



# THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation



VOLUME XV

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## Farmer Jury Will Denounce Action of Farm Bureau at Kansas City

Its Refusal To Join With The Existing Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Shows Its True Colors—That it is not Organized to Help the Farmer Primarily

For several months persistent rumors have been afloat to the effect that the Farm Bureau forces of Missouri and Kansas would enter the Kansas City Stockyards with a competing Livestock Commission Company against the splendid firm which is now being operated at this market by the Farmers Union of Kansas and the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. As soon as this report reached the two later organizations they immediately protested against such a needless duplication of marketing machinery at the same market and suggested that the Bureau force agree to a joint conference with the view of procuring complete harmony of action back of one powerful farmers' firm, thus saving the livestock producers in the Kansas City territory the thousands of dollars of unnecessary annual expense incident to maintaining two Commission Companies, instead of one. However, upon various pretexts the Bureau leaders ignored this suggestion.

But the Farmers Union and The Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. were not willing to permit such travesty in the sacred name of co-operation without first exhausting every resource at their command and hence during the recent convention of the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation at Columbia during "Farmers' Week," Mr. R. T. Pence of Saline county who is a member of both the Farm Bureau and the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. introduced a resolution which demanded a joint conference between the three organizations before the establishment of a second commission company should finally be decided upon. Several of the Bureau leaders opposed this resolution but there were enough dirt farmers present to compel its adoption and hence on January 26 the conference thus provided for took place at the Hotel Baltimore in Kansas City.

Speaking at this conference for the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. and the Farmers Union of Kansas, William Hirth of Columbia, Publisher of THE MISSOURI FARMER, said: "We are glad that you Farm Bureau men have come here to talk things over and if you are here to really represent the farmer who is fighting with his back to the wall today as never before, then we won't have any trouble to get together—for God knows that is what all sensible farmers want us to do. They want to spend less time fighting each other and we can put it all of our time fighting the farmers' enemies. And now we are here to answer any questions you want to ask. Mr. Woodman, our Manager, is present and he will be glad to tell you anything you want to know about the financial condition of our company, our sales force, or about anything else you may want to know—and if you have any suggestions that will enable us to better service in any way we will be glad to listen."

At this juncture Mr. E. H. McKenolds, Secretary of the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation stated that the resolution adopted at Columbia had been amended in substance to the effect that before the Bureau forces would agree to do "team work" at Kansas City, the Commission Company would have to be put under the control of the so-called National Livestock Producers Association, created by the so-called Committee of Fifteen and which Association is under the complete domination of the National Farm Bureau Federation. To this Mr. Hirth replied as follows: "Well, who is it that you men are trying to serve? Are you trying to act for the best interests of the livestock producers in the Kansas City Stockyards territory, or does this National Association come first? If you want to save money for the farmer and help us to get control of the great central livestock markets so we can have something to say about what we shall receive for our cattle, hogs and sheep, then we will have little trouble in reaching a friendly agreement. But if this National Association comes first and if you want the Farmers Union of Kansas and The Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. who, long before your Committee of Fifteen was ever heard of, entered the Kansas City Stockyards to fight the farmer's battles—if now when our firm has become almost the biggest commission company at this market and when we have begun returning substantial Patronage Dividends to our shippers—if now you intend to say to us that you won't co-operate with us unless we completely unfrock ourselves and turn the splendid company which we have worked so hard to build up entirely over to your so-called National Association, then I deliberately charge that you are not acting in the best interests of the livestock producer." And to his charge no direct reply was made.

At this juncture Mr. McKenolds was urged to inquire into the financial affairs of the Company and finally did so—and the statement of Manager Woodman was so clear cut and explicit that no criticism or suggestion was offered.

Thereupon John Tromble, the veteran President of the Kansas Farmers

Union whose hair has grown white in fighting the battles of the farmer and whose deep sincerity even his enemies do not dare question, made the following proposition on behalf of the Farmers Union and The Missouri Farmers' Ass'n.: "Now gentlemen, let's quit beating the devil around the stump and get down to brass tacks. If you men have come here in good faith and if you want to cooperate with the rest of us farmers and thereby save the livestock producers of Kansas and Missouri many thousands of dollars annually, then you can bet your life we are going to give you a chance to do it—and to prove it to you, I here and now on behalf of the Farmers Union of Kansas and the Farm Clubs of Missouri, offer you equal representation on our Board of Directors. We now have a Board of seven men. When our shareholders meet in a few days we will ask them to increase the Board to nine, giving three to the Farmers Union, three to The Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. and three to the Farm Bureau. This will give all three organizations an equal voice in the management of our company. Also we will not ask you to take a dollar's worth of stock unless you want to, for we will manage to get along with the money we have at this time. In other words, we will handle livestock for the Farm Bureau under exactly the same conditions as we do for our own people, give you an equal voice on the Board and you won't need to ask your members to put up a penny unless you want to. And why are we making this kind of an offer? Why, for two reasons—first because if another Commission Company is established at the Kansas City Stockyards, the extra yearly expense of many thousands of dollars will have to come out of the farmers' pocket and naturally we want to prevent this if possible; secondly, because if we don't get together we of the Farmers Union and the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. want the farmers of Kansas and Missouri to know whose fault it is, and if this proposition isn't fair—if when we offer you an equal voice in the management of a company which we have spent years in building up and when we don't ask you for a dollar's worth of capital—if you gentlemen reject a proposition as fair as this, then I think the farmers of Kansas and Missouri who are sick and tired of the fool rivalry between the different farm organizations which assume to represent them will know where to place the blame."

When Mr. Tromble concluded his statement, the Farmers Union and M. F. A. delegations withdrew to leave the Farm Bureau forces to prepare their answer, which was forthcoming in an astonishingly short time—having evidently been substantially agreed to in advance. Therefore when the conference was resumed, a spokesman for the Bureau stated that they could not co-operate with the existing commission company at the Kansas City yards, unless the so-called National Ass'n. controlled by the National Farm Bureau Federation was given complete control and, furthermore, the speaker advanced the astounding doctrine that "we can never hope to get farmers to ever line up behind one organization anyhow"—a statement which was hotly challenged by Mr. Pence of Saline county who said, "I am just as good a farm bureau man as you dare be and I am also a loyal Farm Club member as lives in Missouri. And when you say that we farmers don't want to get together you state something that isn't true. We farmers are sick and tired of this jangling and pulling in different directions—and how any set of men could make a fairer proposition than we have made here this afternoon to you representatives of the Bureau I can't comprehend. I have always been a friend to the Bureau but this performance makes me sick." And as Mr. Pence ceased speaking his face was white with anger. And thus ended the conference which means, no doubt that in the very near future the Bureau, instead of lining up behind the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company and thus enabling the organized farmers of the Kansas City Stockyards territory to fight their common battles from behind the same breastworks—instead of this there will be a competing farmers' firm whose maintenance will no doubt cost something like \$50,000 per year which might as well be saved for the livestock producers.

