THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization :-: :-: Education :-: :-: Co-operation

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The Pooling Plan: The Wheat Growers Way Out

An Address to the Members of the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association at Sidney, Nebraka

(By W. C. Lansdon.)

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: As all present are farmers and growers of wheat it is not worth while for me to dwell on the necessities of agriculture and especially of wheat farmers. The fourth wheat crop in succession is now being marketed at prices far below the cost of production. All over the wheat belt, a vast empire of agriculture made up of more than two millions of farms there is financial distress more serious than has ever been suffered by any other body of producers in the history of the republic. Mortgages are being renewed or foreclosed. Taxes remain unpaid in enormous amounts Noes at the banks and other obligations cannot be met. The bankruptcy of one of the most important branches of agricultural production is at hand unless something can be done to secure better prices for wheat.

There are many who regard the present depressed condition of agriculture as a mere incident, a temporary emergency in an industry that ordinarily returns good profits. They are mistaken. Neither the wheat grower nor the general farmer has ever made any money worth while out of farm operations. What is called agricultural wealth has been built up in a business that has never been profitable. The property now owned by the farmers of this country has been accumulated from three different sources neither of which is connected with the successful operation of farm lands as producing agencies.

The first source of agricultural wealth is soil fertility which has been exhausted over thousands of square miles of farms that were once highly productive. The old fields of the Southern states and the abandoned farms of the New England and Middle states bear convincing witness to the ruinous practice of soil mining for immediate results. The wheat lands of the west have not yet been seriously depleted of their rich stores of plant food but decreasing fertility and reduced yields are sure to follow a system of agriculture that makes no provision for maintaining the productive strength of the soil. Every acre of wheat takes nearly four dollars worth of nitrogen from the land. The virgin fertility of western farms has been coined into a portion of that great body of agricultural wealth which the Fourteenth census says now amounts to nearly eighty billions of dollars.

The unpaid labor of the farmer and his family accounts for another very large portion of the so called agricultural wealth of the republic. In every other business all the labor time employed is charged against the cost of production. In agriculture the farmer takes no account of the earnings of his minor children who work for board wages and are responsible for a considerable part of the annual returns from the soil. Even the farm operator himself is either very poorly paid or gets no wages at all from the products of his labor. If all the unpaid time of the wives and children of American farmers were charged in the cost accounts of farm operations almost all of the supposed profits of agriculture would disappear.

The third factor in the sum total of agricultural wealth is the increased value of lands that were cheap and that the development of the country has made valuable. This item makes up by far the greater part of the value of farm lands. Deduct from the $77,000,000,000 of farm wealth reported by the Census Bureau all the results of soil exhaustion and of unpaid labor and the total increase in the value of the farm lands since 1865 and it will be perfectly plain that no money has been made from farm operations for at least two generations. Proof of these statements may be found on every hand. In a country in which every farm was once operated by the owner more than forty per cent of all the farmers are now tenants or share croppers. More than fifty per cent of all the wheat of the United States is produced by renters.

Then there are debts. It is reported that in Iowa, acre for acre the richest and most productive agricultural state in the Union, there are a thousand millions of dollars of farm mortgages. The total mortgage debt on the farms of America is not less than ten billions of dollars. Then there are other obligations—notes at the bank and bills at the store and countless other charges against the future income of agriculture. All told the farmers of this country owe around fifteen billions of dollars that must be paid out of the proceeds of crops yet to be planted.

Nor does tenatry and the burden of debt complete the tale of American agricultural distress at this time. Agents of the Federal Department of Agriculture have been investigating the condition of the buildings and other physical plants of American farms. They have found that almost all farm houses need paint and repairs, that barns and other buildings are in the same condition, that fences should be rebuilt, and that implements are so greatly depreciated that there must be an almost total replacement in the near future. The Department says with all the weight of its authority back of the statement that agriculture must have at least ten billions of dollars of new capital within the next few years just to take up the depreciation in its physical operating plant.

Such is the condition of American agriculture. Within sixty years the farmers of this country have lost title to forty per cent of the agricultural lands of the republic, have gone in debt more than fifteen billions of dollars and have allowed their property to depreciate at least ten billions of dollars in value. Who is to blame? I shall not undertake any long analysis of the causes or spend any time in the identification of the men who are responsible for this sorry showing in a business that should be the most profitable conducted in this country. In my judgment the farmers of the United States are themselves most to blame for the sorry situation in which they now find themselves.

The farmers must accept the responsibility for the present demoralized condition of agriculture for their neglect of their own interests. But other classes of our citizenship have much at stake and much to lose. Our population is rapidly increasing and must be supplied with food. Unless something is done by the farmers themselves we are just at the beginning of an enormous decline in agricultural production. The farmers of the United States are not only contributing the labor, the fertility of their soils, and the interest on their investments but they are steadily losing their property. Railways complain that low rates for service are confiscatory. Farmers have a better right to insist that low prices for their products are confiscatory. In order to protect itself against a threatened food shortage society in the United States must cooperate with organized farmers in their efforts to get better prices. The world must realize that food like life insurance is something that no one can afford to buy for less than it is worth. The consumers of the world must be put on notice that foods can never again be sold for pre war prices. Better marketing conditions must be secured by the action of the farmers themselves but the whole body of society is deeply interested in the correct solution of this problem.

During the past three or four years the movement for cooperative marketing on the commodity plan which originated in Denmark a generation ago and was first adopted in this country by the fruit growers of California has made enormous progress. More than one fourth of the annual cotton production of the United States, probably three-fifths of the tobacco crop, and at least one-eighth of the wheat are now marketed through cooperative associations of growers. There are hundreds of similar marketing agencies handling the minor farm staples. There is the almost perfect cooperative organization of the citrus fruit growers of California and Florida. Farmer operated live stock commission business annually. In the whole country there are probably five hundred commodity farketting associations handling products annually worth nearly three bllons of dollars for almost a mllon producers.

The congress of the United States and the legislatures of most of the great agricultural states have recognized the necessity for cooperative sales agencies, have passed the necessary enabling acts and have removed the legal restrictions against such combinations of producers. The late President Harding endorsed the movement as a practicable way out for the farmers. President Coolidge ha accepted the position of Mr. Harding on this matter. The state and federal courts have found that the cooperative legislation and the Standard marketing acts of the several states are constitutional and can be enforced even to the last cent of the penalty provisions. College professors, public lecturers and leaders, the agricultural and the metropolitan press, and the great financial interests are all agreed that cooperative marketing is a necessity for the safety of American agriculture. It remains only to convince the farmers themselves to make the approval and support of cooperative marketing unanimous.

In sections where the Farmers Union is strong many members of that organization have witheld their support from commodity marketing on account of impressions that they have received from the enemies of the movement. It has been charged and thousands of members of the Union believe that neither the National Farmers Union nor any of the state divisions of that body have endorsed cooperative marketing. There never was a statement farther from the truth. From its birth the Farmers Union has consistently and successfully urged its program of organization, education and cooperation. The first attempt to establish orderly marketing for a great farm staple was made by the Union when its members established 1628 cooperative cotton warehouses in the southern states nearly twenty years ago and arranged with bankers for loans to farmers who could furnish warehouse receipts for cotton as collateral. During a single cotton marketing season the banks of Texas arranged for advances of $50,000,000 to farmers who were holding their cotton in Union warehouses until the market justified sales. Within ten years from the organization of the first Union warehouse to enable farmers to move their cotton to the markets in an orderly manner the price of the staple advanced from six cents to sixteen cents a pound.

When the Farmers Union entered the wheat belt its first endeavor was to save for its members the exhorbitant tolls that grain dealers had been taking for handling wheat through local elevators. Within ten years more than three thousand tors were established in the grain states. The records show that the net gain to growers as a result of this movement averaged fifteen cents a bushel on the day of sale. The local cooperative elevator system stopped a big leak in the farmers income and has been worth hundreds of millions of dealers to producers in the grain states.

The Farmers Union has not opposed the movement for commodity marketing but with the exception of the fruit associations is the pioneer of the new system. The Washington Farmers Union in session at Spokane in December 1919 listened to an address on commodity marketing by Aaron Sapiro, then at the beginning of his fame and usefulness as an advocate of justice to agriculture. The recommendations of Mr. Sapiro were debated by that body of Union Farmers for two days and it was finally decided by a unanimous vote that the Washington Farmers Union would undertake the organization of the Washington Wheat Growers Association on the contract plan. Since that time and wholly as a result of the action of the Union at that meeting Wheat Growers Associations have been organized and are now operating in Washington Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas.

The organization of cotton had its beginning in Oklahoma, a Farmers Union state. When the Oklahoma Cooperative Cotton Association was incorporated every member of the Board of Directors was a member of the Farmers Union. Charles S. Barrett, president of the National Farmers' Union, was Chairman of the Organization Committee of the Georgia Cooperative Cotton Association which was bitterly opposed by the Extension Service of the Georgia State College of Agriculture and all the officers and agents of the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation. When the American Cooperative Cotton Exchange, a federation of all the state cotton associations, was established a member of the Farmers Union was selected as its first president and he is still on the job.

Tobacco is more strongly organized than any of the other great staples and the strongest of all the cooperative tobacco associations are in Kentucky. President E. L. Harrison of the Kentucky Farmers' Union served on the organizaton committees of both the Burley and Dark Tobacco Associations and threw the whole strength of the Union in his state into the movement. Several of the offcers and directors of the Virginia Farmers Union were on the organization committee of the Tri-State Tobacco Association. Every member of the Union in Virginia who grows tobacco is a member of the Association.

