

Minutes of the Conference

History of Another Effort Made to Co-ordinate the Work of the Two Pooling Associations Operating in Kansas

A meeting of representatives of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association, the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association and the American Wheat Growers Association, Inc., was held in the Coates House at Kansas City, Mo., on Monday, September 3, 1923. The following named persons were present: George C. Jewett, Minneapolis, Minn.; W. H. McGreevy, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Abe Slaught, Hastings, Nebraska, for the American Wheat Growers Association; John Tromble, Salina, Kansas; John Vesecsky, Timkin, Kansas; S. C. Towne, Osborne, Kansas; H. E. Witman, Cawker City, Kansas, representing the Executive Committee of Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association. G. A. Keller, C. E. Cox, W. F. McMichael, and H. E. Wiley represented the Kansas Wheat Growers Association. L. E. DeVoss, O. K. Marley, B. E. Corporon, A. F. Nofske, Wilbur Young and W. C. Lansdon also attended.

George C. Jewett was elected chairman of the meeting and W. C. Lansdon was designated to act as secretary. The following memorandum was a basis for proceeding was then read.

On Saturday, August 25, 1923, an informal meeting of representatives of the American Wheat Growers, Inc., the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association, the Colorado Wheat Growers Association, the Kansas Wheat Growers Association, the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association, the Association, the Farmers Union Jobbing Association and the Kansas Farmers Union was held in the Coates House at Kansas City, Mo. All who attended agreed that it is highly desirable:

FIRST—To amalgamate the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association;

SECOND—To secure the admission of such an amalgamated or federated association into the American Wheat Growers Association;

THIRD—To set up and conduct in the Kansas City, market a sales agency or corporation to serve all the wheat growers groups in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and if possible in Oklahoma.

To secure these objects agreed to as vital by all in attendance it was suggested by representatives of the various Farmers Union groups and concurred in by all others present that the matter of working out the details for the amalgamation of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association so that both groups might be combined for operations and for the purpose of constituting a single Association should be referred to a conference committee made up of the members of the respective executive committees of the two associations together with George C. Jewett, George Duis and W. H. McGreevy. It was understood that the plan worked out by the conference committee should be referred to the full board of directors of each association for ratification. The date for the meeting was set for Monday, September 3rd in the Coates House at Kansas City, Mo. It was also understood that in the event of agreement on a plan likely to be accepted by the two groups the conference should proceed to consider the matter of organizing a sales agency at Kansas City, Mo.

W. C. Lansdon was designated by George C. Jewett, all present concurring, to make a memorandum of the action of the informal group and transmit it to all parties interested. After the reading of this memorandum W. C. Lansdon acting for the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association submitted two papers as a basis for the discussions of the conference. The first paper was:

SUGGESTIONS

For an Agreement Between the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association.

FIRST—Inasmuch as the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association each has a considerably body of valid contracts with wheat growers that cannot be modified before expiration with risk of invalidation we consider it essential that the legal identity of each association shall be maintained for the present.

SECOND—It is agreed that both Associations are engaged in the same work, that is in pooling and marketing wheat grown in Kansas, and are securing members and conducting operations in conformity with legal contracts substantially identical in terms. Each Association is composed entirely of members who are engaged in the production of wheat in Kansas. There is no defensible reason, therefore, for any competition or conflict between these two groups of farmers whose interests are absolutely identical and whose plans are substantially the same.

We feel therefore that an adjustment of all differences between the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association is desirable and vital to the interests of growers of wheat in Kansas. We suggest the following as a basis for such an adjustment:

FIRST—That all conflict and competition between the two associations shall cease and determine with the signing of this agreement and to this we ask that the Boards of Directors of the two Associations through their proper agents shall order that all solicitors for membership of each of the said Associations shall hereafter refrain from criticizing the contracts, results, or official and operating personnel of the other Association and to make any violation of such order by any one in the employment of the Association in any capacity a cause for instant discharge from the service or employment held by such offending person.

As the membership agreements and marketing contracts of the two Associations are substantially identical we agree that the membership solicitors and the official personnel of each Association shall discuss only the merits of the contracts, plans and operations of the other association and that failing to secure signature to one contract the other shall be offered to and explained to the grower or growers who are being canvassed as prospective members of the Association represented.

SECOND—Economy and efficiency in operations and sales through a single sales organization is fundamental to the purposes of the members of each association and the members of each association and the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association be federated for operating purposes and that such federated association shall be under the direction of a joint board of control made up of two members of each Association respectively and of George C. Jewett, the general manager of the American Wheat Growers Association.

THIRD—That the federated Kansas Wheat Growers Association shall be admitted to membership in the American Wheat Growers Association as a single unit and that each of the two federating Associations shall select one member of the Board of Directors of the American Wheat Growers Association.

FOURTH—The federation hereinbefore suggested having been accomplished and membership in the American Wheat Growers Association obtained it is understood and agreed that all operations in selling shall be in conformity with the basic agreement or by laws of the American Wheat Growers Association.

FIFTH—Recognizing the necessity for rigid economy in every detail of organization and operations we agree that the joint board of control set up to direct the affairs of the federated association herein contemplated shall have full authority to reorganize the offices and the employed personnel of each association, to change the location of general offices, whenever necessary in their judgment to do and to do and perform all other things needful to carry out the purposes for which the member associations are organized and not in any way in conflict with the contracts and by laws of the respective associations.

SIXTH—That this agreement shall be submitted by mail to each director of each of the federating associations and upon the written approval of three-fifths of the directors of each of the associations it shall become effective and binding on both.

The second paper to be considered a supplement to the first if the first should be accepted or as an alternative plan in the event of disagreement on the first was as follows:

Plan for a New Pooling Agreement for Kansas

Whereas, the success of co-operative marketing must depend very largely on the volume of any given commodity under contract which should not in any event be less than fifty per cent of the production of the crop organized, and

Whereas, after three years of continuous work less than ten per cent of the wheat production of Kansas has been pooled with no immediate prospect of membership sufficient to secure control, therefore be it,

Resolved, that a committee on organization shall be constituted and authorized to draw a new wheat pooling contract for Kansas with terms in conformity with the Standard Marketing law of Kansas and that such new contract shall be offered to all persons solicited for membership in the Kansas Wheat Growers Association or the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association, and further be it,

Resolved, that such new contract shall not be effective until it has been signed by farmers producing an annual average of 50,000,000 bushels of wheat and that when such fifty million bushel sign up has been secured the new association shall be incorporated and begin operations and that each member of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association shall be entitled to membership in the new association by signing the contract but without any further payment of membership fees, and further be it,

Resolved, that no fees shall be asked of farmers for signing the new association contract but that one of

the conditions of the contract shall be that five dollars shall be deducted from the proceeds of the sale of each signer's wheat during the first year of operations, except that members of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and of the Farmers Union Marketing Association signing the new contract shall not be required to contribute to the organization expenses of the new association, and further be it,

Resolved, that upon the incorporation of a new wheat growers association as herein recommended the respective Boards of Directors of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association shall take all the steps necessary to liquidate the business and transfer the assets and books of their respective associations to the legally elected officers of the new wheat growers organization, and further be it,

Resolved, that these resolutions shall be submitted to directors of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association and that upon approval of this plan for a new association by three-fifths of such directors of each association it shall then become the duty of George C. Jewett together with such others as he may invite to assist him, to draw an association agreement, a marketing contract and appoint an organization committee for the new association, and further, be it,

Resolved, that time limit for securing the sign up of the fifty million bushels of wheat required for the incorporation of the new association shall be on the expiration of the existing contracts of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association.

