



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation



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AMERICAN WHEAT MUST BE ADJUSTED TO DOMESTIC BASIS

Alex. Legge Gives Latest Facts Relative to World Wheat Outlook.

Anti-Dumping Laws Have Been Enacted by European Countries.

The following correspondence between Gov. George F. Shafer, of North Dakota, and Mr. Alex. Legge, Chairman, Federal Farm Board, was made public by the former today (Thursday, February 5, 1931), at Bismarck, North Dakota.

At the request of Gov. Shafer, who wished to have the information available for the spring wheat growers of his State before planting time, Mr. Legge gave the latest facts relative to the world wheat outlook and other reasons why the Farm Board is recommending the American wheat production be adjusted downward to a domestic basis.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bismarck, Dec. 22, 1930.
Hon. Alexander Legge, Chairman, The Federal Farm Board, Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Legge:

I have recently read with much interest the first annual report of the Farm Board and a bulletin issued by the United States Department of Agriculture on the world outlook for wheat. These documents contain a great deal of valuable information that I would like to see placed in the possession of every farmer in North Dakota.

Would it not be possible, Mr. Legge, for the Farm Board to prepare and distribute a concise statement on this matter, boiled down so that it could be easily read and digested by the average person, and containing the most essential known facts on wheat production at home and abroad, foreign market conditions, including definite information as to tariffs on wheat in European countries, anti-dumping laws, the present foreign demand for American wheat as compared with that of former years, etc.?

A statement of this character would be accepted as reliable by our farmers and it would be helpful to them in planning their farming operations for the coming year. Such information would also go a long way toward persuading our wheat growers to follow the recommendations of the Farm Board in the matter of wheat acreage reduction.

I should be very glad to assist the Farm Board in any way possible in bringing this important data effectively to the personal attention of the farmers in North Dakota.

Very sincerely yours,
Geo. F. Shafer, Governor.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 21, 1931.
Hon. George F. Shafer, Bismarck, North Dakota;
Dear Governor Shafer:

Replying to your letter regarding the wheat outlook would say we can see no improvement in the situation so far as the export of wheat is concerned.

The Liverpool market closed at sixty cents last night, March delivery. This is the lowest price at (continued on page 2)

TUNE IN ON WIBW THREE TIMES EACH DAY

Please listen in at 6:30 a. m., 12:20, noon, and 6:30 p. m., to station WIBW, Topeka.

We are sure that the information given out at these various periods is interesting and instructive.

We appeal now that the Local Presidents and Secretaries put on a campaign and raise your 1931 dues. A little additional effort on your part will do a lot of good and will put your program over in a big way.

Will those communities and counties that wish organization work done, get in touch with this office? Our men are busy men and we should know in advance of your wishes. We will cooperate with you in building up interest in addition to increasing our membership.

CAL A. WARD.

STABILIZATION IS STRICTLY AN EMERGENCY MEASURE

The Operation of Natural Laws Cannot Be Stopped Permanently, Says Farm Board Member.

Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation, at Jefferson City, Missouri, 11:00 A. M., Wednesday, January 28, 1931, Sam R. McKelvie, member of the Federal Farm Board, said:

The Agricultural Marketing Act is just what its name suggests: a law of Congress designed to develop a better marketing system for products of the farm. The law says this new system shall be based upon cooperative effort among producers. With that fact in mind the Federal Farm Board has undertaken to assist cooperatives in developing national and regional sales agencies that will provide bargaining power for the farmer and enable him to evolve the most practical and economical methods of distribution.

Seven cooperatives, national in scope and operation, have been established with the assistance of the Board; namely, the Farmers' National Grain Corporation, the National Wool Marketing Association, the American Cotton Cooperative Association, the National Livestock Marketing Association, the National Bean Association, the National Pecan Association, and the National Beet Growers' Association. Commodities like dairy products, fruits and vegetables and rice, that did not lend themselves immediately to national units for distribution, have been assisted on a regional basis. In addition to these, assistance has been rendered by the Board to the following commodities: Tobacco, poultry and eggs, potatoes, honey and seeds, including alfalfa and Red Top. On June 30, the Board had loaned nearly 200 million dollars for cooperative marketing and stabilization of the commodities aforementioned; nearly 50 million dollars of which had been repaid at that time.

The individual farmer wonders how all of this organization work of the Board and the money loaned by it have benefited him. Consider the Farmers' National Grain Corporation. This was the first of the national sales agencies that the Board assisted in

PRESIDENT CAL. A. WARD ANSWERS JOHN SIMPSON

National President John Simpson's Recent Vicious Attack on the Officials of the Kansas Farmers Union, Charging Disloyalty, Also Denouncing the Legge-Thomas-Simpson Controversial Committee's Report as a "Whitewash Affair," Stirred President Ward and the Following Radio Address Is the Result

It becomes my solemn duty at this time to come before you with this radio broadcast. I am speaking especially to the Farmers Union membership of Kansas, and in addition there are many who are tremendously interested in the Kansas Farmers Union and the program that we are promoting. The direct necessity of coming before you and bringing unto you facts which may reveal some things that are not altogether palatable to a few is not, of course, a pleasant thing to do. But in the name of common decency and in order to further strengthen and preserve the good name of the Kansas Farmers Union including its past and present leadership, I find myself so engaged.

National President John Simpson has for some time publicly and privately denounced in its entirety the Agricultural Marketing Act and the Federal Farm Board. Apparently, he has not been contented in stopping here, but in his rage and fury possibly looking toward self-aggrandizement in the public eye, he has resorted to the unethical tactics of besmirching personalities to the extent of resorting to name calling and that without cause or justification. The silver-tongued orator climaxed his many statements and speeches by talking for one hour on last Monday over the Milford Broadcasting station. Evidently his main purpose in making that speech was to romp on the officials of the Kansas Farmers Union, the investigation committee that recently went to Washington, the Agricultural Marketing Act, the Federal Farm Board, including Chairman Alexander Legge and Mr. C. E. Huff, an outstanding Kansan, who was formerly President of the National Farmers Union and is now President of the National Grain Corporation.

