





## The Kansas Farmer Union

Published Every Thursday at Salina, Kansas, by THE KANSAS BRANCH OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL & CO-OPERATIVE UNION 119 South Seventh Street

Entered as Second-Class Matter August 24, 1912 at Salina, Kansas. Under Act of March 3, 1872.

Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917. Authorized July 30, 1918.

C. E. HUFF, Editor and Manager

Subscription Price, per Year.....\$1.00

Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals 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 B. 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, JANUARY 12, 1928

### THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW

As an organization the Kansas Farmers Union must always look back upon 1927 as a particularly significant year in her history. The state-wide program had been enlarged. The Creamery had begun to get its stride, and new stations were opening. The older units, the Jobbing Ass'n., the Live Stock Commission Co., the Auditing Ass'n., the Insurance Companies, were meeting their needs and problems in an increasingly effective way. The bar-g program had become quite a pretentious one, and demanded attention, even as it commanded respect. The Women's Auxiliary was developing its organization. President Tromble spent much of the first part of the year in Washington, where he worked very effectively for farm relief. Upon his return he took up heartily the details of the affairs of the Kansas Union again.

Then in April, without a warning of which we were conscious, he was stricken and died. In the critical hours of his illness he seemed confident that the work in which he was so deeply interested would go on securely. Perhaps the rest of us were less confident.

We have surprised ourselves. Not only did those in official position willingly assume new and added duties, some of which have been heavier than will ever be generally known, but our local business managers and the members rather generally have actually played the game a bit better than we are doing. And we shall continue to improve our part, because we are more aware of the need than we were.

The books for the year are closed. The financial records will be audited and analyzed. There will be much to be proud of. Some of our institutions are "in the clear" for the first time in years. Even when the results have been disappointing it is to be hoped we may find a profitable lesson, and that steps will at once be taken to correct the difficulties. But the Big Book for the year is also closed, and it will not be subject to any present audit. It carries the record of each of us. We are debtors to the Union for a great deal which it has done and is doing. We are debtors to those who have worked and planned for the success of the movement, to those who have been loyal in patronage. We are credited with—whatever contribution we have made. Some of us are "in the red," but there is a vast group of wonderfully loyal men and women in the Kansas Farmers Union who keep their account square on the Big Book.

Now 1928 invites us. There is the Farm Relief bill to be pushed through Congress and made a law even over a presidential veto, if necessary. There is the matter of relationship between the Kansas farm organizations, now developing helpfully through occasional meetings. There is much to be gained for the farmers of Kansas by a sensible co-operation on the part of the Grange, the Farm Bureau and the Farmers Union. We do not lose our identity nor surrender our principles, but where we agree we become immediately more effective. There is the urge of new territory, now asking that the Farmers Union enter in at once, and the re-awakening of areas where the interest had declined, now planning to re-establish themselves upon a better basis. There is the problem of funds. As our members know the Union had last year only 16 cents per member left from the dues for carrying on the work. There was, of course, income from advertising and one or two other sources in addition. There is the expansion of the Produce Ass'n., and the question of district concentrating plants with churning stations, in the interest of economy in transportation, and of better quality of product. There is the matter of securing to the local stations a greater loyalty of patronage from their membership, regardless of local attempts to divert them from their marketing program. And the problem of getting the product of the loyal membership forward to market through co-operative channels from the local business is hardly less acute. In all this we seem to be gaining. We should make 1928 the best year in our history, and indications are not lacking that we will do so.

### PROF. WALTER BURR MAKES A REPORT

The suggestion is made here and there that not all is well with the farmer and his business. So, being in the business of knowing everything about farming, and being an expert as well, Prof. Burr of the State Agricultural College gives the whole question a very searching once-over and reports the facts in The Nations Business magazine. It was wholly proper and right to let Business know the truth, for Business intends to help the farmer if he needs any help.

Well, he doesn't need help. Here are the facts: In 20 years in a typical Kansas county the number of farms decreased by 124. The loss in farm population was about 700. But the land is all

being tilled, farms being larger and farmers fewer. There was a big increase in the number of farms between 360 and 1,000 acres. In 1900 all the farm machinery in that county was valued at \$474,930 dollars. In 1920 the farm machinery was valued at \$2,170,940 dollars. 'Does this' asks our good friend and teacher, "does this indicate a rural peasantry or a falling off in trade in the merchants territory?" Again, there are crop values to be taken into account. In 1909 the value of the crops in this county was \$3,060,046. But 10 years later, in 1919, that value had risen to \$6,882,428. No wonder he concludes that this complaint about bad conditions is "all the bunk".

Prof. Burr is so evidently sincere, so fair and unbiased, and his study is so widely extended and searching that his conclusion ought to be almost final. Of course, in the matter of machine valuation as between 1900 and 1920, there are two considerations overlooked. One is that the basis of valuation for taxation had changed upward in that period on all property, including farm machinery. The same machines, with the same market value, would have had about double the public valuation in the latter period as compared to the former. The other is that the cost of identical machines had increased in that period at least 100 per cent, also. This increased market value and the new and higher basis of valuation will approximately give the higher total in 1920 for the same number and type of machines in the same condition as in 1900. What increase there was in actual machines came largely by reason of the loss of man power during the war and the extreme urge to produce foodstuffs. Anyway, a high investment in machinery does not prove prosperity. It sometimes hastens bankruptcy. Machinery is overhead. Whether it pays or not depends upon the volume and price of the product. That 1920 machinery has not paid the farmer.

But the fact that the value of the crops produced in that county doubled between 1909 and 1919 is an unanswerable proof that all is well. Every farmer knows that 1919 was one of the worst years American agriculture ever had for low volume of income. This typical county was a wheat producing area. In 1909 the range of estimated wheat prices to producers, as set up by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, was from 95 cents to \$1.14 per bushel, the later figure being for a single month of the year, while during 5 months the price averaged below \$1.00. In 1919 the same table gives a range of from \$2.08 to \$2.56 per bushel, and during 8 months of the year it was \$2.20 and over. And at that the price of wheat did not equal nor reflect the general level of costs and prices. A smaller yield in 1919 would have brought the increased gross income as compared to 1909. It might not have been more profitable.

But was it not fair, and even generous, for this paid servant of Kansas agriculture to choose in 1927 the condition revealed in 1919 and 1920 to show how much we had progressed in ten and twenty years? It shows that the professor has a fine sense of discrimination. He knows his facts. He knows which ones to quote and compare and which one to ignore and overlook. That is what makes an expert useful.

### THE BAITED HOOK

We call attention of our readers to the articles on first page of this issue dealing with the question of direct shipments of livestock. Co-operatives entered the central markets about ten years ago for the handling of livestock for producer members. Old line firms very naturally resented the entrance of the co-ops into their particular field, and managed to make life a very interesting if not a pleasant experience for them. The co-operatives were subjected to ridicule, misrepresentation and even boycott. But their volume of handlings rather steadily increased, shipping associations were formed in the country to assemble car lot shipments, and it became apparent to the packers that within a few years it might be possible for growers to influence prices through control of a tremendous volume of live stock.

It was just here that the so-called private yards came into being, and the soliciting of direct shipments was begun. On the face of it, it seemed all to the benefit of the producer. Where it was costing a Co-operative Shipping Association 60 cents per hundred to market hogs through the open, competitive market, the direct buying might pay within, say, 45 cents of the open market price. That seemed a shorter road to market. It looked like a higher price. Quite naturally a great deal of stuff began to move in that way. The results have been disastrous to the grower.

In practice, the possession of a considerable part of their supplies by "direct" buying put the packers in a position to hold out of the open market, to appear indifferent, to lower their bids. It is even charged that they have sold hogs bought in the country, dumping them on the open market to further depress the price. Beyond doubt the lowest grades—culls, half-finished, undesirable types—have gone on to the regular market, and have lowered the market price by lowering the general quality level.

With every decline in the market a comparable decline in country bids occurs, naturally. How far this direct buying practice is responsible for the present low price of hogs is not provable, but that it is a major influence in that fact is beyond question. The plan was designed for the benefit of the packers. To make it work it had to seem to benefit the grower. It works as it was designed to do, and the grower loses. The remedy lies largely with the producer. In some areas farmers are uniting and refusing to permit their hogs to go through the "private" yards. Members of the Farmers Union will profit themselves and serve their neighbors and agriculture as a whole by seeing that their live stock goes through the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., and is opposing the so-called direct shipping.

