



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-Operation



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REPORT OF C. E. HUFF

BEFORE THE CONVENTION

It is my privilege at this time to give account to you of my stewardship in the work which you have entrusted to me. It has been a busy year. My health has been good for the most part and I have been able to meet all of the demands made upon me. As indicating the scope and variety of that demand it may be said that I have driven by automobile more than 40,000 miles, besides considerable travel by rail. I have attended scores of meetings throughout the state, and have spoken to thousands, in all. I have co-operated as closely as possible with those in charge of our statewide business organizations and have given all possible help in the solution of our banking problem.

Material for the paper has been written regularly, regardless of other circumstances. While these articles have been primarily designed for our own people and our own problems, the Kansas Union Farmer has been, I believe, as widely quoted in the Farmers Union press as any other of our state publications. In connection with the farm bill and some other matters of national legislation I spent some 10 days in Washington, D. C.

During the year I have spoken in Oklahoma, in Missouri and in Iowa, by invitation. Have attended the meetings of the National Board, which Board I have served as Secretary. I have taken an active part in the work of the Corn Belt Federation, attending the meetings and serving on committees. Have kept up the correspondence of the office, which has been unusually heavy this year, due to unusual circumstances within the organization and at large. I have aided in securing closer co-operation and better fellowship as between the three membership farm organizations in Kansas, The Grange, the Farm Bureau and the Farmers Union—and have attended the meetings of the Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations. As representing the Kansas Farmers Union, I took part in the initial meetings at Topeka looking to a solution of the problem of marketing the Kaw Valley Potato Crop. By invitation I have spoken during the year on the farm problem before various groups, such as the congregation of Dr. Burris Jenkins Church in Kansas City, a Junior College assembly in Missouri, a study group at K. S. A. C., as well as High School assemblies and Chambers of Commerce. In several instances I have spoken on the Kansas Tax situation in special meetings. The variety of the work has given it balance and has made leisure or vacation unnecessary.

The proposal was made and accepted at the joint meeting of the Boards in Kansas City last January that an organized campaign for membership should be undertaken as early as possible and continued through the year, with the agreement that such part of the cost as could not be met by the State Organization directly should be met by the state-wide units. Conditions indicated that such a campaign would be most successful. However, before it could be gotten under way, the disaster of our bank was upon us, and therefore the attention of all had to be given to that and related problems. After several weeks spent in seeking the causes of our misfortune and in searching for the best way out of or difficulty, a meeting was called at Salina to discuss and adopt plans. This meeting was attended by several hundred persons fully determined to find a way to meet the situation honorably and to carry on our work as a Union.

Out of that meeting came the plan which we are following in our banks. The success of the plan may be gauged by the reports which will be made to this convention by Mr. Dunn and by the special committee. Let it suffice to say that I am proud of the thing the Kansas Farmers Union is doing in this matter, and proud of the members who, one by one, are making possible the aggregate showing which is successful. The Department testifies that never before has such a situation been handled with as little attention and care on their part. The Kansas public is becoming aware that this is an organization, a cohesive group with a largeness of program and fineness of spirit which entitles it to respect and honor. We shall emerge from this experience with that deeper sense of comradeship which difficulty brings, and with an increased confidence in one another and in our power to meet any situation successfully, so only that we meet it together. We shall be stronger and not weaker.

Proofs of this are not wanting. Even as we entered into the campaign to redeem ourselves from the bank failure it became evident that our intent was broader than this single field. We discussed our relation to the whole movement with a new seriousness. A new sense of obligation and opportunity came upon us. The flow of business to our units quickened, increased, and has risen in an unabating stream. The Jobbing Association, for example, shows an increase of more than 100 per cent in volume, and reveals profit possibilities beyond any previous time. The others were only a little less benefited, as the reports will show. A compilation of all reports will reveal that we are do-

ing our work more effectively than ever before, and that we are becoming ready for the next step, the federation of our units with those of other state Farmers Union groups for bargaining power in the markets. A buying corporation, formed upon that basis and with a potential buying power as great as that of any chain store, is in process of forming. The sale of our Creamery products, jointly with other Farmers Union creameries is an early possibility. Grains and live stock will follow. We are extending our activities to the natural goals of co-operative marketing and each function from local station to central market is being well performed.

Just at this time, as the records of Secretary Brasted will show, our membership whose current dues are paid is somewhat less than a year ago. This is regrettable, but not surprising. A single county, whose experiences during the year have been almost tragic and whose members have been confused and doubtful, largely accounts for this decline. But it is notable that for the first 25 days of this October, the receipt of current dues was almost 50 per cent greater than for the entire month of October last year. By the end of the calendar year, we shall probably equal or exceed last year's numbers. Our future is in no doubt. We are going forward.

Our debt to the National organization and to some of the state Unions and their officials, and to the M. F. A. ought to be recognized at this time. Particularly we ought to mention the aid and encouragement given by Secretary A. C. Davis of the National Union, by M. W. Thatcher and C. C. Talbot of the Northwest, by Milo Reno and Paul Moore of Iowa, by Jimmy Norgard of Nebraska, and by George Kelley of the M. F. A. Their courage and their counsel were most valuable to us in our perplexity. I wish, also, to acknowledge with gratitude the full and hearty co-operation of those connected with the state office, and of all of our business enterprises. The former made possible the handling of the paper and of the correspondence and other office detail, and the latter made possible the enlarging program, which we now operate. Gaps ought to be closed up. Counties ought to be as solidly organized as is possible. Suitable new business units should be encouraged where needed, and these should be closely integrated with our general program. The lamps can be again be lighted in the country school houses, and entire neighborhoods may be enlisted with us to our mutual gain. The Kansas Farmers Union of today, with its splendid business organizations and its various services, infinitely more than did the organization of 15 or 20 years ago. The needs of the individual farmer for such an organization have not diminished, but have rather increased with the years. Such a campaign back by the loyal thousands of our present membership, who, undaunted and undiscouraged have built the Union out of nothing into what it now is—such a campaign with your support will succeed.