We take issue with Mr. Simpson only when he diverts from the truth. There were certain parts in his speech last Monday that I heartily concur in with him, but in the main, the speech was filled with contempt and bitterness. I certainly hold no grievance towards President Simpson or any one else simply because their views on certain matters do not agree with mine, but in the interests of harmony and progress it would seem to me to be wise on Simpson's part to not raise this controversial question relative to the Farm Board program in Kansas especially so since it is common knowledge to Mr. Simpson that at least two of the Farmers Union state wide business activities of Kansas are associated with this program in a definite way and for financial reasons. Mr. Simpson in his famous speech refers to the white-wash investigating committee of which I was chairman that went to Washington to investigate these controversial questions coming out of the Thomas-Legge-Simpson controversy with which many are familiar, as a joke, and absolutely worthless. Those of my hearers who are in possession of the reports and findings of this committee are privileged to judge for themselves the facts in the case. The question may come to some why this committee or who authorized it? Permit me to go back just a little and give you the origin of the committee.

When Mr. Simpson was made President of the National Farmers Union at the St. Paul convention, it at once became evident that the 10 states who were definitely aligned with the Farm Board program must do something about it. Hundreds of thousands of dollars being used from the revolving fund of the governmental treasury had to be reckoned with. It was unanimously agreed between state officials and representatives from these states that some one who at least was friendly toward the Farm Board must be chosen to represent us in matters pertaining to the Farm Board program. Mr. Simpson had wholly and completely disqualified himself to represent our interests because of his being an avowed opponent to the Agricultural Marketing Act and many times going on record as discrediting in its entirety the Federal Farm Board. An association was immediately formed for this purpose and Mr. C. E. Huff, former President of the National Farmers Union, was made our official representative. I was made chairman of the association and M. W. Thatcher of St. Paul, Manager of the Farmers Union Terminal Association, was made its secretary. The association was inactive until Mr. Simpson made public his comments on the Senator Thomas letter. A call was made for a meeting of these 10 states, and in addition to the state of Illinois now joined our ranks. Out of this meeting came the investigating committee that went to Washington. We did not proceed as an official committee from the National Farmers Union. We were representing this group of states and therefore had authority. In comment on our committee Mr. Simpson says that M. W. Thatcher holds a position similar to that of C. E. Huff. I want to say to the membership of the Kansas Farmers Union that Thatcher of St. Paul who is manager of the Farmers Union Terminal Association sustains the same relationship to the wheat growing states of the Northwest as Harry Witham who is manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association of Kansas sustains to the Farmers Union of Kansas, and is no way under the guiding hand of the Federal Farm Board. He charges also that both Thatcher and C. E. Huff are hired men of Alexander Legge, which is an absolute untruth. Mr. Huff draws his salary from the organization of which he is President, the Farmers National Grain Corporation. Thatcher is paid by the Farmers Union Terminal Association. When I informed Thatcher of Simpson's statements of last Monday, the following wire came in reply:

(continued on page 4)

President Ward to Speak Over WIBW Friday Night, February 6

President Cal A. Ward will speak during this week's regular Farmers Union Hour, which is broadcast on Friday of each week, beginning at eight o'clock.

The membership of the Kansas Farmers Union, as well as others who are interested in agriculture's problem, are urged to tune in, as President Ward will discuss some important phases of the present situation.

UNION OIL COMPANY HAS YEAR OF GREAT PROGRESS

Cooperators From Seven States Attend Annual Meeting of the Union Oil Company (Cooperative)

The annual meeting of the Union Oil Company (Cooperative) was held in North Kansas City, Missouri, January 13th. Cooperators from seven states attended, two of them traveling over 1100 miles. It was the largest meeting the company has ever held. Throughout the session a fine cooperative spirit prevailed. Practically all actions were by unanimous vote.

The spirit of the whole convention was well expressed by William Humphreys, a Farmers Union leader from South Dakota, when he said, in his stirring address, "I was sent down here to investigate this company. I am going back home to report that I have met one of the best cooperative groups I have ever seen assembled together. I have never seen a finer cooperative spirit prevail in any meeting. The constructive, progressive and forward looking manner in which you approach your problems, and the way you are solving them for the future, convinces me that the outlook for this company is unlimited, and I believe that cooperative groups throughout the United States will soon rally around the Union Oil banner."

Many Leaders Commend Record And Program For Future

Cooperative leaders from each state represented made talks. J. E. Rise, from North Dakota, pointed out the company's great possibility for service. "I predict," he stated, "the time will come when this company will be operating from coast to coast, and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico; we have caught the vision, and it is for each of us to do our utmost in spreading information about the company and its service."

That the cooperative oil program has been of great assistance in building the membership of the Kansas Farmers Union, was emphasized by A. M. Kinney, secretary of that organization. Mr. Kinney pointed out the necessity for cooperative or group action in purchasing petroleum products as well as in the cooperative marketing of farm products.

There were many other valuable and instructive remarks. Each speaker stressed the fact that his local company was making money and that Union Certified products were giving universal satisfaction. They all took an optimistic view of the future, and the great possibilities for service. Vice-president, W. A. Kearns, pictured the Union Oil Company as a sort of "melting pot" through which the members of the Farmers Union, the Farmers Equity and other farm organizations cooperate and are joined together in the building of one national company, for the cooperative marketing and distribution of petroleum products.

President's Reports Shows Growth

Howard A. Cowden, president of the company, made a comprehensive report of the development of the company during the twelve months past. His report showed, among other interesting things, that the 1930 sales of the company in dollars and cents were 261% over what they were in 1929. He explained that this increase had been made with prices on all commodities being materially lower. His report showed an increase in volume during 1930 of 233% in kerosene, 321% on gasoline, kerosene and distillate, and 251% on equipment, over 1929. It is interesting to note that the net profit showed the biggest percentage of increase, this being 17%. Mr. Cowden pointed out that this splendid increase had been made possible because of the large volume furnished by members of the company. His report showed an increase in the membership of 280% during the year.

