



# THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation



NUMBER 38

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1929

## RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE CORN BELT FEDERATION

Organization Represents and Speaks for More Than  
One Million Organized Farmers of Corn  
and Grain Belt States

Des Moines, Ia., March 18, 1929.  
The Resolutions Committee Reports as follows:  
First—Be it resolved that the following telegram be forwarded at once to Governor Clyde M. Reed of Kansas. The Corn Belt Federation of Farm Organizations, representing and speaking for more than one million organized farmers of the Corn and Grain Belt States hereby respectfully petition you to appoint our Colleague, Ralph Snyder of Manhattan in your State to the position of U. S. Senator from Kansas to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Honorable Charles Curtis.

Mr. Snyder has the full confidence, respect and support of this organization and its membership. His appointment to the Senate would be an encouragement to the farm people of this region and do great honor to your administration.

THE CORN BELT COMMITTEE, By its Chairman—William Hirth, and its Secretary—A. W. Ricker.

Second—Be it resolved that the Chairman appoint from our membership a committee of five, to be known as the Tariff Committee. That the said committee make a study of all Tariffs and their relations to and effect upon the Agricultural Industry and that they shall report the results and their investigations at a subsequent meeting of this organization.

Third—For more than eight years agriculture has been struggling against adverse economic conditions over which it has had no control and the existence of which is in no way inherent in the farming business. These conditions have not improved and neither can they improve, until the causes which brought them into being are corrected by National Legislation. The farmers continue to buy a dear and sell cheap. He buys in a protected market and sells largely in a free trade world market. This is so because, first, existing agricultural tariffs are ineffective and, second, because such tariffs are inadequate.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have labored for more than seven years to correct by National Legislation this maladjustment which has paralyzed the agricultural industry, and notwithstanding the further facts that Congress twice passed by overwhelming majorities, the McNary-Haugen Bill, farm people are still struggling against economic conditions which are so adverse that the complete collapse of the farm business is imminent.

The efforts of this Committee and its allied supporters in the cause have resulted in forcing the recognition of the unequal and pitiful situation of the men and women of the

farms. Both Political parties recognized and declared, in the last campaign that the farm problem is both acute and urgent, and that it constitutes a major public issue. President Hoover said, "Agriculture presents the most urgent economic problem in our nation today. The object of our policies is to establish for our farmers an income equal to those of other occupations."

We have treated the subject at all times as an economic question, capable of solution by wise Legislation. We have labored earnestly and with the best of good faith in an effort to restore the farmer to equality with the other business groups of the country. We have grappled with the problem for the problem's sake. We have steadfastly kept the faith. In our years of labor and research in an effort to develop Legislation which would solve this pressing problem, we believe that we have explored thoroughly every avenue of legislative possibility. The McNary-Haugen Bill, conviction as to the principles necessary to be incorporated into law. This bill still stands unchallenged by any substitute which promises to fulfill the requirements which it was designed to meet.

But let it be known that we have always kept an open mind for all suggestions as to what agricultural legislation should be enacted and our minds are still open on that subject. If anyone, no matter who he may be, can and will suggest legislation that will solve the farm problem as effectively or more effectively than the McNary-Haugen Bill and which Legislation will command more general approval, we will gladly give the support of this committee to such a new proposal. But let it be clearly understood that the results of our seven years study of the problems of Agriculture, and of our efforts to develop a national Agricultural program to restore the industry to a position of parity, have demonstrated beyond the possibility of successful contradiction that the primary problem to be met by Legislation is that of making existing Agricultural Tariffs effective. Any Legislation that will not make Tariffs fully effective will not only fail to meet the situation but will be cruelly unjust to farmers, and unworthy of those charged with the responsibility for giving agriculture substantial justice.

The following principles are fundamental and indispensable necessary in an effective surplus control Legislation:

First, the effective handling of surpluses of major farm products.  
Second, a method of apportioning

the operating expense, costs and losses, (except those actually assumed by the Government) among the producers of the commodities benefited.

Third, An automatic control of production in so far as the human element is an important factor.

Fourth, An adequate system of obtaining supply-and-demand data.

Fifth, A suitable and adequate revolving fund.

While this committee has concerned itself primarily with the problem of making existing Agricultural Tariffs naturally effective upon those crops of which we produce a surplus, it has not overlooked the necessity, which has been acute for eight years, of securing very greatly increased tariffs upon Agricultural commodities which may be produced satisfactorily in this country and of which we do not now produce sufficient for domestic use. Notable in this list are flax, barley, corn and corn products, sugar, all dairy products, fats, oils, etc. The tariffs upon these and all other Agricultural products should be so safeguarded that the producers shall receive full benefits therefrom and should be ample to adequately protect the American Producer.

There must be no increase in the Industrial Tariffs which would result in the farmer paying more to support the industrial Tariffs than he benefits by the increased Agricultural Tariffs.

And finally, this Committee and its supporters, having borne the brunt of seven years of fighting for the American farmer, and still standing undismayed as the Champion of the farmer for agriculture, will without regard to Politics or any other consideration, welcome every opportunity of being helpful in carrying to a triumphant conclusion the long struggle of the farmer for equality under the law. And the fight for equality of the farmer for agriculture, industry must and will go on until complete victory has been achieved.

RESOLUTION  
The distressed condition of agriculture at this time is due to many and varied causes, but the fundamental cause has been the farmers' inability to secure a price for his products that will allow him to produce costs. Other industries have been able under our system of tariff protection and by their ability to organize and withhold their products from their market to exact a price that assures to them cost of production with generous profits added.

Legislation to be effective in placing agriculture on an economic equality with industry must concede to the farmer the right to, and make production cost the basis for his price.

It may be argued that the farmer can haul his grain to the elevator and instead of selling it take a storage ticket and use the ticket for a loan at a bank at his bank. In doing so he loses physical control of his property and the storage rate of one cent a month per bushel is disadvantageous.

"We estimate that the fees and insurance under farm storage will total 1 1/2 cents a bushel for the entire marketing period."

Unlike the Canadian pool, American farm organizations are practically without primary or terminal elevators for storage of grain. The Canadian pool owns and controls in terminal elevators alone a capacity for more than 30 million bushels. The terminal elevator capacity in the Twin Cities and Duluth is three times greater than this but it almost entirely is privately owned and controlled.

The American grain grower is unable to duplicate the Canadian position in building elevators. But he can take the American way now made possible by the farm storage laws of two states. He can store his grain on the farm and either through his own organization, such as the Farmers Union, borrow money on the wheat and sell when the time is ripe or he can finance through any bank or company engaged in lending money.

The law through which he is enabled to do this is neither long nor complicated. It creates a Farm Storage Commission. In Montana the Commissioner of Agriculture becomes the Farm Storage Commissioner. In North Dakota the governor appoints one. The Farm Storage Commissioner appoints inspectors of grain wherever 25 or more farmers petition for his services.

Any farmer in the district may have his grain examined and his grain weighed, tested for grade and dockage and retain the samples taken. If conditions of building and grain meet the requirements and regulations issued under the law the inspector locks the bin or granary, places a seal on the lock and notifies the commissioner. The latter issues negotiable warehouse certificates on which money may be borrowed from the Federal Intermediate Credit bank, private banks or other corporations on the basis of 70 per cent of the market value of the grain.

Wheat Becomes Security

"Wheat stored upon the farm, under supervision of the state, sealed in proper bins and insured becomes security when the state issues its certificate of storage covering amount, grade, dockage, moisture and protein content. Upon such a certificate the Intermediate Credit bank can lend money. The new plan of Montana and North Dakota will make possible a wider use of this government credit in the northwest."

"As it now is," Mr. Ricker explained, "less than one-half of one per cent of the farmers of North Dakota can finance the carrying of their home-

## Consolidated Purchases

By Geo. H. Lambert  
Vice President, National Cooperative Purchasing Association

The tremendous buying power of the farmer is being organized and consolidated with a view of reducing his production costs. Definite steps in that direction were taken at Denver, Colorado, where seven regional farm exchanges entered the National Cooperative Purchasing association. The pooling members include farm exchanges located at Kansas City, Missouri, Des Moines, Iowa, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, St. Paul, Minnesota, Columbia, Missouri, Sioux City, Iowa, and Kankakee, Illinois. These exchanges have heretofore been operating independently in their respective territories handling the supplies which enter into the manufacturing or production costs of the farmer such as twine, salt, lime, coal, oil, feed, flour, fertilizers, etc.

