THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

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

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Nineteenth Convention of the National Farmers Union

Short Report of Proceedings of the Meeting Held in Omaha, November 20-22

The nineteenth annual convention of the National Farmers Union, held in Omaha, Novtmber 20, 21 and 22, was the largest in point of total attendance that hs been held for many years. A large number of members from Nebraska and Iowa came as visitors.

Fourteen states were represented by a total of 26 voting delegates. While the figures show that the membership of the organization in the country as a whole has remained stationary since last year, the reports all indicatel an improvement in the condition of the co-operative enterprises and an increase in the volume of business transacted.

All of the officers and members of the board of directors were re-elected. Barrett and Sec. Davis have held their positions, candidates were nominated against them this year, but they both won by good majorities.

The convention was well entertained Tuesday evening by some of the best musicians in Omaha in a program arranged by Mr. Clinton B. Miller. However it is a safe assertion that none of the musical numbers of the convention made a bigger hit with the folk than those given by the Liberty Quartet from Frontier county. Their "Milking Song" took down the house.

The Keys Were Turned Over

The convention assembled in the ball room of the Hotel Castle Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock to the strains of Dan Desdune's colored jazz orchestra. Following brief community singing, Dr. Frank G. Smith, pastor of the First Central Congregational church of Omaha, led in prayer.

Mayor James C. Dahlman gave the address of welcome on behalf of the city of Omaha. He handed the keys of the city right over. His brief address was mostly devoted to eluucidation of the proposition that the state of Nebraska should appropriate a million dolars to establish an advertising bureau to put more farmers on the ands of the state. The people of Omaha understand fully, he said, that the city can develop only as the country develops.

State President Osborn welcomed the delegates and visitors on behalf of the Nebraska Farmers Union. The Farmers Union has established a friendly feeling. "You're just as welcome as can be," he declared, "and we only wish you could stop until the lilacs bloom."

The response to the wecome addresses was made by W. C. Lansdon of Kansas. Omaha's "cowboy" mayor was a disappointment, he said. He was expecting to see him in boots and spurs and chaps. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Lansdon declared that farmers ought to be the wisest people in the world, for no other class had ever received so much advice.

Told of White House Visit

The felcitations out of the way, President Barrett took occasion to declare the Farmers Union has more authority to speak for American farmers than any other organization. Then he told of getting a call from President Coolidge to come to Washington. A little before 10 o'clock on November 3 he was at the White House, and was shown right into the president's office.

The president wanted to know what was the matter with agriculture and what was the remedy. They talked until nearly noon while everybody else waited. The president invited him back for Sunday dinner. He was on hand and stayed until dark. And then the president asked him to come back on Tuesday.-"They talk about 'Silent Cal,' said Mr. Barrett. "He is on the job, all right. When he wanted information, he knew where to come."

A number of leaders from different states were called upon to speak briefly on what they were doing in their respective states. E. L. Harrison, president of the Kentucky Farmers Union, told of the creamery, egg and poultry, and wool marketing associations organized in that state on the pooling plan. They are now organizing a live stock marketing association along the same lines. Kentucky farmers were educated to pooing by the tobacco campaigns. In the middle west, he said, farmers might not be so ready for it.

Kansas is going into egg and poultry marketing said John Tromble, president of the Farmers Union in that state, and is establishing a co-operative bank. The Farmers Union is already in almost everything else. Farmers can work out their own problems, he declared, and they are the only people who can. They want chambers of commerce, grain exchanges, and other business interests to quit throwing monkey wrenches into their marketing plans, and that is all farmers do want from those classes.

Arkansas has the distinction of having the first agricultural co-operative bank in the country, W. C. Blackwell of the delegation from that state said. They have had a big fight against federal-aid road building graft in their state. "You fellows in the state bordering on Arkansas better look out for an influx of crooks," he warned, "for we are going to run them out of Arkansas.

"We do things fast in Oklahoma." John Simpson of Oklahoma told the convention. "A man may be 'broke' in the morning, and strike oil in the afternoon and be a millionaire. We elect a governor by 50,000 majority, and in nne months repudiate him by 200 000 majority." He reported all of the Farmers Union Business enterprises in Oklahoma in a more prosperous condition than a year ago.

Stirred Animals a Bit

A little stirring of the animals was indulged in by Milo Reno, president of the Iowa Farmers Union. He said he was not so much interested just then in what the different states were doing as in what the program of the national organization was going to be and whether the national officials would carry it out. He didn't care how long Mr. Barrett talked to President Coolidge; he wanted to know what they said. It was time to quit pussyfooting. "If you want to pussyfoot," he declared, "go home and join the ladies' aid society.

J. W. Batcheller of South Dakota did not like Mr. Reno's implication that the national organization had not been active enough. We sometimes do not realize the progress we are making. A fine fraternity has been established. In one South Dakota community the minister asked that a local of the Farmers Union be organized, because the Union made people better.

Governor Bryan of Nebraska was on the program at 2 o'clock on Tuesday. He spent considerable time on the subject of reducing the cost of goods and commodities by municipal and state action. Finding no state law to permit the state to handle coal, he went into the business as governor. Retailers were taking margins of $5 to $7 a ton, he asserted. By going into the coal business, he had reduced these margins, and was saving the people of the state $3.50 a ton on their coal.

It was immaterial, he said, whether you raise the price of wheat or reduce the cost of what farmers buy, for in either case farmers get more for their wheat.

In order to cope with the high price of gasoline, he declared, he had to contract for 1,500.000 gallons of gasoline. Then he notified the Standard Oil Company that it would have to reduce the price of gasoline in Nebraska or he would begin selling gasoline. Within four hours after he sent this telegram, he asserted, the price of gasoline was down in Nebraska. The saving to the people of the state by his activities in coal and gasoline would amount to $24,000,000 a year, he asserted.

Mr. Bryan said he wanted to direct the attention of farmers to what they could gain by legislative means. During the war, the per capita circulation of money went to about $54. Then the deflationists got busy, and it dropped to about $39 before it stopped, and prices went down at the same time. He would reverse the process, put the per capita back to $50, and restore farmers' prices.

Presented a Platform

The governor outlined a little platform he thought farmers should adopt and support:

1. Re-enact the excess profits tax law, so wealth would bear its share.
2. Repeal the present tariff law. The duties on farm products have not helped farmers, and the tariff law has increased the cost of living in this country $3,500,000,000 a year.
3. Repeal the Esch-Cummins law.
4. Reduce federal taxes by reducing the cost of the federal government.
5. Government ownership and operation of the railroads
6. France should be out of Germany and allow industry to be restored.
7. No declaration of war without a referendum.
8. Because there is no possibility that prohibition will be repealed, the people should not permit big business to inject the prohibition issue into the next campaign and detract from economic issues.

At 3:30 Tuesday afternoon, the delegates and visitors to the state were taken for an automobile tour of the city of Omaha, which lasted until dark. Tuesday evening the convention was entertained by the motion pictures of the activities of the Farmers Union in Nebraska, followed by a musical entertainment arranged by Clinton B. Miller of Omaha. This lasted until 9:20. A brief executive session of the convention was held then for the appointment of committees.

The President's Report

First in the order of business Wednesday morning was President Barrett's report. He said he had been criticized for having his mind on politics, but denied that he had given politics an undue amount of attention. We must market our products in a business-like way. Alsa we must take a hand in politics.

No other organization has earned the distinction of being the pre-eminent one in America. The Farmers Union was the pioneer in co-operation. Failure in co-operative effort has been, and always will be, due to failure to adopt and follow the Farmers Union plan. Never before, Mr. Barrett declared, has the Farmers Union had so many officials—local, state, and national—and so many managers of co-operative institutions, whose whole thought has been the upbuilding and success of the organization and its institutions.

E. L. Harrison gave a brief report as vice-president of the national organization. He referred to the fact that in Kentucky they have drawn organizers from several other states. This moved O. E. Wood to remark that Kentucky got organizers from other states because she paid them adequately. He criticized the policy so prevalent in the organization of paying the officers and managers handsome salaries and requiring the fellows who build the organization and make the whole thing possible to live on "baled hay and slough-grass tea."

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

The report of Secretary-Treasurer Davis showed total receipts for the year of $28,362.21 and disbursements of $33,326 97. A total of $16,543.48 was brought forward from 1922, leaving a balance on hand at the time of the convention of $11,578.72.

Mr. Davis reviewed briefly the business activities of the Farmers Union. One of the new activities is the Farmers Union Mutual Life Insurance Company established by the Iowa Farmers Union. It has the distinction of having written more business than any other company in the same length of time since its incorporation.

The aFrmers Union now has eight live stock commission houses, and is affiliated with the Missouri Farm Clubs in the operation of a ninth. The Kansas Farmers Union, through its jobbing association, has a seat on the Kansas City grain exchange, and the Nebraska Union recently secured a seat on the Omaha grain exchange. A remarkable thing about the latter enterprise is that it showed a profit the first month in business.

Cotton associations organized on the pooling plan were able to sell cotton of the 1922 crop for $25 to $35 a bale more than the street price. The Farmers Union Association of Arkansas, he said, has the record of having made the greatest savings for its members of any of the cotton associations.

In Kentucky, the first district creamery under the contract plan is making 6,000 pounds of butter and 400 gallons of ice cream a day. The Kentucky wool pool has 50,000 fleeces signed up, and the egg association has contracts covering 700 000 hens.

NATIONAL LECTURER'S REPORT

The Kansas Farmers Union will soon open a $200,000 state bank in Kansas City, Kan., said W. C. Lansdon in his report as national lecturer. Properly managed banks are the best safeguard to co-operation, he declared.

LOCAL AND COUNTY SECRETARIES

The end of the year 1923 is almost at hand and the business of the Local and County Union should be promptly cleaned up. This means that every effort should be made to collect all dues up to December 31st, 1924. If the State Union could have all its income in advance, as it is due, it could put into effect at once a number of economies that would save the organizations many thousands of dollars.

Local secretaries should remember that it is not only necessary to collect the dues from the members but to report such collections with the proper remittances as promptly as possible to the County and State secretaries. The county and state dues paid to the Local secretaries are not and cannot become the property of the Local Union and must be regarded as trust funds to be properly and promptly accounted for. All Local secretaries are therefore requested and urged to make full reports and remittances to County and State Secretaries not later than Saturday, December 29th, 1923.

County secretaries should check over their lists of Locals and request payment from all that are known to be active but have not reported in full for this year If necessary the County President or County Secretary should visit such Locals and secure the over due reports. This is important to both the State and County Unions as it is fairly certain that Locals that have not reported to the County have made no remittances to the State Union.