And we are publishing these facts in order that the farmers may know where to place the true responsibility for this humiliating performance. And who and what is this sacred "National Ass'n." that the gentlemen of the Bureau prate so much about? Why, it was created by the Committee of Fifteen, a full brother to the late and lamented Committee of Seventeen which was going to work out a wonderful grain marketing plan and which proceeded to collect many thousands of dollars of the farmers' sweat earned money and which not only spent every penny of it but several thousands of dollars besides. Perhaps the reader will more readily re-

call it as the U. S. Grain Growers Inc. Both of these "Committees" were created by the National Farm Bureau Federation. And long before the Committee of Fifteen was ever dreamed of the Farmers Union was successfully operating farmers' Cooperative Livestock Commission Companies at Omaha, Sioux City, St. Joseph and Kansas City, having been joined by the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. during the latter part of 1921. And now the Bureau leaders, not satisfied with an equal voice in the management at Kansas City and even ignoring the fact that they were not asked to put up a single dollar in working capital, demand "complete possession or nothing"—and this at the hands of two of the most powerful farmers' organizations in the United States which between them operate and control in Missouri and Kansas nearly 1000 Grain Elevators and Produce Exchanges. At St. Louis the Farmers Livestock Commission Company which was organized by the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. recently announced net profits of \$80,479.53, while the competing Farm Bureau firm which is under this wonderful "National Ass'n." announced a net profit of only \$40,407. At St. Joseph the splendid firm jointly maintained by the M. F. A. and Farmers Union recently announced a net profit of \$38,610.17, while the Kansas City firm has already refunded 19 per cent of all commissions collected and instead of being willing to do "team work" and thus not only enormously increase the return to the livestock producer during the next two or three years, but also hasten the day when the farmer can sit across the table from the Packers and have something to say about the price of cattle, hogs and sheep, these gentlemen, because of their frenzy to horn the real dirt farmer organizations out of the way, as well as willingness to create, big, net, fat payrolls, are making the sacred name of "co-operation" a matter of jibe and jest at the various stockyards. In the meantime, nobody can successfully question the fact that the sales force of our Kansas City firm isn't getting the "full market" or that it is not a splendid and efficient company from top to bottom.

And thus with the full facts before them, we are willing to let the farmers of Kansas and Missouri choose which side they will stand on—but naturally we hope you will demand your livestock shall be shipped to the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company which is backed by dirt farmers who are more interested in helping to solve the real ills of Agriculture than in promoting imaginary "National Associations," or in building up huge, new payrolls. And we desire to warn the farmers of the whole Country against the apparent desire of certain so-called farmer leaders to capitalize the very agony of the farmer—and in other words to make farm organization a "good thing" for those who sit in the saddle. Thus, for instance, the recent Bureau convention at Columbia recommended a \$10. yearly membership fee, instead of \$5, as is now charged in many counties—and when "the Farm Clubs of Missouri and the Farmers Union of Kansas are supplying organizations that are 'bringing home the bacon' at an annual cost of only \$2.50 while farmers pay an additional tribute of \$7.50 per year? This is what we mean by 'capitalizing the agonies of the farmer'—the sinister tendency to make the cure more costly than the disease.

Only recently a coalition was formed between the Farmers Union of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska. (Continued on page 2)

## Annual Meeting of Livestock Com. Co.

New Amendment to By-Laws Entitles Holders of Dollar Share of Stock to Cash Patronage Dividends

The fourth annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission was held February 1st. Two new members were elected on the Board of Directors; Senator Hugh R. Green to succeed E. E. Woodman and Ezra Thompson, Trenton, Missouri to fill the unexpired term of A. C. Moore who resigned. John L. Tromble was re-elected.

A resolution submitted by the by-laws committee was adopted and ordered incorporated in the new by-laws providing that it is necessary to own only one share of stock, par value \$1.00, in order to draw patronage dividends in cash. Hereafter stockholders must own ten shares of stock before they were paid a business dividend in cash. Up until 1923 anyone owning less than ten shares was paid his business dividend in extra shares of stock until such time as he owned ten shares.

At the annual stockholders meeting in 1922 the stockholders present voted to raise the capital stock of the firm from ten to thirty thousand dollars. No action was completed in this matter until February 7, 1923, when the manager of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission appeared before the Charter Board in Topeka and was granted an amended charter for \$25,000.00 in capital stock. At the present time \$13,000.00 in capital stock has been paid in and there remains several thousands of dollars of the 1922 patronage dividend to be paid in capital stock when applications for same have been received from our 1922 customers.

Under the Missouri State laws it is required that 51 per cent of the capital stock be actually paid in before a charter or license will be granted. The Live Stock Exchange building is located in Missouri, also the greater part of the business transacted at the Kansas City Yards is transacted on the Missouri side.

**JANUARY BIGGEST MONTH**  
Receipts of live stock received in January by the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission total five hundred and thirteen car loads, the largest volume in any one month since the organization of the business, exceeding the next largest month (October 1922) by twenty-eight car loads. The month of January 1923 shows an increase of two hundred and eleven cars over January 1922. Kansas City Stock Yards Company records show that the Farmers Union sold forty car loads more hogs than any other firm on the Yards, making them first place in the Hog Yards and seventh place in general business.

February 7, 1923 was the largest single day in amount of stock handled in the history of the firm, totaling fifty-one cars sold, three bought. Total receipts at the Kansas City Yard on February 7, 11,000 cattle, 1,000 calves and 16,000 hogs, of which the Farmers Union handled 421 cattle, 244 calves and 2,080 hogs.

The management of the live stock commission firm desires to thank its many customers for their good-will and patronage in 1922 and to ask each one to come back to us in 1923 and bring your friends with you, so that at the end of this year there

will be many converts to the co-operation as carried out by the Farmers firm on the Kansas City Stock Yards.

**THE CALIFORNIA POOLS**  
Wheat marketing associations considering the advisability of establishing pools of shorter duration than are now in use will be interested in a recent census taken of shipping associations for orange and lemon growers operating through the California Fruit Growers' Exchange.

According to the survey a complete season's pool for oranges is favored by about one-third of the associations reporting, while about as many more make from two to three pools each season. A monthly pool is reported by three associations, while two pool semi-monthly.

For lemons, either a season's pool or a pool for each pick is reported. The tendency among the older California associations, according to the report, is toward shorter pools at the present time. —The Producer.