After an informal and general discussion of the two papers the representatives of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association asked for a conference recess of thirty-five minutes in which to consider the two plans and formulate amendments thereto. When the conference re-assembled President C. E. Cox of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association presented the following FIRST—In order to promote economy and efficiency in operations and sales and to eliminate competition, we recommend that the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association organize an association for their joint use in marketing wheat in Kansas City, Mo., or use a company which is already organized, jointly for such purposes and that such marketing agency in Kansas City, Missouri, shall be so organized and conducted that the benefits thereof and any profits which shall arise from the operation thereof shall be distributed to the two associations on the basis of the business furnished by each of them.

SECOND—We further recommend that this arrangement shall continue until the 15th day of May, 1924, with the understanding that in all respects the two Associations shall co-operate with each other and with the hope that the relations of the two Associations shall become so intimate and harmonious that a different arrangement shall and can subsequently be made which will involve a much closer union between them.

THIRD—If the American Wheat Growers Association, Inc., or any other co-operative marketing association which might need a sales agency in Kansas City should desire to use such sales organization we believe that such an association should be given membership in the same terms as those enjoyed by the original organizers of it. The sales organization at Kansas City therefore be organized so that new members could be admitted and other co-operative marketing associations should be invited to join in the organization of such sales agency.

After the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association representatives had considered this proposed change in the agreement it was impossible for them to concur in the changes suggested. He based the action of his board on two points, first that all contracts with growers provide for the organization as soon as possible of a single sales agency for all pooled wheat, and second, that the amendments appeared to regard the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association as a possible partner in a new sales organization contrary to the spirit of the contract that the National sales agency should have complete control and direction of all sales.

There being no agreement on the terms of the first paper the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association asked for the consideration and discussion of the second plan for organization of a new wheat pool in Kansas to become effective on signing up contracts for 50,000,000 bushels of annual production. After a private consultation President Cox with his board the Kansas Wheat Growers Association stated that on account of the difficulty and expense of securing a 50,000,000 bushel sign up as proposed and for other reasons his Association could not at this time engage in any such undertaking.

Dr. W. H. McGreevy, one of the representatives of the American Wheat Growers Association, Inc., then made a brief address in which he thanked all in attendance for their

presence and expressed the hope that the plans that day rejected might yet be adopted in some form and that a controlling sign up or pool of Kansas Wheat might soon be obtained. The conference, then adjourned.

W. C. LANSDON, Sec.

Quits Racing With Kansas

Minnesota Formerly Leader In Wheat Finds Dairying Pays Best

St. Paul, Minn.—Twenty years ago Minnesota and Kansas were staging a close race for the championship in wheat production. The outcome of the contest was uncertain each year until the final estimates were in, and then, no matter which won, the score was close enough to make the race a good sporting event.

It used to be a thrill for this state to read the final government figures and learn that she had noded the Jayhawk state out by a few thousand bushels, or to find that by an equally small margin she had taken second place, with Kansas first.

No Profit in Contest

It was thrilling, but after a decade or more Minnesota began to find, when she balanced up the books at the end of the year, that it wasn't wheat, the fields were becoming weedier and weedier, and the soil thinner and thinner. Meantime, the farmers were becoming poorer and poorer.

But Minnesota had real sporting blood in her veins. If she couldn't excel in one thing, she would go in for another. So she took up dairying, and last year—1922—she headed the list in another line. In other words, she produced in twelve months 170,463,000 pounds of creamery butter, and defeated Wisconsin, her nearest rival, by 28,228,000 pounds. The victory was more decisive than any she ever gained over Kansas in the wheat game—and it paid in dollars and cents.

Reduction Since 1904

In 1901 Minnesota had more than 6 million acres of wheat, and led every other state in the union. For the next seven years her acreage was well above 5 million annually, with Kansas her only rival for first place. Beginning in 1909 the state began deducting its acreage and by 1923 had reduced the crop to 1,714,000 acres. The 1922 crop amounted to 1,939,000 acres.

It is the old story. The one crop system didn't pay. Farmers saw that diversification had to come. They began adding a few cows year by year. Soon they learned that they were making more from their wheat than they had ever made from wheat, so they bought more cows. Each year on the average farm the wheat acreage was cut down and a few more acres of feed crops were planted.

The Growth in Dairying

In 1901, when the state had more than 6 million acres of wheat, the number of milk cows in the state numbered around 800,000. Today it is more than twice that number. The increase has been gradual, but most of it has been within the last nine years.

This table gives the number of milk cows in the state for each year since 1915.

1915	1,226,000
1916	1,240,000
1917	1,302,000
1918	1,323,000
1919	1,368,000
1920	1,352,000
1921	1,578,000
1922	1,578,000
1923	1,641,000

Now Wheat Is Threat

Dairying is now the greatest money producer in Minnesota agriculture, according to Andrew Boss, professor of farm management at Minnesota agricultural college, with corn second and wheat third.

"Dairy products in 1919, the last year for which I have figures, were valued at 166 million dollars," said Professor Boss. "Our corn that year brought 110 million dollars and our wheat 88 million dollars. The turn from wheat to dairying has been our salvation. Farmers as a rule have had hard times in the last few years, but our dairy farmers have come through the depression in good shape. All through the financial stress the dairy sections have not been troubled by credit. In sections which have not yet given up wheat there has been trouble. However, the state as a whole has come through this depression better than any other in its history. The dairy cow has been responsible.

Never Go Back to Wheat

"Minnesota will never go back to wheat raising. Even in the war, with the call from the government for wheat, the acreage was only slightly increased, because dairy products were needed, too. And as soon as the war was over, down went the wheat acreage again. It is the lowest since the state was settled, and there is every indication it will go still lower."

STATES UNDER NEW AGENCY

The Northwest Wheat Growers Association quietly passed away at the last meeting of the board of trustees and the northwest states took their place by the side of the other states

to form the new American Wheat Growers Association. This marks a definite milestone on the road toward co-operative marketing of wheat. From a small pool of 1,000,000 bushels, the contracted wheat has grown to 50,000,000 bushels, which is the approximate amount that will be handled this year. If the new campaign for a 65 per cent sign-up is successful, one year from now will see close to 400,000,000 bushels under contract.

Washington, Oregon and Idaho constitute a zone under the national selling agency. A separate pool will continue in these states, the same as in the past. Arrangements, however, are being made to co-ordinate the selling program of this zone with the other states. Each zone carries its own selling expenses. Whenever wheat of one zone is sold through the sales department of another zone, a proportionate overhead charge is made.

Saturday Will Be Ford Day

Valuable Prizes For The Different Fords That Participate in Parade

The Farmers Union Educational Assembly and the Jayhawk Jubilee combined has forged ahead since the arrival of J. A. Darnaby, the managing director of the 1923 show and his assistant, Miss Helen Ryan.

It is planned to make this event one long to be remembered in Salina and this section of the state. Many added features over last years celebration will be in evidence, and Salina is planning to entertain the largest crowds in her history the week of September 24-29.

Big Fall Event

This great fall event has not been perpetuated solely with a view to entertainment. It is a business men's show and combines business and pleasure. Kansas City found after a fair trial last year that entertainment was not alone sufficient to attract and hold the attention of the people so added the Industrial show as the logical expression of something more substantial and representative of the city and essential. This year the Farmers Union will hold forth an interesting and profitable educational council which will serve to attract many thousands of farmers.

One of the really big days of the celebration will be on Saturday, September 29th. This will be known as "Ford Day." On this day there will be prizes for the different styled Fords that are entered in the parade which will occur at 11:30 a. m. Saturday.