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

Wheat Pooling Not Booming

Speaking of wheat marketing on the pooling plan, Mr. Lansdon said the movement had been going very slowly. The units are too small, and consequently the overhead expense is too large. Unless some new impulse is given to the movement, it cannot succeed, he declared. At least 50% of the crop should be signed, and the way the associations have been going they cannot attain this figure. Without the injection of new lire, most of the present associations will go out of existence with the expiration of the present contracts.

Mr. Lansdon referred to the so-called Lowden committee, and appeared to think it would furnish some of the needed impulse. The farmers Union, he asserted, is in a position to make or break the pooling plan in marketing wheat, and should give the matter serious consideration.

Locals Should Help Selves

One of the points stressed by Mr. Lansdon was that more life is needed in the local and county organizations. Locals should be taught to maintain themselves. Until they do, locals will die down as often as they are stimulated and revived by outside help. He told of one Kansas local that has a vigilance committee. The whole committee of 12 or 15 men go in a "gang" after delinquent members, and gets them.

County Unions should provide their own field man, he said. Business associations might well appropriate something to help in this work. Where co-operative enterprises fail, the Farmers Union has declined first. At the conclusion of a county campaign for members, it is well to have a big public initiation at the county seat and make a "splash." Farmers Union business associations have generally done well the past year, he reported, but need the support of more members.

Relief will never come to farmers outside their own ranks. The slogan should be "The Farmers Union has made good." This applies both to co-operation and to legislative matters.

GOVERNOR PINCHOT'S TALK

Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania came on the first thing after the noon recess on Wednesday. He entered the hall to well-staged applause. President Barrett introduced him as "the farmer's best friend." Mr. Pinchot threw a boquet right back by saying that no other farm leader has so much influence as "Charley" Barrett.

The first thing the farmer wants is a satisfactory market. Mr. Pinchot said. If the towns are prosperous, farmers will have a good market. Also, prosperous towns will take care of surplus labor. Then farmers need good credit. Next comes co-operation. That is the nearest of all to a cure-all.

Foreign markets should be brought closer to our farmers, he said. This can be done by developing waterways. Mr. Pinchot enumerated four —the Lakes to Gulf, the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence, the Boston-Galveston coastwise waterway, and the Lake Erie-Ohio project. With these developments, nine-tenths of foreign commerce could be carried into the interior of the country.

Distribute Industry

State and federal aid for highways, he said, should not all be spent on the main roads between the cities. Farmers' roads should receive their shre. The domestic market should be brought closer to farmers by encouraging manufacturing industries to locate in the smaller towns. This would be hastened by the development of "giant power"—the connecting up of all sources of power to electric transmission lines radiating to all parts of the country. This would also save haulage of coal, for the coal could be burned at the mouth of the mine.

Because no comprehensive plan to give farmers relief has been worked out in this country, we have recurring periods of hard times. The government is too much in the hands of men who have a city mind. This should be changed. And we should work out a permanent program. Do what is necessary now, but look beyond the present and organize for future prosperity.

Vance Monroe, editor of the Colorado Union Farmer, presented the plan for juvenile clubs in the Farmers Union as it is being worked out in Colorado. The clubs have their own officers, and carry on many activities. The children put on plays, have spelling contests, gather libraries, organize ball teams, and even establish credit unions for savings. These activities keep up interest. In one local on a stormy night, 700 persons attended a meeting, because the children in the juvenile club were putting on a special program.

Must Have Education

When the committee on marketing reported in favor of the pooling plan, A. D. Cross of Washington objected to adopting the report without amending it to provide for the maintenance of an educational organization along with the commodity organizations. The members of the pools organized by the Farmers Union should be required to be members of the Farmers Union. Otherwise you turn a lot of fellows loose on your organization to destroy it.

This was the very experience they had in Washington, Mr. Cross explained. This wheat pooling organization ignored the educational organization, the Farmers Union. This crippled the Union, and the pooling association is also going to pieces. The Idaho wheat association is already bankrupt, and the Washington and Oregon associations are very much weakened.

You have to organize the farmers' hearts before contracts are any good. Mr. Cross declared. In Washington, 25% of the wheat crop was signed up, but never more than 10% of it was delivered to the association. The contract signers found ways to evande the contracts. We need the general farm organization more than we need commodity organization, he said.

The hour previously fixed for the election of officers arrived before the amendment offered by Mr. Cross was acted upon, but on Thursday morning the amendment was taken up again and adopted.

Election of Officers

At 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, the convention proceeded to elect officers. President Barrett was nominated for president by W. C. Lansdon of Kansas. John Simpson of Oklahoma was nominated by Z. H. Lawter of that state. The balloting resulted in 79 votes for Mr. Barrett and 46 votes for Mr. Simpson. E. L. Harrison of Kentucky was re-elected vice president by acclamation.

Former secretary-treasurer A. C. Davis was nominated by the Arkansas delegation, and L. S. Herron was nominated by H. L. Glick of Nebraska. The vote stood 89 for Davis and 35 for Herron.

Six men were nominated for director. Their names and the number of votes received by each, are as follows:

J. M. Collins, Colorado, 114; A. E. Cottrill, Iowa, 43: John Tromble, Kansas, 120; Geo. H. Bowles, Virginia, 114; C. J. Osborn, Nebrska, 114; and J. W. Batcheller, South Dakota, 89. All of these were members of the retiring board except Mr. Cottrill, who received the smallest vote and was eliminated, leaving for 1924 teh same board the organizaton has had in 1923.

A Full Day of Reports

Thursday was a full day of committee reports and resolutions. The report of the committee on fire insurance caused Wm. Humphrey of South Dakota to suggest that the Farmers Union should have some sort of bonding company of its own. Mr. Lansdon agreed. J. E. House of South Dakota moved that the president appoint a committee to work out a national plan, and the motion was adopted with enthusism.

The report of the live stock company aroused no opposition in itself; but it brought forth considerable discussion of the effect of the packers and stockyards act on the Farmers Union commission houses. O. E. Wood declared that the act endangered Farmers Union control of the houses it has established.

H. G. Keeney said the Farmers Union could keep control of its houses if willing to limit the patronage to Farmers Union members. Mr. Tromble said a committee of managers had already been appointed to take this matter up with the Department of Agriculture, and he felt that the Farmers Union would be able to protect its own, business. Mr. Wood still insisted that if things went on as they had been going we would soon not have any Farmers Union houses, and cited Sioux Falls as an example.

Sioux City Action Recinded

President Osborn of the Nebraska Farmers Union arose to explain that the action of the Nebraska board of June 9 giving the producers a share in the control of the Sioux City house had been recinded on November 19. Patrons of the Sioux City, Omaha, and St. Joseph houses will be notified to come to Omaha next January at the time of the state Farmers Union convention to participate in the deliberations of the body so far as commission house matters are concerned. This plan has the approval of the Department of Agriculture, he said.

If the Farmers Union houses wish to distribute dividends to shippers other than Farmers Union members, and still remain strictly in the control of the Farmers Union, the law must be amended, said C. H. Withey, and that is just what the committee referred to by Mr. Tromble will try to bring about.

When the rural credits plank of the legisitive committee was submitted, J. E. House offered an amendment providing for the elimination of the federal reserve system and the issuing of money by the federal government only. After much lively discussion, the amendment was lost by a close vote. Mr. House said he did not mind that it was voted down, for his main object in presenting it was to warn Wall Street of what is coming.

The first resolution presented by the resolutions committee on Thursday afternoon proposed that the name and emblem of the Farmers union be copyrighted so they could not be used by companies and associations having no connection with the Farmers Union. After some discussion, in which the question was raised whether any company now using the name and emblem could be made to give it up, the resolution was adopted.

Want More Time for Business

Another resolution provided that at future national conventions there should be no entertainment or speaking at the day session except by the delegates. Chairman C. H. Hyde of the committee explained that too much time in this convention had been spent in frolicking and in launching one senatorial boom and one presidential boom. O. E. Wood objected to the wording of the resolution, since it would restrict discussion in the convention to delegates only. The resoluton was broadened to include members, and was adopted with only three votes against it.

Debated Labor Relation.

A long debate took place on a resolution presented as a minority report proposing that the Farmers Union and labor organizations should have an exchange of fraternal delegates at their conventions. Supporters of the resolution held that farmers and labor must work together to solve their common problems, come to an understanding, and unite against their common enemy.

T. E. Howard of Colorado, O. E. Wood, Geo. McKelvey of Kentucky, J. E. House of South Dakota and Milo Reno of Iowa all supported the resolution vigorously. Mr. Lansdon said he wished it had not been presented, but he could not see that it would do any harm, and favored its adoption.

Geo. L. Sands and W. C. Blackwell of Arkansas opposed the resolution. They said they had tried in their state to work with organized labor, and that labor had betrayed them. The resolution was finally tabled.

Mr. Wood declared that in some parts of the country farmers and workingmen are co-operating, and that to have it go out that such a resolution as this had been tabled would make it harder to organize the Farmers Union Later Mr. Lansdon moved that it be the sense of the convention that the matter of the relations of the Farmers Union to organized labor be left with each state. This was adopted. President Barrett explained after the discussion was over that he had no trouble getting along with organized labor.

Condemned Smith-Lever Act.

The report of the committee on Smith-Lever extension work was the last one presented to the convention, and did not come until twilight, when many of the delegates were leaving to take trains for home. The report utterly condemned the measure and demanded its repeal. C. H. Hyde of Oklahoma opposed outright repeal. He offered an amendment excepting states where the people of the counties may vote on the question of having a county agent.

Most of the speeches were in favor of the committee report without amendment. Secretary Davis suggested that inasmuch as the ranks of the delegates were becoming so badly thinned out it would be better not to try to grapple with so big a question, but defer it to another convention. Somebody moved that the report be tabled, and it was.

Then came a motion to reconsider the action, and the report was lifted from the table. Mr. Hyde attempted again to amend it, but was unsuccessful. When the question of adopting the report was put, it carried by an almost unanimous vote of the delegates present.

Tariff Burdens Farmers.

At the close of the afternoon session, Mr. H. E. Miles, chairman of the Fair Tariff League, was given a few minutes to talk about the tariff. He showed that farmers have to sell on a free trale basis and buy in a protected market. Eighty-nine per cent of farm products are sold on a free-trade basis, he said. But because the farmer buys in a protected market, his dollar does not have the purchasing power it should have.

Not only does the tariff pile high prices upon the farmers, but it injures their foreign market, Mr. Miles declared. Europe is going 20 per cent short on bread and 30 per cent short on meats. Yet they have goods they could trade for our foods if it were not for the high tariff wall. Mr. Miles said he was for honest protection but the present tariff law goes beyond protection and constitutes robbery.

