THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Co-operation ~ Education ~ Organization

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New War Plan Ends Food Purchases in U. S. Market

Foreign Buying Is Turned to Armament and Warring Nations Make Drastic Restrictions on Food Consumption—Policy of Rationing Neutrals

By Farm Research

The American farmer is now facing the prospect of completely losing his foreign markets as a result of the war. While farmers expected to lose the remainder of their trade with Germany when the war broke out, they are taken completely by surprise over the sweeping policies, already agreed upon by England and France, which threaten to restrict and shortly to eliminate our export of all foodstuffs as well as other farm products.

Under their new plan, England and France state that they will limit their purchases in the United States to materials of war thus diverting agricultural purchases to their own colonies and, where this is not possible, to "sterling countries." The chief countries having a sterling exchange, and therefore benefitting from this move would be Argentina and Uruguay.

Both England and France have already issued decrees forbidding the import of tobacco and fruits from the United States. They have also undertaken a drastic restriction of food consumption within their own countries in order to allow the maximum diversion of resources to war industries. As soon as all arrangements are completed, purchases of foodstuffs, cotton and other farm products will be halted and orders here will be limited to war supplies.

Moreover, the policy of rationing neutrals, which went into effect on December 6th, further reduces the export of farm products from the United States. The purpose of this rationing, according to Great Britain, is to prevent supplies shipped to neutral countries from being later transshipped to Germany. Any shipment to any neutral country will be subject to seizure, if it is deemed likely to aid the enemy; and furthermore any shipment from a neutral nation will be subject to seizure if the goods therein have been manufactured either in part or in whole from German products.

State Department Is Silent

Since the Revolutionary War, the United States has taken the position that such decrees are in violation of international law. As yet, however, the State Department has not indicated its stand on this matter.

Though the war has brought a rush of orders to manufacturers of war supplies, especially since the lifting of the embargo, it has already caused a drop in our exports of food supplies and tobacco. This dip in farm exports will become a "nosedive" upon the introduction of the new policies, whose effect will be many times as great as that of all the reciprocal trade agreeements taken together.

Despite the cry sounded shortly after the outbreak of the war on September 3 that farm exports would boom, the reverse has been the case. Even the expanded cotton purchases in September and October cannot be regarded as a net increase to be credited to the war, for England had long been postponing her cotton purchases in anticipation of price declines or additional barter deals. The war merely forced England to speed up its orders. "But," as Secretary Wallace points out, "world consumption of American cotton actually decreased during the World War."

While the latest monthly figures from the U. S. Department of Commerce extend only through October of this year, they show that at the very outset of the war most agricultural products, especially foodstuffs and tobacco, were being squeezed out of export trade for more vital materials of war.

United States Exports by Commodities (In Millions of Dollars)

	Oct. 1939	Oct 1938	Percentage Change
Steel Scrap	5.6	3.2	Plus 75%
Iron and Steel Semi-Mfgs.	16.2	10.5	Plus 54%
Metal Working Machinery	9.6	78	Plus 22%
Oil Products	36.2	32.2	Plus 12%
Wheat and Flour	3.0	4.0	--25%
Fresh Fruits	2.9	5.5	--47%
Tobacco	4.9	29.5	--83%

U. S. Department of Commerce

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Total farm exports, excluding the delayed cotton orders, were 23 per cent lower in October of 1939 than in October of 1938 and Department of Commerce figures for the first ten days of November show a further drop of 17 per cent.

War industries are already reporting the highest profits on record. The net profit of 320 companies reported by the National City Bank amounted to $589 million for the first nine months of the year as compared with $296 million for the corresponding period last year, a rise of nearly 100 per cent.

Du Pont has just announced dividends for this year amounting to 77 million dollars on its common stock, the highest dividends it has ever paid; and its net profits are expected to total more than 90 million dollars for 1939. For the third quarter of 1939, North American Aviation reports net profits of 2.3 millions or an increase of 434 per cent over the same three months last year; and Curtiss-Wright figures its net profits for this same period at 1.2 millions, an increase of 164 per cent.

