



# The Kansas Union Farmer

ORGANIZATION

EDUCATION

COOPERATION

VOLUME XXVII

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NUMBER 38

## Make Final Plans For Teachers' Institute

### TEACHERS NOW QUALIFYING FOR KERC POSITIONS

Will Attend Institute in Topeka, Lawrence and Manhattan, Receiving Pay and Transportation while in School and Later

### FARMERS UNION SETUP

Hans Hoiberg Gives Tentative Outline of School Work; Instructing Staff to Include Practical Farmers Union Leaders

Final plans are being rapidly completed, preparatory to the opening Teachers' Institute, which will be financed by KERC funds, and which will train teachers along lines sponsored by the Kansas Farmers Union in such a manner that these teachers may go back into their own communities and conduct classes which will be built around the Farmers Union Junior Program.

Generally speaking, the training will center around subjects taught in the National Farmers Union Junior program, which has been largely prepared by Mrs. O. H. Olson of South Dakota, Junior Leader for the National Farmers Union, and Mrs. Gladys Talbot Edwards, North Dakota Junior Farmers Union leader.

Teachers and lecturers at the Teachers' Institute will consist of the National Farmers Union officials and leaders, and teachers provided by the Workers' Education department, under KERC, lecturers and teachers in Kansas State College and in the University of Kansas. It is definitely understood by all taking part that the program is to have a distinct Farmers Union coloring—that it is built around the Farmers Union attempt to provide the right kind of education for its young folks. These, of course, include not only those taught in the regular public and private schools. Well-known and well qualified educators are being made available from our state schools in order to give the teachers the necessary background which they will need when they go back to the community classes. Stunt teachers, as formerly explained, will receive \$15 per week while attending Institute with transportation paid.

Hans Hoiberg, supervisor of Workers' Education, who will have much to do with the institute, is at present contacting the various Farmers Union organizations in the several counties, assisting them in the qualification of prospects for the Teachers' Institute. He is being accompanied by a Farmers Union State official, these men are making appointments with county or local Farmers Union people, and are going with them to the various county officers who must pass upon the eligibility of any teacher to attend the institute as a KERC worker. Their first contacts have been in the eastern end of Kansas. Next week, they will go into central and western Kansas counties it was announced that the institute would begin March 1, but in order to allow time necessary for qualification of the student teachers it became necessary to delay one week.

In order that our readers may have a general idea of what will be taken up in the Institute, the Kansas Union Farmer publishes here a tentative plan for the institute, which will be followed as closely as possible, but which is, of course, subject to change. This plan is submitted by Mr. Hoiberg, tlt wootainlmefwpy hha hah berg. It would be well for all prospective teachers to preserve this outline.

### Plan for a Teachers' Institute in Workers' Education (March 8-28)

So difficult is the task of conducting classes in Workers' Education successfully that no teacher in the state of Kansas will be permitted to enter the field until he or she has attended a Teachers' Institute established for the specific purpose of training teachers in this phase of the Emergency Education Program. The first of these Institutes will be held March 8-28, 1935.

Inasmuch as it is impossible at this time of the year to congregate in one place the men and women needed on an institute of this kind, it has been found necessary to change the location of the institute several times during the course of the three weeks.

I suggest the following schedule as a tentative plan for the institute:

1. Two days in Topeka, (March 8-9). The purpose of this stay is to orient student teachers in the various branches of the Emergency Education Program, and to outline, in broad terms, the nature of the work which will be pursued during the course of the Institute. The first of these two objectives will be realized by having such officials as State Superintendent Markham, Marvin, Besore, Hyde, Miss Newton, Miss Foote and Mrs. Turner speak to the assembled group.

2. One week at the State College at Manhattan (March 10-18 incl.). During this stay the student-teachers

will be asked to attend the following "courses":

1. Two classes daily devoted to the general topic of agriculture. These hours, which will be taught by competent instructors, are meant not only as an aid to those individuals who are to conduct classes in agricultural areas, but also as a means of widening the horizon of those individuals who are to teach in industrial centers. We feel very definitely that the farmer and the laborer have hitherto largely failed to recognize the extent to which their problems coincide.

2. These instructors have, of course, been given a free hand in working out the nature of their classes, but it has been suggested that they include at least the most important of the following topics:

- A. Brief history of the growth of agriculture in United States.
- B. Present plight of agriculture.
- C. Causes.
  - (1). Taxation on farm property.
  - (2). Technological development.
  - (3). Transportation; R. R. rates, etc.
  - (4). Speculation in farm products.
  - (5). Present marketing methods; middlemen, etc.
  - (6). Present credit and banking agencies.
  - (7). Settling of West. Disappearance of agricultural frontier.
  - (8). Over production (Fact or Myth).

- D. As result of World War Expansion.
  - a. As result of loss of Foreign Markets. Tariff.
  - b. As result of loss of purchasing power among industrial workers, etc.

- E. Farmers' own share of blame.
  - a. Speculation.
  - b. Unscientific Farming, etc.

- F. Possible ways out.
  - (1). McNary-Haugen Bill; Federal Farm Board, etc.
  - (2). AAA Control of Agricultural Production. Cost of Production.
  - (3). The Cooperative movement, Producers' and Consumers' Associations and Structure; Function; Policies and Tactics; Practical Problems of organization and operation; Problem of leadership.

- G. Inflation—Monetary question.
  - (4). Tax Reforms.
  - (5). Change in Tariff Policy.
  - (6). Banking Reforms.
  - (7). Improvement of Transportation Facilities.
  - (8). Refinancing of Farm Debt.
  - (9). Henry George—Nationalization of Land.

- H. Increase in Scientific Farming.
  - (11). Elevation of Farmer to Political Power.
  - (12). Increase in Scientific Farming.

For each of the above topics, whether or not time permits class room discussion, the professors have been asked to give the student-teachers rather extensive bibliographies covering the book and pamphlet material for (1) Workers' Education classes (the "popular" written material), and (2) Teachers' reference books.

2. One or two classes daily conducted by a representative of the Farmers Union. This course will be largely devoted to a study of the cooperative movement from the Farmers Union point of view. Special attention will be given to the Farmers Union Junior Program, and leadership.

3. One class every other day conducted by Hans Hoiberg. This course will seek to introduce the student-teachers into the field of Workers' Education by discussing such topics as the aim and scope of Workers' Education, the Curriculum in Workers' Education, teaching methods in Workers' Education, practical problems involved in organizing Workers' Education classes, etc.

- III. One and a half weeks at the University of Kansas, Lawrence (March 19-28).

During the first week of this stay (March 19-25) the student-teachers will be introduced into the problems of industry and labor. Since it is utterly impossible to cover the whole field of economics, even in a cursory fashion, in so short a time, Dr. Gagliardo and a possible co-worker have each been asked to use one class period daily in familiarizing the student-teachers with the subject matter of those particular topics which, experience has taught us, are most likely to find their places in the curriculum of a Workers' Education Program. Thus Dr. Gagliardo and co-worker may perhaps discuss any or all of the following topics in their classes:

1. Social Insurance. Workman's Compensation. Health and Sick-ness insurance. Unemployment Insurance. Old Age Pensions, etc.
2. Labor Under NRA.

(continued on page 2)

## \$270.20 COLLECTED IN FRAZIER-LEMKE FUND FROM KANSAS

33 Individuals, 30 Locals, 8 County Unions and 7 Farmers Union Firms Comprise the 78 Contributions to Swell the Fund

### TO DEFEND THE LAW

Fund Combined with Funds from Other States Cooperating with National Farmers Union to Defend Moratorium Constitutionality

Funds amounting to \$270.20 have been paid by individuals, Locals, County Unions, and Farmers Union firms, through the state office of the Kansas Farmers Union, to carry on the Supreme Court fight to maintain the constitutionality of the Frazier-Lemke Farm Moratorium law.

The test case is brought by the Louisville Joint Stock Bank which has asked the United States Supreme Court to pass upon the constitutionality of the Frazier-Lemke law which gives our farmers a five-year moratorium for paying off mortgages. The case came before the Supreme Court on February 16, following the decision of the sixth circuit court of appeals, sitting at Cincinnati, which upheld the law.

The funds raised through the Kansas Farmers Union are being used in conjunction with similar funds raised in other Farmers Union states, to further the fight being backed by the National Farmers Union, which is co-operating with Congressman William Lemke of North Dakota, co-author of the law.

Altogether, 78 contributions have been received by the state office of the Kansas Farmers Union. Twenty-one of these contributions were listed and given recognition in the Kansas Union Farmer under date of December 27, 1934. At that time, the total amount collected was \$79. Since then, \$191.20 has been collected to swell the national fund.

Thirty-three individuals, including 10 previously reported, have contributed. Thirty Locals, of which seven were reported last December, have contributed. A total of eight county unions have reported with contributions, and four of the eight were reported previously. Seven Farmers Union firms have sent in contributions, but none were in the previous report.

Out of the total collected, individuals paid \$37.00; Locals, \$122.85; County Unions, \$67.35; and firms, \$43.

Following are the names and addresses of the contributors, with the exception of those who were listed in the December 27 issue of this paper:

### List of Contributors

Individuals:  
Clifford Miller, Brewster ..... \$1  
B. Duffin, Edison ..... 1  
F. K. Stolzer, Morrowville ..... 1  
Raymond W. Chambers, Quenemo ..... 1  
Mrs. Emma Root, Centralia ..... 1  
C. C. Glasgow, Courtland ..... 1  
P. B. Root, Centralia ..... 1  
H. C. Metsker, Lone Star ..... 1  
Joe Flory, Lone Star ..... 1  
H. L. Carpenter, Modoc ..... 1  
E. U. Douglas, ..... 1  
M. C. Bothwell, Marysville ..... 50  
H. E. Witham, Kansas City ..... 1  
E. J. Fitzgerald, Liberal ..... 1  
Ab Broore, Monmouth ..... 2  
Jos. P. Oborny, Tinkins ..... 1  
J. C. Glasgow, Courtland ..... 1  
H. E. Cole, Logan ..... 1  
W. E. Roesch, Quinter ..... 1  
Floyd Lynn, Salina ..... 1  
Chris Galloway, Dighton ..... 1  
G. H. Caple, Williamsburg ..... 50

Individual contributions ..... \$27.00  
Previously reported ..... 10.00  
Total ..... \$37.00