The farmer, taking a leaf from the efficiency book of industry and cutting his costs to the bone by eliminating waste and intermediate charges in the purchase of his supplies. In this he is not acting from choice but from necessity. When a business house finds itself on the wrong side of the ledger it must either raise its selling price or reduce its costs. There is no other way of balancing the budget. The farmer has no control over the selling price of his major products; that price is fixed in the foreign markets. His only avenue of escape from bankruptcy, therefore, lies in his ability to cut his costs.

It may be doubted whether the elimination of the middleman, the local dealer, is a sound policy for the country. But a situation has been forced upon agriculture which must be met by intelligent and concerted action. The farmer's prices have been deflated; he, in turn, is compelled to deflate his costs.

This is the age of consolidations in the interest of efficiency. The chain stores and the mail order houses are rapidly eliminating the jobber and the dealer. The farmer, therefore, cannot be blamed for adopting the methods already employed by business. In fact, he is driven to his course if he is not to be crushed in the jaws of high costs and low selling prices.—Farmers Union Herald.

## CO-OPERATIVE BUYING BY FARMERS

Many Farmers' Business Associations Now Buy as Well as Sell—Feed, Seed, Fertilizer, Gasoline, Oil and Other Supplies Purchased Cooperatively

Agriculture cooperation has come to be associated in the public mind with selling operations, but selling is not the only function undertaken on a large scale by farmers' business associations in the United States.

Many such associations have entered the field of cooperative purchasing of farm supplies, according to the Division of Cooperative Marketing of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Though cooperative purchasing is not likely to become so large a factor as cooperative selling in American agriculture, it promises nevertheless to become extremely important. In 1925, the Division of Cooperative Marketing obtained reports from 10,806 active farmers' cooperative purchasing associations. In 1927, farmers' cooperative purchasing associations purchased feed, seed, fertilizer, containers, and other supplies valued at more than \$300,000,000. Two farmers' business organizations in that year each handled a total cooperative purchasing business in excess of \$100,000,000, and handled a total of \$7,800,000 of cooperative purchasing. Half a dozen or more associations each did a cooperative purchasing business in excess of a million dollars.

Statistical data as to the commodities most commonly purchased have been obtained for 1925. In that year 62 per cent of the reporting associations bought feeds, 47 per cent bought fertilizer, 30 per cent bought fuel, 30 per cent bought seed, 19 per cent bought building materials, 13 per cent bought fencing, 11 per cent bought implements and machinery, 7 per cent bought hardware, and 30 per cent of the associations purchased miscellaneous commodities.

One of the most recent developments has been the formation of farm handling, handling gasoline, kerosene, lubricating oil, and other petroleum products. Many of the oil-buying associations have been extremely successful. Forty such associations in 1927 made an average saving of 10.3 per cent of savings according to a study conducted by the University of Minnesota in cooperation with the Division of Cooperative Marketing of the Department of Agriculture. Feeds and fertilizers bulk largest in the cooperative buying done by farmers in New England and the Middle Atlantic States. In the South Atlantic States, fertilizers, seeds, and containers are the biggest item in cooperative buying. Feeds and fuel are most commonly bought in this way in the North Central States, and containers, including fuel packages, constitute the outstanding phase of the cooperative buying done in the Pacific coast States. Some farmers' associations conduct stores and carry on a general merchandising business.

Efficient cooperative buying makes possible a material saving in the cost of farm operations, and gives better control of quality in the supplies purchased. Savings are effected through centralized buying, reduced credit losses, and large-scale operations. Organized buying power powerfully supplements organized selling power in the farmer's campaign "to eliminate unnecessary or excessive distribution costs. But the benefit thus obtained, though substantial, does not rank first in the advantages of cooperative purchasing. That place is held by the voice given the farmer in determining the quality and character of what he purchases.

In buying production goods such as feed and fertilizer, the farmer is interested in prices certainly; but he is primarily interested in getting the kind of goods that he ought to have. Cooperative purchasing protects farmers against having to take articles of the wrong quality or the wrong kind. The Eastern States Farmers' Exchange, which does a purchasing business running well above \$10,000,000

annually, announces that its first object is to insure quality in the raw materials which farmers need. Savings in distribution costs it regards as a secondary consideration. So that a feed supply of better quality can be assured its members, the association owns and operates one of the largest feed mixing plants in the United States. Expert buying ability is employed to make favorable purchases and to see that materials of proper quality are obtained. A basic policy is the use of "open formula" feeds, or feeds made up as a public declaration is made as to the name and quality of each ingredient.

This principle fundamentally distinguishes the operations of the Eastern States Farmers' Exchange, and those of other farmers' associations that buy feed cooperatively, from the policy followed by some noncooperative feed distributors. When open formulas are used the buyer knows the feeding mixture's contents and can compute its total digestible nutrients. Hence he can compare the cost of the feed with the cost of home-mixed feed. Under ordinary commercial conditions many varieties of feeds, some of them of dubious quality, are sold at an excessive distribution cost. Cooperative buying tends toward a standardization of products on a basis of their real utility. It substitutes an intelligent view of the buyer's requirements for the system in which too often the prevailing consideration is merely the seller's profit.

This important end is promoted in two principal ways. First, the cooperative buying association enlist the aid of Federal and State agencies in solving problems of animal nutrition, and in testing goods for the qualities they should possess. Animal nutrition experts and soil chemists of the State colleges and other State and Federal agencies are consulted in the preparation of formulas for animal rations and for commercial fertilizers, and these agencies are also used in making decisions of the quality of products which the associations are purchasing or handling. A number of the larger purchasing associations employ nutrition experts and chemists who not only advise with State and Federal agencies but carry on experiments of their own in developing animal rations, fertilizer formulas, and testing of supplies handled.

It is equally important, however, that the farmers should be educated to demand feeds and fertilizers scientifically prepared and properly adapted to their requirements. Hence the associations publish house organs for distribution among their members or patrons, and employ traveling field agents to reinforce their printed propaganda in conversations with farmers. In addition, these associations cooperate with the extension staffs of the various agricultural colleges in carrying on educational programs designed to assist farmers in understanding and applying the principles of animal feeding, soil fertility and other production problems.

Recent progress in the cooperative purchasing of farm supplies is illustrated by the history of two leading associations. One has already been mentioned, the Eastern States Farmers' Exchange. This concern was organized in February, 1918, and now has a membership of about 25,000. It has no capital stock, and began operations on credit loans against which actual cash was borrowed. It has earned enough to release its credit loans and now does business entirely on its own earned resources, though two-thirds of its net savings for each calendar year have been divided among its members on a patronage dividend basis. In 1926 the patronage dividend paid to members amounted to \$50,172; and on January 1, 1927, the Exchange had an authorized surplus of \$143,397. Its subsidiary feed plant is capitalized at \$750,000 and is well equipped with modern machinery. The property includes about 13 acres of land.

## BEET MEN ARE FOR THE FARMERS UNION

Members Urged at Meeting in Billings to Join the Organization

The Mountain States Beet Growers' Association of Montana, which met here Wednesday afternoon, was urged to affiliate with the Montana division of the Farmers Union.

The beet growers named B. E. Shay of Park City director at large and ratified the district selection of directors. The new board will meet April 1 in Billings to organize and elect officers.

It was announced at the meeting of the beet growers that the present board of directors will meet next week to take up the matter of the new contract with the sugar company approved by the association at Denver last week. The contract carries the same provision of a minimum guaranteed price of \$7.50 a ton and the same sliding scale, dependent upon sugar price, as was provided in the 1928 contract.

Explains Union Program

Charles D. Egley, manager of the Farmers Union livestock commission house at St. Paul, explained the Farmers Union program in considerable detail, particularly with reference to marketing livestock, grain and other farm commodities. He declared

that individual commodity pools would never solve the farm problem and asserted that only a federated nationwide organization embracing all farm products, as does the Farmers Union, would bring relief.