Great care during the year and the fact that we received certain special funds enabled us to close the year without loss and without reduction of surplus. It would seem that no further reduction in expenditure can be made without more than equal loss in the future. There are two avenues of possibility for the future. One is that the share of the members dues accruing to the state should be increased by decreasing the share which remains with local and county unions. The local now retains 80 cents per member and the county, where a county union exists, receives 20 cents. If, as an example, the local should retain 50 cents and the county receive 15 cents, it would increase the state income by some \$6,000.00 or \$7,000.00 per year. This would enable us to do effective organization work. This plan was adopted by the Nebraska Farmers Union about a year ago. Whether it is wise to increase the funds for general work by reduction of local funds may be open to question. The other alternative is to have an agreement with the statewide business units by which, in such manner as the law will permit, they shall contribute either a fixed sum or a proportion of net earnings to the state union. These are matters to which our committees will doubtless give earnest consideration. Despite the difficulties which we have encountered during the year, the closing, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you as President. An honor of which I am proud and a privilege for which I am very grateful. I trust that service has been as profitable. I have the utmost confidence in the future of the Kansas Farmers Union.

The agriculture class of the Marysville high school attended the convention in a body on Wednesday.

The Peenka School district in Marysville vicinity let school out so that their youngsters could be at the convention.

WHAT THE FARMER GETS FOR HIS TIME

By Don M. Chase

In the July issue of the "Scop Show," organ of the co-operative associations of Manitoba, Don M. Chase makes a highly interesting analysis of agriculture in the United States. Unlike many writers on both sides of the farm question Mr. Chase gives us figures with which the reader may compare his own financial situation.

Whether we find that for our own individual case these figures on farmer wages are too high or too low, they are well worth studying. One thing that should give weight to Mr. Chase's view of the plight of the U. S. farmer is the fact that he advances no remedy for the conditions he describes—he confines himself to a presentation of the facts as he sees them. Here is material for study on the part of members of the Minneapolis Wheat Growers. The Co-operator will be glad to receive and so far as space permits to publish, comments on the line of thought opened up by Mr. Chase.

Of the most significant facts in American life since the great war is the decrease in rural population. The net loss in farm population by migration to the city in 1925 was 900,000. Practically offsetting this figure is the surplus of rural population, amounting to 422,000. The net decrease in farm population in 1925 was thus 478,000. To understand the basic reason for this migration is to understand the worst maladjustment in American life today.

The plain and unadorned reason for this movement, is that it is impossible to make a living on the farm today. This thesis can be amplified from several angles. Each approach throws fresh light on the movement away from the farm.

The first point which we may consider is the loss of capital invested in farms. The amount of capital invested in agriculture in America has decreased 27 per cent since 1920, according to a committee of the National Land Grant Colleges and Universities. Professor Carney, of Teachers' College, Columbia University, estimates that in the years 1920-1926 the farmers of America lost \$20,000,000,000 or 25 per cent of their total invested capital.

Another view of this loss of capital is seen in farm bankruptcies. The percentage of farm owners who lost their farms in the years 1920-1926, varied from 6 per cent in the north central states to almost 20 per cent in the mountain states. The percentage of tenants who lost their property was materially greater. In the years 1926-1927 there were nine times as many farm bankruptcies as in the years 1924-1925. Professor Carney states that over a million farmers, 17 per cent of the total number, lost their life-time savings in this period.

The great increase of bank failures, chiefly in agricultural regions, testifies to the same thing. When a bank fails, the farmer gets the full force of the liquidation. Bank failures often follow directly after widespread farm bankruptcy. From 1912 to 1919 the average annual number of bank failures was 88. In the years 1920 to 1926 the average number rose to 120. It will also be noted that the extent of farm indebtedness represented by mortgages. Between 1920 and 1925 farm mortgages in the United States increased 13 per cent. In 1925 more than 36 per cent of all farms were mortgaged to banks and investment companies. The mortgages amount to 42 per cent of the total value of these farms.

Farming as a Business Going back to bankruptcies and mortgages, let us consider farming as a business venture, and see what the farmer gets in the way of interest on his investment, and what he gets for his labor. It will be instructive to compare the average returns for a very bad year, 1921, for a mercurial year, 1925, and for a fairly good year, 1924.

Agricultural Year Book The Agricultural Year Book gives reports for 1921 of 3,306 farms in all sections of the country. The average invested capital represented by the mortgages was \$22,138. The average income for these farms in 1921 was \$1,088. This amount should be applied to two purposes, to pay interest on invested capital, and to pay the farmer for his work. At 5 per cent the interest on the capital amounts to \$1,108, or \$20 more than the farmer got in the entire year. Hence he got nothing at all for his labor, and not quite 5 per cent on his invested capital.

For the year 1925, we have 1,784 typical farms from all sections of the country. The average invested capital was \$18,314. The average farm income was \$1,072. When 5 per cent of the investment was deducted from this sum the farmer had left \$645 in wages for his twelve months' labor. To consider his income another way, if the farmer pays himself the current wage for his work, there remains 1.3 per cent on his investment. For the year 1924 we have figures for 1,856 typical farms from all sections of the country. The average investment was \$26,975. The farm income averaged \$4,114. When 5 per cent on the investment was deducted the farmer had left \$645 in wages, or on the other hand he paid himself the current wage for work performed, he had left 4.6 per cent on his investment.

If we average the returns to the farmer for these three years, we find that the average farmer received \$261 for twelve months' labor. Is it any wonder that the farmer leaves the farm and joins the ranks of the city wage earner?

(continued on page 4)

MEXICO'S CHINESE FARMERS OFFER COMPETITION

Southern Cotton Growers Have Rivals In Oriental Laborers in Mexico; Textile Mills Being Erected; Writer Finds on Recent Trip Through Country and Southwest

(NOTE: The following article on agricultural conditions in Mexico and the Chinese farmers there, was written by Nelson M. Shipp, formerly editorial writer for the Macon (Ga.) Daily Telegraph and later secretary to a southern senator in Washington. Mr. Shipp made a tour of the south-west and the cotton-growing section of Mexico, where he made a survey of agricultural conditions.)

By Nelson M. Shipp When you cross the border into Mexico, the general atmosphere and psychology of the people will tend to upset your equilibrium at first. If you are fortunate enough to possess a chain acquisition on the border, where the officials on both sides of the line maintain a cordial understanding, matters will be easier for you. The writer went down last fall with a letter of introduction from Secretary of State Kellogg to American diplomatic officials in Mexico, but because of such border friendships did not have occasion to use it.