Registration for this event may be made at the registration booth at the Memorial Hall grounds any day during the week and up to 9 a. m. Saturday morning. Every owner of the celebrated "lizzies" should get it out and compete for these prizes as it will be well worth your time and effort.

On Tuesday the big Floral Parade will be held at 11:30 a. m. Those who attended the show last year will remember the many beautiful floats that made up this spectacle. This year's event promises to surpass last year, and much time and money is being spent to perfect the different representations.

Thursday promises to be the biggest day of the week. This will be made possible by the baby parade which occurs in the morning after the closing of Farmers Union program at 11:30. You can be assured that you will see more babies than you ever saw in one bunch before and it will be well worth your time and effort to see this event.

Don't forget that the Farmers Union is furnishing free tents, free cots, free fuel and free water to their members attending the Educational Assembly and we want you to plan to come and spend the week here as our guests. We know that you will be well entertained and we hope that you will be materially benefited by our school at Oakdale Park.

80-CENT WHEAT GOOD FEED

When corn is 75 cents a bushel on the farm, 80-cent wheat can be fed profitably to all animals, including poultry, the Bureau of Animal Industry figures out. It will even pay to feed 84-cent wheat to cattle and hogs, but not to sheep and poultry. Ninety-two cent wheat is profitable for beef cattle only. In feeding value wheat and corn are equal pound for pound according to officials of the department. But corn and wheat products alone make a better feed for cattle than wheat and wheat products alone.

WHEAT CROP HISTORY

With an acreage a little under 8 millions the estimate is that this year's wheat crop in Kansas will amount to less than 74 million bushels, or 9 1/2 bushels to the acre. The shrinkage between sowing and harvest was 3 million acres, and is always about 25 per cent. The farmer who puts all his eggs in a wheat basket is playing a losing game.

USE UNION WANT ADS

Three More Letters

Brothers Costigan, DeCamp, and Babbitt Enter the Lists in the Discussion of the Fisher-Greene Letters Which Appeared in a Recent Issue

The letters of Brothers Greene and Fisher printed in this paper some time ago have called out a number of replies and have provoked a good deal of discussion among our members. Every letter sent into this paper will be printed if it contains within itself the evidence of good faith and of sincere devotion to the writers' ideals of truth and fair play. Letters that are prompted by mere contentiousness, by no other motive than to start or to continue an argument about matters upon which there should be no differences of opinion among men engaged in the most necessary work of this day—the organization of agriculture in such a way that helpful class consciousness may be developed—will either be returned to their writers or printed with appropriate comment by the editors.

Brother R. T. Costigan of Ottawa has been a Union man for a long time. Before this organization was founded he was active and highly useful in other movements having similar purposes. Brother Costigan does not agree with Brother Greene and in the letter that follows he expresses his dissent with considerable emphasis. In commenting on Brother Greene's letter the editor stated that it was possibly a little self-sufficient, although well written and from the authors point of view doubtless quite conclusive. If there is any thing deserving of criticism in Brother Costigan's letter it is that the language and even the thought are just a little violent. It is the letter of a man who feels the importance of the work in which we are all engaged and who knows the extreme gravity of the farmers situation at this time. Thus Brother Costigan:

Editor of the Kansas Union Farmer

In your issue of August 23rd you printed a letter from M. W. Greene of Bazar who attempts to advise your readers on Farmer Unionism. Any one who attempts to teach should know the rudiments of the subject in which he seeks to enlighten his fellowmen. Mr. Green says, "You make me see red when you talk of unfair competition." If he would invest five cents in a Farmers Union Constitution and then read the first two pages of that instrument he would discover that the reason for organizing the Farmers Union, among others, was to correct the "unfair" methods of marketing farm products.

The first paragraph of the first page of our constitution reads: "Speculators and those engaged in the distribution of farm products have organized and operate to the great detriment of the farming class."

The next paragraph reads: "The objects of the Kansas State Union are to educate members of the organization in better business methods for farmers and in the principles and practice of co-operative business by the Rochdale System."

Did Mr. Greene join the Farmers Union without subscribing to its declaration of principles? If he did that he is an undesirable member and should cease to annoy those who are loyal to the purposes of the organization. His entire letter betrays a total lack of principle and any local farmer who has such a member will be a detriment to the farmers cause. He shows great zeal in defending Wall Street, the bankers, the railroads, the grain gamblers and the packers. He is of that school of political economy which believes that all prosperity should first be enjoyed by those who are at the top from which it should be permitted to trickle down through the different layers of society.

Apparently Brother Greene bases his claim to the right to teach Farmer Unionism on the fact that he frequently "snuggles up to cows flank" and also in season produces considerable quantities of wheat and corn. Any moron raised on a farm can claim merit for the same things and can also slay hogs, curdy horses, and feed cattle but such exhibits of physical development do not enable him to give valuable advice to the leaders of farm organizations. I have read the editorials in the Kansas Union Farmer for eight years and have always found them filled with valuable information for those who are seeking to establish the economic independence of agriculture. The chosen leaders of farm organizations should not abate their efforts to secure justice because traitors and lickspittles are not pleased with their work.

Every advance in human freedom that has deprived privilege of its claims for consideration has been accomplished by animosity and frequently by bloodshed. Washington was opposed by 95 per cent of the merchants and other business men of his day who declared that the revolution would destroy their trade. There are now many men preferred profits for themselves to freedom for the masses. Abraham Lincoln incurred the animosity of the slaveholders and their friends who resorted to bloodshed to defend their privileges but for his love of liberty, his courage and his achievements for humanity he will be honored, while this renegade stands.

Brother Greene appears to have absorbed into his system a lot of the

Men who believe with Mr. Greene are willing to tolerate a society made up of millionaires and paupers of aristocrats and peasants. A society, in which one thousand persons annually create \$1,000 of surplus wealth for each member only to see one of their number obtain possession of the total savings, a society in which there would be one millionaire and 999 paupers. This was the process that prevailed in our country during the World War and that created 26,000 new millionaires and uncounted number of paupers.

Such results are not brought about in commerce based on the laws of supply and demand. When the farmer had hides to sell he was offered 6 to 8 cents a pound, that was the supply. When the government bought millions of pairs of shoes weighing one pound to the shoe at \$7 a pair, that was the demand. Nothing artificial about that transaction was there? Special interests did not bring about such a condition did they? The cotton grown on thousands of fertile acres was left in the fields because the price at 4 cents a pound would not pay for the picking while in the same year Farmers Union store price was \$3.10 for overalls and jackets. Special interest had nothing to do with these things either, did they?

This letter is already too long for busy readers but I cannot refrain from another statement. The majority of men do not think because they are compelled to spend all their energy in the struggle to keep alive. They have no time for thinking. The majority accepts everything that exists as inevitable, natural and right. This is what makes the task of the social reformers so hard and converts his way into way of the Cross. This is what brings the jeers of the powerful and the curses of the rabble on all who dare to be the first to raise their voices in the defense of truth and human rights.

R. T. COSTIGAN.

Brother DeCamp of Local 935 was also moved to disagree with Brother Greene. He writes good plain English and gives every evidence that he has been studying several very extant present day problems and finds the situation not so cheerful as he and other thoughtful men would like. His letter which follows is well worth reading:

Editor Kansas Union Farmer: Our paper is now becoming interesting and instructive and the means of getting different viewpoints on many intricate vital problems that confront us.