Locals:  
Quinter 1095, Quinter ..... \$5.00  
Harmony 196, Tampa ..... 5.00  
Fairdale 927, Brewster ..... 5.00  
Lamoureux 1961, Stafford ..... 2.80  
Olive Hill 1120, Clay Center ..... 5.00  
Silver Lake 679, Ogallah ..... 2.00  
Herrington 1093, Herrington ..... 3.00  
Sunrise 1238, Oketo ..... 2.00  
Carr Creek 302, Downs ..... 1.75  
Wayne 2200, Wayne ..... 2.00  
Brantford 2186, Clyde ..... 2.00  
Smoky Hill 882, Lindborg ..... 10.00  
Blanchville 796, Waterville ..... 2.00  
Sherwood 1138, Clay Center ..... 2.50  
Redman 1624, Belle Plaine ..... 5.00  
No. Eight 671, Marquette ..... 5.00  
Bennington 2169, Bennington ..... 5.00  
Stone 792, Palco ..... 10.00  
Liebenthal 648, LaCrosse ..... 3.00  
Moss Springs 1901, Alta Vista ..... 5.00  
North Star 1979, Stafford ..... 3.70  
Rock Island 929, Seneca ..... 5.00  
Bazaar, 1926, Bazaar ..... \$92.85  
Local contributions ..... 29.00  
Previously reported ..... \$122.85

County Unions:  
Ottawa County Union ..... \$ 2.35  
Stafford County Union ..... 10.00  
Nemaha County Union ..... 10.00  
Linn County Union ..... 5.00

County contributions ..... \$27.35  
Previously reported ..... 40.00  
Total ..... \$67.35

Firms:  
Farmers Union Assn., Waverly ..... \$10.00  
F. U. Cooperative Assn., Brewster ..... 10.00  
F. U. Cooperative Elevator Assn., Quinter ..... 9.00  
F. U. Cooperative Assn., Maple Hill ..... 3.00  
Quinter Co-op. Oil Co., ..... 3.00

### STATEMENT OF KERC OFFICIAL

To the Farmers Union of Kansas:

We are happy to report that numerous Farmers Union Locals throughout the state have signified their intention of securing the financial aid of the K. E. R. C. in the building of their educational program. We trust that a continued and ever increasing interest on your part will insure the success of the venture.

(Signed) HANS HOIBERG,  
Supervisor of Workers' Education.

Quinter ..... 5.00  
Farmers Union Jobbing Assn., Kansas City ..... 5.00  
Farmers Union Royalty Co., ..... 1.00  
Grand Total Collected ..... \$270.20

## SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS U. S. IN GOLD DECISIONS

High Tribunal Approved Administration's New Deal Monetary Policies in Momentous Decisions Handed Down Monday, February 18

### THROWS OUT SUITS

Is Various Hailed as "Sweeping Victory" and Condemned as "Tragedy"; Court Divided Five to Four in All Cases

The long-awaited "gold decision" of the United States Supreme Court, was handed down Monday, February 18, and was received with mixed feelings by the various interests in the United States. The decision was considered a "sweeping victory" by the new deal forces in power in the government; while by the holders of gold bonds and by those in sympathy with the gold bond-holding classes, it was deemed a disaster.

The decision was in favor of the government in the suit brought by the holder of a gold certificate, and in the suit brought by the holder of a Liberty bond. In the former case, the government contended that their holdings should have been paid in the equivalent of gold or in the equivalent of legal tender on the basis of the old weight and fineness of the gold dollar.

The holders of these securities sustained no damage by the changing of the gold content of the dollar, according to the ruling of the Supreme Court. The court, in answer to the question: "Is the owner of a Fourth Liberty Bond entitled to payment in the amount of the face of the bond?" it answered in the affirmative instead of the negative, such bond holders could have collected 1.69 for each dollar represented in the face amount.

The court upheld the government's right to cancel "gold clauses" in private bonds, but ruled that the government could not cancel gold clauses in gold certificates. The court ruled that gold clauses must be paid in gold or the coinage of the United States in gold or silver currency. This means in effect that for every thousand dollar gold bond, the government would be required to pay off \$1,690.

The government won the solitary case involving gold certificates, the decision being that the court of claims suits against the federal government over gold bonds and gold certificates.

The court said "these gold certificates were currency. They were not less so because the specified number of dollars were payable in gold or a commodity. They were legal tender in the United States. Being currency and constituting legal tender it is entirely inadmissible to regard the gold certificate as warehouse receipts. There were no contracts for a certain quantity of gold or silver which they called for gold, bars, not bullion."

Trustees of the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railway mortgage lost in the supreme court their demand for payment in gold dollars of the old weight and fineness or the equivalent in legal tender. This decision affirmed the previous decision of the lower court. The district court had held that the joint resolution of June 5, 1933, abrogating the gold clause was constitutional and that the gold clause in the mortgage made by the St. Louis Iron Mountain and Southern Railway Company, subsidiary of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, was void.

The Baltimore & Ohio won a supreme court decision in the gold case brought by Norman C. Norman. Norman brought suit against the road as a holder of \$1,000 B. & O. bonds, containing the gold clause. On February 1934, a coupon interest payment of \$22.50 was made by the carrier. Norman demanded that the payment be made either in gold or the equivalent in legal tender which would amount to \$38.10 on the basis of the old weight and fineness of the gold. The decision in the gold cases was five to four.

Justice supporting the majority opinion were Chief Justice Charles E. Hughes, (who read the court's decision) Louis D. Brandeis, Harlan F. Stone, Owen J. Roberts and Benjamin N. Cardozo. The minority group, headed by Justice James C. McReynolds, who entered a violent dissent, included William Van Devanter, George Sutherland and Pierce Butler.

## TUNE RADIO FOR FARMERS UNION MONDAY AT NOON

At 12:10, Noon, Monday, February 25, Kansas Farmers Union Starts Broadcasting Own Program from Mike in Salina Office

### 6-DAY WEEK PROGRAM

State Farmers Union Office Wants Members to Help in Shaping Type of Programs Best Suited; Develop as We Go Along

At ten minutes after twelve o'clock noon, on Monday, February 25, the Kansas Farmers Union will embark on a new venture—new for the Farmers Union in Kansas, but not new as far as many other organizations are concerned.

At 12:10 p. m., and for the fifteen-minute period following, on the date mentioned, the Kansas Farmers Union will put on its first radio broadcast from its own offices in Salina. The daily broadcast will be a feature six days of each week thereafter. There will be no Farmers Union broadcast on Sundays.

It is quite likely that the programs will be of more or less general nature for a while, but the state office is laying plans for some specialized programs a little later on, which should not only be interesting and instructive, but which should prove of real value to all Farmers Union members and friends. The state office expects the membership to take a keen interest in this venture, and to help in shaping the type of programs which the Union shall sponsor and put on.

The state officials, who are directly responsible for the radio programs, want to hear from the members and others from all over the state. They want reports on how well the program is heard, on what sort of news and information the members want to hear, and any other information which the listeners might want to give.

As the Farmers Union progresses with this radio project, it is hoped that more people than ever before will become acquainted with the Farmers Union program, state and national. It is believed that through this medium, more farmers than ever before will learn of the various Farmers Union cooperative marketing, pure buying and business enterprises, and will be induced to participate in the cooperative benefits of these enterprises.

KFBI-Abilene, is the station over which the Kansas Farmers Union will make its daily broadcasts. This is a powerful station which reaches from coast to coast and from the Gulf of Mexico to north of the Canadian line. This station was made famous by Dr. J. R. Brinkley, who owned and operated it for some years. It now belongs to the Farmers and Bankers Life Insurance Company of Wichita.

The Kansas Farmers Union will have its hook-up through the Salina studio of KFBI. The microphone will be installed in the Farmers Union office. The musical or entertaining portions of the Farmers Union programs probably will originate in the KFBI studios in Salina.

Listen for the Kansas Farmers Union next Monday noon, on KFBI.

### CONTRACT CORN ACRES MAY BE PLANTED TO ANY CROP OTHER THAN CORN RULING

But, Mr. Black Says, Land Withdrawn from Corn May Not Be Used for Corn for Use as Fodder or Other Forage Purposes

That land held out of production of corn for grain under the 1935 corn-hog contract may be planted without limitation to any other crop than corn, but not to corn for use as fodder or other forage purposes, was reaffirmed this week by A. G. Black, chief of the Administration's corn-hog section.

This statement was made with respect to requests from the northwestern corn belt area that the 1935 contract be modified to permit the planting of corn for non-grain purposes in excess of the acreage permitted under the contract.

This question of modifying the 1935 corn-hog contract has been carefully considered," Mr. Black said. "It appears that further relaxation would jeopardize the intended effect of the program, is not essentially necessary, would complicate compliance with the contract and is not favored by the large majority of corn-hog producers."

"The minimum acreage adjustment requirement in the 1935 contract of 10 per cent of the 1932-1933 base acreage gives farmers an opportunity to produce an ample margin over expected feed needs," Mr. Black pointed out. "It must be kept in mind with about the same general participation in the corn-hog program in 1935 as

### URGE GRADUATED LAND TAX

The Brewster Farmers Cooperative Association, in its annual meeting held in Brewster, Kansas, February 13, adopted a resolution endorsing the graduated land tax, urging that voters be allowed to vote on an amendment making possible the passage of a law providing for such a graduated tax. Copies of the resolution were sent by Clifford Miller, secretary of the Association, to Governor Landon, representative, Showalter of Thomas county, Representative Jones of Sherman county, Senator Benson, John Vesceky of the Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations, and Cal Ward, president of the Kansas Farmers Union.

The resolution, as adopted, reads: "Be it further resolved: That we endorse the graduated land tax and recommend that the present Kansas legislature submit to the people an amendment to the Kansas constitution permitting the passage of such a law."

## SENATOR CAPPER PUTS OUR PROGRAM INTO THE RECORD

National Farmers Union Program as Adopted in Convention Last Fall, Goes into Congressional Record for Consideration of Senate

### CAPPER SUPPORTS IT

Says He is in Accord with Most of the Program, Especially that Dealing with Refinancing of Farm Mortgages at Low Interest

The program of the National Farmers Union as adopted in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the 1934 convention, is now on record in the Congressional Record, having been read into that record by Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas.

Mr. Capper has supported Farmers Union program consistently for years, and is known as one of the real friends of organized farmers for that very reason. He has been for years a supporter of the Frazier-Lemke legislation which is one of the main objectives of the Farmers Union. Other legislation which the Farmers Union fosters has the vigorous support of the Kansas Senator. Just to refresh our memories on the subject of the National Farmers Union program, the Kansas Union Farmer is publishing here a clipping from the Congressional Record of February 6, 1935.

**National Farmers Union Program**  
Mr. Capper. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record the National Farmers' Union program as adopted in its 1934 annual convention. This great farm organization has had a definite national legislative program for many years. Many of the principles for which it stands have been included in legislation enacted by the Congress, though as a rule the application of the principles has not gone nearly as far as the Farmers Union program called for.

The program as outlined in the following summary is worthy of the thoughtful consideration of the Senate and the country, and for that purpose I ask that it be printed in the Record. I might add that I find myself strongly in accord with most of this program, especially that dealing with refinancing of farm mortgages at lower rates of interest.