## WOULD LET BUREAU IN K. C. YARDS

But Missouri Farm Bureau Insisted That It Operate Yards For Union

FOR NINE DIRECTORS

Tromble Attends Meeting But Farm Bureau Refuses Unless Boss

The Missouri Farm Bureau had an opportunity to partake of the advantages of the Kansas Farmers Union Live Stock Association in Kansas City, without investing a cent, but the Farm Bureau insisted that the Bureau dictate all of the terms, John Tromble, president, says.

"We made the Missouri farm bureau a proposition. To increase our directors from 7 to 9. To give each of the following associations three directors: Missouri Farm Association, Club, the Missouri Farm Bureau and the Farmers Union," Mr. Tromble said.

The Farm Bureau insisted that their committee of 15 run the live stock association and that the Farmers Union give up the stock yards, so far as management was concerned.

"I consider," Mr. Tromble said, "that when we submitted to the farm bureau a proposition that each of the three organizations have three directors and that the Farm Bureau come into the co-operative plan without a cent of investment, that it was very fair."

Mr. Tromble asserts that with the plan that the Kansas Union submitted it would have given each association equal say. At the present time the Farmers Union has four members and the Missouri Farm Club three members on the board of directors.

The young folks in the local have a very important part to play in the cause of Co-operation. It is through them that the organization will carry on.

## Final Income Tax Ruling on Patronage Dividends

"Income to Co-operative associations derived on the patronage to or from stockholders is exempt income tax." This is acknowledged by the Revenue Department in recent conferences held with the Commissioner at Washington, D. C. as well as through communications recently received from the commissioner himself.

We quote a portion of a wire received by President Tromble signed by Commissioner Blair, January 30th, 1923 as follows: "Ruled that Co-operative associations in Kansas are not generally exempt But PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS are deductible in arriving at net income of associations subject to tax. Understood when you were here that Ruling was satisfactory. Kindly advise if you do not agree with the Ruling or whether Collector and Revenue Agents (at Wichita) refuse to follow it. Have not ruled and cannot rule that patronage rebates are not income to person receiving them."

Signed, Blair, Commissioner.

We have worked with John Tromble and other state officers of the Farmers Union and have been successful in getting the Revenue Department to acknowledge that these STOCKHOLDERS PROFITS are deductible in making out the Income Tax returns, also that each tax payer who has been or may be assessed additional tax on stockholders' refundable amounts can now claim exemption for the entire refundable amount and in case where tax was paid on entire income Refunds can be secured for the stockholder's percentage portion.

**IMPORTANT**  
All those associations who have been examined especially for the CALENDAR YEAR 1917 MUST

file appeal direct with the Commissioner of Internal Revenue at Washington and claim refund (if paid) or abatement if already assessed.

This appeal and claim should be made out in affidavit form, sworn to before a Notary and filed with the Commissioner at Washington before March 1, 1923 which is the expiration date of the "Statute of Limitations," a law which gives the Government the right to assess and Collect Tax after the five year period without further investigations.

**REMEMBER,** this ruling is for every co-operative association in the State of Kansas or elsewhere and is of no value unless you associations take advantage of it's meaning which is NOT that you can now sit back and forget that you were examined and assessed additional tax BUT THAT if you set forth before the Department in affidavit form the total purchases from sales to the stockholders showing what percentage that is to the total business or the year, the department will allow as a deduction the same percentage amount from Gross Income, in arriving at Net Income, for the tax return.

Any further information will be gladly furnished you upon request if you write the Kansas Farmers Union Auditing Association, Salina, Kansas, your own auditing department.

Again, DO NOT FORGET to look after this at once if assessment has been made on the 1917 year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kansas Farmers Union Co-operative Auditing Association.  
B. E. CORPORON, Secy.-Manager.

## Vital Relation of the Farmer Member to His Organization

Charles W. Pugsley, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Sets Forth The Fundamental Duties of Members and the Loyalty They Owe To Their Association and Officers

The most important factor in the success of any farmers' organization is the active interest of individual members. The cause of the death of practically every organization that has ceased to function can be traced directly or indirectly to the lack of the individual member's interest. Officers of the right sort may be able to maintain the influence of a farmers' organization for a time, but it is impossible for them to maintain it indefinitely. When members are not individually a vital part of an organization the officers soon become of no more force as officers than they would be as individuals. Strong local units are necessary to maintain members interest in any large organization.

I sometimes fear that we lose sight of the importance of the local unit as the vital part of a farm organization. It is the part which furnishes the very life blood. Like the heart of the human body it occupies an indispensable place. Its presence is seldom realized and its detailed functions are seldom discussed, its work is not spectacular. It is its work, however, which makes possible the functioning of the other parts of the body. If you remove or greatly injure the heart the animal dies. Just so with the Farmers' organization. As soon as the locals cease to function the organization starts to decay. It is important for the human body to have a brain. It needs a directing power for its highly organized organization. It is the brain stimulated by the life blood which comes from the heart that determines the direction in which the entire body is to move. It receives impressions from the various parts of the body, catalogues and classifies them and decides which suggestions are important and what the action shall be.

The action of a farm organization rests in the governing machinery which is established. Whether we are thinking of local organizations, State organizations, or national organizations, the directing power is usually lodged in elected officers and boards of directors. This power, however, can not function for long without the continued stimulation of the locals. Neither can it function unless it gets its ideas continually purified and approved by the local in almost exactly the same way that the blood of the human body is sent back through the heart.

It is this purification process which is so often neglected in farmers' organizations. They must, of course, depend upon the officers for final direction, but unless there is a continual operation of the principles of initiative and referendum, the officers soon grow away from the members and the supply of life blood is interrupted. If you will think back with me over the history of practically every national farmers' organization you will find that its principal troubles can be traced to a tendency of the locals to separate themselves from the members or of the members to lose interest in the leaders. This has resulted in the downfall of a number of promising national organizations.

This separation may be caused by two things. One is the lack of the leader's appreciation of the importance of keeping in close touch with the farm members of his organization. He comes in contact with bankers, railroad men, packers, commission men and national and State officers and politicians much more frequently than he comes in personal contact with the members on the farms. Unless he establishes some system by which he can closely determine the opinions and desires of those who are responsible for his selection he is certain to do himself and the organization harm.

Another thing which is responsible for the drifting apart of leaders and members is the attitude of members themselves. Sometimes I wonder if this is not a greater cause than the one which I have just mentioned. Farmers are busy. They have many things to do. They frequently join a farm organization because they are induced to join by a neighbor or by an organizer. Sometimes they know only in general what the organization proposes to do and frequently know very little of how it is to do it. They may attend a meeting or two and if they are only fairly well satisfied or are mystified, they will perhaps cease to interest themselves in the organization, except to watch for results. If results fail to come they are disappointed. Very often they begin to lose interest in all farmers' organizations because they can point to so many instances where the organizations have failed to fulfill their promises.