I am sure that I have said enough in this connection to convince every member of the Farmers Union that his organization is not against cooperative marketing on the commodity plan. On the other hand the National Farmers Union to this day is the only nation-wide self-help farmers society that has approved the plan and adopted it as a part of its regular program. It must be admitted that this policy has been costly to the Union because so many members who joined commodity farketing associations have concluded that it is no longer necessary for them to support a general educational organization of agriculture as a whole.

The Union has not only assisted these great movements for commodity marketing but has been the chief supporter of enabling legislation for the new plan in Washington and at most of the state capitals. The federal law recognizing and defining cooperative business had the support of Farmers Union senators and representatives and of the legislative agents of the organization in Washington and in fact bears the name, as its author, of a member of the Kansas Union who represents that state in the United States Senate. The Union secured the enactment of the standard marketing law in Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas and assisted in all the other states where that legislation has been obtained.

The other wrong impression that has been so assiduously inculcated in the minds of members of the Union is that the development of the commodity or contract system of marketing wheat is certain to destroy the investments of Union farmers in local cooperative elevators. This is absurd on its face. No matter how grain is sold it must be handled first by a local elevator. Under the Rochdale system the elevators that belong to the Union buy grain for their members for resale at profit making prices if possible. In plain words they function speculatively and very frequently with most unfortunate results. Inefficient or dishonest management, careless supervision, car shortages, sudden declines in the markets and other inescapable hazards incident to handling grain speculatively have resulted in heavy losses for many local elevators. Hundreds of such farmers houses have already failed and have been bought in by the organized grain trade. Many others are so heavily loaded with debts as a result of losses that the nature of their organization does not permit them to charge back to members that their bankruptcy and sale under foreclosure proceedings is inevitable. Any clear thinker who knows the actual financial condition of the thousands of Rochdale elevator organizations in the west must reach the conclusion that the whole system is doomed to failure unless something is done to assure a regular and certain income to the Associations that are in debt or are likely to get in debt as a result of their operations on the speculative grain market.

So far from being a menace to existing local elevator associations and the capital invested in the shares of such concerns I believe that an alliance with well organized pooling associations is absolutely the only way that this body of service institutions and the money invested in them can be saved and continue to operate in the interest of their owners. The Wheat Grower Associations must have local elevator service. It is logical and right that they should secure that service from farmers companies already operating. They must pay what the service is worth. The money received by local cooperative elevators for handling pooled wheat is a certain income. If set apart for the sole purpose of paying debts it will soon accumulate in sufficient amounts to redeem those properties from the banks and other money lenders who really own most of them at this time and restore their title to the farmers that established them. Nor will the handling of pooled wheat interfere with the other service that local elevators render to their members. They can still merchandise feed, coal, salt, lumber, farm implements and other commodities to their shareholders and act as service station for shipping live stock and caorse grains. I am told that ine Union elevator in this county, said to be quite heavily in debt, received more than $1,000 for handlng pooled wheat in August and that its probable income from that source for the year will be almost enough to lift the mortgage from the property. That one instance should prove to all reasonable men that cooperative farketing will not destroy but is sure to save the local farmer owned elevator system.

I have heard some Union men say, since I have been here today, that the entrance of the Nebraska State Union into the Omaha Grain Exchange is evidence that it is not in sympathy with the pooling movement. I am convinced that President Osborne and the other responsible officers of the Nebraska Farmers Union are sincere believers in the pooling plan and in the whole movement for cooperative marketing. Unfortunately there are many thousands of Nebraska wheat growers who have not yet signed pooling contracts and probably will not do so for many years if ever. Their grain must be handled speculatively by the local cooperative elevators and eventually a great volume of it must be consigned to the Omaha market. It was the duty of the Nebraska Farmers Union to establish its own agency on that market to sell the grain consigned by its own members and elevator organizations. President Osbourne and his associates courageously accepted the obligation imposed on them by their fellow farmers and established an agency at Omaha vital to the interests of the farmers of Nebraska.

It may be that in the future, after our cooperative system has been generally adopted by farmers and our market outlets have been secured, that it will be possible to sell all pooled wheat without the assistance of the organized markets or grain exchanges. The experience of every pooling association in the grain states proves most conclusively that such a time has not yet come. I have the honor to be a director of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association of Kansas which has been selected by the American Wheat Growers Associaed as its temporary sales agent on the Missouri River, that is at that city and Omaha. To carry out our obligation it was necessary for the Jobbing Association to open an office in Omaha. I am sure that it was less wise than necessary to take that step. The Omaha Grain corporation of the Nebraska Farmers should be the agent of the Nebraska Wheat Growers Ass'n. at Omaha just as long as it is necessary to be sold-over the sample tables of the Grain Exchange of that city. The board of directors of the Jobbing Association has told President Osborne that whenever his company can make an arrangement to handle the Nebraska pooled wheat at Omaha and take care of storage and financing they will close their office and surrender their contract to the sister Union organization that is entitled to the business. Pending an adjustment between the Nebraska Farmers Union and the Nebraska Wheat Growers Association, the Farmers Union Jobbing Ass'n has assured President Osborne that it will solicit no consignments to its Omaha branch and will confine its operations, so far as possible under the rules of the exchange, to rendering service to the Nebraska and the Colorado pooling organizations.

The pooling plan about which we talk so much in these days and in which we have centered so much of our hope for better farm conditions is simple enough. You all know what it is A pooling or commodity association is merely a cooperative organizaton established by farmers as an agency for marketing their products just as manufacturers or other producers merchandise their goods. No producer, either of raw materials or finished products can stay in business unless he is able to sell his output for more than it costs. The manufacturer keeps an elaborate system of cost accounting and then organizes his sales department in such a way that he regains the cost of production plus profits and reserves for the depreciation of his plant.

Farmers have not generally adopted any system of cost accounting. It has not been worth while because they have not been able to put a price on their products. They have parted with their crops for prices fixed by the purchaser and without any relation to the cost of production. The farmers have no esablished sales agencies of their own but have waited for others to put prices on their crops. To establish commodity marketing and be able to conduct their own sales agencies the farmer must enter in a contract or agreement with their fellow producers of the same crop that for a term of years they will sell all their marketable production of the commdity through their own agencies and nowhere else. The contract about which we hear so much and of which so many farmers are in dread does not tie the producer to any distant or unknown organization. The signers of the contract agree with each other. There are no outside parties. There are no diverse interests. All the parties to such an agreement are in the same business and they join in the pooling arrangement for just one purpose, that is to get more money for the crop so organized.

The heaviest losses under the old system of agricultural marketing have resulted from market gluts caused by the dumping of crops in excess to consumers demands on the markets early in the season. The wheat growers of the middle west rush 400,000,000 bushels of grain to the markets during the first sixty or seventy days after threshing begins. That is a sufficient volume of wheat to supply all their customers for a year. The consumers cannot take that twelve months supply all at one time but under the operations of the speculative system the farmers have no choice about dumping it. They must have its cash value, whether large or small, at the very earliest possible moment. They must pay their notes at the bank, their bills at the store, the wages due to labor, the expenses of threshing and the various other obligations that have contracted with their wheat crop as security. So they rush it to the elevator from the machine, each competing with all his fellow farmers for a share of the market and anxious to make his deliveries before market agencies are clogged and glutted with grain far in excess of the immediate needs of consumption. The price rapidly declines as a result of this competition among growers and from this situation the grain merchants make immense profits.

It is plain enough that a supply of wheat offered at the local elevators far in excess of normal consumption must be taken up by some group of operators who neither produce the crop nor consume it. The traders come forward and take the wheat from the growers. They weigh it on their own scales, they test it themselves with their own apparatus, and they put their own price on it. It is somewhat popular to call these grain merchants gamblers. That is wrong. That is really an insult to the gamblers. A gambler is one who takes a chance. The grain merchants are betting on an absolute certainty. They know that all they have to do is to put the excess wheat away in a safe place and wait for the consumers, the merchants and the mills to run out of flour. The wheat is then fed out of storage in response to the actual demands of consumption and for the second time in the movement of a single crop the grain merchants put a price on it. They tell the farmers what it is worth when it is delivered to them at the shipping stations or the terminal markets and a little later they tell the consumers what the same grain is worth.

In such conditions no industry can flourish. Except in extraordinary emergencies the wheat growers have never made any money out of their operations. They never can make any money as long as they have nothing to say about crop prices and crop movements. The pooling system proposes to create marketing agencies through which the producers of wheat may do for themselves just the things that the grain merchants have been doing for them. Under the old system all the profits derived from the orderly delivery of grain to millers and exporters have gone into the pockets of the grain merchants. Under the new system the producers will themselves retain an interest in the wheat until it reaches the manufacturer or the exporter and will get whatever profits result from storage and an orderly delivery of their grain. Many people have an idea that there is something new in the idea of an orderly delivery of grain to consumers or their agents. There is not. There has always been orderly delivery to manufacturers and exporters but it has been done from the warehouses of the middlemen and all the prifits have gone to the traders or grain merchants. Under the cooperative plan the orderly movement of wheat will begin at the threshing machine and will be controlled all the way to the converters and the exporters by the growers themselves for their own benefit and profit.

All sorts of objections are being urged against the organization of wheat. The great terminal wheat merchants and their agencies, the organized boards of trade or wheat markets are very naturally against any change in a system that has been so profitable to them. They are probably sincere in their contention that they are a necessary part of the grain marketing machinery. They have a very profitable business and it is not strange that they are doing all they can to keep it. Farmers should not be too severe with those fellows. They are only trying to protect themselves, something that the producers are learning very slowly to do, and they are making their profits

(Continued on page 3)

The Murray Garsson Membership Prize Contest

Mr. Murray Garsson of New York, the Motion Picture Producer, who is preparing the big Farmers Union Picture Play for presentation to the People of the United States, is an ardent convert to the Union Program of Organization, Education and Co-operation. While in Salina during the week of the Educational Assembly was very much surprised to learn that there has been a decline in the membership of our Kansas organization. He expressed amazement that there is even one farmer in this state who does not belong to the union.