In his travels, he visited Mexicali, the next, peaceful and somewhat fortified "frontier" in the border. California, Mexico. Its Monte Carlo is almost as large as that at Tia Juana, and it is said, they pay a license of \$1,000 a day. A chief of police from one of the border states met me by appointment in Mexicali and took me to the "palacio," or palace of the governor. There, in the patio of the square, white two-story building, he introduced me to his hunting friend, Garcia, chief of the mounted police of Lower California, commanding a squad of Mexican policemen generally picturesque, but Garcia most of all—a man about 37 years of age, swarthy, tall and heavy-built, reserved and cautious.

We were introduced to the secretary of the government and then the state prefect of police. The state authorities manifested a cordial interest in my journalistic activities, and suggested that we go and see the mayor of Mexicali.

The mayor called in his chief of police and city engineer, and requested them to show us over the city. We went first to the large cottonseed oil mill on the edge of town. There I saw machinery marked, "Colombian" in one of the most modern mills of its kind.

Large Mills As my trip to Mexico and the far western states was for the purpose of investigating the cotton situation in those regions, as regards present and future competition with the south, I was highly interested in the Mexican state which was vivid testimony that not only is Mexico competing with the south in the raw product, but in finished material as well.

I was informed that this company owned and operated an even larger mill further south, one mill being at the upper and the other at the lower end of the Mexicali valley, and cotton-growing region of the peninsula.

Mexico's largest cotton textile mill, located at Culiacan, was burned during the revolution of 1911, and up to several years ago had not been rebuilt. The Culiacan mill produced the kind of cotton cloth as far as clothing by the Mexican masses. Two cotton mills were built in southwestern Mexico 45 years ago by British interests, who sold them to a Spanish group. One of these mills was closed in 1925 on account of state officials supporting the workers in their demand for wages of 14 pesos (about \$7 a day) for 10 hours work. Several years ago these mills had some 160 looms each. A smaller mill, with about 80 looms, was established near Mazatlan, with an annual business of approximately \$100,000.

Five years ago, the cotton mills of Mexico were importing about 90 per cent of their raw cotton from the United States. Even then, there was considerable competition with the south. The number of equivalent 500-pound bales annually, and by 1925 the estimated cotton acreage in that Mexican territory was 197,430 acres. The bulk of this crop was raised in the Imperial valley, where 80 per cent of the cotton grown in Mexicali valley, (the Mexican side of Imperial valley) was produced by Chinese. The same situation obtains today. In its report, it set forth:

Chinese Activities "Their system is one Chinese man with money of his own, or capital which he controls, gets a lease from the company owning the land, and forms a co-operative company with an average of 16 men to the 1,000 acres of cotton land. The land may be raw and may have to be cleared, leveled and ditched, or it may be developed land, the price per acre per season varying accordingly. The men of the company contribute small sums,

varying from a few hundred dollars to a thousand or more dollars toward the enterprise. They also work for a share in the crop. Wages are not paid during the working season and only food and clothing are advanced to the men during the crop and picking season. In this manner, each person is interested in the success of the crop and has an individual stake in the venture. The plan makes the initial investment very low as regards cash outlay, and the Chinese thereby require less financing than the other ranchers for their crop season."

For their mutual protection, the report continues, the Chinese across the border in the valley have formed an association with headquarters in their own building at Mexicali, where hospital facilities are provided for the men. The Chinese merchants many of whom are also cotton planters on a large scale, belong to this association, which makes negotiation with the Chinese easy and practical at all times.

Until the heavy losses sustained in the rice market failure of the fall of 1920, the Chinese were able to secure funds from their countrymen in San Francisco. Following that they felt the need for capital and were willing to pay high interest. Although considered first-class credit risks, their tendency is to withdraw on their credit during the season, and no unusual portion of a loan is ever returned as such. It is used later on or sent out of the country, but sooner or later the Chinese always pay back the loans. One chronic case is cited in the department of commerce report "where a Chinese leaseholder paid off the losses on his 1920 crop with his 1921 crop, clearing up a total indebtedness of \$955,000 (or over half a million dollars), without any difficulty when given the time to do so."

Just how many Chinese are now in the valley just across the border would be difficult to estimate, but as the commerce report states, "the Chinese have long been numerically the largest foreign element on the west coast of Mexico," and "a few years ago about 5,000 Chinese were imported to work the cotton fields on the Mexican side of the line on the leasing system."

My investigations in Mexico and Washington verified the fact that Chinese are employed extensively to farm these cotton lands; that quite a number of coolies ship from China to San Francisco and then are transported through our country in locked and barred cars and under bond of \$500 each to Mexico. The figures on file at the immigration bureau in Washington are to the effect that during the last five years alone or since the above report of the department, some 5,000 Chinese have been sent conveyed through the United States.

A prominent banker of Mexico estimates there are over 50,000 Chinese in the west coast of Mexico, principally in the States of Sonora, Sinaloa, Nayarit and Lower California. The commerce report sets forth that there are a million acres in the Mexicali valley that can be irrigated and utilized for agriculture. The possibilities—and probabilities, as regards cotton competition in this region hardly need to be further dwelt upon.

Never a Competitor

As regards the land on the American side of the border in the extreme western part of our country, sometimes referred to as Imperial Valley, the writer's conclusion, after a month's first-hand investigation, is that this region is not now and never will become a cotton competitor of the South.

Georgia produces some wheat, but Georgia never will become a wheat competitor of the west. The case is analogous. Cotton is simply not the crop of the coast region, and the largest possible extension of the irrigation would not make it such. The fundamental agricultural fact in the premises is that where farming is so expensive, crops that bring far higher prices than cotton must be the most part be grown.

Perhaps the clearest indication of the farm trend of the region is contained in the government's census figures of the cotton ginnings of Imperial county California, which county extends over much of Imperial Valley. The number of equivalent 500-pound bales ginned in the county in the year 1924 was 26,733. In the year 1925, the following 12 months, the ginnings fell to 22,614 such bales; and in 1926, the number decreased to 13,662.