It was 6:20 when the convention adjourned.

WHEAT POOL CODE DRAWN.

Kansas Organization Committee Agrees on a Contract.

A tentative contract for the proposed pool of 40,000 Kansas wheat farmers was drawn up and a final organization committee selecetd Tuesday at the Coates House by the preliminary contract and organization committee of the Kansas Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association.

Under the contract the wheat farmers must subscribe 44 million bushels of wheat before May 24, 1924, to make the pool effective, members of the committee said. It is estimated there were eighty thousand farmers in Kansas. Forty-four million bushels of wheat will equal more than half the average state yield.

Fifty representative Kansas farmers, bankers and newspaper men were selected to serve on the final organization committee. They will meet in two weeks at Topeka and definite organization plans will be completed and the contract will be approved.

The Kansas Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association recently was formed by the combination of the Kansas Farmers' Union and the Kansas Wheat Growers Association. Those who attended the meeting today:

W. C. Lansdon, Salina, Kansas, Farmers Union; B. E. Corporon, Wichita, Kansas Wheat Growers' Association; Judge William J. Brown, Thief River Falls, Minn., American Wheat Growers Associated; Walter H. Chappell, Chanute, National Wheat Growersr advisory committee; Herman Steen, Chicago, secretary of the National Wheat Growers' advisory committee.

The American Wheat Growers, Associated, and the National Wheat Growers" Advisory committee are supervisory organizations.

Feed your minds during the winter evenings with the wealth of information available in the home study department at K. S. A. C. The reading courses are free.

USE UNION WANT ADS

THE MEMBERSHIP BANNERS

The three fine Membership Banners to be awarded to counties will be given on the basis of membership paid up to December 31st, 1924. Total membership—including women and minors will be counted.

As it will take some days to send in the reports and for the State Officers to study and tabulate them the contest must close at midnight on December 31st. Within a week from the close of the contest all reports with remittances should be in the hands of the County and State Secretaries.

County Secretaries should keep in touch with all the Locals and see to it that full reports of all dues paid, of initiations and of the number of women and minor members are in their hands within a week after December 31st.

Counties with organized County Unions are expected to file their full membership reports through their county secretaries. Counties without County Unions must have all their Local secretaries reports for all classes of members in the hands of the State Secretary before January 8th, 1924.

The Membership Banners will be awarded with appropriate ceremonies during the State Convention which will be in Session at Emporia on 16-17-18 of January. The award will not be made until all County Unions and unorganized counties have had an opporunity to file proof of their membership with State Board of Directors.

BUILDING FUND ASSESSMENT

The State Union and the membership through a vote of the Locals ordered the payment of a Building Fund Assessment with the regular dues of 1922 and 1923. After December 15th new members will not be required to pay any part of the dues for 1923 but should pay 1924 dues in full as soon as initiated. This means that new members initiated after December 15th who pay no regular dues for 1923 will not be required to pay the current Building Fund Assessment of fifty cents for this year. All new members taken in after the 15th of December must pay the initiation fee of $2.00 and the regular dues for 1924, $2.25 or a total of $4.25 to put them in good standing until December 31st, 1924.

This ruling does not apply to old members who are delinquent for 1922 or 1923 dues who must pay the Building Fund Assessment when they reinstate themselves. Members delinquent for 1921 and 1922 must pay as follows to be restored to good standing as of December 31st, 1923:

Dues and Building Fund Assessment for 1922	$2.50
Dues and Building Fund Assessment for 1923	2.75
Dues for 1924	2.25
Total for good standing to Dec. 31, 1924	$7.50

The total payment for members delinquent only for 1923 is exactly $5.00 to secure good standing to December 31st, 1924.

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. Answ will be either published or mailed.

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1923.

THE QUARTERLY WHEAT POOL

The Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association has just mailed out the checks for final settlement on the first quarterly pool. A complete itemized statement accompanied each check. The statement shows in detail all the costs of every description that are chargeable against the price received for the wheat at the point of delivery to the purchaser. Freight and other railway charges make up the largest deduction from the sales price. Local warehouse or elevator expense amounted to an average of four and one-half cents a bushel. These charges together with fees for weighing, inspection, chemical analysis must be paid without variation regardless of the method of marketing.

After the usual and unavoidable costs were deducted the marketing costs could be ascertained. For the first quarter the association charge of two per cent for the purpose of taking up unpaid organization expenses and providing reserves as required by the contract was deducted and it was then found that the actual operating or marketing charge amounted to four and one-tenth cents a bushel. The Association then as a matter of fact amounted to only six tenths of a cent a bushel. The interest charge for the first quarter was so small that it was not made a separate item but was included in terminal marketing costs. The association paid only about $27 interest that was chargeable against wheat delivered during the first quarter.

There are some valuable conclusions to be drawn from these statements. It is now proved that financing commodity marketing is the smallest difficulty in the way. The association was able to finance the 125,000 bushels of wheat in the first quarterly pool without charging any interest against the wheat growers accounts. All wheat was chemically analyzed and each grower was paid for exactly what he delivered and his statement includes as items the loss or gain based on the protein content of the grain. Probably the most significant item is the two cents a bushel profit from mixing grain in the terminal elevators. The gains from mixing absorbed all the shrinkage and left a net profit of two cents a bushel. Of course that gain has always been made in marketing wheat but under any other than the co-operative system it goes to the grain merchant, co-operation gives it to the farmer. It is evident that with sufficient volume of wheat the gains from mixing in the terminal or other elevators would pay all the operating expenses of the association.

Every member of the association is asked to study his Final Settlement Report with great care. If there is anything wrong with it write to the office at once for further information. If members are satisfied with the settlement the association and this paper would like to hear from them.

THE AVERAGE WHEAT PRICE

Members of the Wheat Marketing Association who have just received their final settlement reports in some cases may be told by dealers and by farmers that they might have done better outside the pool. That will be a difficult statement to prove. The pooler must understand that he is receiving an average price. There may have been some day during the quarter that it would have been possible for him to sell his grain for a price higher than the average received for the association for a similar grade. No matter how high high the price wheat goes either as a result of commodity marketing or otherwise that will always happen.

It follows therefore that if the farmer is shrewd enough to guess at the high point of the market for the month, quarter or year; if he is able to deliver his grain to his elevator on that one day; and if the elevator is not full and is able to take his grain he can get the high dollar. In practice about as many farmers sell their wheat at the lowest point in the market as on the highest.

The Associtaion relieves the farmers of a good many many worries in connection with his wheat. If he has no bins of his own or if he is in immediate need of money he can deliver his wheat directly from the machine and get his advances in plenty of time to pay his notes for harvesting expenses and his bills for labor and threshing. If the grower does not care to take time to haul his wheat to town early in the season he can bin it at home, receive pay for storage from the Association and take his time about delivering it to the elevator. He is relieved of the necessity of using bad roads over which to draw heavy loads of wheat. Car shortages mean nothing much to him any more. Small fluctuations do not disturb him at all because he will finally receive the average price for which the pool is sold.

The occasional farmer who thinks he may have had a little the worst of it in the average price settlements is sure to have been saved enough worry and trouble to pay him for any doubtful opportunity that he may have had to sell his grain for the highest price paid during the pooling period.

CONGRESS AND THE WHEAT GROWER.

Entirely regardless of stabilization, price fixing, exporting corporations, or credit institutions there are two things that congress can do for the wheat farmer right now that would undoubtedly materially increase the price. The first is to repeal the draw back clause of the wheat tariff which permits American millers to import and mill Canadian wheat and re-export it without the payment of duty.

It is a matter of common gossip around the grain exchanges that millers are importing high grade Canadian milling wheat which they convert into flour and sell for home consumption and then get their draw back from the government by milling and exporting corresponding volumes of cheap low grade domestic wheat. It is charged, doubtless without truth, that agents of the government know of this practice and even connive at it.

Along with the repeal of the drawback clause in the wheat schedule congress should increase the duty on imported wheat to at least fifty cents a bushel. The present tariff rate has resulted in large importations of high grade milling wheat from Canada which has been milled in this country and sold in direct competition with grain grown by our own farmers. The thirty cents a bushel now collected on the imports of Canadian wheat does not take up the difference in cost of production in the two countries.

If congress will put an adequate duty on imported wheat and repeal the drawback clause in the Fordney-McCumber wheat schedule the price of American wheat will jump up at least twenty-five cents a bushel during the next three months. If these things are not done our mills will fill up with Canadian wheat and in a year of small production when prices should be high we will have a very low average with prices constantly sagging until the new harvest is at hand with such a huge production that the bottom will drop clear out of the market.

THE OLD MARKETING SYSTEM.

The advocates of the old order in marketing and opponents of cooperation are making an active and well financed campaign in defense of the merits of speculative grain handling. Their literature is remindful of what Mark Twain once said about a western river when a congressman asked for a large appropriation to improve the navigation of that particular stream. Twain said that if that river could be straightened and deepened and pumped full of water it might become quite a stream and be real serviceable to the people who lived along its banks.

RESULTS OF COOPERATION.

It has been reported that several of the wheat marketing associations made a poor showing in their last year's operations. This sort of news is being scattered over the country at the expense of the grain dealers and presumably in their own interest for use in the campaign that the exchanges and the privately owned elevators are financing for the purpose of proving that farmers cannot profitably sell their own products.

Some of the statements may be true. It is altogether likely that some of the small pools have been unable to absorb their organization expenses, pay their overhead costs and provide for their other unavoidable expenses without dipping into the proceeds of the sales of grain. The figures given out by the opposition, however, are not so significant nor so alarming as a good many farmers have been led to believe.

It should not be overlooked that the pooler receives the average price of his grain for the year less the expenses of selling and of maintaining the organization. It should be perfectly plain that the average price of wheat for a year is always lower than an individual farmer can receive for his sales if he is lucky enough or smart enough to market his crop at the highest point reached by the market during the year. This will always be true even if cooperation should put the price double what it now is. If the average price realized by farmers for pooled wheat is $2 a bushel next year there will be individual farmers who will get as much as $2.25 a bushel not because cooperative marketing has failed but because it has succeeded. There will also be farmers who will get less than the average price paid to the poolers because they are not smart enough to sell at the top of the market or because their financial condition forces them to sell when the market is at its worst for the year.

If pooling succeeds, and there is no longer any reasonable doubt that it will, both those who get higher than the average price for their grain and those who get lower than that price will be benefitted, because the cooperative organizaions have made themselvs a factor in marketing sufficiently powerful to secure a fair price for all producers of the product both inside and outside the associations.