There being no objection, the program was ordered to be printed in the Record as follows:  
**National Farmers' Union Program Adopted Unanimously in Annual Convention Held in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., November 20-21, 1934.**

### Legislation

The Farmers Union has had a very definite national legislative program for many years. Very little of it has been adopted by the national congress. There has been legislation passed, involving the principles laid down in the Farmers Union program. Such legislation can be described as a step in the right direction.

We have fought the manufacturers general sales tax successfully.

We have seen our program on net income and inheritance tax receive consideration in the last 2 years to the extent of doubling the rates on the higher brackets.

We have seen a bill passed fixing a date for Philippine independence. The Agricultural Adjustment Act established as a principle of law that it is the duty of this government to see that farmers are financed; that it is the duty of its government to regulate the marketing act of farm commodities; that the President should have the power to remonetize silver and issue non-interest-bearing full legal-tender currency instead of interest-bearing bonds.

Ashtabain onfwpv schmdrfl arthit While these are steps in the right direction, the steps are so short that they get us nowhere. Time proves that what has been done is inadequate for the relief and recovery of our country.

All this means that we should be firmer than ever in our convictions that the Farmers Union program provides the real remedy.

In that belief we hereby reiterate the national legislative program adopted in many previous annual

## LIVE STOCK FIRM SHOOTS HOLES IN OLSEN'S REPORT

Farmers Union Live Stock Commission of South St. Joe, Adopts Resolution Protesting Against Report of Agricultural Economist

### POINTS OUT ERRORS

Report Refers to Comparison of Prices Paid Direct and through Yards Rather Than to Effect of Direct Buying on General Price Level

In a strong resolution of protest against the report of Nils A. Olsen, chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, relative to direct marketing of live stock, the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission of South St. Joseph, Mo., literally takes the report to pieces and exposes the inconsistencies of it. The resolution has been made available for publication recently.

The resolution of protest was adopted at the annual meeting, January 18, of the board of directors, in South St. Joseph. It follows:

### Resolution of Protest

Inasmuch as the recent report of Nils A. Olsen, Chief of Bureau of Agricultural Economics, issued as a result of the study of direct marketing of live stock made by the Bureau is misleading, and confusing to live stock producers in general, we, the members of the Board of Directors of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission, South St. Joseph, Missouri, serving approximately 12,000 live stock producing farmers yearly, in annual session this 18th day of January, 1935, desire to protest against the report in general and in particular to the following statement contained in the report:

"Direct marketing has not lowered the general level of hog prices, nor has it operated to reduce returns to producers."

We submit the following reasons to substantiate our protest of the report:

"The price the packer pays direct shippers, whether it is more or less than the quoted market, is based on the price established on the public market."

"If the packers can buy direct the supplies needed for their plants, or even a good percentage of such supplies, it makes it unnecessary for them to make strong bids in the open competitive market. This fact was conclusively proven in the recent so-called livestock strike in Chicago, where livestock commission firms attempted to hold up prices and refused to sell at the packers' offer, yet the packers were able to purchase direct enough volume to keep up the operation of their plants and defeated the attempts of the commission firms to secure a better price for the producer."

"Without control of the volume the stockyard markets lose their bargaining power."

"It is to the packers' interest to purchase their supplies as low as possible, for the lower the price paid for livestock, naturally the easier it is to sell the meat at a wide margin of profit."

"It is not to their interests, generally, to put marks up and, therefore, the competitive market must be supported and maintained as a weapon to combat packers to bid what their supplies are worth."

Mr. Olsen practically admits the above facts in a section of his report under the heading: "Direct Marketing in Relation to Prices of Hogs, Competition, and Market Differentials."

The first two paragraphs read: "The summary points thus far presented suggest three principal conclusions: (1) That certain fundamental factors related to location of the principal areas of hog production and to the development of truck transportation, freight rates, transit privileges, etc., have helped to strengthen the competitive position of 'interior' packers as against public-market packers; (2) that they have been induced to enter the fields of direct buying and of slaughter in the interior, not only under competition from interior packers for hogs, but also because costs of moving hogs from local points to packing plants at public-market centers on the whole is less through direct channels than through public stockyards and commission agencies because the cost of shipping the products is less than that of moving live animals and because of the lower labor costs in the interior packing industry; and (3) that at a given general level of hog prices, the producers appear to get at least as much, and perhaps somewhat more, for hogs sold direct than for those sold at public markets."

"These conclusions, however, do not apply directly to the issue of whether direct buying weakens the price-recording function of public markets; nor have they answered the question as to whether direct marketing causes a lower level of prices than would otherwise have prevailed at public markets where a part of the packer's supply is bought and, in turn, given an opportunity for similar price decline at interior points where he gets the remainder of his hogs. In short, the above conclusions do not answer the question: 'Has the increase in direct marketing caused prices to be lower than they otherwise would have been?'"

We ask the farmers how to be misled by newspaper headlines and

(continued on page 4)



## THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

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Floyd H. Lynn, Editor and Manager

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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.

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 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.

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KANSAS FARMERS UNION—Salina, Kansas, Room 208, Farmers Union Ins. Co. Bldg.

FARMERS UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.—Room 200, Farmers Union Ins. Co. Bldg., Rex Lear, State Manager, Salina, Kansas.

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C. E. Thowe, President  
T. C. Belden, Secretary

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1935

### THAT GOLD DECISION

The recent findings of the United States Supreme Court in the gold cases bring encouragement to the masses of common folks, and gloom to the privileged classes and their blind followers. The Court's decision in the momentous gold cases is a victory for those of us who feel that the Congress should have the power to regulate the value of money. It is a stinging blow to those who believe the wealthy classes, the money lenders, the international bankers, should retain the power to regulate the value of the money which all of us must use.

#### Poor Mr. Norman

According to news reports, Norman C. Norman, manufacturing jeweler who sued the government in one of the gold cases, made this doleful comment soon after the decision had been handed down:

"This decision gives us notice that the government can depreciate the value of money to any extent it desires. A citizen cannot enter into a contract to protect himself against such a contingency.

"It is now possible for congress to print such a vast quantity of paper money as potentially to destroy the value of all past promises to pay in the future."

His attorney, Emanuel C. Redfield, said: "In effect, this means that very little of the constitution is left."

This wail of a bond-holder is simply almost too much for the heart-strings of the average farmer. We are almost moved to tears to think that he cannot "enter into a contract to protect himself against such a contingency."

We wonder if Mr. Norman, who sued the government, ever heard of a farmer who was able to enter a contract to protect himself against contingencies brought on, not through any fault of his own, but because gold bond-holders and other vested interests, were able to fluctuate the supply and value of our money at their own will and pleasure?

Mr. Norman (and, of course, this applies to many others) is sore because the government stepped in and said to him, "No, Mr. Norman, you cannot collect \$1.69 on your dollar investment."

Mr. Norman is to be pitied. Aren't there plenty of us of the common herd who could make up the extra 69 cents so he could put it in his pocket? As far as that's concerned, why should he worry where the extra 69 cents is to come from? Can't we, the producers of wealth, pay it? We are used to such things, aren't we?

Now, if it would be any consolation to Mr. Norman and his kind, and if it is really true that "misery loves company," we could find quite a number of Kansas farmers who not so long ago found themselves not only cheated out of an extra 69 cents for each dollar invested, but who found their holdings, in the form of neces-

sities of life produced by their own labor and investments, depreciated in value by more than 69 per cent. This tragic depreciation, we could show Mr. Norman, came about because the bond-holders and those in control, illegitimately, of our money system, manipulated and hiked the value of money to such an extent that the farmer's holdings—commodities—were shoved down in relative trade value.

Of course, it was all right for the moneyed classes to be able to hike the value of money to any extent it desired; but, as Mr. Norman points out, it is a horse of a different color when the Congress can depreciate the value of that money as it chooses. Why, just think what might happen if money folks should lose control of Congress, and the common people, the common masses who produce the income and wealth in the first place, should gain control! What a "contingency" that would be!

And just to make the whole thing harder to bear up under, Mr. Norman's attorney, Mr. Emanuel C. Redfield, adds this heart-breaking comment: "In effect, this means that very little of the constitution is left." Of course, he forgot to add the words, "for us to play with." What good is the constitution, if we are going to let the common people, those uncouth and ignorant tillers of the soil and laborers in the shops and other common places, have control of the government?

Out of the bigness of our hearts, we, the Kansas farmers, should send Mr. Norman a barrel of government pork, so he can get through the winter.

### MAKE FINAL PLANS FOR TEACHERS INSTITUTE

(continued from page 1)

1. Economics of the New Deal.
2. Trade Unionism. History; Extent of; Structure; Functions; etc.
3. Industrial Dispute, strikes; boycotts; lockout; injunctions; method of settling industrial disputes.
4. Unemployment. Cyclical; technological; seasonal. Causes and remedies.
5. Consumers' Problems. Consumer under New Deal.
6. Tariff and Foreign Trade.
7. Banking, Deposit guarantee Laws.
8. Money Inflation.
9. Taxation.
10. Transportation.
11. Public Utilities.
12. Alternative Social Orders. Socialism, Fascism, Communism.
13. Coal Industry; Lead; Zinc; Subsistence Homesteads.

In addition to Dr. Gagliardo's (and possible helpers') daily class, a representative of organized labor will conduct classes throughout the week. These classes will, of course, give the trade union slant to the industrial situation.

Hoiberg's class, as previously described will continue through the second week.

The last three days of the Insti-

tute (March 26-28) will be devoted first to a general summarization of the three weeks' work, and secondly, to acquaint the student-teachers with the relationship between the Emergency Education Program and the rest of the K. E. R. C. set-up.

### CONTRACT CORN ACRES MAY BE PLANTED TO ANY CROP OTHER THAN CORN RULING

(continued from page 1)

In 1934, farmers of the United States may plant in the neighborhood of 95,000,000 acres to corn this coming spring. With anything like normal yields, this planted area should take care of needs and leave a margin of not less than 200,000,000 bushels for rebuilding feed reserves. A very liberal margin over requirements is desirable, of course, to assure adequate reserves following the recent drought, but indiscriminate planting of corn, even for other purposes than grain, would tend to produce a really burdensome surplus of corn.

"The serious feed situation that will exist in the drought areas during the next five or six months and the consequent need for minimum restriction on the use of early maturing emergency crops is recognized in the 1935 corn-hog contract as it now stands. Further relaxation, therefore, is not essentially necessary. Contract signers in 1935 may put in any desired acreage of pasture, hay or grain crops, except as they may be limited by other commodity contracts. This privilege is of more importance to the drought areas than any other thing. Planting of early-maturing feed crops other than corn will provide adequate new feed supplies by mid-year. In most cases, forage crops will produce a higher quality feed than fodder corn, will involve less labor in production and, if leguminous, will be more beneficial for the land. The lifting of restriction on the use of non-corn land this year will encourage the prompt reestablishment of hay and pasture stands destroyed by the drought last summer."