### OLD LINE OPERATORS POSE AS FARMERS FRIENDS

At our Ottawa Convention President Simpson of Oklahoma told interestingly of the fight in Oklahoma for the establishment of Co-operative cotton gins. No sooner had a given territory been supplied with new and up-to-date facilities for ginning, co-operatively owned, than an appeal was made to the Public Service Commission of Oklahoma by the old line operators for a lower rate. Fearfully they

told a story of overcharges, of too great profits, and of the barefoot and dejected poor who had been paying too much. They wanted the state to set a lower rate. This game is as old as the use of fish bait, but it is still as much in fashion. And it still works with too many of us. Creameries and elevators practice it in Kansas, this eleventh hour concern, accompanied by crocodile tears. Only in our case they do not have their rates fixed by a Commission. In the last issue of the Oklahoma Union Farmer this statement and appeal appears, dealing with developments since October, and with needs and prospects.

We can appreciate fully the nature and seriousness of their fight, and sincerely hope the membership will play up to the need quite fully.

Since October 15th much has happened, that gives us definite knowledge of just the condition of our co-operative gins. I want to say, first of all, that there has been unprecedented loyalty on the part of farmers to these gins. The co-operative gins of this state will average twice as many bales of this fall's ginning as will the old line gins. This volume means that practically all our gins have paid expenses and are meeting their obligations.

A year ago, the enemy was telling that the price of ginning would be reduced to 25 cents for picked cotton. I'm hearing from various sources just as reliable as a year ago, that the enemy is preparing, to have the price of ginning picked cotton next fall be 20 cents. This means all cotton farmer should come to the support of co-operative gins.

The first support needed is the purchase of stock to the extent that every co-operative gin in the state may be free of debt. I appeal to you, cotton farmers, who already have a share of stock in the co-operative gin in your town, to take another share or even two more shares, and I appeal just as fervently to the cotton farmer, who has never taken a share, to go buy one at once, I want to say, that if you buy stock to the extent that two-thirds of the co-operative gins are paid for, the fight of the enemy will all be over. Just as soon as the enemy sees the filing of the releases of the mortgages of two-thirds of the co-operative gins of this state, the dogs of war will be called off.

Let every co-operative gin have a mass meeting called at once for the purpose of clearing their institution of debt. Have the meeting thoroughly advertised by getting out a letter of invitation to every farmer in the trade territory of your gin. Get those business men, who are in sympathy with you, to assist in making this meeting a success.

JOHN A. SIMPSON, President, Oklahoma Farmers' Union.

### KANSAS HAIL INSURANCE RATES

The State Insurance Department called a Conference at Topeka recently to discuss proposals which had been made for increased rates for 1928. The increased use of the combine has increased the hail risk by reason of the later harvesting, and because ripener grain is exposed to such hail storms as occur. A given storm will result in greater loss in ripe wheat than in greener.

Perhaps some raise in rates will be inevitable, but C. E. Brasted of the Farmers Union and John Vesceky and E. R. Downie of the Wheat Pool gave the Department something to think over when they insisted that many claims were being paid which were out of all proportion to the actual loss, putting the burden of a high rate upon honestly handled insurance, and subjecting the Insurance Companies to loss also. If a farmer is deeply in debt to someone who writes hail insurance, and if the agent also adjusts the loss, it may not take much hail to make a heavy loss. The insurance check goes to the creditor agent, and is a good way to collect questionable notes.

### AS AGELESS AS SANTA CLAUS

About four or five months ago an estimate of the value of the 1927 farm crops was made. The estimated yields were multiplied by the prevailing prices and a billion dollar gain resulted. Later price declines in the corn market, where nearly all of the increase over 1926 was found, wiped out the gain. If hogs continue at prevailing prices it is doubtful if the actual income from the crops when fed and marketed will exceed that of 1926 by any considerable amount at all.

But the story itself has just got old enough to be really active. It appears in some form or other editorially now in about half of the papers one sees. One editorial sees in the use of figures promise that Kansas will be "a high grade market in 1928." Such publicity ought to help their advertising department, and so it is good business to believe it. The figures were at first only an interesting guess, shortly discredited by declined prices. They have now become a respected fiction, like Santa Claus.

### SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS WOULD EXCLUDE HEARST FROM MAILS. ALSO PLEDGE SUPPORT TO NATIONAL UNION

Mitchell, S. D., Dec. 20—District No. 2 of the South Dakota Farmers Union, in annual session here yesterday, unanimously passed a resolution calling upon congress to pass legislation to bar all publications of W. R. Hearst from the federal mails if the charge that he engaged in a conspiracy to blacken the names of four United States senators and drag this country into a war with Mexico is substantiated.

The resolution was drawn and submitted by State Senator R. E. Dowdell.

Another resolution, passed by the session, pledged the support of the district to the national officers.

Up to November 1, 1927, the Central States Soft Wheat Growers' Association, Indianapolis, had received 2,102,691 bushels of 1927 wheat. Of this quantity 341,359 bushels had been sold; there was on hand in country elevators 305,928 bushels; and in terminal storage, 1,455,503 bushels. Advances to members had reached a total of \$1,563,636, with the average advance 74.36 cents a bushel.

### FARMER DEWFUNNY SAYS:

As HOW cigarettes that aid sore-throat and tooth paste that cure stomachache may be all right, but somebody ought to invent a shaving cream that will alleviate farm distress.

## NEWS FROM THE LOCALS

### HEALY ANNUAL MEETING

Please read the following notice in the paper next week: The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Healy Co-operative Elevator Co. will be held in the I. O. O. F. bldg. in Healy Wednesday, January 11th, at 10 a. m.

C. M. Jenkinson, Healy Local No. 1400.

### KELLOG 1809

The following officers have been installed: President, Mr. Ira Wilson, Winfield, Rt. 8.

Vice-president, M. J. W. Beswick, Oxford, Rt. 1.

Sec'y-Treasurer, Carl S. O'Neil, Winfield, Rt. 2.

Conductor, W. M. Oldham, Winfield, Rt. 2.

The other officers have not been installed.

Carl S. O'Neil.

### LINN COUNTY FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING

The first quarterly meeting of Linn county will be held at Cadmus, Kans., on Saturday, Jan. 21st. All day meeting, basket dinner, installation of officers. State President C. E. Huff promises to be with us on this date. We ask all union members to bring stock in our Union Live Stock Ass'n. at Kansas City to be present if possible.

Each local of the county is asked to furnish one number on the program for this date.

J. Monroe Martin, Sec'y.

### ELLIS CO. ELECTIONS OFFICERS

Victoria, Kans., Jan. 5, 1928.

Mr. C. E. Brasted,

Dear Sir:—

For your information I am sending you the following proceedings of the annual county convention of our county union held at Hays, Ellis county, Kansas, Dec. 10, 1927.

The following officers were elected: President, Anthony Kuhn, Victoria.

Vice-president, John Erbert, Ellis.

Secretary-treasurer, Leo Rajewski, Victoria.

Conductor, Joe Binder, Hays.

Doorkeeper, E. G. Erbert, Ellis.

Executive committee, C. F. Erbert, Ellis, Frank Herman, Ellis, Joe Dindor, Hays.

Yours truly,

Leo Rajewski, Sec'y-Treas.

Rt. No. 1, Victoria, Kansas.

### WOODSON COUNTY

I have been requested to call the attention of all the lady members of the Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union of America to the county meeting which will be held at Plum Creek Jan. 28, 1928 at which time we should complete the organization of the Ladies Auxiliary. This was attempted at the last county meeting of the Farmers Union held at Vernon. So few of us understand the purposes of the organization at that time, it was thought best to postpone organizing until the matter had been given more study.

We hope the Farmers Union ladies have been reading closely the "Ladies Auxiliary" column in each week's issue of The Kansas Union Farmer and come to Plum Creek Jan. 28 with minds made up to help the cause along.

### GREENWOOD COUNTY

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Greenwood Co. Farmers Union was held at Madison in the I. O. O. F. Hall on Dec. 15. At the morning session Mr. Guy Bangs gave a very interesting report of the state convention held in Ottawa in October. This was followed by the election of officers. All of the 1927 officers were re-elected for 1928. After the election was over a motion was put before the house and carried that the Greenwood Co. Farmers Union pay \$25.00 on the freight rate fund. No further business. The morning session adjourned. Then a bountiful dinner was served cafeteria style. If anyone went away hungry it was their own fault. Song "America" was sung for the opening of the afternoon session. Then Mr. E. L. Bullard of Lyndon, our state vice-president of the Farmers Union was introduced and made a short talk on Co-operation of the Farmers to their Business Associations of State-Wide Activity which all present greatly enjoyed.

Chas. A. Roberts,

Greenwood Co. Sec'y-Treas.