In this territory, which incidentally is the principal section to be irrigated by the proposed Boulder Dam on the Colorado river, the basic crops are citrus fruits, winter vegetables and similar agriculture. Cotton is planted only as a side crop, or to wash the alkali out of the soil through irrigation. Alkali is seceded product, and was deposited in the land when it was at the bottom of the Gulf of California, before silt from the Colorado formed a delta across the mouth of the gulf and cut off the inland waters, which evaporated through the years. It is a irony of circumstances that a small Orient is being built up in the south, which in turn is produced on a paternalistic basis with irrigation waters transported for miles at a large cost by reluctant American farmers.

Boulder Dam Project

Under an old concession from Diaz the American farmers of the Imperial Valley ran their man-line irrigation canal 60 miles through Mexico, with the agreement that lands in Mexico should be entitled to one-half of all the water flowing through the canal. For every acre irrigated in the United States, the Mexicans were due water for an acre in Mexico.

(continued on page 4)

THE FARMERS UNION SESSION AT MARYSVILLE, KANSAS

The delegates and visitors began arriving early Monday. Never has the day previous the opening of the Kansas Farmers Union Convention found so many people assembled. If each day does, as well accordingly this will be a record meeting from the standpoint of attendance.

We found the town of Marysville ready for us. Festive decorations all over town. Beautiful banners meet the eye any place you look with the phrase "Welcome Farmers Union." Cards of welcome in the store windows greet us, making us feel very much at home indeed. Regardless of the fact that the Hotel men are in a panic trying to make us comfortable we are sure that as soon as the Reception Committee gets on the job we will all be comfortably established in private homes and rooming houses.

We have found very good places to eat so far. This will keep us in a good humor if anything will.

The Auditorium is situated in the city park; well lighted, well ventilated and well heated. The platform is built in a shell. All over the sides and top of this shell are numerous light globes so that the light is perfect. Also this particular arrangement is the secret of why a voice from the platform can be heard clearly all over the building. The stage is decorated most unique. A large problem of the Farmers Union, several feet in diameter, the plow, rake and hoe are real time of year. The various organizations have their booths and display arranged in the back of the room.

The Farmers Union Creamery Booth is quite interesting. They have a miniature barn yard, there you find a perfect dairy barn, the corral fenced with a fine iron fence. Quite an assortment of cows are to be found in that barn yard—Jerseys, Holsteins, Guernseys and their calves. This dairy barn is modern in every way.

They have the egg tester which shows you the looks of a good egg, a bad egg and an indifferent one. Quite another space in this paper you will find a copy of their pamphlet—"Egg Nog." This is reproduced in this paper to help you. We have our plant in Kansas City for your assistance. "Egg Nog." Near this booth is a cream cooling plant that is a necessity of every farm where cream is sold. This cream cooler is to be given as a premium to the one who guesses nearest the number of beans in the jar.

The products sold by the Farmers Union Jobbing Association are found in other parts of the building.

The Managerial Meeting was called into session with a large number of

managers, the salesmen from the different organizations almost 100 per cent. More women are attending this first days meeting than has been seen in the whole meeting in many previous years.

Mr. Chas. S. Barrett, National President and Mr. A. C. Davis, National Secretary of the organization, are on the platform with State President C. E. Huff.

Mr. A. M. Kinney called the meeting to order. Mr. Ralph Chapman read the minutes of the previous meeting. President C. E. Huff made the introductory speech. Mr. Chas. Barrett spoke a few words of greeting. Mr. A. C. Davis, who is a very able speaker, spoke a few minutes at this meeting.

The remainder of the meeting followed the program closely. Several extemporaneous speeches from the floor were very much worth while.

If all the days to come can be judged by this day we are having the best meeting we ever had.

We have been informed that the ladies of the convention are to be entertained with a tea at the Country Club. Also there is to be a free picture show. The ladies appreciate the efforts of Marshall county very much and will remember this county very much for a long time to come.

COMMITTEES

Banking
E. L. Ballard, Vassar.
Henry, Kresin, Beloit.
S. S. Long, Collier.
C. C. Serlenberger, Lawrence.
Robt. Taylor, Spring Hill.
Frank Thomas, Ellyses.
R. B. Dunn, Salina.
Constitution and By Laws
Chas. A. Broom, Salina.
L. C. Gritten, Kincaid.
H. B. Whitaker, Emporia.
J. V. Goodsheller, McPherson.
C. J. Eys, Miltonvale.

Legislation
W. J. Spencer, St. John.
Clyde Coffman, Overbrook.
John Frost, Blue Rapids.
Jas. G. Strong, Blue Rapids.
Co. A. Ward, Lone Star.
J. P. Johnson, Kirwin.
John Vesecky, Kansas City, Mo.

Resolutions
Clifford Miller, Brewster.
C. B. Thow, Blue Rapids.
E. A. Croll, Erie.
Fred Lehman, Bern.
John Jones, Herington.
John Huber, Selden.
Wheaton Syster, Paola.
Credentialed and Election
Carl Clark, McPherson.
David Thomas, Burns.
Walter Kinsley, Logan.
Geo. Peet, Madison.
H. A. Wetters, Blue Rapids.
A. L. Helcom.

Neighborhood Notes

Summitt Local 859 held its regular meeting Wednesday evening, Oct. 24th. There was a large attendance present on account of making preparations for the coming state convention which will be held at Marysville Oct. 31st, Nov. 1-2.

Nelson Samuelson was elected a delegate and Edward Warner as a delegate to represent Summitt Local. Mrs. Anton Wenzel was appointed to attend to getting a banner to represent Summitt Local at Marysville during the state convention.—J. D. S.

FAIR LAWN LOCAL
Moran, Kansas, Oct. 27, 1928
Fairlawn local is not dead yet. Last Monday night, at our regular meeting, refreshments were served and the big part of the evening was spent in games, and a program that chiefly consisted of a mock wedding.

No one ever dreamed what a sweet little flapperette Dee Doughty made as a ring bearer or could imagine the feminine beauty that Howard Barnes made as the bride until they were before our eyes to her long slender frame to the little short prospect of a hen-pecked groom C. Houk.

A kitchenette shower consisting of many useful articles was presented then to our president, Paul Seiber, who was lately married to Miss Bessie Rogers of this community.