The early planting of several crops other than corn for forage purposes also will offer the maximum protection against the possible development of drought areas in the early part of the season, says Mr. Black. Corn, the last of the major crops to mature, is very seriously affected by adverse weather conditions and would not be of greatest value in meeting the feed and pasture requirements at the end of the current season, he pointed out.

Forage Crops Seed Available  
"In connection with the seeding of emergency crops," Mr. Black said, "the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, in cooperation with other Government agencies, will continue efforts to make available to farmers an adequate volume of suitable forage crop seeds for planting on the non-corn land. Local supplies of farm seeds are short in some sections. The greatest shortage exists in timothy, alfalfa clover and red clover. For the winter months, however, the available seed supply appears to be ample for most needs. Recent reports indicate there is enough red top, lespedeza, alfalfa and sweet clover seed for planting somewhat more than the normal acreage, at moderate rates of seeding. There is an abundance of soybean seed, as the 1934 crop was the largest on record."

Another consideration which makes increased plantings of corn for fodder or other forage purposes seem inadvisable is the problem of administration and compliance, he stated. It is almost impossible to determine dates for planting corn or harvesting corn so that it will yield only fodder in all instances. Experience gained in 1934 also indicated that determination of compliance tends to be complicated when the planting of corn for other than its normal use is permitted. "Reports from the field indicate that the majority of corn-hog contract signers look with disfavor upon their liberalization of the new contract," said Mr. Black. "It is generally felt that unrestricted use of all land not used for the planting of corn for grain is sufficient to meet any situation. It is pointed out that if relaxation were permitted, it would inevitably have to be extended to practically all corn and hog signers. This would increase the danger of a corn surplus next fall."

SENATOR CAPPER PUTS OUR PROGRAM INTO THE RECORD  
(continued from page 1)  
conventions of the National Farmers Union.  
Our Program  
1. We unequivocally endorse the Frazier-Lemke farmers refinancing bill (H. R. 2551 in the 73d Cong.) which will provide for the refinancing of existing farm indebtedness at 1-2 per cent interest and 1-2 per cent on the principal of the indebtedness—not by the issuance of bonds, but by a direct issuance of currency.  
2. We further endorse the bill, introduced by Congressman William Lemke, establishing the Bank of the United States (H. R. 3834 in the 73d Cong.) owned, operated and controlled by the Government of the United States, which bill, when passed, will retire all of the existing Government bonds, and will loan money to States, counties, school districts, and local banks, at not to exceed 1 per cent interest and which bill, when passed, will provide a sound and adequate currency and medium of exchange for our citizens.  
3. We further endorse the House joint resolution (356 in the 73d Cong.) introduced by Congressman William Lemke proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for the initiation of legislative measures by electors.  
4. A law providing for Government regulation of the marketing of farm commodities on a basis of the farmer receiving for that portion of his farm products needed for consumption within the United States, a price of

not less than cost of production, including a reasonable profit.

5. The Wheeler bill, providing for the monetization of silver.

6. The Thomas bill, which provides for the Government issuing full legal tender non-interest-bearing currency to pay the debts of the Nation instead of issuing more interest-bearing bonds.

7. We believe all taxation should be based on ability to pay. We further believe there is just one test of ability to pay and that is net income at the end of the year. We therefore support such rates on net incomes as will pay the running expenses of Government.

We realize that the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, to the extent that today, in the United States, less than 5 per cent of the people own 90 per cent of the wealth of the nation, is a menace to the life of the Nation. History teaches from Babylon to Russia, that where such conditions exist—one or two things happen, either there is redistribution of wealth or revolution and overthrow of the Government.

To prevent the latter, the Farmers Union proposes such amendments to the inheritance and gifts tax laws as will limit the amount any one individual can take from an estate to \$500,000.

8. We are opposed to the large appropriations being made in preparation for war.  
For 40 years this Nation has preached peace—while at the same time spending more money every year on wars, past, present, and future, than any other country in the world. It is our position that such a policy is hypocritical and inconsistent.

We are also unalterably opposed to compulsory military training in any form and especially in tax-supported institutions of learning.

9. Farmers are the largest purchasers of gasoline of any group, hence the largest payers of gasoline taxes. We are opposed to Federal taxes on gasoline, and to the diversion of tax funds, raised by the various States, from road building and maintenance purposes.

10. We believe Congress should pass such legislation as would absolutely prohibit gambling in farm products by boards of trade, cotton exchanges and other speculators.

11. It is our position, that so long as industry is protected by tariffs, agriculture is entitled to the same protection.

12. We urge the next session of Congress to pass such legislation as will give the Philippines immediate and absolute independence.

13. We favor further and more effective legislation against the use of oriental oils in the manufacture of oleomargarine. Such legislation is needed to protect the dairy farmers of the nation.

14. The eighteenth amendment has been repealed. We favor such legislation as will place the manufacture and distribution of all intoxicating liquors in the Government. This would remove "profit" which is the biggest element of evil in the liquor traffic.

## The Cloak Room

W. P. Lamberson

Feb. 16, 1935

Joseph Jefferson Mansfield, one of the six big chairmen from Texas, is in the House only in his wheel chair and has thus been for years. He's the chairman of Rivers and Harbors and is as delighted a gentleman as the "hopping mad" name who made Rip Van Winkle famous.

The Navy Yard in Washington is buzzing with activity. More men are employed than at any time since the war. Whether it's the fear of another conflict which prompts this or because work had gotten behind, it's nevertheless true, they're busy.

If Sen. Nye gets his opportunity to investigate the Blue Eagle, watch out, for the feathers may fly. Recently a low wage code was approved for the tobacco industry, which trust has made the greatest profit in the last two years.

The four women on the Hauptmann jury faced their task like men. Susan B. Anthony, whose birthday anniversary was celebrated yesterday, would be proud of her kind. In the minds of most people the verdict was righteous. Justice has had a great year.

In the rearrangement of statutes in the old House of Representatives, the form of Ingalls has been taken from behind the pillar and given a prominent place. Glick's has been moved to the floor below into the corridor near the dining room. Each state was allowed to retain one in Statuary Hall.

On the face of things, the past two weeks have been the dearest fortnight since I've been in Washington. Nothing has been accomplished, however, there is deep maneuvering going on. Leaders are not permitted to show their hand but caucuses have been frequent. The words in the Congressional Record are only the popping of the gun, not that which drives the wheels.

Sixty million dollars were loaned by the government to the Penn. R. R. for electrification. We wonder how sound and farsighted this is, with the Diesel engine and heavy aircraft coming fast. Ten years ago, when the street railway system of Manhattan was spending thousands to rebuild its tracks, the buses were ready in sight. Today there are no car tracks there. They justify this Penn. loan because it is for a "heavy industry" which, economically speaking, creates the most labor.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

### PLEASANT RIDGE LOCAL

The Pleasant Ridge Local No. 1902 in Wabunsee county held an interesting meeting, January 25.

The Referendum Ballot of By-Laws was discussed and voted on.

The Junior Farmers Union organization also received a good vote to try to see how many members can be secured if it is organized.

A program consisting of musical numbers and readings closed the meeting.

Refreshments of sandwiches and coffee were served. Entertainment committee for February: Mrs. C. E. Bell and Mrs. Joe groups, Mrs. Axel Peterson and Mrs. C. E. Turner were appointed captains. The local contest closed January 20th with several new members and a chili supper.

February 5 the following poem was composed and read by Mrs. Turner. The characters are those of the winning captain, Mrs. Peterson and her family.

Our contest is now over,  
The chili soup we'll serve,  
But will some one kindly tell us,  
Where Margaret got her nerve,  
She'd meet men along the roadside,  
And say to them in gleeful tone,  
"I'm glad, we chanced to meet."

"Won't you please join the Union?  
During this drive for members new,  
I've burned a lot of gasoline  
And only got a few.

"Now if you don't have the money,  
Since the dues are only two,  
I'll be glad to loan that small amount  
For we must see this thing through."

One morning Herbert went to school  
With a sad look on his face,  
When asked the cause, he replied,  
Oh! mother's in that Union race.

Axel had to do the washings  
The ironing and cooking too,  
And one morning when she left at dawn  
He said, "Margaret, I'm surprised at you."

It took forty gallons of gasoline  
To make the Union drive,  
But we're all glad it's over  
And Margaret is still alive.

But let's give a cheer for Margaret,  
She's certainly done her best,  
And in this drive for members new,  
Has far out-classed the rest.

Mrs. Jno. Page, Co. Secy.

### GO FORWARD AT QUINTER

At the recent annual meeting of the Quinter Local, No. 1005, Quinter, Kan., the following officers were elected: president, Henry Jamison; vice president, Norman Floria; secretary, W. E. Roesch; conductor, Robert Starkey, and doorkeeper, James Inloes.

A vote to accept the constitution as amended at the state convention was unanimous.

A committee to select a Junior Leader and to direct the Junior work, was appointed, consisting of the following: Henry Jamison, Sam Bowman and W. E. Roesch.

The legislative and resolutions committee for the year: Dennis Kessler, Earl Inloes, S. S. Ebbert.

We are planning on a big meeting soon, and are planning a membership drive. At the meeting, we had three new members—all young men.

W. E. Roesch, Sec.

### REPORT FROM OLATHE

A report from C. M. Williams, secretary of Sharon Local 1744, Olathe, gives the following list of officers for 1935, recently elected: W. S. Catlin, president; Ritchie Brown, vice president; C. M. Williams, secretary-treasurer; O. E. McCulley, doorkeeper, and Miss Irene Brown, lecturer.

Mr. Williams reports that the question of the Junior Program was discussed, with the result that the members want to know more about it so they can take definite action.

### WASHINGTON CO. MEETING

The regular quarterly meeting of the Washington County Farmers Union will be held at Hollenberg, Kansas, Tuesday, February 26. The meeting will be called at one o'clock in the afternoon.

All delegates are asked to be present. Among other things, there will be a discussion of the Junior Program of the Farmers Union. This movement will be pushed in Washington county.

Dan H. Combow, Co. Sec.

### CRAWFORD CO. MEETING

The Crawford County Farmers Union will hold its regular quarterly meeting in the hall over the Farmers Union store in Girard, Tuesday, February 26, 1935 at 1:30 p. m.

Lead the whole family in the old gas buggy and bring them to an old fashioned Farmers Union meeting.

George H. Hamm, President.  
J. Henry Meyer, Secretary.

### RILEY COUNTY TO MEET

The first quarterly meeting of the Riley County Farmers Union No. 45 will be held at Grandview school house, Saturday, March 2 at eleven a. m.

Dinner will be served at noon.

All Union members are urged to attend this meeting.

John Graham, President.  
Gust Larson, Secretary.

