



# THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Co-operation

Education

Organization

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1941

## PRICE FIXING IS REAL THREAT TO NATION'S FARMERS

FARM PRICES EXPECTED TO BE CONTROLLED BY RIGID PRICE-FIXING

Most Farm Prices are Out of Line With Prices of Other Commodities

With startling rapidity, Federal policy is turning in the direction of rigid price-fixing controls. Another drastic step was taken in this direction last week when Price-Control Administrator Leon Henderson announced a 50 percent cut in production for the automobile, refrigerator and laundry equipment industries. The cut was necessitated by acute shortages in raw materials. Although his first request for curtailment met with defeat, Henderson said that before

## National Convention Comes To Kansas

Farmers Union 1941 Convention Will Be Held in Kansas  
Salina, Kansas, August 4—The convention of the National Farmers Union will be held in Kansas this year, it has been announced by State President E. K. Dean.

The convention city will be decided upon at the National Board meeting which will be in Kansas City on August 24th and 25th. This Board meeting will precede a series of district meetings in Kansas, which have been called by President Dean.

The convention will be sometime during the latter part of November. It has been twenty years since Kansas has been host for our national Farmers Union Convention.

In 1913, on September 2-4, and again in 1921, on November 15-17, the Farmers Union national convention was held in Kansas. The convention city in 1913 was Salina, and in 1921, the convention met at Topeka.

## TALBOTT DECLINES IMPORTANT POST WITH GOVERNMENT

POSITION WOULD REPRESENT AGRICULTURE IN CONNECTION WITH ENTIRE LABOR MOVEMENT

North Dakota Farmers Union Feels That Talbott's Leadership Is More Necessary to Organized Agriculture

The North Dakota Farmers Union and its president were honored recently by the offer to Glenn J. Talbott of an important agricultural post in connection with the defense emergency. This invitation came by telephone directly from Clifford M. Townsend, former Governor of Indiana and now director of the newly established Office of Agricultural Defense Relations.

Four divisions are to be set up in this office dealing with various phases of the total agricultural problem. The one offered to Mr. Talbott was Labor Relations which would deal not only with labor relations and problems in agriculture, but would represent agriculture with the whole labor movement.

Mr. Talbott called in other members of the Executive Committee of the State Board, Ole L. Olson and Alex Lind, on July 2 to consider this proposition and while they recognized the tremendous importance of this appointment during the present crisis, it was believed President Talbott would be of greater value and service to the farmers of America in his present position. The offer was declined in the following telegram to Governor Townsend:

Jameson, North Dakota  
July 3, 1941  
Governor Clifford M. Townsend,  
Director,  
Office of Agricultural Defense Relations,  
South Building, United States Department of Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.

Our Board of Directors met yesterday to consider your invitation for Glenn J. Talbott to accept position with Office of Agricultural Defense Relations. We recognize importance of this appointment to agriculture and deeply appreciate consideration extended Mr. Talbott and our organization. However, it is also essential that a strong, militant farm organization be built rapidly and soundly during this crisis as an added defense and bulwark to democracy. Building that kind of organization requires aggressive, trained leadership. We believe Mr. Talbott is one of the most able farm leaders in America; his ability is desperately needed in farm organization work at this time and we feel the interests of agriculture would not be best served by relinquishing his services. For these reasons the board feels Mr. Talbott must be retained in his present position. Again we express our deep appreciation for the honor of having our President considered for the appointment.

Board of Directors,  
North Dakota Farmers Union,  
R. C. Joyce, Secretary—North Dakota Union Farmer.

## All Set To Handle The Grain Loans

FOUR TYPES OF LOANS ARE DESCRIBED

Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association Ready To Serve Farmers When Rush Begins

St. Paul, Minnesota, Aug. 4  
With what promises to be a record breaking crop of wheat and coarse grains in the Northwest, farmers in that area are on the lookout for government loans. If, as seems now likely, the crop comes through, the volume to be handled will be tremendous, and the rush to get the benefit of the loan values will be unprecedented. In this contingency, the Farmers Union Grain Terminal marketing agency—has made preparation to serve the grain producer and to aid him in putting through the loan he wants with the least possible delay.

The Grain Terminal is "all set" for the rush. It has established a Loan Department to expedite the service and to give every farmer all the help possible in making the loan. No charge is made for handling the red tape in connection with the loan and only the usual required commission is charged, although the cost of handling such loans is much more than the ordinary marketing of grain.

How to Get a Government Loan  
Under the government loan program, farmers can make loans on grain.

Stored on the farm;  
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## JUNIOR CAMP IN SESSION AT PONCA CITY, AUGUST 17-22

STATE PRESIDENT DEAN TO BE PRESENT FOR ENTIRE WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Large Registration for Fourth Annual Kansas Farmers Union Junior Camp

The fourth annual Kansas Farmers Union Junior Camp opens at the Ponca City Educational camp, Sunday evening, August 17. Registrations are coming in every day with Ellsworth, Winfield, Alta Vista, and Belle Plaine leading the list by getting their campers registered before August 1. Approximately seventy-five students are expected at the camp.

John Vesecky, former state and national F. U. president, and now of the Regional FSA, Lincoln, Nebraska, will be present at the camp on Monday and Tuesday as a faculty member. Other lectures and discussion leaders expected at the camp are Mrs. Dora B. Haines, a noted author and lecturer, now of the REA, and Miss Gladys Baker of the Consumer Division, Council on National Defense, both of Washington.

Other faculty members will include Mrs. Helen Denney and T. E. Hall of the Education and Information Department, Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Kansas City, and Esther Ekblad, State Junior Leader, Mrs. Denney State Junior Leader, Mrs. Irma Kietzman, a Junior-Junior Leader from Alta Vista, and Mrs. Merle Tribbey, Junior Leader of the Kellogg Local, Winfield, camp.

Supervised by Helen Smith, Girl Scout Leader, Salina, the camp cook, Mrs. Elma Nelson, comes from a Farmers Union home at Winfield; her assistant will be Ruby Smith of Stillwater, Oklahoma.

## Farmers Union Back Of Seaway Project

Testimony Before Committee In Congress Declares Full Support Organized Farmers Press For Deep Water Transportation

Robert Handschin, Resident Secretary of the Farmers Union Legislative Committee in Washington, testifying before the House Committee on Rivers and Waterways in the absence of National President Patton and Legislative Chairman M. W. Thatcher, declared that the Farmers Union was 100 percent behind the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project.

A well-heeled and influential lobby of eastern shipping interests, railroad men and utility spokesmen have been preparing a full dress attack upon the proposed project which the Administration has supported as a necessary defense measure.

Rep. Joseph J. Mansfield (D., Texas), chairman of the rivers and harbors committee, has introduced a bill to give congressional approval to the President's agreement with the Canadian government, made last March, to start digging the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Declaring that "the organized farmers of the Central States and of the Northwestern area were among the first to press for deep-water transportation, via both the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi, and today although other benefits to the nation are equally as important as more efficient transportation, farmers throughout the Midwest and the northern Great Plains still are solid for the Waterway," the National Farmers Union lined up on the opposite side of the fence from the monopoly interests who have fought the project tooth and nail.

(See page 2 for complete text of testimony on this project)

## PRESIDENT DEAN CALLS DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR ALL MEMBERS

TO DISCUSS THREATENING PROBLEMS WHICH CONFRONT AMERICAN FARMER

National President Jim Patton To Attend Each District Meeting

For years it has been the policy of the Farmers Union to select a resolutions committee to act during the convention of the Farmers Union, for the purpose of drafting a program to be considered by the entire body on the last day of the convention and voted on by the delegates.

This method in the past has served very well and there has been a lot of good work done through the deliberations of the committees and the discussion of the entire convention.

In this manner the Farmers Union has adopted some very good programs and through carrying out the program adopted there has been a lot accomplished for the betterment of Kansas Farmers and agriculture as a whole.

