



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER



VOLUME XVI

Organization

Education

Co-operation

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1923

NUMBER 14

Echoes of the Assembly

Under This Heading Each Week We Expect to Print Excerpts or the Addresses in Full of the Different Speakers Who Were on the Program of the Farmers Union Educational Assembly at Salina.

RELATION OF RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS TO AGRICULTURE AND COUNTRY LIFE

(By Jess Miley-State Superintendent)

I am pleased to see both sides of the house recognized in this matter. Ladies are especially interested in the schools. The major portion of our teachers are women. I am pleased to see you here and taking an active part in the meeting. You seem to be crowded off the program today, however.

I have not come here today top heavy with a big program. Neither have I a great burning message. I will mention things common to you. I am glad I was introduced as a superintendent of the common schools. I have been a county superintendent for many years. I went from that office to the state office. What I thought I could do when I went into the county superintendent's office was to study the school laws for two or three days and then I could tell them just how they should be amended. After 13 years study, I am convinced nobody can tell what to do with the school laws. A recommendation I would make about our school laws would be to repeal most of them.

In regard to the school code commission there were some fine things in the report of that commission. Some fine things in the bill that failed to pass the House of Representatives which did pass the Senate. It was fortunate did not have time to study it. Not that those people did not know their business. They gladly were doing what their conscience told them was right. All the bills were under one head, and I do not know if we could have recovered from its effects short of a special session of the legislature. Three were very important. One was the redistricting plan. We have too many school districts. We have 7 kinds of districts. Some are known as one and they are another.

In the Greenwood County I discovered they have 9 consolidated school districts and they call them union districts. When you apply the Union district law look up the consolidated law. I don't think we should consolidate by legislation. It should be by the vote of the people and by a unanimous vote as possible. I am not in favor of enforced consolidation. We could drop the Union school law right now. Do away with one of the common school districts. What is the use of the rural school law and a consolidated law. I do not know how you can tell what the limit of your taxes might be. Even though we have not worked out any plan, the redistricting plan is good.

Second, Plan of reaching the intangible property. A good portion of the wealth is school taxation. Some of this wealth is direct results of the school. If a farmer makes \$5,000.00 \$10,000.00; \$15,000.00 he is promptly taxed two or three times. If he keeps it long enough they will tax his seed wheat and his crop while it is growing and after it gets in the bin. The professional man escapes. It will seem good to have an income for the support of the schools. Everybody knows about what the farmer makes but you have no way of calculating what the professional man makes. Should the professional man not pay back to the schools some of the money he gets?

Third, If we cannot stop the use of tobacco why not place a tax on it and place a tax on cosmetics. They proposed a tax. The objection was we would have to amend the constitution. Well, suppose we do amend the constitution it has been amended before. It is possible to amend it.

The school code made mention in their program that we should have higher studies for teachers. I do not mean everybody should have a college education before he teaches. Many of our teachers who go out into your schools are incomparable. Good teachers are born, not made. We have had since 1915 a law permitting normal schools to grant certificates to people who attended during the summer session. That is, they were high school graduates and had 8 hours college work.

Last year some of the small colleges said if the Normal schools are going to do this why cannot we do it. A bill was enacted to give them the privilege for them to issue one year certificates. We have over 500 of these teachers in Kansas. We have a provision for normal training in high school and we have 3500 of these teachers. That only represents 8 hours of college work. I don't argue they have a college education. I am saying 6,000 are turned loose on the common schools and only have a high school education. The one year certificate law should be repealed or requirements made higher. The teachers are too young. In some instances they have to tell a falsehood about their age. Many of them graduating at the age of 17. Many say 18 years is their age when it is only 17 years. That is a young age to commence teaching. Probably some of you have children who are teachers. Some of our best teachers

hold 1 year certificates. It is not the individual we want to get rid of but the certificate. I say we should have a better study for teachers. 1 year certificates should be done away with. There are only 700 third grade certificates in Kansas. We wanted to do away with them altogether - but some members in the house of legislature thought there was a little danger in doing away with them for fear they might be needed. We still have first and second grade certificates and the third is useless. I would say a higher study for teachers.

In speaking of the rural high school situation, we have about 300 in Kansas. They are doing a wonderful work in some places while in others they are not doing as they should because their organization was not planned properly. If I am on the wrong foot, I want you people to put me right. In 1915 you passed a law saying in rural high schools the state board of education might extend the course of study to take in the last two grades of the common school. The seventh and eighth grades. We have put the seventh and eighth grades in some rural high schools. A course of study has been provided. We have provided a course of study for the 7th and 8th grades that will work with the high school. Some say it is going to take the most of the pupils from the school and there will be very few there to teach. We are taking the 7th and 8th grade boys and girls from the one teacher school and putting them in larger groups with more children of their own size and it is promoting companionship. It is awful to have to go through the 7th grade twice because you failed in one subject.

In the rural high school he is promoted by classes instead of grades. It is some times necessary to encourage the boy when he knows there is a larger group of his own age and everybody is smaller in the one teacher school. There he gets discouraged and wants to quit. You have to watch his very words and they will say things they do not mean and then they will make those very words good. You have to watch everything about him about this time. It places them in a high school about the time they should get there and they do not drop out of school. In this 7th and 8th grade school you are guaranteed a longer term. More facilities for their reading libraries, etc. More play at athletics, basket ball, base ball, football. I do not see why the rural high school is not a reasonable one. In the one teacher school, you relieve the teacher of so much work, she can give more time to the younger pupils. You rob the one teacher school of the older pupils in it. I think that is the right thing. That is one way the rural high school may be made to function.

Mr. Green; would that not cause the rural districts to get their children away from home just two years sooner. We live 12 miles from a rural high school.

A. Maybe you were not careful in locating the site of your rural school. Another feature of the rural high school which I have reduced to writing is one I realize when I am talking to groups of this kind. I think faster than I talk. For that reason I made investigations yesterday and reduced them to writing. I want to read them tonight.

Now what is going on and I want to know what is going on myself. I have only been in the office since Jan. 1 of this year and it is necessary for us to know what is going on. If you will pardon me for doing so, I will read it. I have to get my glasses first. I was 22 years old yesterday.

There is no place in our school system where there is as great opportunity for the farmer and his family to profit directly thru cooperation with the school as in the case of the Rural High School. It is a case of "moving the mountain to Mohammed." The Rural High School is so situated that many farmers are within easy reach of it. It affords an opportunity for the farmer's boys and girls that was unheard of a few years ago. They can now get an education that is on a par with that of the city boys and girls and do so without leaving home. This has a double advantage. It is less expensive and the boys and girls may remain with their parents at the time in their lives when they need parental care.

There is no finer place in the world for the development of real men and women than in our rural communities. Some of the greatest men and women this country has produced have grown to maturity without knowing anything of life as it exists in the city, and in times when educational facilities in rural districts were extremely meager.

It is true that just at this time farmers are suffering under abnormal economic pressure and there is a tendency on the part of young people to seek more remunerative employment.

It is a trait of human nature to seek greener pastures. The berries on the other fellow's row are just a little better bigger and juicier. The other man's job looks better. He wears bet-

ter clothes and works shorter hours. But just as surely as time goes on the present economic situation will be right and the farmer will collect reasonable dividends on his investment of capital and effort.

When that time comes the farmer who has stayed on the job and has weathered the crisis will have a decided advantage. Certainly one of the farmer's big problems is a reduction in the cost of production. This is a problem which he may control to some extent. It can and is being accomplished thru scientific methods of farming. There are farmers today who are not only holding their own but are making money because they are employing improved methods.

There are seventy-five high schools in Kansas, most of them rural high schools, teaching Vocational Agriculture. The Rural High School is the ideal place for this type of course and this is a splendid course for the Rural High School. This course is taught by men who have been reared on the farm and know farm problems first hand. Besides they have had a four year course of special training in the Agricultural College for just this kind of work.