Practically the whole evening's scramble was a scream of interest and the achievements of one's ideas, Mrs. H. O. Barnes. We thank you, Glenn Thomson, Sec'y.

STAFFORD COUNTY
The Stafford County Farmers Union has been very busy the last few months, though no news has come from them.

The Farmers Union sponsored the erection of an agriculture booth at the state fair at Hutchinson again this year. Stafford County Farmers Union is the only union in the state to under take this work. This year we feel unusually proud because we carried off the honors for the Western Kansas County Collective Agriculture Exhibit winning 1st place and \$24.21 prize money. Shortly after the fair last year the Farmers Union appointed a committee. J. W. Batchman living northwest of St. John was named chairman. Mr. Batchman saw that the required products were grown, prepared and exhibited growing many of the grain vegetables and fruit himself. Mr. Batchman showed himself very capable.

The booth displayed 254 different varieties of products, 43 varieties of

wild grass, made the highest score in vegetables, ranked high in education and artistic display. Others who helped Mr. Batchman were Mrs. Batchman, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Weider Mr. H. Harrison, Mr. Veach, Mr. Art Francis and Mr. Rex Leor.

Farmers Union members should be proud of their achievement.

The Stafford Co. Farmers Union held their regular meeting Oct. 2, 1928, at the I. O. O. F. hall in St. John. Not as many delegates answered roll call as usual, but a good meeting was held.

Secretary Rex Leor read the minutes of the previous meeting which were approved.

The report of the annual county picnic was heard. The picnic was a success, everyone had a good time, and the finance committee reported a net profit of \$8.17.

These concessions furnished the folks with cold drinks, ice cream and the things that make a real picnic, also paid the picnic expenses. It was decided to hold Booster Trips again this fall. This year each of the locals in the county will be host to a visiting local.

The visiting local is to give the program, the home local to furnish the cats.

The cats are to consist of not more than two articles and a drink.

The report of the committee who placed the Stafford Co. booth at the state fair was given by Mr. Batchman, and a cheer of appreciation was given to all who helped.

Mr. Francis took products from the locals of the county and erected a very pretty booth at Maxville.

Mr. Radkie was elected delegate to the state convention at Marysville. Mr. Rex Leor as alternate.

Some of the Locals have not gotten started very well, but were expected to have regular meetings from now on, preparing to put in a booth at the Four of the locals reported they were county fair at Stafford Oct. 9-12.

New Hope Local reported buying a car of coal also that they expected to have regular meetings from now on, preparing to put in a booth at the "After Harvest Festival" in St. John. Livingston Local received 2nd prize on window display and 1st on float at St. John, during the "After Harvest Festival."

Some of the Locals gave short plays at Stafford during the county fair.

Union, Liberty, Livingston and (continued on page 4)

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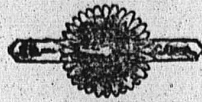
Subscription Price, per Year, \$1.00

Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the local and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

Change of Address—When change of address is ordered, give old as well as new address, and R. F. D.

All copy, with the exception of notices and including advertising, should be in seven days before the date of publication. Notices of meetings can be handled up until noon Saturday on the week preceding publication date.

Communications and Questions—Communications are solicited from practical farmers, members of the F. E. & C. U. of A., are at liberty to ask questions on any phase of farm work. Answers will be either published or mailed.



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1928

MANY A SLIP 'TWINX CUP AND LIP

To believe in co-operative marketing is not enough, not to belong to an organization, although both are necessary. Both become rather fruitless in case the product of the farm goes to market through other channels than co-operative.

Sometimes the member cannot resist the temptation to take an apparently higher price than his own agency offers, even while admitting that this price results from the presence of his own organization in the field, and will cease if his business fails. Sometimes the manager, trying to make a few cents additional for his local business out of better sales which he is led to hope someone else may make will consign co-operative products to old line firms.

But the big slip 'twixt the Farmers Union member and the central sales agency just now is the operator of the commercial truck. He has become the public carrier for a vast amount of farm produce, but he has not yet acquired in every case a disinterestedness as to the firm patronized. He can find more reasons for delivering to the old line firm than an office seeker can for your support of himself. The Farmers elevator is so busy he hates to wait. The other elevator has a new truck dump that works perfectly. Or he couldn't see anybody around the Farmers elevator and so he went on. He don't see why the manager doesn't attend to business. It seems to be easier for him to deliver anywhere else than to the firm owned by the man who employs him.

An increasing percentage of live stock is going to market by truck. Fleets of big trucks go roaring all night through from points as far from the central market as 200 miles, delivering the stock in early morning. I have encountered such trucks as far from market as the Rosebud country in South Dakota, marketing at Sioux City. And it has become apparent that as the trucking increases from any region the co-operative live stock firm's relative receipts decline. In other words the railroad company doesn't care a campaign's promise who you send your stuff to for sale, and can only deliver where the billing indicates. The truck driver seems in many cases to have a rather passionate interest in the old line firm, and in the absence of the most specific instruction feels free to deliver to some other firm than the co-operative. Just what financial interest the truck operator may have in the place of delivery may be hard to prove, but it is beyond doubt that some method of reward has been arranged for those drivers who slip their loads to old line firms.

At the recent meeting of the St. Joseph Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co. Board of Directors a resolution was passed, urging upon members close attention to the delivery of their shipments. No one else can remedy their situation. Your commission company cannot correct it. It is up to you. The following resolution was passed, to which all Farmers Union members should give close heed.

RESOLVED:

That this Board of Directors forward a letter to each organization, which is a party to the contract, to instruct their members about the situation in regard to truck drivers delivering live stock to old-line commission firms, and insisting that all truck drivers be directed to deliver the stock owned by members to the co-operative live stock commission companies on all terminal markets, and that the above resolution be published in their respective publications, and be given such other publicity as may be deemed practically or advisable.

KONW WHAT YOU BUY IN LIVE STOCK REMEDIES

If you had a sick animal in your barn would you want to give him a dose of paint? That is just what you would do if you bought some of the livestock remedies that are now on the market. Not only paint, but five different kinds of it. Burnt umber, chrome yellow, ochre, Spanish brown and venetian red are known to be elements in the composition of some of the live stock remedies that are sold in different parts of the country. What could you expect of a hog that was tanked up on Venetian red? If interior decoration with paint does not seem to get results, there are livestock remedies on sale that contain grit, Fuller's earth, horse manure composed of coal dust and marble dust, iron rust, lime, peat, sand, plaster of paris, paraffine, white clay (kaolin) and wood ashes. It might seem a hopeless case that could stand up against such remedies.