This year we feel that many of the problems that have been facing us for years, have become so serious and so much more threatening than ever before that we should give more time to the discussion of our problems and the program we are going to adopt to correct them.

The directors and officers of the Farmers Union want to give every member a chance this year to express his opinion as to what he thinks the problems are, and what he would like to see done about them. We want these meetings to be the type of meeting where farmers will come together and in

## EXPECT CONGRESS TO ACT ON DEBT ADJUSTMENT BILL

BILL AIDS THE FAMILY SIZED FARMS

Hearings are Completed and Consideration Expected at an Early Date

After many months of delay, the Farm Debt Adjustment Bill is expected to be introduced momentarily.

It is now reported that Representative Hampton P. Fulmer (D., Texas), chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, is about to drop the revised version of the Debt Adjustment bill into the legislative hopper.

Explanations of the delay in introducing the bill have come from many sources. They include the assertion that it was held up "waiting for a signal from Capitol Hill."

Another explanation of the delay was given by the FCA which recently stated that it had decided to re-open negotiations with the officers of the American Farm Bureau Federation and of the organizations lined up with representatives of the American Bankers' Association to defeat passage of the bill at the last session of Congress.

The campaign for the Debt Adjustment Bill, generally regarded by family-sized farmers as the most important piece of farm legislation in recent years, reached a high point at the last session of Congress when the Administration promised to support its passage.

Bill Aids Family-Sized Farms  
In its previous form the Debt Adjustment measure provided for the scaling down of inflated farm debts, for reduction of farm interest rates, and for the amortization of farm debts over a 40-year period on a "variable payment basis." This adjustment and refinancing of debts would be available to (1) present borrowers from the land banks or Farm Mortgage Corporation; (2) borrowers from private lenders who can secure voluntary debt adjustment; and (3) borrowers who cannot secure adjustment, but who have gone through the Frazier-Lemke Amendment to the Debt Adjustment Act.

The chief support for the Debt Adjustment bill has come from the National Farmers Union. Though some of their local and state organizations endorsed the measure, the officers of the National Council of Farm Co-operatives vigorously attacked the measure at the last session of Congress and succeeded in preventing its passage.

Farmers interested in seeing the measure passed should write to their congressmen as quickly as possible and also to Governor A. G. Black, Farm Credit Administrator, Washington, D. C. Copies of resolutions passed with letters asking that the House Committee on Agriculture take quick action in reporting the measure out favorably, might best be sent to Rep. Hamilton P. Fulmer, House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

VOORHIS-WAGNER BILL FACES TEST IN HOUSE, COOPERATIVES URGED TO SUPPORT IT  
By John Carson, Washington Representative, The Cooperative League  
Washington, D. C.—The Voorhis-Wagner resolution, H. R. 59 (remember that title and number) has become cooperative "must" legislation, one of the outstanding causes now before Congress on which every loyal cooperator is being asked to write his congressman and to his Senators.

The Voorhis-Wagner resolution, it is agreed in Washington, may and probably will become of vital importance in preserving democratic processes in this country and in creating the machinery by which future democratic machinery can be shaped.

With many economic political forces of government being forced by natural economic forces or being moved on by desire towards statism, the Voorhis-Wagner plan is the only one offered to prepare for getting the destiny of people back into their own hands.

The resolution would create a "national unemployment commission" or what some call a "post-employment commission."

(Continued On Next Page)

## MARSHALL COUNTY FARMER GAINS BY CROP INSURANCE

SAVES TWO THOUSAND BUSHELS OF WHEAT FROM FLOOD WATERS

Federal Crop Insurance Goes Off Sale On August 30th

Special to the K. U. Farm  
Alva Stryker of Blue pids, former president of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company, has won two battles on the wheat front this year. Minutes before flood waters from the Little Blue river closed the only exit road on June 9, Stryker made it through to safety with 2,161 bushels of wheat which had been sealed under a 50 cent government loan on July, 1941. He sold this wheat for 82 cents a bushel a few days ago.

In the same overflow Stryker lost his entire wheat crop of 127 acres, which was considered good for about 2 bushels an acre, but this was protected by Federal Crop Insurance, guaranteeing 75 percent of a normal crop. The farm average was 24 bushels, hence his settlement of 18 bushels per acre on the flooded area.

"I wouldn't think of risking wheat any more without crop insurance," Stryker commented. "It puts an automatic stop-gap on a normal crop, most wheat growers can make a go of it."

Federal Crop Insurance goes off sale one day earlier than usual this year because August 31, normally the closing date, falls on Sunday. Trends indicate approximately 20,000 claims will be paid out of a total of 61,000 policy holders this year, according to reports from the State Triple-A office.

## ROLPH DISCUSSES NEED FOR FARM ORGANIZATIONS

ADVISES FARMERS TO WRITE CONGRESSMEN IN FAVOR OF DEBT ADJUSTMENT

National Farmers Union Vice-President Prepares Speech for a Broadcast on National Farmers Union Hour

(The following speech was prepared by Mr. H. D. Rolph National Vice-President of the Farmers Union and was to be heard on the National Farmers Union Hour on the radio on July 26th. Due to transportation difficulties Mr. Rolph was not able to deliver the speech.)

Greetings, Farmers Union friends and radio audience. The National Farmers Union Hour has again arrived to bring you our program over the Nation-wide hook-up. President James G. Patton has asked me to use this time. I want to thank the National Broadcasters company for the many years of consideration they have given our National Farmers Union organization, allowing us to speak to our many listeners. It is a courtesy that our thousands of members appreciate and look forward to each month.

The topic I shall discuss with you is, "The Need for Farm Organizations." The farmers of this

## Farmers Union Elevator Will Be Highest In The World



Scores of workmen are busy laying the foundation of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal association elevator which will be the highest in the world. The elevator, which is being built on the foot of Tower avenue on St. Louis bay, Superior, Wis., will be ready to receive grain by October 1, according to present plans. The photo above shows where the first concrete was poured. At the left are the steel rods that reinforce the concrete. The huge mixer is at the right in the photo.



H. D. ROLPH

nation represent about one-fourth of the national population but only receive about 11 percent of the national income. Ten percent of the farmers are doing all right, they get half the agricultural income, but the other half of that income must be divided among 90 percent of the farmers. This condition makes us economically sick. I wish to speak to the 90 percent of the farmers.

(Continued on Page Four)



time the program would be enforced "by the priorities division of the office of production management."

Of greater concern to farmers, however, is the fact that farm prices are expected to come in for more rigid price-fixing. With farm prices seriously out of line with other prices, farm leaders have been asking that farm prices be permitted to advance to the level of parity price.

When the new Farm Loan Act was passed, setting loans at 85 percent of parity, farmers immediately sensed the prospect that these minimum prices would soon become maximum prices. They remembered what happened in the last war when Congress legislated minimum prices and Herbert Hoover, as National Food Administrator pegged the price of wheat at \$2.25. Instead of being the minimum as Congress provided, this price became the maximum throughout the period when other prices continued upward. Hoover later told a meeting of flour millers that the price of wheat could have gone even as high as \$5.00 or \$10 a bushel, if he had not interpreted, "minimum" to mean "maximum."

Ceiling for Farm Prices  
The recently enacted 85 percent Farm Loan Act, although generally considered a concession to the farmers in that it fixed minimum prices, is threatening to work in the opposite direction. Many feel that the experience of World War No. 1 will be repeated.