Hearing that a state-wide Membership Campaign was being planned by the officers and Directors of the State Union Mr. Garsson offered to contribute $500 to be used for prizes for securing additional members and for the collection of dues from those who have not paid up for this year. The Board of Directors accepted this generous donation and added $125 to it from the State Treasury to be divided into five prizes to be offered to County Unions participating in the campaign as follows:

The First Prize, $250 will be awarded to that County Union which makes the greatest gain in its paid up membership before November 16th, 1923. The County Unions finishing Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth will each receive substantial money prizes the whole amount of Prize Money, $625, to be divided as indicated below:

FIRST PRIZE	$250.00
SECOND PRIZE	$150.00
THIRD PRIZE	$100.00
FOURTH PRIZE	$ 75.00
FIFTH PRIZE	$ 50.00

Conditions of the Great Prize Contest

FIRST—Paid up Members for the purposes of this Contest, shall mean all dues paying members whose dues and assessments are paid in full to December 31st, 1924. This definition includes four groups of members in good standing as follows:

(a) All members now in good standing, that is who have paid their dues and the Building Fund Assessment for the current year and now pay $2.25 dues for the year ending December 31st, 1924, before November 16th, 1923.

(b) New members who pay an initiation fee of $2.00, current dues and building fund assessment amounting to $1.07 and $2.25 dues in advance or a total of $5.32 to put them themselves in good standing until December 31st, 1924.

SECOND—No competing County Union shall be awarded a cash prize amounting to more than ONE DOLLAR for each NEW member obtained.

The above prizes are maximum prizes, you must secure at least 250 new members in any one county in order to win the grand prize. Oother prizes distributed pro-rata.

THIRD—All dues and fees collected in the Prize Contest be properly distributed to the Local, County and State Unions before any prizes are awarded and Local Secretaries shall be given to November 23, to make their settlements with County and State Secretaries.

FOURTH—All County Unions contesting for the Murray Garsson Prizes must mail their reports to the State Secretary before midnight of November 25th, 1923, and the post mark on the enclosing envelope will determine the date of mailing.

FIFTH—The award of Prizes will be made by a jury composed of the Officers and Directors of the Kansas State Union and shall be announced and the prizes paid not later than December 8th, 1923.

Every County Union in Kansas should take part in this contest. Officers and members throughout the state are urged to give their time and influence to this campaign. It is more important that the Organization shall have a large membership in this state. If in doubt about any of the terms of the Contest write to Secretary C. E. Brasted, Salina, Kansas, for more information.

Now is the Time to Build the Farmers Union. Let's Go.

C. E. BRASTED, Secretary. JOHN TROMBLE, President

The Kansas Union Farmer

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Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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

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

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

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1923

PLAN A BIG INITIATION CEREMONY.

Many Kansas Union counties are pushing the campaign for members. Several will get in from two hundred to one thousand applications during the next few weeks. How would it do to put on a big show in the county seat or at some other convenient place and take the whol bunch of applicants into organization at one time.

There are a lot of folks in some good Kansas towns who have never heard very much about the Farmers Union. If a County Union will arrange for a public initiation of several hundred candidates at one time it will start some talk and will convince a lot of folks that the organization is alive and growing.

TIME FOR WINTER DEBATES.

The program committees of the live locals have all been busy for some time and several interesting meetings have already been held since the "Frost was on the punkin and the fodder in the shock." Here are a few topics for debates that may be worth consideration.

Resolved, that law making bodies should have only one house.

Resolved, That a sales tax would be a fair way to raise revenues for the federal government.

Resolved, That no private firm or corporation should be allowed to manufacture fire arms and other deadly weapons except under rigorous government supervision.

Resolved, That killing any sort of bird in Kansas should be made a crime by act of the next session of the legislature.

Resolved, that no session of the legislature should be permitted to make more than ten new laws in addition to the necessary appropriation acts.

Resolved, That all general laws enacted by the legislature should be submitted to the voters for their approval before becoming effective.

Resolved, That the publication of the Congressional Record should be discontinued.

Resolved, That the next agricultural educator who makes an address on the "Cow, the Sow, and the Hen" should be ducked in the nearest horse pond.

THE FARMERS UNION STATE BANK.

Cooperation needs and is entitled to its own banking facilities. There will be trouble in financing the proposed Farmers Union State Bank of Kansas City, Kansas. The membership of our organization are ready for this institution. Already nearly half of the required capital subscriptions have been secured from volunteers. Farmers who want to share in the possibilities of this enterprise should get in at once. It is now almost certain that the stock will be largely over subscribed long before the institution is ready for business.

Kansas City, Kansas, is an ideal location for a great cooperative bank. Fifty thousand wage earners who believe in organization and co-operation are there and willing and anxious to give their support to bank conducted for service rather than profit. The great state wide co-operative agencies doing business at Kansas City need such a bank and have business enough of their own to justify organization.

This bank will succeed because it is needed, because it will be organized and conducted on sound principles and because it is an enterprise of the Kansas Farmers Union which has developed the habit of succeeding with all its business undertakings.

ARE YOU WORKING FOR MEMBERS.

The Kansas Farmers Union has made good. It is entitled to the confidence and support of all the farmers of the state. Its offficers, who are merely the hired hands of the organization, know their business and justify the confidence that has been reposede in them by the membership.

Only one thing is wrong with the Kansas Farmers Union—it has less than half the membership to which it is entitled. There are 170,000 farms in the state and on every farm there are from three to five good folks who should join the Union and help the good work along. If our organization can start the new year with its membership doubled and all paid up no man is wise enough to foresee the good things that can be done for Kansas agriculture during the next five years.

Brother, if you have not secured one or more applications for membership in the Union, during the past two weeks you have neglected your duty. But there is still time for you to get right. Let's go.

HOW TO GET NEW MEMBERS.

A good Union man said, just the other day, that he was willing to do his part in membership campaign but did not know where to start. Chances are that he could make a good start right at home. There are many thousands of the wives of members of the Union who have never joined the organization. How would it do to sign up the wife and the boys and girls the very first thing?

After all the prospects in the family have signed application cards it will be time too start after the neighbors. There is not a member of the organization who does not know anywhere from two to a dozen men who would join the Union and bring their families along with them if they were invited and the record and purposes of the organization made known to them.

It is absolutely necessary for the Union to have more members and it is equally certain and necessary that the men and women who are now in the organization must do the recruiting work and be responsible for securing and keeping new members. The officers of the State Union are covered up with work going on in the interest of agriculture. They can make more rapid progress and accomplish things worth much more if they are assured that their employers the membership of the Union throughout the state, are sticking to the program, talking up the organization, and maintaining and increasing the membership.

There is yet time for every Local and County Union in the state and for every member of the organization to get busy in the campaign for the collection of dues and the securing of new members. More strength is what the Union needs more than anything else?? The right sort of work will give us a hundred thousand members before January 1st.

BANNERS FOR COUNTY MEMBBERSHIP.

One of the big and interesting events of the next state convention of the Union which will be held in Emporia in January will be the presentation of three banners to three counties that have the most members of the organization in good standing on December 31st. Good standing means for men that all dues and assessments must be paid in full until December 31st, 1924. For women it means that they have been regularly initiated Every county in the state can participate in the campaign for these prizes. The county with the largest membership on December 31st will get a handsome blue banner appropriately lettered and inscribed which it will be entitled to hold and carry to the State Convention and to use in parades and display at its own conventions just as long as it has more members in good standing than any other county. The county ranking second in membership will get a red banner, and the third place will carry off a white banner.

It is still two months until the books will be closed for the year. In that two months every Union county in Kansas will have a chance to show what sort of men and women it has in the organization.

THE MURRAY GARSSON PRIZES.

Some County Union in Kansas is going to win the first prize of $250 offered by Murray Garsson and the Kansas Farmers Union. Four other counties are going to get substantial rewards for their membership campaigns.

All members of the Union and all officers of county and local Unions are urged to help along in this matter. We must have more members of the organization in Kansas and the best way to get them is for the people who believe in cooperation to get out and enlist their neighbors.

POOLING KANSAS WHEAT.

Nearly every farmer in Kansas believes in the 100 per cent plan of pooling and marketing wheat but so far only a small minority of growers have evidenced their faith by signing contracts and actually selling grain in that way. It is time to put this movement over or quit.

It is likely that announcement will be made in a few days that will be interesting to Kansas wheat growers. Believing in the cooperative marketing plan is not enough. The believer who still sells his grain through the old speculative agencies is in no position to strengthen the movement. His failure to act as he believes does a lot of harm because it is pretty fair evidence that he wants some other fellow to make the start, carry the burdens of organization and prove the thing good.

WHO IS RIGHT?

When doctors disagree who shall decide? Sidney Anderson is a member of congress from Minnesota. He represents an agricultural district. He has been busy with legislation, inquiries, conferences and investigations in the interest of farmers ever since he went to congress some ten years ago as a young and ardent Roosevelt progressive.

Congressman Anderson believes that an increase in the import duty on wheat is the only thing that congress can do at this time in the interest of the wheat farmer. He is asking that the Tariff Commission raise the duty on wheat from thirty cents to forty-five cents a bushel.

Duncan U. Fletcher is a senator from Florida, an agricultural state. He has acted with the "Farm Bloc." He has advocated co-operation. He visited Europe to study the agricultural situation on the other side and to learn as much as possible about the many systems of rural credit that have been established in continental countries. He lead in the struggles in congress that finally resulted in the Federal Farm Loan Act.