Shareholders Declare 20% Patronage Dividend

The auditors report of 1930 reflected a year of successful operation for the company. The shareholders voted to pay 8% interest or stock dividend, to place \$3,700.00 in reserve, and to pay a patronage dividend to 20% of gross profits. The patronage dividend of one local company amounts to \$1,135.68. All present and past shareholders will receive this dividend with the financial statement and with the amount of refund.

Amendments To By-Laws

By unanimous consent, the bylaws of the company were changed to give each shareholder but one vote. Another amendment to the bylaws increased the number of directors to thirteen, and provides for dividing the territory in which the company operates into districts. Each district nominating its directors. The directors of the company increased as provided for in the amended bylaws; the additional ones are as follows: Howard A. Cowden, president, Kansas City, Mo.; W. A. Kearns, vice-president, Kahoka, Mo.; R. A. Hedding, secretary, Burlington, Colo.; A. W. Gale, assistant secretary, Chillicothe, Mo.; T. E. DeWitt, Green City, Mo.; R. J. Ackley, Garden City, Kans.; H. E. Witham, Kansas City, Mo.; O. G. Servis, Winfield, Kans.; S. S. Ebbert, (continued on page 2)

A LARGE PROFIT IS REPORTED BY JOBBING ASS'N

Connection With Farmers Nat'l Grain Corporation Has Been a Most Helpful One, Says Secretary H. E. Witham in Annual Report.

Advises Building of Million Bushel Terminal At Salina.

This is the 17th Annual Stockholders meeting of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association. The past year has been one of the most successful periods in the history of the organization, both from service and a net profit standpoint. We have added many new customers and stockholders to our list of Farmers Cooperative Marketing organizations. We have had many very knotty problems to solve in the past year. We have found a number of our own cooperative organizations that have needed help in a financial way, and during the year we have named the grain operations of 19 elevator associations. This has proved in almost every instance to be a very satisfactory arrangement and it has been the means of helping those organizations to take care of their members in their local community.

In the past year we have built an elevator at Phillipsburg and are operating it under the Farmers Union Jobbing Association at this time. However, the plans are to turn this elevator to the local organization at Phillipsburg as soon as they are financially able to take over the operation. We have operated this elevator the last two months of the year and in this time it has shown a very large volume of business and a satisfactory profit has been made on the business. As I reported to you last year, we are affiliated and are members of the Farmers National Grain Corporation, which is sponsored by the Federal Farm Board. I believe that our connections with this organization and the Agricultural Marketing Act have been a wonderful help and have been responsible to some extent for the large increase in the volume of business that we have had. They have under their control some six million bushels of storage in Kansas City, which has certainly been a wonderful help in being able to use these facilities whenever they are needed.

And had it not been for the Farmers National Grain Corporation through the operations of the Stabilization Corporation, wheat would certainly have been from 20c to 25c lower than it has been this year. While wheat has been cheaper than it has been in years, I think that we should not lose sight of the world conditions and give credit to those to whom the credit belongs. I understand from good authority that in our neighboring country, Canada, the farmer is only receiving from 20c to 25c a bushel on his wheat. So I think we have the Agricultural Marketing Act and the Federal Farm Board to thank for at least 20c a bushel on our wheat.

We have handled a little over ten million bushels of wheat the past year either on consignment or on storage and sale operation. This is more than twice as much as we handled a year ago. Over two million bushels of this amount has been handled through direct purchase and sale, and we have sold out of storage over seven hundred thousand bushels and more. I think the peak of our storage account this year would run close to two million bushels. We were able to advance 50c a bushel to the elevators on this wheat when it went into storage.

Salina Office

Our Salina office has been a very valuable asset to the organization, both in serving members in the vicinity of Salina and a connection with this organization through to the Farmers National. We have handled a large volume of grain in Salina. We also are agents and do the buying for the Farmers National at Salina. In fact, the latter part of the year, we bought almost all the wheat that came to Salina and turned it to the Farmers National Grain Corporation. The past year has been one of the most successful for this office. This office is managed by Mr. A. J. Neely. He has been with the organization for some time, in fact, started as a messenger boy and is handling the Salina office very successfully.

St. Joseph Office

Last year we established an office in St. Joseph thinking that there were a number of our members in North East Kansas that we could serve better by having an office at that point. This has proved so far very satisfactory, although the office has not shown any net profits, yet you can hardly expect to establish a new office at a place like that and have it break even the first year. However, our volume there has been very satisfactory and is getting better all the time. This office is handled by Mr. C. S. Neely who has been with the organization some eight or ten years. I am looking forward to this office being a very essential branch to this organization.

Grain has been the principal source of our income, although our merchandise department has more than paid its way. We have sold 185 cars of coal through this department, which is quite an increase over a year ago. Our mixed feed volume, which is the Gold Medal products, has fallen off some in volume. This, I think can be accounted for in the cheapness of all other grains. Our Tankage and Meat Scraps, which is Success Brand, has about held its own. Our Cottonseed volume has increased very materially. (continued on page 2)

THE MAN WITH THE HOE

(Written After seeing the painting by Millet)
God made man in His own image, in the image of God made He him. Genesis.

Bowed by the weight of centuries he leans
Upon the hoe and gazes on the ground,
The emptiness of ages in his face,
And on his back the burden of the world.
Who made him dead to rapture and despair,
A thing that grieves not and that never hopes,
Stolid and stunned, a brother to the ox?
Who loosened and let down this brutal jaw?
Whose was the hand that slanted back this brow?
Whose breath blew out the light within this brain?