After reading the interesting articles by Brothers Frisher an Greene in our paper of August 23rd I am interested to know how as a farmer and a believer in fair play Brother Greene arrived at his viewpoint—first, what are some of the "artificial programs"? Among the artificial programs shall we name sugar, leather, excessive tariff, 5-to-4 Supreme Court decision, gasoline, hardware, high freight rates, lumber, tax free securities, state highway commission, and the unjust and unequal tax levied on the farmer for hard surface roads and is intangible property (which escapes tax) one of the artificial grievances? Will we list "as a natural base" the million dollar publicity bureau being formed by the railway to educate the common people showing them why watered stock is O. K. and present high freight rates are necessary to pay interest and necessary extensions.

We find the "kept press" flooding the country with all kinds of propaganda for this or that industry or public utility and demanding certain legislation for their protection. We also find this same press "so soon" start to boost certain officials for high office, possibly with the hopes that it will help in their re-election to their present office.

As William Allen White says, "the old law of supply and demand has been changed"—the big industries have artificially changed it. The farmer is twenty-five years behind the times—now he must have a program and he must organize and co-operate, in fact, become (with fair

(Continued on page 2)

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W. C. LANSDON Associate 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.

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 of 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, SEPTEMBER 20, 1923

POOLING KANSAS WHEAT

One more unsuccessful attempt has been made to unite the forces of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association. While nothing definite was accomplished at the Kansas City meeting it is certain that some progress was made and that the leaders of the two Kansas groups and of the American Wheat Growers Association now understand each others plans better than at any time in the past. All are now agreed that the big job ahead is to sign up the Kansas wheat production so that at least 65 percent of the crop shall be controlled by Growers associations.

The Minutes of the Conference printed elsewhere in this paper indicate very clearly the point of view of each group. The Kansas Wheat Growers are not yet ready to enter the American Association nor can they see their way clear to use the Farmers Union Jobbing Association as their sales agency on the Kansas City Market at time time. They will obtain a Board of Trade membership in their own name and will establish their own sales agency at Kansas City. On account of difficulties in financing such a movement the Kansas Wheat Growers are also opposed to any attempt to promulgate a conditional contract to become effective on securing 65 percent of the Kansas wheat production and to be the foundation for a third association to be made up of the members of the two existing groups and additional growers secured by joint action.

The Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association could not see its way clear to participate in the organization of an additional sales agency in Kansas City to serve its membership, the Kansas Wheat Growers and the American Wheat Association. It was the opinion of the Union representatives in attendance that the agency already selling wheat for Kansas farmers on the Kansas City Board of Trade has power and authority as well as efficient facilities for doing all the things that could possibly be done by an additional agency. They stood firm against the duplication of competing farmers agencies with heavy overhead expenses and all expressed the belief that the cause of co-operative marketing is likely to be seriously hurt by the presence of two or more houses in the same market doing the same things.

The meeting was conducted in good spirit and all joined in the hope that in the future all obstacles to united action may be removed.

FARM PRODUCTS, WAGES, SALARIES AND INCOMES

Some properly or improperly subsidized press agency has lately been furnishing a number of farm leaders with some startling figures showing the relation between farm prices for food products and the wages of certain groups of highly paid wage workers in the cities such as plumbers, bricklayers, carpenters and other well organized crafts. It is shown that it takes an amazing number of pounds of pork, mutton or beef, or of bushels of wheat, corn or oats or hales of cotton, hundredweights of peanuts or cabbage, or of hundreds of melons, cantaloupes or pumpkins to pay a days wages for a plumber, a bricklayer or other skilled workman in the cities.

All such calculations are based on a daily or an hourly wage and do not take into consideration that such employment is seldom continuous for a year, that there are numerous interruptions due to sickness, unemployment and other matters and conditions over which the workmen have no control. Nor is there any reference to the high prices that the workmen in the cities must pay for rent, clothing, food and the other necessities of life. It is doubtless true that it takes about ten bushels of wheat at farm prices to pay an average days wages in the skilled trades in the cities. It is equally true that it only takes one-tenth that much wheat to pay the same wages when it is converted into loaf bread for consumption by city workers. What is true of wheat is also true of every other farm product consumed in the cities. The last price,

the cost to the user averages about ten times the farm values. It is only by reason of the apparently high wages that he receives that the city workman is able to pay his rent and buy farm products that he must have for his family.

There is another set of figures that the interests that are so anxious to drive a wedge between agriculture and labor might assemble and distribute. The president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York receives an annual salary of \$75,000. It would take the average wheat production of seventy-five Kansas farms to pay that salary. There are many railway presidents in the United States who receive \$100,000, dollars a year, and among the number is Mr. Story of the Santa Fe. It takes the total wheat production of 100 average Kansas farms to pay that salary. It takes 9000 two hundred pound Kansas hogs to pay the annual salary of the president of Union Pacific railway company. Taking all the big city banks in the United States it requires an average of one thousand hogs a year to pay each bank presidents salary. If the president of any of the big insurance company in the United States were paid in eggs it would require about half million dozen eggs, which would fill 17,000 cases and load a train of more than 40 cars.

There are very large numbers of well fixed and thrifty people in each great city in the United States who are living in safety and plenty on the income of tax free securities. Many such wise investors have incomes of as much as \$60,000 a year from land, bank bonds and other securities that pay no taxes for local, state or federal purposes. To pay such an income requires 240,000 pounds of butter, 600,000 quarts of milk, 5,000 hogs, 1,000 good beef cattle, 90,000 bushels of wheat, 100,000 bushels of corn, 600,000 water melons, 3,000,000 cantaloupes, 120,000 bushels of potatoes, 30,000 barrels of apples, 180,000 gallons of Georgia cane sirup, 600 bales of cotton, 300,000 pounds of tobacco, 120,000 bushels of oats, 200,000 young chickens, or 6000 tons of good alfalfa hay at the prices now being received by the farmers of this country for such products.

To undertake to figure the value of dividends paid by industrial corporations railway companies and banks in terms of farm products would be quite a job. It would take some time to reduce the cost of paved roads that are being constructed all over the country in the face of an almost unanimous protest from the tax paying farmers into their equivalent in the products of American farms and would require the services of experts in construction and in farm values.

It may be that bricklayers and plumbers are getting more money than they should have but before the farmers of this country take any steps to reduce the number of hogs, cattle or potatoes that it takes to pay the wage workers of this country they should devote a little time to a calculation of the cost of services and incomes that render even less value to the whole body of organized society. While agriculture is paying salaries of \$100,000 a year to the presidents of railways, banks and insurance companies the farmers should not get too much worked up over the wages of workmen who are able to command as much as a dollar an hour for their labor.

CREDITS FOR FARMERS

Many of national legislators are now renewing their acquaintance with the voters they have been representing at Washington. Senators and congressmen from agricultural sections are calling attention to their exceedingly valuable services in securing laws to provide easier credits for the farmers. Many of these gentlemen are thoroughly honest. They actually believe that they have done something for agriculture. Nor can they be blamed for their satisfaction over the new credit facilities that they have created. They were told by numberless farmer leaders that agriculture must have more and cheaper money.

It is about time for every one to realize no loan can be secured easily enough to help the man whose business is losing money. No inter-

est rate is low enough to be of any value to the man, farmer or merchant who is carrying on his operations at a loss. Until the farmers of this country can get profit making prices for their products additional and easier credit and lower interest rates will do more harm than good.

Congress has stretched the limitations of the constitution not a little in providing agencies through which farmers who have plenty of good security may borrow more money at reasonable rates. How would it do to subject that same fundamental instrument of government to a little additional strain, if necessary, for the purpose of increasing and stabilizing the prices of farm products?