The logical question in connection with cooperative marketing is, what would have been the price had there been no growers' agencies to regulate the movements of the grain in orderly way from th farms to the converters and exporters?

FREIGHT RATES AND FARM PRICES.

The president of the United States is much concerned over the financial condition of the farmers. He has asked some of the railway men who infest Washington whether it is not possible to reduce freight rates on agricultural products. The answer is that it cannot be done and if even possible the farmer would not be helped at all.

The Interstate Commerce Commission, probably at the instance of the president, is making some investigations in the west. Everywhere they are assured by railway operators that freight reductions are impossible and if possible would not result in higher farm prices for wheat and other food staples.

All of which means at least two things. The railway operators, having finally stabilized the rates for freight and passenger service at levels that mean large returns on investment and water, are fully determined to keep what they have and to approve only such changes as will give them more. The point, disclosed by insistence that lower rates would not help the farmers, is that the exploiters are so well organized that they can get the farmer's goat anyhow. If they do not take it out of him in higher freight rates they have other ways of separating him from any possible profits from his business.

THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

For more than two years this paper has been insisting that the great majority of American farmers are broke. Those who believe that it is best to talk little of such distressing things have frowned, condemned and criticised but have not been able to convince any one at all conversant with the facts that the farmers are making a living.

Now comes Henry J. Waters, editor of the Kansas City Weekly Star, and confirms every statement that has been made in the Kansas Union Farmer. Agriculture in America is in a most desperate situation. Farm incomes have been so much reduced that only a small proportion of the farmers make expenses. Feed needed for animals must be sold to pay taxes. Implements and equipment need repairs. Buildings and fences are falling down. The capital invested in agriculture is being confiscated by prices that fall far short of the cost of production.

There is no prosperity on the farms. In existing conditions there can be no prosperity. Each year the losses from farming operations decrease the farmers' equities in the lands that they till. Forty per cent of all American farms are being worked by renters or share croppers. The farm mortgage debt is now more than TEN BILLIONS OF DOLLARS. Unfunded or floating debts, notes at the bank, bills at the store and other obligations that must be paid with labor yet to be done and crops yet to be planted—amount to at least SIX BILLION more. Nor is that all. The Department of Agriculture has recently officially declared that it would require more than SIX BILLIONS of dollars just to take up the depreciation of farm buildings, implements and fences.

To talk of prosperity in a business that is in debt SIXTEEN BILLIONS of DOLLARS that has a depreciation account of SIX BILLIONS of dollars wholly unprovided for and that has lost title to forty per cent of its lands during the last half century is an insult to a man who has the intelligence of a katydid.

DEBATE SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS.

It is now likely that the coming session of congress will undertake to reduce taxes and it is almost certain that the reduction will be in the higher brackets of the income taxes. Here are three topics connected with this matter upon which farmers should inform themselves:

Resolved, That the taxes on incomes should be reduced by lowering the rates on its annual incomes of $10,000 or more.

Resolved, That the excess profits taxes on corporation and personal incomes should be restored.

Resolved, That a sales tax is the most equitable method of raising revenues for Federal purposes.

Kansas has a terrible mess of taxation laws most of which are bad The next legislature must deal with taxation both by the enactment of new laws and by the submission of amendments to the state constitution. Here are a few questions that the farmers should be discussing in this connection:

Resolved, That the people should ratify the constitutional amendment providing for the classification of property for purposes of taxation;

Resolved, That the next legislature should impose a tax of at least two cents a gallon on gasoline for the purposeof providing funds for the construction of permanent roads;

Resolved, That the next legislature should impose a tax on the production of coal, gas, oil sand, lead , zinc and other natural resources;

Resolved, That the legislature should provide for an occupational tax to be paid by all persons engaged in any gainful business or profession in this state.

The Kansas Union has made the greatest business record in the history of the cooperative movement. Every farmer in Kansas should belong to the organization. Every member in Kansas should ask all farmers not now in the organization to give it a trial for at least one year.

No excuse for not attending the regular meetings of the Farmers Union local by its members should ever be accepted unless it is a reason as well as an excuse.

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE UNION

Was held in Omaha last week. Delegates attended from states all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific As usual Kansas lead all he other divisions in voting strength based on membership back in the Locals which is the real test of the value and the permanence of the organization. Nebraska was a close second after which came Arkansas, Iowa, Oklahoma and Kentucky in the order named, followed very closely by Virginia and Colorado.

Some states showed a slight decline in membership others including South Dakota, Georgia, Kentucky, Oregon and Illinois had made substantial gains. There was a general impression that conditions are now favorable for a considerable growth during the next twelve months. The delegates went home with new conceptions of the strength the usefulness and the permanence of the Farmers Union.

Membership campaigns are in progress in several states and the delegates from others pledged themselves to go home and go whole-heartedly into organization work for the winter.

CONFIDENCE IN THE OFFICIAL FAMILY WAS

Expressed by the re-election of all the officers and directors. The National Executive Committee continued all its old organization including the place of National Lecturer. The reports of the officers, of the Board of Directors and of the Lecturer indicated that an unusual amount of work along many varied lines of activity connected with agriculture had been done during the past year.

President Barrett at once returned to Washington to attend the sessions of congress that will begin in December. This will not prevent him from visiting the state conventions of the organization that will be held in Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska during January. The coming meetings in these three great Union states will have many important problems to consider and should be largely attended.

Secretary Davis returned to his farm near Springfield, Mo., where he will complete the records of the convention and prepare the copy for publication of the proceedings. It is quite likely that he will then go to Arkansas and put in some time in organization work there where conditions indicate the possibility of securing a large number of new members during the winter.

ALABAMA WAS WELL REPRESENTED

By a woman delegate, Mrs. Mathis of Gadsden, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the oganization in that state. She rendered valuable services on several committees and made the speech of the evening at the welcoming banquet given by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Wallace B. Edmondson of Decatur, also a member of the Alabama State Executive Committee, and President George McKeldry also attended. President McKeldry made a very fine address to the convention in which he discussed the necessity for some effective financial reforms. Mrs. Edmondson was interested in methods for the improvement of the Locals and in the adoption of a resolution asking congress to accept the Ford proposition for the completion and operation of the Muscle Shoals power project.

As the women constitute a considerable portion and in many sections the most active part of the membership, it might not be out of the way for other state unions to give them representation on the official boards.

JUVENILE ACTIVITIES RECEIVED MUCH

Consideration. Vance Monroe, editor of the Colorado Union Farmer, presented the plans which he has worked out and which have been adopted by many Locals in that state. His testimony is that all Locals in which the young folks are given a place on the program are in good shape and that many that do not recognize the value of the services that may be rendered by women and children are dead or sleeping.

The Monroe plan for organizing juvenile departments and clubs will be presented in full in this paper in an early issue. Education of the young people of the farm in the principles of cooperation and in the possibilities of rightly organized community life is essential to the final complete reconstruction of American agriculture.

LEGISLATION IN THE INTEREST OF FARMERS

Received much consideration. The program finally adopted and that is printed in full in another part of this paper asked for credit and financial facilities for the service of agriculture only; demanded an increased duty on wheat coupled with a repeal of the drawback provision in the existing wheat schedule; asked congress to prevent an unfair valuation of railroads; urged lower freight rates and the repeal of the substantial amendment of the Cummins-Esch law; and reaffirmed support of the principle of government ownership and operation. There were also endosements of the Ford proposal for the construction and operation of the power plant at Muscle Shoals, of the deep water ways planned for both the St. Lawrence and Mississippi routes to the ocean and of an amendment to the federal constitution to prohibit any further issue of tax exempt securities.

The legislative program is short, every part of it is vital to the welfare of agriculture as well as to the security of society as a whole and of the republic. Congress would do well to accept the report of the Legislative Committee of the National Farmers Union as its major program of business during the coming session.

COMMODITY MARKETING ON THE CONTRACT

Pooling plan was unanimously endorsed with the suggestion that all such organizations should be supported by an educational association of farmers and that the Union should organize no such agencies except from and among its own members. It was evident that there is a constantly growing support of cooperative marketing but there are still many differences of opinion as to the ways and means of securing the best possible results.

One thing that was reported in this connection was very gratifying to the convention. The marketing associations made up entirely of or controlled by the Farmers Union have, without exception, made the best showing for their members. The Union live stock commission houses distribute larger shippers dividends that any other similar concerns; the Union cotton marketing associations are far ahead of all others in the services that they render to their members; and Georgia Syrup Association, almost exclusively a Union concern, made the best showing of all.

The success of the Union marketing enterprises appears to have been based on two things—better average prices obtained for the products sold and a considerably smaller percentage of operating or overhead expenses. The thoughtful men and women who attended the Omaha convention and considered the reports made there went home thoroughly convinced that the biggest problem connected with cooperative marketing is the reduction of operating expenses to the lowest possible point.

OMAHA, THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

And the Nebraska Farmers Union united to welcome and entertain the convention. The Omaha Chamber of Commerce, following the precedent established at Lynchburg last year, provided a fine and filling luncheon for the delegates and visitors who were able to get in before 7 o'clock Monday night. Several good speeches were made at the preliminary meeting which was held on the eighteenth floor of the splendid office building of the Woodmen of the World.

James Dahlman, sometimes referred to as the Cowboy Mayor of Omaha, presented all the delegates and visitors with the keys of the city. President C. J. Osborne of the Nebraska Union spoke for the state. Appropriate responses were made by delegates from other states.

The daily newspapers gave more than the usual amount of front page space to the proceedings of the convention and all were fair in the treatment of the delegates and officers and of the matters discussed and the work done by the organization.

BRYAN, GOVERNOR OF NEBRASKA

Addressed the convention in an open meeting held on the first day of the session. He discussed several matters of very great interest to the farmers. Perhaps the most important subject dealt with by Governor Bryan was what he has been able to do to secure coal and gasoline for the folks of Nebraska at lower prices.

Coal is now being distributed to consumers in Nebraska at a saving of three dollars a ton as compared with the prices in Kansas and other western states. The saving on this single item will amount to around $15,000,000 for the people of Nebraska this year unless the governor is wrong in his arithmetic. Gasoline prices have also been reduced very considerably. The people may like what Bryan has done but if he ever runs for office again it is quite certain that he will be bitterly fought by the coal dealers and the oil and gas interests.

Governor Bryan has neither the eloquence nor the presence of his distinguished brother. He is a plain man who has the faculty of telling his plans and recounting his record in simple direct language.

PINCHOT, GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

Travelled all the way from Harrisburg and back again in order that he might have the pleasure of attending the National Convention of the Farmers Union of which he declared himself proud to be a member. Governor Pinchot is somewhat unique in one particular, he knows how to make a short speech. His took only thirty-five minutes, but it was filled with matters worth careful consideration.