Senator Fletcher says that the farmers of this country get no benefits from the tariff on wheat and other agricultural commodities. He goes much further and declares that the burdens imposed on farmers by tariff duties on manufactures are so heavy that they are largely if not wholly responsible for the disress of American agriculture.

And so there you are. Anderson and Fletcher have studied the same conditions. They have access to the same body of facts. They have had about equal opportunities in securing information. They should be the two greatest experts on agriculture and agricultural conditions in public life today. They have had opportunities enjoyed by no other men in this country. One of them would help the farmer by raising the tariff, the other by reducing the tariff.

It is a said situation. One doctor prescribes as an antidote the very thing that the other denounces as a poison. Under that sort of treatment the patient certainly has a slim and sorry chance to recover.

TEN GREATEST AMERICANS

What ten Americans have accomplished most for their country and for humanity? Call over in your minds the names of the living and of the dead who have contributed most to the security of human life, to the stability of our free institutions, to the lustre of our arts and our literature, to the glory of our statesmanship, to the development of our resources here in the United States and write down ten names.

After the membership campaign is concluded the Kansas Union Farmer proposes that all the young folks in our organization shall put in a little time in the study of the lives and achievements of great Americans. The members of the Kansas Farmers Union will be asked to decide what ten men or women of America have the best title to greatness.

All Union young folks and old folks too for that matter will be invited to join in the search for the ten greatest names in American history. The results of the study of American greatness will form the basis for a contest or game that will be interesting and instructive for old and young alike. Be ready to do your part. The terms and conditons will be stated in this paper and the game will begin as soon as our membership campaign is completed.

UNCLE REUBEN AT WASHINGTON

President Barrett told a most wonderful story to the farmers who attended the Educational Assembly at Salina. He traced the growth of the influence and authority of the Union at Washington from its humblest beginnings to its present commanding position as the most powerful agricultural organization represented at the capital of our country.

The whole record is set forth in President Barrett's best style—inimitable and unequalled-in his book, "Uncle Reuben at Washington." Not for a generation has any publication attracted so much attention during the first year of its circulation. That book would make a splendid beginning for a working library for a Farmers Union Local. Why not get it?

Battles are always won by men who know how to keep their powder dry. The battle for justice to agriculture will be won by men who know how to use their own resources and the strength of their own position.

USE THE APPLICATION CARDS.

For several weeks the Kansas Union Farmer has been printing a number of blank application cards in each issue. Those cards are not put in just to fill up space but for the use of the members in getting applications for membership from their neighbors or from the members of their own families.

The next few years are certain to be critical for agriculture. Problems of the farm must be worked out by the farmers through organization. Every member of the Union in Kansas should be willing and proud to assist in strengthening the organization. It has made good. Present its record, it program, and its ideals to your neighbors.

POPULARITY OF CO-OPERATION.

The president of the United States has endorsed co-operative marketing and has pledged the government to assist the movement in every legitimate way. Congress has recognized the right of growers of crops to sell their own products co-operatively and has established the essential governmental agencies to finance co-operation. The banks of the country have endorsed co-operation. Scholars, statesmen, millionaires and merchants all approve and urge the organization of commodity marketing.

Only the farmers themselves are lagging in this great self-help movement. It is time for the producers to get together and make the endorsement unanimous.

Stockholders in Farmers Union Co-operative enterprises who fail or refuse to pay their organization dues often demand the right to vote in the annual meetings of their associations. They claim that they have the right to protect their own investments and that it is neither right nor legal for any one to prevent them from voting. As a matter of fact they are preventing themselves from voting and from protecting their own property. They are violating their own contracts with their association. If they are wronged they have the remedy in their own hands. All they need to do is to live ly to their obligations, pay their dues and restore their own voting membership by acting like sensible business men instead of like a parcel of thoughtless children.

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

Walton
Has Been Impeached

By the Oklahoma House of Representatives which has filed a bill of particulars specifying twenty or four hundred separate acts of misconduct. The senate is now in session as a High Court of Impeachment and the Warren Hastings of Oklahoma is on trial for his mideeds.

It is quite likely that the proceedings will string out for several weeks but the trial was actually over before it started. Walton was convicted before he was indicted and all that follows is merely for the purpose of making a record. If Oklahoma is to lose a governor it is only right that several big books full of evidence should be accumulated and handed down to posterity in proof of the purity of the great aggregation of Oklahoma kettles that are certain that Walton is a pot of exceedingly great blackness.

All because the plain citizen on foot, the sovereign squat who should be on the job on election day refuses to respond to the call of duty. There are a million voters in Oklahoma who never did want Walton for governor but about seven hundred and fifty thousand of them would not take the trouble necessary to get the right sort of man. There are likewise more than a million voters in the state who did want the legislature to meet in special session to spend several weeks and probably a half million dollers in correcting a blunder that the people were too lazy to prevent.

If slackerism were as prevalent in war as it is in peace Pershing would never have had a chance to lead an army of more than 100,000 men. But never forget that slackerism is more deadly to free institutions in peace than it can possibly be in war.

Flivvers
Multiply in Number

So rapidly that no one can tell where the trouble started by a Detroit blacksmith who turned tinner about twenty years ago will stop. One of Fords rivals sold nearly half a million cars last year and will nearly double that output this year. In every state where the soldiers have received a bonus the "Lizzie" trade has been fine.

The average amount paid to to a service man by the several states that have enacted bonus laws is just about the price of a flivver and the record shows that most of the boys have spent it that way. If the congress of our country comes across with a dollar a day bonus act at the forth-coming session the bill should be entitled. An Act to stabilize the business of Henry Ford, the General Motors Company and other Manufacturers of Popular Priced Automobiles.

Fishman,
A Russian Jew

Is the biggest and the most successful farmer in Kansas. He is just finishing seeding of 30000 acres of wheat in Greely county, all of it on his own land. If there is a good yield next year he will harvest a crop of 600,000 bushels. This is pretty fair business for a man who was born in Russia and carried a peddlers pack for several years after coming to this country.

Fishman developed Cheyenne county Nebraska and a county in Colorado. He boasts that he plowed up 144,000 acres of virgin soil and that he will make it a half million before he dies. Campbell who farms an Indian reservation for a syndicate is the only other man in the United States who can equal Fishman's record.

Simon Fishman loves the soil and wants to see more people on farms. He proposes to locate hundreds of families in western Kansas but on unimproved prairie tracts. He will build a good modern house on each quartersection sow 150 acres in wheat stock the place with cows, hens and pigs and then sell it for about $7,000—two thousand cash down and balance at five per cent interest. Instead of starting in a sod house the pioneer will live in a modern bungalow with hot and cold water, electric lights and bath rooms.

We all learn something every day as long as there is any life in us from the neck up. The average Kansas wise man has long been certain that there is not a Jew farmer in the state. It now turns out that a Jew is the biggest farmer in Kansas and that he is making an exceedingly businesslike effort to start a march from the city back to the farm or if that cannot be done a movement from rented lands to ownership.

Negroes Do Little
Farming in Kansas

But one of the 1300 farmers of that race in this state is about as successful as could be expected. Less than forty years ago he bought eight acres of Kaw valley potato land on credit and he now owns something like six hundred acres all paid for. He lives in a fine brick house, farms with tractors and must be worth several hundred thousand dollars.

When that colored man came to this state he was so poor that he did not even have a hat or a name of his own. He went to work bareheaded and called himself June Grove because he was born in a grove in Kentucky in June. He has eight children, all grown up and farming and it is said that every one of them holds a degree from the Kansas State Agricultural College.

Amidon
Urges Democratic Harmony

In Kansas. He is notional committeeman for his party in this state. Naturally he wants to see democracy win at the next election. The Colonel might as well make up his mind that politicians of his sort have little influence in the Kansas voting. The people of this state have quit troubling themselves very much about party names and platforms.

The democracy may carry Kansas again next year but if so it will not be the result of the efforts of the small group of politicians of the Amidon type but will follow the deliberate conclusion of thoughtful citizens that the men nominated by that party are in sympathy with producers and workers. There was mighty little harmony among Kansas democratic leaders in the campaign that put Johnathan Davis in the governors chair but the overall wearers of Kansas liked that farmer understood his talk and thought he would do to tie to. So they elected him without knowing whether he was acceptable to Amidon and the bunch.

It is very well for the self-elected democratic leaders to talk about harmony with each other but they can win no elections unless they make up tickets and adopt policies that are acceptable on the farm and in the shops and mines of the state.

France
Has Destroyed Germany

Since the treaty of peace was signed. Perhaps it would be more truthful to say that France and Germany together have destroyed Germany. Ten years ago the empire of Germany was the most properous area of the earths surface. All the lands were in a high state of cultivation. The city and village populations were employed in the industries and were making good wages in the production of goods for export that had a ready market in every part of the world.

The insanity of the Kaiser and the arrogance and ambition of the Junkers, still only partially civilized if measured by modern standards, threw Germany into the most causeless, foolish, wicked and ruinous war of all history. Since the war no German statesman has declared to be honest. Had the obligations of the conflict been met in good faith France would have had no occasion for the invasion of the Ruhr and the intrigues that have split the German empire into three jangling and hostile groups would have failed.

France has not been faithful to her obligations to mankind but her military schemes would have come to nothing had it not been for the German policy of evasion.

Fleming,
The Kansas City Judge

Who drove his car into a ditch and killed a woman with whom he had been visiting the "Chicken Farm District" is still in office although the good people of Kansas City almost without exception, through their organized groups, have asked him to resign. Law will never be enforced until the officers and agents charged with that duty become law abiding.