Resolution of Indorsement of the Farmers Union voted by the beet growers was introduced by G. E. Berg of Worden. It says:

"Be it resolved that the program and principles of the northwest division of the national Farmers Union, built on the block system of organization, through the establishment of local, county, state and national organizations, creating a parent organization or federation, for the purpose of securing cost of production or all agricultural products through the medium of volume that will give bargaining power, is hereby approved and indorsed, and we recommend and urge the membership of the Montana division of the Mountain States Beet Growers' Association, to affiliate with and become a part of the Montana division of the national Farmers Union by applying for accepting membership in said national Farmers Union at the earliest date possible."

The other organization referred to is the Cooperative Grange League Federation Exchange. This association was formed in June, 1928, with an authorized capitalization of \$1,000,000. It is a nonprofit corporation operating in New York State and a few counties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and was organized by the New York State Grange, the Dairy-men's League, and the Federation of Farm Bureau Associations. It follows an open formula policy in regard to feeds, handles seeds of known origin and public formula fertilizers without fillers, and conducts a mail order and warehousing service.

The G. L. F., as it is commonly called, has no membership contract but sells to any farmer in single transactions. Its fixed assets, owned through a subsidiary corporation, include a feed mill at Buffalo, a seed warehouse at Syracuse, a controlling stock in a chain of retail stores and warehouses, and shares of the capital stock of a fertilizer company at Baltimore. On \$10,873,063 of business in 1927 its net savings amounted to \$276,827. Its patronage dividend policy requires the payment of dividends to patrons who are not stockholders at a rate equal to one-half that allowed stockholders. Like the Eastern States Farmers' Exchange the G. L. F. conducts an active educational campaign through a field service department.

Another successful cooperative pur-

chasing organization is the Virginia Seed Service, which was organized in 1923 and now has more than 35,000 patrons. From about \$450,000 in 1924 its business has grown to approximately \$2,000,000 annually. Its announced primary purpose is to guarantee high quality in farmers' supplies. The association has a seed-cleaning warehouse at Richmond, Va., with a capacity of about 150 carloads, and also contracts with outside mills for feed and fertilizers. Its volume of business in 1927 totaled \$1,600,000, with a net saving of \$10,000 was made.

Success in a different phase of cooperative buying has been achieved by the Fruit Growers' Supply Company of California. This organization, whose stockholders are associations, packing houses, and individual shippers affiliated with the California Fruit Growers' Exchange, was formed in 1907. From that year until the end of 1927 its purchases for members aggregated \$103,943,760. In addition it sold \$17,022,319 worth of lumber and lumber products from its own lumber tracts and mills. It has returned \$5,123,438 to members in dividends on capital stock and in refunds and deductions on purchases. In 1927 its total sales amounted to \$10,265,576.

Organization of the Fruit Growers' Supply Company followed the announcement of a 100 per cent increase

(Continued on page 4)

## RADIO SOLVES BAD WEATHER PROBLEM FOR THE AVIATORS

National Air Transport, Inc., Operating Air Mail in Various Cities Solved the Problem

The first practical application of radio as a means of solving the problem of aviation's greatest foe—bad weather—has been made by National Air Transport, Inc., operator of the Chicago-Cleveland-New York and Chicago-Kansas City-Dallas air mail lines.

Planes of the Cleveland-New York Division are already equipped with directional and ground to plane receiving sets, and all other ships of the company's extensive fleet are having the new equipment installed at the Chicago Divisional Repair Shops as rapidly as possible. The installation of the radio equipment is the culmination of a year and a half of intensive tests carried on by radio engineers of the air transport company and of the Department of Commerce, which has resulted in the twin sciences of radio and aviation being definitely linked for the advancement of air transportation. The radio beacons at Cleveland, Bellefonte, Pa., and Hadley Field, N. J., have been erected and maintained by the Light-house Division of the Department of Commerce. Additional radio beacon stations will be in operation on the Chicago-Cleveland Division of the transcontinental airway so that airmen can be guided by radio over the entire distance from New York to Chicago.

The radio beam along the Eastern Division is broadcast by transmitters known as "equi-signals," beacons. The principle upon which these transmitters work is the employment of two cross loops, each radiating a characteristic signal. These signals interlock and form another signal along the bisector of the planes of the loops and when this signal is heard by the pilot in flight, he knows he is following his designated course. For example, the pilot hears a dot and a dash and he knows he is on the

left of the course. He swings over and hears a dash and a dot and knows by that, that he is on the right of the course. He turns back to the left a little and when the dots and dashes blend into one dash, he knows he is following the correct path of the airway.

Because the loop transmitters are used instead of the conventional type of vertical antenna system, is the reason given by experts why the beacon radio waves can be concentrated in one direction along the course. The power generally used in transmission is 500 watts.

Weather reports are transmitted to the pilot through means of the voice transmitters from the ground stations to the plane. A different type of transmitting apparatus, tuned to a higher wave length, is used for this voice transmission, which has been the subject of much intensive study and experimentation. Ordinarily, the pilot is given hourly weather reports, but in event of a severe weather change ahead of him the radio beacon can be interrupted as a signal for him to tune to a higher wave length to receive voice transmission. This he can easily do by switching a remote tuning control in the cockpit which adjusts the receiving set placed in a small compartment just to the rear of his seat. The vertical mast antenna, which is attached to the fuselage about midway to the tail surfaces. Other equipment consists of earphones, a volume control on the instrument board and batteries.

Either code or voice is transmitted one way—from the ground to the plane—at present, but a device to be perfected by which two-way communication will be possible. All N. A. T. ships will eventually be equipped with this improvement.

(Continued on page 4)

## WHEAT STORAGE ACT AID TO GROWER IN MONTANA

New Law Authorizes Credit On Grain While Held On Farm—North Dakota Follows

(From St. Paul Pioneer Press, Sunday, March 3rd, 1929)

Hailed as a revolutionary step in grain marketing methods in the northwest, a law has just been enacted in Montana enabling farmers to use their grain while stored on farms or in warehouses as collateral in obtaining credit loans.

Governor Erickson of Montana signed the measure Tuesday, making it a law, while in North Dakota a similar act has been signed by Governor Shafer.

Thus the two states that head the list as producers of hard spring and durum wheats begin almost simultaneously an endeavor to give the farmer the power to sell his grain when, where and how he desires and relieve him of the compulsion, born of necessity, of dumping his grain on an overloaded market during a few weeks in the fall.

The purpose of the act, as expressed in the text, "is to provide the owners of grain the means of warehouse and storing grain on farms or on near railroad right-of-ways and other suitable places under proper safeguards, as a basis of farm credit on the grain to be stored."

The machinings of the law are simple and are the result of a study of similar laws, such as that in Iowa which because of technicalities have proved too cumbersome to be effective. The Farmers Union, principal sponsor for the North Dakota and Montana measure, believes that the obstacles to successful operation have been ironed out in the new enactment.

Resembles Canadian Pool  
Discussing the conditions that the farm storage laws are aimed to meet, A. W. Ricker, editor of the Farmers Union Herald, St. Paul, expressed the opinion that in them was the Amer-

ican equivalent for the Canadian Grain pool, with this difference:

The Canadian pool collects the grain in elevators at lake ports and other strategic points; the American storage plan holds it on the farm. The Canadian pool member gets an advance on his grain, equivalent to 70 per cent of its market value at time of delivery. The American farmer will get a similar percentage in the form of a loan on the grain stored on his own farm, with the additional advantage that his wheat is kept out of the "visible" and so avoids its share in depressing the price. Sampling the grain also gives the American farmer a chance to learn the protein content of his wheat before selling it and can add the protein premium to his return when he sells.

"In 1928," Mr. Ricker said, "the Federal Intermediate Credit bank extended \$42,000,000 credit to fruit and cotton growers and less than \$3,000,000 to grain growers. That was not the fault of the bank. It was because the farmers of the West and Northwest were not organized or equipped to offer bankable or secured paper upon which to base loans."