The purpose of this course is to give young men such training as will make it possible for them to remain on the farm and manage it in such a way as to make it attractive by making it profitable. Hon. Henry C. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, has this to say about the need for such training.

"In this country we have 6,400,000 farms producing about \$14,000,000,000 worth of agricultural products. There are between 300,000 and 400,000 new farmers taking up the management of a farm for the first time each year. For the most part these new operators are the sons of farmers who have had experience on their father's farms but have not had organized instruction that would fit them to operate farms in keeping with the change in agricultural conditions. This phase of education has been neglected for many years, the

passage of the Smith-Hughes Act has set a system of education to meet these needs.

The agricultural and home economics vocational educational work of these schools must grow. To meet the needs of this country it means that some day when this system of education is completed we must be able to turn out from 300,000 to 400,000 young men and the same number of young women each year who will be trained through class room instruction and home projects to operate farm and farm homes. If it requires four years to train men and young women to properly take their places in the farm community, it will mean that we must have constantly in training 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 young people. We must not be satisfied until the agricultural vocational class reaches at least this number by providing systematic instruction and project experience under trained instruction for every young man and young woman who may desire to become a farm operator or a rural home maker."

The federal and state governments have considered this training important enough that they have made available a considerable sum of money in the purpose of paying a part of the salary of the teachers of Vocational Agriculture in properly equipped schools. (The amount for the present year is \$90,000. For 1925, \$110,000.)

In teaching Vocational Agriculture the home farm of the boy becomes the laboratory where practical work is done. Farm skills taught in the class room are followed by trips to the farms where the skill is practiced. This in turn is followed by a third step in which the boy practices the skill on his home farm under the supervision of the parents and instructor.

Along with his class work each vocational agriculture student is required to carry out a production project under the supervision of parents and with the change in agricultural conditions. This phase of education has been neglected for many years, the

of poultry or some dairy cows; ten acres of corn; twenty acres of wheat or an acre of potatoes. Whatever the kind and scope of the project careful records as to cost in labor seed, interest, etc., is kept and a final written balanced report submitted to the instructor at the close. Over \$100,000 worth of crops and live stock were produced last year by boys in vocational agricultural classes in Kansas.

During the school year six boys per week are given to instruction in farm shop work. This is not manual training, but as the name indicates, it trains boys to master the mechanical problems that are bound to arise on the farm. Wagon boxes, hay frames, belt lacing, soldering, harness repairing, gas engine and tractor repairs and operation, repair of farm machinery and concrete work are taught. At least one major to the vocational agriculture department each year. Usually some farmer who is in need of a poultry house, grain bin or garage or some building of similar size and scope will furnish the material and the class under the supervision of the instructor does the work for the experience.

The vocational agriculture teacher is concerned largely with the boys in his class, but through his boys and with the help of the boys many community enterprises are entered into. Dozens of successful community fairs have originated in the vocational agriculture department of the rural high school. With the teacher as a leader and director and his boys as his assistants the entire fair is planned and carried out. No one will question the value of such fair to the community in an educational way, but more than merely holding a fair is accomplished. The boys, who under the direction of the teacher, are charged with the responsibility of making the undertaking a success, are receiving training in community leadership which means much to the future of that community.

In some communities as many as one hundred boys and girls not in high school enrolled in club work under the leadership of the vocational

agriculture teacher with his high school boys as assistant club leaders.

Some have asked if the club work is not a duplication of County Agent work. The average county has from five to eight rural high schools. If each high school community carried on club work with adequate supervision more than the entire time of the County Agent would be required. With the rural high school serving as the community center, from which club work is carried on, more adequate supervision is possible and a larger number is reached. Many flocks and herds throughout the state have been noticeably improved through boys' and girls' club work.

A number of schools carry on class projects in order to give practice and experience along with teaching. In one rural high school (Wakefield) last year the class fed off sixty-five head of steers beginning in November and finishing in June. This was done for its educational value to the class but the fact is significant that a profit of \$852.00 was realized on the undertaking. The vocational agriculture teacher bought the steers and the school board advancing the money. Profits were divided between the boys and the school.

At Winfield the vocational agriculture teacher organized a cow testing association. This was done not primarily for the benefit of the dairymen, but for the purpose of giving the boys of the class experience in dairying. Under the direction of the teacher the boys made morning trips to each farm where samples were taken both evening and morning and feed weighed. The boy remains over night with the farmer and makes observations around the farm. The following day the boy takes the samples to the school, tests them for butterfat, figures the ration being fed and makes a written report to the farmer. During the three years this testing work has been carried on two state record cows have been developed and the production of the herds in the association has been increased thirty-three per cent.

At Marysville, Marshall County, the vocational agriculture teacher with his boys developed a strain of smut resistant corn. Eight hundred bushels of the seed were grown and distributed to the community.

In a number of places throughout the state the boys in vocational agriculture as part of the school work are keeping records on the enterprizes on the home farm. The keeping of these records has resulted in valuable information being compiled not only for the home farms but for the farms of the community in general.

At Silver Lake during the winter months the farm shop at the rural high school is thrown open to farmers in the evening. A good sized class of farmers is maintained throughout the winter months. The Silver Lake Community has also organized, through its vocational agriculture department, a Father and Son Club, which meets monthly. Programs of an entertaining nature supplemented by discussions of farm problems are carried out. This same community has an organization known as the Mother and Daughter Club.

In a number of places each boy has brought in two or three hens from his home flock. Those are housed in a building put up by the boys and handled as one flock of poultry. This furnishes practical experience and a laboratory for the study of the poultry industry on the farm. Not only do the boys profit by such projects, but the entire community becomes interested and gets such valuable information therefrom.

It is not at all unusual for the vocational agriculture class to cull a flock of hens taking out from one-fourth to one-half of the flock as non-producing hens.

It was intended that this should be a discussion of technical agriculture but from close observation of the intelligent application of simple scientific principles the cost of production can be very materially reduced.

This is one time when you have not heard a representative of the state office speak of illiteracy. I have heard the word so much I am tired of it. If we want to reach the illiteracy I will tell you how we can do it, with the laws we have. Simply apply and administer the laws we have. If the children are not in school let us put them there. We have a night school law and why not send these people to night school. If the Board is petitioned by October 15th they have to have a night school for people over 16 years of age. If there is the great amount of illiteracy in Kansas that we are given credit for, I am unable to find it. By that, I mean people who are unable to read and write the English language. I think there is as much illiteracy in Crawford county as any county in the state and I am not ready to admit that Kansas stands 27th in the Union on illiteracy. I know you are interested in the schools and if some program is presented to you you are not a tight wad like you are represented as being. I have yet to find a real mean grouchy farmer. They are not in this crowd. If we want to destroy illiteracy let us apply the laws we now have. Organize rural high schools, take in 7th and 8th grades and open them and make community centers. I think I shall let the next speaker

have the floor if there are not any questions.

Q. A person has to 18 years of age under the present law?

A. All have to 18 years of age now except those taking normal training in high school.

Q. Is there a great surplus of teachers at this time?

A. There is a surplus of 4 or 5 thousand teachers at this time. There has been a tendency to make the qualifications higher in the high schools. There nobody can teach without a degree. In the common school we are needing the higher schooled people who we do not have. Q. Is it not a fact that teachers, are born and not made?

A. Yes.

Q. Would it not be better to let the county superintendent pick the teachers?

A. Perhaps. Why not encourage a people to become farmers instead of wanting them all to be teachers?

Q. If you have a large number to pick from, would it not be better?

A. I am not arguing for a scarcity of teachers to raise the wages. It is a good thing if you have a number to pick from and can pick the best. My first term of school was 6 months and \$25.00 per month which was a good salary and high for the services rendered.

I thank you for the opportunity of speaking to you and assure you I want to do what is best for the schools. I have no big program but I think I know some of your problems. I was on the farm and taught school out there. Went to school there and out, in the central and western part of the state, where I have been some. I have discovered a more liberal attitude to education than we have in the eastern part. You have bigger and better buildings and more equipment.