Henderson told the Senate Committee on Agriculture, "We are trying to avoid disastrous inflation through price spiraling" and are determined to see that the prices on farm products did not get out of control. This, in effect, means holding down prices. Though Henderson merely "asked" the auto manufacturers to "be good," the farmers are worried about the "big stick" over their heads forcing them to be even better than good. The government holds tremendous stocks of "surplus" farm products which it took over on loans through the Commodity Credit Corporation. With these holdings of corn, wheat, cotton, tobacco and other products, government officials have stated that in case of farm price rises they can easily dump large quantities of these supplies on the market thereby forcing prices down. The new Farm Loan Act makes it possible to lean even more heavily upon this type of control since it will add to the farm stocks in the possession of the government.

Henderson put a low ceiling over cotton seed oil prices on Friday, June 27th, with the result that the market dropped the full limit possible under trading rules. Cotton tumbled \$2.00 a bale and wheat slid down three cents a bushel.

Farmers contend that they are not responsible for any price-gouging of consumers and that action should be directed against processors, middlemen and speculators. They point out that most farm prices are considerably out of line with other prices and that government price fixers in their public blasts have been unjustifiably blaming the farmers.



# The Kansas Union Farmer

E. K. Dean, Salina, Kansas. Editor

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1941

## FUTURE OF SMALL FARMER SEVERELY JEOPARDIZED

### Urges Organized Effort To Stop Present Trend Toward Commercialization

BY E. K. DEAN, President

For the past several weeks there have been a lot of meetings held over the state under the name of protest meetings, and as many as three thousand farmers have been present at some of these meetings. They have in these meetings resolved to do about everything imaginable. I noticed in one of the daily papers published where one of these meetings was held that one of the speakers went over so big with the rest of the speakers, at least, that the speaker who followed him, another good politician, announced that if the former speaker should announce his candidacy for Governor that he would be for him.

Now that is what I call quite an accomplishment for one meeting to cover the ground all of the way from settling the farmer's problems for him to recommendations for governor.

I don't mean to criticize these protest meetings so far as the farmers are concerned, because I am confident that a large percentage of them have reason to protest some of the treatment they are receiving. However, I do wish to call to the attention of farmers in general the politics that are mixed up in these protest meetings.

I want to suggest to farmers that in holding these meetings they make every effort possible to keep politics out of them and to keep out speakers who have political axes to grind. Farmers can accomplish much through group effort if that effort is directed along good sound lines and is in the interest of the farmers themselves.

### Farm Program Needs Some Protest Meetings

There is no question in my mind but that the present farm program needs some protests, but I think also that these protests should be in the form of good sound criticism accompanied with some good sound recommendations.

The farmers in my opinion had better be a little careful in their requests for government to discontinue all aid to agriculture, because in these times of an ever increasing demand for funds for national defense, the farmers might find it pretty easy to rid themselves of all financial assistance.

I am confident in my own mind that if the present farm program is continued in its entirety that we are going to have an entirely new kind of agriculture in this country and I am also confident that it won't be to the liking of many of the farmers who are so ardently supporting the program at the present time.

I do feel however, that if the farm program were completely

thrown out the window, that the small farmer would have just as hard a time if not harder than he is having now. It would be true of course that he would not have any penalties to pay, but it is also true that he wouldn't have anything to pay them with if he did. This program is our baby; we asked for it and we had better take it and fill its teeth and get it to do the things we want it to do and need to have done, because without some kind of protection for small farmers they are going to go out of existence. They will go out of existence under the present program if there are no changes made in it and they will also go out if we don't have any program.

The thing we need to do is to make this program protect the small farmers, by reducing the benefit payments to not to exceed \$1,000.00 to any one person and to limit those payments to people living on the farms and to secure the passage of the Farmers Union Income Certificate bills to replace the present high loans method of approach to parity prices. Under the present program the big operators are getting bigger and the small farmers are being rapidly shoved off of the land and completely out of the picture. We have all kinds of large operators today, the big farmer who lives on the farm and is trying to hog all of the land around him, and I mean by that, farmers who are farming thousands of acres not seven and eight hundred acre operators.

Then there are the main street farmers, the banker, the machinery dealer and many others.

Then there is the suitcase farmer who lives in some large town and comes out to the wheat country during the summer, harvests a crop and sows another, then goes back to the city for the winter.

### Large Operators Need Farm Labor

In all of these cases the operator requires a lot of extra help in the summer while harvest and the seeding of another crop is on, so he hires the help and in many instances the help he hires, are farmers who have been forced into town because they couldn't compete with the larger operators. He uses them all summer then the government keeps them on WPA all winter so they will be there for him next year. Many of these larger operators take over one or two more farms each year and more farmers are moved into town to be taken care of by WPA or some other relief agency.

These large operators are buying farms and adding to their holdings of land each year. One of the common practices of these fellows is to tear the buildings off and get the taxes stopped on improvements thus cutting down on operating expense to a bare minimum.

In many instances these kind of operators are not very particular what methods they use in getting

control of more land to farm. It has become quite a common practice for them to go to a landlord who is renting to some small operator and offer the landlord \$1.00 per acre cash rent in addition to the grain rent. This practice has resulted in moving many small farmers into town on relief.

### F. S. A. Borrowers Forced Off Land By Large Operators

Farm Security Administration, a loaning agency of the government which has been making loans to farmers to operate with, and whose policy it has been to protect the small farmer, find themselves in a rather embarrassing position now, when the farm of one of their borrowers is rented by one of these big operators and the borrower has to move and it is impossible for him to find a farm to move on.

Farm Security find themselves in a position of having to liquidate this man's holdings in satisfaction of his indebtedness which the borrower is in favor of because he can't find any place to farm and he realizes there is nothing else to be done, so he joins the ranks of small farmers that have been shoved off their land and into town on WPA or some other sort of relief—not because he wasn't a good farmer but because he was a victim of circumstances. In many instances these borrowers who are being shoved off the farm, have paid in advance of their repayment schedule on their loans from Farm Security; but regardless of how their loan is being paid or how good a farmer they are, they have to quit because they can't find a farm to live on and operate.

### How long are the American Farmers going to stand for this sort of treatment?

### Trend From Family Sized Farm Speeded Up By Present Farm Program

The present farm program is not to blame for these trends in agriculture from a family sized to a large corporation or landlord type of operation. There have been many things that have entered into the causes for this change but in the past few years under the present farm program the large benefit payments being made to corporations and large operators have greatly increased this trend in American agriculture and unless something is done in the future to halt this trend, the small farmer in this country will go completely out of existence.

The small farmers who have been greatly responsible for the development of agriculture in this country are the very people who today through the injustices of this program are being severely penalized and their very existence as a part of American agriculture is being severely jeopardized. Those thousands of farm families in Kansas today who have for many years cooperated in every effort made by the American farmers for the betterment of agriculture, have found it impossible to cooperate with the present farm program because it didn't fit their particular operation. The large majority of these thousands of small farmers whom this program has never fitted, have not complained because they could not get protection under this program, nor have they complained because other farmers could get protection under it but they were happy to see their neighbors and farmers who were operating in such a manner that the program did fit them, get the benefits that the program offered.

### Non-cooperating Large Operator Who Has Been Trying to Beat Farm Program By Staying Out Deserves No Sympathy

However these farmers at our Farmers Union conventions, both state and national, have repeatedly called to the attention of leaders in our organization and in government and to our Congressmen and Senators the effect this program was having on the family sized type of agriculture. Then this last year, as we all know, marketing quotas passed, by a large majority of all those farmers who voted. By this vote thousands of small farmers who have not been able to come under the present program are finding themselves penalized to the extent that in many instances it will be difficult for them to continue their operation. Now I have no sympathy for the large operator who refused to cooperate with this program merely because he wanted to take advantage of being outside of the program. This type of farmer has never done anything for the betterment of agriculture and I am not concerned about seeing him pinched through the penalty that he is now having to pay.