### MARSHALL COUNTY

Blanchville Local 796

Waterville, Kansas, Jan. 4, 1928

Editor Kansas Union Farmer—

Blanchville Local No. 796 has recently had a number of interesting activities. The January 3rd meeting closed a three-months membership

and attendance contest which resulted in the addition of 19 new members. 11 men and 8 women having ridden the goat in the December and January meetings. In spite of the severe weather on the evenings of December and January meetings a splendid attendance was maintained. To create interest in the contest two members, choco kids, put hay being allowed for attendance and new members and the losing side will serve a supper to the Union families in the February meeting.

The good work of securing new members will continue into the coming month as we are now in a county-wide membership contest which offers cash prizes to the eleven locals during the largest number of new members before March 20th when our county quarterly meeting will be held at Marysville.

It is surprising how many farmers are like the homely old maid, just waiting to be asked! Many who are not now members were members at one time, but due to a change of residence, or to the disbanding of their local, have just been waiting for someone to come along and "pop the question." We are beginning to realize how slow we have been, and how little effort we have made in the past in getting these good farmers to our union circle.

Brother Frank Stone had the un-

pleasant fortune of getting mixed up with a runaway team and wagon.

While husking corn which resulted in two breaks in the bones of one leg and three cracked ribs. Frank had a lot of corn to husk which was giving him a lot of worry. The Blanchville Union farmers and other good neighbors and friends helped solve his problem by coming some three dozen strong with 17 teams and wagons and before the short mid-December day was ended had better than a thousand bushels of corn tacked away in cribs. Latest reports are to the effect that Brother Stone is getting along nicely, for which we are mighty glad.

Yours,

C. O. Levine, Pres.

Ivy Rowe, Sec'y-Treas.

### MINNEOLA LOCAL NO. 1228

Minneola Local No. 1228 Franklin Co. met on Dec. 20 with a house full of members and enjoyed a good program, oyster supper and social time. We had a good live Union meeting also as we took in seven new members and we will get more

in the future. Hurrah for Minneola and the Farmers Union. Farmers, it's when we work, push and pull together that we get results like this, and if all of us farmers would only do this we would all be enjoying more comforts in our homes and own them too, as we produce all the wealth if we could only keep it. This is shown by our city neighbors especially the business men who do pull together and they get the money too, and they produce nothing. Let's all boost the Farmers Union. The Farmers Union is boosting for us against the worst commercial interests that are striving to keep the farmer's nose on the grindstone all the time.

Well, we also had election of officers for the coming year. The following were chosen:

President, Ben Nelson.

Vice-president, Justin Nelson.

Secretary-Treasurer, Fred Barnhill.

We will meet again on Jan. 17th with program and refreshments. Every member is urged to come.

B. C. Nelson, Retiring Sec-Treas.

## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

### FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

In glancing over the Kansas Union Farmers for October and November 1912, it seems that the membership was very much interested in the Jobbing Association at that time. Since every interested Farmers Union member is watching the Jobbing Association today with a great deal of interest, it seems timely to reprint a few of the remarks made at that time.

LETTER FROM O. E. GARTRELL

Logan, Kansas, Oct. 23, 1912.

Mr. McAuliffe,

Dear Sir and Bro:

We are still in line yet and as a local we will take two shares in jobber and as I am one of the directors of the Business Association at Logan, I had a chance to talk the jobbing proposition over with the other directors, at our meeting, today, and they thought it was a good move and would bring the matter up, before their locals; and we will bring the matter up at our stockholders meeting. As the busy season is about over so we can spare a little time. I think it would be a good plan for every one that can get busy and help the good work along. Let us all pull together and things will come our way. But we must have money to do business; it is the ruination of this country. Let us do business on a cash basis and we will know where we are at.

Yours fraternally

O. E. Gartrell.

FROM STOCKTON KANSAS

Mr. McAuliffe, Salina, Kansas.

Dear Sir: The members of our local State No. 536 think the Jobbing Association alright and our local wants to take two shares.

Yours

Virgil McMahon.

### GET TOGETHER

North Dakota has more than 300 co-operative elevators. Iowa has 400. Minnesota has a large number. Nebraska has some. Kansas has about 200 co-operative and independent. Oklahoma has a large number. Missouri has a few. Illinois has a few. Indiana has some. Texas has some. These co-operative Elevators are doing a vast amount of good locally, but nothing in comparison to what they could do if they were banded together more closely.

Wouldn't it be a splendid idea to have a meeting of the co-operative elevator managers and grain growers interested, of the several grain growing states at some central point, say in June, 1912, to discuss crop conditions and other matters pertaining to the growing and marketing of grain?

All other lines of business hold conventions to discuss their interests and more than that they agree on the best methods of advancing their interests from all stand points. Why don't the grain growers do likewise? They will never succeed until they do.

If we had a national grain growers association now to look after our interests at the next term of congress we would be able to get an anti-gambling law, a parcels-post and other measures that we are in need of. There has not been any legislation, either state or national, beneficial to the farmers, enacted, nor will there be, until the farmers get together and demand it.

### HIP HIP HURRAH

I felt so enthused when I read about Local No. 506 and 716 and the individual members subscribing for stock in the Co-operative Jobber that I commenced cheering and swinging my hat in a circle. This was the first gleam of hope, of the success of our co-operative jobbing association and how it did fill me with gladness, to such an extent that I gave expression to my feelings by swinging my hat in a circle and shouting Hurrah. I hope others will follow in quick succession. The Farmers Union is a very good machine if it is properly used, and it is no good at all if the doses are not taken as prescribed and in good faith.

If it had not been for the Union the farmers in this part of the state never would have organized, because we did not know how to do it. After we organized, we found that instead of going away back and sitting down to wait for the officers to prepare the meal and bring it to us on a platter, there was work for us to do, to help prepare it. We started in a primitive way by electing a business agent.

It did not take long to learn that the sphere of the business agent was very limited. The jobbers, wholesalers, and mail owners did not care to sell to him on account of the regular dealers. At first we thought that the jobbers, wholesalers and mine

owners were prejudiced against us, but when we investigated we found that it was our short thinkers that were to blame.

The mine owners did not care to sell to us because the regular dealers purchased coal from him during the summer months when his mine would have to suspend operations for want of storage capacity, if the retailers had not helped him out.

We very readily saw that the regular dealer was the golden egg goose to the mine owner, and that he was not fool enough to kill the goose. As to the manufacturer we learned, that he depended on the jobber and the jobber depended on the regular retailer for orders in advance of the time when the consumer would need the manufactured article. The regular retailer dealer loomed up again as the golden egg goose.

When we had exercised our thinkers a little more and made them strong enough to think on business subjects, we learned that the fault was ours instead of the mine owners or the manufacturers.

Suppose for example that the farmers sell a regular merchant a full supply of potatoes, apples and other farm products, which he, the merchant expects to sell to the consumer, then the farmer hurried around and fills those consumers up with the same articles at the same price or a little cheaper than the merchant paid, thereby leaving him to hold the sack.

Don't you see the point? I don't wish this to convey the idea that I wish against the farmer selling his products direct to the consumer, for it is just what we are organizing to do.

But if we load the merchant first and compete with him in selling to the consumer, I call it very slick thinking. It is a very unbusiness-like way of doing business.

The coal mine owner and the manufacturer who sells to the dealer and then refused to compete with him in disposing of his goods show good business judgment. I find that the mine owners and manufacturers are ready and anxious to do business with us as soon as we provide an avenue through which they can do so in a business like way, by establishing the jobber and retailer ourselves. What made



## Ladies' Auxiliary Junior Contest

Prizes For Best Letters Containing Suggestions For Conducting A Junior Department. Prizes For The Best Name For Us To Use.

In order for us to get our Junior department started and in good running order by the first of the year, it has been suggested that we begin with a contest, that will last through November, December and January, ending January 31st.

This contest may be participated in, by any child under fifteen years of age, whose parents are members of the Farmers Union in good standing. The requirements of the contest will be, a letter written by the child giving his ideas of how a Junior Department should be conducted. And a name by which the Juniors will be known, in the columns of the paper.

The judges will grade on neatness. The prizes will be a Fountain Pen for the Best Letter and an Eversharp Pencil for the one the judges think is next best. The best letters will be printed, and all who write letters will receive Honorable mention.

Send your letters to the JUNIOR EDITOR, KANSAS UNION FARMER, SALINA, KANSAS, BOX 48.