If every individual member of an organization would give a few minutes serious consideration to the organization's problems each day that organization would grow and increase in power and could not fail to accomplish the purposes for which it was established. Leaders could not grow apart from the organization then because they would be held to a proper course by the average opinion of all

the members. If they failed in their duty these thinking members would take sufficient interest to change officers and put in somebody who would properly represent them and who would carry out their instructions.

Every local farm organization must have some real object in life or it better die. As a matter of fact it will die unless it does have some worthwhile objective. This object must give each member some work to do. If it does not the member's interest will die. When you find a strong local organization you find some leader there who either consciously or unconsciously recognizes this important point. He may not know that he is keeping his organization alive by giving every member something to do, but that it nearly always the fact. There is some committee work, there is some errand to perform, there is some point in the management which needs the member's consideration, there is some decision to be made about contracting or expanding the business, in fact, anything of importance.

A farmers' organization can not expect to be a power unless it has money with which to work. It is a business organization. It can secure its money from a proper conduct of its business enterprises. If it is an organization which must depend upon membership fees, then the individual member must pay these fees if the organization is to accomplish any of its purposes. These fees must be paid promptly or the power of the members' organization is greatly weakened. No officers can make plans unless they know with some degree of certainty how much money is available to bring about the accomplishment of those plans.

I see a danger in any fee, large or small, if the members' interest and activity ceases, except in a perfunctory manner upon the payment of the fee. This danger under such circumstances is probably greater when a large fee is paid. The reason for this is that the member will have a feeling that he has done his part, that he has paid the fee and that it's up to those who receive the money to do something for him in return. He forgets that he is the man who must determine what is to be done and how it is to be done.

If a farmer joins a cooperative business association he must remember that he must support this association or it is likely to fail. He owes it an obligation which no one can fulfill except himself. If the association is organized to sell his products he must sell his products through the association or it is certain to fail in its object. There is only one method that he knows of by which he can be relieved of his responsibility in this direction. That is by the establishment of some sort of a rule which will require him to pay into the treasury of his association a certain amount for all grain or other products marketed in some other way.

In many places this sort of a provision has been very helpful in maintaining the existence of the cooperative association which has been responsible for establishing those fair prices.

Up to the present time the most of our cooperative commodity organizations are rural and local in character. They do not have a big strong central organization with sufficient funds to fight their battles at terminal markets or before the courts. If they are to succeed locally they must therefore provide for their own existence and at the same time permit their members to take advantage of the best prices offered for their products.

It frequently happens that the establishment of a cooperative buying or selling agency in a community immediately brings about a readjustment of prices on the part of those concerns doing business in the community, greatly to the advantage of members and non-members. There are many instances on record where the advance of the price paid for grain, or milk and cream, has been greater than the terminal markets would justify. Some big concern such as an Old Line Elevator Company, or a centralized creamery company, could well afford to take a loss in that community for the period of a year or longer, if by so doing they could check the advance of the cooperative idea. Taking a loss in one community does not necessarily mean a net loss to the company, because they have been able, as statistics show, to reduce their prices in other communities where there is no competition to more than offset their small losses.

The temptation placed at the door of the individual member to sell his products at the highest price is often so great that the loyalty and good intentions of the member break. I am not sure that we should expect the members to refuse to accept the high prices unjustly offered by concerns in their efforts to break up a cooperative organization. It seems to me that the better plan is to recognize that the important thing is to keep the co-operation. (Continued on Page 2)



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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.

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

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

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

### ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1923

### NEWS WHEN NEWS

We are more than glad to print articles from the different locals because we believe that this is one of the interesting features of the paper. We know that we enjoy reading of the work of the locals in different parts of the state and feel that our readers are likewise benefited. However we like to print these articles when they really are news. We do not like to have to run a story of a meeting of a local that happened two months ago and the only way we can get this story in while it is fresh is for the local correspondent to send it in immediately after the meeting.

We wish that every correspondent would make it a point to get their stuff to us just as quickly as they can after it has happened and then it will be up to us to see that it gets into the paper while "news is news."

### MILITARISTIC AMERICA

It takes a long time to get the fighting fever out of the blood. It is now more than four years since the war ended. Every one hoped that the treaty of peace would be followed by general disarmament. Nothing of the sort has happened. There are more men under arms, more warships in commission, and more devilish engines and appliances for wholesale murder in existence now than ever before in time of peace in the whole history of the world.

France has an army of a million men all perfectly trained and equipped with every modern invention for the destruction of human life. With that great army, the most perfect and most powerful that any nation ever kept except in a time of national peril, an attempt is being made to force Germany to make reparation payments that are impossible. A whole nation is to be enslaved by armed force. Nothing will be accomplished except that the seeds of hate will be sown in soil in which they will grow for generations to come.

The United States pays more than 300 million dollars a year for a navy. The standing army is 25 per cent greater in numbers and more than a hundred per cent effective than it was seven years ago. The national guards strength is more than 100 per cent greater. There is twice the number of trained officers in commission. There are 69,000 reserve officers. More than 100,000 boys are being trained in student officers departments of our high schools and colleges. Every year more than 30,000 civilians are drilled in the summer camps.

More than 90 cents of every dollar paid into the treasury of our country is used for military purposes—to prepare for wars in the future or pay the expenses of wars that are past. If all armies could be disbanded and all war ships dismantled peace, order, and prosperity would soon be restored to the world over. Unless Europe is soon relieved from the crushing burden of militarism the darkness and barbarism of the Middle Ages will soon settle like a pall over all the nations and the civilization that blossomed as the slow development of ten centuries will be blotted out in a single generation.

### THE PROPOSED SCHOOL CODE

The School Code Commission has done a lot of hard work. The bill introduced into the legislature to carry the commissions recommendations into effect is in many ways a fine and constructive measure. It is the result of two years of unselfish and intelligent labor by Senator J. M. Johnson, Mrs. Ida M. Walker and their colleagues.

It is almost certain that the legislature will refuse to follow the Commission and that adjournment will find nothing done in the way of clearing up the confusion that is now the most marked characteristic of our Kansas school laws. If the Code fails it will be because it contains only two or three objectionable features.

There is no excuse for creating a county board of education. It is the sort of a proposition that the patrons of the rural schools will never accept willingly. The proposed county board has no functions assigned to it that could not as well be given to the county commissioners. Had that been done one half the objection to the commission report would have been avoided.

The consolidation of all district schools within a rural high school district and their administration

by a single board is also objectionable from the farmers point of view. If the commission had made four classes of districts—city, community, rural high, and elementary rural with provisions for converting the rural high territories into community districts by the voluntary action of the tax payers another big group of objectors would have been silenced.