ORGANIZATION AND COOPERATION

Jacob Taylor, Editor Farmers' Magazine

"National Magazine"

It is important and necessary that the farmer get thoroughly soundly and completely organized. Get lined up together. The time will come when you are in position to say it is this way or that. We have a commodity ready for the market and it is so much. The farmer has as much right to name the price of a bushel of grain he has to sell as the automobile dealer has to say what price he will get for his car. Until you are able to state the price of the grain, you are not at the top of the ladder with the other fellows. You get the idea. Everybody will get enthused about getting rich over night. Politicians tell you you are acting the fool like everybody else does. They come with a new proposition.

Twenty-one years old this month is the Farmers Union. We have seen everything tried. All kinds of organizations sprang up. The Farmers Union is the greatest farm organization in the United States or the world today. Every once in a while somebody would come sweeping over the country to give relief to the farmer. He would organize this commodity or that commodity and he would handle it on a commodity basis. He would have the assistance of business minds. They put over something like a \$300,000,000 cotton pool down South not long ago. How long did it last. It lasted just as long as the cotton men were satisfied and got a high price. You must have something behind your commodity organization. Some general organization. You cannot get a contract strong enough to hold over a long period of years. When enough get dissatisfied they will quit and the organization will go over the board. If you will organize a Farmers Union and do not get them all in, get a few of the sensible ones in. Get them in and lay the foundation and you have the medium to talk and educate so they can do something. You get the local enterprises. Then you have your organization to go out and preach loyalty. It is loyalty that makes these stick. The most important of the whole works is you people sitting on these hard benches and listening to these discussions. You are most powerful. You get some information. You get some experience. You go home and tell somebody and that somebody tells somebody else and first thing you know you are getting enthused about it and some old hard head in the neighborhood gets interested and you have another dues paying member in your local organization. He gives support to your local and is somebody else to preach loyalty. Your Farmers Union organization and your business enterprises help this organization and then your organization goes out to increase its membership and preach loyalty for your business enterprises. I don't know but that is the thing that put you over here in Kansas. It will save you. Big people all over the country are saying you have to be organized. Organization is the word. Senator Curtis said that he realized that what made the salvation of the Kansas farmer was his organization and he looked to see the time when the Kansas farmer with his organization and business activities would be able to tell the price he was going to take for his grain.

They are all talking and saying the solution of the farm problem must be taken up. You have no idea how much the people of the country are thinking.

(Continued on page 3)

The New Wheat Pool Agreement

A Resolution proposing the amalgamation of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association for the purpose of organizing a single Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association based on a new Standard Marketing Contract.

Whereas, The benefits and advantages of co-operative marketing must depend very largely upon the volume of any commodity under the control of a single agency which volume should never be less than sufficient to properly and economically direct the distribution of the crop organized, and

Whereas, After three years of continuous effort by the advocates of the wheat pooling plan in Kansas, contracts for less than ten per cent of the annual production of Kansas wheat have been obtained with no immediate prospect, under existing conditions, of securing a pool membership sufficiently large to properly direct Kansas Wheat Marketing, and

Whereas, The Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association are both engaged in the work of organizing Kansas wheat farmers with pooling contracts which are substantially the same and in marketing the wheat so pooled on the co-operative plan through separate selling agencies, thus creating two distinct groups of producers with identical interests and purposes but with organization and operating agencies unavoidably in competition with each other, all of which create wholly unnecessary as well as costly rivalries, retards the progress of co-operative marketing and is detrimental to the welfare of the farmers and of the general public of the State of Kansas, and

Whereas, The true interests of the wheat producers of Kansas would be served best by the union of the two existing cooperative wheat marketing associations and the promotion and support of the pooling movement by united and harmonious forces to the end that a sufficient volume of the annual wheat production of Kansas may be organized to direct the marketing of such crops through a single agency and that all competition between groups working for identical results may be brought to an end, therefore be it,

Resolved, That the Executive Committees of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and of the Farmers Union Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association in conference assembled at Kansas City this seventh day of November 1923 do hereby agree as follows:

First, That a joint committee be appointed by the conferring bodies to consist of representatives of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association, the Farmers Union Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association, the National Wheat Advisory Committee and the American Wheat Growers Association.

Second, That this committee is hereby empowered, with the assistance of the general counsel of the National Wheat Advisory Committee, to draft a new one hundred per cent annual pooling contract which when drawn and approved

by the Boards of Directors of the respective Associations shall take the place of both the pooling contracts now used by these Kansas Associations shall take the place of both the pooling contracts now used by the Kansas Associations.

Third, That immediately on such approval an organization committee shall be created to consist of representatives of the two Kansas Wheat Marketing Associations and of other citizens of Kansas who are acceptable to the respective associations and to the National Wheat Advisory Committee, and who may be helpful in uniting the agricultural forces of Kansas behind a great state-wide marketing program for wheat.

Fourth, That after the approval of the new pooling contract by the respective Boards of Directors of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association all organization work of both groups shall immediately cease, and the full resources of each organization shall be thrown behind the new organization committee and its work.

Fifth, That the new pooling contract shall contain a clause providing that it be not operative unless an amount of wheat equal to forty per cent of the five-year annual average production of Kansas shall have been signed by June 1, 1924, said amount to include all amounts now under pooling contracts in Kansas, and that the sworn statement of the secretary of the organization committee shall be accepted as conclusive evidence of fact in this regard at the end of the organization period.

Sixth, That on such evidence being presented that not less than 40 per cent of the wheat is under contract for marketing, the new marketing association shall be incorporated to handle all wheat thus signed, and the respective Boards of Directors of the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and the Farmers Union Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association shall immediately take all necessary steps to liquidate the business of such associations and transfer the assets, books and records of their respective organizations to the legally elected directors and officers of the new association.

Seventh, The organization committee to be created hereunder shall have full power and authority to consider, determine and put into effect all steps necessary to the completion of the program outlined herein.

Signed this seventh day of November, 1923.

For Kansas Wheat Growers Association.

COX, President.
KELLER
MCMICHAEL
COX.

For the Farmers Union Cooperative Wheat Marketing Association:

JOHN TROMBLE,
L. C. TOWNE,
JOHN VESECKY,
H. E. WITHAM.

The Kansas Union Farmer

Published Every Thursday at Salina, Kansas by THE KANSAS BRANCH OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL & CO-OPERATIVE UNION

Entered as Second-Class Matter August 24, 1912, at Salina, Kansas, Under Act of March 3, 1879

Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, Authorized July 30, 1918.

JOHN TROMBLE, Editor and Manager
W. C. LANSBON, Associate Editor
DON C. ESTES, Director of Advertising

Subscription Price, per Year \$1.00

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 15, 1923.

CAMPAIGN CLOSING DATE POSTPONED

The weather has been bad, the roads have been muddy and the farmers very busy at home during the time set for the state wide drive for the collection of dues and the drive for new members. Many counties where there is intense interest in the campaign to strengthen the organization report that it has been almost impossible to hold meetings either of locals or of county unions.

Also it takes some time for the word to get around and to get folks interested even in their own business. There are a good many places where the members want to do their part in this matter but for one or another good reason have not yet started. To make this campaign really worth while there must be interest in it in every part of the state.

The Board of Directors of the State Union, taking all these conditions into consideration, decided, at its recent Kansas City meeting, to make the closing date for the campaign December 31st instead of November 16th as at first announced. This should enable all members and organizations interested to do their full part in the necessary work of strengthening the Union in Kansas.

Bear in mind, brethren, that closing date of the membership campaign is December 31st, 1923.

THE MURRAY GARSSON PRIZES

The cash prizes offered by the State Union for increase in membership and collection of dues will be awarded to the five counties that do the most work before December 31st, 1923. The award will be based on new memberships, on the collection of current dues, advance dues for the year 1924 and on dues delinquent on January 1st, 1924.