### GETTING HOTTER

(By Frank A. Chapin, Winfield, Ks.)

At no time in the history of Farm-ers Union life has there been such a concert of action as now. So prepare for the harvest.

"For the spring will not stay.  
Sow the seed in the morning  
For the flowers fade away  
Seed-sowing time with the Farmers Union is all the time.

Very important is the meeting in Topeka, of the Union Heads, and at the same time, heads of Labor Unions in Kansas, both looking forward to a union of forces which, when completed, and set in motion will reverse the entire machinery of the nation. Visioning possible results, not a wheel of industry, not a single advance step, could be taken, only in the direction of a fair division of profits from created wealth.

These two forces combined can be the dictators of all worth-while accomplishment. The farmer feeds all, while the bare hands and brawny arms of labor are first to prepare raw material, from forest, field and mine; and no machine has yet been designed that could move by its own volition.

The human element has been lost sight of in the mad rush to humanize if possible the Robot, which seems to be able to do everything but think. That's the rub.

We sometimes wonder why this crazy toward machinery? Human life can be sustained by its own effort. The machine, when perfected, is still only an imitation of man. Why should mortals be proud? Never was the world happier than when human power was king; when all needs were supplied; when men were all on the same level; when extravagance was a stranger and want unknown; when as yet no millionaire was in evidence. The multibillionaire was not even a dream.

Today we are carrying a load of more than a hundred billion dollar indebtedness just to please the caprices of a few factions whose greed, exceeded their capacity. The lessons of experience have been quite well impressed, yet with the lack of good common sense management, sanity only comes when a hard jolt is administered. We have had the jolt and now we are enjoying "it" the experience.

With this retrospective glance, we are more than ever convinced that we need a reversal of our national machinery, the wheels of our shifting gear readjusted, a new crew to replace the old, worn-out force, whose half-pay stipend has driven them to continual servitude, with half-starved families, uneducated children, no refinement possible, no cozy home invitation, no inspiration for better conditions.

The above suggested forward step is a more militant attitude back of which stand the Yeomanry of Agriculture and Labor, ready for a final showdown. Some test of these two hosts—single-handed has been seen, but now this much delayed movement, has taken root, and rapid growth in the near future seems really inviting.

For years we have been trying to point to the importance of such a combination of forces and have wondered at the delay with these two basic factions struggling, single handed, for a release from the bondage of dominant Capitalism, relentless, without soul or even respect for the very elements on which it depends for its very life. Big business and Big manufacturing come from Big banking interests, pushing their investments into corporate interests, thus assuring a constant return of profits. And this repeated, over and over again, with an ever increasing share of profits made possible by manual labor, reduced us to serfdom. It has affected the farmer, day laborer, the clerk, the teacher, the doctor, yes, every soul engaged in assisting these dominating Moguls to more powerful attitude.

Do we visualize the perpetual motion machine gathering into its tills an ever increasing flow of our circulating medium; taking out of circulation the one needed element, the life blood of the nation? Are we over-drawing the picture? Yes, who have been victimized by an organization of financial and industrial wreckers, certainly feel the "squeeze," if not aware of the force behind it.

One does not need to be a sage to see this trend toward complete serfdom. Now seems the proper time to perfect a new movement for about all of the human fighting element of our nation lies in the membership of these two basic organizations. When Agriculture and Labor speak in the same language, the powers that be, will sit up and listen. So, while in the reform business, why not make a clean job of it? The spirit is there, the need is there and the one element lacking is the organization of the army of Freedom, to complete this much dreaded task.

We have been a hanger on of these two forces, trying to keep within hearing distance for more than three-fourths of a century; so we are assuming a fighting attitude even at this late hour. But one in his nineties need not stop, while brain and hand function. There seems a good parking place a little way ahead, and this is the place we are steering for.

More and more we see cooperation in brighter perspective. "Fair play never won fair lady," so "On with dance. Let joy be unconfined."

We shall look for "something doing" in this new movement.

Around this field of improvement are coming into view facts of history written 70 or more years ago, which stress the need for a new deal. The money question, as written up by Mrs. Mary Riley, our National Secretary, stand as indisputable evidence that we need a reform, a code of "Justice to all; special privilege to none." The special privilege factor has been quite overdone. The other has been lacking. What is needed is the retirement of a worn out policy and the substitution of a better one. Why not let Labor and Agriculture

take a hand at the "old organ?" That pertinent question pops up: "Where do we go from here?" Let's beat it down and pike at a new clip, a new banner aloft; a new determination. Yes a new and complete victory. Let's go—F. A. C.

### LETTER FROM MR. HOLLY

Irving, Kansas, Feb. 5, 1935.  
Floyd H. Lynn, Secy.  
Kansas Farmers Union.  
Salina, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

It has been some time since the Irving Local No. 1288 made its appearance in the "Neighborhood Notes"

The Local held its last meeting on January 2, 1935 and as it was the time for election of officers, the meeting was therefore a business meeting. There was no entertainment.

A motion was made to retain the 1934 officers. It was seconded and carried unanimously. The officers elected were:

Dwight A. Smerchek, President.  
George Forst, vice president.  
Jos C. Holly, secretary treasurer.

The Referendum Ballot was discussed, the proposed amendments were studied therein and it was decided by a vote of the membership to postpone the voting on the amendments until the next regular meeting which will be held Wednesday evening, February 20.

It is hoped that we can turn in some 1935 dues soon.

Our Local, as well as many other Locals, needs more members, so that it will be possible to get more and better legislation in Washington, D. C. It looks as if Congress is going to forget the Frazier-Lemke bill in the great effort of how it (Congress) is going to make us pay more taxes but they do little toward telling us how to get this money to pay those exorbitant taxes.

Now we wonder what is actually going to become of our business (Farming). Prices are higher, yet at this very time higher prices are a detriment because we



## Junior and Juvenile Department

Juniors from 16 to 21

Juveniles from 16 to 31

Conducted by Mary A. Riley

Kansas Junior Leader



Mary A. Riley

### A SUCCESSFUL COOPERATIVE

Among the many interesting highlights of the meeting of the Union Oil Company, in North Kansas City, Missouri, during the first week of February, was the report of a cooperative oil company in Greeley, Colorado. This company is managed by Mr. Fred Wern and it was started thirteen years ago. We were told that this was the first company of its kind in the United States. It now has about seventeen hundred and fifty members and has a trade territory of fifty miles, which it serves with one retail station and two delivery trucks. This company has been called the most successful local cooperative in the United States. Mr. Wern was very modest about his achievements and when questioned at length, stated that the company had repaid a sum of \$650,000 to its stockholders, in the thirteen years of its operation. In the year 1934, \$85,000 was repaid—or 28 per cent of the purchases. It was pointed out that these profits, instead of accruing into the hands of one man who thus automatically becomes another of our "millionaires", have been repaid into the pockets of the patrons of the company, and these same profits

are then re-circulated in the community from which they originated, instead of being sent to the east, where most of our money is "frozen" at present. In a short time, this company will have repaid to its stockholders, one million dollars!

When we hear of an achievement like this—"consumer cooperation"—is no longer just two words which have been heard so much that most of their original meaning has been lost. And when we read of Great Britain's Co-operative Wholesale Society, in Howard Cowden's booklet, "A Trip To Co-operative Europe", we are further amazed at the possibilities lying behind these two words. England's C. W. S. has a capital of \$450,000,000 and one sixth of the total retail trade of this country passes over cooperative counters. In 1933 the co-ops distributed to their consumer-members over \$100,000,000 in dividend on purchases. In private business, this would have been profits in cooperative business, it is redistributed purchasing power.

### A Florida Hotel

The profits mentioned in the above paragraph, would have been sufficient to give England one hundred millionaires—that is, of course, if it had been divided in one hundred parts. This makes me think of the other night, upon his return from Florida. He said that the depression in Florida was a thing of the past. At one large hotel, prices for rooms vary from \$24 to \$250 per night. The last figure is not a typographical error, although it seems an impossible one. A large parking place before this hotel accommodated five hundred cars, and it was hard to find a space to put one's car, day or night. He said that he never heard of a man of money than one thousand dollars mentioned during his entire stay in the state. People there talked in thousands and millions—as we do in dollars and cents. And he saw great many cars from Indiana and Ohio, and other eastern states—but he didn't see one car while he was there!

The moral I've been trying to point, is this: a condition like this could not exist in a cooperative society. The thought of persons paying two hundred and fifty dollars for one night's lodging, while millions of other human beings starve, while babies cry for milk and die because of inadequate medical attention—is not one to be dismissed lightly. A little girl fainted one morning recently in one of Salina's public schools. It was found her entire food for over a week, had been weak coffee, bread, and gravy made of bacon drippings collected from charitable housewives—and flour.

Please add the booklet mentioned above, "A Trip To Co-operative Europe", by Howard A. Cowden, president of the Union Oil Company, to your Local library list. It may be purchased for five cents—is written in a concise, easily understood form and is crammed with interesting information. It should be ordered through the Union Oil Company Co-operative, North Kansas City, Missouri.

### SMART AND SIMPLE



8420. Girl's Princess Frock.

Designed in sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 years. Size 10 requires 2 5-8 yards of 35 inch fabric with 1/2 yard contrasting and 2 3/4 yards of ruffling. Price 15c.

8416. Frock with Matching Apron.

Designed in sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42. Size 38 requires 6 5-8 yards of 35 inch fabric with 9/4 yards of 1 1/2 inch bias binding. Price 15c.

which made money scarce and hard to borrow and therefore, made hard times and low prices, because one of the major political sentiments which sent Jackson to the President's chair. During the life of the central bank some of the western states tried to tax its branches out of existence, but Chief Justice Marshall in two famous decisions declared the acts of the states to be unconstitutional.

From the time of Andrew Jackson and as long as farm people of the nation were in majority, central banking was vigorously and successfully opposed. By the time of the Civil War the industries of the East had surpassed King Cotton and all the lesser regions on the farms of the South and West in producing wealth. It has been said that whoever owns the productive wealth of a nation owns the government of that nation. As population and voting power shifted to the industrial fields and financial centers, boss rule came into politics and policies and principles advantageously to the rural and common people were subordinated to those of industrialism. The balance of power had shifted from the country to the city; from the South and West to the East; from the people to the financiers.

Between the time of the suspension of the second United States Bank and the setting up of the national banking system, state banks flooded the country with bank notes. If farmers could print their notes in denominations of one dollar, they would have been for money we doubt that there would be a scarcity of the circulating medium! State banks were loosely regulated and bankers were human. Notes were issued against land, cattle, mortgages and other things of value.

### A STUDY OF MONEY, BANKING AND CREDIT

Prepared by Mrs. O. H. Olson

#### CHAPTER VI

(1) Has there ever been a United States Bank? Give history.