### Small Operator Must Be Helped

But I sincerely believe that every congressman and senator and every farm organization leader who now has any influence or has had any influence in this program should begin to take an inventory of just what is going to happen to these thousands of small operators. It is not these 80 acre, 160 acre, or 240 acre farmers who probably have a maximum of 50 or 60 acres of wheat who have produced and brought about this huge surplus of wheat in this country but they are the very ones today who are being hurt most by the severe treatment invoked by marketing quotas and a 49c per bushel penalty. All over the country you will find small farmers who for the past several years due to drought in this area have been forced to raise wheat for feed for livestock and many of them haven't during this time made a practice of marketing wheat; they have, on the contrary, fed it all in a livestock production program. And then there are others who have had a small acreage of wheat as a cash crop, because corn had become so uncertain that they had to have something that was a little more certain for them to produce, that they could sell and get some cash.

### Small Operator Not Responsible For Wheat Surplus

As I said before in this article these are not the farmers who have built up the big surpluses of wheat in this country, but today before this man who has produced wheat to feed to his livestock can feed the wheat he produced, he must pay 49 cents per bushel penalty on his excess wheat.

Now, this year with severe winter kill in many of the eastern counties in the state of Kansas and with the floods taking thousands of acres of wheat, we find many farmers who are in this particular position today. Last fall they over-seeded possibly 25 or 30 acres in excess of the small allotment of probably 8 to 10 acres that the program would have permitted them to seed and through winter kill and the floods many of these farmers harvested less than their allotted acreage and in many instances didn't harvest enough wheat so that they could sell it and pay the penalty on their average production of their over seeded acreage, as required under the marketing quota program. Penalizing this type of farmer in the manner that he is being penalized under this program to me is nothing more than just plain screwy.

It is not uncommon today to tune in on the radio or pick up a newspaper and hear or read of the government through its various agencies stating that we are in serious need of more livestock production and more dairy products and urging farmers all over the country to increase their production of poultry, livestock and dairy products and yet they tell these small farmers that in order to feed the wheat they have grown for the specific purpose of feeding their livestock that they will have to pay 49 cents per bushel penalty before they can do so. They force the small farmer who didn't raise enough wheat to pay his penalty on his over seeded acreage to go down into his pocket and take the cash, that he might use to increase his production of poultry and livestock with to pay his penalty.

The Farmers Union early this spring was successful in getting introduced into Congress a resolution amending the act providing for marketing quotas to permit farmers to feed this excess wheat to their livestock, but to the dissatisfaction of our legislative committee in Washington, who worked their hearts out to secure this amendment for our farmers, they found that when the measure came up before the House for vote that there were only 96 congressmen present to vote on that major piece of farm legislation and it was defeated. Mr. Thatcher, chairman of our Farmers Union National Legislative Committee said at that time that farmers in this country deserved better representation in Congress than that and we are going to fight until they get it.

### Present Farm Program A Boon To Commercialized Farming

In spite of the fact that the present farm program is putting into the hands of large farm operators hundreds of thousands of dollars that are being used in the development of a more highly commercialized type of agriculture and in the acquiring of large tracts of land which is resulting in the destruction of farm homes and community life, we cannot correct this by merely making changes in this present program or by bringing about an entirely new farm program. There are some changes that need to be made in our present tax code in Kansas. The kind of taxation system that encourages land owners to tear homes and other improvements off the farms is wrong and seriously needs some changes made. I think farmers in this state should be given some serious consideration to a graduated land tax law which would break up the large land holdings in Kansas today and that they should also give serious consideration to the steps necessary to

bring about and make possible a homestead tax exemption law in this state, which would encourage people to have farm homes and to live on the land. As mentioned before in this article we are heartily in favor of cutting all benefit payments down to a maximum of \$1000 to any one individual and then limiting those payments to only people who live on the farm.

### Organized Efforts Of Small Farmers Are Necessary

All of these things are only going to be accomplished through the organized efforts of small farmers themselves. It is going to take a lot of effort on the part of every farmer and every individual who is interested in the small type of agriculture in this country if we are going to be able to make the necessary changes in our farm program and our taxation system to protect this type of agriculture. We urge every farmer who is interested in the small farmer type of agriculture in this country to attend our Farmers Union district conventions for which the call is going out in this paper and to do his part toward helping to build an organization big enough and strong enough to bring about these necessary changes.

## Neighborhood Notes

### WABAUNSEE COUNTY

The last quarterly meeting of this county was held at Kaw Valley, a real nice program and as at every meeting there, the women sure feel good.

The Kaw Valley President, Bert Wilson, worked hard and had a real good turn out; the program the women put on made you feel that you were at a picnic as Mr. Moyer, manager at Alta Vista, with three of his hard working and enthusiastic members were at the meeting to start the ball rolling for a Wabaunsee County Picnic sometime in August.

The County was well represented by members from Alta Vista, Alma, Dist. 55, Maple Hill, Turkey Creek, and of course Kaw Valley. We had visitors from the following places: Omaha, Denver, and St. Paul. The number of farmers marketing through these organizations approaches 100,000. Our membership in the states most directly affected is approximately 75,000 farm families with perhaps another 175,000 families who patronize our various cooperatives. We are the leading farm organization in much of this area, particularly in the spring wheat area of the Dakotas, Minnesota and Montana.

In the earlier campaigns to open the Great Lakes to ocean traffic, the farmers' main interest was cheaper transportation to Europe for our farm exports which were then important both to agriculture and to the national economy than they are today. Lower waterway costs would not only have returned farmers higher prices on exports, and consequently on domestic sales when the price was set in the world market, and

Mr. Moyer and his group from Alta Vista are working hard to make this picnic a success, so let us help by attending. Show them we also are interested. There will not be a penalty if you attend, but if you do not attend your penalty will be large for you are going to miss a good time.

Watch for the date the latter part of August, when our State President, Mr. Dean can be there.

J. L. Petty, Wab. Co. President.

### POTTOWATOMIE CO. MEETING

The third quarterly meeting of the Pottowatomie County Farmers Union will be held Wednesday, August 14, at the Pleasant View Local in connection with the all-day Pottowatomie-Wabaunsee counties Farmers Union Picnic in the Riverside Park in Saint Marys. This picnic is an annual recreational feature and draws a big attendance from both counties. Speaking, music, games and contests will feature the main events.

Come one and all and enjoy the day with us.

R. D. Sampelson, County Secy.

### ATTENTION

Farmers' Union Picnic, August 13, at Egypt, 12 miles south west of Alma, 9 miles northeast of Alta Vista, and 1/2 mile east of the Egypt schoolhouse. Basket dinner at noon. Address by President Dean of the Kansas Farmers Union at 1:00. Ball game, horseshoe pitching, tug of war, ladies ball driving contest, etc. Plenty of shade and good water. Other refreshments on the grounds.

Fred H. Nace, Pres. Templin Local.

### VOORHIS-WAGNER BILL FACES TEST IN HOUSE, COOPERATIVES URGED TO SUPPORT IT

(Continued From Page One)

When this resolution was prepared, Congressman Jerry Voorhis consulted with leaders of cooperatives, with farm and labor leaders, and representatives of government who desired to assist. He also sought the help of other business and finance. Government departments and employees would be asked to contribute help under this plan. And several department officials volunteered to help. One group of government employees backed and filled on the resolution and then engaged in activities which might have led to sabotage of the whole plan. Because of this situation, cooperatives are being urged to write to their Congressmen and to their Senators to:

1. Talk with Congressmen who are members of the House Committee on Rules and urge approval of the resolution as quickly as possible. 2. Talk with Republican and Democratic floor leaders in the House and urge passage of the resolution. 3. Attend the House session when the resolution is being considered and make sure the members of the commission will be chosen from private life. 4. Ask Senate Republican and Democratic leaders to see that the resolution is passed as soon as possible.

## FARMERS SOLID FOR SEAWAY PROJECT

(Statement of the National Farmers Union to the House Committee on Rivers and Waterways on the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project, July 8, 1941, by Robert Hand-schin, Resident Secretary, Farmers Union Legislative Committee.)