The extraordinary requirements of eligibility for the office of state superintendent of public instruction also provokes much opposition. The instruction also provokes much opposition. The most successful school men in Kansas, the most highly paid and highly prized city superintendents are made ineligible for the state superintendency. Probably not a single county superintendent now in service in the state could qualify for the office. In fact it is doubtful if there are a dozen men in Kansas who would be eligible under the provisions of the Johnson bill. It would make the present state superintendent ineligible for re-election and would bar practically every man and woman in the state who could afford to take the place for the salary offered.

None of the objectionable features of the code bill are vital. They can all be eliminated without any impairment of the value of the proposed legislation. Will the friends of the bill listen to reason and cut out the weak features or will they insist on all or nothing and get nothing?

Dr. George E. Vincent, Chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation; Mr. Julius Barnes, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce and President Storey of the Santa Fe Railroad all agree that the railroads are in the middle of a mighty bad fix and that they can neither earn nor borrow money to maintain the efficiency of their power and the condition of their tracks. It is rash to disagree with such an aggregation of brains and gall but as the reports show that more loaded freight cars were moved last year than in any other twelve months in history and that higher average rates were charged for that service the farmers would like to know what the roads do with the money.

### DR. COUE AND THE FARMERS

For something more than year there has been a great nation wide experiment in Christian science or auto suggestion going on in the country. It has taken the form of a universal effort to convince farmers that they are prosperous. A few days ago the Topeka Capital carried an editorial in which it cheerfully called attention to the fact that the farmers have again begun to buy.

There may be some truth in that statement. The average family has been doing without things so long that some purchasing is necessary in the interest of decency and comfort. The old clothes are just about worn out. The old machinery has been repaired so often that it must be replaced before it can be used in making another crop. The old carpets and furniture are threadbare and shabby. The farmers are doing some buying this winter but they are spending the proceeds of crops not yet planted. For three years all have been impairing and decreasing their capital in order to keep going. The only truth in relation to the farmers actual condition that stands boldly out in the news that he is buying more is that for some reason his credit has improved and he is now able to make new debts.

### AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL WEALTH

The Fourteenth census taken as of January first, 1920, gives the total agricultural wealth of America \$77,000,000,000. That is a lot of property and if it all belongs to the Farmers and is all actual and unincumbered it means much. A little analysis may disclose some interesting new truth in this connection.

It must not be overlooked that in this figure is included all the wealth of the republic that is used in agriculture. It is agricultural wealth not farmers wealth or property that is meant. Forty per cent of the farm lands of the United States are operated by tenant farmers and share croppers. Those lands are worth a good many billions of dollars and while they may be included in the inventory of agricultural wealth they do not belong to the farmers or bear witness to the success of farming. Rented lands are incontrovertible evidence of the failure rather than of the success of agriculture: their value must be deducted from the total if we are to get at the truth of the farmers condition.

Sixty per cent of the agricultural lands of the republic are operated by owners who now owe about \$5,000,000,000 on mortgages—it was over four billions two years ago and has since increased very considerably. The floating, current, unfunded debt of the farmers is about seven billions more. This makes a total of TWELVE BILLIONS of debts that must be subtracted from that hand some total of \$77,000,000,000. It is generally conceded that there has been a shrinkage of about \$15,000,000,000 of agricultural wealth and it will be found that the farmers themselves are in the enjoyment of less than THIRTY BILLIONS of dollars worth of unincumbered property. There are hundreds of thousands of fine hard working farm folks whose property sold by the sheriff, at auction, or in any forced manner would not realize enough to pay the debts against it.

Agricultural conditions are not improving and cannot improve until the farmer has broader markets, higher prices, and lower costs of operation.

### THE CO-OPERATIVE BANKING BILL

The Farmers Union Cooperative banking bill passed the Kansas House of Representatives last Friday. It received exactly sixty three votes or the smallest possible number that it had to have to get through. With almost no exceptions the bankers and the lawyers in the house voted against the bill. The strangest part of the whole performance, however, was that at least twenty members classified as farmers voted with the bankers and lawyers.

A number of opponents explained their votes. Some were afraid that the proposed banking system would be unsafe. Some were afraid of experiment. Some were afraid of the whole system or

### THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

project of cooperation. Not one of the explanations that went into the record contained any real criticism of the measure on its merits.

Not less striking than the explanations of opponents was the absence from roll call of about a dozen farmers and others who had promised to vote for the measure. Those men had been told by their own bankers that it would not be wise for them to vote for the bill. They were silent or absent not from choice but under compulsion and duress. Their situation is itself an eloquent and convincing argument in favor of the measure.

### DANGERS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM

One of the ablest and most honest of the young lawyers who voted against the enactment of the Farmers Union Cooperative Banking law explained his position by stating that he is afraid of cooperation because there have been so many failures of that sort of enterprise in his county.

There have been three cooperative failures in that county. The first was a big department store in which a group of trades unionists undertook to carry on a hundred thousand dollar business with less than ten thousand dollars of paid up capital. It was almost a hopeless undertaking from the first but would have succeeded except for the dishonesty of men in whom the cooperators reposed too much confidence. A second was a cooperative store conducted for some time by a group of farmers most of whom belonged to the Grange. A third was a cooperative store conducted by members of the Farmers Union. There was no good reason for the failure of either of those stores. They were destroyed not by the defects of the system but by dissensions within the membership and by lack of support by the men who had established them as service institutions for their own use and benefit.

If that young lawyer is consistent in his thinking he must also have serious doubts as to the safety of either state or national banks. A state bank in his own home town was once wrecked by the dishonesty of its manager who owned a large proportion of the stock. Every shareholder lost every dollar that he had invested in that institution and the depositors were not paid anything like in full. The disaster was complete and irretrievable but other state banks have since been established there and are highly successful.

In 1907 The First National Bank of the same city closed its doors and the depositors and shareholders lost about \$400,000. The managing officer of that bank may not have been dishonest but he financed so many rotten enterprises of one sort or another that he ruined the institution and dealt the business prosperity of that town a blow from which it has even yet not fully recovered. Yet our young friend could not oppose the establishment of more national banks because the First National of his city failed with such terrible results to all concerned.

In the same city during the past twenty five years there have been several big business failures. A dry goods company was forced to liquidate, an old and well established hardware firm was saved from wreck only by the unselfish sacrifice of many thousands of dollars by a personal friend of one of the managing partners, and there have been several quite complete failures of grocers and others.

The failure of that First National Bank cost the community in which our young friend resides more than four times as much money as was lost in all three of the cooperative disasters that were such a warning to him. The failure of the state bank a little earlier lost more for depositors and shareholders than the total unliquidated losses of the three cooperative bankruptcies. The mercantile failures in that town during the past twenty years involved easily twice as much total loss as was suffered from the cooperative disasters.

If that young legislator was justified in voting against the cooperative banking bill for the reasons that he stated he would also be justified in advising his friends and associates from investing their money in any sort of commercial banking enterprise. The truth is that every cooperative failure in this country can be matched with a dozen individual, copartnership, or corporation failures. For every dollar lost in cooperative enterprise a thousand has been lost through the incompetency and dishonesty of the managers of similar institutions conducted for profit.