DANGER IN LOW PRICES

All propositions to increase and stabilize the prices of farm products are received by certain types of our fellow citizens with doubt, alarm, fear, and other evidences of distrust, dread and disapproval. Such legislation would be economically unsound. It would be in the interest of a single class at the expense of all the other content groups of the body politic. The advocates of price stabilization are denounced as half baked visionaries, as ranting demagogues looking for votes, as dangerous revolutionaries who would substitute bolshevism, sovietism, socialism, communism, anarchy and chaos for existing forms of sane and orderly government.

No such outcry was raised by safe and sane statesmen, by the great vested interests, by those who believe in the sacredness of things as they were and are when the congress of the United States enacted a law that specifically guaranteed an income of six per cent on all railway property in this country for six months and made it the mandatory duty of the Interstate Commerce Commission to establish rates for freight and passenger service that would return a profit of five and three-fourths per cent on capital invested in transportation for all time to come. These same safe gentlemen—same in all their living and thinking—made no protest when the Interstate Commerce Commission as required by law, fixed rates for freight service that are now yielding more than the required income even though the same process confiscates the capital that is invested in agriculture and is rapidly forcing that industry into hopeless insolvency.

Have the safe and conservative elements fully considered the dangers incident to a further continuance of the low and fluctuating prices of farm products? Last year more than a million and half people left the farms and moved to the cities. That migration will be much greater this year. There are single southern states that are losing farming population so rapidly that thousands of farms must lie idle in the near future. Such a movement, caused solely by the low prices of farm products and the low rates of pay for farm labor must result in a constantly decreasing food supply and eventually in an alarming scarcity of the necessities of life.

It might be well to abandon the position that government can do nothing more for agriculture. If that is true our institutions have failed in their mission of protection and support for the very class and industry that are most essential to the safety of the whole country.

ONLY FOOLS ROCK THE BOAT

A co-operative business association is a family affair. It may not run as smoothly as it should. Many families do not, but the member of a family—the father, mother, son or daughter—who runs over the neighborhood talking about the troubles that are dividing the home never get much sympathy and in the end loses the respect of all the neighbors.

The shareholder of a co-operative society who peddles the troubles of his concern about among the very people who want to see it fail is a sorry sort of a co-operator. A Farmers Union co-operative business association is after all a sort of life boat in which each member is expected to pull an oar. The man who lays down his car and rocks the boat deserves to be thrown over board.

:: Call for an Educational Assembly ::

To the Officers and Members of All Union Organizations:

The President and Board of Directors of the Kansas Farmers Union and of all the state wide Union Co-operatives hereby issue a call to all officers and members of Union organizations in the State of Kansas to assemble in Salina during the week of September 24-29 for a general educational meeting.

Local Unions, County Unions, and Business Associations are asked to co-operate in making this first state wide educational assembly of our organization a big success. It is our hope that every part of the state and every phase of our educational and co-operative work may be fully represented at this assembly.

County Unions and wherever possible Local Unions are urged to send delegates. We especially desire that there shall be a large attendance of the presidents and secretaries of all local and county organizations. One of the principal purposes of the Assembly will be to work out plans for increasing the membership and the usefulness of the Farmers Union in Kansas through greater and more wisely planned activities in community and county organizations.

Co-operative Business Associations should be represented by their managers, presidents and directors. Special sections of the program will contribute to the continued and greater success of our co-operative enterprises. We hope to make the program so helpful that every co-operative in Kansas will benefit and we believe that all managers and directors can render better service to their associations during Assembly week by attending and participating in the work planned than in any other possible way.

The City of Salina will entertain all visiting Farmers Union members during the noon hour and in the evening with a series of musical attractions and other forms of amusement for which no charge will be made. There will be no enrollment, registration or other fees nor will there be any charge at any gate or door for any of the lectures, addresses and entertainments provided for the membership of the Union.

The Assembly will be held in Oakdale Park, probably the most beautiful camping ground in Kansas. Tents and cots will be furnished free of charge to all who prefer to live in the open during the week. There will be ample facilities on the grounds provided by the good women of the Salina churches for feeding all comers at reasonable prices. Of course those who prefer to cook their own meals on the grounds may do so and water and wood will be furnished without cost to visitors.

It is the hope of the Official Family of the Kansas Farmers Union that great numbers of the members of the organization throughout the state may avail themselves of this opportunity to take a vacation from farm duties for a week and at that same time learn many new things about every department of the co-operative movement and of the organization of farmers. The roads to Salina are good. Load the family car with the wife and children and drive in for this big week of recreation, amusement, and education.

JOHN TROMBLE, President
W. C. LANSDON, Vice President
C. E. BRASTED, Secretary.

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

Pinchot

Has Made a Settlement

Of the Pennsylvania coal dispute that appears to be satisfactory to all the parties interested. The miners get an increase of ten per cent in their wages and complete recognition of the eight hour day and the principle of collective bargaining. The operators are not required to check off labor union dues in settling with their employees. The public is assured of the resumption of production and the uninterrupted operation of the anthracite mines until the expiration of the new two year contract on August 31st, 1925.

The wage increase of ten per cent should not result in any considerable increase of coal prices to consumers. In fact such an increase should be completely absorbed by the various handling agencies without any effect on the public. Such a result however is too much to expect from the most ruthless gang of profiteers that is plundering the public. It is altogether likely that the small additional cost of coal at the pit mouth will be multiplied three or four times before the consumers are reached and that the operators coal dealers will make more than the miners out of the increase in wages.

Daily it becomes more and more evident that the public, through governmental agencies or otherwise must work out some plan for curbing the extortions of dealers not only in coal but in all the other basic necessities.

Labor

Gets Big Advantages

Out of the coal settlement in addition to the increase in wages. There was, of course, no strike. A number of employers and their workmen had a contract that expired on August 31st of this year. Representatives of the operators and the miners were unable to reach a new agreement before that date and so production ceased because the operators had no mine workers and the miners had no jobs.

From the very first the miners showed every possible inclination to adjust the dispute without a cessation of work and without inconvenience to the public. They accepted the first proposal made by Governor Pinchot and all subsequent delay in the settlement of the controversy must be charged against the operators.

The additional pay obtained, when distributed thru 12 months of employment and unemployment will not give the miners any big annual income. It is doubtful if even with this increase the average miner will earn a 1913 return if the purchasing power of the dollar at this time is taken fully into account.

During the entire controversy the miners conducted themselves with commendable self restraint. They co-operated with the owners of the mines in all measures necessary to preserve the property in such shape that production could be resumed immediately after the settlement of the dispute.

Governor Pinchot

Fully Justified the Confidence

Reposed in him by the public, the miners, the operators the president of the United States and his friends in every part of the country. Without haste or heat he went quietly about the job given him. Recognizing the rights of the working men the equities of the operators and the consideration due the public he proposed a plan of adjustment that was so sane and fair that its final acceptance by each of the disputing groups was inevitable.

Today Gifford Pinchot is biggest figure in the public life of the United States. His liberal views and love of justice appeal to farmers and working men alike. His great ability, splendid training and known and proved patriotism inspires the confidence of those who regard themselves as conservatives and consider conservatism essential to the preservation of the republic.

The republican party is seriously divided. Neither a conservative like Coolidge nor a radical like Johnson or Borah can unite its discordant elements and win a victory in the presidential election next year. Governor Pinchot is the one man in the country who can restore the prestige and the usefulness of the party of Lincoln and McKinley.