Markets—satisfactory outlets at profitable prices—the governor of the Keystone State believes should be the first concern as they are the first necessity of American farmers. Such markets must for many years be largely domestic. Therefore Pinchot urges business policies and programs that will increase the consumption of farm products near where they are produced.

Incidentally Governor Pinchot reported to the Farmers Union that he has recognized agriculture by appointing several actual farmers to very responsible positions in the state government of Pennsylvania. He also declared that every effort is being made and will continue to be made to enforce the prohibition amendment and the Volstead enforcemnt law in his state.

WALTON WAS DULY CONVICTED

On about half the charges contained in the Articles of Impeachment on which he was tried by the Oklahoma State Senate sitting as a high court to try the governor of the commonwealth for crimes and misdemeanors in violation of the laws that he was sworn to execute and enforce. Conviction carried with it as a punishment removal from office and probably disqualification for ever again holding office in Oklahoma.

The ousted governor is not yet through with his troubles. The grand jury of Oklahoma county has returned eight tru ebills against him and he must now face a trial in the courts where conviction will be followed with fine and imprisonment in the penitentiary or with both.

In the judicial trials that are to come Walton will be called on to tell where he got so much money and just how he has used or invested it.

FARMERS' UNION PRINCIPLES ARE RIGHT

Barnes, Kan., Nov. 26, 1923.

Editor Kansas Farmers Union:

Dear Sir: Inclosed you will find an article upholding the principles of the Farmers Union. You may print this if it meets with your approval.

In reading some of the comments in the last issue of the Kansas Union Farmer, one might be led to believe there was something wrong with Farmers Union organization.

Very naturally one would think that any one joining the Farmers Union, must believe in the principles of the organization.

Now in studying the principals as set forth in the national preamble, we cannot get around the fact that the Farmers Union has a foundation of stone, and that if the principals as set forth in the preamble are adhered to, the volcanic eruptions within the orgahization will stop.

Now the Farmers Union is a place of common ground, where persons of different political and religious belief can come together, and work together for their own good and the good of those about them. For cooperation as set forth in the preamble will transform the world.

Talk about Co-operative business associations, there are very few except in name. The railway companies are co-operative to the extent of the vision of two-thirds of the Farmers Union members. Why should we as a band of men gather together for the purpose of enriching ourselves, off the profits of the non-stockholder, all the large trusts and combines are builded on those principles. I say the greatest dividends of any co-operative association should be service, service to its stockholders and patrons. Very truly it should be handled in an efficient and able manner that the stock holders might at least get interest on their investment. It is a sad fact that a good many business enterprises have been financed and launched on a speculative business career, with the result that they have failed, when if they had been operated along the sound lines of cooperation they would have been a great soccess.

Now I take it that any one belonging to the Farmers Union, is aone hundred per cent American, believing in the principles of this government, and obeying and upholding its laws.

I can see no better way to teach one hundred per cent Americanism and love for the stars and stripes, than to teach co-operation as set forth in ehe national preamble.

To promote equity, to establish justice, to apply the golden rule and to promote brotherly love among ourselves and all mankind.

Yours in Co-operation,
R. T Scholfield

STAGE COACH GOVERNMENT

The congress which meets for the first time this month is not a new congress, but the one elected way back in 1920. The one we elected a year ago, on what were then burning issues, will meet next March to begin the work of solving those pressing problems. Perhaps you still remember what some of them were.

Americans are the speediest people on earth but still are content to let their large affairs of government move along the schedule provided in stage-coach days.—Capper's Weekly.

HUGE BUSINESS DONE BY SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE

New York—The Scottish wholesale co-operative society in a report sent to the All-American Co-operative Commission covering its business for the first half of 1923, announces substantial dividends paid both to members and to non-members on purpurchases, despite the business depression which grips that country.

Net sales for the half year totaled $37,400,000. Factories belonging to the cooperative turned out goods to the value of $11,560,000. In addition to the dividends, the surplus allows $78,000 to be placed in the reserve fund and $5000 in a special fund, leaving a balance of $860,000 to be carried forward.

ANDERSON COUNTY NOTES.

We Anderson county folks were afraid we wouldnt get started in the membership drive because every time we set a metting date it rained an all through the latter part of October and early in November the roads were almost impassable a considerable portion of the time.

Now that the date has been changed until December 31st, Anderson county is getting down to business in dead earnest. The county has been divided into districts and locals comprising each district are holding meetings. Each local is appointing committees, not of one or two or three members, but a whole bunch who will go in a bunch in making the canvass.

Anderson county isn't making any wild claims or pre-election statements but we will say this that she is going to make other counties realize that they have been in a race.

Organization Committee.

Boys' and Girls' Club News

FIRST CERTIFIED SEED GROWN BY BOY.

The first seed potatoes to be certified in Wyoming were grown some three years ago by a Niobrara county farm boy belonging to one of the boys' clubs conducted by the county agricultural extension agent, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture. The success of this boy and other club members, it is felt, has contributed much toward inducing farmers in Niobrara county to undertake the growing of certified seed potatoes, now a profitable phase of farming in this dry land country. A county certfied potato growers' association has been organized to aid in handling the product. About 100,000 bushels of improved potatoes were produced in the county in 1922, some 40,000 bushels of which wer ecertified for seed.

HOW ONE BOY SUCCEEDS.

Pine Tree Farm, Colrain, Mass., October 13, 1923.

I thought you might be interested in the history of my small herd of cattle which is three. My father bought a Guernsey heifer in 1916 and gave it to me. I raised it and when it was three years old I sold her for one hundred dollars. I didn't like the Guernsay breed of cattle as good as I did Holsteins. I bought a purebredHolstein heifer of Mr. Wyatt Buskirk, N. Y. The price of the heifer was two hundred dollars. I only had one hundred so I borrowed a hundred from my father. He was to have the first two calves my cow produced.

I bought the heifer in the spring and joined the calf club. I showed this heifer at Greenfield fair and took first prize. This gave me encouragement in showing cattle. December 19, 1922, my cow freshened with a heifer calf. This calf belonged to my father for payment on the cow. Dad gave me this calf for a Christmas present. I thought it would be better to have two calves in the club, so I bought a heifer of Dad for one hundred dollars. The sire was the same as that of my other calf.

During the summer I thought the calf that came from my cow was the best, but at Grenfield fair the heifer I bought from my father took first in the club class and also in the open class, and took first over the big breedrs, while my other calf took third prize. One heifer brought in ten dollars and the other five.

I took these heifers to the Eastern States Exposition at Springfield and took second prize on my best heifer She scored over three heifers from Mount Hermon Schools. I think this is pretty good for a starter. The dam is Kolrain Finderne Rue. The sire is Kolrain Segis Finderne. I took fifth on my other heifer. I am planning to show my best heifer next year and buy a calf so as to have two in the club.

You congratulated me on starting a herd of Holsteins. I can't see why all people don't think the same. They are the best for any locality.

Yours very truly,
Marshall Cromack.

—In Holstein Friesian Register.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' HEALTH CLUBS ARE BEING ORGANIZED

MANHATTAN, Ks—After the summer boys' and girls' club camping trips came judging work in the fall and now Jack Frost has ushered in the winter program. Health clubs are being organized in Kansas high schools and the members are having much healthy discussion over the necessity of proper shoes, "heavies," and the right kind of food to eat.

Leaders of the 4H health clubs at Winchester say that the percentage of underweight children found in both the grade and high schools as a result of physical examinations points plainly to the need of definite information along health lines. Both parents and teachers, knowing the correlation between health and happiness are lending their support to the health club work.

Miss Eleanor Howe, assistant state club leader, is in charge of organization work in Kansas. Record blanks and information pertaining to 4H health clubs can be secured by addressing Miss Howe at Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan.

CLUB GIRL NETS $41.30 MILKING JERSEY SINCE MAY

Myrtle Brader, 11 year old Cherokee county girl, has demonstrated that in spite of drought, short pastures, and high priced feeds there is still profit in milking cows. Last April she bought a grade Jersey heifer for $67 and joined the Sheridan Jersey club. Since the heifer freshened in May, according to accurate figures, she has mde a net return above cost of feed of $41.30.

CORN SHUCKS GIVE PROFIT TO GIRL.

Corn shucks are helping pay the way of a Montgomery county, Ala., negro girl through Puskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, according to a report to the United States Department of Agriculture. This 17 year old girl, Georgia Sharp, has always lived on a remote tenant farm which she and her mother work, doing most of the plowing themselves. Georgia learned from the negro home demonstration agent of the county how to twist corn shucks and weave them into chair bottoms, hand bags and hats. She attended this summer, through the efforts of the home demonstrtaion agent, a short course for boys and girls at Tuskegee Institute, riding for the first time on a railway train. Through new twists and weaves of the shucks which she learned in the short course she has been able to secure a number of orders for her work and thus add to her school fund.

CLUB MEMBERS MAKE HIGH AVERAGE.

For 11 years the Iowa corn-club boy carrying off the state championship in corn production has had to make a yield of more than 100 bushels of corn to the acre; even the winner in 1911, the twelfth year back, grew 99.7 bushels on his acre plat. Ten counties are represented in the list of champions from 1911 to 1922, only two counties winning the honor twice, The average yield secured by Iowa club members in 1922, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture was 92 bushels per acre, or more than double the yield in the state for the year. Each club member is expected to keep a record of the expense of making his crop. The records for 1922 show an average cost of 38.2 cents per bushel. The achievements of these young farmers, it is stated, are stimulating to a marked degree the adoption in their communities of the best methods of selecting and testing seed, planting the corn, and raising the crop.

CLUBS STUDY FARM BUSINESS

Kansas farmers are becoming more critical of their business. Would you believe it? They organized 20 clubs for the sole purpose of studying farm accounts and their sons and daughters, young folks, have organized 13 clubs to study accounts on their fathers' farms. There are 315 members in the senior clubs and 207 in the junior. These clubs meet once a month to discuss farm problems which develop from keeping records in farm account books supplied by Kansas State Agricultural College.

I. N. Chapman, farm management demonstrator for the college, has charge of the work and is supplying programs for the clubs. These programs contain notes on the latest developments in experimental work and other live information of interest to farmers, such as variety tests of crops, cultural practices, seed treatment, fertilizers and feeding tests. The programs are arranged to include subjects which are of seasonal interest at the time meetings are held.