The animal sickness might be very complicated and a different treatment might be indicated. In such cases there are remedies which contain aniline dyes, Chilo saltpetre and soap, besides some that are 98 per cent water and others which have as high

as 90 per cent salt. Then there is a considerable list of remedies which are more or less conspicuous because of the "fillers" they contain. Buckwheat hulls, cocoa shell, cottonseed hulls and peanut shells are used as fillers. These make bulk and there is something to sell that looks like a lot for the money.

Now, all of these things are not deleterious. Many of them, like those in the list with lime, sand and soapstone, are simply inert, but they are all found to be elements in some live stock remedies that may be bought somewhere in these United States, and it was to prevent the excessive or fraudulent use of such substances in remedies, tonics, vermifuges and conditioners in livestock and poultry that the Kansas live stock remedy law was passed.

This law is administered by the State Board of Agriculture through its Control Division which has just issued a report of high value to the farmer and live stock man and which is now ready for free distribution. Quoting the law and rulings made under it, this report contains a statement of the ingredients of more than 600 live stock and poultry remedies that have met the requirements of the

sale in Kansas. This information is accompanied by a list showing the scientific name, the English name and the common name of each ingredient, with its principal properties.

The report is intended primarily for the information of those who use proprietary remedies for their livestock and poultry and not to recommend them. It supplies information about their composition and the property of each ingredient, to that the purchaser may know what he is buying and the probable effect it will have when administered, but gives no approval of either ingredient or formula. Credit is given to Inspector A. E. Langworthy of the Control Division for this unique feature of the report.

These reports will be sent free to citizens of the state while the supply lasts and may be had by addressing Secretary J. C. Mohler, State Board of Agriculture, Topeka.

WORLD-WIDE NEIGHBORLINESS

With zeppelins and aeroplanes routing increasingly amazing paths across the Atlantic and all the other

ing, so that instead of borrowing the farmer may sell an interest in his business. His views on co-operative marketing reveal a complete lack of understanding of the motive and purpose of the movement. He sees in it only the problem of financing, and would have the farmer seek "financial partners" in the business world. The corporation and the co-operative are alike in that they involve group action. But they are very opposite in method and intent. Mr. Simmons' declarations regarding farming and farm co-operatives are very interesting. The report says:

Mr. Simmons then turned to the problem of financial aid for the farmer. Admitting a very slight knowledge of agriculture, he expressed the opinion that if closer relationship between the securities markets and American agriculture could be established, it might assist agriculture in very vital ways. Although the securities markets have aided the farmer indirectly by their financing of railroads and manufacturing enterprises, he said, they have never been able to lend their assistance in a direct fashion for the reason that American agriculture "has rarely been organized in the form of large corporations like American industry." He suggested, however, that a step in such a direction might prove of great benefit to farming.

"The gradual development of co-operative marketing in this country," the speaker declared, "may sooner or later take the form of stock corporations and if it does the way lies open through our established stock exchanges to direct capital into agriculture just as in the past it has been directed into commerce and manufacturing. I have always felt myself that some form of share financing for agriculture, if it could be soundly devised, might in a financial way prove of real benefit. The farmer does not need new creditors, but rather new financial partners. In consequence the farmer's financial salvation would seem rather to consist in the issuance of shares of some sort than in the continued issuance of mortgage and other bonds, under the burden of which he already suffers."

"The man who can invent a feasible way to enable our farmers as a class to obtain additional capital inexpensively from new share partners will, in my opinion, have performed a most valued service for agriculture, by opening to agriculture an immediate access through the stock exchanges to the savings of the entire American people."

NEBRASKA CREAMERIES PLANNING TO FEDERATE

Representatives of the Farmers' Union creameries of Nebraska are taking steps toward federating their creameries in the interests of economy and efficiency. By means of such united effort they believe they could make savings in buying cream and selling butter, make better and more uniform butter which would bring better prices, secure better accounting, and strengthen their local associations financially.

At a meeting held in Omaha September 10, the need of some such organization was unanimously recognized, at last a joint sales agency. On motion the creamery directors present drew up a plan for merging the buying and selling power of the Farmers' Union Co-operative creameries of the state under one organization. This plan was approved and each director was instructed to present the plan to the board of directors of his creamery for consideration.

REPORTED BY THE ASSOCIATIONS

A recent addition to the Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc., Minneapolis, Minn., is the Challenge Cream and Butter Association, Los Angeles, Calif., with its 14 large creameries, some of which own and operate more than one plant.

A monthly publication printed in Bohemian has been started by the management of a workmen's co-operative in Chicago. This was done to keep the 800 members of the association, who are largely Bohemians, informed as to the activities of their organization.

Louisiana beekeepers at a recent meeting at Baton Rouge, developed plans for forming a co-operative marketing association. They propose to establish a blending plant at which the surplus honey of the various producers will be blended into a standard product.

During the period from May 1, 1928, to August 31, 1928, inclusive, the Equity Union Grain Company, Kansas City, Mo., received 1,427 cars of grain from grain growers' association in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado. The largest number of cars from one point was 91 from Culbertson, Neb.; the second, 65 from Atwood, Kans.; and the third largest, 56 cars from McDonald, Kans.

er oceans a new international trade relationship seems to be subconsciously developing. An increasing nearness of the Main Streets of every nation of the world in literature has been felt for some time. Now the department store ethics of London and San Francisco and becoming more and more closely allied while mill and factory problems in Indiana and India are no longer unknown to one another.

The formation of an international cartel of rayon textile manufacturers, news of which comes from Paris, is but another step in the direction of breaking down misunderstanding, in the building up of closer affiliations between the trade of one nation and another. It is thought that the French rayon manufacturers will enter the new cartel since an immediate meeting of representatives of Courtaulds, Limited, of England, Vereinigte Glanzstoff-Fabrik, A. G. of Germany, and Sni Viscosa of Italy is being called for the Parisian capital in connection with a meeting of Comptoir des Textiles Artificiels and other French rayon concerns.