Wheat Becomes Security

"Wheat stored upon the farm, under supervision of the state, sealed in proper bins and insured becomes security when the state issues its certificate of storage covering amount, grade, dockage, moisture and protein content. Upon such a certificate the Intermediate Credit bank can lend money. The new plan of Montana and North Dakota will make possible a wider use of this government credit in the northwest."

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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.

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



THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1929

## THE LEGISLATIVE SITUATION

From the time of his positive declarations in behalf of the farm situation, farm organizations have very generally accepted Herbert Hoover as a sincere and capable friend. The earlier opposition gave way and hopefulness, and even favorable conviction, took its place.

Developments recently have mainly confirmed that hope. The new cabinet seems unusually well qualified. Farm groups would not have retained Mr. Mellon as Sec. of the Treasury, probably. The appointment of Ex-Governor Hyde, of Missouri, was particularly pleasing. From those who know him come fine reports as to his attitudes and ability. His relation to the co-operatives in his own state has been such as to bring enthusiastic endorsement from them. An apparently better choice could hardly have been made. And the special session was called as agreed, and without delay. President Hoover let it be known that he was deeply opposed to any general increase in tariff schedules during the special session—further proof of his intent to keep faith with agriculture. So far everything was most promising.

There are now, however, two reports which are disconcerting, to say the least. One is that Congressman Fort, of New Jersey, is to represent the president in legislative matters on the farm question. This is most unfortunate if true. No one questions Mr. Fort's ability or his honesty. But he does not have one farmer among his constituents, is far removed as to region and experience from the farm problem. He can have no first hand knowledge of the situation in the area which produces the farm surplus, and the whole of his experience and interests predisposes him to an unfavorable attitude. He was probably the most able opponent in the last Congress of the McNary-Haugen bill. A farm plan acceptable to Fort is not apt to measure up to the declarations made in Mr. Hoover's St. Louis speech. What suits Mr. Fort is not apt to help farmers—much.

The other disturbing thing is the report that President Hoover will offer no plan for farm relief. It has been remarked that we are apt to suffer most from our friends, and it may easily be that the statements made during the campaign were unauthorized. After they were made it would have been difficult, and perhaps politically unwise, to deny them. Be that as it may, statements were made by men supposed to be in Mr. Hoover's confidence, to the effect that he had a plan for meeting the agricultural situation, which in the event of his election would at once be enacted into law. He was held up as a wonder man, a worker of miracles, although for this he was not responsible. Perhaps he was the victim of over-zealous friends.

According to present reports, after waiting for some expression from him as to the type of legislation acceptable and desired, certain Senators deeply interested in the matter asked him for a statement of his plan. The President frankly said that he had none, and that he was leaving the entire matter to Congress. The stir which this created bordered on consternation in some groups. The plans presented by organized agriculture had been rejected, and most persons seemed to be resting complacently upon the conviction that Mr. Hoover had a solution. His statement, with the special session so close at hand, led to some tall moving about.

Before the news was given to the press as to the president's non-participation in farm proposals, the Corn Belt Committee met in Des Moines and reaffirmed its confidence in the McNary-Haugen bill as passed by Congress previously. Frank Murphy, of Minnesota, William Settle, of Indiana, and this editor were made a Legislative Committee, to take up the Washington situation. During the campaign votes were wanted, and campaign orators drew upon their imaginations somewhat, it now appears, in speaking for Mr.

## IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH

This is just as true of the publishing business as of any other. Every business over ten years old is feeling the pressure of increasing overhead and shortening of the working hours and trying to adjust itself to the newer conditions which it cannot escape. Advertising and editorial expense, paper, printing, rents, and other overhead items of all sorts are costing, and will continue to cost, more as time goes on.

These new conditions bewilder the old-timers, but are undoubtedly in the direction of better and larger living to the masses of workers.

Hoover. Now the president sincerely wants proper farm legislation, declares he has no plan and is depending upon Congress. Farm leaders, with constructive suggestions, are apt to be fairly welcome in Washington for some time to come. It is a confused and confusing situation, and farm organizations and their leaders offer just now the greatest ground for hope that good and effective legislation will result from the special session.

## PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER

The White House has new tenants and the Presidential chair a new occupant; a new Pilot guides the Ship of State, and a new First Lady of the Land presides over the womanhood of America. Herbert Hoover and wife are no longer private citizens. They have become the servants of the people. Unlike other forms of government, a Democracy makes of its ruler both a master and a servant; it expects him to direct governmental activities but always with a full and unobscured recognition of the fact that while he rules he is only the servant of those who elected him to his high and exalted station. And how easy it is to change a private citizen to a public servant and vice versa. The other day, President Calvin Coolidge took private citizen Herbert Hoover for a ride down Pennsylvania Avenue, from the White House to the Capitol. A short while later, private citizen Calvin Coolidge was on his way to the Union Station for the purpose of embarking on a train that was to carry him back to his little home in Northampton, Massachusetts, and President Herbert Hoover was returning over the same Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House. In almost the twinkling of an eye, an oath had been administered by the austere Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the change was complete. Such simplicity is totally unlike the crowning of a king or emperor in a monarchy but its very simplicity makes it more impressive.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to view the vast throngs lining the route over which the old and new Presidents traveled had an excellent opportunity to study human nature, individually and collectively, and to witness its response to our American form of government. No better cross section of American citizenry can be obtained than at an inauguration of a President. From all parts of the country, rich and poor, high and low, great and small repair to their Nation's Capital to participate in the festivities occasioned by the change of chief executives. This year they came in thousands and they came from all corners of the country. Even the Indians were here in their varicolored blankets and feathers ready to pay respect to one of their descendants who was inducted into the office of Vice President; and for the first time in many years, a detachment of Confederate soldiers appeared at the inauguration of a Republican President; cowboys were here from the plains of the west and high-hatted scions of the rich, wearing broadcloth and spats, were here from the bean-eating and codfish picking territory of New England; the broad brimmed hats of the southern planters were much in evidence, but largely to the fact that the once solid south is now only a political memory.

These thousands of Americans stood for hours in a pouring rain in order to pay their respects to Herbert Hoover, the little Iowa orphan of other days who now becomes the 31st President of this great nation. To be perfectly frank and entirely truthful about the matter, it must be admitted that hundreds were here to celebrate the defeat of Alfred E. Smith, for their vote in November last was not cast for the former but against the latter. So they came to the Capital to show their joy over what they call a patriotic victory.

In the center of this poorly described picture stands Herbert Hoover himself. What about him? What shall we expect from his administration? What will he contribute to make it the success it advocates predict? What particular interest has the American farmer in this change of rulers? All these questions arise as we review the doings of the past week. Well, we know that Hoover has risen from obscurity to the highest honor that this country can bestow. His life has been marked by great deeds and successful activities. So far as inquiry can reveal, he is known to be a man of his word. He has promised to do his utmost to restore prosperity to the farm folks of America. He has announced his intention to make this work his first concern and consideration. He is calling a Special Session of Congress to legislate in that direction. While agriculturists generally are noted for their great patriotic devotion, it may be said that this year they will take a particular interest in what their new President does and stand willing to help him make good on all of his promises, by giving him full and complete allegiance. This thousands did in person on Monday last and the remaining millions now do in spirit. Herbert Hoover becomes our new chief executive under most auspicious circumstances. May he be able to rise to the hopes and expectations of the people and prove to be one of our best beloved and most highly respected administrators. If good wishes will start him in the right direction and aid him in his accomplishments, the future will soon prove that we have chosen well.—National Farm News, Washington, D. C.

"The burgomaster of Frankfort says: 'He who is preaching war today should be examined for insanity.' But no one is today openly preaching war. On the other hand, nothing or little is being done to alter the conditions of things that cause war. It is the people who refuse to alter the conditions that produce war who should be examined for insanity."—Chapman Cohen.

though it does mean more work for the executive manager to meet the new order of things. Consolidation and elimination of competitive waste is a partial answer to this problem. Greater efficiency and more intensive efforts, plus the lopping off of unnecessary trappings, is a partial answer. But another and very important item is that of securing loyal and consistent teamwork. Much unnoticed waste arises from the lack of the right sort of teamwork. When a consolidation occurs, the old habits are apt to be interrupted to the betterment of the business.