The National Farmers Union is happy to have again the opportunity to appear before a committee of the Congress in behalf of a measure in which our membership has had such a vital interest for so many years. Our National President, James G. Patton of Denver, and our National Legislative Chairman, M. W. Thatcher of St. Paul, were anxious to appear in support of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project, but the pressure of work just at harvest time unfortunately prevents them from being here.

The organized farmers of the Central States and of the North-western area were among the first to press for deepwater transportation, via both the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi, and today, although other benefits to the nation are equally important as more efficient transportation, farmers throughout the Midwest and the northern Great Plains still are solid for the Waterway.

### Project Aid to Co-ops

The National Farmers Union has long been active in the area which would be most vitally affected by the Seaway, and has absorbed in the last twenty years several organizations which supported the Waterway. Most of our membership is in the states between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, but we also have a sizeable membership in the cheese and butter sections of Wisconsin, and in the fruit-growing regions of Michigan and Ohio. We have been strong supporters of the Waterway particularly because we devote a major part of our efforts to establishing and operating cooperatives, which need more efficient transportation for those commodities which they market or purchase. In the great wheat belt, from the Texas Panhandle to the Pacific Northwest, we have been especially successful in organizing States, county and local cooperatives. In the central and northern part of the wheat belt which would be most benefited by this project we sponsor regional grain marketing organizations at Kansas City, Omaha, Denver, and St. Paul. The number of farmers marketing through these organizations approaches 100,000. Our membership in the states most directly affected is approximately 75,000 farm families with perhaps another 175,000 families who patronize our various cooperatives. We are the leading farm organization in much of this area, particularly in the spring wheat area of the Dakotas, Minnesota and Montana.

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But due to present national and world situation of finance, we will

have improved our international competitive position, but such reduced rates were urged as a yardstick for railroad rates and practices which were considered exorbitant and unfair. Even though farmers were responsible for federal regulation of the railroads, two generations of organized pressure had not, and even today has not brought full justice to farmers through equal rates on all of our commodities and in all areas.

### Necessary for Hemisphere Needs

Although lower export costs were the main goal which farmers had in mind in earlier years, this no longer is the case today. Our export markets, with the exception of aid to Britain, have vanished, and we do not have too much assurance that they will return, even when democracy wins in Europe. We do know however, that the people of this country demand and are going to get sufficient food of the right kind to wipe out the undernourishment amidst agricultural plenty. We know also that the peoples of this hemisphere are going to work together to bring about a more efficient distribution of food products toward the same end. The value of the Seaway in promoting both of these trends, with a resulting larger income for agriculture, is today perhaps of equal importance to the improved position for European trade which the Seaway would bring. An analysis by commodities will bear this out.

### Help to Grain Farmers

Grain, principally wheat, has been the leading export from the Great Lakes area. Various estimates which have been made indicate that grain moving to Europe from Duluth or Chicago would receive a saving of at least 5c per bushel. Although we probably shall never again have a domestic price geared completely to the world market, such wheat as may be exported will still play some part in settling domestic prices. Further, the farmer will benefit not only from the 5c saving, but also by its competitive effect upon rates over present export routes. With other grain producing areas, now closer to ocean ports, with the exception of Canada, our position in the world market will be somewhat improved.

The Farmers Union operates in the spring wheat area the largest grain cooperative in the United States, serving about 40,000 farmers, and handling some 30,000,000 bushels of grain per year. Even though the spring wheat area would benefit most, some benefits should result for wheat growers in the Southwest. We have made a complete study of that question, but we would be glad to do so, and to file our findings with this Committee, especially since we have an interest in it ourselves through the various farm families belonging to regional cooperatives located at Amarillo, Texas; Enid, Oklahoma; Hutchinson, Kansas; and Kansas City, Missouri. Our opinion is that there will be no harmful results, since the volume of wheat likely to move into the international market is comparatively small, and since it is of a special type, does not compete fully with Southwestern grain. Under normal conditions the benefits of lowered transportation costs should accrue to Northwestern producers

There is some possibility that meat products, including bulky commodities such as lard, will benefit in lower costs to the Eastern seaboard, as well as for whatever exports develop. Both Chicago and Milwaukee are large packing centers on the Lakes, and perhaps other locations might be established, such as Duluth, although the fact that there would not be a year-round season might limit such development.

### Important Saving From the Waterway

Florida citrus now costs about \$19.00 per ton to move to Chicago, but via the Waterway it would only cost about \$14.50 per ton, thus insuring greater consumption among farmers and other consumers in the Great Lakes area. Products from Central and South America and even from Hawaii would be cheaper via the Waterway, thus increasing consumption. Coffee, for instance, now costs about \$19.00 per ton to move from Brazil to Milwaukee, and a saving of \$6.00 per ton might be expected. Bananas as might be expected, would be cheaper. (Please Turn to Page Three)

## The Open Forum

### SUGGESTS NATIONAL STORAGE

Recently a press announcement, for a farmer's "Protest Penalty" meeting, contained the following statement: "The wheat marketing program as voted by farmers last May, has brought one of the biggest problems in history to the farmers, according to many agricultural leaders."

It is certainly a very poor agricultural leader, who thinks any problem originated because the farmers voted last May. That election was merely an attempt (a very poor one) to solve the big farm problem which has been pressing upon us for years. Namely—How to bring fair returns to the farmers while getting foodstuffs to the hungry people of the world?

You who feel your toes are getting pinched, please realize, with Kansas City's wheat storage overflowing and railroads refusing shipments, that the marketing system is far worse demoralized than ever before. Therefore, without government price support, today you would be receiving a lower price for wheat than at any past time. You wouldn't like that desperately low price.

Under these conditions, ninety nine per cent of us farmers look to the government to maintain higher prices. All such farmers know the government, in the past, has been having difficulty in disposing of large quantities of wheat. Yet, many, for various reasons, keep sowing a much larger acreage than the government has yet learned how to dispose of.

Now, on the other hand, we have been taught that we should "feed the hungry and clothe the naked." For any one who sincerely believes in such teaching, how can such a person vote to curb the production of wheat or cotton, in the face of humanity's worldwide, dire need?

These problems may be solved without serious difficulty. But first, those who pose as "agricultural leaders" will need to think much deeper into economics, or step aside for others more capable.

Funds, similar to Lend-Lease, could build national storage, pay the working farmers a fair price, and safely store all our unused wheat till peace comes, when half the population of the world will be crying for bread.

True, funds so raised, have already placed the nation so much in debt, that we cannot now make interest payments. This is because our government, (the people acting as a unit) performs generally, those tasks which give no financial return.

soon be compelled to make great changes in industry and banking. If there is large part, we organize both, into nationwide, public owned cooperatives, we shall find ourselves not only able to pay our present debts, but even greater ones, without having recourse to justice to a single individual. Instead, we will remove most of the present injustices.

In the meantime it is good judgment to appropriate Lend-Lease funds to afford decent living to our laboring farm families, while preserving life giving food for destitute families abroad. At present such funds merely grant enormous profits to idle owners of industry, while sending destruction abroad.

Let us start developing that badly needed change, immediately.

Samuel R. Stewart, Route 5, Clay Center







## Day by Day

with **FUJA**

by HELEN DENNEY

## The Legend of a Freight Legend

These are the days when everyone in the office of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association is wishing that all you had to do were "blow" between the time the loans "come in here" and "go out there."

Our method of handling loans resembles somewhat the line system used in modern manufacturing of automobiles. It has its drawbacks even though we believe it is the speediest and simplest way to handle them. One of the drawbacks is that others besides FUJA employees are on the "line" and we can't control them. Another marked "rush" means just another rush for their loan papers and the money which the producers can secure on these papers.