(2) What was "wild cat" currency? (3) What was President Jackson's attitude toward central banking? What was the rural attitude towards it?

(4) What do you know about the class struggle between farmers and financiers, from the beginning of the nation to the present time? (5) How do national banks get new money? How do they put it into circulation? What are the results of the transaction of getting and putting new money in circulation?

(6) How is bank credit created? (7) What does Henry Ford say about government issue of money?

(8) What reasons are commonly given as to why government cannot issue sound paper money?

(9) Why do government notes are now in circulation? Are they good?

(10) What is the meaning of fiat money? Is all lawful money fiat?

Issuing power, Power to put legal money into use.

Fiat: An authoritative order; order of government. Fiat in Latin means "let it be done."

Legal tender. Money which must be accepted in payment of public or private debt. Money legal for all purposes.

The Rise of Banking in the United States

Alexander Hamilton's idea of a banking system in which a great central bank, owned by bankers but regulated by federal laws, might act as business agent of the government handling all government funds and having the right to issue and control currency; was followed out in the United States Bank established in 1791. In spite of its name it was a private institution and did not belong to the United States any more than a state bank belongs to, let us say, South Dakota. This monopoly to control the currency and credit of the private bank or banks, was opposed by Thomas Jefferson, one of the greatest social philosophers and political scientists of all times. So advanced was he in his thinking that he has taken the rest of the world by the hand to catch up with him; in fact many are just beginning to realize the rightness of many of his views. He always considered questions of policy from the point of view of the well being of the people. Hamilton on the other hand was devoted to the interests of the rich and mighty. Jefferson once said of the central bank: "I believe banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies."

In 1863 the Bank was rechartered in a message to Congress said, "The bold effort the present bank has made to control the government, the distress it has wantonly produced, the violence of which it has been the occasion in one of our cities famed for observance of law and order are but premonitions of the fate that awaits the American people should they be deluded into perpetuation of the institution or the establishment of another like it."

The central bank was of course favored by the financial interests of the country which used all means to secure support necessary for the perpetuation of its charter. Daniel Webster, one of the most brilliant senators who ever served the United States, for years while acting as legislator, was paid a private retainer by the central bank, to use his great influence in politics to keep the bank in power. The feeling that such graft was the rule rather than the exception.

While the central bank was in operation its restraining influence on the issue of so-called "wild cat" currency, that is bank notes issued by small banks operated under state laws, aroused bitter opposition on the part of farmers. These frontiersmen wanted cheap and plentiful money with which to buy land and develop the west. The feeling that the central bank was a dangerous monopoly

times as few people will ask for cash. As we have already learned, those who borrow and leave their funds on deposit, get credit on the bank's books and no cash is needed except when checks are taken to the bank to be cashed.

Results of These Transactions

Let us suppose that our bank is conservative and builds only \$200,000 of credit on the \$200,000 of new money. Let us see what shall have taken place by the time this new money gets into circulation.

(1) The government borrowed \$200,000 from us to use and issued us bonds for that amount. We receive interest on this of course.

(2) Our customers who come to the bank to borrow the \$200,000 of bank credit have to pay us interest on all of that amount. The amount of credit we build may be more or less than \$200,000 of course.

(3) We as bankers get interest on both government bonds and the loans made in our community—that is if we are good bankers and make only good, safe loans! Of course if we make too many bad loans we will ruin our good name.

(4) The banker can return the \$200,000 to the government any time and get his bonds back. Of course he—or we—must keep government bonds for the amount of one third of the bank's capital stock as long as the bank is in business. Any money returned to the government in return for bonds is canceled money, drawn out of use and cannot be used by the government. In reality this is nothing more than canceled notes. So you see that under this act bankers were given power to increase or decrease the supply of money in the country.

(5) The national bank act, giving the government's O. K. to national banks to issue currency, established confidence in banking and made possible the introduction of checking accounts. Checking accounts and a fabulous pile of bank credit, yielding interest to bankers, have been built up since that time.

It would be impossible to say definitely what would be better than the present checking system. This is what has evolved under pressure to get out of the hands of the government the billions of dollars of modern business, on the one hand, and the fact that bankers find this the most profitable system for themselves, on the other.

Dangerous Power

The control of the issue of secondary money, that is paper money, based on specie was one of great importance to delegate to private interests, but the power to regulate the amount of credit that could be built up on this and substituted for gold and silver was given to the bankers. It is the power of life and death over the life-blood of business and trade, for that is now what credit has become.

Henry Ford Speaks on Money

In a recent interview Henry Ford was quoted as saying: "The control of our money system was entrusted to congress by the Constitution. This was done expressly to prevent what has happened, namely, the control of our money system by private interests."

"Why did our government keep control over the customs, over the postal system, over the army and navy and yet surrender the control of our money to private interests?"

"It would be less dangerous to let our taxes out to the higher bidder or to arrange for national defense by private contract than to leave so vital a national service as money to private interests."

Why Did Government Surrender Control of Currency

Many citizens have asked themselves this question since 1863. The principal reason was that the ignorance and indifference of the people permitted the bankers to satisfy their greed. This situation, naturally, resulted in legislation for private interests.

People continue to ask themselves: OUI GOVERNMENT CAN ISSUE BONDS AND GOOD MONEY, WHICH BANKERS LIST AS CASH ASSETS, AND WHICH ARE USED AS SECURITY FOR NEW BANK NOTES, DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR, AND OUR GOVERNMENT CAN GUARANTEE THESE BANK NOTES TO BE REDEEMABLE IN GOLD (UP TO THE PRESENT TIME) THUS MAKING THEM AS GOOD AS SPECIE; BUT THIS SAME GOVERNMENT WE ARE TOLD CANNOT PRINT AND ISSUE GOOD PAPER MONEY OF ITS OWN. WHY IS THIS?

The reply to this, up to the present time, is that paper money must be redeemable in gold or silver. The government owns the gold. Well, the government bonds carried the "gold clause" and the government issued these as far as the job of printing the paper for bonds and bank notes is concerned, the bureau of printing and engraving has always done both jobs. Wherein lies the magic that makes the possible for the government to issue good bonds—interest bearing bonds—when at the same time, we are led to believe, it cannot issue good non-interest bearing negotiable notes as money? What is the source of sentiment against "fiat" money?

There can be but one answer. The bankers want the government issue of bonds and the interest on these. What is now more important they have other uses for bonds in making depressions and booms as we shall learn. They do not want government issues of money which would displace their credit business. Having secured a monopoly on the rights to control issue and credit, they have established themselves as superior to government and have been able to dictate to it.

Some banker may reply that in a previous chapter it has been argued that it is the security held by banks which makes their outstanding notes as well as deposits good. And that the issue of private bank notes is sound money whereas the government cannot. The taxing power of government gives it a superior claim than that of banks to property. If you do not believe this try selling mortgaged property on which taxes are unpaid and see which has first claim, the tax collector or mortgagor. If private ownership of gold inter-

feres with government issue of sound currency it is possible that such ownership could be abolished. Emergency legislation of March, 1933, gave the President power to call in all gold in the hands of private citizens. While the turning in of all gold is far from complete at this time, it will be decided in the near future whether government or gold rules this country. If government has the power to demand delivery of gold from private citizens, giving them paper money not redeemable in exchange, it also has the power to demand delivery of gold from private bankers, giving them paper in exchange.

Through monopoly of money and credit bankers have come to control the productive wealth of the nation just as issues did on the island. Those who control the productive wealth of a nation control the government of that nation. As long as the gold clause was in effect and the gold was in the hands of private bankers the grip of the banking interest was unbreakable. If the depression, causing hoarding and a breakdown of the existing banking and credit structure results in monetary reforms that breaks this grip, it will have been worth all that it cost.

DO YOU KNOW—

(1) When and for what purpose our government issued \$400,000,000 of fiat money?

(2) Is this fiat money still in use?

(3) What was the crime of 73?

(4) Why do we have a shortage of silver injured farmers more than other classes of citizens?

(5) What was meant by the "limping standard"?

(6) When did coinage of silver dollars end?

(7) What, as a matter of fact, made the years from 1896 to 1914 prosperous and appear to disprove the arguments for monetary reforms which were advanced in the latter days of the 19th century?

Definitions of Terms Used

Democratization. To deprive of standard value for use as money.

Remonetization. To restore as a standard of value for use as money.

Bi-metalism. Free coinage of either gold or silver with the right of debtors to pay their debts with either of the metals.

Struggle Against Monopoly

Giving national banks the power of issue was the first step towards having the control of money and credit over to private interests. Be it said to the everlasting glory of a fighting minority who believed in Democracy, these functions belonging to government of a free people were not conceded without a struggle. This struggle involving greenbacks and silver took form in the Mississippi basin as a sweeping agrarian movement sometimes referred to as "organized desperation."

The national banks were created, it was said to finance the Civil War but failed of this purpose. We have already raised the question as to why government cannot or does not issue money or notes as well as bonds for financing. During Lincoln's administration the government found it necessary to issue government notes to advance the war. United States notes called greenbacks to the amount of \$400,000,000 were printed and paid into use. These at the time were not redeemable in specie or gold.

Those who for reasons of their own get the jitters when any issue of fiat money, as this was called, is proposed, often cite this issue of currency as a terrible example of such folly. They will tell you that those greenbacks which were not redeemable came to be worth as little as 40c on the dollar.

The first two printings of these notes were full legal tender and circulated at par with coin and the new national bank notes. Those financial interests which were attempting to secure monopoly on currency secured legislation which caused the notes to be legal tender only for payment of certain taxes to the government. Of course if the government did not accept its own paper as being good, others could not do so. The story is told that President Lincoln signed this bill under threat that if he refused the financial interests of this country would finance the southern rebellion. Such stories may be myths but the results of this clause printed on the notes qualifying their legal tender value, became expensive fact.

Soldiers were paid with these United States notes or 40c dollars. Then after the close of the war a bitter fight was launched to have this currency legislation repealed. The Greenbackers, Grangers, and other elements in the middle west, belonging to the rural and debtor classes rallied to the defense of this government issue of currency and after 54 months and been retired, succeeded in keeping the rest from being taken out of use.

The Granger movement of the 70's swept across the Mississippi basin almost like a prairie fire, as vigorous as the Homestead strike of the 80's and more today. But holding the lines against monopoly of currency and credit was no small job. In the 80's the financiers sensed defeat of their efforts against greenbacks and changed their tactics. After gathering the depreciated notes they were able to have national legislation passed making these notes redeemable and so worth 100c on the dollar. There are \$346,000,000 of this money still in use. Today, as in Civil War days, it is not redeemable.

Deflation and Panic

After the passage of the national bank act (1863) the bankers of the country began a relentless campaign for legislation to secure a complete monopoly of the money and credit of the nation. Step by step their persistence claimed victory.