Almost every responsible head of a business knows of changes in per-

sonnel which should be made but, for one reason or another, he hesitates to disturb old relations. He hopes time or tide may automatically work things out; but this does not usually happen until much injury to the business has been done. We are reluctant to make changes even when we know that an individual does not fit his job. After all, it is not necessarily an indictment of one's ability that he happens to be found in the wrong place. There is a place where he will function and it should be the job of the management to find that place and "promote" the candidate into it without any fuss or feathers.

## WHAT IS PROSPERITY? NOT TOUCHING CAUSES

What is prosperity? The people of the United States have it in abundance, according to aggregate statistics, yet James J. Davis, the U. S. Secretary of Labor, as recently quoted by the Calgary Albertan, states that "86 per cent of Americans are poor." Figures compiled by the Federal Trade Commission at Washington show that 1 per cent of the people own 58 per cent of the country's wealth. 13 per cent own 90 per cent, while 87 per cent of the population own 10 per cent of the wealth of the republic. Of the total national income, 50 per cent goes to capital.

Starkling inequalities of this character are not confined to the United States. British statistics are also very impressive. And in Canada there is exactly the same tendency at work as elsewhere. We are certainly not in a position to give thanks that "we are not as these others." We have no just grounds for national self-complacency, even though inequality may not have reached such extremes in this country as yet, as in some of the older commercial regions of the world.

When we turn to the annual budget statements of Ministers of Finance, comparative figures of this sort are conspicuously lacking. Yet it is vital to the future of our civilization that the facts should be widely known, and that the tendency to increased inequality should be arrested. Much can be done through the development of co-operation. James P. Warbasse, the wealthy, public spirited New Englander who recently visited Alberta to speak on the movement which he has done so much to advance, rightly dwelt upon the very great possibilities of this form of activity. There is, however, a place for fiscal intervention as well.

And, incidentally, newspapers can be much better employed in calling attention to existing disparities, and in seeking means for their removal, than in launching campaigns, in the spirit of present-day Italy, rather than of the England of Milton or Shelley, or the Canada of Mackenzie and Papineau, against any elements in the population whose protest may take unconventional forms.

Some forms of protest are wiser than others, and some methods of going about the job of rectifying existing inequalities are sounder than others. But the citizen of the modern world who is not dominated by the bizarre social philosophy of Fascism, and yet can read of the widening gulf between the classes without becoming in some sort a rebel, is surely ill-equipped to assume the responsibilities of citizenship.—U. F. A. Magazine, Alberta.

## BULK OIL AND GASOLINE STATIONS

In the matter of service in purchasing probably no co-operative enterprise has been more outstanding or consistently successful than bulk oil stations. Like most of the co-operatives, they were first undertaken as separate units, purely local in relationship. Often they were under contract with an "old line" company, promoting the sale of some particular brand of product. Even so they were successful, and the savings were substantial.

When these stations began to buy in the open market on specifications, and to market reliable products wholly upon their own responsibility, their field of service widened greatly and profits increased. So did opposition. So long as the co-operative was content to operate on the regular station margin there was no open conflict. But when it entered the market to obtain the fullest benefit for its members that was something else entirely. It is remarkable that even then there were practically no failures. No retailing venture in co-operative history has shown so large a percentage of success.

In due course there developed a program of federating these co-operatives, consolidating their purchases through a central agency. The Farmers Union has been signally successful in this. The Nebraska Union has the largest such agency, made up of some 40 stations. Iowa is entering upon a campaign of development, and the outlook is most favorable. In the Northwest vigorous organization work is under way. These will all be part of a central buying organization from the beginning. Under such arrangement success is almost certain. It would seem that eventually the National Purchasing Ass'n should represent the entire group, buying the entire output of one or more refineries.

The Missouri Farmers Ass'n is entering the field to establish a large number of stations and has a plan for financing the larger part of first cost on deferred payments. This will lessen or organization cost, as less field work will be necessary. They hope to extend this service very widely within the coming months. The Missouri Farmer says editorially in a recent issue:

"Throughout Iowa, Minnesota and the Northwest generally, the Farmers Union is organizing bulk oil and gasoline stations at all important points of distribution, and its oil, gasoline and kerosene is being purchased by an Oil Department which the Farmers Union owns and controls, and which therefore permits no middleman's profits—in other words, the Farmers Union deals direct with the refineries, and therefore buys at first cost."

"The Kansas Union ought, in my opinion, to open soon a vigorous campaign in this direction. There is no safer co-operative activity. Savings are substantial. Properly organized and conducted the oil business is a membership builder and retainer. We can purchase both equipment and stocks at the lowest possible prices. It will prove successful."

Chief Justice Taft was not the only one who slipped in administering the oath of office on March 4th. Robert C. Stephenson of Austin, Texas, in a letter to the editor of The Nation, reports that while listening to the ceremonies over the radio, he heard the new Vice-President swear in several batches of fresh Senators, requiring them solemnly to defend the Constitution "without mental obligation."

"Lo the Poor Indian doesn't speak the white man's language very well," says Mr. Stephenson.

In 1910, there were 1,000 miles of paved roads in the United States. Today there are 100,000 miles, and 600,000 miles of other improved roads.

## REFLECTIONS

### IS OVER-PRODUCTION OF WHEAT POSSIBLE?

It is a peculiar thing that while manufacturers, business men and the editors of business papers, often talk feelingly about the over-production of factories, none of them seems to think there can possibly be an over-production of food stuffs. For example, the president of a Canadian bank in his address to the annual meeting of the shareholders a few weeks ago said:

"It is a matter for regret that over-production, with consequent competition and price-cutting, has checked the abounding prosperity of the newspaper industry, but there is no occasion for surprise at a situation which always arises when supply outruns demand."

Now suppose we just alter one word in that paragraph so that it runs in this way:

"It is a matter of regret that over-production with consequent competition and price-cutting has checked the abounding prosperity of the farming industry, but there is no occasion for surprise at a situation which always arises when supply outruns demand."

Why is it so calmly assumed by all business men that the first paragraph states an economic truth and the second one an economic fallacy? In speaking to the Convention of the United Farmers of Manitoba this month, Hon. Robert Forke, Minister of Immigration, expressed the opinion that there was no fear of an over-production of wheat in Canada, because there could not be too much food in the world. That would be perfectly correct if the farmer was engaged only in producing use-values and was not interested in the least in exchange values. Unfortunately it is only in Utopia that the producer is concerned exclusively with use values; in Utopia food is produced to sustain the people and not to be sold. In Canada the farmer produces grain to be sold, and it is its exchange value and not its use with which he is primarily concerned. Farmers before today have produced food stuffs that they have had to destroy on their place because it would have cost them more than the market value of the stuff to put it on the market. And yet the produce so destroyed could somewhere have been used for the purpose for which it was produced. It had a use value but not an exchange value.

Over-production of wheat has precisely the same consequences for the farmer that the over-production of newspaper has for the paper manufacturing business. If wheat could be produced for nothing and put within reach of all the hungry mouths in the world, then there could be no over-production of wheat, but unfortunately, it costs money to grow wheat and money to transport it and those who need it have to be in a position to pay for it. The demand for wheat is not fixed by the consumer's need but by his ability to pay for it. If it were fixed by his need then Mr. Forke would be right, and there could be no over-production so long as there were empty stomachs to fill.

As it costs money to grow wheat the grower must receive for it at least the cost of production, but if he produces more than just satisfies the demand at the cost of production, then he must take less to get rid of it. He has to step down, so to speak, to the class that can only afford less than the cost of production. That is one of the features of our economic system; goods produced at a certain cost

must realize that cost in the market; if more is produced at that cost than can be consumed at the cost, then the price inevitably goes down and that applies to wheat as to every commodity. If by filling up the land in Western Canada we could produce more wheat at less cost, then certainly it would be a god thing for the world and would help to reduce the misery from under-feeding, but filling up the land and increasing the production is not accompanied by a reduction of the cost of production, and consequently it has the tendency to make farming less profitable and so to transfer the misery from one class to another. As the president of the bank says, "there is no occasion for surprise at a situation which always arises when supply outruns demand."

—Manitoba Scoop Shovel.