The collection from new members includes the initiation fee of \$2.00, the dues for the remainder of this year at the rate of 19 cents a month—less half a month not counting the building fund assessment for 1923 of 50 cents and the regular dues for 1924 of \$2.25, a total of \$4.94 for all new members initiated after November 15.

The collections from members in arrears continue as announced before, that is all arrears, including the dues for 1923, plus the building fund assessments for 1922 and 1923 if dues paid is for a part of either year or for both years and the advance dues for 1924.

LOOKING AFTER LAME DUCKS.

Former Senator Kellogg of Minnesota is to succeed Colonel George Harvey, as United States Ambassador to England. Kellogg is the man who lost his seat in the Senate to Henrik Shipstead. There are people who will say that inasmuch as the people of Minnesota are through with Kellogg it is hardly right for the federal government to hand him the best of all the diplomatic appointments.

Such critics are wrong. The fact that Kellogg is no longer wanted by the people of Minnesota is no argument against his fitness for the ambassadorship to Great Britain. The voters of Minnesota are perfectly willing that Kellogg shall be sent to London. The only possible objection they can urge against the appointment is that England is not so very far away from Minnesota.

THE WHEAT SITUATION.

The condition of the wheat farmers does not improve. The price has advanced slightly above the low marks of the summer but is still far below the cost of production. It may be that government can do something about wheat but it is doubtful. The wheat growers must help themselves.

It is easy to advise self help but how is the farmer to be persuaded to do the things necessary to advance the price of wheat and what are the things that should be done. To get a fair price for wheat the farmers of this country must do several things for themselves.

In the first place all America might as well recognize as a permanent condition that the days of American wheat exporting are about over.

New wheat lands are being opened up in Canada, Australia, South America and several other countries. Production of export wheat in Russia has been resumed and will increase rapidly. Not only will there be an increase in export wheat in Russia has been resumed and will increase in export wheat production in many countries during the next few years but the bulk of that wheat will be produced much more cheaply than is possible in the United States.

America will not export wheat in the future but the rapidly growing city populations of this country will soon absorb most of the surplus that was once exported. For all wheat consumed within the boundaries of the United States it is easily possible to get a good price.

How? The farmers are from Missouri and want to know what they shall do to get more money for wheat. Well, sow less wheat for one thing. Big crops and high prices seldom go together. For another thing, wherever such farming is possible, sow wheat early enough so that it can be used for pasture and so bring in some return even if it is never harvested.

Another thing. In the spring there are thousands of acres of wheat that any good farmer knows will not produce grain to pay for harvesting. All the unpromising fields and parts of field should be plowed up in May and planted to feed crops.

After threshing and before marketing is begun all wheat should be tested both as to its weight and its protein content. Light and poor wheat should not be marketed but fed and the good milling wheat should be stored and marketed cooperatively.

So there you are. The wheat farmers must reduce their acreage, feed their cheap wheat and market their good grain cooperatively. None of these things can be done without organization. The wheat grower should belong to an educational association like the Farmers Union and to a Commodity Marketing Association like the Farmers Union and to a Commodity Marketing Association like the Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association.

Resolution of Respect.

Whereas death has removed from us our beloved brother and fellow-worker, Victor C. Anderson, of Wellington, Kans., who for many years has been enthusiastic and untiring in his efforts for the Farmers Union; and who in his nearly six years of service as a member of the State Board of the Farmers Union endeared himself to every member of the Board, giving always his best in behalf of the State organization; now, therefore, the Board of Directors of the Kansas Division of the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America do hereby express our appreciation of his life and work, and our sympathy to his family.

W. P. LAMBERTSON,
C. E. HUFF, Committee.

THE SERVICES OF SAPIRO.

Aaron Sapiro makes a lot of people angry. Why not? He is engaged in a work that reduces the income of a considerable number of thousands of the shrewdest and ablest business men in this country. It is entirely natural that he should not be greatly beloved by the gentry who see their profits disappearing as the processes and programs of cooperative marketing are developed and perfected.

Many farmers and farm leaders do not like Sapiro. He has a scorn for pretense, for bunk, and for demagoguery that he hardly ever takes the trouble to conceal. It might be better if he would sometimes dissemble his contempt for mediocrity and his hatred of shams but if he were to do so it would not be Sapiro.

Sapiro belongs to that type of Jews that has been a force in every generation since the dispersion of the chosen people—men with a passion for service. Such a man was Joseph who taught the Egyptians how to conserve their resources and safeguard themselves from famine. From the days of Joseph men of the same blood have acted similar parts in the great play of human history.

America owes much to the Jews who have taken part in the constructive work of this country. Eugene Meyer as Chairman of the War Finance Corporation has long been the most useful public man in Washington. Julius Rosenwald amasses millions and devotes the bulk of his income to charity and education. Bernard Baruch places his great fortune at the disposal of those who would reconstruct American Agriculture. Sapiro devotes talents that would earn millions for him in the service of corporations to the hard and often thankless job of organizing cooperative marketing.

Why criticize such men? Possibly because they are Jews, possibly because they have made fortunes, possibly because their motives are distrustful. Sapiro, notwithstanding reports to the contrary is still the real leader of the tobacco marketing associations. He is the attorney and adviser as well as the friend of scores of cooperative associations that are making and saving money for their members. He is ready to assist the wheat growers in completing and perfecting their organizations. The only thing that interferes with his usefulness at this time is that he is reported to be in the employment of the thoroughly discredited American Farm Bureau Federation which was responsible for the colossal blunders, the monumental failure, and the measureless stupidity of the United States Grain Growers Incorporated.

SPREAD MUST BE READJUSTED.

A great many people are just now learning something about the "Spread." This has no reference to the bed spread that must be properly adjusted at least once a day in the interest of good housekeeping, nor of the marmalade or butter that is spread on our daily bread. The world just right now is thinking about the spread in value between the producers of raw materials and the consumers finished products.

Cotton at thirty cents a pound to the grower becomes worth \$3.00 a pound by its conversion into the finer grades of fabrics. There are other illustrations equally startling but just now the producers and consumers of wheat are much interested in the spread between good milling wheat and first class loaf bread.

The wheat in a barrel of flour is now costing the mills about \$5 a barrel. It is only right that a fair profit should be added so that money may be made out of the business of milling. The baker takes a barrel of flour and manufactures 315 loaves of bread from it, each weighing one pound and for that bread the consumer pretty generally pays ten cents a pound thus spreading the farm value of the wheat \$5.00 to \$31.50 for the consumer.

Here is evidence of profound foolishness or profound wisdom one or the other or possibly both. The farmer must be foolish to sell material for five dollars that after conversion and probably within 24 hours from the time that he parts with it is worth \$31.50. Either the baker or the miller must be a mighty wise guy to get away with that sort of a thing.

That the baker is a good business man is making money at his end of the job is proved by the fact that new baking corporations are being organized almost daily and that additional stock issues of old baking concerns are readily marketed away above par.

It may be that a pound of bread is worth ten cents but it is dead certain that the man who grows the wheat is not getting his fair share of that price when he receives only one-ninth of what the consumer must pay. Regardless of whether it is buttered plastered with marmalade or jelly or eaten without any trimmings at all there is too much spread not on one but in every piece of bread.

HOW TO GET A BIG POOL.

Several farmers declare that the pool is right if it can be made big enough and say they are willing to sign up as soon as the association has enough wheat to make any real impression on the market. Of course that line of talk and conduct would prevent any marketing association from ever being completed. Some one has to pioneer any movement.

One of these days the half hearted converts who say they believe in pooling if more than half the wheat is organized are going to have their bluff called. They are going to have an opportunity of signing a pooling contract to become effective only when 50,000,000 bushels of wheat have been signed up. Will they sign such an agreement?