It was necessary that they destroy existing forms of currency as fast as possible. If they were to substitute issues of bank currency and educate the people to the use of bank credit and checks.

Two years after the national bank act was passed, legislation placed a federal tax of 10 per cent on state bank notes taxing them out of existence. At the time this wild cat currency which had played such an

(continued on page 4)

## The Farmer's Friend

By G. R. INGRAM

(Note: We have received so many requests for one act plays that we are publishing the following, which we consider especially good for presentation in Local meetings.)

### ACT I.

As curtain rises, two farmers, Henry Smith and John Carter are seated at the table smoking pipes and talking over old times. The room is an oak dining table with a kerosene lamp with shade, Harry Smith, 14 year old son of Henry is studying at table with pencil and tablet in use, and does not appear to be listening to the conversation.

Carter: Hank, there is something on my mind that I have been puzzling over for the past two years. If it were not that you and I have been old friends and neighbors, for years, I would not bring it up now. You must know, Hank, that you are pretty much of an example in this part of the country and have a reputation of keeping your eyes open and not jumping into things foolishly. I think you're about the only man around here who hasn't been stung on fake stocks, alligator farms, and Gold Mines. It has usually been pretty well understood that anything worth having in this community has had to have a seal of approval before the rest of the boys would get in on it. Now what I want to ask is, why did you fall for that bunch of Farmers Union Organizers that came through here and signed up most of the township?

Smith: Do you know, John, I have often been wondering why a man of your standing in this community has been so against the Farmers Union. You and I, John, have been old friends ever since we moved up here with our parents from Illinois. We went to the same old school here together and do you remember how we never would play ball unless both of us were chosen on the same side? When I heard the program of the Farmers Union for the first time, I said to myself, "here's the movement that I will be interested in." I have been surprised and puzzled ever since to think that you have had no faith in a movement which meant to place ourselves on an equal basis with other industries.

Carter: And I have often wished that that bunch of spellbinders had never seen either you or me, but had left us on the same old footing we enjoyed in the good old days. You know, Hank, this is the first movement of any kind that you and I have not been standing together on, but I can see the good in it. I don't think it is right to send a lot of "high pressure" orators into our community. Why couldn't they let "well enough" alone. We always got along in the old days.

Smith: John, when you speak of the good old days, it causes my thoughts to go back a long way. You remember, John, when Dad died he left me this farm as good a farm as there was in Kansas, if I do say it. Brother Will took the store and is doing well.

Carter: And we all knew, Hank, that you had your pick of the property and could have taken the store. You wished to do so. I have always wondered, Hank, why you made the choice you did. With your ability you could have been on Easy Street Today instead of trying to break even and to keep a mortgage on your head.

Smith: I will tell you, John, why I chose the farm. I love the old farm. I have spent many a year of hard labor on it. It was the home of my father and it is like an old friend to me. I earned my money honestly without hardship to any competitor.

Carter: I will tell you, John, why I chose the farm. I love the old farm. I have spent many a year of hard labor on it. It was the home of my father and it is like an old friend to me. I earned my money honestly without hardship to any competitor.

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## Farmers Union Live Stock Sales

Below is published a representative list of the sales by Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company, of Kansas City.

Week Ending February 16, 1935

Virgil Schuch—Donner Co Ks—24 str 1121	11.75
Peto Boquin—Lyon Co Ks—23 str 1110	11.25
Peter Thowe, Jr.—Wabunsee Co Ks—9 str 1127	11.10
Albert Grieshaber—Pott Co Ks—12 str 1018	11.00
Claud Feltner—Osage Co Ks—12 str 920	11.00
Peter Thowe Jr.—Wab. Co Ks—16 str 941	10.65
W R Vickers—Mitchell Co Ks—3 hfrs 873	9.00
J H Shaver—Atchinson Co Ks—8 str, hfrs 685	9.00
J T Flynn—Clay Co Mo—22 hfrs 983	8.50
August Leffman—Lafayette Co Mo—6 steers 798	7.00
G T Smith—Johnson Co Ks—17 cows 992	6.35
L A Brown—Jackson Co Mo—19 cows 1015	6.25
Henry Rothe—Rush Co Ks—6 str 665	6.00
N S Samuel—Mehis Co Ks—26 str 866	6.00
W T Dennis—Jackson Co Mo—22 heifers 802	5.75
W T Dennis—Jackson Co Mo—12 cows 1002	5.00
J R Johnson—Clay Co Ks—20 cows 811	4.00

## SHEEP

Lafe Devault—Johnson Co Ks—11 100	8.35
Lyon and Colvin—Osage Co Ks—12 81	8.00
W. H. Hart—Johnson Co Ks—8 104	8.00
Truman Wood—Grundy Co Mo—14 74	7.00
O H Lincoln—Rush Co Ks—119 62	5.10
O H Lincoln—Rush Co Ks—10 92	3.25

## HOGS

Medium and Heavy Butchers 230 Lb. Ave Up	
Munson Bros—Geary Co Ks—7 267	8.25
Albert Plentie—Nemaha Co Ks—5 284	8.25
Oscar Leffman—Lafayette Co Mo—12 280	4.10
O W Wagner—Clay Co Mo—12 251	3.00
J W Knoche—Miami Co Ks—20 247	7.85
M J Watson—Clay Co Ks—36 290	7.85
Chas E Filler—Lafayette Co Mo—10 270	7.85

Light Butchers 170 to 230 Lb. Av.	
Wes Beck—Johnson Co Ks—12 206	8.20
R E Nesbit—Franklin Co Ks—12 206	8.05
E Dinsmore—Cloud Co Ks—22 197	8.00
Arch Bruce—Grundy Co Mo—5 194	8.00
Carl Niggly—Bates Co Mo—8 186	7.95
Clyde Kaff—Osage Co Ks—12 190	7.95
W N Evans—Henry Co Mo—5 218	7.95

## JUNIOR AND JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

(continued from page 3)

important part on the frontiers, made up the larger part of the currency in use in the farming sections of the country. Ten years after the bank act was passed silver was demonetized. How this came about will be discussed a little later. Of the United States notes, 46 millions were retired.

The immediate effect of these acts was to reduce the currency supply of the country from more than 80 dollars per capita to about 12 dollars per person, bringing on one of the worst panics of all time. Debt ridden farmers crushed between their mortgage loads and low prices were a sacrifice to make possible bankers' supremacy. The Grangers, Greenbackers and a little later the Alliance and Populists gave voice to the desperation of the middle west. Prime motives of these movements included retention of greenbacks and remonetization of silver.

But then the Homestead Act signed by President Lincoln gave an outlet to rural despair not available today; the rise of machine industrialism offered an avenue of escape to farm youth now blocked by machine-unemployment.

The Crime of '73 and Silver  
To this day there are many respectable authorities who say the change was made from a bi-metal base to the single gold standard because of the high price of silver at the time the change was made. The change also made the gold standard more desirable in world trade; if so this should have depreciated silver values. Why the high price of silver?

Then there are others who declare evidence that manipulation graft and forgery played a part in bringing about the change. It would be futile to try to establish events that have died with the past and were even then under cover. However, the after effects on farmers of demonetizing silver, the control the gold standard gave to the bankers and the situation to currency reforms which would rob them of power, are facts.

In opposition to these financial interests, organized farmers have persisted in asking for coinage of silver, usually at the rate of 16 ounces of silver to one of gold as fixing the relative value of the two metals. For hundreds, perhaps thousands of years, the production of silver has averaged about 16 times that of gold, so if not discriminated against for coinage, should be worth one-sixteenth as much as gold.

The following statement is by Congressman William Lemke of North Dakota: "I believe that money is a legal product and whatever value gold has as money is because of the fact that you have demonetized and made gold the standard. I maintain, if you would reverse the process and demonetize gold and make silver the single standard you would find just the reverse to be the fact as to the difference between gold and coined gold."

Eagle or Buzzard?  
Here is the story of the demonetization of silver as we believe it to be true.

In 1873 a bill of 15 closely printed pages was introduced before congress entitled, "A Bill to Reform Coinage and Mint Laws." It was understood to be a re-codification of detail regulations and not effecting a change in our money policy, as can be proven by statements in the Congressional Record. There were no words in the bill to indicate demonetization of silver or a change in the relation of the two metals. However, Senator Cass of California asked if coinage of silver would be affected; Senator Sherman who sponsored the bill replied:

"If the Senator will allow me, he will see that the preceding section provides for a coin which is exactly interchangeable with the five franc piece of France and the English shilling. That is, the five franc piece of France will exactly equal a dollar of U. S. money in our silver coinage and in order to show this, wherever our dollar shall float, and we are providing that it shall float all over the world, we propose to stamp on it instead of an eagle, which foreign mints not understand and which they might think a buzzard or some other bird, the intrinsic fineness and weight of silver." (Congressional Record).

The bill passed the Senate without

a roll call vote, no one voting against it. Newspapers of that date said, "The mint and coinage law passed the Senate today is a re-codification of all existing statutes on the subject." No mention is made of any intention to abandon silver, the coin of the poor man for thousands of years.

President Grant afterwards said he signed the bill without reading it as he believed it to be as represented, and that had he known that it meant the abandonment of silver he would have vetoed it. It is now claimed that a clerk was bribed to omit the sections of the bill having to do with silver coinage when making the final draft, so the bill was enrolled containing a forgery of omission.

At the time silver was thus demonetized by the fact that no provision was made for its coinage, the government had to pay as much as \$1.02 for enough silver bullion to make a silver dollar. The result of the high price of silver was that makers of silverware and growers melted up their hoards of silver and sold it for dollars for the metal they contained. For this reason there was no silver in circulation, and so it was not recovered that silver had been demonetized until three years later. Were the international bankers of those days responsible for an artificial silver shortage in this country? At almost the same time the Latin Alliance, including France and countries of southern Europe, went onto the gold standard because, it is said, they feared a flood of cheap silver since Germany was exchanging silver for gold with which to pay France war indemnities. These different reasons given in this country and Europe do not, like very well as silver trade had flowed freely between the two continents.

After the Horse Was Stolen  
There is a tradition among American farmers that English bankers pointed out to ours the benefits to be derived from a national banking system, the use of the single gold standard, and the substitution of checks for money. England was then the banking and financial center of the world and found gold more convenient to use than the more bulky silver. She had been on the gold standard since 1816. In meddling with our affairs they have been credited with looking out for their own interests first.

They were dependent on the United States and Argentina for wheat and on the United States and China for cotton. When this country and most of the other commercial nations adopted the gold standard the price of silver dropped from lack of demand, naturally. England with her high priced gold dollar, that is, high in exchange for silver, could then buy cotton and wheat very cheap from the silver using nations in Asia and South America. England set the world price for these raw materials in world trade, and the American farmer has since been obliged to compete with the producers who figure both their costs of production and their selling price in cheap silver. Even the wheat miller in this country is sold on a market based on Liverpool prices because the small percentage of grain we export sets the price for that used at home.