Here in the office loans are started on their way by Miss Mary McCarthy, Mr. Williams' secretary, who reads over the loan request, numbers it (she just added 4037 to the list this morning), and makes up the original file and papers. Skipping over a good two-thirds of what actually goes to the wheat itself and the loan requested on it, such as office records being made on the car of wheat, ordering it to store from the railroad, ordering unloading, weights from the state department, paying freight and then collecting it—which sounds silly but is part of the "system"—office records on the car of loan wheat are turned over to "Loan Department" where Paul McManigal takes charge of them. There he allocates the proper number of bushels of wheat to each producer, being sure that the correct grade of wheat and ear count is entered into the journal. And what a "journal" that big old book would make if we could tell you the story behind each loan—taxes paid, ears and clothes bought, the coming cold months bought, a doctor's bills paid, young folks sent to camp, even a honeymoon financed, maybe.

Then comes a period of waiting in the "life of a loan" for it some times takes a week or more to get a warehouse receipt and a freight legend from the elevator company which stores the wheat. And what, you ask, is a freight legend? It is a piece of printed paper giving the history of the car in which the loan wheat arrived at market. And we do mean a history—for there are no less than forty blank spaces which must be filled in by the producer. Each space and each loan—no matter if it is for only 16 bushels, must have its freight legend. When these papers are returned to our office, the loan papers are then ready to be sent back to the local elevator along with our draft covering inspection, commission, and freight charges which also have been allocated among the various loans of each agent. The note made by the local committee, the warehouse receipt, and the ever-present freight legend is returned to us and a check made up by Cashier Olive Boutum to cover the amount of the loan which is then mailed back to the country and the loan is completed.

The "service charge" or "commission" for our work is one cent a bushel, no more than if the car is handled as a whole on a consignment or sale basis. Yet there are sometimes as many as 17 loans on a single car of wheat. FUJA is glad to be able to serve here, but it is slow and tedious work, and takes longer than most people who make loans realize.

More workers on the "line" might mean a trifle quicker action, yet it might make because of unfamiliarity with the work. Loans are going out to the country rapidly—more of them are in the making and still more requests are coming in to us. We will continue to get them out as quickly as possible. In the meantime, won't you remember that it takes a week or sometimes more to get the loans worked through the "line"—a line that we hope will never have an ending.

## Farmers Union Elevator Picture in National Magazine

Look on page 23 of the July "News for Farmers" for a picture of the Farmers Union Terminal Elevator—along with pictures of other recent improvements and developments in cooperative services. This issue of a monthly publication that is sent free to directors and managers of cooperatives as well as to junior leaders, upon request to the Cooperative Division of Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C., is an annual inventory of agricultural cooperation. It is packed with valuable information interestingly presented from its "cash register" cover showing a total business of \$2,087,000,000 done by three million farmer members of 10,700 cooperatives during the 1939-40 marketing year, to the picture on the back displaying the many helpful booklets on cooperatives which have been published by Farm Credit Administration.

An interesting sidelight on this review of cooperative business was given us by W. J. Maddock of Farm Security Administration at Lincoln, who reports that while Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota have only 3 percent of this population, this division is home to a little better than 8 percent of the farm cooperative members.

## Yock on Sick List

Charles Yock, our merchandise representative in western Kansas, is on the sick list. We hope that he soon will be well and back on the road again, and that our members in that territory will continue to write, wire, or telephone the office of their needs so that their supplies may go out to them without any interruption. Purchasing cooperatives have representatives who call on members from time to time, but not salesmen, for it is the aim of cooperatives, not just to

"sell goods" but to supply the requirements of their members economically.

## Cliff Miller Manager at Brewster

Brewster is going to have a fine year. Auditor Dunn said the other day. It reminded us that he had said about the same thing a year or so ago.

"The showing that association has made will make a good story, we should use it after the yearly audit." This again reminded us that he had said much the same thing a year ago. For such comments from the not too talkative manager of the Farmers Union Auditing Association, must have something behind them.

Cliff Miller, well known among Farmers Union members, is now manager of the Brewster Farmers Union Cooperative Association, and we hope he'll send us the story and picture of the elevator. Ray Emel, former manager, has gone back to his "first love," the farm.

## WHAT, NO WHEAT?

Right in the middle of a muddle of freight cars billed to FUJA each filled with 2,000 bushels or more of wheat was an empty which had traveled all the way from western Kansas. One of our good patrons got so in the habit of billing us an empty car which somehow coupled on to the line of full cars and arrived safely but empty. (Note, we later got the wheat that should have been in the empty car and the error was straightened out by the railroad.)



AT 138 DAYS SHE LAYS

Owner of what he thinks is a record-making pullet is Roy Vernon, of Beattie, Kansas, manager of the Farmers Union Cooperative Association there. Early in the spring, Mr. Vernon decided that a good way to show his customers the advantages of KFU and Union Standard feeds would be to raise some chicks on it at the elevator. He was very pleased with the results.

He expected them to grow quickly into strong, healthy, well-developed birds because he bought good chicks, kept them in a clean brooder at the right temperature, gave them lots of fresh water and fed them KFU Chick Starter. But that one of his pets would develop into a "prize pullet" was never given a thought. He sent in this picture and wrote:

"Here is a picture of the hen that began laying eggs at the age of 128 days. She was started on KFU Starter and was still on it when she began laying."

"If you hear of anyone whose hen has beat this record, let me know, and I'll try to do even better next time."

## A Visitor from Carlson

Albert Jones, manager of the Farmers Union Cooperative Association at Carlson, was in the office for a few minutes on the 15th, and reported that all 25 of the 2,200 bushel steel grain bins that association had up were filled, in addition to the elevator which has a capacity of 20,000 bushels. Mr. Jones and the directors of that association were far-seeing enough to order their bins early, before delivery was shut off.

## KNOW HIM?

Directors of this association are: Frank VanVoort, Louis Amann, J. A. Howie, Fred Bross, August Carlson, Geo. Medley, Lyle Eggleston, Jake Haney, and Bern Ade.

ART RILEY  
Manager Salina Office F. U. J. A.

You may know that he is manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association branch office in Salina.

BUT did you know that, in point of service, he has been with the Jobbing Association longer than any other employee—starting work as messenger boy when he was sixteen years old, and being continuously in this firm's employment for the past twenty-two years—except for the period of time that the grain business of the Jobbing Association was be-

## ALL-STATE CAMP OPENS AUGUST 3

Outstanding Juniors and Leaders representing twelve states will gather at the seventh annual Farmers Union All-State Camp which opens at Camp Judson in the Black Hills of South Dakota on August 3.

Among the speakers and visitors of national prominence who are expected to be present are James G. Patton, National F. U. president; Dr. Shepherd L. Witman, Omaha University; Dora B. Haines from REA in Washington; and Chester Graham, former national Junior Leader.

The All-State Camp is under the direction of Gladys Tabbutt Edwards, National Junior Leader and Director of the Farmers Union Education Service.

Located only a few miles from the internationally famous Rushmore Memorial, where the faces of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt are carved from the granite on the top of Mt. Rushmore, the Camp site, the beauty spot of the Black Hills.

In addition to the outstanding Juniors and from all the Farmers Union states, Leaders and officials of the Farmers Union from many of the states are expected to attend.

The staff will include Mrs. Mildred Stoltz, Charlotte Holtz and Martha Hruska, from Montana; Mary Jo Uphoff, Signe Anderson, Chester Graham from Wisconsin; Mrs. Evanson and Mrs. Lee Wilson from North Dakota; Paul Erickson, Jo Erickson and Marie Styles from South Dakota; Esther Ekblad and Helen Denney from Kansas; and Alice Joyce Warner and Kathryn Carlson from the national office of the Farmers Union Education Service.

## ing handled by Farmers National?

You may know that he has been in the Salina office for a long time.