Is this the Thing the Lord God made and gave
To have dominion over sea and land;
To trace the stars and search the heavens for power;
To feel the passion of Eternity?
Is this the Dream He dreamed who shaped the suns
And marked their ways upon the ancient deep?
Down all the stretch of Hell to its last gulf,
There is no shape more terrible than this.
More tongued with curse of the world's blind greed—
More filled with signs and portents for the soul—
More fraught with menace to the universe.

What gulfs between him and the seraphim!
Slave of the wheel of labor, what to him
Are Plato and the swing of Pleiades?
What the long reaches of the peaks of song?
The rift of dawn, the reddening of rose?
Through this dread shape the suffering ages look;
Time's tragedy is in that aching stoop,
Through this dread shape humanity betrayed,
Plundered, profaned, and disinherited,
Cries protest to the Judges of the World,
A protest that is also prophecy.

O masters, lords, and rulers in all lands,
Is this the handiwork you give to God,
This monstrous thing distorted and soul-quenched?
How will you ever straighten up this shape;
Touch it again with immortality?
Give back the upward looking and the light;
Rebuild in it the music and the dream;
Make right the immemorial infamies,
Perfidious wrongs, immedicable woes?

O masters, lords, and rulers in all lands,
How will the future reckon with this Man?
How answer his brute question in that hour
When whirlwinds of rebellion shake the world?
How will it be with kingdoms and with kings—
With those who shaped him to the thing he is—
When this dumb Terror shall reply to God,
After the silence of the centuries? Edwin Markham.

organizing. It is composed of twenty-seven group or regional cooperatives, operating in every state in which grain is grown. These cooperatives gather the grain from the local units and market it through the Farmers' National Grain Corporation, or subject to its supervision and control.

Since July 1, 1930, the Farmers' National Grain Corporation has handled over 90 million bushels of grain, thus becoming the largest grain concern in the United States. In addition to this the member cooperatives of the Farmers' National Grain Corporation have handled many millions of bushels.

The most of this grain was originated by the cooperative members of the Farmers' National Grain Corporation. The latter acts as sales agent for the cooperative, merchandising the grain through regular channels and secures for its members all of the benefits and profits that accrue from warehousing, improving the grades and merchandising. These profits belong to the member cooperatives and in turn to the farmers, who compose the membership of the cooperatives.

There has been no congestion or embargoes at terminal markets this year, despite the fact that carryover and deliveries of wheat were the largest in the history of this country. The Farmers' National Grain Corporation is on the market every day competing for the farmers' grain at the highest practical prices, consistent with demand. During the heaviest marketing period, the spread, or carrying charge between the cash and futures on wheat was approximately fifty percent less than the year before. This represented an immediate saving of several cents per bushel to the farmer, for the carrying charge comes directly out of the price paid the producer.

(continued next week)

A Kansas Farm "Bloc"

Organization Grows From a Luncheon in Topeka. Sixty-two Members from Rural Sections Attend and Decide to Meet Every Week to Discuss Pending Legislation

Topeka Bureau
The Kansas City Star
(By a Member of The Star's Staff)
TOPEKA, Jan. 27.—Kansas has a legislative farm bloc. It was organized today. It is too young as yet to determine what effect it will have on legislation but it may become a powerful figure before the close of the session.

The representatives of the farm organizations gave a luncheon today to the farm members of the house and senate. It was intended to be just a little friendly meeting of the farmers in both branches of the legislature. There are seventy farmers in the house and senate and sixty-two of them attended the luncheon.

But when the farm organizations had told the story of the measures they were interested in, chiefly the income tax and the reform of the state taxing system, the farmers thought the idea of a weekly meeting was pretty good and ought to be continued. Robert Hanson of Cloud County was named chairman of the Farmers' Luncheon Club. It was ordered that meetings be held every Tuesday noon until the end of the session. L. E. Webb, legislative representative of the farm organizations, was directed to obtain the reactions of the folks at home on measures before the legislature and to make weekly reports to these luncheons.

This is the first time in a Kansas legislative session that the farmers have sought anything like united action. There was no indication today that an attempt would be made to direct the way the farmer members would vote. But it is felt that this is

the point toward which the farmers are headed when it comes to a showdown on some legislation—Kansas City Times.

F. U. OIL ENLARGES BOARD

Company Holds Annual Meeting Here Tuesday

SALINA, Kans., Jan. 27.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Salina Farmers Union Co-operative Oil company was held Tuesday afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce rooms in the city hall. The officers were able to make a statement showing sound financial condition, they state. All of the retiring directors were re-elected with one exception, and the board was enlarged to include an additional member.

Members of the board are M. J. Werhan of Bennington; Wesley Pangrac of Culver; J. F. Komarek of Bawaria; A. W. Weycock of Falun; Frank Tromble of Kipp; J. A. Neely of Niles; I. E. Sewell of Minneapolis; C. C. Carey of Solomon; C. A. Ward and Charles A. Broom of Salina.

THROUGH FARM BOARD

65,000 Farmers Pledge to Sell Most of Their Grain Thus

ST. PAUL, Jan. 27 (AP).—Sixty-five thousand farmers comprising the Farmers Union Terminal Association in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and Wisconsin, will sell most of their grain through the Farmers National Grain corporation of the federal farm board after February 1, M. W. Thatcher, their general manager here, said last night.

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A. M. Kinney, Editor and Manager
Mary Riley, Assistant Editor

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

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

NATIONAL OFFICERS

John Simpson, President, Oklahoma City, Okla.
H. G. Keeney, Vice President, Omaha, Nebraska
James J. O'Shea, Secretary, Roberts, Montana

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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T. E. Howard, Denver, Colorado
E. H. Everson, Yankton, South Dakota
C. M. Rogers, Indianola, Iowa
Fritz Schultheiss, Wisconsin

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A. M. Kinney, Secretary-Treasurer, Salina, Kansas
John Frost, Conductor, Blue Rapids, Kansas
M. V. Gates, Doorkeeper, Logan, Kansas

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Rex Lear, Stafford, Kansas
J. C. Gregory, Osborne, Kansas
Ross Palenske, Alma, Kansas
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FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION—1146 Board of Trade Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., 915 United Life Bldg., Salina, Kans.; 1004 Corby Bldg., St. Joseph, Mo.