CLIPPINGS From MARYSVILLE

LACK ORGANIZATION

FARMERS MUST LEARN ORGANIZED CONTROL OF THEIR OWN COMMODITIES

Present Situation Is Not of Grain Surplus But a Lack of Systemized Distribution

The fatal lack of organized control of their commodities is the main trouble with the farmer today. The mind of the farmer needs to be turned toward organization and we must not try to educate the machinery on the farm. That was the statement made here yesterday afternoon by C. C. Talbot, president of the North Dakota Farmers' Union, in an address to the state convention upon the farm situation.

"In ten years the two and one-half million farmers in the Mississippi valley will be organized much the same as the big organizations. 'Necessity demands it, and such a movement is coming,' said Talbot.

He explained that the trouble of the farmer is not a matter of grain surplus, but a lack of a systemized distribution of commodities. The farmer must learn to put his products on the market gradually. There is a bigger need for more granaries on the farms today where grain may be stored.

"I believe in credit, and the farmer is entitled to credit just the same as the merchant and the big business man," he continued. "There is no safer security than farm commodities whereby money may be loaned for use."

"The two and one-half million farmers of the great middle west have the meat ticket of the 20 millions in their pocket and once organized it will be a powerful body. I do not favor restricted production but the farmer must be a last resort. We are being constantly told by the men of the cities that the trouble with the farmer is that he is over-producing. This is not the case. It is a proved fact that the production of commodities in the United States has increased in a parallel incline along with the population. If the farmer restricts his production, it will have a disastrous effect on the country in general," he said.

He asserted that every business man from the bootlegger to the big corporation has recognized the power of co-operation and organization. The farmer has been the last man, and probably the most powerful, if organized, to realize that his power lies in his unification.—Marshall County News.

UNION IS GROWING

That the Kansas State Farmers' union is steadily growing is indicated in the report of the organization Wednesday afternoon by C. E. Huff, state president.

A portion of his report follows: Although the membership at the present time is somewhat less than a year ago, it is expected that as many or more farmers will be added by the end of the year to equal or exceed last year's figures.

Receipt of current dues for the first twenty-five days of October this year was almost fifty per cent greater than the entire month of the previous year. The Farmers' Union Jobbing association shows an increase of 100 per cent in volume of business and reveals profit possibilities beyond any previous records of the past.

Counties should be as solidly organized as possible. Suitable new business units should be encouraged where needed and these should be closely integrated with our general program. The lamps can be lighted in the country school houses again, and the entire neighborhoods may be enlisted with us in mutual gain.

The needs of the individual farmer for such an organization have not diminished, but have increased with the years. The Farmers' union closed the year without a loss, and without a reduction of surplus.

There are two avenues of possibility for the farmer for the future. One is that the share of the members dues according should be increased by decreasing the share which remains with local and county unions. The other alternative is to have an agreement with the statewide business.—Marshall County News.

SEAL TO STATE ORGANIZATION

The seal of Farmers' union which was made and displayed by the Blanchville local of Marshall county at the county fair and the state convention this week, was officially presented to the state organization here Wednesday evening.

The three implements of the seal are the plow, the hoe and the rake, which are located in the center of the seal. A great circle around the implements bears the following inscription, "Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America." The background is in purple and the implements are colored in gold and silver.

MUST SOLVE OWN PROBLEM SAYS CHARLES S. BARRETT NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Believes That Waterways Will Greatly Reduce Transportation Rates and Benefit Agriculturist

"Congress can help some, but the farmer will have to work out the solution of his problem in his own way," said Charles S. Barrett, of Union City, Georgia, National President of the Farmers' Union, in an address to the Managers' association at the Twenty-third Annual Kansas State Farmers' union convention here Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Barrett is well acquainted with farmers and farmer's problems having been national president of the Farmers' union for the past twenty-two years. He is a farmer in the state of Georgia and owns a farm in the extreme southeast corner of Georgia on the gulf coast.

President Barrett believes that the construction of a waterway down the Missouri river will be a great help to this section of the country. He favors the movement started by Cong. Jast. G. Strong, who is an advocate and promoter of a waterways system on the Mississippi river. He stated that additional waterways will aid the whole Mississippi valley and the railway companies will scarcely notice the loss of business when the waterways are put in use.

Mr. Barrett does considerable traveling, but his official headquarters are in Washington D. C. He has been in Washington so long that he has become thoroughly acquainted with governmental affairs, and he has secured some valuable legislation for the farmer and agriculture.

He said in part: "Regardless of which political party gets into power you farmers are going to continue to till the soil and have difficulties just the same as you have had in the past."

"Following the election, and this applies to whichever political party gets into power, congress will pass legislation whereby the President of the United States will be empowered with the right to appoint a board of a number of men. This board will receive several hundred million dollars for the purpose of working out a plan which will aid in bettering the conditions of the farmer. This board will have complete control of the appropriation to use as it sees fit."

"There has been more done by legislation for the farmer than the farmer never got, than has been done for any class of people in the world."

"The Farmers' union sells more livestock than any organization in the world. Most of the business is done on in the St. Joseph and Kansas City Markets."

"The state of Kansas heads the list in the real construction cooperation of farmers. Membership in Kansas totals in the neighborhood of around 30,000 people. In the volume of business transacted, Kansas leads the states in which co-operative unions are known."

"Membership in the state of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and Montana is spreading like wildfire. The farmers in those four states are rapidly taking an active interest in the organization."

"The Farmers' union has a greater percentage of success and less failures during its history than other business or labor organizations."

Mr. Barrett announced that he will retire as head of the union at the convention in Denver November 20. He will retain, however, the position of chairman of the National Board of Farm Organizations, a federated board of important agricultural, dairying and livestock organizations, whose affairs he has directed for the ten of the twelve years of its existence.—Marshall County News.

Delegates To Marysville Totaled Nearly 600 During the Four Day Program

The Twenty-third Annual Kansas Farmers' Union convention will be adjourned about 4:30 o'clock this afternoon, it was predicted by organization leaders here last night.

A meeting of the Kansas State Executive board will be held at 7:30 o'clock tonight, but the convention officially closes this afternoon. The convention will go into the fourth day of the program this morning.