Thus through demonetization of silver in the United States England secured advantages in buying her raw materials, partly at the expense of our farmers who have had to pay their operating and living expenses with high priced gold dollars and then sold their products to silver using producers.

## Patch Work Legislation

Our being on the gold standard made it more difficult for us to sell any surplus products of silver using people. However, Senator Cass of California asked if coinage of silver would be affected; Senator Sherman who sponsored the bill replied:

"If the Senator will allow me, he will see that the preceding section provides for a coin which is exactly interchangeable with the five franc piece of France and the English shilling. That is, the five franc piece of France will exactly equal a dollar of U. S. money in our silver coinage and in order to show this, wherever our dollar shall float, and we are providing that it shall float all over the world, we propose to stamp on it instead of an eagle, which foreign mints not understand and which they might think a buzzard or some other bird, the intrinsic fineness and weight of silver." (Congressional Record).

The bill passed the Senate without

a roll call vote, no one voting against it. Newspapers of that date said, "The mint and coinage law passed the Senate today is a re-codification of all existing statutes on the subject." No mention is made of any intention to abandon silver, the coin of the poor man for thousands of years.

President Grant afterwards said he signed the bill without reading it as he believed it to be as represented, and that had he known that it meant the abandonment of silver he would have vetoed it. It is now claimed that a clerk was bribed to omit the sections of the bill having to do with silver coinage when making the final draft, so the bill was enrolled containing a forgery of omission.

At the time silver was thus demonetized by the fact that no provision was made for its coinage, the government had to pay as much as \$1.02 for enough silver bullion to make a silver dollar. The result of the high price of silver was that makers of silverware and growers melted up their hoards of silver and sold it for dollars for the metal they contained.

1890 the Sherman Silver Purchase Act was passed over the President's veto in a political swap to insure the passage of the McKinley Tariff. This act provided for the purchase of 4 1/2 millions of ounces of silver per month for coinage, the bullion to be paid for with United States Treasury notes, redeemable and having full legal tender.

## Final Defeat of Silver

The gold standard had been established in '73 simply by omission of any provision for coinage; the Sherman Silver Act provided for redemption of Treasury notes in gold or silver at the discretion of the Treasurer of the United States. "It being the established policy of the United States to maintain the two metals on a parity with each other." (Quoted from act.) Yet in spite of this plain language the Treasurer interpreted it to be a promise to pay in gold!

The large increase in silver in circulation threatened to drive gold out of use it was claimed, since silver was relatively cheap. The result was hoarding of the dearer metal. The Sherman Silver Purchase Act was repealed at the insistence of President Cleveland in 1893, bringing the coinage of silver to a close in our history to date.

The silver dollars and the silver certificates we now use were created by these two acts of 1878 and 1890. If you get a new silver dollar it is an old one because the silver in use there is no increase in this form of money at present. It is interesting to note that these coins circulated at par in 1932 although the bullion in a dollar was worth only about 23c. Thus a silver dollar is a dollar by fiat or order of the government, and not because of the intrinsic value of the metal in it. As long as the supply is limited and does not interfere with their monopoly, bankers do not bother to depreciate the value of silver. As a matter of fact, a small supply of such government money helps to keep the public deluded about the source and control of the most of the money.

## Panic Again

Panic and general collapse of business occurred in the '90s following the long period of agricultural distress and a period of wild speculation in industry, particularly railroad building. Eyes of silver for the purpose of that is to make money more plentiful and therefore cheaper with corresponding raises in prices of commodities, became the political issue of 1896. W. J. Bryan, Democratic candidate for the Presidency, made an issue of free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. The agricultural regions were at last becoming thoroughly educated to the idea of silver for inflation and were overwhelmingly for him. Reading the handwriting on the wall, the Republicans declared for free silver pending international agreement, but after the election their interests in silver died a natural death. Once more the farmers had been "kidded" out of voting for a cause long espoused.

## Gold Mirage

The period of 1896 to 1914 was one of rapidly increasing gold supply in this country following the discovery of new fields in South Africa. That was a period when we had a very favorable balance of trade, and the balances due us we collected in gold. Our supply of the yellow metal increased from \$8.50 per capita in 1896 to \$18.30 in 1914. This increase in basic money and the increase of credit it afforded permitted a rise in farm and other commodity prices as well as of the wages of labor. So, although farm prices and wages of labor lag behind industry in times of inflation, times were good enough that silver was forgotten by the temporarily prosperous farmers and laborers. A younger generation came to believe the myths of "the full dinner pail" and "protection for the benefit of labor."

One of the earliest recollections of this writer was a puzzling statement made by a farmer who had grown rich in this time of gold inflation. He said that "land always goes up and that if a farmer made nothing more than the rise in land and a living he did very well. Today his sons, no better informed than their sire, are busted farmers somewhere in the Mississippi Valley; yet that valley and its bankrupt farmers are the source of the national wealth. This area has been called the "feed trough of the nation" and it is the farmers, of course, who "feed the hogs" both

literally and figuratively.

Recently Senator Bulow of this state was credited with speaking gently of the ruined farmers of our middle west and then adding that out of this ruin would come an opportunity for young folks to own homes on the land again. Probably he meant an opportunity to work to pay for homes only to be robbed of them in old age as were their fathers and grandfathers. Have we nothing better than that to offer youth? After all, the question is, will youth accept such an offering?

## JUVENILE LETTERS

Dear Junior Cooperators:  
I have some very bad news for you this week—perhaps some of you have noticed that we haven't had any of your letters, two weeks. The first week we didn't have space. Last week I sent a large bundle of them to the printer—and they were lost on the way. We have hunted and hunted for them, but have not been able to locate one of them. So those of you who have written, and who have not found their letters in print—will know the reason.

I haven't kept any record of the new members who had written, either—so those of you who have written requesting pins and a membership, and who do not get a pin, please write again and we'll promise to take better care of your next letter.

I had such a nice visit with one of our "newer" Juniors last week—Doris Ikenberry, of Quinter, who stopped to see me. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Christian L. Ikenberry, were with her, also. Doris was wearing her pin and she said that she liked it very much.

Don't forget that most of you owe a letter to Aunt Patience.  
Glen Elder, Kans, Jan. 5, 1935.  
Dear Aunt Patience:  
I sure did enjoy Rosa Benders letter, and hope every one else did to. I am feeling fine and hope you are the same.

Did Santa come to you? If he did what did he bring you? And what did he bring your little daughter? He brought me a set of China dishes, a pair of stockings, and mittens.

What is your daughter's name? I always forget, and how old is she? Did you have a good time Christmas. I sure did. I got a book, perfume, and candy.

I would have written sooner, but I thought if you got too many letters you could not get them all in the paper. As news is scarce I will close. Yours sincerely,  
—Rosella Korzerm.

Quinter, Kans, Jan. 2, 1935.  
Dear Aunt Patience:  
I suppose you got home from the meeting at Quinter alright. I promised to write to you when you were here, but I have been having such a good time during Christmas vacation.

For pets I have four pups and a mother dog; two cats and two ducks. I am 10 years old and my birthday is February 21. I am in the sixth grade.  
Your Friend,  
Doris Ikenberry.

Dear Doris:  
I was glad that you kept your promise about writing. We must call this issue of the paper your birthday copy, since it is published on your birthday. And I hope you'll have a happy birthday and many more of them. Please do write again soon—Aunt Patience.

I'm glad that you are feeling fine—I am, too. Santa Claus didn't bring me very many things this year—but he brought my little daughter a doll buggy and a new doll with long blonde curls. Her name is "Nancy Lee" and she is fine now—although she had the measles during Christmas vacation. You did have some nice things Christmas. There's always room for one more letter, you know—Aunt Patience.

I thought I would write you a letter. My father is a member of the Farmers Union and I have been reading the letters. I am 12 years old. My birthday is the 11th of April. Please help me to find my twin. I go to Plain View school. I have a mile and a half to go. My teacher's name is Miss Holl. We like her fine. We have her next year. We have 26 pupils in our school. Please send me a pin. I have a little brother. His name is Glen Edward, and we are going to call him Glen. He will be 3 months old February 7. Please put his name on the cradle roll. Melba Beason asked me to join. Will she get a star? In our last meeting we elected a junior leader.

Well it is getting bedtime for me, so I will close.  
Yours truly,  
Lynette Carter.

Dear Lynette:  
I enjoyed your letter so much and I'll be glad to add Glen's name to our Cradle Roll—and to give Melba a "star," also. That's good news—about your junior leader, I mean. I hope your Local will send me the name of the person whom they elected, at once—for I don't have it. I'll watch for your twin—although I don't know another Junior with your birthday date, just now. Your pin will be sent at once. Be sure to read the Junior page carefully and write soon again—Aunt Patience.

Ames, Kans, Feb. 4, 1935  
Dear Aunt Patience:  
My friend, Evelyn Garlow, has asked me to join.  
I have read the letters of your juniors in the Kansas Union Farmer and I like to read them very much. I would like to become a member. I am eleven years old. My birthday is the 31st day of August. Have I a twin? I go to Pleasant alley school. My teacher's name is Lavalla Eastham. My father is a member of the Farmers Union. We have two meetings each month in our local.  
For pets I have a German Police dog. His name is Tip. He is so glad when I come home from school every night that he gets right in front of me so I cannot go to the house. I have a nice kitty. Her name is Blue. I haven't any brothers or sisters. I have lots of things to play with. I would like for you to send me a pin.  
Well I must close for this time.  
Your friend,  
Opal Carlson.

Dear Opal:  
We're so glad that you've decided to become a Junior Cooperator and your pin will be sent at once. We'll find your twin soon—tell Evelyn that I've given her a star for your membership. I expect "Tip" is glad to see you, for he has no one to play with all day. We'll expect another letter from you soon—Aunt Patience.

Wheaton, Kans.  
Dear Aunt Patience:  
How are you, I am fine. Have you had any rain or snow. I thought I would write you a few lines. I have still my pin. I like it and I thank you for it. But I have not found my twin and I wish you would help me find it. I have been looking in every paper. Don't forget my birthday is November 14. But I wish you could help me find it please.  
Velora Bosse.

Wellington, Kan, Jan. 28, 1935  
Dear Aunt Patience:  
I thought I would write you a letter. My father is a member of the Farmers Union and I have been reading the letters. I am 12 years old. My birthday is the 11th of April. Please help me to find my twin. I go to Plain View school. I have a mile and a half to go. My teacher's name is Miss Holl. We like her fine. We have her next year. We have 26 pupils in our school. Please send me a pin. I have a little brother. His name is Glen Edward, and we are going to call him Glen. He will be 3 months old February 7. Please put his name on the cradle roll. Melba Beason asked me to join. Will she get a star? In our last meeting we elected a junior leader.

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