FARMERS UNION CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION—201 Oak St., Kansas City, Missouri.

FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION—400-3-10 Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Kansas City, Missouri; Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Wichita, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.—Room 202 Farmers Union Bldg., Salina, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION AUDITING ASSOCIATION—Room 308 Farmers Union Bldg., Thomas B. Dunn, Salina, Kansas.

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

FARMERS UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Farmers Union Building, Rex Lear, State Manager, Salina, Kansas.

THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION ROYALTY COMPANY—Room 311 Farmers Union Building, Salina, Kansas. G. E. Creitz, State Manager.

FARMERS UNION MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

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

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1931

SIMPSON HURTS FARM MOVEMENT

The radio address given Monday by John Simpson, president of the National Farmers Union was full of criticism, not only of the farm board and its personnel, and especially Alexander Legge, but also the various state officials of the Farmers Union who are not in sympathy with his radical views.

We agree with Simpson on some of his statements, but we believe his tearing down philosophy will not promote the welfare of agriculture. Everyone who has been following farm legislation for the last four or five years realize that the present bill is only a starting point. You could not expect an economic measure effecting so complicated a problem as agriculture to be a finished bill when passed.

There is no doubt but that the bill will have to be strengthened by amendments, but Simpson seems to be more intent on tearing down than in co-operating and making it possible to perfect the bill. Instead of building up his following he is rapidly bringing about a chaotic situation among the membership of the National Farmers Union. His prejudices make him unfit to head the national organization, and it is unfortunate that Simpson was elected to the presidency at St. Paul. There was sufficient evidence, even at that time, to indicate to the membership that a man of his type would not keep the state organizations working together as they should. He came to the Denver meeting in 1928 with dues in one hand and a club in the other, refusing to pay the state dues until they agreed to certain appointments that he wanted.

In his radio address he referred to a new organization that is being promoted, known as the National Producers Alliance. Although he disclaims any allegiance to this group, promoters have stated that he is sympathetic to the idea. In a conversation with officials of the Kansas Farmers Union, A. E. Bowen, national organizer for this new organization, stated that John Simpson said he would throw the entire power of the national Farmers Union back of this movement.

If the Farmers Union by-laws permit a recall, now is the time for the membership to exercise it. If he is not recalled, inside of a year John Simpson is likely not only to wreck the national organization by splitting it into factions, but to kill forever any chance for legislative aid for agriculture.—Salina Journal.

PARAGRAPHS FROM WASHINGTON

By W. P. LAMBERTSON

After hearing Homer Rodehever last Sunday night sing, "There's a Rainbow Shining Somewhere," I am feeling quite a little better.

Jefferson Davis was the Secretary of War under Pres. Pierce; Robert T. Lincoln filled the same place under Presidents Garfield and Arthur. Their pictures hang in the reception room to Secretary Hurley's office.

In the beautiful \$2,000,000 Constitution Hall, built recently by the D. A. R.'s, Thursday night forty different women's national patriotic organizations met together in the opening session of their sixth annual meeting. We were guests of the Kansas Regent. The National President of the American Legion Auxiliary is chairman of the conference.

Vice President Curtis and Mrs. Gann were the principal guests before 250 Kansans at our banquet here. We all met each other and had a fine time.

An oil well drilling contractor who came before the Senate Commerce Committee made a remarkable five minute speech, pleading for the unemployed who are sleeping on the ground around little fires in Texas. Only a few years before he had walked the roads hungry and without a dime.

Oscar DePriest, the able colored Representative of Chicago, was born in Alabama of parents who had been slaves. Several years of his boyhood were spent in Salina. As he made a stirring short speech yesterday it was interesting to watch the faces of the men from the South.

Over in old Virginia, the mother of Presidents, some of the rural schools have a pauper's bench, where, separated from the others, sit children whose parents are unable to support the school. Social and political recognition of these poor children there in after years is near unknown. How gloriously different is our Grand Old West!

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

C. A. WARD

FARM ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERS OCCUPY PROMINENT PLACE

I'm wondering if our membership are aware that the far morganizations of Kansas have gone together and established headquarters in Topeka, Room 300 Jayhawk Hotel, during the present session of the Legislature. Such is the case. At a recent meeting of the Committee of Farm Organizations, we choose Mr. L. E. Webb, of Dodge City, who has had legislative experience and contact. In addition, he is President of the Farmers Cooperative Grain-dealers Association, and is also a real Cooperator.

On last Tuesday, at the invitation of Mr. Webb, some sixty or seventy members of the Legislature had luncheon together and initiatory steps were taken to concentrate on definite legislation. Much publicity has already been given this famous "farm bloc." We suggest calling it the "Farmers' Legislative Club."

I was privileged to be in Topeka a couple of days last week and, believe me, irrespective of political affiliation, I find that in the main, especially in the Lower House, most of the members are tremendously interested in constructive legislation, especially as it applies to Agriculture. There are still, in both parties, a few of the "die-hards," who are thinking more as to how certain legislation will affect partisan politics, than they are the real good that will be derived by our citizens.

I haven't made any definite check but I'm sure a large percent of the House members belong to the Farmers Union, including a goodly number in the Senate. Let me suggest to our membership again that the standing of the Kansas Farmers Union ranks high at Topeka.

FARM ORGANIZATIONS OF KANSAS STAND FOR FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

Recognizing our State Co-operative laws as inadequate for proper co-operative expansions, we recommend our State Co-operative laws be amended to conform with the provisions of the Federal law, known as the Capper-Volstead Act.

Comment

This bill was introduced in the House by Rep. Scott of Stanton County, and in the Senate by Robert Hanson of Cloud County. This Bill proposes to amend our present Co-operative laws so as to conform with the Federal Law, known as Capper Volstead Act. The passage of this Act would simplify matters and of course, we are for it.