It is bad enough for a private citizen to violate the constitution and laws of country by going into partnership with bootleggers and other criminals to get a few drinks of poisonous whiskey. It is infinitely worse, it is really a seditious act, not much less culpable than actual treason for a judge, an officer of any state, or any one connected with government in any way to conspire with thugs and smugglers in the violation of law.

The every day citizen is under oath to support the constitution and enforce the laws. His obligations are moral but of course should be accepted and should bind him and rule his conduct. The judge, senator, congressman, admiral, general or other public officer who traffics with boot leggers and smugglers without exception has taken an oath that binds him to support the constitution. Every public servant who violate that oath should be dismissed from office and disqualified from ever again disgracing the service of his country.

Fleming will probably be cleared of blame by the courts and ignoring the verdict already registered against him by all the decent people of Kansas City will continue to disggrace the bench and bring scorn on the administration of justice. Yet there are many honest folks who wonder why people distrust the courts.

NOW IS THE TIME TO GO FORWARD

In view of the fact that the state organization at this time is putting on a membership campaign the foling article from one of our Nebraska brothers published recently in the Nebraska Union Farmer is of a timely nature. It would be well if this article could be read at every local meeting in the state. No doubt it would hearten the loyal members of the organization and likewise stiffen the backbone of the weaker ones. It would also lend encouragement to the local secretary to go out into highways and byways and shake the bushes for new members.—Editor's Note.

I am an optimist by nature and a pessimist by experience, so when President Osborn asked us county officers of the Union to tell why we were shy on members compared with former years, I decided to take an optimistic view of the situation, providing the facts would justify me in so doing. A little thought on the subject seemed to reveal the following:

Prior to the war, the Farmers Union was a comparatively new organization in many parts of Nebraska, and its principles were very imperfectly understood by many of the newer members. They had little practical experience in the conduct of mercantile business, and had yet to learn the art of co-operating when the balance sheet was in the red.

Stock was sold to the more loyal members, and after considerable hip hooray the business enterprise was under way and left to the management of the board of directors, who, in turn, left it to the manager, and he, all too frequently, soon had the business on the bum. Then the real test of loyalty began, and our locals lost many of their charter members, those who were interested only while they made a constant profit.

The rapid expansion of our membership during the several years prior to the war drew in many who were not real Union men at heart, and these weaker brothers were sifted out during the struggle which resulted from the deflation period following the war.

"Quick Cures Only Confused"

During this period there were also several contributory causes of great importance. The Nonpartisan League was expected by many to give the farmer thorough political control, a short end easy method wherewith to get his just dues. Instead of treading the long and prosy path of co-operation, starting a small business and learning to build on a solid basis by hard experience, but retaining the control of the business in the hands of the farmers, one voted right and the state did this for the farmers without further effort.

In short, the farmers thought they saw a chance to get something for nothing. However, they failed to consider that men who wouldn't co-operate in a Farmers Union business enterprise could not be expected to co-operate politically. They had not learned that co-operation, like charity begins at home.

While this was going on, the Farm Bureau, which had been started as a war measure to secure greater production among farmers, burst out as a general cure-all for the economic evils affecting the hayseeds. Plans were drawn for solving all our farketing problems, and Wall Street, anxious to down the remnants of the League, joined in the chorus.

....Now these contending organizations began to overlap in their claims and all wanted money in considerable amounts. The farmers began to be confused and in many cases abandoned one organization for another, or joined all three. Dissension arose over rival claims and much valuable time was wasted. Finally the farmers were deflated by the government after the war, and the Farmer Union emerges practicalyl with a clear field action.

I only wonder that we are in so good shape as we are. The confusion of war, politics, of production and marketing schemes, the financial distress, make the brain whirl just to remember these exciting times.

The shortage of labor has been a prime factor. Everyone has been so busy along his own work, and so hard-pressed financially, that it left no time for public work, and no money to finance a co-operative business. ers Union emerges practically with a clear field for action.

Union Outlook Favorable.

Enough of the past; what of the future? There is every reason to be encouraged. The beginning of order in our governmental affairs is at hand. Washington has looked the farmer over thoroughly and decided that nothing can be done except to loan him money and teach him to co-operate. He already has too much money borrowed, and he could co-operate if he wasn't too stubborn.

There is a psychological moment and I believe it is time for the Farmers Union of Nebraska to strike some hard blows and regain its membership. Farm prices are rising a little, and the $2.40 won't come quite so hard. Retailers have widespread margins and made a nice opening for cooperative business. But most of all, the farmer now knows that if he doesn't work out his own economic salvation, he will be put out of business by organized capital and labor.

In the next issue I shall give an outline of a feasible and inexpensive method of increasing our membership.

GEO. W. YOUNG,
Secretary, Custer County Farmers Union:

MIGHTY GOOD NEWS

Nearly every day, always several times a week, comes the news of the formation of another cooperative marketing organization by farmers. Everywhere farmers are getting together and working in cooperation because they have found it does not pay to "go it alone." There is tremendous hope for the future in this tendency because if farmers are cooperating on a small scale, sooner or later they will co-operate in a big way The maximum benefits will not accrue until the marketing of crops is put on a commodity basis if the experiences of the past are of any value. The quicker national marketing by commodities is put into effect the sooner will agriculture receive its dues in the way of fair prices for farm products.—Cappers Farmer.

An attractive meal, how to plan one which will be nourishing, economical, and appetizing, using the materials grown on the home farm or ordinarily at hand in the farm kitchen, was the interesting problem on which more than 5,000 club girls worked in 1922 under the direction of co-operative extension agents. In this study these young home makers prepared, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture, more than 36,000 meals.

WICHITA HOUSE MAKES GAIN 81 CARS IN OCTOBER

Second Month's Business Shows Steady Growth by Young Firm

The Farmers Union Live Stock Commission at Wichita has closed its second month of business. In view of the weather conditions throughout the Southwest and the great amount of high water in Oklahoma which has caused many bridges to be washed out and as a result very few people were able to ship their stock to market, we are certain that our Farmers Union membership will be more than delighted with the business handled during October.

As our readers will no doubt recall, during September the Wichita firm handled 155 cars of stock, and during the month of October a total of 236 cars were handled. Definite figures have not yet been made public, but we have every reason to believe that our farmers firm purchased more cars than the total of any other two or three firms operating on this market. Another interesting feature of the month's work is the increase of truck busness. It seems that the farmers close around Wichita have quickly realized the benefits to be derived by selling their stock through the farmers firm.

The splendid success of this latest venture of the Farmers Union is due partially to the high type of people employed at Wichita, and their ability to render the best service obtainable on that market. The balance of the success of the month just past is due to the wonderfud cooperation of our members who have had the faith in, and the loyalty to their organization to consign all their live stock to their own firm.

It is the desire of the members of the firm at Wichita that their highest appreciation be expressed to their many friends and customers for having had the pleasure of meeting them and handling their business during October. It is the desire of all of the employees that they may during November, make the acquaintance of many other members who have not yet become acquainted with the Wichita Farmers Union Live Stock Commission.

ERIE LOCAL BREAKS THE ICE

The State Secretary's office reports numerous inquiries regarding the membership drive that is now being waged over the state and great interest is manifested in many localities.

Erie Local No. 562 is the first one to get the 1924 band wagon and Secretary Walter J. Schumish has sent in dues for the coming year from 37 members and states the balance will follow within a few days.

It is to be hoped that every local and county secretary over the state will make a strenuous effort within the next few weeks to round up all of the old members and as many new ones as possible and remit to the state office, thereby putting their local on the Union map in big letters.

LET US HEAR FROM KANSAS

What are the leading co-operative counties of the United States? We can't say for this year or for last but in 1919, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, there were nine counties in each of which the products of over two thousand farms were sold through cooperative agencies. Four of these counties were in California, four in Minnesota and one in Michigan.

Fresno county, California, led with 5,281 farms in the co-operative list, with Otter Tail county, Minnesota, second, with 4,328. The method of estimating leadership is hardly fair to Iowa counties, of course, because no Iowa county has as many farms in its total as Otter Tail lists as signed up with cooperatives. The total number of farms in the Minnesota county is 6,627 a number that would take two of our biggest counties to match.

Nevertheless getting two-thirds of the farms in a county signed up with cooperative selling agencies is something of a job and Otter Tail is entitled to its fame. To handle the products of these four thousand farms, the Minnesota county has established twenty-five cooperative creameries, thirteen cooperative elevators, three potato shipping associations, and two stores. One-half of the live stock shipped out of the county is handled cooperatively.

A record like this—and it is too good record—shows how much farther we will have to go before American agriculture will be completely committed to the cooperative plan. We must have made a good start, but it is only a start. We wonder what county will have the honor of being the first 100 per cent cooperative county, with every farm signed up to deliver its products through a farmers marketing agency?—Wallace Farmer.

HALLOWE'EN ENTERTAINMENT ENJOYED BY FRANKLIN LOCAL NUMBER 1301

That Franklin Local No. 1301, Ellsworth County, is much alive, was demonstrated at its meeting, Monday evening, October 22. At the close of the business session the meeting was turned over to the entertainment committee. Novel, well conceived, and seasonal in its appointments was the program they carried out.

The school room was beautifully decorated in autumn leaves, pumpkins owls and bats the clever work of Mrs. L. C. Heischmidt.

In one corner was a wigwam occupied by a fortune teller, Melba Caldwell and an Indian maiden, La Verne Heitschmidt, who gave apples and marshmallows to their patrons.

In the Hallowe'en and black cat contests, Mrs. L. C. Heitschmidt won first place, with Mrs. Warren Need, a close second.

It was a pleasing reception, for members of the local, whose surprise was heightened, when carrying out the suggestion of the season, sandwiches, apples, pickles, poinsetta salad, gingerbread, pumkin pie, with coffee was served. Apparently all had a wonderful time.

