any Local Alliance as may in its opinion be practicable for such member to attend."

Minimum Salary for Rural
Resolved Teachers

Mr. Dodd - Mr. Clayton.

"That we express our approval of the Gov't's action in fixing the minimum salary for Rural Teachers as a step in the right direction."

Resolved:

Mr. Connolly - Mr. Asselstine.

"That the Executive gather together such information from various sources as well enable it to work out a model scale of salaries."

(Very roughly stated resolution)

Resolutions

Incorporation

Mr Bailey - Mr Newland

That the Alberta Teachers Alliance take steps to seek incorporation forth with."

Code of Honor

Mr Asselstine - Mr Clendinning

"That the Alberta Teachers Alliance appoint a committee to draw up a code of ^{Professional} Honor for the members of the Alberta Teachers Alliance"

Delegation of Minister

That the executive work out and as early as possible send a delegation to the Government requesting.

① A directory of teachers and schools for the Province

Prof. Hoover
Dep. Varnum

② A contract that will give the teacher greater security.

Prof. Mr. Scott
The
Mrs. Clayton

③ A scheme of Pensions approved by the A.T.A.

Prof. Mr. Scott
Mrs. Newland

Votes of thanks were then unanimously carried to
① Officers of Past Year
② Auditors
③ Scrutineers.

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The business was now
declared ended.

Signed Opps
President. Ed. Museum

Date. - April 19, 1919.