Coolidge

Is Either Wise or Lucky

Above the average man in high office. The coal controversy in Pennsylvania was the first great emergency of his administration. It was announced that he would not permit a strike and that he would settle the controversy. Was he wise enough to realize that he could not succeed where other presidents had failed, was he merely lucky in shifting the duty and its great opportunities to Governor Pinchot? Or did he have an attack of cold feet jump at the chance to pass what he thought was an impossible job on to some one else.

Whatever merit the president deserves for the satisfactory termination of an ugly and threatening controversy all candid men must assign him second place. It may have been wise and self sacrificing for him to hand such an opportunity to one already filling a large place in the public mind as a presidential possibility but his credit will not be large. The world does not care so much for a public man who evades his first great obligation by passing the buck

Colorado

Has a Good Crop

This year. Probably for the first time in the history of the state there has been too much rather than too little moisture for the farms and orchards. An abundant snowfall last winter assured a plentiful supply of irrigation water from the mountains. Supplementing the melting snows and the stored flood waters there has been a very unusual rainfall throughout the growing season.

With the exception of wheat in the dry farming sections all crops are far above the average. There is the biggest acreage and the biggest yield per acre of sugar beets in the history of that crop. Corn that looks good for fifty bushels per acre is growing in fields within sight of snow that never melt. Alfalfa has never produced such yields. Garden and truck crops and fruit production are all satisfactory.

With promises of crop returns so satisfactory the Colorado farmers should be in a cheerful frame of mind. As a matter of fact many of them, perhaps a great majority are more discouraged than ever before. Farms operated by owners are for the most part heavily mortgaged. Notes that represent the losses of the past four years are unpaid in the banks. All supplies are as costly as during war times. This years big crop will help but it will take several years of bumper production to wipe out the debts of Colorado farmers.

Ford

Is Again Negotiating

For the government power plant at Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Heretofore he has insisted that the Gorgas plant on the Warrior river which is nearly a hundred miles from Muscle Shoals should be included in the property to be turned over to him by the government. That property is on land and dominates facilities that are the property of a local power company. Its transfer to Ford would cripple the Alabama Power Company and so far as the uninitiated can see would add but little to the value of the main plant.

It is quite likely that Secretary Weeks and Mr. Ford will reach an agreement before congress assembles in December. The whole south demands that Ford shall have the property at Muscle Shoals. There is a general belief that he would produce and sell commercial fertilizers for lower prices than now prevail. Probably the southern farmers are due to a heavy disappointment even if Ford gets the property.

Few people have studied the Ford proposition with much care. It is true that Ford agrees to sell any fertilizer that he may manufacture at an advance of eight per cent over cost but nowhere in the proposition now pending does he guarantee that he will manufacture any fertilizer at any price. Also it should not be overlooked that none of the processes for extracting nitrogen from the air and manufactured synthetic nitrates have been proved to be commercially feasible.

It is not too much to say that this whole matter of Muscle Shoals is now in politics. If the administration rejects Fords offer and the democratic party nominates him for the presidency all the Slopas south of Mason and Dixon line cannot secure a single southern electoral vote for the republican candidate.

Automobiles

Continue to be Made

In increasing numbers and to be sold in the same way for diminishing prices. The Overland has been reduced to \$495 and the Rolls-Royce can now be obtained for a trifling matter of \$10,600. All along between the two cars to suit the fancy of all buyers and while it is hard to get money for ordinary business purposes there are ample facilities for financing the purchase of motor cars on credit.

Kansas now has more than 300,000 motor vehicles in daily operation: Is this state financially able to operate and maintain that number of pleasure cars? The operating of 300,000 cars for a year is about as follows: Gasoline \$22,500,000, Oil \$15,000,000, Tires \$24,000,000, Garage Bills \$12,000,000, or a total of \$73,500,000.

It is evident from these very conservative estimates the entire Kansas wheat crop of this year at a dollar bushel is only barely sufficient to provide for the operation of the automobiles now in use in this state. The profits made by all the wheat growers of Kansas would not buy a new tail light for the cars that are in use in Salina county. Every family that owns and uses an automobile has voluntarily added at least \$600 annually to its living expenses.

To meet the high cost of fast riding the merchants increase the retail prices of all their goods the wage workers demand and receive more pay, the manufacturers and all others who handle commodities add to their charges and so raise the general price level of the necessities to new marks. All car owners, except farmers, are able to pass some of this additional cost along but the farmer not only has to pay the purchase price and the operating charges of his own automobile but has to supply the rest of the world with cars for their own pleasure.

For the individual farmer it may be that a moderate priced automobile is a real necessity that he can secure for a not too exorbitant price but for agriculture as a whole it is a question whether automobiles are not making it impossible to pay mortgages and

notes, buy new implements, rebuild fences and paint and repair houses and barns.

Japan

Has Just Suffered

From the most destructive natural calamity in the history of the world. Perhaps other disasters of similar nature have taken a heavier toll of human life but no previous catastrophe has destroyed so much property. The people of Tokio and Yokohama had abandoned the old style of Japanese buildings built to resist earthquakes and in imitation of the western world had countless modern buildings of stone, cement, steel and concrete that crumbled in dust and fragments as the quaking and trembling heaved under their buckling foundations and collapsing walls.

The earthquake was a dreadful blow to Japan. Three generations cannot restore the losses of life and property and the country in a day sinks from fourth place among the great powers to a much lower rank. The sympathy and assistance of the people of races and nations and the courage and ability of the Japanese themselves all combined can but slowly repair the damage resulting from a single demonstration of destructive possibilities natural forces that can never be controlled by human agencies.

Ireland

Has Been Admitted

To membership in the League of Nations. The Irish Free State Administration has just won a majority of the seats in the parliamentary elections. Stable government appears to have replaced the civil strife of the past. Governed wisely by men of her own choosing Ireland should now enter into an era of prosperity and peace.

The people of the Irish Free State are ready to return to productive industry and to the development of the rich resources of that country. The only danger that threatens the Irish people in the near future lies in the unreconciled differences and the un-realized personal ambitions of disappointed leaders.

THREE MORE LETTERS

(Continued from page One)

ness and justice) dictator, seller, and distributor of his products.

Lastly, we must remove the cause for "class animosity" by eliminating all artificial class, programs, campaigns and legislation, requiring our representatives to serve alike all our people—remembering that our representatives "cannot serve two masters." Yours truly,

L. D. DeCAMP.

Last of all for this week comes Brother C. A. Babbitt of Willis which is in Brown county. Brother Babbitt always has plenty of ideas and what is more to the point he has the courage and the ability to express his thoughts in writing. In the following letter he seems somewhat inclined to agree with Brother Greene. The editors are certain that they cannot hope to please Brother Babbitt all the time or even half the time but they are proud of the very evident fact that he reads everything that is printed in the Kansas Union Farmer. If all members of the organization would do the same there would be more information spread around over Kansas but we might run short of space for printing the letters sent in. Here is Brother Babbitts contribution to the discussion stirred up by the Fisher-Greene letters.

Dear Editor—I am accepting your general invitation to answer, through these columns, the letter of M. W. Greene published, August 23rd.

While I realize that I cannot write as good a letter as you do I think I can point out some mistaken sentiment in yours. For instance you intimate that our officers should feel like Commanding Generals. I think they better feel like servants of the membership and keep in mind what was done at the 1922 convention to some \$3.00 wheat heads and possibly they better wonder what may happen to \$1.50 wheat heads in 1924.

Another mistake is that you intend to write often. I think you ought to write often. You have a way of telling the one-croppers just what they are, and you might enlarge by writing that insects and fungi will eventually get them but the neighboring farms will be injured by contact, and their neighbors will get out of humor. If a man should plant his farm in this school district to spring wheat I doubt if he would have neighbors enough to help him harvest; we dislike chintz bugs so much. I agree with you about price fixing but I guess we could get up an argument about "natural and artificial supports." I would subsidize a high school if necessary and you might call that artificial.