Our next meeting will be held November 5th.

MRS. O. W. HOLMES,
Local Correspondent.

The last few seasons have proved the "roadside weed" able to carry four times as many head of stock to the acre as natuive pasture.

The Pooling Plan, The Wheat Growers Way Out

(Continued from Page One)

through efficient use of opportunities that have been handed to them by the farmers themseleves on a silver or rather a golden platter.

Also a large number of local elevators and the federated agencies are active in opposition to cooperative marketing. This also is perfectly natural. They are looking after their own interests. Even now the propaganda agencies of local grain grain dealers are flooding the mails with statements to show that cooperative handling of wheat has resulted in considerable losses to the members of pooling associations. There may be some truth in their charges. Several of the state growers Associations started operations with a very small volume of grain under contract, a volume by no means sufficient, no matter how prduently managed, to carry the necessary overhead expenses and take up the unliquidated organization costs in a single season without imposing a considerable tax on ther members.

Farmers are extremely conservative. They do not like to adopt any new system until it has been proved of value by experience. One man dislikes the idea of binding himself to sell his grain for a number of years through a single agency even though he is part of the organization. He does not realize the the contract or conditions that bind him to support the existing agencies is not for a limited perido but for all time unless he himself, and his fellow producers take the matter into their own hands and do something about it. Another scorns the idea that he needs any guardian or agent to run his business for him. He prides himself on his ability to sell his own crops and to get the high dollar. That man should realize that he never sold any crop in his life in the sense that he bargained with a purchaser and charged and obtained a price based on the cost of production plus a reasonable profit.

Some farmers do not believe that it will be possible for a wheat marketing association organized without capital and conducted for service rather than profit to finance the movement of crops. So far the experience of wheat pooling organizations has been that getting the money for advances and for other association purposes is the very easiest part of the business. The grain itself is the capital for operations. Every one of the properly managed pools is borrowing all the money that it needs for this year's operations at five per cent and even cheaper funds may be secured a little later on. Financing cooperative marketing of the great farm staples is much easier than getting growers signatures ba contracts for the delivery of the crops to such agencies.

There appears to be a great number of farmers who believe in the pooling plan but do not want to put in their own grain until the associations have control of at least half the wheat production. That attitude is very dangerous to the movement. How can it ever be possible to show the good results certain when a majority of the grain is under contract if a majority of the growers refuse to enter into contracts until success has been obtained? There must ba pioneers in every movement. The men who reclaimed the prairies of Nebraska and Kansas and made these states the seat of a great agricultural empire did not hesitate to take a chance. Their sons and grand sons should have the courage and the good sense to pioneer this new and promising marketing movement which, if successful, will assure them safety and security on the lands that their father did not fear to open up and cultivate.

Many growers would like to know in advance just what profits are possible under the pooling system. Of course that is a question that cannot be answered in advance. Until at least sixty-five per cent of the American wheat production is pooled it is not likely that the marketing associations can become a determining factor in fixing prices. Whenever as much as sixty-five per cent of the wheat is pooled it is practically certain that the cooperatives can fix the price of their crops used in home consumption clear up to the limit made possible by the protective toriff. Until a controlling volume is signed up the advantages of cooperative marketing must come from economical operation, from the equitable distribution of the premiums of good milling wheat among the members, and from the ability of selling agencies to find better markets and get the full value of the grain.

The profits and expenses of the wheat merchants of this country operating on the various boards of trade and grain are known to be very trade and grain exchanges are known to be very large. In the total they must amount to many hundreds of millions of dollars a year. The cooperative marketing association can reach the manufacturer and the exporter with considerably less expense than is possible through the organized grain trade. What ever can be saved in marketing costs, all the profits now made by the grain merchants and the additional proceeds sure to result from getting exactly what the wheat is worth for milling purposes are the basis for cooperative profits until a controlling volume is secured by the poolers. Existing associations that have been properly and honestly managed and that have handled a good volume of grain show an advantage to their members of from ten to fourteen cents a bushel Sounds small but is big when it is applied to hundreds of millions of bushels.

Quite a few growers who believe in the pooling plan are troubled over the cost of organization. That is a matter that is wholly within the control of the farmers. If every wheat grower in the United States who already believes in the pooling plan would enter the organization in his own state by signing the contract today there would be very little organization expenses. The longer it takes to secure association control of a majority of the wheat the higher will be the organization costs. The Burley Tobacco Association was organized, so it is reported, for thirty-five cents a contract. That was possible because the whole plan was put over and eighty-five per cent of the production was obtained in about ninety days. It is delay, procrastination, hesitation and inertia that are piling up the costs of organzing wheat. If all the growers would get into the movement next week practically their entire enrollment fee could be returned to them in the first final settlement for their grain.

The pooling movement has its friends as well as its enemies. Almost universally the bankers of the country, large and small, are in favor of cooperation. It stabilizes more than the price of wheat. It stabilizes the security that bankers take for the money necessary to move the crops. Every sensible country banker would rather lend on wheat than on the personal security of the men who make wheat or the elevators that handle it. Too many bankers have been sweating blood over poorly secured loans to local elevators. They welcome any change in the marketing methods that enables them to carry on their business with less risk to their shareholders and depositors and so most of them advocate the pooling plan.

Almost without exception the intelligent business men and merchants in the wheat belt are strong supporters of cooperative marketing. There are in favor of any workable plan that will increase the farmers purchasing power. They know that their posperity rises and falls as the prosperity of the farmers rises and falls. They want more trade and trade more nearly on a safe cash basis and they believe that better prices through cooperative marketing are therefore no less beneficial to them than to the producer of farm products.

The farmers of the middle west are at the parting of the ways. They must organize cooperatively in their own interest if they hope to save their farms from foreclosure. They must not delude themselves that they are signing their rights awy and going into bondage when they put their names on the association agreements and the marketing contracts of pooling associations. They are doing exactly the reverse. They are doing exactly what Thomas Jefferson, John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin and the other of the immortal signers did in 1776. They are putting their signatures to a new Declaration of Independence in which they put the world on notice that from this day they will use their own brains in conducting their own business affairs.

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MANIPULATION — MARKETING

DEFEATS

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FARM FOR SALE

110 ACRES WITH SEASON'S CROP $2000 INCOME, 16 CATTLE.

3 Horses, 15 Hogs, poultry, implements, tools, etc., on improved highway near city; loamy fields for 4 tons hay near city; loamy fields for 4 tons hay acre, cotton, corn, potatoes, peas, peanuts; creek-watered pasture, estimated 150,000 ft. timber, 100 apple and peach trees, 26 plums, pears; 5-room cottage, fireplace, barn, garage, smoke and tenant houses. Owner called away $4,500 takes all, less than 1-4 cash. Details page 18 Illu. Catalog Bargains many states. Copy free. STROUT FARM AGENCY, 831R, New York Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. 12

FOR RENT—A 760 ACRE RANCH stocked with registered Polled Shorthorn cattle. Would sell half interest and go on a 50-50 plan. T. S. Shaw, Stockton, Kansas. 18*

TOBACCO FOR SALE

YOU ARE READING this classified advertisement. Which is just what thousands of other folks are doing. It's a great way to carry your wants to sell something, buy or exchange. Only four cents per word if ad runs 4 or more times to tell the story and certain to bring returns. If you try it you'll be sure of it.

TOBACCO—SELECT THREE YEAR OLD leaf. Nature cured. 3 lbs., chewing $1; 4 lbs., smoking $1.00; 7 lbs. No. 2 smoking $1.00. Pay for tobacco and postage when received. FARMERS GRANGE, Hawesville, Ky. 15*

SEEDS

ALFALFA $8.00 BUSHEL: SWEET CLOver $7.00; Red Clover $12.00; Unhulled sweet clover $3.50; Kanred seed wheat $1.50. Satisfaction or money back; seed shipped from Eastern Kansas; write us for samples; and get your order in NOW Meier Grain Co., Seed Dept., Salina, Kansas. 4-tf

POULTRY

PUREBRED WHITE ROCK COCKERELS early hatched $1.25 each. Mrs. Burt Veach, Route 3, Courtland, Kansas. 12*

PURE IMPERIAL RINGLET BARRED Rock Cockerels $1.50 and $2.00 each. Clara Phillips, Carlton, Kansas. 14*

MISCELLANEOUS

A SINGLE INSERTION in this small adv. department will do wonders, as hundreds of advertisers have found. Every adv. is carefully read by folks who buy. A trial of an insertion or two will be the best proof.

HELP WANTED

CLASSIFIED ADVS. in this department bring handsome returns, on anything to sell, wanted or in directions or other needs. Only four cents per word, per insertion, if ad runs 4 or more times, reaches 50,000 readers.

GALL STONES and Liver Complications

New national treatment relieves inflamation of gall-bladder and gall ducts associated with gall-stones. Wonderful reports from hundreds of patients. Get this specialist's booklet free. Dr. Huunter, 207 Main St., Little Rock, Ark. 16

FREE BOOK ABOUT CANCER

The Indianapolis Cancer Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana, has published a booklet which gives interesting facts about the cause of Cancer, also tells what to do for pain, bleeding, odor, etc. A valuable guide in the management of any case. Write for it today mentioning this paper. 8tf

EPILEPTICS

At last a treatment which positively stops all seizures from first day's use. No bromides or narcotics. Guaranteed. Information free. Hunter Laboratories 207½ Main St., Little Rock, Ark. 16

YOUR OWN FIRM
Will Give You
BETTER PRICES
BETTER FILLS
BETTER SERVICE
Try Them
Farmers' Union Live Stock Co.
406-8-10 Livestock Exchange
Kansas City Mo.