### SEEING THINGS

Just when everyone in America, at least, is coming to feel a sense of security as to the future, comes Sir George Parish, British economist, with the declaration that the world is face to face with "the gravest financial crisis in history."

Why can't we be allowed to enjoy our troubles in peace? There is an acute farm problem, there is unemployment, there is a session of Congress (which is always a problem and often a calamity), and our neighbors on the south are quarreling vigorously. And now we have Sir Parish. But his declarations may well be taken seriously at that. His contention is that trade restrictions and debt manipulations are destroying us, in the midst of fancied prosperity. He is quoted as follows:

"The present policy of protection, and safeguarding means the suicide of the world," he said. "Nothing can be done to prevent this financial crisis."

He said the United States and British experts expect the crisis in the spring. Sir George said the crisis is threatening because the governments of the world have followed the policy of trade restriction, preventing debtors from paying their debts.

"I am not exaggerating," he asserted. "I wish I were."

### THE MARTYR

And all the while they mocked him and reviled, And heaped upon him words of infamy, He stood serenely there, and only smiled.

In pity at the blind intensity Of hate; for well he knew that Love alone Can cure the ills of men—of nations, too—

Ticorh unregenerate mobs their prophets stone!

And crucify the gentle Christ anew. So he but smiled, and drained with quiet grace

The bitter cup for lips too eloquent, And, dauntless, took the soul-degrading place

Designed for thieves—this prophet heaven-sent!

And when the throng at length had hushed its cry,

Another cross loomed dark against the sky.

—Natalia Flohr.

### STOP SPENDING AND FARM PROBLEM IS SOLVED

Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, recently printed a letter from a reader (does he get the paper free?) who declares that the farm problem can

only be solved when farmers quit spending money. It may be admitted that that would stop the farm debt from piling up. If followed drastically enough it might even result in paying off the farm debt in 15 or 20 years.

But if all farmers were to do as this writer indicates, business and industry would suffer so severely as to shake the very foundations of our prosperity. Imagine the effect upon the implement and automobile industries, to mention only two, if that should happen. The social consequences to farmers would be even more serious. Saving won't save the farmer. This man wrote:

"We pay no gasoline bills and no automobile license fees. We stay home seven nights a week. If most of the farmers would do as I do there would be no need of a farm relief bill. What is hurting the farmers is the factories, the packers and the agricultural colleges. The agricultural colleges try to tell the farmer what to do and there is no one who can tell the farmer what to do aside from the man that works by his side."

### AND THEN THE FARMER PAYS IT

We spend \$2.50 on diamonds a person and \$1.10 on books; \$4.15 worth of steel pens, and only 22c for dentures. Only one person in ten in the United States brushes their teeth, but we consume enough tobacco a year to pay off the interest on the entire public debt!

We spend 6c per capita annually for ink (the guesses of editors to the contrary) and \$1.30 for pickles. We spend 62c for professional and scientific instruments and 6c for condiments; 57c for typewriters; and only \$1.29 for religious work.

We spend 51c for firearms and shells and 13c for fountain pens and steel pens. We spend \$28 for luxurious service and \$2.20 for pianos, organs and phonographs. We spend \$5 for jewelry, 5c for artists' materials and 15c for artists' finished work of various kinds.

We spend \$3 for ice cream and 8c for professors' salaries a week. If most of the farmers would do as I do, we would save \$30 for ice cream and \$2.50 on sporting goods. Finally it costs us \$30.73 for government expenses.—Western Druggist.

### TO A TREE

I think that I shall never see A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that like a man in summer wear A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain; Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree.

—Joyce Kilmer.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

### DOUGLAS COUNTY MEETING

The first quarterly meeting for 1929 of the Douglas County Farmers Union was held March 16th at Pleasant Valley school house. Due to muddy roads the attendance was reduced to a comparatively small number, nine of the fourteen locals being represented. However, what the meeting might have lacked in numbers and enthusiasm was amply replaced by a determination to carry on in the face of local disappointments, and loyalty to the men who have been the mainstay of our county organization. In addition to routine business, time was given to current subjects and the discussion attending were entertaining and beneficial.

President Butcher of our County Farm Bureau spoke briefly on 4-H club work.

E. H. Illian, Co. Secy.

### MARSHALL COUNTY MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Marshall County Farmers Union which was postponed, owing to bad roads, will be held in I. O. O. F. hall Tuesday, April 2, commencing at 11 o'clock. Basket dinner and program.

Richard H. Mackey, Secretary.

### WARD J. SPENCER ON INSURANCE JOB

Fieldman Charles Simpson is regaining his strength, but meantime efficient field work is necessary. So Ward J. Spencer, of St. John, has been engaged for the work. Mr. Spencer is capable and honest, a 100 per cent Farmers Union man, and our members everywhere will find him dependable and fair.

While Charlie Simpson enjoys at once the California climate and the privilege of visiting near relatives in that state we shall all hope for and expect his complete recovery.

And we bespeak for Bro. Spencer the same friendly reception which our people have always given Bro. Simpson, and assure you that California in him will be well placed. He has for

years been President of his county organization, knows cooperation and the Farmers Union from the ground up, and is safe to "tie to."

### A BOVINE TRAGEDY

(To the tune of "Break the News to Mother")  
The meeting was so sudden  
The parting was so sad  
She gave her life so meekly  
'Twas the only life she had.  
She's sleeping 'neath the willow  
And that's what always happens  
When a freight train hits a cow.

### TSMPLIN LOCAL 1891

The meeting for March was postponed from the 1st to the 8th on account of the bad roads. The executive committee was installed. There was no business of great importance transacted. O. A. Wahl, was chairman of the men's committee for entertainment and serving. Circumstances were such that no program was given.

Lunch consisting of sandwiches, cake and coffee was served.

The men members of the Union have been divided into two groups. O. A. Wahl is captain of one group and G. Eisenhut is captain of the other group. The group getting the dues paid first wins and the losers must entertain and serve. At this meeting neither side had all dues paid in.

Mrs. H. E. Kietzman is the leader of the committee for the April meeting.

Mrs. Walter Zimmerman, Rep.

### FRANKLIN, 1901

Tuesday evening, March 12, the members of Franklin local, No. 1301, Ellsworth county, "brezed" in for a "blow-out" at the school house in district 30, just north of Geneseo, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Caldwell, who are moving to Geneseo for a temporary home until Aug. 1st. Mrs. Fred Livingston was instrumental in putting over an inaugural affair which

was enjoyed to the utmost. A literary paper featuring Mr. Ernest Droegemum as Teddy Roosevelt's ideal man, was the work of Mrs. O. W. Holmes. While Mrs. L. C. Heitschmidt entertained us with a lever contest. Pie a la mode with coffee was served at a late hour. The attendance was large and everyone enjoyed the affair to the utmost. Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell have worked faithfully in the local and in the varied walks of neighborly and social intercourse, they have contributed abundantly toward making life pleasant in the circle in which they have moved and when sorrow visits, always showing that splendid spirit of good-fellowships and co-operation for community interests and betterment. As evidence of their appreciation of the Caldwell family, beautiful flowers among other tangible tokens of esteem were left with the Caldwells, for which they expressed their sincere thanks and gratitude.

Mrs. O. W. Holmes.

### MARCH

On a soaked fence-post a little blue-backed bird,  
Opening his sweet throat, has stirred  
A million music-ripples in the air  
That curl and circle everywhere.  
They break not shallow at my ear,  
But quiver far within. Warm days are near!

—Max Eastman.

### MARCH

In the dark silence of her chambers low,  
March works out sweeter things than mortals know.  
Her noiseless looms ply on with busy care,  
Weaving the fine cloth that the flower-circs wear.

She sews the seams in violets green hood,  
And paints the sweet arbutus of the wood.