### A GOOD TIME TO REMEMBER THIS

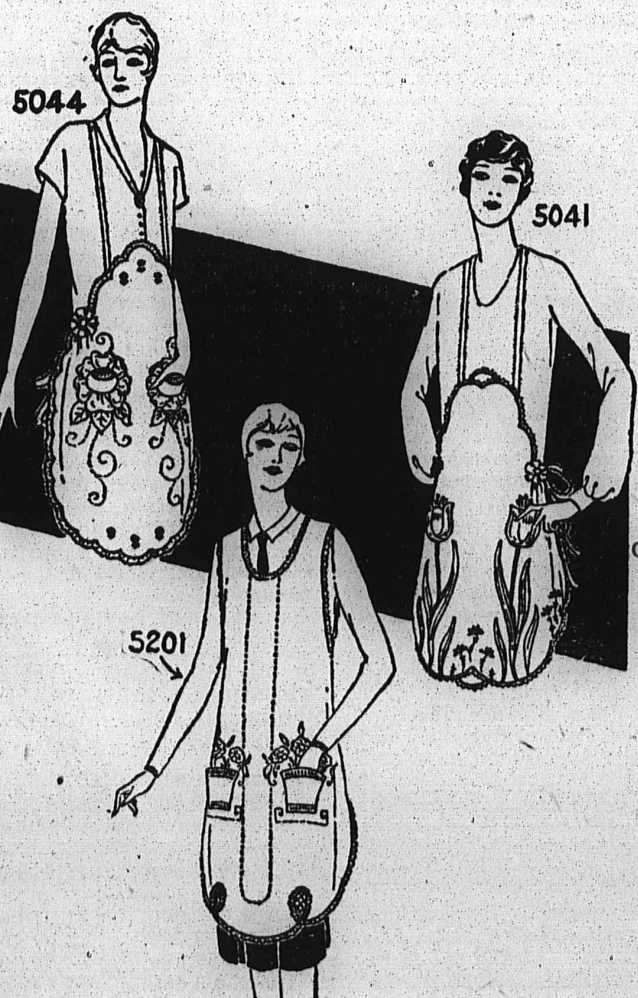
One May day in 1924, if you had been riding or walking near Little Falls, Minnesota, you would have seen an aeroplane rise like a bird from a neighboring farm, mount up the sky, and circle round the gray acres. If you had had sharp eyes, you would have seen a thin trail of dust drift from that whirling plane, float away in the upper air, and sift down on the fallow earth beneath. That dust was the mortal remains of Charles A. Lindbergh, Representative 1907-1917 from the state of Minnesota to the U. S. Congress. And that aviator, dedicated to the symbolic task of giving his father's ashes back to the earth from which he sprang, and for which he fought a long, painful, losing fight, was Pilot Charles A. Lindbergh, now conqueror of the Atlantic, ambassador-at-large for the United States, decorated by home and foreign governments, the idol of the world's millions.

For Pilot Charles Lindbergh, intrepid boy, who, like Columbus, crossed the Atlantic first, came from fighting stock. His grandfather had been a member of the Swedish parliament, and his father had been the leader of farmer-labor forces in Minnesota. Lindbergh, Sr., was candidate for governor on the farmer-labor ticket in 1918 and again in 1924. He was candidate at a time when the battle between the farmers and the unions on one side, and the corporations and their politicians on the other side, had reached a bitter climax. All the hysteria was focused at the fullest intensity on the northwest, and the full force of that hysteria was leveled at the important leader of the organized farmers and workers, Pilot Lindbergh's father.

There is little doubt that the bitterness of that campaign against Congressman Lindbergh shortened his life by many years. There is little doubt that the calm, courage, modesty, restraint, simplicity and dignity manifested by Lindbergh, Sr., in the trying hours of that campaign were the same qualities that made his son the hero of his generation.

And it must not be supposed that the campaigns against Congressman Lindbergh were ordinary political squabbles. They took on the character of coercive contests. Once at St. Cloud, state troops were mobilized to overawe the farmers in peaceful convention assembled. A billboard campaign called Lindbergh and his supporters "Huns at home." And even Shipstead had joined the farm-labor forces to run for congress, a mob at night painted the Shipstead cottage a sickly yellow. Organizers for the farmers were in some instances tarred and feathered, and others were sent to jail.

Through it all, Lindbergh, Sr., remained calm, dignified and unafraid. His whole life had been spent trying to substitute reason for force and concave propaganda. "Truth," he said, "must be our authority for everything. There is no other authority."—Journal Electrical Workers and Operators.



HOLIDAY GIFTS YOU CAN'T RESIST. NOS. 5041, 5044, 5201

We herewith present a selection of aprons that will appeal very strongly to the woman in the home. No. 5041 is on yellow material with lavender pockets, flat stamped, and you will note that the design is most charming. No. 5044 is on blue material with maize pockets, and No. 5201 is a completely made apron in green with rose pockets. The prices

of these aprons are as follows: Nos. 5041 and 5044, 55 cents each. No. 5201, completely made apron, 95 cents. A detailed working chart showing the exact color scheme is furnished with each piece.

For 25 cents additional we will send you our book, "The Art of Embroidery," consisting of ten complete lessons with 70 illustrations showing the principal stitches in embroidery.—Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas, Box 48.



6028. Misses' Dress. Cut in 8 Sizes: 16, 18 and 20 years. An 18 year size with collar requires 3 1/2 yards of 35 inch material together with 1/4 yard of contrasting material for facing on collar, and vestee. If made without collar 3/4 yard less will be required. Price 15c.

5874. Girls' Dress. Cut in 4 Sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. A 10 year size requires 3 1/2 yards of 36 inch material. Price 15c.

### FASHION BOOK NOTICE

Send 12c in silver or stamps for our UP-TO-DATE FALL & WINTER 1927-1928 BOOK OF FASHIONS. Showing color plates, and containing 500 designs of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Patterns, a CONCISE and COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON DRESSMAKING. ALSO SOME POINTS FOR THE NEEDLE (illustrating 30 of the various, simple stitches) all valuable hints to the home dressmaker.

Pattern Dept., Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas, Box 48.

NOTICE MEMBER FROM ALMENA Who sent this pattern order? It comes in without a name with 15c in coin enclosed. January 2, '28.

Pattern Dept. Please find enclosed 15c for which send pattern No. 5315. Child's coat size 4.

Aples may be used. Otherwise Greenings or Pippins are suitable. The aples should be washed, all of the core should be removed and about an inch strip of skin should be cut from around the stem end. The aples are then placed closed together, stem end up, in a deep baking dish. Mix one-half cup of sugar and one cup boiling water together for each large apple. Pour over and around the fruit, cover the baking dish, and bake in a very moderate oven—325 to 350 degrees—about 25 minutes. We cover, baste thoroughly with the syrup in the pan, and sprinkle lightly with sugar. Continue basting until for about 20 minutes longer or until the aples are very tender and translucent.

Baste once or twice more with the syrup in the pan and serve cold. A very small piece of butter dropped in the center of each apple before baking will give a richer flavor, or a whole clove or a dusting of powdered cinnamon may be added. Some people, however, prefer not to use anything that detracts from the delicate flavor of the apple itself.

### A DECLARATION

As we approach the anniversary that marks the dawning of the Christian age we should pause a moment and consider what this season means to us. We are living in a world of change. "Nothing is so sure as change," is a vital truism that we must acknowledge whether we wish it or not and world thought is undergoing one of the most radical changes known since man became a thinker. Even our religious ideas are changing. This is not an innovation that has happened, not once but many times, and it is not a departure from the old ways but rather is it proof that we are following our ancestors' example. We cannot justify the Christian religion unless we admit that change and revolution of ideas are not only right and desirable but that they do not destroy civilization.

Was not Christ a revolutionist? Did He not teach a doctrine that was almost universally regarded as blasphemous to the accepted one? He taught of a loving Father, one who was not only blessed and forgave but demanded we do the same, not once but many times. This in the face of the teachings of the prophets who had believed God a jealous, revengeful war-lord.

We are coming to understand God better. Science recognizes a Power back of all manifestation, one which permeates and sustains all things. Perhaps scientists call this Power, Law. Why should we quarrel over a name and demand that the ideas concerning this Power be common to all of us? The word, home, calls up in one person's mind the picture of a vine-clad cottage that fairly oozes peace, love, and contentment; another may see a squalid, forlorn cabin dear to his memory because of a loved mother's presence; others have vividly different pictures associated with this magical word. None of us demand of our associates that names of things mean the same to all yet this is somewhat the attitude of some religionists. Somewhere in the New Testament is found this bit of universal wisdom, "Work out your own salvation," and we not only must do this but we must also free others to do the same.