We recognize Kansas as having the best supervised State Warehouses of any state in the Union, but supervision is done by regulation rather than statutory amendments to our warehouse law that will properly protect the public and make our public storage more desirable.

Comment

This Bill has been presented to the Committee on Agriculture in both the House and the Senate and has our indorsement. This Bill enacts into law the principles of the program now being carried out by Mr. Johnson, present Chief Grain Inspector of Kansas.

We favor an oleomargarine or butter substitute license tax law which will adequately protect the dairy interests of the state. We urge the use of butter instead of oleomargarine or substitute in Federal and State institutions.

Two Bills are being introduced on the above recommendation. One Bill

Comment

provides that each and every wholesaler and distributor of butter substitutes shall be required to pay a license and is being introduced by Rep. Sawin of Washington County and Rep. Staadt, of Franklin County. The latter part of the above recommendation makes it mandatory that our Federal and state institutions use butter instead of oleomargarine or substitute. The present unheard of low prices in dairy products necessitates the passage of these Bills. We should demand, through legislation, that among others, the dairy industry of Kansas, be protected, as much as possible.

We favor the repeal of laws exempting from taxation fraternal societies and sororities, property held by cemetery corporations, and others that unfairly escape taxation.

Comment

In our struggle for equitable taxation, we are making the fight that fraternal societies and sororities and certain other corporations that at the present are tax-free, shall be put on the Tax Rolls, and taxed.

We favor the taxing of financial institutions on the same basis as other business institutions and general property.

Comment

We are opposed to an increase in the tax. Also, opposed to the repeal of the refunds of the gasoline tax. Of course, we stand for adequate regulation to prevent the abuse of it. There are those in the Legislature who favor the repeal of this refund provision, but the Farmers Union is most certainly against it.

We favor the present gasoline tax, and are opposed to any increase in the tax at this time of depressed agricultural conditions. In the event of any increase we must insist that the increase be returned to the counties and townships for road building and in lieu of the property tax. We are opposed to the repeal of the refund provision of the Kansas gasoline tax but favor adequate regulation to prevent abuse of it.

Comment

We demand that initiative steps be taken, looking toward an equitable tax program. The graduated income tax amendment should be re-submitted to the voters and we are sure at the next attempt, it will pass. My observations are, that the Lower House is favorable to such proposal. I am not sure about the Senate. You will recall we have the same personnel in the Senate, who were elected in 1928 and if the Kansas Senate refuses to meet the tax issue honestly and squarely, this whole issue will be carried to the state at large and the next election would promise to be an interesting one. Some Senators are keenly interested in the graduated income tax and equitable taxation.

We believe that a graduated income tax offers an effective and equitable method of relieving property of some of the unjust tax burden it now bears. We further believe that if properly understood it would meet with the approval of a large majority of our taxpayers.

We urge adequate appropriation for a building at Hutchinson State Fair grounds suitable to properly house and care for our 4-H Club boys and girls whenever the financial and agricultural condition will be found to justify such appropriation.

We favor the present 18 month redemption law.

We believe that Corporation farming retards and destroys community life and is not for the best interests of agriculture.

We favor legislation that will prohibit the granting of charters to Farming Corporations. If present Farming Corporations are operating under illegal charters, we recommend the Attorney-General be directed to bring suit to cancel charters or restrain such corporations from engaging in the business of farming.

Comment

Space forbids my making lengthy comment. There are a number of Bills in opposition to farming corporations, attacking same from various angles. Our stand is well known to our membership, relative to farming corporations. We have taken the initiative and led the fight in Kansas, and many groups have joined us since that time. We are asking that our membership including the locals and the county organizations, immediately get together and write or wire your Representatives and Senators, to stand and vote for the above recommendations. Better still, send your fellows to Topeka and get in touch with our legislative representatives, Room 300, Jayhawk Hotel, and we certainly will cooperate with you.

INTEREST KEEN IN ENTHUSIASTIC MEETINGS

Recently, I spoke twice in Chase County at Bazaar and Elk School houses. We had large, enthusiastic meetings and I was favorably impressed. I wish space would permit me to go into detail, and to tell of these good people in Chase County, who are standing by the organization in a very definite way. Permit me to say, the ladies in this County are taking a keen interest and their contributions are making the program interesting and effective. I shall never forget Chase County.

At Olathe, a rousing meeting was held at the County Court house, sponsored by the Farmers Union, the Farm Bureau, the Grange and the Chamber of Commerce. The Courtroom was well filled with attentive listeners, who passed a constructive list of resolutions and pledged themselves anew to go on with the program. Among others at this meeting, I met my good friends, M. D. Bartlett, J. C. Dogood, J. L. Chaney and many, many more. We ex-

pect in the near future to hold some meetings to further increase interest and build up the membership in Johnson County.

I went hurriedly on last Thursday, to Centralia, Nemaha County. I paused enroute at Topeka, long enough to pick up my old neighbor and good friend, Jim Anderson, who accompanied me. We arrived just after a sumptuous dinner had been served but the ladies at Centralia, in addition to a lot of other good qualities, are sympathetic and kind hearted and immediately supplied us with salads, chicken, pie, cake and all the rest of the essentials in making up a real feed. A dandy program was rendered and the theatre was well filled when I spoke. I met the principal of the High School, who kindly invited me to speak before the students. He called them from their classes to the auditorium and I was inspired, as I looked into the faces of some hundred and fifty boys and girls and suggested some things that I thought would be fundamental to the youth of our land, looking toward men and women of tomorrow, who will carry on the affairs of the community, State and nation, in a way that will contribute to the best interests of humankind, forever.

In closing, these are hard times. Money is scarce. People are almost frantic, but we will come out of it. The Farmers Union will go on. May we all renew again the pledge of loyalty, to our fellows and our organization.