Counties in which these clubs are being organized are Leavenworth, Shawnee, Clay, Riley, Washington, Harvey, Cowley, Rice, Mitchell, Pawnee, Ford and Meade. Of the 20 senior clubs, five are in Farmer Union territory where the locals have adopted the programs for their projects during the year. County agents, Granges, Farmers' Union locals, farm bureaus and vocational instructors in agriculture are all cooperating.—Kansas Farmer.

THE COW, SOW AND HEN.

A farmer with whiskers, and long red hair,
A smiling face, and a desire to swear,
Rose as the birds, in the treetops tall,
Answered the cock in his morning call.

Followed the path, down to the barn,
Swinging a milk-pail on each arm.

The lights of the city on yonder hill,
Marked the place where they slumbered still;
How foolish were they, content and warm,
To miss the smell, and the taste of corn.

Perched on a stool, till his pants grew thin;
The flow of milk, and the sound of tin,
Filled his soul, and gladdened his heart
Like a banana peddler with his apple cart.

He thought of how with a can of cream,
He could do the thing that he oftened dreamed;
Betsy would smile and be as gay
As a lump-jawed mule with a bale of hay."

The can of cream by the cow shed door,
Was full to the brim, and would hold no more,
The shining pail between his knees,
Was filling fast, when he felt a breeze,
As the wings of a chicken from up on high,
Slapped old "Bossie" in the eye.

A bawl from a frightened Jersey brute,
A falling stool and a busted snoot;
The grunt of a sow, the end of a dream,
A hog filled up on a can of cream.
A milk-stained farmer, kicked and sore,
With teeth knocked out, came thru the door.

No use to pin your faith on these,
Feathered birds, beneath the trees.
"It will cost me that whole Jersey cow
To get my teeth all dolled up now."
If that rich cream don't kill that hog,
She is some relation to a dog.

Just go your way, you birds and brutes,
Chew your cuds, and grunt your snoots.
"Betsy shall have that gingham gown,
If there is any copper left in town."
That pile of corn will do the trick,
'Twill bring the smile, and have the kick.
We'll modernize this derned old farm,
And pin our faith on a "copper worm."

—M. O. GLESSNER.

THE PURPOSE OF THE RAILROAD RATE HEARING.

The rate hearing which opened recently in Kansas City is an effort of eight middle western states to obtain an adjustment of freight rates on grain, grain products and hay.

The application was filed in September, 1922, by Kansas. Oklahoma, Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota later intervened for their agricultural interests. On Ocober 11 the interstate commerce commission rendered its opinion, which was that the evidence submitted on behalf of the farmers did not warrant a reduction in rates.

But the commission, on its own motion, reopened the case for further hearings, the session being set for Kansas City, to give the reduction advocates another opportunity.

The states interested contend the existing rate in the middle west is unfair to the farmer, because prices of other commodities have not declined as have prices for agricultural products. If the case is won, it is estimated the farmer will benefit approximately 17 million dollars a year.

The application for a readjustment of rates on these comodities is based on certain fundamental and acknowledged facts. They are:

1. That freight rates, broadly speaking, must be fixed on the value of the commodities hauled.

2. That the products which constitute the wealth of a region must have easy access to their world market if the interests of producer and consumer alike are to be served.

3. That rate discriminations that would force farmers to abandon the crops to which a region is best suited would threaten that region's prosperity and deprive the railroads themselves of business.

4. That in fixing the freight charges on products that go into export trade, the point of their origin, as regards its distance from tidewater, must be taken into consideration to the end that the long haul shall not absorb an undue proportion of their value.

5. That the burden of the freight rates, which are a form of tax on production, should be distributed as fairly as possible among all commodities and not bear with unequal weight on any.

6. That it is the proper function of transportation to keep established industries going in those places where they are best adapted to local conditions and where they are serving best.

These general principles applied to the grain products of the Missouri Valley would establish the case of the agricultural interests seeking relief in the present proceedings, as the following facts will show:

1. The price of wheat has greatly declined from the pre-war leval, while the freight rate on it has remained almost stationary. This condition violates a basc principle of rate making.

2. Wheat being a world food staple the price of which is fixed by the world market, prohibitive rates act to bar the crop of this section from that market on equal competitive terms with the crop of other sections.

3. Crop diversification, applied to the region involved, would supply no remedy for the wheat farmer's plight Kansas, for example, grows the best hard winter wheat in the world. Its soil and climate are adapted in an equally favorable degree to no other crop. No other crop, therefore, would produce the wealth for Kansas that wheat does, nor, as a consequence would any other crop produce an equal business for the railroads.

4. The region involved producing an export staple and being a great distance from tidewater, its product requires an amount of transportation that is a controlling factor in its cost. Transportation charges, therefore, should be so equalized as to overcome for the wheat farmer the disadvantage he is under by reason of his distance from the ocean. This is particularly required because his product, of low value per pound, produces a disproportionate revenue for the railroads compared with other haulages.

5. The freight rate burden on wheat does not represent a fair distribution of this form of tax on production. The hard coal of the east and the lumber of the northwest do not pay in proportion, since their market value has not decreased in the after the war adjustment, as has that of wheat, while their freight rate burden, relative to the pre-war prices of these commodities, is lighter than it was when coal and lumber prices were down.

6. Wheat farming being an established industry in the region affected by the case under hearing, it is an obligation of the carrers to encourage it, both in the farmer's interests and in their own. Transportation is an element in production. The roads were built into the wheat region to carry its product, just as other roads were built to serve the products of other industries. The wheat regions and the railroads are dependent upon each other and the transportation charges of the roads must always be relative to the value of the commodity produced by the territory they serve.

These are the main principles involved in rate making. These are the conditions, as regards grain production, that have resulted from violations of those principles. They can be remedied by readjustments within the power of the interstate commerce commission to order.

FOR MARION COUNTY FARM CHILDREN

The street in front of the consolidated school buildings at Florence, Kan., is a lively place about 4:15 o'clock of every school afternoon. At this time the boys and girls of all sizes, from the small first graders to the full grown high school students, are climbing gaily into the seven big motor busses which are lined up along the curb ready to take them home.

Florence, a town of about 1,800 inhabitants, has one of the best organized consolidated school systems in the state. The schools include five districts and have 900 pupils. There are three well-equipped buildings valued at $180,000 and 28 teachers, including principal and superintendent, are employed.

One of the chief problems facing the farmer patrons of the schools in the beginning was the transportation of the children to and from school. They realized that it would be expensive and inconvenient to take a man and his team or a car away from the farm work twice a day for an hour or more. The "system" solved the problem by purchasing seven large motor busses, each with a 35 passenger capacity.

These motor busses when not in use are kept in garages on the school grounds. A man is hired to keep them clean and in good repair and filled with gasoline. The men teachers and some of the high school boys drive the busses out after the children in the morning and take them back at night. A woman teacher chaperones each motor bus load of pupils.

Heavy rains and bad roads have no terrors for these boys and girls for they know that the big busses will get them every day and on time. When you hear them talk or watch their happy faces as they clamber in ready to start for home in the evening, you are sure that they consider these trips a real lark and their parents have found this method of transportation the most economical and practicable. —D. M. Scott.

Make the old farm rick all over.

PERSONAL TO WOMEN

Wonderful East Indian Remedy restores women to health and beauty, gives instant relief from suffering pain and dragged down feeling caused by the dreaded Lewcorrhoea (whites). That is the cause of almost all female ills. Our treatment is endorsed by thousands. Send name and address on coupon below for information about our guaranteed method of treatment.

THE CARO COMPANY
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Name .....
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The Farmers National Bank
SALINA, KANSAS
Solicits Your Business
Oldest Bank in Saline County

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE

of members of the Union have anything to Sell or Exchange, they should advertise it in this department. Rate: 5 cents a word per issue; four or more insertions 4 cents a word. Count words in headings, as "For Sale!" or "Wanted to Buy", and each initial or figure in the address. Compound words count as two words. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—TRY THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

FARM FOR SALE

2700 FRUIT TREES; NEW HOUSE 155 ACRES; EQUIPMENT; $6,000. Big money making opportunity, excellent neighborhood; near fine railroad town; productive tillage, spring-watered pasture, estimated 1,000 cords wood, 30,000 feet timber; 2700 apple and plum trees, pears, peaches; attractive 4-room bungalow, slate roof, porches; barns, poultry, spring, apple houses. Age forces sale; $6,000, mules, 12 cattle, gas engine, vehicles, tools, crops included if taken now. Only one-third cash. Details page 7 illustrated catalogue Bargains Throughout Arkansas, Missouri, many other states. Copy free. STROUT FARM AGENCY, 831R, New York Life Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. 17

TOBACCO FOR SALE

SMOKE ON US—Write for a free sample of Kentucky's best. HAWESVILLE TOBACCO CO., Hawesville, Ky. 17*

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.

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

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORN COCKERELS, the Wyckhoff strain, the largest and best laying strain in America, $1.50 each. Satisfaction guaranteed. Edwin Gepner, Route 4, Clifton, Kansas. 18½

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 50 runs 4 or more times, reaches 50,000 readers.

PURE BRED ROSE COMB BROWN Leghorn cockerels, six for $5.00. Mrs. Wm. Toburen, Route 1, Randolph Kansas. 19½

FOR SALE—Ten extra fine pure blood S. C. White Leghorn cockerels at $2.00 each. J. A. Ogier, Menlo, Kansas. 19*

PUREBRED SINGLE COMB RHODE Island Red cockerels, $1.25 each. Jos. Baxter, Clay Center, Kansas. 17*

GEESE-TOULOUSE EMBDEN. AMERICAN, China, Buffs. DUCKS—Pekins, Rouens, Runners, Muscovy. Prices reasonable. John Hass, Bettendorf, Iowa. 24*

TURKEYS

WHITE HOLLAND TOMS ONE YEAR $8.00. Hens, young, $4.00; old, $5.00. Andy Austin, Route 1, Wilson, Kansas.

BOURBON RED TURKEY HENS $5.00; gobblers, $7.00. Harold Dahl, Formoso, Kansas. 17*

MAMMOTH BRONZE TOMS—The big bone type, $10.00. Bessie Holmes, Route 1, Republic, Kansas. 17*

FINE BOURBON RED TURKEYS—HENS $5.00: gobblers $8.00. Mrs. Herman Lippert, Green, Kansas. 17*

MAMMOTH BRONZE TOMS EXCELLENT MARKINGS $10.00. Mina Fuller, Hoxie, Kansas. 17*

STOCK

WILL EXCHANGE 2200 LB Black Percheron stallion, because of fillies. Clyde Abbott, Woodruff, Kan. 17*

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED UPLAND PRAIRIE AND alfalfa hay. State quality and quote prices f. o. b. cars your city. Wm. Brown & Sons, Route 9, Lawrence, Kansas. 18*

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.