To do this we, individually, must formulate a creed, philosophy, that means most to us to live by and with. This is mine. I believe:

In the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men; That good predominates in the hearts of men;

That the race is progressing;

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE If members of the Union have anything to Sell or Exchange, they should advertise it in this department. Rate: 3 cents a word per issue. Count words in heading, as "For Sale," or "Wanted to Buy," and each initial or figure in the address. Compound words count as two words. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—TRY THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FARMS WANTED WANTED—Hear from owner of good Farm for sale. Cash price, particulars. D. F. Bush, Minneapolis, Minn.

FOR TABLE USE Good Grade Spanish Peanuts Unshelled Raw 100 pounds \$7.75. Freight prepaid in Kansas. Jackson Bean Co., Woodward, Okla.

HELP WANTED A REAL JOB FOR YOU COMPLETE information for real estate concerns. No canvassing. Read newspaper, address letters, spare time. Quality by sending 10c coin, self addressed stamped envelope and the names and addresses of 25 people who would also like to earn \$5.00 to \$10.00 daily and CREDIT CHECKED. Send \$3.00 and full particulars will be mailed. Address, WEST SOUTHWEST Box 1010 Sta. C. Los Angeles, Calif.

LIVESTOCK FOR SALE—RED POLLED BULLS, March calves, small purpose cattle. Also Percheron Stallion, Coburn Herd Farm, Pomona, Kansas.

POULTRY "BLOOD TESTED" Flocks Annually tested from one to three years High Quality at lowest prices. Special early order discount saves you money on future delivery. Smith Hatched chicks, with a guarantee. Write for free literature. Tullis Hatchery, Burlingame, Kansas.

STANDARD BRED CHICKS—Leading varieties. Hatched from free range, vigorous stock. Best laying strains. Liberal discount on early booked orders. Healthy Circular free. Boxarth Hatchery, Dept. F, Bekridge, Kansas.

Mathis Quality Chicks. Heavy layers. 500 designs of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Patterns, a CONCISE and COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON DRESSMAKING. ALSO SOME POINTS FOR THE NEEDLE (illustrating 30 of the various, simple stitches) all valuable hints to the home dressmaker.

SINGLE COMB ENGLISH White Leghorn Cockerels \$1.15 each. Carrie Little, Logan, Kansas.

PUBLIC SALE JAN 14-10 horses and mules, 150 White faced stock cows, 40 Sows, and gills Bred Durocs. G. Victor, Harris, Kansas.

SALESMAN WANTED. For lubricating oil, grease, and paint. Salary or Commission. THE JED OIL AND PAINT CO., Cleveland, Ohio.

SEEDS FOR SALE Frost Proof Cabbage and Onion Plants. Open field grown, strong, well rooted from treated seeds. Cabbage fifty to bundle, most to roots, labeled with variety name. Succession, Copenhagen, Early and Late Dutch. Postpaid: 100, \$3.50; 200, \$7.00; 300, \$10.00; 500, \$15.00; 1,000, \$25.00; 5,000, \$75.00. Express collect crate twenty-five hundred \$25.00.

Onions: Prizebreaker, Crystal Wax and yellow Bermuda. Postpaid: 500, \$3.50; 1,000, \$7.00; 2,000, \$13.50. Express collect crate: 500, \$14.50. Full count, prompt shipment, safe arrival satisfaction guaranteed. Write for Free Seed and Plant Catalog. UNION PLANT COMPANY, TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS.

Alfalfa \$6.00—Clover \$3.50—Sudan \$2.00—Millet \$1.50, sacks free. If you have seed to sell write for bid. Meier Grain Co., Salina, Kansas.

That God is pleased to see this progression; In the Christ Spirit which brought an era of peace and good-will unknown to the world before.

That this era is not yet fully established; That this Christ Spirit is inherent in each of us;

That it is possible to live in accord with Christ's teachings;

That it does not yet appear what we shall be.

The closing words, paraphrased somewhat, of that good old hymn, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, seem appropriate to close this declaration.

God in all persons! Blessed Unity!—Ethel Whitney.

THE TELEPHONE GIRL The telephone girl—Sits stiff in her chair, And listens to voices, everywhere.

Hears all the gossip, Hears all the news; She knows who is happy, And who has the blues.

She knows all our trouble, And all of our strife; She knows every man Who is mean to his wife.

She knows every time We are out with the boys, And knows our sorrows, And knows our joys.

She knows every woman who Has a dark past, She knows every man who Is inclined to be fast.

In fact there's a secret 'Neath each saucy curl, Of hair of that fair Little telephone girl.

If the telephone girl would tell All that she knows She would turn all our friends Into bitterest foes.

She would sow a small wind, That would soon be a gale, Engulf us in trouble and Land us in jail.

She would let go a story (Which gains in force) Would cause half our wives

### FARMERS' UNION DIRECTORY

NATIONAL OFFICERS C. S. Barrett, Pres., Union City, Ga. O. E. Huff, Vice-Pres., Salina, Kansas. A. C. Davis, Sec., Springfield, Mo.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS C. E. Brasted, Chm., Salina, Kansas. J. M. Collins, Sec., Eaton, Colorado. Chas. Rogers, Des Moines, Iowa. D. D. Collins, Rapid City, So. Dak. C. C. Talbot, Jamestown, So. Dak.

KANSAS OFFICERS C. E. Huff, President, Salina, Kansas. C. E. Brasted, Sec.-Treas., Salina, Kansas. J. M. Collins, Conductor, Lebanon, Kansas. M. V. Gates, Doorkeeper, Logan, Kansas.

DIRECTORS John Vesecy, Timken, Kansas. Peter Mevitt, Salina, Kansas. H. E. Whitaker, Emporia, Kansas. Carl E. Clark, McPherson, Kansas. R. D. Samuelson, Olathe, Kansas.

Farmers Union Jobbing Association 237 Board of Trade Bldg., Kansas City, Missouri. 236 F. U. Insurance Bldg., Salina, Kansas.

Farmers Union Cooperative Produce Assn. 239 Board of Trade Bldg., Kansas City, Missouri.

Farmers Union Live Stock Commission 406-8-10 Live Stock Exch. Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Live Stock Exchange Wichita, Kansas.

Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Co. Salina, Kansas.

Farmers Union Auditing Association Thomas B. Dunn, Salina, Kansas.

Farmers Union State Bank Huron, Kansas.

Farmers Union Managerial Association A. M. Kinney, President, Huron, Kansas. Miss Elva Troutman, Secretary, Kansas City, Kansas.

To bring suit for divorce. She could get all the churches Mixed up in a fight And turn all our day time to Sorrowing nights.

In fact she could keep The whole town in a stew If she'd tell but a part Of the things that she knew.

Now doesn't it put Your head in a whirl When you think what we owe To the telephone girl?

—Exchange.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY Since God in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to remove from our midst the beloved wife and mother Annabelle Hobson-Stevens, we, the members of Local 1038, Dist. No. 10, extend to the bereaved husband and parents our heartfelt sympathy in this, their hour of sorrow.

Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the husband and parents and that they be published in the Kansas Union Farmer.

Signed: Mrs. Maggie Samner Mrs. Ida Cline Mrs. Ed Steneking

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY Whereas it has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from this earthly home our beloved brother member, Mr. James McInnes, of Diamond Local No. 2081.

Therefore be it resolved, we the members of this local, extend to the bereaved wife, daughters and sons, our sincere sympathy.

Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family. Be it also resolved that a copy of the minutes of the Local, and a copy be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer for publication.

Committee: Mrs. Jas. Jones Mrs. R. C. Parish Mrs. W. J. Ross

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RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY Whereas God in His wisdom has called the beloved husband of our sister, Mrs. Emma Humes. We the members of Ridge and Valley Local No. 7 of the W. P. A. wish to extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathy. Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer, a copy to Mrs. Emma Humes, and a copy to be spread on the minutes of our local. Committee: Mrs. Ella Otte Mrs. Mabel Bowers Mrs. Mabel Reddick

LETTER HEADS \$6 PER THOUSAND ENVELOPES \$5 PER THOUSAND High Class Job Printing at Low Prices THE GENERAL PRINTING CO. Farmers Union Bldg., Salina, Kansas

Does This Mean Anything To You? We Have Saved OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS For Members of the Farmers Union

Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Co. Fire and Hall Salina, Kansas

## Price List of Local Supplies

Application cards ..... 20 for 5c  
Credentia blank ..... 10 for 5c  
Dimit blanks ..... 15 for 10c  
Ode cards ..... 12 for 20c  
Constitutions ..... 5c  
Local Sec'y's Receipt Books 25c  
Secretary's Minute Books ..... 50c  
Farmers Union Buttons ..... 25c  
Cash Must Accompany Order. This is Necessary to Save Expense in Postage and Labor. WRITE C. E. Brasted, Box 51, Salina, Kansas.