BUT did you know that he was sent to Salina to open the office in 1924, and has built that office to one of the outstanding grain firms in the Salina market.

You may know that he has a very pleasing personality and a way of getting along with people.

BUT did you know that he is recognized by millers and buyers as one of the outstanding salesmen in the business?

You may know that the only job he has ever had with the Farmers Union—

BUT did you know that his wife, Mary, has been for many years very active in Farmers Union work?

You may know that he and Mrs. Riley have been active in the Farmers Union—

BUT did you know that they have a very charming blonde daughter, Nancy, twelve years of age?

You may know that his principal interest lies in the cooperative marketing of grain—

BUT did you know that he raised enough tomatoes to supply all of the neighbors?

BUT did you know that he is a very good grain salesman—

BUT did you know that his hobby is aviation and that he is a licensed pilot?

## All Set To Handle The Grain Loans

(Continued From Page One)

On country elevator storage tickets; On terminal elevator warehouse receipts; On crop insurance losses.

Recognizing the farmer's need for service and convenience in making these loans, the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association maintains a Loan Department exclusively for this purpose—a feature offered to all who intend to or can get the benefit of a government loan on their grain.

## Terminal Association An Outstanding Success

The Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association at St. Paul, Minnesota, started operation just three years ago on July 1st, 1938. The success of this organization has been phenomenal—the present net worth of the association being over one million dollars.

A picture of the Association's new elevator which will be the highest in the world is shown on the front page of this week's paper.

Bill Thatcher, Chairman of the Farmers Union National Legislative Committee, is general manager of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association. The success of this organization is in a large part, due to the untiring efforts and the sound business judgment of Mr. Thatcher.

## PRESIDENT DEAN CALLS DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR ALL MEMBERS

(Continued From Page One)

job that is just as urgent and you may think that it won't make any difference if you don't go, and you may think that you can't possibly spare the time to go, but you had better spare that one day and let that plowing go if necessary, because unless farmers start spending more time making plans as to how they can continue to maintain ownership of the land which they now plow, they are not going to have any land to plow, in the near future.

## STOP—THINK—AND ATTEND THESE CONVENTIONS.

Make your plans now, to attend Farmers Union Camp, Tonca City, Oklahoma, August 17-22. Fee, five dollars.

## ROLPH DISCUSSES NEED FOR FARM ORGANIZATIONS

(Continued From Page One)

farmers this morning who must retain their homes and farms on an unequal economic basis.

Years ago, we started to get sick. Just a small headache at first, but it became worse and came of tetter and harder. Now the pains and aches are all over the body. There have been many doctors, nurses and hospitalization plans in the past forty years to take care of this economic sickness among the one-fourth of the population known as farmers. These doctors, nurses and hospitalization plans are in the forms of farm organizations, political organizations, agricultural colleges with their many branches, Extension Services, Home Demonstration Clubs, 4-H Clubs, Smith Hughes and Experiment stations. All of them failed. The farmer continues to get sicker. Most of these programs were the result of legislation in some form or another.

About thirty years ago we started with more direct legislation, mostly in the form of loaning agencies to try to care for the farmer's ills. The pains and aches of the farmer continued to worsen. It became economically worse. The other three-fourths of the Nation's population were handling his germ laden dollars. They also became affected and in 1929 the plague hit the doctors and nurses have been busy with remedies which have been coming thick and fast, but with all these remedies, the farming class still received only 11 percent of the national income.

We realize that gross income from farming will be increased this year. What has brought it about? It isn't because the programs set for the last 30 years have been a success, but because a few people have decided to enforce their program of might might rule, and we have a world war. No one should decide themselves into thinking that our economic problems can be solved in that way. Let us prepare ourselves so it will not happen again. Let us change the causes that brought it about.

If the farmers drift through this period of higher gross incomes, remember I didn't say net incomes, and do not prepare for the shock when it is over they may find they have lost their money. The doctor, this could happen not only for farmers but for every one else in the nation. Our organization is set up with a program for the small farmer. Eighty-five percent of the farmers of the nation are in this class. Many of them are passing out of the farming industry.

According to figures from the Department of Agriculture, the United States in 1940 than there were in 1934. Some other industry had to absorb them. In 1940 the FSA was in some form helping 1,100,000 farmers. The FSA is set up to help the farmer who cannot get help from any other financial source. Where could we find a more worthy cause than helping one-fifth of the farmers of the nation who are in debt to some other source? This group of farmers, if they understood that had been done for them could give the answer to, "Why there is a need for Farm Organizations."

But the help that the income are able to take care of themselves. In fact, so much so that they are continually buying more land. This is one of the main causes for the decrease of this nation. Do you think that these farmers need the same financial help from the government as do the small farmers struggling to remain on their land?

In the court houses, over the nation, a pitiful story is told from the records of farm mortgages. This record has been written through the following transactions. First, we took a farmer's land and gave it to our many creditors in our communities. We found that this was not the proper medicine. However, the doctors prescribed some similar action in the form of a loan. The medicine helped the Federal Land Bank but not the patient. The patient was worse, he needed more medicine.

Our patient's case remained much the same in spite of all the medicine from the different federal loaning agencies. It is true that some of the aches and pains were alleviated by the medicine, but no cure was effected and the patient was still in an unhealthy condition. From my remarks you may think we feel nothing has been done to help the farmer in his economic condition. That is not true. We would be very few farmers or farms today if they had not received help through legislation. Legislation has kept 90 percent of them alive. Ten percent of the farmers, have been extremely helped. While preparing this broadcast I heard a newscast stating that one of our farm corporations had begun to harvest the 1941 crop. Operating 16 combines at present, the expected harvest is at least 3 more in the field. The wheat was running on an average of 25 bushels per acre. This corporation operates about 28,000 acres of land, situated on the Indian reservation. The land is leased from the Federal government and is subsidized by Federal wheat payments. A report published in our cooperative paper, "The Peoples Voice" states that this corporation received \$17,000 last year in Triple A payments. Being in the program also entitled to the benefits of the 85 percent loan income. Can any family size farm hope to remain intact under such a system? We suggest that a new and complete survey be made of the condition, so that sensible treatments can be given to put the farmer on his feet.

Our organization, through its work in Washington this past winter, has gone on record asking for a complete investigation of the results of the medicine given to the patient, the American farmer. They further ask that a thorough survey be made to record just who has benefited from the legislative

medicine used up to date. The story this survey would tell would be interesting to everyone.

I have discussed the farmer's condition. We realize that it is a distressful and unwise condition. Something more must be done for him. Any institution large or small, financially embarrassed, must first have a complete overhauling of their financial structure. The farmer must do the same. He must use this method first. His financial structure is weak and unstable. He must put his credit in order.

To do that alone is not enough, but I have tried to show you that this type of medicine has been the only kind offered the patient for 35 years and each doctor hoped his plan would bring about a cure. There cannot be any further patching up of the old body, there can only be a continuation of the same old medicine. There must be a complete overhauling job done. That overhauling job can be done through our debt adjustment bill. We have been trying to secure this remedy for the farmer for the past two years. He has needed it. He must have it if he is to be started on the road to recovery.

It has been, and will be a fight to secure this treatment, the Debt Adjustment Bill, for the farmer. He is sick as we have said before. He has had so much poor medicine he hasn't always believed in it. He is not organized with the other sick farmers to help secure the real remedies. He has neglected to take stock of the type of medicine he has been receiving. He must now realize the fact that the Debt Adjustment Bill will begin the cure. He must, through organized action help secure the type of loaning agency that will at last relieve some of the pains suffered by the American farmer.