THE INSURANCE CORNER

By CHARLES A. BROOM, Secretary

Why the additional charge for tenant occupied property? This question is asked us many times each week. The answer is that as a rule tenant occupied property is not as good or desirable as owner occupied farms. There are exceptions to this rule but not many. Then during the past few years the loss ratio on tenant occupied buildings has constantly increased until the increased rate was necessary.

The same thing is true of vacant property. Since November 1, 1930 we have been using the standard vacancy permit No. 2 which reduces the insurance one third during the time the buildings are vacant. If property is again occupied and we are notified and permit is cancelled the policy again reverts to its original status. Our reason for this is that these vacant buildings are more hazardous and depreciate much faster than a building in use. We hesitated to do this for a long time but were finally forced to make the change.

UNION OIL COMPANY HAS YEAR OF GREAT PROGRESS

(continued from page 1)

Quinter, Kans.; E. A. Backus, Wray, Colo.; C. A. Shoop, Holdrege, Neb.; E. M. Newcomb, Woonsocket, S. Dak.; and J. E. Rise, Scranston, N. Dak.

The bylaws were also amended to provide for the issuance of preferred Association For Employees Provides Life Insurance

An important action of the meeting was the organization of an Employees Association. The association will be operated for the benefit of the employees of the Union Oil Company and of its local member Companies.

The plan is, briefly, for the Union Oil Company to handle tires, the profit to be used to provide life insurance for all members of the Employees Association. Tires will be invoiced to the member companies at lower prices than they could be purchased from the tire companies, and yet the company will make a small percentage of profit.

Resolutions Invite Other Cooperatives Resolutions were adopted by the shareholders which commended the officers and directors for their successful management of the company. They also expressed gratitude to the Farmers Union, Farmers Equity Union, and other cooperative associations for their cooperation and support; also to a number of cooperative papers for making publicity given the company during the year.

Other resolutions were adopted which opposed the diversion of the gasoline tax from the road funds to pay expenses by various state legislatures, and warning the consumers in several states that the state legislatures are attempting to change the laws so that farmers will not be able to secure a refund of the gasoline tax used for taxators.

The resolutions also adopted by the shareholders are a cordial invitation to cooperatives which are handling old line brands to change to Union Certified and to work with the other cooperatives who are building their own brand. Members of the National Chain offer these cooperatives, in return for their patronage, membership in a "going concern," the Union Oil Company, (Cooperative).

A LARGE PROFIT IS REPORTED BY JOBBING ASSOCIATION

(continued from page 1)

We have sold 184 cars during the year. Our hay department has fallen off some.

I think our oil department has grown faster than any other commodity that is handled through this department. I also think that the oil business has been a better membership builder for the Farmers Union than any other commodity we are handling. Some of these oil companies that have been started have been very successful in a financial way. Their profits at some places are almost unbelievable. However, when you figure that all of our members use Petroleum products in some manner or other, and if we can depend on our members doing business with themselves, we can readily see that profits will be great. The Union Oil Company, which is a cooperative organization, and in which Kansas has four directors, has their own compounding plant and know exactly what goes into all their lubricating oil. They handle as good a gasoline as there is on the market and this organization is going forward by leaps and bounds.

State Office

We should be very appreciative and thankful for the loyal support and the help we have got from the State Office. Mr. Ward and Mr. Kinney and their whole office force have always been ready to preach the gospel of cooperation and give us a boost whenever the opportunity presented itself.

Field Service

This service is very valuable to the organization, both to the Farmers Union Jobbing Association and the Farmers Union in general. This service is manned by J. O. Newberry of Alton who has spent almost his whole life in some branch of cooperative work, being a farmer, afterwards running a cooperative elevator and now one of our valuable field men. D. E. Wallace is another one of our field force and comes from Stockton, Kansas, out of one of the most loyal elevator associations in the State of Kansas. There was a time during the early part of this organization that had it not been for his loyal support it is a question whether we would

have had business enough to have justified our existence. The South East territory of this work is being taken care of by Mr. Harry Neath who has also spent his life in the cooperative cause, always ready to stand up and defend the cooperative movement against all kinds of odds. Mr. Neath at this time is also taking care of our Loan Division in connection with the Farmers National Grain Corporation. This service is quite expensive, yet it is indispensable especially when we can get the services of as competent and loyal men as we now have.

Recommendations

I would recommend at this meeting that steps be taken to build a terminal elevator at Salina, Kansas. I would say about a million bushels of grain, I think would take care of that point for some time. It might be better to build a head house that would take care of another million, in case that we should want to build on and need more storage facilities. I think we can get help from the Federal Farm Board through the Agricultural Marketing Act to build this with cheap money.

The profits for the past year in this organization will run around \$90,000.00. At the time of writing this report the audit is not quite completed, but I think these figures will be very close. I would recommend that this profit be set up to the credit on a pro-rata basis to each of the organizations who have furnished the business. But I think it very necessary to keep the profits in the organization for a while at least especially if we decide to build this terminal facility at Salina. When I look about me and see the number of organizations that really need help it makes me wonder whether we could not do more good with this money by keeping it in than by ever paying it out. However, that is a matter for the stockholders and directors to decide. I certainly would hate to see the profits all paid out at this time and leave us without ample capital to do business in times like these.

We have been able to get all the needed finance that we want from the Farmers National Grain Corporation at a very low rate of interest and this has aided us very materially in the operation of our own business and in the helping in a financial way of Associations that would need help just for a few days.

Directors

I cannot say too much for the splendid group of men you selected as your directors. They are an outstanding, capable group. Throughout the year they have manifested a very keen interest in the affairs of our association. They have given freely of their time and ability. I want to emphasize that your Board of Directors have worked in perfect harmony during the year and every action taken has been by unanimous consent. Much of the progress made during the year can be attributed to their thoughtful efforts. They are practical and foresighted men who are a hundred percent Farmers Union and are willing to go all the way to put this cooperative movement across. They have given me their loyal support and we at our wise counsel has gotten us over many knotty problems that we had had to solve the past year.