Well why not? They take no chances. They will have an opportunity to do just the things that they have held necessary without taking any chances at all or paying out any money. That should be attractive to men who want to be dead sure before they commit themselves.

The very best service that any member of the Union can give to the cooperative movement is to get all the members of his family and all his neighbors into the organization.

Every time a car load of live stock owned by members of the Union is assigned to an old line commission firm the farmers contribute about \$20 to the funds that are being used so lavishly in the desperate battle against co-operation.

The old line hay dealers, grain merchants and live stock commission men at Kansas City are spending a lot of money to break down the Farmers Union Jobbing Association and the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company. They can afford to do this because they are getting it in the shape of commissions from Union members and Union Co-operative enterprises that do not support their own institutions. If the co-operative agents established by the Farmers Union in Kansas are finally put out of business it will be done with the money furnished by our own members.

WHOSE CAMPAIGN?

Said one member of the Union to another, "I see that the officers of the state organization are trying to put on a big membership contest." Wrong. The officers of the State Union are trying their dead level best to get the members of the organization to put on a big membership drive.

Unless the members of the Union believe in the organization and are willing to do something to increase its strength and influence the officers are almost helpless. The Union can get nowhere unless its members are willing to do their part to support its business enterprises and maintain its membership.

The members of a co-operative elevator association who sell their grain to a competing concern, even when he gets a little more money, is rightly regarded as a poor spirited sort of a spineless and brainless easy mark but he is not open to any suspicion of dishonesty. The manager of a co-operative Farmers Union Elevator who consigns the wheat delivered to him by members of the organization to one of the old line commission companies exposes himself to much more serious criticism. He knows that he is not getting more money for the grain than he could obtain by supporting the Jobbing Association of which his company is a member and the real co-operators who employ him are justified in suspecting that he is being paid for his work in discrediting co-operation.

Wheat Pooling

By Kansas Farmers

Should now go forward at a rapid rate. The agreement to merge the two existing Kansas Associations into a single organization under a new contract was reached at Kansas City last week. The meeting in which this decision was made was composed of the Executive Committees of the two Kansas Associations. Attending in advisory capacity only were Carl Williams of Oklahoma and Herman Steen of Chicago representing the National Advisory Wheat Committee and also Judge Brown of North Dakota and A. R. Shumway of Oregon for the American Wheat Growers Association.

All present showed a fine spirit of cooperation and harmony. After some preliminary discussions the two executive committees met in closed session and agreed to the general terms of the amalgamation. A committee made up of Carl Williams, B. E. Corporon, Judge Brown and W. C. Lansdon then worked out the details of the agreement which was promptly signed by the respective executive committees of the two Associations.

A committee made up of Judge Brown, B. E. Corporon, W. C. Lansdon and a representative of the National Advisory Wheat Committee to be named later was appointed for the purpose of carrying the agreement into effect as soon as the approval of the entire Board of Directors of each Association is obtained. This committee with the advice and assistance of the general counsel of the National Advisory Wheat Committee will draft a contract for the new association and select an organization for securing the sign up of 40 per cent of the Kansas wheat production before June 1, 1924.

The Campaign

For The Big Wheat Pool

In Kansas will be pushed with great vigor if the agreement signed last week is approved by the directors of the two Kansas pooling associations.

The biggest men in the cooperative marketing movement in the country will concentrate on Kansas. Judge Robert W. Bingham of Kentucky who is largely responsible for the success of the Burley Tobacco Association; Eugene Meyer of the War Finance Corporation; George C. Jewett, general manager of the American Wheat Growers Association; and Judge Brown, president of the same organization; Aaron Sapiro, general counsel for many cooperative marketing associations and the greatest authority in the legal foundations of cooperation; Carl Williams, president of the American Cooperative Cotton Exchange are among the men who will take part in the campaign for better cooperative marketing facilities for Kansas wheat.

It is not the plan of those interested in this movement to depend very much at all on the work of paid solicitors. The principles and objects of cooperative wheat marketing will be presented to the farmers who will be asked to organize themselves if they are convinced that pooling offers any substantial relief from present conditions.

It is likely that local organization committees will be established in each big wheat county to be made up of actual producers who are willing to sign the contracts and to use their influence with the neighbors.

Brookhart Takes His Duties Most

Seriously and is making preparation for the work that he hopes to do during the coming session of congress. No man in the United States has more thoroughly mastered the principles of cooperative business practices in European countries.

Senator Brookhart's visit to Europe has convinced him that banking and credit facilities wholly under their own control are essential to the security and the success of farmers organized in their own interest. He doubts whether any existing financial agencies in this country are in position to serve cooperation and therefore is strongly in favor of a federal law authorizing the incorporation of cooperative national banks.

Stabilization Of Agricultural Prices

Will be discussed during the coming session of congress. A very strong group of senators from the northwest have been interested. Either the Norris measure or some bill with similar provisions and purposes will be introduced into the senate early in the session. The proposed legislation will not take the form of an attempt to fix prices by law. It will provide for an adequately financed federal marketing corporation which will always stand ready to bid a fair price for any of the great agricultural staples like cotton, tobacco or wheat.

The supporters of this proposition do not believe that the corporation could ever be called on to handle any of the staples used in domestic consumption. The bid made by it would automatically force all domestic converters to make equal or higher bids and the corporation would get none of the commodities used at home.

The staples produced for export need no assistance except where the foreign price is unprofitably low. There is a good outlet at fair prices for cotton and tobacco. It is almost certain that foreign buyers will always outbid the marketing association for them.

In dealing with wheat which is now almost wholly without any foreign outlet from the United States the

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

marketing agency would probably find itself in possession of the surplus over domestic demands. That surplus would be sold for the best possible price and the losses incurred would be charged back to the producers in some workable and equitable fashion and would prevent increased production and a further accumulation of excess wheat.

Walton Is Not Having a Pleasant Time

During his day in court. It is almost certain that he has been prejudged and found guilty in advance of his trial but it may be that the evidence read into the record will not be wholly contradictory of the verdict that already seems certain. The more Walton performances are exposed to public scrutiny and criticism the less they are understood by people outside of Oklahoma.

So far as the evidence already taken shows it is certain that the governor holds some very curious views concerning the perquisites of the office to which the people of Oklahoma have elected him. He may believe that it is just as appropriate for the state to pay the wages of a chauffeur for the gubernatorial automobile as it is for the United States to maintain a steam yacht for the use of the President.

Occupants of the White House have been known to use barbers and valets who drew their pay as departmental clerks. An admirer of the national president and brigadier general of the army does his successor. Perhaps Walton could not understand that the people of Oklahoma might not be willing to supply their government with services that often and ungrudgingly have been bestowed on the president of the United States. The truth is that Walton is in trouble because he seems to have suffered from a most severe attack of the mental malady known as megalomania or delusions of grandeur.

Schools Are Being Severely

Criticized these days. It is charged that each child in the public schools is being given the same dosage of instruction and culture entirely regardless of the condition, wishes, and mental capacity of the student. The course of study for any given year in the graded schools is supposed to be made up to fit the needs of the average pupil.

The average pupil can accomplish more than others who are below him in mental ability or industry. On the other hand he cannot do as much work as quite a number of his brighter classmates. The sad result of this is that in every class there are distinct groups of pupils.

The average children get along right. They pass from one grade to another at regular intervals. The lower section of the class either fails to master the course of study and is set back for a whole year or by intense, prolonged hard work gets enough of the work to make passing grades. The smart children fool away half their time because it requires little work for them to keep up with their classes. Many of them could complete the entire course in half the time required for the average child.

More than time is lost in such a system. It is true that both the failures and the bright scholars lose a lot of time that might be used to better purpose but the greatest loss is in the habit of failure that the lagging pupils acquire and in the loss of opportunities suffered by the upper section of the class. The course of study must have a richer content for the smart children and more flexibility for those who are mentally below the average.

Prices Make Strange Variations.