Farmers' Union Song Leaflets, per dozen ..... 10c  
Business Manuals, now used instead of Ritual, each ..... 5c  
Farmers' Union Song Books published by Jobbing Assn 20c  
Farmers' Union Watch Fobs 50c

## GRAIN and HAY

UNION ORGANIZATIONS GROW BECAUSE OF THEIR CO-OPERATIVE SUPPORT.

Whether your volume is large or small, it is appreciated by

Farmers Union Jobbing Association Kansas City, Missouri

## Everlasting Team Work

We realize that your good-will cannot be gained by a single act or by an occasional unusual service; neither can it be obtained by one man or a group of men. Therefore, our entire organization is co-operating to the fullest extent in an earnest effort to merit your friendship and increased patronage.

SHIP TO YOUR OWN FIRM Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Kansas City

## Stand By Those Who Are Standing By You

We are building up a great farmer-owned and farmer-controlled financial institution.

It is furnishing life insurance to farmers at cost, and it is using the money they pay in premiums for their benefit and theirs alone.

Isn't such an institution worth the support, moral and financial, of the farmers in the middle west?

Free booklet descriptive of the company will be sent upon request.

Farmers Union Mutual Life Insurance Company HOME OFFICE—DES MOINES, IOWA

## A Resolution

To strive to uphold and manifest the ideals and the principles of the Farmers Union to a greater extent and make the 1928 a greater year in the performance of service.

Farmers Union Co-op. Creamery

Kansas City, Mo.



## Pen Pictures of the National Convention

(We shall give to our readers the pictures of the Convention as drawn by editors in other states. Our position colors our judgment. These men are all honest in their reports, but the reports reflect their convictions.)

### THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AS PRESIDENT SIMPSON OF OKLAHOMA SAW IT

President Simpson introduced the plan which he outlines below in a report of the Committee on Constitution and By-laws. Our readers will recall that the Nebraska writer told how this Committee was created—that Mr. Simpson, as vice-president of the National Union, had himself created the committee, making himself chairman. No announcement had been made to the Convention that it had such a committee. In stating that Oklahoma pays no salaries Mr. Simpson must not be understood to say that their officials work for nothing. One delegate said he much preferred definite salaries. That our experience with dollar-a-year men during the war was not cost too much. The plan was not taken seriously.

This issue of the paper will consist largely of a report of what happened at the Annual Convention of the National Farmers' Union, held in Des Moines, Iowa, November 15th, 16th and 17th. This means that the usual headings do not appear in this issue, neither will the Local Roll of Honor, or the Five Membership Roll of Honor. We shall also eliminate for this publication of policies of insurance written.

In this issue of the paper, we print the reports of committees in full, including the Committee on Resolutions, and the Committee on Legislation, also the special resolution referring to Sir Herbert Hoover and wheat pricing. We hope every member will read every report, then pass the paper on to their neighbor in an effort to get that neighbor to become a member of the Farmers' Union.

Practically all reports of committees were passed, unanimously, by the Convention. The Hoover resolution was passed unanimously and enthusiastically, not only the delegates but also all visiting members, of which there were probably five hundred. The reception the Hoover resolution got convinced me that farmers are not going to be deceived by the propaganda Mr. Hoover is putting out. The delegates have his number, and no amount of misrepresentation will ever fool them into believing that he was or is their friend.

**The Oklahoma Plan**  
The National Organization, as managed the last ten years, has been receiving less dues each year, and the expenses each year until the revenues barely equal the salaries and per diem. In other words, the Na-

tional Union has reached a condition, where it takes all the funds to keep the whistle going, and there is nothing left to turn the wheel, that makes the ship move. The Oklahoma delegation offered a temporary plan to be used until the National Organization got on its feet, financially, the elimination of all salaries and per diem for the year 1928. We told the Convention the story of the Farmers in Oklahoma, in which we had used this plan, that in Oklahoma for three years no state salary or members of the executive committee drew a penny of salary or per diem, that all funds collected during those three years were used in organization work and in paying actual expenses in connection with the fight in behalf of farmers before departments of government, the state and national.

Under the Oklahoma plan, President Barrett and Secretary Davis would have been eliminated, and the members of the Board of Directors, and the Vice-President, would have had their \$10.00 per diem eliminated, and these eliminations in conjunction with the saving of expense would have amounted to at least \$12,000.00 per year. The Oklahoma delegation offered for this \$12,000.00 to organize a new state next year with the required 5,000 members, and we agreed that if we did not get at least 5,000 members, the National Union would not pay us the \$12,000.00 or any part of it.

Secretary Davis, report showed his own salary \$3,000.00 per year, clerk hire \$1,240.80, fuel \$44.50, making a total of \$4,285.30, that under the Oklahoma plan could all have been eliminated except \$1,000.00 in other words we offered to do the work of National Secretary for \$1,000.00 a year, which would have been a net saving of \$3,285.30. We believe that to take care of the work for \$1,000.00 a year. Mr. Davis, the National Secretary, lives on his farm near Springfield, Mo. There is not a Local of the Farmers' Union in his neighborhood or his county. The Oklahoma delegation contended before the National Convention that it was the height of the ridiculous to keep a National Secretary in a state, "where there was no Union, and there was no one to do the work of a Farmers' Union state headquarters. Mr. Barrett's salary for 1927 was \$5,000.00, and his personal expenses \$4,419.33—almost \$15.00 a day for every working day in the year. The reason for such high expenses is that Mr. Barrett lives a thousand miles from the heart of the Union. The Okla-

ma delegation contended before the National Convention that it was the height of the ridiculous for the National Farmers' Union to select a President who lived a thousand miles from the Union, and who has practically no membership in his own state, his own county, or his own neighborhood. We, also, contended that it was absolutely unnecessary for the other members of the board of Directors, who are all salaried officers in their own to be paid \$10.00 per day for their services, when working for the National Union to pay their expenses. The test-sucker defeated the Oklahoma plan by a vote of 59 to 45.

The Oklahoma delegation showed that the National Organization had received in dues from its members the National Farmers' Union, that \$265,000.00, and that ten years had never organized a new state, but had lost most of the old states, among which was Texas, the mother of the organization, South Dakota, Nebraska, Illinois, and Oklahoma, supported the Oklahoma plan and these four states pay almost half the dues each year.

**The Election**  
The last day, when time came for the election, Nebraska presented as a candidate for President the name of Honorable E. O. Pollard. He is a high-class gentleman from every standpoint. He is a graduate of the State University of Nebraska. He served many years in Nebraska Legislature, and in the National Congress, as well as a member of the Constitutional Convention held in Nebraska a few years ago. He has been a successful farmer for forty years. He lives in every corner of the Union population of the United States. For Mr. Pollard to look after a Union job, the expenses would probably be \$50.00, because of his location, as compared with probably \$200.00 for Mr. Barrett, on account of his location. Mr. Pollard stood 45. Barrett, which was another victory for the test-sucker. They went on down the line carrying their slate, but with fewer votes each ballot until just four more than necessary. In other words, the Board of Directors received 54 per cent of the total votes of the Convention, and Barrett received 57 per cent. These represent the high and low percentages by which their slate won.

### COUNTRY BUYING AND ITS ULTIMATE EFFECT

(From Farm Stock and Home of December 1, 1927)

Some radical changes are developing in the general marketing system of livestock in America. This development has been rather rapid, but its ultimate effect is quite revolutionary. The development, so far as it has gone, has been so quickly accomplished; the changes taking place so natural upon their face, that they seemed but a matter of revolution. The general public concerned has not yet really sensed the change, realizing its importance or its logical outcome.

During the past half century, a livestock marketing system has grown up that developed large centralized market points to which the bulk of the meat stock of the country found its way. At these points, the animals grew up large packing plants where animals were slaughtered and their carcasses processed upon a tremendous scale. The raw product was made into finished food and by-products upon a plan that seemed to be the most economic that could be conceived. The great slaughtering and processing plants became by far the chief buyers of meat animals and furnished a ready cash market for at least 75% of the meat animals marketed. These animals were purchased through daily competitive bids from commission men or producers, and in the main, the law of supply and demand was the controlling factor in price making.

Within a comparatively few years, there has come about a radical change effecting in a large measure this marketing, particularly of hogs. The large packing firms have established at various points in the chief hog producing area so-called concentration plants where they have purchased a portion of their pork supply direct from the producers. The era of good roads and the use of the motor truck have enabled each of these points to gather to it a liberal supply of the hogs within its territory. This direct marketing from producer to killer and processor has been generally welcomed by the farm producer. In it he envisioned the elimination of middlemen and a consequent reduction in his marketing costs. That was the natural conclusion to reach upon the face of the matter.