If you would write on grain gamblers or bankers or railroads or meat packers and give us the facts so that any one wanting to go deeper into the subjects might know where to start, I think a 1000 more members would read the Kansas Union Farmer. And some of them might answer back. We know the "Interests are too big and broad-minded to wish to kill the goose that lays the golden egg." I feel sure, they just want the egg. Fraternally yours,

CHARLES A. BABBITT.

Legumes and livestock go hand-in-hand to build up better soils and more lasting farm prosperity.

Department of Practical Co-Operation

ATTENTION! FARMERS UNION MEMBERS

If you have not paid your 1923 dues, your Kansas Union Farmer will stop coming in a few days.

If you have paid your 1923 dues to your Secretary, and he has not handed you your card, ask him why? It may be that he has failed to send the dues in to this office.

You can avoid missing two or three issues of your paper if you give this your attention.

C. E. BRASTED, Sec'y.

SPEAKING DATES.

State speakers will be present and address Farmers' Union meetings as indicated below. Requests for speakers within this date list should take into consideration the schedules already made.

JOHN TROMBLE.
September 22—Neosho Falls.

To Local Secretaries And The Membership In General

We have the State Constitution for 1923, "containing the Amendments as adopted," ready for distribution at 5c per copy.

C. E. Brasted, Secretary.

The regular meeting of the Crawford County Farmers' Union will be held on the last Tuesday of each month throughout the year except when this date falls on a Legal Holiday.

A. C. BROWN, Co. Pres.

CRAWFORD COUNTY MEETINGS

AT GIRARD KANSAS
Girard Local No. 464 of the Farmers Union meets in Union Hall the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

L. M. Roof, Pres.
Roy W. Holland, Sec.

UNION LOCAL NO. 2019

Blaine O'Connor, Sec.
Regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month, at 7:30 p. m.

—J. R. Horton, Pres.

ORDER PRESIDENT BARRETT'S BOOK

We now have a supply of the book "Uncle Reuben's Activities in Washington," on hand and can fill orders direct from this office.

Make remittance of \$2.00 to C. E. Brasted, Salina.
C. E. Brasted, Secretary.

Pool News

AT BEATTIE SEPTEMBER 21
The third quarterly meeting of the Marshall County Farmers' Union will be held at Beattie, Friday, September 21st, commencing at 10 a. m. Basket dinner. State speaker. A full delegation is requested. Come early and bring your dinner.

RICHARD H. MACKEY, Sec.-Treas.

AT KELLY SEPTEMBER 20TH
The third quarterly meeting of the Nemaha County Farmers Union will be held at Kelly, Thursday, September 20th commencing at 10 a. m. Secretaries will please select their delegates for a full attendance. Good speaking is provided for and ladies are especially invited. Be sure to see that your local is in good standing.

JOEL STRAHM, Co. Sec.-Treas.

COUNTY ATTORNEY OF GEARY COUNTY RE- PLIES TO MR. ERICKSON

Editor Kansas Union Farmer:
Replying to the article above the signature of Jacob Erickson, Route 8, Junction City, Kansas, appearing in your paper August 30th, under the title "Can you drive cows on paved road?" I beg to say that Mr. Erickson must have had misinstructions about the case which he attempted to set forth in your paper. The sheriff did not go to see Mr. Erickson upon my order, nor was Mr. Erickson ordered to keep his cows off of the paved road. The true facts in the case present a somewhat different picture.

The Sheriff of Geary County was informed by neighbors and persons who use the paved highway in the vicinity of the Erickson home, that Mr. Erickson's little girl about ten years of age, drove the cows over the pavement to pasture in the early morning and late evening. Upon several occasions accidents had been narrowly avoided. Upon learning of this, the Sheriff called upon Mr. Erickson and invited his attention to the extreme danger to his child and herd as a result of this practice. I understand that no orders were given by the Sheriff but that he, out of a humanitarian motive, called upon Mr. Erickson for the protection of the life of his child and herd.

If more Sheriffs in the State of Kansas gave attention to a prevention of disasters as the action of our Sheriff shows he intended to do, society would be much better protected.

Yours respectfully,
L. B. MORRIS,
County Attorney.

Getting the farmers to sign up a pool contract is just like trying to get a horse out of a burning building. A horse will refuse to leave the old accustomed stall even though the roof is burning over his head. It doesn't matter how much you coax him, pet him or lambast him, he refuses to move till you throw the harness on him or blindfold him. An intemperance of his acts leads one to believe that you must either increase the load on his back or shut out the sight of his accustomed surroundings, before he will change his position.

The farmer will hesitate, pull back and refuse to budge from his old methods of grain marketing when he knows that the selling method does not return to him the cost of production. To suddenly cut off his credit at the bank as an individual, may increase the load on his back to such an extent that he will come in the pool for relief. To shut off his vision of the possibility of his selling his crop at the top (which is an impossibility for the price paid him is always loaded down with an overhead that saps up the profits) may cause him to change his position.

Sometimes we wonder if we would not be better off as farmers if we didn't persist in using quite so much "horse sense," of the variety that keeps the horse in the barn while the building burns.

There is one danger in the farmer organizing his wheat selling agency till he controls the price of his wheat. When wheat sells at the cost of production plus a reasonable profit, the farmers who are now engaged in the producing of other farm products, which are selling at less than cost, will try their hand at raising wheat. The result will be that such a large amount of wheat will be raised that it will be impossible to sell it all at a profit and the wheat game will be spoiled. We wonder if the farmers that refuse to sign up are hesitating on that account?

There is a solution for that condition. Organize the other farm products on the same basis. When there is too much wheat raised and it is cheap on account of its abundance, the same condition would prevail in other lines of endeavor, such as corn, raising fruit growing, cloth manufacturing, coal mining and machinery production. The law of supply and demand would then put a limit on

control of prices and production and all business would be on an equal footing, with the result that there would be an equitable exchange of commodities. The farm dollar would buy as much as the city dollar. A surplus of everything would not be a menace to humanity but a blessing of the richest sort.

Such a condition may be considered visionary, but it is something to work for. The men engaged in industries that are supported by the farming industry would not suffer on account of the farmer getting more for their products. The vacation so well enjoyed by those who have organized their business would not be envied for the farmer could take a little vacation of his own. A sight of the mountains and a rubbing up against the business world on vacation would put a dose of pep in "Uncle Ruben" that would make him hard to catch when it came to doing things that make this a better place to live in.

Aaron Sapiro is in Canada tuning up the Canadian farmers. At a meeting of farmers in one of the provinces it is reported that out of fifteen hundred farmers present only about one hundred and fifty refused to sign up a pool contract. That looks like the Canadians are alive from the collar up.

One of the greatest drawbacks to the pooling of wheat in the Farmers Union is the opposition of so many of our elevator managers. They have friends among the old line grain firms that they seem to be more loyal to than to the Farmers Union the source of their pay. An elevator manager that will fight the pooling of the Farmers Union members wheat through their own organization is a traitor to his own members and should be replaced by some one that believes in the co-operative principles.

Things are a little dull along the pooling line this week although our solicitors are sending in contracts as fast as they can be secured. Our men report that the farmer that won't sign up wants to wait and see how the pool will work. If with no wheat to sell the pool can make a good showing then they will come in, sell their wheat in the same old methods that have skinned them for a half century. If brains were dynamite in a case like that and were to explode we doubt if the disturbance would be noticed by the "rats in the garment."