The third largest corn crop ever produced in the United States is selling for the highest prices ever obtained except in war times. A poor crop of wheat, far below the normal average in both quantity and quality is selling for a price far below the cost of production.

The explanation probably lies in the fact that the price of the entire wheat crop is determined by the small quantity sold in foreign markets. Little if any corn is exported. In fact it is believed that about eighty-five per cent of the entire corn production of this country is fed on the farm where it is produced. There is never very much trouble in getting a good price for something that is consumed by the neighborhood folks.

Robbing State Banks

Has become a fairly well established and probably richly remunerated business in Kansas. A bunch of bandits held up an Ottawa bank the other day. They made all the employees lie down on the floor until they could be locked in the vault. There are sixteen burglar alarm outlets in that bank, so it is reported, but not one of the nine employees was able to push the button with either hand or foot although not one of them could at any time have been more than three feet from the switch.

Ogden, Kansas receives its bank robbers at night but they carry away the booty just the same. A young fellow at Crestline, which is a wide spot in the road in Cherokee county, is the only bank officer or employee attacked by robbers who has proved that he could pull a trigger. He shot at him gotten the swag and although he hit no one the bandit dropped the money, made for his car and got away without being

ing hurt. Here is a suggestion for the Hire a couple of guards—day and night shift—arm them with sawed off ten gauge shot guns loaded with buckshot and keep them on duty day and night in position to cover the entrance of the bank.

Pugsley Replies to Banker

Says Grain Futures Act Has Not Lowered Price Of Wheat

In a telegram to the Secretary of Agriculture, dated July 26, George S. Bridge, chairman of the International Grain and Hay Show, calls attention to a statement made before the National Hay Association Convention by Bert H. Lang, vice president of the First National Bank of St. Louis, to the effect that first aid relief to the wheat farmers may be given by the Secretary of Agriculture saying to the grain trade "that for a given period, for example until July 1, 1924, he will not apply the authority vested in him through the future trading act (grain futures act) in restricting the volume of trading

... and the American speculator who now believes that wheat is below a fair and equitable value will immediately come into the market in a volume that will absorb these daily hedges that are now exercising such a depressing effect. Such action in my judgment would tend to strengthen the confidence of the American flour buyer and without question it would have a most wholesome effect on the foreign buying mind. My critic may reply that there is no restriction or restraint on trading at the present time, and my reply is that he is technically correct, but there is a natural restraint that comes through fear of a definite ruling temporarily held in abeyance. What the trade wants is concrete assurance that it will not be interfered with in its investment in a trading commodity which it feels is now selling at a price out of line with everything else in the commodity world."

Acting Secretary of Agriculture C. W. Pugsley sent the following statement in reply to the above telegram: "There is no contemplated ruling held in abeyance. As you state, there is no restriction or restraint in the form of an arbitrary limitation on trading at the present time, and there is none in contemplation. Furthermore, notwithstanding similar agitation in grain trade for the past several months, our records show that total volume of trading in May, when futures was in excess of same month in two preceding years. When present regulations under grain futures act were promulgated Secretary Wallace issued a statement deprecating the persistent rumors which have come out of some markets to the effect that administration of this law would drive operators out of the market and cause severe decline in prices. He said violent opponents of the law have always claimed that the price of grain is regulated by supply and demand and asked how this law has affected supply and demand. He noted that some have said that decline in wheat prices is due to this law and asked about corn prices in precisely the same manner as to wheat trading. If it has driven down the price of one, why not the other? The Secretary pointed out that if persons subject to the law would stop their misrepresentations of the regulations and co-operate in administering it, it would be better for all concerned because the Secretary has no intention to interfere with ordinary or proper speculation, and the law does not authorize such action."

"The Secretary desires to co-operate in every forward-looking movement to improve the market and solicits the complete and generous cooperation of the trade for the benefit of everyone from the farmer to the consumer. So far as the regulations are concerned this can be accomplished most quickly by setting down to the routine of making the required reports without further discussion or opposition."

"Continued agitation by the grain trade in regard to these reports exposes it to suspicion that there is something to conceal which might result in increased criticism and even further legislation of a more drastic character before the actual facts regarding future trading can be ascertained by this department. As is well known, factors wholly independent of the grain futures act are now operating in grain markets."

CO-OPS DO BIG BUSINESS.

Last year cooperative marketing associations in New York State did a business of \$58,500,000. This figure does not include the co-operative purchasing of the G. L. F. Exchange. Three co-operatives of the state exceeded \$1,000,000 annual business. The Dairyman's League Association is in the lead with \$48,700,000. The Eastern States Milk Products come next with \$5,000,000 and the Western New York State Fruit Growers annual business totaled \$2,500,000.

The production of milk in the United States in 1921 was approximately 90,000 million pounds, according to the Department of Agriculture. This was an average production per cow of about 4,000 pounds. With our present population there is available about 200 pounds of milk for each person, either in the form of milk or some of the various products of milk.

Department of Practical Co-Operation

ATTENTION! FARMERS UNION MEMBERS

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

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

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

C. E. BRASTED, Sec'y.

UNION MEETING NOTICES
Notices of Farmers' Union meetings will be printed under this heading without charge. Secretaries should send in their copy at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.

To Local Secretaries And The Membership In General
We have the State Constitution for 1922. "Containing the Amendments as adopted," ready for distribution at 5c per copy.
C. E. Brasted, Secretary.

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

A. C. BROWN, Co. Pres.

CRAWFORD COUNTY MEETINGS AT GIRARD KANSAS
Girard Local No. 494 of the Farmers Union meets in Union Hall the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

L. E. Root, Pres.

Roy W. Holland, Sec.

UNION LOCAL NO. 2019
Blaine O'Connor, Sec.
Regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

J. R. Horton, Pres.

ORDER PRESIDENT BARRETT'S BOOK

We now have a supply of the book "Uncle Reuben's Activities in Washington," on hand and can fill orders direct from this office.
Make remittance of \$2.00 to C. E. Brasted, Salina.

C. E. Brasted, Secretary.

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. 25.

Fraternally Yours,

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

HALLOWEEN PARTY

AT CLEMENTS
The Chase County Farmers Co-operative Union of Clements, Kansas gave a Halloween Party in the Farmers Union Hall, Oct. 30, 1923.

The Hall was beautifully decorated with leaves and vines in the corners and over the windows, and with paper draperies artistically arranged. The huge bunch of grapes made of rubber balloons was certainly a novel and attractive feature.

The program was a pageant Grandmothers' Dream. While Grandmother (Mrs. I. O. Talkington) was going to sleep, Mrs. Ross Overstreet sang "Carry me back to old Virginia," Miss Carrie Galentine sang, "Love's Old Sweet Song" and Miss Bertha Hawkins "The Old Oaken Bucket."

Then came Miss Evelyn Crawford as Grandmother with her first doll, Dorothy Bangs as "Going to School." Then came the first birthday party and the big ghost that scared them. Grandmother's girlhood followed by her college days, by Mrs. Lee Graham; then her marriage, housekeeping, Bedtime stories and Soldier boy, all with appropriate songs and stories.

Then Mr. H. B. Atkinson sang "When you and I were young Maggie," which finished the pageant.

Mr. Fred Smith sang, "I Love Me," and Mr. Atkinson gave us a lively number after which a ghost story was told and the ghosts, brains, eyes, teeth, hands were passed among

the guests after which his bones rattled. The supper committee then got busy and passed the napkins on a dustpan, plates in a coalskuttle, cups in a clothes basket, sandwiches in a wheelbarrow, doughnuts on pitchforks, pumpkin pie on scoop shovels, coffee in pitchers, cream in bottles, sugar in tin cups and weiners in an iron pot with a big fork. We sure had a good time and finished the evening by an old-fashioned square dance. Here's hoping for many more good times and we have had several applications for membership recently which goes to show that our good times bring results. Clements Local is still growing and will be big and strong when it gets grown up. We are planning on a show to be given some time soon which is sure to be "The talk of the Town," because we have so many enthusiastic members both old and young. Here's to Clements "May she never grow stale."