FOR SALE—PRAIRIE HAY. WANT corn and oats. A. H. Light, Yates, Center, Kansas. 18½

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.
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$5.00 A THOUSAND
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Farmers' Union Wheat Marketing Assn. Kansas City, Mo.

Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Phillips County Farmers Union in regular session assembled at Agra, Kansas, November 17, 1923.

Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from this earth by death our brother, George Coons of Gretna Local, No. 634; also our state director, Brother V. C. Anderson of Wellington. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved families our heart-felt sympathy.

Signed,
W. M. Everhardt,
E. G. Lee
W. S. Aumiller,
Joe Rose.
A. B. Dixon,
committee.

Whereas, Our Heavenly Father, in his infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst Mrs. Lind, wife of Brother A. J. Lind. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Fortney Local No. 1682, extend to the bereaved brother and son our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this hour of sorrow. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved husband, one to the Kansas Union Farmer for publication, and one to be spread upon the minutes of this local.

C. B. Loofburrow,
D. J. Thomas,
Clark Green,
Committee.

Whereas, Our Brother H. A. Cady having recently been called upon to bear the loss of his mother by death, and

Whereas, Our Sister Mrs. H. A. Cady has been recently called upon to bear the loss of her father by death. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Pleasant Home Local No. 2055 extend to them our heartfelt sympathy, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes, and a copy be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer for publication.

S. N. Hodgson,
John Dunlop,
J. A. Milton,
Committee.

Home Guard Olive Drab OVERCOATS $3.50
Brand New: Like Cut. All Sizes. Weight 5 lbs. to 7 lbs. Parcel Post extra. An excellent coat for dress or work. Send for complete catalog.
W. STOKES KIRK
1627DM No. 10th St.
Phila., Pa.

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

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. 19

WANTED!
Grain and Hay Consignments
Farmers Union Jobbing Association

PRICE LIST OF LOCAL SUPPLIES

Application cards .....20 or 5c
Credential blanks.....10 for 5c
Dimit blanks.....1 for 10c
Ode cards .....12 for 20c
Constitutions 5c
Local Sec'y's Receipt Books 25c
County Secy's Receipt Books 25c
Secretary's Minute Books.....50c
Farmers Union Buttons.....25c
Farmers' Union Song Leaflets, per dozen 10c
Business Manuals, now used instead of Ritual, each.....5c

Cash Must Accompany Order. This is Necessary to Save Expense in Postage and Labor
WRITE
C. E. BRASTED, Box 51, Salina, Kansas
for above supplies. He is the only one you can get them from.

Trial Shipments Often Mean
NEW CUSTOMERS
Give the Jobbing Association A Trial

Even Though

you have not sent us a shipment this year there is yet time to add your name to our list of satisfied customers before the close of 1923—thus placing yourself in line to receive your share of the profit we have been setting aside each month during the year.

We pay dividends on purchases as well as sales.

Farmers Union Live Stock Commission
Kansas City, - Missouri

INSURANCE

Farmers' Union Member—

Your own Insurance Company gives you absolute protection at lowest cost.

Your own Company has greater resources, in proportion to insurance in force, than any other state-wide mutual company in Kansas.

Your Hail Insurance Company is the biggest and strongest Mutual Hail Company in Kansas, and the lowest in actual cost.

Get in line.

The Farmers' Union Mutual Insurance Company of Kansas
FRANK D. BECKER, Secretary
SALINA, KANSAS
C. E. BRASTED, President GRANT BLISS, Treasurer.
W. C. WHITNEY, Vice President CHAS. SIMPSON, Field Rep.

Watson's Best Berries are just what the Brand Indicates—They Are the
BEST
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Department of Practical Co-Operation

ATTENTION! FARMERS UNION MEMBERS

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

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

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

C. E. BRASTED, Sec'y.

UNION MEETING NOTICES

Notices of Farmers' Union meetings will be printed under this head 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 Constitutions 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. Roof, Pres.
Roy W. Holland, See.

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 books "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.

AT BELOIT DECEMBER 11.

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Mitchell County Farmers' Union will be held in Beloit at the G. A. R. hall on Tuesday, December 11 at 10 A. M.

Every Local is especially requested to send its full quota of delegates as annual election of officers will be held at this time. There will be other business of importance to come before the meeting. The final reports of the membership drive will be made that day. The committee is planning a surprise for that day and every Union member should attend the meeting whether a delegate or not.

C. L. HENDRICKS,
County Secretary.

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.

DOUGLAS COUNTY MEETING DECEMBER 15TH.

The Douglas County Farmers Union will meet December 15th at Blue Mound school house commencing at 10 a. m. to elect officers for the coming year and to transact other business that may propery come before the meeting.

The subject of taxation will be discussed from every angle by men who have the subject well in hand. A big dinnr will be served. All locas in the county are urged to be represented.

C. C. Gerstenberger, Co. Pres.
G. W. Pitts, Sec.-Treas.

AT CONCORDIA DECEMBER 12TH.

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Cloud County Farmers Union will be hd at the Court House in Concordia on Wednesday, December 12th, commencing at 1:30 p. m.

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

Wm. McCarty, Pres.
Clark Green, Sec.-Treas.

NEMAHA COUNTY MEETING, DECEMBER 8TH.

The annual meeting of the Nemaha County Farmers Union will be held in the City Hall at Seneca Saturday, December 8th, commencing at 10 a. m. Locals will please select their delegates to attend this meeting at which time officers for the ensuing year will be elected. Be sure that your local is in good standing and is represented at this meeting. Good speaking has been provied and we expect to have with us Mr. Harry Witham and Mrs. Alice M. Williams. Remember when choosing your officers this year please include me in your "culls" as I am no spring chicken any more.

Joel Strahm, Co. Sec.-Treas.

AT ANTELOPE SCHOOL DECEMBER 10TH

The regular meeting for December will be held one week later than the meeting date at Antelope School House December 10th, at 8 p. m. All members please be present as important matters ar to be discussed.

PHILIP STENZEL, Sec.-Treas.

MARSHALL COUNTY'S ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Marshall County Farmers' Union, will be held at Blue Rapids Friday, Dec. 21, at 10 o'clock a. m. Let us have a full delegation and a large attendance, as this is the time for you to choose your officers for the ensuing year. Don't leave it to the other fellow. Basket dinner.

RICHARD H. MACKEY, Sc.-Treas.

THE STATE MEETING AT EMPORIA.

The Lyon County Union in cooperation with the Emporia Chamber of Commerce have been holding meetings and consultations in preparation of plans for the entertainment of the 1500 delegates and visitors we are expecting in January. Enough has been accomplished to insure those who attend the state meeting not only the usual attention and comforts but several new departures that will add greatly to their pleasure and convenience.

In the first place, there will be no excessive charges for entertainment, plenty of good comfortable rooms will be available and listed with the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and the fine big auditorium of the State Teachers' College as well as smaller halls, will be freely and gladly at the convention's service.

And now well whisper a secret that you may pass on, it's one of our surprises, Plenty of cars to carry all who come will meet all trains in Emporia and will take our guests anywhere in the city while the convention is in session without any charge whatever. These cars will bear banners or markings so as to be easily distinguished.

Anyone desiring to engage rooms be forehand can secure from the Chamber of Commerce a complete list of those available and prices and any other information desired by writing a card or letter or to Henry Rice, Olpe, Co. Sec.-Treas., John Scheel, Emporia, state conductor and Co. Vice Pres. or Chas. Day, Allen Co. Pres., will receive careful and immediate attention.

In fulfillment of our pledge at Topeka, we stand ready to meet delegates at the train at Bushong, Allen or Admire and drive them to Emporia (18 miles south of Allen). That there may be no inconvenience or delay, our only request is that those wishing to come on the Mo. Pac. Ry. write the undersigned at least a week before starting, giving day and hour of arrival and which town they desire us to meet them. Emporia is very accessible by rail, either the Katy or the Santa Fe and its branches make it possible to arrive at most any hour of the day or night.

Now we want every reader of these notes to inform the world an particularly all members of the union, that this is going to be the greatest state meeting ever held and all who come will be entertained and taken care of in a way that should bring pleasure and profit in an unusual degree.

Lyon county and Emporia with its 12,000 people, fine new hotel, right up to the minute in its appointments, are enthusiastically determined to do their best. So we want all the old timers and the middle-aged timers and yes, we want all the new timers to start planning to attend this convention "fo' we'se gwine o show youse de time of yo' life if you'll only come."

Chas. Day, Co. Pres., Allen.

OSAGE VALLEY HOLDS OPEN MEETING.

Osage Valley Local No. 1683 held on the evening of the 14th an open meeting which was largely attended by members and non-members, young and old. One petition for membership was reported.

An excellent musical and literary program was rendered. Bro. Wheaton Slyter of Fontana was present and made an excellent address. Come again, Bro. Slyter.

R. D. RYNERSON, Cor. Sec.

BEATTIE MAN LIKES THE UNION FARMER.

Beattie, Kas., Nov. 25, '23.

Editor Kansas Union Farmer:

If you find space please put in these few lines. From all the news we get and find all the crimes committed since the war. Everyone says or seems to think the world is getting worse day by day in very way but I beg to differ with them.

I am a regular reader of our wonderful paper known as the Kansas Union Farmer, which reaches us every week, rain or shine, and also I have been a delegate to several quarterly metings.

Linn county farmers have all the best of it in the way they hold or commence their meetings. You notice if you read last week's union paper, which you all should do, you wil see how they proceed at the noon hour. The assembly under the leadership of Bro. Fuller, was called to attention and all repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison.

The bounteous dinner of chicken and the usual fixings was served in cafeteria style to about one hundred true members. Wish I could put that in large letters.

Now I know they had a good meeting and the Union will prosper, and if the rest of the county meetings will follow suit as Mr. Henderson of Kincaid said in his talk, "Get in the game and play ball and stay in it until the game is over."

J. D. STOE.

PHILLIPS COUNTY ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS.

Resolutions adopted by Phillips Co. Union at Agra, Nov 17, 1923:

Resolved, 1st That we favor a re-hearing of the Mistletoe case and that these yards be made public instead of private yards.

2nd. That we endorse the action of the Inter-state Commerce Commission in their fight for lower freight rates.

3rd. That we endorse the action taken by the Kansas Farmers' Union Wheat Pooling Ass'n and the Kansas Wheat Growers Ass'n at Kansas City Nov. 7.

4th Knowing that we all belong to the Farmers' Union for a common good, we urge that all members lend their assistance in every possible way to help the organization.