The Farmers National Bank
SALINA, KANSAS

Solicits Your Business
Oldest Bank In Saline County

$5.00 A THOUSAND
LETTER HEADS
OR ENVELOPES
Printed and Mailed You the Same Day as Order is Received.
CENTRAL KANSAS PUBLISHING CO., Salina, Kan.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Mercer Local F. U. No. 1462
Arkansas City, Kansas.

Whereas, it has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst, the beloved mother of our brother, P. S. Finch. We the members of the Farmers Union do here extend our sincere sympathy in his great loss.

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved brother.

Also a copy be spread upon the minutes of our order, and a copy published in "The Kansas Union Farmer."

CLARE SEYFER, Sec.

Whereas it has pleased the Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst, Brother R. A. Beamer.

That the deplorable removal of a life so full of usefulness, leaves a vacancy that will be duly felt by his relatives and friends.

Therefore be it resolved that we the members of Oakley Local No. 1662 extend our sympathy to the bereaved family in this their hour of bereavement.

Be It Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family a copy sent to the Kansas Union Farmer for publication and a copy spread on the minutes of the local.

CHAS. KURTZ, Pres.
JOHN SIM, Sec.

Whereas it has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst our neighbor Mrs. Mary Morton, wife of our departed brother, Wm. Morton

Be It Resolved that we the members of Burmeister Local No. 943 extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of the deceased in their hour of sorrow.

Be It Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer paper for publication and a copy be sent to the bereaved family and one spread on the minutes of the loctl.

Committee:
SAM WILD,
WILL HUNTER,
ED. VAGNE.

Whereas: It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst our brother, Joe S. Miller.

Therefore: Be it Resolved that we the members of Boicourt Union No. 2104 extend to the bereaved family Our heartfelt sympathy.

Be It Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Farmers Union paper for publication, a copy sent to the bereaved family, and a copy spread on the minutes of our local.

CLYDE C. BILLUPS,
C. C. REECE,
Committe of Resolutions.

Whereas, it has pleased our Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst our brother and neighbor Mr. F. S. Williams,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That we the members of High Prairie Local No. 752 extend to the bereaved family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this hour of their great sorrow.

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer for publication, a copy sent to the bereaved family, and a copy be spread on the minutes of our local.

CHAS. J. GLEASON, Sec.

FARMERS' UNION DIRECTORY

NATIONAL OFFICERS
C. S. Barrett, Pres. .... Union City, Ga.
E. L. Harrison, Vice. Pres., Lexington, Ky.
A. C. Davis, Secretary .... Gravette, Ark.
W. C. Lansdon, Lecturer .... Salina, Kans.

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John Tromble ..... Salina, Kansas
C. J. Osborne ..... Omaha, Nebr.
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C. E. Brasted, Secretary ..... Salina
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M. O. Glessner ..... State Lecturer
W. C. Lansdon ..... Salina
Hon. John Tromble ..... Salina
Farmers' Union Jobbing Association. 100 New England Bldg. W. C., Mo.
Farmers' Union Live Stock Commission 406-8-10 Live Stock Exchg. Bldg. K. C. Mo.
Farmers' Union Mutual Insurance Co. Salina, Kansas
Farmers' Union Auditing Association. Thomas B. Dunn, Salina
Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association. Kansas City, Mo.
Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas.

Kansas City Hay Market.

The entire market has been strong and steady all week, with an advance of $1.50 on Select Dairy Alfalfa and a fifty cent advance on Straws. Receipts of Prairie Hay this week were 237 cars, Alfalf.. 275 cars, Timothy 67, Clover 12, and Straw 10.. a total of 601, as compared with 267 cars last week and 600 a year ago.

Nominal Quotations, Friday, November 2, 1923

Prairie:	
No. 1	$15.00@15.50
No. 2	$13@$14.50
No. 3	$8@$12.50
Packing	$6@$8.
Alfalfa:	
Sel. Dairy	$27.50@$30.
Choice	$26.00@27.00
No. 1	$24.50@$26.50
Standard	$21.50@24.50
No. 2	$18@$21
No. 3	$15@$17.50
Timothy:	
No. 1	$17@$18
Standard	$15.50@16.50
No. 2	$13.50@$15.
No. 3	$11.50@$13.
Clover Mixed:	
Light	$16.50@$17.50
No. 1	$15@$16
No. 2	$11.50@$14.50
Clover:	
No. 1	$18@$20
No. 2	$11.50@$14.50
Straw:	$9.50@$10.

May we not handle your next consignment when it is ready for the market? We can obtain a good price for your hay on a steady market, and can send you returns within a few days after shipment is received.

Yours for service,
FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSN.

Breed sows for early spring litters. This provides an early start for the pigs and a better opportunity for the second 1924 litter.

HAY WANTED

—ON—
CONSIGNMENT
FARMERS UNION
JOBBING ASSOCIATION
Kansas City, Mo.

SALINA SANITARIUM
J. M. GAUME, M. D.
Specialist rectal and colon diseases
Also Sulphur Baths for Rheumatism
Piles cured with ut the knife
Little or no detention from business
Phone 2000, Salina, Kansas
Call or write for further information in the statute book. 39

FARMERS CLASSIFIED AD

USE THIS FORM—IT SAVES DELAY

Mail This To
THE KANSAS UNION FARMER
Salina, Kansas

Rate: 5 cents a word on single insertion; 4 cents a word each week if ordered 4 or more consecutive weeks
Minimum charge is 50c
Count Initials or Abbreviations as Words

Fill This Please!

Your Count of .....Words
No. Times to run .....
Amount Enclosed $.....
Place under heading of .....

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
(Route)
(Your Name) .....
(State)
(Town) .....

NOTE: Count your name and address as part of advertisement

....The Kansas Farmers Union Has Made Good....

WHY SUPPORT EXPERIMENTAL AND UNTRIED ORGANIZATIONS?

Every Union Member in Kansas is Asked to Join in a Campaign to Get Members and Collect Dues

THE RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

LOCAL CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS

The Farmers' Union has established more than 700 incorporated co-operative associations with a combined capital of more than $10,000,000 and with an annual business turnover of not less than $300,000,000. All these enterprises that have had the support of a courageous and loyal membership have been successful.

PROFITS FROM CO-OPERATIVE ELEVATORS

Through a Local Co-operative Elevator System the Kansas Union has abolished profit taking by local grain dealers and has added an average of 15 cents a bushel on the day of sale to the price of all wheat and corn marketed in the state. In this single field of activity the Union has increased the cash income of Kansas farmers more than $30,000,000 annually.

NEIGHBORHOOD LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATIONS

Union Local Live Stock Shipping Associations have eliminated local buyers and speculators in livestock and have secured fair prices and fair treatment for all small producers of meat animals in Kansas. The profits from this single department of Union co-operative activities amounts to many millions of dollars annually.

JOBBING ASSOCIATION RESULTS

Through its Jobbing Association the Kansas Farmers' Union has established a great grain marketing agency on the Kansas City market and for five years has fixed the price of binder twine at a figure that saves the wheat growers of the state more than a million dollars annually. It now handles one-tenth of all the grain receipts of the Kansas City markets.

THE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION COMPANY

The Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company has become the largest house on the Kansas City market and this year will sell nearly 10,000 car loads of animals for its satisfied patrons in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Colorado and will pay very substantial shippers dividends at the end of the year and better than any cash retutrns it has secured a fair deal for all farmers producers form all live stock dealings.

RESULTS OF CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE

The two great Insurance Companies established and conducted by the Kansas Farmers Union have forced a reduction of rates for protection of farm property against fire, lightning, tornado and hail that makes an enormous annual saving for farmers and has paid co-operative dividends and established reserves that amount to almost a million dollars.

THE CO-OPERATIVE AUDITING ASSOCIATION

The Farmers' Union Co-operative Auditing Association has standardized co-operative accounting, has supplied its members and others with efficient, impartial and rigorous auditing services at reasonable rates and by establishing better business methods in all Union co-operative enterprises has reduced the chances for failure and increased the opportunities for, success.

THE UNION WHEAT POOL

The Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association has pooled a large and constantly increasing volume of Kansas wheat production and is now selling the grain delivered by its members in an orderly and economic way that is certain to yield very large returns in profits and satisfaction to the growers who signed its wisely worked out marketing contract.

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

The Kansas Union Farmer, the official organ of the Kansas State Farmers' Union is the only paper in the state that owes no allegiance to any political party and that it is under no obligations to any of the great organized commercial, financial and transporation interests. It exists only to tell the truth, to advocate and discuss the principles of co-operative business and to serve the members of the Union in all possible helpful ways.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The Kansas Farmers Union has built up more than two thousand local and county organizations to serve the members as community centers for educational and social activities. Through these groups the farm people of Kansas have been trained in better business methods and taught to use their power and influence in public affairs.

UNION HAS SAVED THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Farmers' Union has prevented the destruction of the independent rural school district and the creation in its place of a county system of school administration designed to deprive parents of every vestige of democratic control over the education of their own children and has steadfastly advocated a better system for raising distributing funds for elementary education.

UNION AND PAVED ROADS

Through its educational agencies and the activities of its legislative representatives the Farmers Union has checked the construction of costly paved roads and prevented the waste of public money for improvements too expensive for the resources of the taxpayers but has consistently advocated highway improvement within the means of the people.

UNION HAS CHECKED EXTRAVAGANCE

The Farmers' Union has waged a never ceasing war against waste, extravagance and graft in public expenditures for state, county and local purposes and has prevented the legislature and the other money spending governmental agencies from levying many millions of dollars of wholly unnecessary taxes.