From a sunbeam makes a cowslip fair,  
(Continued on page 4)







## HONOR ROLL

ANDERSON COUNTY	
Fairmount	2049
RUSH COUNTY	
Independence	773
BROWN COUNTY	
Temple	1431
Carson	1035
CHASE COUNTY	
Saffordville	1936
CLAY COUNTY	
Chester	1125
Prairie Star	944
Pleasant Valley	1025
CHEROKEE COUNTY	
Melrose	2059
COWLEY COUNTY	
Busy Bee	1986
CRAWFORD COUNTY	
Quick	765
Maple Grove	1803
Mt. Carmel	1706
Stillwell	2060
ELLIS COUNTY	
Pleasant Valley	1804
Wiles	854
ELLSWORTH COUNTY	
Advance	1889
Little Wolf	1376
Excelsior	975
GREENWOOD COUNTY	
Neal	1313
JACKSON COUNTY	
Mayetta	1904
JEFFERSON COUNTY	
Grantville	2055
JEWELL COUNTY	
Pleasant Prairie	594
JOHNSON COUNTY	
Sharon	1744
LANE COUNTY	
Amy	5164
LEAVENWORTH COUNTY	
Stamwood	1330
LINN COUNTY	
Pleasant Home	2055
LYON COUNTY	
Bushong	579
MIAMI COUNTY	
Jingo	1737
NORTON COUNTY	
Almelo	918
RICE COUNTY	
Chase	1563
Pleasant Hill	1387
RILEY COUNTY	
Rock Island	1199
Pleasant Hill	1202
RUSH COUNTY	
Lone Star	917
Sand Creek	804
RUSSELL COUNTY	
Pleasant Hill	728
SEDGWICK COUNTY	
Greenwich	1875
SCOTT COUNTY	
Pleasant Valley	1526
Beaver Flatts	2117
Excelsior	1554
Pence	1740
THOMAS COUNTY	
Sunflower	1181
TREGO COUNTY	
Silver Lake	679
WABAUNSEE COUNTY	
Chalk	1580
Turkey Creek	1868
WASHINGTON COUNTY	
Liberty	1142
WOODSON COUNTY	
Liberty	2148

### Junior Co-operators

(Continued from page 3)

little letter to President Huff and he asked that we publish it and make her a member of the Junior Department. Hope she will write to us, next, and maybe study the lessons with us. The other member is Paul Huff. Paul is the son of President Huff and is a very good personal friend of mine. Paul helped me out lots of times, in many ways. We are glad to have these folks on our membership roll. Now I am going to talk about something that I am a little ashamed to say anything about. I am afraid you will begin to think it is all talk and nothing else. That is our Pins. Now I am going to tell you as near as I can what they will be like, have had another letter with a picture of the Pins so it won't be long now.

The Pins are as near like the Farmers Union Button that your daddy wears as we could get them. They will be gold and green enamel, or may be, gold and red. Instead of having the Farmers Union letters around the edge it has Junior Cooperator. They edge it has good buttons, that you will be proud to wear on your Sunday suit or dress. Now the main thing is when will we get them. The very day they come I will stop everything and send them to you. I have ordered 100. I wish we would have to order more, right away. Every member gets one.

In the paper this week we have a story about peculiar things some people in other lands eat. Every one

find that and read it. See if you don't think it is funny. Will be looking for the third lesson to be coming in, most any time now. Lovingly,  
Aunt Patience.

Salina, Kans., March 22, 1929.  
Dear Aunt Patience:  
I want to become a Junior Cooperator. I am 12 years old and I am in the 7th grade at school.

Before we came to Salina, which was about two years ago, we attended a local between Oronoque and Norton. I enjoyed the programs very much.

Now we attend the Rural Rest in this city.

I enjoy looking at the nature study strip.

Yours truly,  
Paul Huff.

Westphalia, Kan., March 18, 1929.

Dear Aunt Patience:

I didn't send my lesson in quicker because Daddy has been sick and I had to help with the work. We sold eight mules this spring. We have 14 left.

I will close.

Ned Corley.

March 17.

Dear Mr. Huff:

I saw the article that you had in the paper about the Oakley meeting. I was glad to see it because I don't get my name in the paper very often. Eumice is sweeter than ever this week. I think she will soon walk. The wind blew hard ever day last week. Papa is beginning to drill barley now. In

art at school we are painting designs. In arithmetic we are learning the five times tables. Soon as we learn them we will divide and multiply by five. Do you like to play jacks? I do. At school the y play jacks all the time. Does Hope play jacks. Is that your little girl's name or have I forgotten it? My address is Miss Esther Sim and the route number is route 4, and don't forget, Oakley, Kans.

Love, from  
Esher.

### Radio Solves Bad Weather Problems for the Aviators

(Continued from page 1)

In thick weather, the pilot can determine the proximity of an airport where a beacon is located by the narrowing path of the radio beam. The radio beam, like a beam of light, spreads sometimes to the width of two or more miles near the end of its effective path. Conversely, it converges nearer its origin as it passes through the air when nearing a port by the intensity of the signals and the narrowing of the effective path of the beam. Further aid in locating a field in thick weather is given by what is known as a marker beacon which sends a signal that can be heard through the course signal and informs the pilot that he is above the field. This additional to the signal system is expected to be in general use soon.

Between two airports equipped with the directional apparatus, the pilot follows the course indicated by the one which has just left for about half the distance to the next, then the beacon located at the field toward which he is headed becomes effective and he follows its converging beam through his receiving set to his destination.

It is planned to have these directional beacons located at 200-mile intervals over all lines and thus take advantage of this new device to overcome any delay now caused by adverse weather conditions. Severe tests to which the directional and voice transmission apparatus has been subjected by National Air Transport show that it is proving their aid and reliability as an aid to aerial navigation under all weather conditions.

### Co-operative Buying By Farmers

(Continued from page 1)

in the price of orange boxes by a combination of pine lumber mills under the farmers' organization acquired lumber tracts in Lassen and Siskiyou Counties, California, and Jackson County, Oregon. Today it owns 70,000 acres of timberland, carrying about 1,500,000 feet of virgin timber, and holds another 1,000,000,000 feet under contract with the Federal Government for the Lassen and Klamath National Forests. It has an annual capacity of 150,000 feet, or approximately 50 per cent more than the present annual requirements of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange. It sells the better grades of lumber manufactured from its timberlands, and manufactures only the low-grade lumber into boxes. Funds available from the sale of the upper grades are used to buy box stock manufactured by other mills. But if necessary, the supply company could supply the timber requirements of its members direct.

Farmers' elevator associations, especially in the Soft Wheat, Corn belt and Pacific coast areas, purchase large quantities of supplies for their members and patrons. A recent survey made by the Department of Agriculture shows that in the 1926-27 season, the value of sideline sales of farmers' elevators, exclusive of live-members, totaled over \$100,000,000. Flour and feed comprised the largest single item and fuel ranked second. Other important items purchased were lumber, twine, mowers and miscellaneous supplies. A considerable proportion of these supplies were purchased through purchasing departments of certain of the State Farmers' Elevator Associations or through State-wide brokerage agencies operated for the benefit of the member farmers' elevator associations in Indiana was launched in 1922 by the Indiana Farm Bureau. This enterprise, now known as the Indiana Farm Bureau Purchasing Department, Inc., in 1927 purchased and distributed 10,000 tons of fertilizer; \$388,480 worth of feed; \$287,356 worth of coal, and \$221,953 worth of seeds; besides a considerable quantity of lubricating oil, grease, binder twine, fencing, tires and batteries.

In Nebraska the Farmers' Union State Exchange does a large purchasing business. The exchange was incorporated as a separate enterprise in 1919, and now has about 7,000 stockholders. Its sales last year totaled \$1,774,000. It maintains many branch stores which handle groceries, work clothes and shoes, implements, and other commodities in general demand by farmers.

Opportunities in cooperative purchasing for agriculture vary regionally perhaps more than in any other industry. Some districts, such as the example of the eastern dairy region, depend much more than others on purchases of what may be termed raw material. Whereas the eastern dairy farmer must usually buy most of his concentrated feeds, the hog producer of the Corn Belt does not. Yet the relatively smaller production items in the farmer's business often lend themselves well to cooperative buying, as is indicated by the development of the oil cooperatives and the progress made in the cooperative purchasing of coal, twine, fencing, and many other commodities. Organizations that anticipate small lots are time as well as money. The most difficult problem, that of obtaining a sufficient volume of business, becomes less formidable as the economy of combined buying is better understood.