### BUILD UP A BUSINESS RESERVE

Farmers Union Cooperatives that were honestly and competently managed during the past year and that had the support of anything like a hundred per cent of their own members made money. Will the shareholders and directors distribute those profits and begin the new year in debt or will they hold their gains in the business and go forward with increased financial strength and with new confidence in themselves?

Nearly all our cooperatives need more capital. All that are successful can get it for they now have that capital if they will keep it in the business. Next year may not be so good. Better build a cyclone cellar as refuge for future storms while the money for such an investment in security and stability is at hand.

### QUESTION FOR A LOCAL DEBATE

It is a good thing to argue matters over with your neighbors and friends. No matter how much you may know about a thing there is always some man or woman that either knows more about it or knows something that you have not learned. How would this do for a debating question?

Resolved, That farming with tractors is impracticable and unprofitable.

Or if you are not interested in power farming, try a whirl at this:

Resolved, That the dairy cow is the farmers best provision for paying interest on his debts.

Or if neither dairy farming nor tractors are interesting, try to get up a little excitement over this:

Resolved, That no lawyer should ever be elected to the legislature or to the congress of the United States.

### Debts Due the United States

On account of loans made to our allies during the war received a good deal of attention during the past week. There appears to be very little opposition to the English settlement which provides that the bonds shall run for sixty years and shall bear a rate of three and in certain contingencies three and one half per cent interest.

The federal house of representatives approved the English settlement by an overwhelming vote and there is little doubt that the senate will agree. It is also likely that the arrangement with Great Britain will, as far as possible, be offered the other European countries. England will meet her obligations in this matter as rapidly as they mature but France cannot do so as long as she insists on maintaining the greatest and the most expensive standing army in the world.

### Congress Is Working Day and Night

To pass all the necessary legislation before the fourth of March. The president does not want an extra session. Neither do very many other folks unless it is absolutely necessary. If the big appropriation bills get through it is safe to predict that there will be no more federal law making until next December.

If the Ship Subsidy bill is not passed and if the farmer relief measures, such as they are, fail in the senate it is almost certain that the president will call an extra session. That will give the new members a chance to show what they expect to do and that is a plenty if the speeches and letters of the radical wing who are going in are any indication of their real program.

### Roads For Kansas Folks

Are matters of the highest importance. There is no indication that the legislature will be able to change the existing laws but there should be amendments restoring the authority of which they have been deprived. The law of two years ago does not work. Enormous sums taken from automobile owners are tied up and will continue to be unavailable until the existing laws are changed. The legislature should release that money. There are signs that people all over the country are getting down to a sensible basis in the settlement of road problems. It is now evident that concrete and other paved roads, except in certain sections, are neither necessary nor possible without imposing unreasonable debt burden on the tax payers. It is generally conceded that the best roads for any community are the best roads that the people can afford.

### Cooperative Banking Is the Bugaboo

Of a good many bankers and business men, not because there are any real dangers in the proposed system but because those who are now in the banking business are afraid that the new plan would hurt them personally. The opponents of our Union bill persisted to the last in declaring that cooperative banking is experimental.

They are mistaken. In Europe and in several of our states there are great numbers of such institutions that are successful and there are mighty few instances of failure. Here is a list of the members of the house of representatives of the Kansas legislature who voted against the cooperative banking bill:

Berryman, Bottorff, of Ottawa, Crawford, Erickson, Euwer, Farrell, Fenton, Geddes, Harper, Hasty, Heleker, Herren, Hope, Hudson, Jeffery, Johnson, Knapp, Miller, of Kiowa, Moore, Nork, Perry Schmidt, Schneider, Schuessler, Shaffer, Shider, Shier, Snyder, of Morris, Stansfield, Tuttle, Wilson and Woodland. Crawford of Stevens, Farrel of Clay, Fenton of Doniphan, Harper of Cloud, Heleker of Marshall, Herren of Lincoln, Johnson of Riley, Miller of Kiowa, Schmidt of Geary, Schneider of Woods, Schuessler of Logan, Shier of Saline, Woodland of Johnson. Brown of Ottawa are listed as farmers. That is fourteen of the thirty four negative votes were cast by

## Farmer Jury Will Denounce Action Of Farm Bureau

(Continued from page 1)

ka, South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois, the Missouri Farmers Association and the Equity Exchange in the Northwest—and henceforth these great dirt battles together and we welcome the farmers of the great Corn Belt states to join hands with us. In Missouri the Farm Clubs are ready to extend the glad hand and to save you a lot of the money in the buying of seed, feed, tankage, salt, coal, fertilizer, binder twine, oil, woven wire, automobile tires, etc., while in Kansas the Farmers Union is ready to do the same thing and in any community in either Kansas or Missouri where our organizations have no local working units, we will be glad to send literature and complete instructions. In short, not only do we want a chance to market your livestock at the Kansas City Stockyards and get you the "last penny" for it, but we are also ready to save you a lot of money in the purchase of the above commodities—a position to offer. And we are ready to do this not in the dim and distant future, but now! Also if the Bureau had established a new Livestock Commission

company against us, it will do well to pay its running expenses during the first year and therefore will not consign your livestock to a Company that is already established and you know will pay you a substantial Patronage Dividend during 1923?

And finally, more important than anything else, here is a chance for the farmers of Kansas an Missouri to severely rebuke selfish leaders who by their remarkable action are preventing co-operation between the different farm organizations at a time when it is more sorely needed than ever before. We do not believe that these gentlemen can lead the farmers who ship to the Kansas City Stock yards around by the nose and we will therefore await the verdict of you men out at the "crossroads" with the deepest interest. In conclusion, remember that our buying facilities are at your immediate command and also we will be glad to send a field man to help organize a Livestock Shipping Association at any point which such an association does not exist at this time.

Respectfully submitted, John Tromble, President Farmers Union, Salina, Kansas. Claude E. Moody, President Missouri Farmers Ass'n, Macon, Missouri.

If you have any eggs for hatching, a pair of young cockerels for sale place an ad in your paper and the how quickly future, but now! Also if the Bureau had established a new Livestock Commission

you will dispose of them.

shall never be restored in this country.

Mining.

Is The Most Hazardous.

Of all human occupations, in spite of all the precautions, safety devices and supervision by experts scarcely a week in the year goes by without some dreadful catastrophe deep in the bowels of the earth where workmen toil for fuel to keep the fires of civilization burning and for metals to supply the factories fabricating modern machinery.

Dawson, New Mexico is the scene of the latest and in some respects the worst tragedy of recent times. More than 120 miners were killed in an explosion more than a mile from daylight. Saved by a modern miracle the men that escaped announce that they will return to work as soon as the mines are reopened. Are miners wages ever too high?