Wheat is moving very satisfactory through the pool. The first quarterly settlement will soon be made. If the average price is as good thru the pool as it is on the outside we may get considerable wheat pooled before the contracts expire. But if on the other hand the average price is a trifle below the average price paid by

the grain trade that have been in business for a half century, the pool will be condemned by a lot of "hottentots" who refuse to help put the wheat farmer on a paying basis, and the loyal men in the pool will have to struggle the harder to finish the wonderful work they have begun to save the wheat industry.

We must have some more solicitors to go out in the field and tell the farmers of the pooling plan. You are responsible to a degree for the success of the pool if you have time to do some pool work and don't get a solicitors agreement signed up and go to work. The Association will pay you on a commission basis (and a liberal commission) on every pool contract secured by you. You don't want to see the Farmers Union fail in a move that is successful in all other states. Write me at Salina for the particulars.

M. O. GLESSNER.

To stop advertising is to let your business run on momentum, and momentum is a gradual move toward a dead stop—Elbert Hubbard.

Half Price Sale

**SILKY BLACK
SATEEN
DRESS**

Trimmed With
Paisley Flowered
CRETONNE

\$2.19

2 for \$4.25
No Extra Charge
for Large Sizes

Don't miss this special bargain offered you at half price. New, stylish dress of finest quality black sateen trimmed with beautiful paisley flowered cretonne. Features the country fashionable waist must have all the latest cretonne material. Never before has a dress with Paisley trim been offered at so low a price as this. The right garment for school or home. Wear it with a white blouse and a white belt. Half price. Don't miss this chance to get a beautiful dress for only \$2.19. Write for catalogue, we send it free. If you don't want it, we will refund your money. Write for catalogue.

SEND NO MONEY
Pay C. O. D. Write letter or post card giving name and address. We will send you a free catalogue. The amount you pay for the dress is refunded to you. If you don't want it, we will refund your money. Write for catalogue.

Be Sure to State Size

STARR & STARR

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Free Tents Free Cots Free Water Free Fuel

Spend the Week in Salina and Enjoy the

Farmers' Union Educational Assembly

—and—
The Jayhawker Jubilee

SEPTEMBER 24-29

SPECIAL NOTICE—All those contemplating camping out During the Week—Please Notify

Box 51

C. E. BRASTED

Salina, Kansas

HOTEL RASBACH

12th and Wyandotte, Kansas City, Mo.

NEWLY DECORATED THROUGHOUT. EVERY MODERN CONVENIENCE. NO ADVANCE IN PRICES. WHERE YOU MAY BRING YOUR MOTHER, SISTER—DAUGHTER. CONVENIENTLY LOCATED TO ALL BUSINESS. DIRECT, CAR LINE TO STOCK YARDS.

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MANIPULATION

MARKETING

The Kansas Farmers' Union Educational Assembly and The Jayhawker Jubilee

SALINA, KANSAS

AT

OAKDALE PARK

SEPTEMBER 24-29, 1923

The program of the Farmers Union Educational Assembly and the Jayhawker Jubilee will be furnished jointly by the City of Salina and the statewide cooperative organizations of the Kansas Farmers Union. It will be made up of addresses by competent leaders in the cooperative movement; of round table discussions in which all members and visitors are invited to take part; and a series of free shows, band concerts and other musical entertainments.

The Farmers Educational Assembly will be held in Oakdale Park. Each day there will be at least four notable and valuable lectures or addresses, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. At four o'clock each afternoon and sectional of Round Table meetings will be held each under the direction of a chairman and a vice-chairman selected because they know a good deal about the subject matter of the discussions.

During the noon intermission in the educational program a series of free shows will be put on by the Merchant's Association of the City of Salina. After supper each evening there will be an entertainment, band concert or other interesting program in the splendid new Memorial Hall that has just been completed by the City of Salina at a cost of more than a quarter million dollars. There will be no charge for any member of the Union for any of these entertainments.

The Educational Program is printed elsewhere in this issue of the Kansas Union Farmer. Other announcements will be made from time to time. The members of the Union are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to get pleasure and profit out of a vacation from work that can be taken at very small expense.

Speakers

MONDAY

J. S. Hargett, Mayor of Salina
L. G. Gottschick, President, Salina Chamber of Commerce
John Tromble, President, Kansas Farmers Union
Charles S. Barrett, President, National Farmers Union
Hon. D. L. Barrett, Osawatomie
Hon. W. P. Lamberton, Fairview
Hon. Emory Trull, Khrwin
A. C. Davis, National Secretary Farmers Union

TUESDAY

Hon. Arthur Capper, United States Senator from Kansas
Charles S. Barrett, President, National Farmers Union
William Hirth, Columbia, Mo.
George C. Jewett, Portland, Oregon

WEDNESDAY

E. L. Harrison, President Kentucky Farmers Union
Milo Reno, President, Iowa Farmers Union
M. O. Glessner, State Lecturer

THURSDAY

John A. Simpson, President Oklahoma Farmers Union...
C. J. Osborne, President, Nebraska Farmers Union
Hon. Jess Miley, State Supt. of Public Instruction
W. C. Lansdon, Vice-President, Kansas Farmers Union

FRIDAY

M. O. Glessner, State Lecturer Kansas Farmers Union
J. W. Batchelor, President, South Dakota Farmers Union
Hon. W. E. Sweet, Governor of Colorado
Dr. C. E. Lindley, Chancellor, University of Kansas

SATURDAY

Dr. Umbarger, Dean of Extension Service
J. M. Collins, President, Colorado Farmers Union
John Tromble, President Kansas Farmers Union

Round Table

Store Managers:
Chairman, H. C. Zech, Belleville
Vice-Chairman, H. E. Smith, Wamego

Elevator Managers:
Chairman, H. A. Crall, Erie
Vice-Chairman, John Vesecky, Timkin

County Presidents:
Chairman, Hon. Warren Culp, McPherson
Vice-Chairman, W. E. Hays, Osawatomie

Directors of Co-operative Associations:
Chairman, O. K. Marley, Kansas City, Mo.
Vice-Chairman, C. C. Killian, Green

Insurance Agents:
Chairman, Charles Simpson, Salina
Vice-Chairman, Frank Becker, Salina

Secretaries of Local and County Unions:
Chairman, C. E. Brasted, Salina
Vice-Chairman, C. E. Henderson, Kincaid

Women's Work in the Union:
Chairman, Mrs. E. M. Hall, Junction City
Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Farrar, Frankfort

Commodity Marketing:
Chairman, H. E. Witham, Cawker City
Vice-Chairman, Harry Neath, Parsons.

Live Stock Marketing:
Chairman, Hon. Huey Green, Moline
Vice-Chairman, Hon. D. L. Barrett, Osawatomie

Legislation and Public Affairs:
Chairman, Senator Ralph Gates, Stafford
Vice-Chairman, Hon. Charles Thomas, Harper

THE JUBILEE

CHENETTE'S CHICAGO BAND
SYKES' CYCLING FOUR
THE FIVE BELMAINES
THE 4 AMERICAN CLOWNS
DARE DEVIL GATES

World's Highest and Most Daring
Wire Walker

FOLLIES AND FASHIONS

—OF—

1923

With 300 Clever Entertainers
FIRE WORKS NIGHTLY
KISSEL'S SINGING TRIO
MISS RUNYAN'S BALLET
Of 300 Charming Girls
DANCE EVERY NIGHT
CHENETTE'S ORCHESTRA

Come---Bring the Family---Spend the Week in Salina