Mrs. E. Langbridge,
Secretary and Treas.

HAS THE SUN QUIT SHINING OR THE CLOUDS CEASED RAINING?
A person can hardly pick up a daily or weekly paper nowadays but what they will find lengthy articles about the serious financial condition of the American Farmer of today.

Everyone seems to be talking and writing about it so strongly that one who did not know any better could easily be led to believe that the sun had quit shining or that the clouds had ceased raining, or perhaps both. But, living in the country as we do, practically located in the "pantry" of the United States of America, we must admit that this is not so, for taking everything as a whole and broadly speaking, I believe that I am safe in saying that farm crops for the period of the last five years measure up pretty well with any previous five year period in the history of this country.

In other words God seems to have done his part, so it must be man that has failed, as usual.

But, where did man fail? That seems to be the BIG QUESTION of today. We know that there is something wrong all right for I guess the old saying, "Where there is smoke, there must be fire" is still true and we must admit that there is plenty of "smoke"

Now, in proceeding with this little write-up, we want to caution our readers with the fact that we are not conceited enough to think that we have a REMEDY to offer that will cure all ills of the farmer's financial condition of today, but we would like to be allowed to set forth a few remarks about one particular shortcoming that we happen to notice very distinctly.

Allow us to illustrate our point with a little story that runs about as follows:

"Ninety years ago when a literary society in Pennsylvania asked the School Board for the use of the school house to stage a debate on the question 'Are Railroads Practical?' the Board answered in this wise: 'If the society wants the use of the school house to debate some decent moral question, we should cheerfully give the use of it, but such a thing as a railroad is wicked as well as absurd. If God wanted human beings to travel at the fearful rate of seven miles an hour, he would have clearly foretold it by His Prophets, and since nothing is said about it in His Holy Writ, it is plainly an invention of the devil, to lead immoral souls to hell. Hence, we must refuse the use of the school house.'"

I am sure everybody will admit that the School Board was very old fashioned and failed to keep step with progressive time.

This brings us to our point that we are trying to bring out.

You farmers are also very much out of tune with present conditions. Everybody that the farmer must deal with in the commercial world such as bankers, merchants, manufacturers and laborers are now organized to the most minute perfection.

The American farmers are largely unorganized yet.

A good many of you have joined a Farm Organization or two and then went home and forgot to patronize it. That kind of organizing will never get you very far, for had the banker and laborer treated their organization like some farmers do theirs, they would have gotten no place either. They stick through thick and thin and the result has been very gratifying to them.

You don't read much about their hard time in the papers, more than that they mention that their "Star" customers, the farmers, are hard up and cannot pay as promptly as they would like to have them pay. Outside of that you can bet on that they will get theirs for they are organized and know how to stick together.

Very truly yours,

O. HANSON, Orleans, Nebr.

BELLVIEW LOCAL

2042 PAYING UP

John T. Anderson, secretary of Bellview Local No. 2042 of Anderson County is gathering in the 1924 dues.

His recent report sent into the State Secretary's office last week shows 19 members in good standing for the coming year.

NOTICE LYON COUNTY MEMBERS

As Saturday November 3rd was stormy, the county meeting has been postponed until Saturday, November 17th. Business of importance demands attention and the attendance of every

member is requested.
CHARLES DAY, Pres.
HENRY RICE, Eq.

AT AGRA NOVEMBER 17th
The third quarterly meeting of the Phillips County Farmers Union No. 27 will be held in Agra, Saturday, November 17th, commencing at 10 o'clock. Dinner will be served at noon and State Lecturer M. O. Glessner will speak in the afternoon. Let's all go.

J. P. JOHNSON, Co. Sec.-Treas.

Miami County's Annual Meeting.
The Miami County Farmers' 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 coming 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 Waubaussee County Farmers Union will be held in the Court House at Alma on Saturday, December 8th, commencing promptly 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.

UNION NEWS IN VIRGINIA

I have recently been in a number of counties. The meetings have been well attended, and membership is passing with the true spirit of the Farmer's Union. Some of the counties have put on active membership campaigns with fine results, but there have been too few of these.

The state office will do all it can, but the work must be largely done by the county organization. Everybody agrees that the farmers must work to get them to do it. Most of the exchanges are doing a very satisfactory business. Some of them have very much increased since last year.

The livestock marketing associations in the main are rendering good service—however since the slump in the cattle market some returns have been disappointing, but this has not been due to any fault of the associations, just too many cattle. This brings up that big question of over production. How are we going to solve it?

Wheat Growers and Farmers Unite To Market Wheat Co-Operatively

ONE WEAK LINK WHICH HAS BARRED PRICE CONTROL
BY FARMERS WELDED AT CONFERENCE
IN KANSAS CITY

The one weak link in the chain of co-operative wheat marketing, which has prevented Kansas wheat farmers from exerting any formidable power of price control, was welded anew at a conference at the Coates House Wednesday of last week.

The move, which resulted in consolidation of the two major cooperative wheat marketing agencies of the state was termed "the most important help in cooperative marketing ever taken in the wheat annals of Kansas."

The draft of amalgamation adopted states the prompting influences back of the move:

"The Kansas Wheat Growers' Association and the Farmers' Union Wheat Marketing Association are both engaged in the work of organizing Kansas wheat farmers with pooling contracts which are substantially the same and in marketing the wheat so pooled on the cooperative plan through separate selling agencies. This has created two distinct groups of producers with identical interests and purposes, but with organization and operating agencies unavoidably in competition with each other, all of which creates wholly unnecessary as well as costly rivalries, retards the progress of cooperative marketing and is detrimental to the welfare of the farmers and of the general public of the state of Kansas."

BARRED FUNCTIONING GRAIN POOL

For many years it has been realized by Kansas wheat growers that a functioning grain pool could never be obtained as long as the Kansas Wheat Growers' Association and the Farmers' Union Wheat Association were competing with each other.

"The benefits and advantages of cooperative marketing must depend," it was declared at the meeting, "upon the volume of the commodity under the control of a single agency." For several years the separation of the two big agencies has frustrated the very purposes of the organizations.

A difference of policy toward the member farmers and toward the groups apart. While the Kansas Wheat Growers' Association insisted on compulsory pooling of grain, the Farmers' Union Wheat Marketing Association was content to give its members the option of united marketing through the organization. This difference was adjusted yesterday when it was stipulated in the draft of consolidation that the pool becomes inoperative unless an amount of wheat equal to 40 per cent of the 5-year average production of Kansas is signed by the new joint group by June 1, 1924. This will include the amount of grain now under pooling contracts, it was explained.

ASSOCIATION IS TO INCORPORATE
When the new joint pool obtains control of 40 per cent of the Kansas crop the new marketing association will be incorporated to administer to liquidation of the grain. A great state-wide marketing program for wheat will be the motive of the larger association.

These representatives of the two marketing agencies signed the consolidation papers:

For the Kansas Wheat Growers' Association—C. E. Cox, president; G. O. Keller, C. J. Cox and W. F. McMichael, directors, all of Wichita.

For the Farmers' Union Wheat Marketing Association—John Tromble, Salina, president; H. E. Witham, Beloit; S. C. Towne, Osborne, and John Visecky, Timken, Kas., directors.

The reorganization will be completed at a later meeting in Kansas City, which will be attended by representatives from the Kansas Wheat Growers' Association, the Farmers' Union Wheat Marketing Association, the National Wheat Advisory Committee and the American Wheat Growers Association.

REPRESENTATIVES ARE CHOSEN.
For the Kansas Wheat Growers' Union Wheat Marketing Association, B. E. Corporan, Wichita, was named yesterday from the Kansas Wheat Growers' Association; William J. Brown, Thief River Falls, Minn., will represent the American Wheat Growers' Association. The national advisory committee will be named shortly. Aaron Sapiro, Chicago, counsel for the National Wheat Advisory Committee, will attend the organizational meeting here in a supervisory capacity.