Snow.

Fell Over Many Wheat.

Fields during the latter part of last week. It was too late to help the crop prospects any in western Kansas. There will be less wheat harvested west of Ellsworth this summer than in any year for a generation. Such a misfortune falls with crushing weight on the farmers of that part of Kansas. For the most part they have all their eggs in one basket. When they make no wheat they make nothing else except the small income derived from the sale of eggs and cream.

The man who wants to earn immortal fame need only develop a system of diversified agriculture that can be practiced in the wheat belt. It is not impossible. There are many feed and forage crops that can be raised on barley, kafir and hay to feed a fair sized herd of milk cows and mature a few dozen fat hogs for market. The wheat gambler must be abandoned or greatly restricted and the farms of western Kansas must have more sources of income.

Howat.

Is Out of Jail Again.

And will doubtless endeavor to restate himself with the miners and get into position to call another strike or two. That is the only way he can get back behind the prison doors. Life will be right dull for Alce unless he is ordering a strike or looking at the cruel world through barred windows.

How would it do for Governor Dav-

is to appoint Howat and a couple of other labor leaders as judges of the Court of Industrial Relations? That might make a good miner out of Howat and it would go a mighty long way toward convincing a lot of Kansas folks that the Industrial Court law should be repealed.

Austria.

Is Borrowing Some Money.

In Wall Street, a matter of a hundred millions or so. This step became necessary when the Austrian paper currency depreciated to a level where it required a wagon load of kronen bills to buy a loaf of bread or a bale of hay. Those good folks who believe that necessity and government fiat are all that are necessary to justify the issue of paper money might learn something from the plight of Austria, Germany, and Italy if they had anything to learn with.

Government paper money can be justified in theory but in practice it nearly always results in repudiation. Making money with printing presses is an industry that should be very carefully regulated and is likely to result in ruin if practiced too industriously. Still there are other fiscal policies that are more as hurtful. The contraction of the currency by government agencies or through control of money supply by private interests is almost as dangerous but does not hurt the same sort of people. Inflation makes hard times for the rich and contraction is a calamity for those who are in debt or who must work for wages.

This will be a real fine old world when human wisdom solves all the problems for which greed and ignorance have failed to find answers.

## Vital Relation Of The Farmer Member To His Organization

(Continued from page 1)

operative organization alive and ready for business, but not necessarily keeping it doing business unless it can do business at a profit. It must, however, always be ready to function at a moment's notice. The only way it can do this is to maintain an efficient manager and proper equipment. If the members are required to pay into the treasury of their cooperative association a small share of the increase which has been brought about by the establishment of the association, it will very often solve the problem and will permit the members to do business elsewhere.

Saline county is to have a trial stretch of gravel road. If this work is done right it will prove a hard blow to the hard surfaced road booster and will be a boon to the farmer who will not have to mortgage his future to keep up and pay the initial cost.

An interesting story in the current issue of the Kansas Farmer tells of one man whose flock of 177 hens paid him an income of \$125 an hour. Are your hens doing that well?



## Boys' and Girls' Club News

## CLUB GIRLS BECOME REAL LEADERS IN COMMUNITIES

By MILDRED E. YULE

When girls' clubs were first introduced in South Dakota, many people thought the organizations merely a fad, but they have had to change their opinions, after watching 2,227 enrolled girls and young women work in clubs last year. Organizations have grown and developed rapidly since 1918, and now every part of the state has its girls' clubs. To illustrate what this one phase of extension service accomplishes, the story of the Hub club at Aberdeen may be told to show what these groups over all of South Dakota accomplish.

The girls' club of Brown county have in the last four years developed from amateur canning demonstration teams into real factors in community life, so that at present they train younger girls and lead in club work themselves. Among the girls who were members of the first organization, one at local organization, while two others attend state college.

In 1918, girls of Brown county were first interested in this work through May Kiehlman, assistant leader in the state. They organized, using the canning project as a start. Then they studied clothing; last year they worked out "the own your room" plan.

In the sewing club the girls were able to turn out party, sport and tailored dresses which would easily pass for clothes made by professional dressmakers. While ornate dresses with hats to match, fluffy graduation frocks made with little expense, heavy silk dresses for spring, and sport dresses of plaids and contrasting colors with fine tucked vests and collars were the result of this work in the Hub club.

The effect of the "own your room" project has been seen at State college, where two former club girls have the most attractive of all dormitory rooms, because they learned how to decorate curtains and waste baskets, enamel their own toilet articles and arrange room furnishings artistically.

Club work with these girls in Brown county not only instilled in them a desire for education, and made them but it fitted them for leadership. During a Brown county milk campaign all the club girls took an active part and many of them are now teaching younger girls club work. The same is true over the state. Older club girls are becoming real community leaders.

Brown county clubs have been assisted and directed by the demonstration leader, Edith A. Sloan, who has worked untiringly to make the girls important factors in community life.

Twenty-three women of Grundy county, Iowa, met at the farm bureau office recently in that county and heartily endorsed girls' club work for Grundy county. Girls, therefore, will be represented at the several shows next year from this county.

## MY FIRST YEAR IN THE POULTRY CLUB

By Sarah Baskins, Bishopville, S. C.

I wanted a brood of chickens different from all other club members around me. In the "Progressive Farmer" I saw White Wyandottes advertised at "Hollow Oak Farm." I ordered one cockerel at \$3.00 and five pullets at \$3.00.

Some one asked me where I got the money to pay for them. All my life I have kept a savings account in the bank. So I gave my own check for \$18.00.

From Miss Ketchin, our county agent, I got government plans for a fowl house. It was built of rough lumber and most about \$20.00. My food cost about \$3.50. I fed the chickens on table scraps and clabber as well as the grains.

My chickens won the following prizes:  
Cock—first prize \$3.00  
Hen—second prize 2.00  
Pullet—First Prize 3.50  
Hen—Third prize 1.00  
Pullet—Second prize 3.00  
Cockerel—Fourth 1.00  
Poultry club work is fine and I wish every boy and girl in South Carolina would join a club.

## INDIANA BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK

By Junior Corn Club

A Junior Corn Club was formed last fall by the boys taking Agriculture of the 7th and 8th grades in the schools of Piquette county, Indiana. There are 139 of them, and they were required to select 100 ears of corn from the stalk. From this corn the boys selected the fifty best ears for showing at the County Corn Show, for which the bankers of the county will offer prizes. This work is required as part of their class work, for which the boys are allowed 20 per cent credit on their grade in Agriculture.