Before the convention is adjourned this afternoon it was forecasted late yesterday that the meeting will probably go on record as reaffirming the stand for federal relief legislation of a nature that will enable the farmer to dispose of surplus crops in a way that will not depress domestic prices. It was pointed out that the surplus of the farmer was always disposed of at a price which helps him but not in a manner which helps the consumer. It is believed that the relief plan can be carried out without increasing the cost to the consumer.

It is likely that the convention will endorse the state gasoline amendment which will be submitted to the voters at the general election next Tuesday. It was said that the convention may go on record as favoring the highway amendment.

The convention will probably endorse the plan to eliminate state taxes on property by a change in the tax laws providing for the raising of the state revenue by taxes on minerals rather than the present State property tax.

Almost 600 Here Despite inclement weather, delegates to the convention number in the neighborhood of 600, and nearly as many visitors are here attending the sessions. Representations from all parts of the state began to arrive Monday evening and continued to come in as late as yesterday.

The housing problem has been met satisfactorily by the reception committee and all of the delegates and their guests have been made comfortable in rooms either in the hotels or private homes over the city.

Local churches have aided considerably in helping to feed the large number of people here. The local restaurants, cafes, and boarding places have been crowded to capacity daily. The program of the convention begins at 8 o'clock this morning with an invocation to be given by the Rev. Geo. H. Olson, pastor of the Memorial Presbyterian church.

Election of Officers Election of state officers, directors of the first, second and third districts, and delegates to the national convention to be held in Denver, November 20, will be named this morning.

The location for the convention of 1929 will be decided today. Five cities have made bids for the meeting. They are: Olathe, St. John, McPherson, Parsons and Wakeeney.

Special music and several features will also be on the program this morning. W. S. Lansdon, Salina, was unable to be present for his address at 10 o'clock because of illness in his family, according to advices received here by wire yesterday. He will be

substituted by F. E. Wheatcraft, Chicago, who will talk upon current issues of interest to agriculture. There will also be other addresses by prominent speakers.

Accomplishments of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Farmers' union will be discussed by Mrs. Charles Simpson, president, Salina, at 10 o'clock. Reports of the various committees will be heard at 11 o'clock. The Marysville high school stock judging team, national champions, will also be presented before adjournment this morning.

At 1:30 o'clock this afternoon the final reports of the various committees will be heard. All matters of unfinished business and installation of officers will also be in order. Upon the completion of all business the convention will be officially adjourned.

A Successful Convention Organization leaders indicated yesterday that the convention of 1928 is one of the most successful and best attended of any meeting in several years in spite of the unfavorable weather. The largest attendance in the history of the organization was recorded at the managerial association meeting Tuesday afternoon, it was pointed out—Marshall County News.

UNION STORE PAYS

That a Farmers' union general store can be run on a profit was proved this week by A. R. Robinson, manager of the store at Centuria, who was here to attend the State Farmers' Union convention. During the past five years the store has prorated as dividends at the end of each year a sum of nearly \$5,000. Mr. Robinson said that the success of the business has been made possible by the farmers near Centuria sticking to the store. He believes that a cooperative store can be run satisfactorily in any town.—Marshall County News.

FARMERS MUST GET ON THE OTHER SIDE OF LEDGER

"Until the American farmer gets off the red side of the ledger there is no hope for him," was the statement of A. C. Davis, Springfield, Mo., national secretary of the Farmers' union in an address to the Managers' association of the Twenty-third annual Kansas State Farmers' union convention here Tuesday afternoon.

He explained that the chief weakness of the union is that of isolation of its activities. The union should get a bigger vision of cooperation.

A portion of his address follows: "The Farmers' union was organized for farmers so that they could more satisfactorily engage in business. The experimental stage in co-operative business is a thing of the past."

"It is time that the Farmers' union put aside a mass of funds to prepare for the gigantic fight of corporations which is to come. Cooperative unions must prepare to act in a national way."

Kansas must forge ahead as well as the other states and show the world that the farmer is able to take care of himself and meet the changing conditions.—Marshall County News.

RUN IN BUSINESS WAY

A Farmers' Union business cannot be run on the slot machine basis, because management is vital, according to C. E. Huff, state president of the Kansas Farmers' union in an address at the state convention here Tuesday.

"The Managerial association is making a distinct contribution to the Farmers' union in Kansas by its method and intent of organized work," he went on to say. "The pyramid of the Farmers' union movement rests upon a firm foundation. 'I am proud to be linked with the Farmers' Union Managers' association,' its president, A. M. Kinney, Huron, I. H. Wempe, Frankfort, W. J. R. D. Samuelson of Olsburg, son of Olsburg."

WILL REELECT HUFF C. E. Huff, state president of the Kansas Farmers' union, will undoubtedly be reelected to that office for the third consecutive term here this morning.

E. L. Bullard of Vassar, present vice-president, was also nominated yesterday morning for that office but withdrew his name, leaving Mr. Huff the only man to be chosen to head the union for another year. Mr. Huff has served two years successfully as president, four years as vice-president, and four years as member of the board of directors.

Mr. Bullard and W. P. Lambertson of Fairview were nominated for the office of vice-president and C. E. Brasted of Salina for the office of secretary-treasurer. Brasted is now serving in that capacity. M. V. Gates, of Logan, was nominated for the office of doorkeeper, and J. C. Felts for conductor.

Delegates nominated for the national Farmers' union convention to be held in Denver Nov. 20 were: David Thomas, Burns; George Frank, Palos; Charles Simpson, Salina; H. A. Waters, president of Marshall County Farmers' Union, Blue Rapids; Cal Ward, Lone Star; A. M. Kinney, Huron; J. H. Wempe, Frankfort; W. J. R. D. Samuelson of Olsburg; son of Olsburg.

District directors of the various districts nominated were: First district, R. D. Samuelson of Olsburg; Second district, J. C. Gregory, Osborne; and Peter Munn, Selden. Third district, Charles Prothe of Palos, John Daly of Gerard and H. B. Whitaker of Kincaid.

Election of these officers will take place between 8 and 10 o'clock this morning.—Marshall County News.

Ed Johnson of Osborne is confident that Osborne county is in better shape as far as the Farmers' Union is concerned than it ever was. He thinks they are ready to re-organize their county solid.