KANSAS CO-OPERATIVE LAWS

The Farmers' Union secured the enactment of the co-operative laws of 1913 and 1915 defining and authorizing the organization and operation of Rochdale business associations in Kansas and of the Standard Marketing Act of 1921 which provides for the orderly marketing of farm products through growers co-operative agencies.

PREVENTED BAD LAWS

For more than ten years the Farmers' Union has been able to prevent the passage of laws intended to cripple co-operate business and restrict the activities of co-operative insurance companies.

ACTS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Co-operation with other bona fide self help farmers organizations, has always been one of the policies of the Kansas Farmers' Union. The relations between the Union and the Grange are entirely friendly and the wonderful growth of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company at Kansas City is largely due to close affiliation with the Missouri Farmers Association.

EFFECTS ON FARM FINANCES

The benefical effects of the co-operative agencies established by the Kansas Farmers' Union are fully demonstrated by the fact that Kansas has a smallrr volume of farm mortgage indebtedness than other agricultural state with equal investments in farming facilities and correspondng value of annual crop production.

WORKS ONLY FOR PUBLIC GOOD

The public and legislative activities of the Kansas Farmers Union have always been in the interest of all the people. The organization has advocated and secured legislation designed only to serve the public good and has uniformly and successfully opposed all proposition of self help movements. Not a single Farmers Union law or proposed law has ever asked the legislature of the state for the approporiation of one dollar of public funds.

UNION HAS PROVED ITS VALUE

The Kansas Farmers Union has proved the merit and the usefulness of its program of Organization, Education and Co-operation. It is engaged in the great work of establishing a system of co-operative business and service for Kansas agriculture which will not be complete until marketing associations for all staple farm products have been organized a complete structure of co-operative banking and credit agencies has been formed.

USE THESE MEMBERSHIP BLANKS TO HELP YOUR LOCAL SECURE THE GRAND PRIZE

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Officers and Members of.....Local No.....

Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America

Realizing the need of a great agricultural organization to promote the interests of the producing masses, I hereby make application for membership promising if admitted, to conform to the constitution and by-laws of the order, and do all reasonably within my power to promote its growth and success; and I want to receive the Farmers' Union (paper) as long as I remain a member and I want my subscription to be paid for out of my annual dues.

Date.....192.....

My age is.....years. Occupation.....

Postoffice .....R. F. D. .....

Name .....

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Date.....192.....

My age is.....years. Occupation.....

Postoffice .....R. F. D. .....

Name .....

Each member of the Union should take the time to do their part in this membership campaign --- Don't delay --- Get a new member today. For further information write

John Tromble, President — SALINA, KAN. — C. E. Brasted, Secretary

Pool News

The Great Government of the United States lays particular stress on the importance of protecting the life of her citizens. Laws define the rights of people in the exercise of their freedom. Traffic laws determine the passing of traffic on streets of our crowded cities in such a manner that the life of the humble citizen is protectel in so far as possible. Railroads are required to have the crossings marked and signals placed that will warn the citizen of the danger of crossing without investigation. Armed police potrol the streets to protect the life of the undesigning citizen against the attacks of the culprit who has in view the taking of something that does not belong to waves and winds. Life preservers him. Life boats are on board the vessels that hazard the oceans mighty around the bodies of the humble citizen hold his body aloft to escape the tongues of water that would snuff out the life of the most innocent. Pure food laws open the eyes of those citizens who would take medicines without knowing the composition. Prohibition laws prohibit the lawful sale of intoxicants that are dangerous to the lives of the people that are obsessed with the ida that happiness depends upon a condition of irresponsibity. Gambling is prevented as far as possible where the results are liable to be disastrous to the unoffending. In fact the aim of Government is for the securing of life liberty and the persuit of happiness.

The security of our Government rests upon the willingness of the citizens to obey the laws. To violate the laws wilfully is to show our contempt for the Government that represents our ideas of justice. Laws on the statutes are a part of the conclusions of the best men that we could pick to define our relations with one another. Ignorance of the law excuses no one. Therefore our plain duty demands that we know the law and abide by its regulations. Is the farmer exempt from the provisions of the law? Let us see what the farmer is and then decide.

The farmer as a citizen, occupies the position of being the beginning of things that go to support life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. His is the hand that plucks from the earth the gifts of a wonderous Nature. Without his harvest the wheels of industry fail and the whole of Government collapses because the need for laws regulating the relations of citizens in the exchange of the things that support life no longer exist and the function of Government is dead. To keep alive the function of Government the farmer must continue to harvest To make possible the harvest the farmer must be protected in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. To say that the farmer should be exempt from the provisions of the law created to protect the innocent from the robberies of the designing would be to admit that laws are based on class and that we have class legislation instead of unprejudiced laws of justice. The farmer cannot be exempt because he is the beginning and the end. The gambler that speculates on the farmers wheat and through his manipulations of the market causes the price of the farmers product to be confiscatory is a culprit and punishment is prescribed in the Anti-Grain Gambling law. To rob another of a thing that does not belong to you and that you have no part in creating is a wrong in the eyes of the law that stands for the protection of life. The farmer is protected in two ways from the gambling culprits. The first has been mentioned; the second is the Co-operative Marketing Act. The life of the whole nation is protected in allowing the farmers to escape the gamblers clutches by organizing co-operative selling agencies where the services of the farmers shall be fully paid for by the consumer of his products.

As a measure of self preservation both laws were made a part of the body of laws of the country. Both were directed against what was considered a detrimental practice. One punishes by fine the direct actor in receiving service at less than cost, forcing the acceptance of the pay through market manipulation. No provision seems to have been made for punishing the man who indirectly supports such an institution by furnishing wheat to the gambler in the face of the law making possible his escape. The gambler who is guilty of forcing the price of wheat down is no more guilty than the man who furnishes the wheat. If the act of one is detrimental to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and is recognized as such by the courts; then why let the man who aids in the robbery go unpunished? The farmer who furnishes ammunition to the robber to hold up his neighbor is as bad as the robber. The farmer who is taking advantage of the Marketing Act and is organizing his selling agencies is saving the country from the result of ruinous practices of the gamblers and their lieutenants.

Wheat pooling is being done by men who recognize the laws of the country and are willing to comply with them. Those that refuse to pool do so in the face of two laws that recognize the necessity of pooling. The pooler obeys two laws that the non-pooler refuses to obey, so therefore is a more law abiding citizen than the non-pooler. The pooler agrees by contract that it is detrimental to the Association for him to violate the obligations of his contract and sell to the gambler. The courts hold him guilty of violating his contract and he pays a fine of twenty-five cents per bushel for every bushel of wheat that he turns over to an institution that was recognized by law as retrimental. The wheat farmer who sells to a gambler becomes a bootlegger in a sense. He is supporting an institution that has been declared illegal. Why punish the man that sells home brew in violation of this law and let the farmer go unpunished who refuses to pool with his neighbors, but scabs on the organization and sells the laws of the country out to the grain gambler. If the pooler is guilty of violating the law; is the man less guilty that aids in robbing of his own children and family and piles up a debt for an unborn generation of innocent children to pay after robbing the soil of its fertility and by aiding a gambling institution to destroy the avenue of escape for the wheat farmer) brings down the Greatest Government on earth by setting the example for non respect for the law? Brother Farmers Union men when you know these things and then refuse to help with the pool you are as Guilty As Hell!

M. O. GLESSNER.

Important Notice To Members.

RAILROADS HAVE GRANTED REDUCED RATES TO THE NATIONAL MEETING AT OMAHA, NOV. 20-22, ON THE CERTIFICATE PLAN.

Persons in the states of, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, Nebraska, Michigan, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming may purchase tickets from November 16th to 22 inclusive.

Persons in Idaho, Montana, and Utah, Nov. 15-21 inclusive.

Persons in Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington Nov., 14-20 inclusive.

Buy your tickets to Omaha paying the full one way fare and ask the agent for a CERTIFICATE, not a receipt. All stations do not have certificates. If your agent cannot supply you buy to the nearest point where one may be secured. Sign the certificate in ink. Upon arrival in Omaha turn your CERTIFICATE over to A. C. Davis, National Secretary who will be at the Castle Hotel. He will see that you are properly identified and your certificate validated. If a certificate cannot be secured take a receipt from the ticket agent, this can be made to answer as a last resort.

The return ticket may be purchased over the same route as the going trip for one half the one way rate; provided the number attending the convention by rail is 250 or more.

The final date for beginning the return journey is Nov. 26.

Fraternally Yours,
A. C. DAVIS, National Secretary.
Springfield, Mo., Oct. 30, 1923.

Diversified farming has proved its value. Here and there, in spots specializing in one particular crop is advisable. But care needs to be taken in making the selection and in management. There are the "rubs."

Miami County's Annual Meeting.

The Miami County Farmer's Union will hold their annual meeting in the American Legion room in the City Hall in Paola beginning at 1 P. M.

We urge a large attendance as this is the time to elect officers for the ensuing year.

All standing committees are requested to meet at the Farmer's store at 10 A. M.

W. E. HAYES, Pres.
GEORGE L. CHAPPELL, Sec.

WAUBAUNSEE COUNTY MEETING DECEMBER 8th

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Waubaunsee County Farmers Union will be held in the Court House at Alma on Saturday, December 8th, commencing propmtly at 2 p. m. At this meeting the officers will be elected for the coming year, and the secretary will read the financial report.

Local Secretaries if you have not sent in your 1923 dues do so at once as the books will be audited at this meeting and I would like to have all dues in. A good attendance is always desired.

JOE RICHMOND,
County Secretary.

Cooperation is the most effective weapon that the farmer has at his command. The whole commercial system of the nation waits to get a slice out of the farmer but he can prevent it if he will cooperate with his brother farmers.