Office and Accounting

Our accounts are audited quarterly by the Farmers Union Auditing Association, and a great deal of the efficiency in which our accounts are handled should be given credit to Mr. Dunn, Manager of the Auditing Association. We have had many occasions the past year to go to him for advice and counsel. He has been ready and willing at all times to give us the best there is in the way of accounting and office supervision. Mr. R. R. Jarrett is at the head of this department and has been with the company a number of years. Our office force I think is second to none. We have handled a large volume of business with much less expense than similar organizations of this kind. Everyone seems to like their work and are very loyal to the organization and the Farmers Union program in general.

In conclusion I want to say that although we are going through one of the worst depressions that I have ever known in my life time, yet it seems to me that prospects are brighter for the future than ever. We are commanding recognition in business, financial, and legislative programs, and while the work has been very strenuous, yet it has been a pleasure the

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE

If members of the Union have anything to sell or exchange, they should advertise in this department. Rates 2 cents a word per issue. If run 4 times 10c per word for the four issues. Count words as they appear. "For Sale" or "Wanted to Buy" and each initial or figure in the address. Compound words count as two words. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

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WE SELL Daily new-caught handles and salted Lake Superior herring in lots of 50 and 100 lbs. Prices respectively \$5.50 and \$5.25. Ref. Commercial State Bank. J. Knarvik's Fisheries, Box 864, Two Harbors, Minn.

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Red Clover \$11.00; Alsike \$11.00; Alfalfa \$15.00; White Sweet Clover \$4.00; Timothy \$4.50; Mixed Alsike and Timothy \$5.50; All per bushel. Extra fine. Samples and catalog upon request. Standard Seed Co., 21 East Fifth St., Kansas City, Mo.

PLANTS

Frost-Proof Cabbage and Bermuda Onion Plants. Open field grown, well rooted, strong. Treated Seeds. Cabbage variety name. Early Jersey Wakefield, Charleston Wakefield, Succession Copenhagen, Early Dutch, Late Dutch, Postpaid: 200, 75c; 500, 1.00; 1,000, 1.50; 2,000, 2.50; 4,500, Express Collect: 2500, 4.00. Prizetaker, Crystal Wax and Yellow Bermuda, Postpaid, 500, 75c; 1,000, 1.25; 2,000, 2.00; 4,500, 3.50. Full count, prompt shipment, safe arrival, satisfaction guaranteed. Write for Catalogue. UNION PLANT COMPANY, TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS.

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ALFALFA SEED

Hardy Type Common Variety Per bushel \$6.50, \$8.40, \$10.20, \$11.40. Grimm Variety Alfalfa Seed, \$14.00, \$16.50, \$18.00; Unhulled White Sweet Clover \$4.00, \$4.50; Hulled or Scarified, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.40; Medium Red Clover, \$11.40; Alsike Clover, \$10.50. Best Price. Write today for Samples, 40 Page Catalog, Lowest Prices. All Kinds Farm and Garden Seeds. KANSAS SEED CO., SALINA, KANS.

ALFALFA SEED Kansas or Utah grown, hardy types \$7.00, \$8.00, \$11.00; Grimm variety alfalfa, \$12.00, \$14.00, \$16.00. Sweet clover \$4.20, \$5.00; Alsike, \$10.50 all per bushel of 60 pounds, bags free. Write for samples and prices of other seed. Salina Seed Co., Salina, Kans.

We Pay Up to \$10 a pound for roots, herbs, barks and seeds. Dandelion, burdock, parsley, lettuce leaves, chervil, bark, clover roots, rose buds etc. Over 50 varieties. Illustrated instruction book and price list 10c. LUTHER HERB CO., Box 72, Hermansville, Michigan.

past year. At times I have thought that I was not big enough for the job or that the job was too big for me. Yet I have given you my very best and my undivided time. The auditor's report will be given by Mr. Dunn of the Kansas Farmers Union Auditing Association which will speak for itself.

H. E. Witham.

AMERICAN WHEAT MUST BE ADJUSTED TO DOMESTIC BASIS (continued from page 1)

which wheat has sold at Liverpool since 1928. The price of July futures at Chicago yesterday, which reflects the grain trade's estimate of the price for the coming crop, was sixty-five and one-eighth cents, which would work back forty cents or less on the North Dakota farms.

The South Equatorial countries, such as Argentina and Australia, have just harvested a crop far in excess of the previous year, and their grain will, for months to come, be crowded on an unwilling market. Financial conditions are so bad in some of these large exporting countries that they will be forced to sell whatever they have regardless of price.

At the time I talked to your people at the North Dakota Fair, I pointed out the further menace of Russia as a supplier of wheat. At that time the best information available indicated their exports for the past season's crop would only be around twenty million bushels. As a matter of fact they have shipped practically four times that amount and claim that their yield of the 1930 crop was some four hundred million bushels above the previous year. Their planting program calls for a further increase of nineteen per cent for next season, and again, the need of the Soviet Government for foreign exchange is resulting in their selling anything they have to offer at prices far below what the farmers in this country can hope to meet.

You will recall that in the pre-war days Russia for many years had been in either first or second place as an exporting nation on wheat and their latest figures on last year's production were far in excess of any previous record and they are going ahead in an effort to again increase it for 1931.

As we see it, the American farmer got into this deplorable position on wheat rather unconsciously without realizing just what was taking place. The records show that for fifty-one consecutive months, that is from August, 1926 until November of last year, the visible supply of wheat, both on our domestic basis as well as world stocks, showed a constant increase, every month during that period showing a larger visible supply than was on hand during the same month of the preceding year. The surprising part of it is that the breakdown didn't come sooner.

The world acreage in recent years has been increased something over twenty per cent without any corresponding increase in consuming demand. In fact, the per capita consumption in this country has declined about seven-tenths of a bushel.

All of which leads us to the conclusion that whatever your farmers may do towards replacing wheat production (continued on page 4)