I repeat, it will be a hard fight to secure this important and much needed piece of legislation, our Debt Adjustment Bill. It is strange that I am talking to thousands of farmers who do not belong to any farm organization. They have helped to build up the condition that faces each one of us, but they do nothing to relieve the situation. To bring about relief is a simple matter. One farmer in any township, of any county of any state may start talking to his neighbors. He must first find out what is affecting him. Those two farmers will and can talk to others. This group can then meet and begin to discuss their problems. Right there is the nucleus for a Farmers Union Local. Whenever one farmer desires to discuss his problems with his neighbors the job is started. When five or more farmers are ready to meet regularly to discuss their same problems a Farmers Union Local can be set up. That is just the small beginning. When three locals are organized, they may form into a county Unit. When twenty-five hundred or more have been induced to start talking about their own economic sickness and join their own farm organization, the Farmers Union, they may receive a state charter.

You are now well on the road to recovery. You can of course, slip back and have a relapse, but if you continue in your organization you will have a profitable convalescence and will eventually recover. You cannot do the job by yourself, but you can start it. You cannot solve the problems by just meeting, you must have action. The cure would never be brought about if you did not build cooperatives for yourself and your neighbors. Through this medium you can gain the greatest strength. Through this medium you can purify the blood stream and build a new inlet of vitality.

Cooperatives have done much to help the people of this nation. Whether they belong and patronize a cooperative or not, every citizen has benefited directly or indirectly because the cooperative was organized. Cooperatives have proven to be a great boon to farmers. Through the channels of Cooperative marketing they are in a better position to guard their economic status. Through the purchasing cooperatives farmers have been able to secure more of the necessities of life. Through their Credit Union they have been provided with a more balanced credit exchange. Powerful terminal markets, Wholesale and Credit banks have been built. Successful Cooperative Insurance facilities protect the farm family and farm buildings. The farmer need not seek for the solution anywhere except in himself.

Through the picture I have painted in the beginning of this broadcast may have seemed gloomy but it is nevertheless true, but the entire picture can be changed by every farmer in this nation. I wish to remind you again that even if your gross income is higher this year, due to the world unrest and war, your problem is not solved.

If you are interested in this type of refinancing, if you want this type of help start a cure your job is to write to your congressman right now. Write to Governor A. G. Black, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C., to not let this effort to secure the long awaited and much needed vitamins for the American Farmer. You'll continue to be sick just as long as you refuse to fight down the road to health unless you stop taking the wrong kind of tonics. This is important! You must do your part. You must urge every farmer in your community to support this Debt Adjustment Bill. Write those letters, talk to those farmers, and remember you will never get well unless you do something about it for yourself.

We are thoroughly convinced that no doctor can take care of his patient unless he is willing to spend considerable time diagnosing his case and is then willing to prescribe the real remedy. The Farmers Union organization which has been in existence since 1902 has endeavored, in the last 10 years, to accelerate its action in order to catch up with this Economic Sickness. We of the Farmers Union feel that the only way the American Farmer must be solved by the farmer himself. This solution will be brought about through his understanding of the problems and using the right treatments to cure them. The treatments he must use are building cooperatives, such as Credit Union, Mutual Insurance, Consumer Cooperatives, Producer Cooperatives and Legislation. The remedies are required of the farmer himself. The American farmer must organize if he is to be relieved of his sickness and get well.

In studying the economic ills of the farmer we are well aware of

the fact that they are interlocked with the economic problem of every other industry in the world and must be considered as such. We also feel, and so state, that the Educational Program of the Farmers Union is the only clinic willing to discuss facts with their patients and prescribe the medicine strong enough to bring about the cure. Others who have sought to cure the ills of the farmer have not taken this stand. They have not discussed the facts thoroughly, and they have not cured the patient.

Most of the other groups in studying our economic disease were afraid to admit the facts and continued to use the same medicine. They repeated the old saying that new changes were revolutionary rather than evolutionary. Our educational program keeps us abreast of these fast changing conditions. We can study them together and make the necessary changes in time, not wait for those years when very little can be done about it, not just drift along as many are doing today. Representing one-fourth of the population of a nation, what group is in a better position to do what better than work out a solution to our world economic problem without using bombs and concentration camps?

Let us review the picture for a short time. We have discovered that the whole Agricultural class has been forced to operate on a low income, receiving help have placed some blame on the "sickness" we have termed doctors and nurses. We have criticized those agencies for failing to bring about a better situation for the farmer. But I am not willing to place all the blame on other else. I feel that a large percentage of blame must be placed on the shoulders of the individual farmer.

We started out to discuss The Need for a Farm Organization. I realize that I am talking to thousands of farmers who do not belong to any farm organization. They have helped to build up the condition that faces each one of us, but they do nothing to relieve the situation. To bring about relief is a simple matter. One farmer in any township, of any county of any state may start talking to his neighbors. He must first find out what is affecting him. Those two farmers will and can talk to others. This group can then meet and begin to discuss their problems. Right there is the nucleus for a Farmers Union Local. Whenever one farmer desires to discuss his problems with his neighbors the job is started. When five or more farmers are ready to meet regularly to discuss their same problems a Farmers Union Local can be set up. That is just the small beginning. When three locals are organized, they may form into a county Unit. When twenty-five hundred or more have been induced to start talking about their own economic sickness and join their own farm organization, the Farmers Union, they may receive a state charter.

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## RELEASE FROM THE FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION, JULY 30, 1941

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission and Farmers Union Credit Association of South St. Joseph, Missouri, held their semi-annual meeting on July 11 and 12, 1941. The following Directors were present:

Mr. George Larsen, President of the Board, and Mr. A. C. Schoenrock, representing the Farmers Union of Nebraska.

Mr. C. H. McElhinney, Vice-President, representing the Missouri Farmers Union.

Mr. J. R. Evans, Secretary, representing the Missouri Farm Bureau.

Mr. E. K. Dgan, representing the Kansas Farmers Union.

Mr. F. V. Heinkel, representing the Missouri Farmers Association, Inc.

Three Directors were absent.

The Report of Audit by the Farmers Union Auditing Department, Omaha, Nebraska, covering the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission, and the Report of Examination by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, of the Farmers Union Credit Association, were read and accepted by the Directors.

According to the Manager's report the following savings for the first six months of 1941 have been effected:

Savings from operation of commission business	\$ 4,949.43
Savings from operation of Farmers Union Credit Association	1,391.90
Savings of the Farmers Union Serum Jobbing Account	688.04
	\$ 7,029.37
Decrease in savings from year 1940	72.45
1940 profit for six months	\$ 7,101.82

According to the records, for the first six months of 1941 the commission has issued 10,524 account of sales and 14,341 checks. In the Farmers Union Credit Association, outstanding loans as of June 30, 1941, totaled \$187,951.30, an increase over the same period a year ago of \$85,981.32.

The percentage of savings for refund purposes in the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission as of June 30, was 20.74% in the commission business. This percentage will doubtless be raised as we enter the better months of the year.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Directors is the annual meeting to be held in January, 1942.

PAUL STEELE,  
MANAGER

It will not be solved by any one of the solutions offered. You can secure needed help through your farm organization, because that organization is what you yourself make it.

The Farmers Union has been developed from the hopes, plans and ideas of the individual farmer. It cannot grow unless the farmer can see that his condition will be remedied if he becomes a member of this organization. It will never be in a position to answer all the needs of the farmer unless more and more farmers realize the seriousness of the situation and are willing to band together for self-protection and aid support. Nowhere are farmers more free than in this nation. They can make the choice. Either they begin now to organize together or they will be organized later on. They can be their own doctor, they can prescribe the correct medicine, they can administer it and they can be assured of the cure. It is your job. Write today to your National President, James G. Patton, 1441 Welton St., Denver, Colorado for further information. He will be happy to help you with further suggestions.

In closing I wish to state again, that each one of you, whether you have a more economic health or a serious economic disease can gain relief from that condition from a few pertinent acts. First, to receive immediate relief, do not fail to write your congressman asking for the Debt Adjustment Bill. The way is open to all of you. The medicine is here.

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