In the Pig Club work in Crawford county, 11 of the boys completed the feeding project and the two breeding gilt projects. One boy in the feeding project fed his pig skim milk three parts and corn one part by weight, and allowed the pig to run on pasture. His pig gained 235 lbs. in 145 days, making an average of 1.63 lbs. a day, and a feed cost of nine cents per pound gain. His pig was finished ready for the market. Another boy fed his pig all the skim milk the pig wanted with a small amount of mill feed in the milk at each feed. This pig had a small lot to run in. The pig gained 235 lbs. in 145 days, making an average gain of 1.62 lbs. daily, and a feed cost per pound of .98c. This pig had a larger frame than the pig mentioned above, but on account

of the restricted grain ration, it did not have the finish that a market pig should have. The value of skim milk and pasture for growth, and the value of corn for fattening, were clearly demonstrated to the boys.

In the Pig Feeding contest in Madison township, Jay county, twelve finished and all had secured rapid economical gains. Wm. H. Wherry made an average daily gain of two pounds for the 100-day feeding period. His cost of gain was \$3.75 per hundred pounds. Nellie Pearson's pig weighed 65 pounds at the beginning and 267 at the close, gaining slightly more than a two pound average daily gain. The pig was six months and eight days old. Her cost of gain was \$4.29 per cwt. She used a ration of corn and milk, a little bran and oil meal. This was the first club in the township and created a great amount of interest.

The Boy's Demonstration Team of Lake county composed of three members of the Calf Club gave their demonstration "The Production of Sanitary Milk" at the Indiana State Fair on Sept. 7, at the Lake county Fair on Sept. 21-22, and at St. Paul Oct. 7, where they represented the State of Indiana. Lake county and their club at the National Dairy Show. All expenses of the State Fair trip and St. Paul show are borne by the Indiana State Fair Board and the National Holstein Association.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE BOY MAKES PIGS GAIN 1 1/2 POUNDS A DAY

Making his two pigs gain at the rate of more than 1 1/2 pounds a day apiece, and at the same time raising potatoes at the rate of 320 bushels to the acre last fall, is Stanley Burleigh, who has been a boys' and girls' club member for six years. Stanley has won several prizes in past years. A year ago through the use of a self-feeder he brought two pigs up to a total weight of 520 pounds; but this year, even with this record, he set out to "make the best better," and achieved a total weight for two pigs of 592 pounds. When asked what was the most helpful thing he experienced in his six years of club work, he replied: "It was the disappointments and failures, for when a crop failed or a pig disappointed me, it made me want to fight harder the next time I had a chance."

## BOY GETS \$1,000 FOR HOGS FATTENED DURING LAST YEAR

Stillwater, Okla.—Up to the time Carl Clark, an Ellis county farm boy, joined the Tom Marks' pig club had years ago, not a purebred hog had been rooted in the Clark farm pastures, according to a report which Carl has sent to the state club agent. And "Frankie," the Duroc-Jersey gilt the boy bought on the endless chain plan, was considered the poorest of a lot of five which the county agent had secured for his club members.

But "Frankie" turned out to be not only the best pig of the five but the best Duroc exhibited at the county fair this year and so successful fair that the boy's livestock venture that, in the three years intervening, nearly 500 purebred hogs have been raised on the Clark farm. Carl himself has fattened and marketed \$1,000 worth of hogs within the last twelve months.

"I joined the pig club because I like to work among livestock on the farm," Carl's report says, "but I also wanted to learn the scientific business of raising, fattening and marketing hogs. Besides I wanted to make some money to pay my way through college."

## WHY IS A Calf CLUB?

What is all this noise I hear about calf clubs mean?" asked a farmer of the New Jersey State College dairy extension specialist.

"It is true that the calf clubs in New Jersey have made a lot of noise. People are hearing about questions," M. Keeney, the specialist, replied. "This is as it should be, for the calf club movement is destined to bring a new and brighter day for the young dairymen of New Jersey. Through the calf clubs they are learning a great many things that will put dollars in their pockets when a few years from now these young men and women are farming for themselves."

You ask, "What does it all mean?" It means we are building for the future on the foundation of Better Livestock and Improved Dairy Practices.

"The boy or girl joins the club and buys a purebred tuberculin-tested calf, which is the foundation for a purebred herd which that boy or girl hopes to own some day. The boy or girl feeds and cares for the calf and comes to love this calf with an affection that develops a great liking and enthusiasm for the dairy business when it is associated with good purebreds."

## 33,945 BOYS AND GIRLS IN JUNIOR FARM CLUBS

Stillwater, Okla.—Thirty-three thousand nine hundred and forty-five Oklahoma boys and girls were enrolled in junior agricultural club work during the year 1922, according to the annual report of B. A. Pratt, state club agent, just filed with the director of the Extension Division of A. and M. College.

That is 8,949 more than the number enrolled in 1921 and sets a new record for the state. It is more than three times as many club members as were enrolled in Kansas during the year.

This number of projects carried by individual club members was 49,546, Pratt's report shows—a gain of 12,546, or 33.9 per cent. The number of organized clubs jumped from 684 in

1921 to 837 in 1922, a gain of 36.7 per cent. But greatest improvement of all was shown in the number of individual reports on projects, in that department club members showing a gain of 202.2 per cent.

Among the eighteen divisions of club work in the state, poultry club led with an enrollment of 10,558; pig clubs came second with an enrollment of 6,338, and canning clubs followed closely with 5,889.

Oklahoma county, with a total of 1,321, led all counties in the state in the number of projects carried by members, while Muskogee county, with 974, led in club membership. Individual members may enroll in as many as three projects. Oklahoma county leads the state in percentage of project reports filed, a complete report having been written on each of the 1014 projects carried by its 323 club members.

The Indiana Farmers Union at their state convention adopted the Farmers National Magazine as their state paper and in the future a section of that valuable publication will be devoted to Union interests in the Hoosier state.

## RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Whereas our Heavenly Father in his infinite wisdom has seen fit to call from our midst, Sister Mrs. Louis Schneider, widow of our beloved brother, Mr. Wm. Schneider, we, the members of the Vassar Local 1779, extend our heartiest sympathy to the bereaved ones on the hour of sorrow.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the bereaved family, a copy to the State Union paper for publication and a copy be recorded on the minutes of this local.

Secy. Herman A. Wigger.

Wm. C. Hanft, Pres.

WHEREAS, Brother Floyd Roberts has been by death removed from our midst, we, the members of the Vassar Local 1779, extend our heartiest sympathy to the bereaved family in the loss of this brother, this Union loses a true and loyal member and secretary who has been more than willing to do his duty as a member and also as a neighbor and friend.

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WHEREAS it has pleased God in his infinite wisdom to call from our midst, Sister Mrs. Louis Schneider, widow of our beloved brother, Mr. Wm. Schneider, we, the members of the Vassar Local 1779, extend our heartiest sympathy to the bereaved ones on the hour of sorrow.

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