5th. That we are opposed to the government fixing the price of agricultural products.

6th. That we thank the ladies of Agra and vicinity for the bountiful dinner and hospitality.

Signed,

C. L. NIPPS,
MARION SCOTT,
R. M. EDWARDS,
EMMET ABBOTT,
PERRY ADEE,
W. C. DUBOIS
Committee.

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

Pool News

FIFTY-FIVE PER CENT

The Oklahoma Wheat Growers' association reports today a membership of 550 wheat growers in Harper county, these growers planting a total of 55,065 acres, or more than fifty-five per cent of the Harper county crop. That means a controlling interest in the wheat growing business in Harper county, a consummation of effort which should be appreciated by the farmers of the whole state.

The wheat growers of Harper county have come to bat with determination to go into business, through the very efficacious method of handling, through the Oklahoma Wheat Growers' association, their own grain. They have set an example for other wheat growing counties of this and other states to follow. If fifty-five per cent of the wheat growers in the United States were members of cooperative marketing associations, the yearly story of wheat would have a much happier ending than has been customary for several years.

Down to brass tacks, the ultimate success or failure of the co-operative wheat marketing movement depends upon majority control of the wheat sales of the country. The benefits accruing from membership in co-operative marketing associations will increase in definite proportions to the increase in the percentage of the crop handled through the association. In union there is strength—the stronger the union, the greater the strength. Realizing the truth of this maxim, the wheat growers of Harper county have done the needful. Wheat growing in the United States will have become a really profitable enterprise when every county in the wheat growing states can show a like degree of the co-operative spirit.—Enid Morning News.

MEMBERS ARE WORKING HARD TO WIN.

Mrs. J. R. Christian, secretary of Spring Glen Local No. 1976, reports sixteen paid up members for 1024.

H. C. Wertzberger, secretary of Mill Creek Valley Local No. 1873, has collected dues for 1924 from eleven members.

A. J. Walker, secretary of Ogeese Local No. 707, reports twenty-four paid up members for the coming year.

John J. Anderson, secretary of Bellview Local No. 2042 has remitted for nine members for 1924. This is Mr. Anderson's second remittance.

Robert J. Meyer, secretary of Walnut Grove Local No. 1308, reports twenty-nine paid up members for the coming year.

Wm. Coester, secretary of Fair Oaks Local No. 450, of Brazilton, has sent in dues for thirty-five members for the coming year.

George Vitt, secretary of St. Paul Local No. 1735, has remitted for ten members for the year 1924.

C. D. Powell, secretary Salem Local No. 1442, has sent in five 1924 dues.

Arthur Halvorsen, secretary of Turkey Creek Local No. 1868, is credited with a return of dues from nineteen members for the coming year.

Walter Schumusch, secretary Erie Local No. 562, is credited with twenty two members paid up for 1924. This is Mr. Schumisch's second remittance.

F. H. Waltman, secretary Highland Local No. 1643 of Paxico, reports eleven members paid up for the coming year.

W. G. Ross, secretary of Ross Local No. 1124 of Clifton, reports fourteen members have paid up for the coming year.

Dan Paxton, secretary Wells Creek Local No. 1611 of Vellvue, has collected dues from twenty-five members for the coming year.

E. H. Moore, secretary of Riverside Local No. 2025 of Maple Hill, reports the following: Sixteen new members, fourteen have paid up their 1923 dues; fifty-six have paid up their 1924 dues; fifteen minor members have paid their national dues. All are paid ful lto December 31st, 1924.

R. J. Muckenthaler of Newberry Local stated in letter received at State Secretary's office that the new members signed up in recent drive were initiated at their meeting on November 19th. They have increased their membership in dues paying members from 29 to 80. By including the ladies their local strength will be approximately 150 members.

SPRING CREEK LOCAL NO. 1174 HELPS A BROTHER

Wednesday night, November 21st, our regular meeting night, the house was called to order by our president and opened meeting by singing "America."

After all business had been attended to there was initiation of four new members, which we are very proud to have.

Then followed some interesting discussions on the subject "Should the farmer set his own price on his products?" All agreed he should, but realized there is quite a hill to climb, and nothing could be gained unless all farmers are thoroughly organized. By this time all were getting a good appetite for cider and doughnuts. The cider was furnished by President Lobingar and the doughnuts by the ladies. Every one feasted until satisfied. After singing some old hymns we adjourned for work.

I will make mention of our previous meeting. It was voted on and decided that the men folks have a corn-shucking for Neighbor Perry Barkley who had the misfortune to get his hand crushed in a corn binder and other serious sickness in the family.

It was very successfully carried out on last Tuesday by Spring Creek Local being assisted by No. 10. Local an others.

Mrs. J. A. Liggett,
Local Correspondent.

Did you know that 89 per cent of the 165,286 Kansas farms were operated by native born white farmers.

CECIL HAMLIN KING OF THE DRIVE INS

The Wichita market during the past month has had an unusually good market on all classes of stock. We have been well in line with Kansas City and St. Joseph throughout the entire month. Eleven loads of steers sold here for Teaver and Shurbet of Lockney, Texas, brought $7.00 Last Monday a load of fat heifers shipped in from Belle Plaine Kansas, brought $7.50, the highest price paid by packers for fat heifers for some time.

We feel that the members and friends o fthe Farmers Union will be proud to learn of the successful [illegible] of the Drive In department during the past month, our third month on the Wichita market. The 1500 hogs driven in by members and brought in almost every instance, within a nickel of car lot top. In addition to this there were 500 cattle all bringing good prices well in line with the other driver markets. A total of 75 sheep were driven in during the month. Sheep are selling at good prices with a fair demand.

Largely responsible for this noticeable growth is Cecil Hamlin, King of Drive Ins. We are sure that the men who have and who will send their Drive in stock to our firm will be glad to hear something fo his parst record and are therefore giving a short review of his work on this market.

During his service on the Wichita market for the past nine years, he has made many friends by his fair and honest dealing and willingness to help the other fellow. He is known as being a man on the job at all times.

Mr. Hamlin is a Kansas man, born and raised in Hutchinson, from which place, in 1912 he went to Burrtown where he gained considerable training in feeding and handling live stock on a farm. Two years later he came to Wichita and went to work for the Stock Yards Company. Since then he has sold stock successfully for Frederick and Company, Bacheder, and the Flint Hills Commission Company. Mr. Hamlin came to the Farmers Union along with the other members of the Droll and Conner Commission firm which we purchased the first of September this year. His ability has never been questioned by anyone on the Wichita market and he is considered by the yard traders and commission men as the best Drive In man on the yards.

LOSSES OF NON-CO-OPERATION

Seven thousand tons of Oregon loganberries went to waste the past season for want of a market, according to the Oregon Growers' Association, which dried 3,500,000 pounds of berries. As soon as the Association driers closed, dealers began picking up odd lots of evaporated berries at 25 cents, which is said to be 5 cents 25 cetns, which is said to be 5 cents a pound below actual values.

"Such methods only can result in injuring both growers and the Association," declared an official of the latter. "Irreparable damage is being inflicted upon hundreds of small gtowers who as yet are unorgaized.

CHINESE EGGS

A single shipment of Chinese eggs recently received in this country and inspected by the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture was estimated to be worth approximately $5,000,000. The shipment, which came in at the port of New York, consisted of 43369 cases and 128,262 tins of frozen eggs from Nanking and Hankow, and 16,009 cases of dried eggs exclusive of egg albumen. On the weight basis there were 9,460,000 pounds of frozen eggs and 1,600,000 pounds of dried eggs. The total was equivalent to 435,000 cases of shell eggs, which, at the going price of more than $10 a case, was worth nearly five million American dollars. The shipload of eggs represented a year's work for perhaps one and a half million hens.

EPILEPTICS

At last a treatment which positively stops all seizures from first day's use. No bromides or narcotics. Guaranteed. Information free. HUNTER LABORATORIES, 207 12 Main St., Little Rock, Arkansas.

Interested Service Insures Satisfaction

Let the Jobbing Association Prove It

And the Cars Came

Railroads Make Good on Promise to Move All Business Offered

A low freight rate and no cars in which to ship is as unsatisfactory as a low price for bread and no bread.

Heretofore, fall harvest has brought a widespread car shortage. Last year it was 140,000 cars. This year there is generally a surplus of cars throughout the country and especially of box cars in the West and Northwest, notwithstanding the roads are handling the greatest volume of business in their history.

There's a Reason!

For 1923, all the railroads of the United States joined in a co-operative effort and with a defined program to improve traffic conditions and to establish new standards of service, even excelling pre-war records. In fulfilling this program, 134,636 new freight cars and 2,963 new locomotives were put in service between January and October, 1923, a larger number than in any similar period within the past ten years.

Remarkable progress has been made in reducing the number of locomotives and cars awaiting repairs, 86.3% of the locomotives and 93.3% of the cars being in serivceable condition in October.

More railroad coal has been placed in stock pile storage and more commercial coal dumped at Lake Erie ports than in any previous year, thus making equipment available for other necesary traffic during peak periods.

From an average movement of 22 miles per car per day, (including idle time) in 1921, the railroads made 29.2 miles in September, 1923.

In the 42 weeks from January 1 to October 20, 1923, the railroads loaded and moved 40,545,920 cars, which was an increase of 18% over 1922 and 10% over the record year of 1920.

Isn't this a splendid tribute to the efficiency of the carriers and the co-operation of shippers?

The roads are spending this year 700 million dollars for new equipment and 400 million dollars for other improvements. Years ago James J. Hill, the great railroad builder of the Northwest, said that the roads must spend one billion dollars every year for additions and betterments to keep abreast of the country's growing traffic, but this is the first year in twelve that the railroads have found it possible to obtain that amount. Such expenditures have a vital bearing on national prosperity, contributing to the expansion of industry and employment of labor, increasing the demand for products of mine, forest and farm.

This $1,100,000,000 being spent in 1923 **is almost entirely new money and not taken from earnings.** The expenditure is based on the conviction that the American people will encourage compensatory rates and discourage attempts to embarrass the railroads in their efforts to provide adequate service. It is not predicated on present earnings for even in this record-breaking year, it is unlikely that the roads will earn the 5:75% on their valuation permitted by the Interstate Commerce Commission under the Transportation Act, but which if they do not earn they do not get.

Anti-railroad laws produce no freight cars.

Constructive suggestions are always welcome.

C. R. GRAY,
President.

Omaha, Nebraska,
December 1, 1923.

UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM

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 December 31, 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 January 17, 1924.

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

Are Your Consignments Being Marketed Cooperatively? (F. U.) If Not Why Not?.. (J. A.)