The prospect facing the American farmer is that his products, previously squeezed by Germany, will now be banished from foreign trade, while the rest of the American economy strives to turn itself into an arsenal working at top speed to supply the wants of foreign war machines. The British purchasing policy stimulates "mushroom" industries in the United States but, by transferring its farm buying, it seriously aggravates our "surplus" problem.

Percent Farm Exports are of Total U. S. Exports

October 1938	October 1939
31 Percent	26 Percent

Of course, the United States holds the dominant bargaining position as the only nation capable of filling large-scale war orders, and hence it could insist, as proposed at the special session by some Congressmen, that belligerent nations be requested to buy "normal" imports if they are to be allowed to place "war" orders. Otherwise, these Congressmen asserted, our economy will be inseparably geared to the war abroad.

Not only is there the danger of injuring agriculture, of further unbalancing our economy, and of paving the way for another post-war collapse but there is the additional danger that, in becoming an economic arsenal, we expose ourselves to every shifting wind of international politics.

WAR BRINGS BOOM TO FARMERS—FARM PRICES FAR BELOW PARITY

	Actual Price	Price Parity	Percent Below Parity	Percent Below Parity Sept. 15	Percent Below Parity Nov. 15 1937
	November 15th, 1939				
Corn, bu.	$ .47	$ .82	43%	32%	43%
Wheat, bu.	.73	1.13	35%	36%	29%
Barley, bu.	.42	.79	47%	46%	37%
Rye, bu.	.45	92	52%	52%	36%
Cotton, lb	.088	.159	45%	42%	52%
Hogs, 100 lbs.	5.87	9.24	36%	24%	13%
Hay, ton	7.51	15.19	51%	53%	44%
Apples, bu.	.62	1.23	50%	49%	49%

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. D. A.

FIRST FEED ORDER

New KFU and Union Standard to Osawatomie F. U.

Ted C. Belden, manager of the merchandise department of Farmers Union Jobbing Association, reports that Glen Hewitt, manager of the Farmers Cooperative Union of Osawatomie, sent in the first order received at Kansas City for the new KFU and UNION STANDARD feeds manufactured at the Association's feed mill at Topeka. Following this order quickly came orders from La Harpe, Erie, and Piqua.

A number of unavoidable delays, caused by the slow shipment of machinery, held up operations at the feed mill several weeks, but stocks of a complete line of feeds are now being manufactured and prompt shipment on all orders are being made. Delivery of feeds, feed ingredients, and other merchandise is made out of Topeka either by truck or rail. Regular truck routes soon will be established, and, beginning the first of the year, price lists on feeds and merchandise, basis both Topeka and Kansas City, will be mailed out to managers of cooperatives on each Friday.

MOCK RADIO BROADCAST

Heart of America Local Plans Christmas Party

The Heart of America Local will have a Christmas party at the Aladdin Hotel in Kansas City, on Friday evening, December 22. This Farmers Union Local is made up of employees of Farmers Union Livestock Commission Co. and Farmers Union Jobbing Association.

Employees of Farmers Union Jobbing Association will present a mock radio broadcast as a part of the program. Expected guests are T. B. Dunn of Salina, manager of Farmers Union Auditing Association; E. Augustine, manager of the Milk Producers Marketing Co. of Kansas City; J. C. Gregory, Osborne, Kansas, president of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association.

AROUND the world again echos the angels' song, "Peace on earth good will to men." For one brief night as the yule log burns in many a land, we live in our hearts the world brotherhood of which we dream.

We are saddened this Christmastide by the low hanging clouds of war, but even "blackouts" cannot hide the Star. May it ever be our guide in moving toward the day of peace and equality for all.

To each and every Farmers Union member we express our sincere appreciation for loyalty and cooperation during the year just closing. May you and yours have a most blessed Christmas and a happy prosperous New Year.