But a second and more serious conclusion that there may be a fly in thought will very probably lead to the conclusion that there may be a fly in this seemingly soothing ointment. At these concentration points, there exists no element of direct competition in buying. But one buyer fixes the price, makes the grades or does the weighing, and this without any governmental control or supervision. He very naturally selects the top grades of the animals offered and rejects the culls and lower grades. These latter classes must find their way to the terminal markets, and will there exert undue and depressing influence upon market levels. This owing to the disproportionate number of lower grades in comparison to tops that will

reach the terminal markets. One can readily see how this bringing of fewer top hogs and the normal number of lower grades and culls to the central markets will necessarily have a decidedly depressing effect upon the general level of market prices.

And as price levels are depressed, the effect of country buying has been felt. A recent large and unprecedented drop in hog prices was attributed by many to price control and manipulation made possible by direct buying and not caused by the relation of supply and demand.

The move toward buying is yet young, it is yet in a state of development. It has so far been applied almost wholly to hogs, but as it succeeds, from the buyer's standpoint, it will, undoubtedly, be extended to other classes of livestock. In fact, one packer is said to be already practicing the system in the buying of cattle. Packers are continually adding more concentration points and country slaughter houses and disposing of their stockyard interests. The stage seems set for an era of direct buying the country over and it is time for producers to seriously take note of the situation and balance their interests in view of the natural consequences.

Reprinted From South Dakota Union Farmer.

The livestock industry. It is time for farmers to do some serious thinking about the effect of direct livestock marketing and see where they will be in the final analysis.

The point has already been seemingly reached where the deadening effects of country buying have been felt. A recent large and unprecedented drop in hog prices was attributed by many to price control and manipulation made possible by direct buying and not caused by the relation of supply and demand.

The move toward buying is yet young, it is yet in a state of development. It has so far been applied almost wholly to hogs, but as it succeeds, from the buyer's standpoint, it will, undoubtedly, be extended to other classes of livestock. In fact, one packer is said to be already practicing the system in the buying of cattle. Packers are continually adding more concentration points and country slaughter houses and disposing of their stockyard interests. The stage seems set for an era of direct buying the country over and it is time for producers to seriously take note of the situation and balance their interests in view of the natural consequences.

### SEABROOK 1815 ELECTS OFFICERS

Sunbeam Local 1815 elected the following officers Dec. 29: President, Geo. A. Bolz. Vice-president, J. R. Peck. Secretary-treasurer, H. E. Anderson. Conductor, L. C. Hansen. Doorkeeper, Harry Wilson. Ex. Com. A. Bolz, Geo. Jensen and R. K. Ream.

Delegate to state convention, J. A. Bolz. Election was delayed on account of bad weather the first night in December and Christmas program the second meeting night. Therefore a special meeting was called for Thursday night, Dec. 29. Installation will be held Friday night, Jan. 6, 1928. An oyster supper is planned for the event.

H. E. Anderson, the new secretary's address is Rt. No. 4, N. Topeka.

Yours truly, Geo. A. Bolz, Retiring secretary-treasurer of Sunbeam 1815.

The thermometer was invented over 400 years ago by Galileo who also invented the telescope.

Do not take chances of letting your tractor freeze—if in doubt, drain it. Several dollars and considerable time may be saved.

The edge of a piece of glass may be trimmed with a heavy pair of shears of a pair of tin snips if the glass is held under water during the cutting operation. Try it.

## STOCK MARKET

### FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 5, 1928.

**HOW ABOUT 1928?**  
No ambitious man is ever satisfied with the results of his efforts. His natural restlessness spurs him on to greater things. Only by analyzing present conditions are we able to improve our future status. As we wish to co-operate with you closer than ever before, we will thank you for a letter at this time as to your plans.

**STEERS**—The market has been strong to higher every day this week until today. Market steady today on the better kinds and 15 to 25 lower on shorted in-between grades. We had a new top on 1417 lb. cattle at 17.00. These steers were real good, but not prime. Bulk of heavy steers sold at 14 to 15 cents. This class mostly shortfaced, 70 to 90 days. Cattle weighing 1100 to 1350 lbs. sell mostly at 12.75 to 13.50, plainer heavy kinds less.

**STOCKERS & FEEDERS**—In good demand, feeders taking a good many lighter weight shortfaced at 10.50 to 12.00. Stockers very scarce, choice light whitefaces bringing 10.75 to 11.25, 7.50 to 10.00. Best shortfaced 9.50 to 10.50, fair to good 8.75 to 9.50.

**COWS, HEIFERS, MIXED YEARLINGS & BULLS**—Killing cows and heifers active 25 to 50 higher Monday and Tuesday. Part of this advance has been on cows and all on heifers. Good to choice fat heifers sold up to 11.00 to 11.50 Tuesday, fully \$1.50 higher than low time two weeks ago. 50 cents of this gain was taken off yesterday and today. Bulk of fat heifers sell at 9.00, good ones 9.25 to 9.50. Fairer cows suffered most decline last two days. Canners 5.00, cutters 5.25 to 5.75. Few good mixed yearlings coming, good to choice selling at 12.00 to 13.50. Stock cows and heifers steady; light whiteface heifers 7.75 to 8.25, red 7.25 to 7.50, black 6.50 to 7.00. Bologna bulls active at 6.75 to 7.50 for the good ones.

**CAVES**—A coking killing calf market this week, all classes fully \$2.50 higher than week ago. Top calf 14.00, medium weight 10.50 to 12.00. Fat 450 to 600 lb. calves 11.50 to 12.50. The market closed flat today and we are just a little afraid of the market next week. Few stock calves here, market steady.

**HOGS**—Market higher Monday and Tuesday. Market 15 to 25 lower today, top 8.35 on 225 to 270s. Bulk 190s up 8.15 to 8.35, 140s to 180s 7.75 to 8.15. Packing sows 6.50 to 7.25. Stock pigs weak to 2.50, 7.50 to 8.00. Stags 6.50 to 7.50.

**DEEP & LAMBS**—Market steady today, top fed western lambs 12.85, bulk 12.50 to 12.85. Fed Texas lambs 12.00 to 12.25. WE TOPPED the market yesterday at 12.85, the only lambs bringing the price.

### FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION

**1927 BIGGEST YEAR IN HISTORY**  
Farmers Union gains 956 carloads or about 15 per cent in receipts. Gains 1087 cars of hogs or about 30 per cent gain in hog receipts.

**1928 ESTABLISH FARMERS' SALES CONTRACTS**  
Cattle receipts have been light up until today and this has forced prices to the highest point of the year. Considering quality, etc., the prices are better than six weeks ago when we had a 219.00. We are not getting the long-fed choice quality steers and the big packers have been around to see us, asking if we know where there are any good cattle on feed that will be ready within the next four to five weeks. This certainly looks as if packers realize there is a shortage of cattle and while we know it is hard to pass up prices that have been paid here the past ten days for short feds, we believe if you have good quality steers and plenty of feed, it will pay to finish them. We are not getting a crowd of lot of medium cattle in before they are ready. The packers are just waiting for a chance to take off a lot on these cattle as soon as receipts give the opportunity. With 14,000 on sale today our market is slow. Buyers bidding lower on everything except the few strictly fancy cattle. Butcher stock is holding up in fair shape, the decline is around 10 to 15c. When you get that next load ready, ship them to Farmers Union, the firm where buyers come looking for their supplies of good steers and butcher stock.

**Hogs**  
80,000 hogs today. The storms which tied up shipments have let up and this big run is the result. Prices today dropped 25 to 40c only one load bringing \$8.70, the extreme top. Others at \$8.60 and the practical top price, \$8.60. Hogs weighing 210 to 300 pounds are showing the least decline while the light stuff, 170 pounds down to 25 to 40c lower. It is too bad that receipts piled up in one big gob like this when our market was making a little headway toward higher prices. Nothing could better illustrate the need of real co-operation in order to spread out the receipts through the week and prevent such price breaks as we are having today. Tomorrow's estimate is 45,000 and there will be about 15,000 carried over. That indicates a weaker market the balance of this week but we are confident that hogs would work higher, if receipts were distributed more evenly through the coming weeks. Farmers Union is working to perfect orderly shipping and co-operative selling. You should be working with the Union and we hope that your next load will be sent to your own firm at Chicago.