Carl Williams, Oklahoma City, and Herman Steen, Chicago, national secretary of the National Wheat Advisory Committee attended the meeting.

The only hope I can see for the farmer is by some means to bring the price of this production up somewhat in keeping with the price of the stuff he has to buy. But how can this be done when we are met on every hand with the cry of over production. Too much wheat, too much corn, too many hogs, too many cattle. The farmer has been over taught to produce.

When the market gets a surplus of manufactured goods, the factories shut down or curtail their output, but the farmer seems not to have the inclination or the sense to do this. Still it begins to look like he is going to have to do something he has never done before. For how are you going to raise the price of anything when you continue to produce too much of it? Yet some folks are trying to solve the problem by lowering the cost of production, which in its last analysis is a process of increasing the yield, which has a tendency to further depress the market. This might do it if it were possible to produce stuff at a profit, but there is no process known to man whereby this can be done, at the present price of farm products. I am convinced that the disease is a stubborn one, heroic treatment will have to be administered, and the sooner the remedy is applied the sooner the patient will recover.

GEO. A. LAMBERT, President.
—in the Southern Planter.

THE A. B. C. OF FARMERS ORGANIZATION WORK

(By Evelyn Harris)

A. Always look your best, especially at the Union meetings.

B. Be sure to be on time. This is a business organization.

C. Consult your magazine for program for study at meeting, before leaving home, and get an idea for roll call.

D. Decide quickly. Don't drag. Make it peppy.

E. Eat. An excellent place to do extensive work. Make eats a part of your meeting, and plan for it early in the week.

F. Fun on farms, will keep boys and girls satisfied. Fun does not always mean money, but fun means thought and preparedness. Families need fun.

G. Good standing committees must be named at time of organization, and once a year. They will make your local.

H. Health. For yourself, your local, and your community. Study health and how to keep it. It is a crime to be sick.

I. Interest your local in what other locals are doing, and what other states are doing. Invent new ways of finding out how the best are working, and copy them.

J. Jot down in note book little things that you want to remember. Jokes are just what you need many times.

K. Keep unfinished business in mind until disposed of.

L. Livestock shipping associations can be made live only by lively members. Put life in yours.

M. More clubs are killed or weakened by doing nothing, than by overwork. Motion is needed. Get a motion picture machine to help.

N. Never be satisfied with anything but the best. From president to janitor of building, from central plant manager, to the humblest candler in the exchange.

O. Overtime. Overwork it. Your organization will be better off.

P. Pay your dues in advance.

Pray, too, once in a while.

Q. Quality. In members, in products, in exchanges, in managers, in prices, in programs.

R. Read. Read more. Read the Farmers Union Paper to help you know what is going on outside of your own community. Read State College and U. S. Department of Agriculture bulletins. Read the Literary Digest, and "Uncle Reuben in Washington."

S. Self Starters. Start things yourself. Depend on no one else. Start a commodity drive to improve the quality of your eggs and cream.

T. Train the young in the way they should go, not necessarily the way you are going. Get boys' and girls' clubs started in each community. You'll find they will be your future leaders in the Farmers' Union.

U. Use every chance you have of saying something good about people and the activities sponsored by them. Use every opportunity to improve the quality of your products, the quality of the roads on which they travel to market the quality of the men who sell them, and the quality of the education you are getting.

V. Vigor and vim. The Gold Dust Twins of healthy organization. Vegetables in winter and summer will give you vigor and vim. Subtract meat and vegetables and fruit, multiply health and you can divide your profits without medicines.

W. Wrinkles and weeds grow splendidly on farms. Work eliminates weeds out of doors and rest and recreation will eliminate them indoors. Wrinkles are indoor weeds. Indigestion, ill-fitting shoes, bad eyes and teeth are some causes for wrinkles.

X. Xchange Xtra quality goods for Xtra prices. Honest goods for Xtra prices. If you will do this, your Xchange will be safe for your grandchildren.

Y. You are the one to make all of this possible. Be a self-starter and not a crank. What are you going to do this winter?

Z. Zest and Zeal are needed to put this over. Have you gotten yours?

"You can't do the right thing the wrong way."

KEEP THE ROAD OPEN.

United States Bureau of Education

Rural education! What is it? One group of persons believe that rural elementary education should give the child a bias toward the farm, that he should be fitted as a producer of farm commodities. Another group of persons believe that rural elementary education is education in a rural setting. They believe that the rural child should be given such training in the elementary school as will insure his integration with American society as a whole. They believe that he should not be given a bias in any direction, that agriculture is a means of education, and not an end. Why, they ask, should the farmer's child be educated for farm life any more than the miner's child should be educated for a life in the mines?

The first group, holding to the view point that rural education is to train for the farm, deliberately limits the occupational opportunity of the farmer's child to the farm.

There is a precious heritage to the American citizen and should be zealously safeguarded.

Occupational opportunity has peopled the United States from older states where freedom of choice is in varying degrees denied and where returns for occupational effort are meager.

Individual migration in response to occupational opportunity has largely determined the ceaseless shifting of population in the United States.

The road from the farm to the White House is still open, as has lately been impressed upon us. Indeed the road from a variety of callings has ended there. So, too, is the road open from the farm to the ministry, to medicine, to business success, and conversely from a variety of callings back to the farm.

There should be set up in the rural schools a program designed to overcome the inequalities of occupational opportunity of the fewness of his contacts, rather than a program which would intensify inequalities.

The road to and from the farm should always be kept open.

HELD GOOD MEETING

Summit Local 859, Farmers Union, held their regular meeting Tuesday evening, October 30. There was a large attendance. Prof. E. G. Kelly, entomologist from the state agricultural college, was present and gave an interesting and instructive address on the control of the chinch bug and the Hessian fly. His remarks were well received as the farmers are very much interested in this subject.

The Summit Local is a wide awake organization and it is ever ready to

receive constructive and constructive information.

At the close of the meeting the ladies served an elegant lunch for which they have the thanks of the local members.

THE BRIGHT LIGHT OF CO-OPERATION

Cooperation is the watchword which every man and woman should study. Whether he be a farmer, a laborer, a soft-collar office man, or a capitalist, there is looming ahead a vision of a new condition of things for all. In a spiritual sense the souls of men are infinitely greater than anything else in which the human body participates. Just now, the vision—like a lone person standing on a great, barren plain, denuded of vegetation, water and life itself—will materialize into a kingdom of supreme intelligence. Cooperation was here before us, and it will be here when we are gone. Other men perceive, in ages past, have seen the vision of Co-operation. But when we realize that up to this day, civilization and education are not so far advanced from the meagre start in Biblical times, we know that a great future is ahead. There is wisdom in everything that God and Nature give us. There must be wisdom in Cooperation or else we are on the wrong track. Yet we cannot be on the wrong track, because the guide to humane and spiritual uplift point in only one way—everything that we may feel and everything that we may do is in direct contrast with the natural order of the universe. From the tiny atom to the giant sun—all, everything moves and acts with precision. Watching for the sign may weary many, but if the straight road is kept the distance is the shortest. Cooperation in every way is present. Let the watchword guide us and in due time we will reach the end of the trail.

This is the time of the year when every local should make an earnest attempt to double the local membership. You and I both know it can be done. It will take some effort, it is true, but nothing worth while is accomplished without work and this labor is most certainly Worth While.

If we will use the organization as the founders intended we will soon know to our utmost satisfaction that it is the way out of our troubles and our grief. It will stand the test in any and all cases if we will do our share of the work instead of passing the buck. Always remember that nothing can be accomplished until we educate ourselves up to the possibilities of the greatest farm organization that the world to this date has known.—Colorado Union Farmers.

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. Other 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