### THE DRY GOODS BOX

#### THINKS FARMER WILL AGAIN GET SHORT END OF HANDLE

Fairview, Kans., Mar. 19, 1929.  
Kans. Union Farmer.

According to news reports it seems we farmers are to be betrayed at the coming extra session of congress and I am writing and sending to you my views.

There is now taking shape at Washington a movement, which in effect, will, if successful, result in the betrayal of the American farmer. It will be the repudiation of the will of the nation's voters as it was expressed at the polls last November. All the farmers as well as every patriotic citizen must guard against this movement and also must raise a protest and work constantly to prevent it.

This movement is to enact a sharp increase in practically the whole of the tariff at the Special Session of Congress that convenes in April. If this is done, industry will largely increase its profits and its prosperity and this will add to the already high cost of living of the laborer and farmer. Nothing is done for the farmer's relief. It will leave the farmer just where we have been for years; with a lot of pleasant talk, but no real relief; it will further rob the farmer for the benefit of industry. This movement is going quietly forward in spite of all the pledges and promises made during the recent campaign. The first subject upon which real and effective legislation should be enacted by the party is the removal of relief of the American farmer. Everyone admits the farmer has been for a long time entitled to it. There is no doubt but that a high tariff has become the accepted policy in this country by both parties. The American people understand perfectly that any tariff increases living costs no matter in whatever direction it is applied. We all know that the price on any commodity, if it is raised, the consumer must pay the difference and that the ultimate consumer is the one who pays it. Here is another thing we all know. Any increased cost results in a high price for the consumer and that is the case for all products and that is why we all approve of a high tariff. The high tariff makes possible the American standard of living which is more than twice as high as any other nation.

But this accepted policy is subject to our condition which is imposed by our American standards of equality under the law and equal opportunity and this is it. The benefit of government aid, whether by the tariff or otherwise must be equally distributed. It must not discriminate against one class for the benefit of another. Such a tariff must provide an equality high and equally American standard of living for every class.

The American farmer has learned long ago by experience that no tariff can be of much value to them except under unusual conditions. The American farmer has been left out of the great benefits of protection in regard to farm products because most of them—wheat, corn, pork, cotton and others—are grown in greater quantities than this country can use. We import too little to affect the market and no tariff increase will increase the farmer's prices for his products because the prices are fixed by the world's market. So far as I can see and learn no tariff increase will help. The farmer, alone, of all Americans, must compete without aid against the cheap prices of the rest of the world, produced by labor which has a far cheaper standard of living.

It is clear, therefore, that the American farmer must get his relief through some means other than a higher tariff. For seventy years the tariff has proved a sure means of relief. The manufacturer knows exactly how to get the benefits he deserves but the farmer has not. The man received no profits at all. The manufacturer has for years been gathering these benefits and the farmer has helped pay for them. So last November the American voters overwhelmingly decided that the time had come when the American farmer must have his rightful share. So now comes this movement which would increase the already large benefits which industry is deriving from government aid and which would do it, too, before there is any assurance of relief for the farmer. Employees of labor naturally desire to increase the price of manufactured articles through high tariff and they also desire to keep down the price of food because in that way they can increase their profits without raising wages.

#### STRANGE ARTICLES OF DIET EATEN BY STRANGE PEOPLE

Washington, D. C., March 15.—"Uncooked, monkey brains on the half skull, pickled water beetles, fried locusts, and cobra and python steaks are specimens of the many strange and unusual foods which grace the world's dinner tables," says a bulletin from the Washington, D. C., headquarters of the National Geographic Society.

"Pickin and birds' nest soup are popular Chinese appetizers, in some portions of the republic. Silk worms are eaten after the cocoon has been unwound. Horses, donkeys and camels, after they have lost their usefulness, as beasts of burden, are consumed, as are also of lesser tribes. Caterpillars, frogs and snails are relished when obtainable.

"New Guinea natives find China a good market for sharks' fins from which the Celestials made a delectable soup, and also for beetle do mer, a large sea worm found in New Guinea waters.

"The New Guinea natives themselves are fond of the pit of sago palms, potatoes and bananas; and dog, snake and lizard flesh with that of the pig. The womenfolk gather beetles, grubs and larvae from trees to give the festive board.

"Eel meals are as popular among Japanese as are Maryland chicken dinners in Baltimore. In some Japanese cities, eel houses are nearly as numerous

as weiner stands at a county fair. When the diner enters an eel house he is led to a large tub of live eels. He makes his choice of the wriggling creatures, it is speared, split along the back, cut into small pieces, and with soy sauce, is cooked over a charcoal fire.

"At Japanese inns, the traveler is told that 'Bombay ducks' can be had at a reasonable price. The hungry customer visions a fat fowl but the waiter brings in pieces of smoked fish about two inches long and as thick as a dime. The menu also includes pickled seaweed, seaweed jelly, and white radish.

Fish Eyes, White Ants, Etc. "Koreans, like many orientals, live mostly on rice. They cook their seafood in oil and serve it with slices of red peppers. Kimchee, a kind of sauerkraut, is a favorite Korean dish. "To the north, the natives of Kamchatka relish the tongues and the marrow of the bones of reindeer, but the piece-de-resistance is the meat of unpeeled fawns. From the stomach of the reindeer the natives obtain their greens—half digested balls of moss. A delectable native dish is reindeer sausage which has been surrounded by dough and dropped in boiling water. One the lower end of the peninsula where salmon are plentiful, dishes of boiled fish eyes are considered a delicacy.

"Perhaps few people live as close to nature as the Pygmies of the Belgian Congo. Tender roots are staples, but birds, small game, rodents or caterpillars are not objectionable. A dish of white ants, prized highly by these diminutive people, while a slice of raw elephant meat makes a feast.

Spiders, Locusts, Etc. "In addition to many viands on the Pygmy bill of fare, the Madagascari natives eat spiders, silk worms, grasshoppers, and dried locusts. When a cloud of locusts settles on a crop, a sufficient number of them are collected to offset the loss of food which the insects consume. Every good Madagascan housewife has in reserve a supply of dried locusts to sustain the family in times of famine.

"Yak cheese is a staple in the Mulik kingdom of western China and would not be objectionable to the western traveler if it were not for the numerous yak hairs in the substance. "On the table of the Corsican, a traveler might see half of the head of a lamb with tongue, cheek and brain in place. About the time the American appetite is whetted for Thanksgiving turkey, Corsican fishermen are catching eels for home consumption and for shipment to Nice and Naples where they are a delicacy. A dinner in a restaurant in Switzerland, Germany or France would not include eels, but would draw a curious glance from native patrons. Eels, cucumbers, and cherry pie are 'national dishes.'

Sea Worms and Truffles "The varied bill of fare of the Frenchmen includes foie gras—a piece of fatty goose liver. Truffles are rare delicacies. French farmers are frequently seen leading their pig and dog 'truffle sniffers' over the fields. Truffles are underground fungi which

chutney which resembles pickled citron, but is almost as hot as Mexican chile. More raw than cooked fish is eaten by Japanese. Raw baby octopuses are particularly popular. 'Japanese limburger' is not a cheese but a Japanese pickled daikon, or long white radish.

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grow six inches below the surface, and are located by the sensitive noses of the animals. Basques about Balbao, Spain, eat raw, transparent worms about two inches long. They are fried in oil and are served hot. "One unusual meat is served not far from the American border. The Indians of Mexico prefer Iguana flesh to chicken. The appearance in the markets of the green lizard-like body, bedecked with a crest of spines running down to a long alligatorlike tail, dulls the appetite of the hungry alien shopper."

#### NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

(continued from page 2)

Or spins a gown for daffodils to wear. She marshals close armies of the grass. And polishes their green blades as they pass. And all the blossoms of fruit trees sweet. Are piled in rosy shells about her feet. Nor does she err, add give to mignonette.

The perfume which belongs to violet. Nature does well whatever task she tries. Because obedient. Here the secret lies. What matter, then, that what the March winds blow?

Bear patiently her lingering fr and snow! For all the sweet beginnings of Spring. Beneath her cold brown breast lies fluttering.

—May Ruby Smith.

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