A light run brought 25c gain in lamb prices today. This is the first good news we have had for some time and it indicates that the demand for lambs is strong enough to warrant higher prices. Top to shippers \$13.75, packers lambs mostly \$13.25 to \$13.50

## Department of Practical Co-Operation

We are changing the policy of this department, beginning the first of the year. The Meeting Notices that have appeared here to fore were 100% locals for 1928. At this time we are showing only those that are 100% for 1927. All 100% locals for 1927 that wish their meeting notice to be published will receive this service free of charge. Locals that are not paid up in full but want their meeting notice published can have space in this department for One Cent per word per week.

**ALLEN COUNTY**  
FAIRLAWN LOCAL NO. 2158  
Meets the second and fourth Monday of each month. Glen Thompson, Sec.  
GOLDEN VALLEY LOCAL NO. 2157  
Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. H. V. Adams, Sec.  
LIBERTY LOCAL NO. 2148  
Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. Ray Wilson, Sec.  
SILVER LEAF LOCAL NO. 2156  
Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Mrs. M. A. Funder, Sec.  
DIAMOND LOCAL NO. 2081  
Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. Mrs. R. C. Farish, Sec.  
ALLEN CENTRAL LOCAL NO. 2155  
Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. Mrs. Jno. Page, Sec.  
FAIRVIEW LOCAL NO. 2154  
Meets the first and third Wednesday nights of each month. Mrs. Chas. L. Stewart, Sec.

**ANDERSON COUNTY**  
LIZZITOWN LOCAL NO. 2064  
Meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Mrs. A. W. Williams, Sec.

**CHASE COUNTY**  
COTTONWOOD VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1815  
Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. L. K. Graham, Sec.

**CHEROKEE COUNTY**  
NEUTRAL LOCAL NO. 2108  
Meets the first Tuesday of each month. C. A. Atkinson, Secretary.  
OSWEGO LOCAL NO. 2094  
Meets the first and third Thursday of each month. Joe Farmer, Sec.

**CLAY COUNTY**  
FOUR MILE LOCAL NO. 1123  
Meets on the first Tuesday of each month. G. W. Tomlinson, Sec.

**COFFEY COUNTY**  
SUNNYSIDE LOCAL NO. 2114  
Meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Mrs. H. B. Lusk, Sec.

**COWLEY COUNTY**  
BEAVER LOCAL NO. 2073  
Meets the first and third Monday nights of each month. Mrs. Don Berrie, Sec.

on the 78 to 88 pound lambs. Heavier lambs from 90 to 100 pounds \$12.00 to \$13.00. Write for Farmers Union special sheep letter issued every Friday. Glad to send it if you have lambs.

### FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION

Union Stock Yards Chicago, Ill. January 5, 1928.

### MINNEOLA LOCAL NO. 1228

The old Farmers Union spirit was demonstrated by the neighbors and members of Minneola Local of the Farmers Union when they showed their neighborly spirit by meeting at the home of Mrs. R. T. Costigan early in the morning of Dec. 22nd with nine wagons and sixteen men and finished husking her corn and marketing same which was greatly appreciated by Mrs. Costigan. About 450 bushels were gathered. At noon a bounteous dinner was served by Mrs. Costigan assisted by Mrs. M. S. Steward, Mrs. Ben Nelson, Mrs. Chas. Browning, Mrs. Will Dunlap and Agnes Butel. The following men gathered and marketed the corn: M. S. Steward, Will Dunlap, Ezra Shuler, Ben Nelson, Arthur Deader, Oscar Dyer, Donald Steward, Chas. Browning, R. O. Slaven, Edgeline, Marvin Steward, Irl Keagy, Frank Melcher, Lester Steward, John Turner and George Butel. Mr. Costigan passed away at Providence Hospital, Kansas City, Kansas, Dec. 7. He will be missed in our local as it will be remembered that he was one of the charter members and the first president of Minneola Local, and always took great interest in all Union activities.

One who was there.

### AUDITOR FRENCH MAKES STUDY OF TAX POSSIBILITIES

Will J. French, State Auditor, was asked some two months ago to show if it was possible and how Kansas could raise the State tax by indirect taxation. After studying the indirect taxation of twenty of the states, Mr. French finds that four states in the union raise all their tax by indirect taxation; namely, Pennsylvania, California, Ohio, and Oklahoma. Oklahoma occasionally has a state levy. After studying the resources of the State Mr. French thinks the following methods of indirect taxation would be more applicable to Kansas. He also sets out the amount of taxes they would yield, according to the average rate in other states for the same taxes:

Gross production tax .....\$2,500,000  
Mercantile license tax ..... 500,000  
Excise or Utility Tax ..... 1,500,000  
Luxury tax ..... 2,000,000  
Personal Income tax ..... 1,000,000

Total Tax .....\$7,500,000  
The gross production tax would be a tax on various minerals of the state of Kansas, including oil, natural gas, coal, salt, zinc, gypsum, etc. Mercantile license tax would be a tax against the larger mercantile industries; also should include license tax on traveling circuses, road shows and various forms of commercialized entertainment.

Excise tax would be a tax on railroads, pipe lines, telegrams, telephones, amusements, etc.

Luxury tax (Kansas has one form of it at present time in the name of a "Cigarette Tax.") This should be extended to all forms of tobacco and cosmetics.

Kansas pays to the federal government in income tax \$19,000,000, on an income tax against persons with a large income would easily yield \$1,000,000.

Kansas annually levies from six to eight million dollars in direct taxation, and at the present time collects \$9,000,000 in the amount of \$7,000,000 per year. Kansas at the present time has the following indirect taxes: Inheritance, Insurance, Corporation, and Excise car tax and Express Companies.

Of course, many Boards and Commissions turn in fees and the various Educational and Penal Institutions have large fees. The corporation

**DOUGLAS COUNTY**  
CARGY LOCAL NO. 2138  
Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. R. E. Titcher, Sec.  
FRANKLIN LOCAL NO. 1523  
Meets the first Friday of each month. Mrs. Frank Topping, Sec.  
ELLISWORTH COUNTY  
ADVANCE LOCAL NO. 1885  
Meets on the first Monday of each month. F. F. Svoboda, Sec.  
LIBERTY LOCAL NO. 2255  
Meets every first and third Monday of each month. Ed Mor. Sec.  
TRIVOLI LOCAL NO. 1001  
Meets the first Monday evening in each month. W. H. Fleming, Sec.

**ELLIS COUNTY**  
HAYS LOCAL NO. 86  
Meets the first Friday in each month, alternating Pleasant Hill at 7:30 in the evening with Hays Court House at 2:00 in the afternoon. Frank B. Pfeiffer, Sec.

**EXCELSIOR LOCAL NO. 606**  
Meets the first and third Monday of each month. Joseph L. Weber, Sec.  
PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1804  
Meets the first and third Monday of each month. Frank Reimeyer, Sec.

**NEAL LOCAL NO. 1313**  
Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. J. C. Graves, Sec.

**SOUTH VERDIGRIS LOCAL 1458**  
Meets every second Friday night. H. L. Soule, Sec.

**GOVE COUNTY**  
PARK LOCAL NO. 909  
Meets the last Saturday of each month. Jas. Hein, Sec.

**JEWELL COUNTY**  
PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1309  
Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. Wm. T. Flinn, Sec.

**JOHNSON COUNTY**  
SHARON LOCAL NO. 1124  
Meets the last Friday evening of each month. Mrs. Guselle K. DeVault, Sec.

**BUCKEYE LOCAL NO. 2073**  
Meets the first Wednesday night of each month. Roy Edmonds, Sec.

tax is lower than that of many surrounding states. The inheritance tax is also much lower and if necessary these could be very easily increased. Mr. French insists that the state could be run more economically if all fees collected from any source were turned direct to the General fund of the State and then in turn specific appropriations were made to run the various Departments.

If the indirect tax system was adopted in Kansas, it would not be necessary to have any new Boards or Commissions to handle same. The fact is, Mr. French points out, under the present system Kansas has more Boards and Commissions than are necessary, as many of the duties of the various Boards overlap. One-fourth million dollars could easily be saved by consolidating or abolishing various Boards and Commissions.

Mr. French calls attention to the advantage of separation of the State and Local Government in taxation. He says it would remove conflict between cities and counties, which hinder enactments of good laws. Without a state tax on real estate taxation would lose much of its edge. The removal of the state tax on real estate also eliminates the incentive to under valuation as between counties. The separation results in a partial shifting of taxes from real estate to intangible property. The separation coincides with the actual division of governmental activities and follows the principal already embodied in the separation of national and state liberties.

The disadvantage would be separate state interest in the control and equalization. There is no necessary relationship between national division of governmental activities and taxation. It might lead to extravagances in legislative appropriations, because of the natural feeling against corporations. In some states it has not proven an elastic system of state revenue.

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