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Extend Pay Time –1939 Wheat Loan

Farmers May Now Take Until April 30, 1940, to Repay Their Loans

The Commodity Credit corporation has announced the extension to April 30,1940, of all loans secured by wheat in warehouses. Under the 1939 wheat loan program, all loans secured by warehoused wheat matured seven months from date, or April 30, 1940, whichever is earlier. The first loans would begin to mature around Feburary 1,1940. This extension will give producers an additional period within which such wheat loans may be repaid.

If a farmer has not repaid his note by April 30, 1940, the Commodity Credit corporation, proposes to take title to the wheat. Warehoused wheat then pledged as collateral to loans will be acquired by the corporation on April 30.

Farm-Stored Wheat, Too

Deliveries of farm-stored wheat collateral may be made as soon as practicable after that date. It is expected that producers will be given an opportunity to reseal wheat in those areas in which farm-stored wheat in good condition, may be carried through the summer months without risk of loss from insect infestation. Full information will be available at a later date in regard to the resealing of such farm-stored wheat collateral.

All wheat in good condition acquired by the Commodity Credit corporation on April 30, 1940, either will be held until such time as it may be sold in an orderly manner for not less than loan value plus interest and charges, or will be transferred to Federal Surplus Commodities corporation for disposal in export channels or for relief. Some wheat also may be sold or transferred to the Federal Crop Insurance corporation for use in the insurance program. The Commodity Credit corporation proposes to carry sufficient wheat to cover the domestic requirements of the country until the crop for 1940 is determined.

December 31 Expiration Date

Commodity Credit corporation called attention to the fact that the time for making wheat loans expires December 31, 1939. No extension will be made in the time for making such loans. All loan documents must be dated on or before December 31, 1939, and the chattel mortgages filed or recorded on or before such date. Direct loans submitted to the Commodity Credit corporation must bear postmark prior to December 31, 1939.

The records of the Commodity Credit corporation indicate that as of November 28, the following loans of wheat of the 1939 crop had been made on Kansas farm-stored wheat, 4,811,865 bushels; elevator-stored wheat, 16,340,185 bushels; the loans for both farm-stored and elevator-stored wheat amounting to $14,998,695.83.

PAY 1940 F. U. DUES

Payments Have Already Been Received From 14 Counties

Dues paying season is here and Chas. E. Gregory of Ellsworth Local No. 2099, Ellsworth, has the distinction of having Membership Card No. 1 for the year 1940.

Dues payments for '40 membership in the Kansas Farmers Union have been received from 14 counties as follows: Ellsworth, Ottawa, Lyon, Phillips, Cloud, Republic, Mitchell, Nemaha, Atchison, Ellis, Rooks, McPherson, Riley and Jefferson.

DOMINATE MILLING FIELD

Four Giants Dominate Flour and Cereal Sales

Ten cereal manufacturers and millers, recently registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, reported total sales of $356,160,752 in 1937. The four largest firms had combined sales of $288,807,000 or 81 per cent of the total reported by all ten companies.

	Total Sales	Net Profits
Gen'l Mills	$152,673,000	$4,111,000
Quaker Oats	72,525,000	4,167,000
Pillsbury	63,441,000	53,000
Allied Mills	26,168,000	607,000

General Mills, the largest milling company in the world, reports that it paid out more than half a million dollars in 1937 to 24 officers and directors. Quaker Oats paid $486,000 to 18 officers and directors, and Pillsbury Flour, reporting net profits of only $53,000, paid out $269,000 to 22 officers and directors.

Most Important Legislation

John Vesecky, National Farmers Union president: "If we can get our national program of legislation and the income certificate plan passed this next year, Congress will do more for farmers than it has done for the past fifty years."

FU On Radio Dec. 30

The Farmers Union program over the National Farm and Home hour of the blue network of the National Broadcasting Company will be the fifth Saturday noon this month, instead of the fourth, December 30.

KANSAN PLANS PROGRAM

Miss Esther Ekblad Prepares Program Service for National Union

The Farmers Union Program Service for January is prepared by Miss Esther Ekblad, director of junior education for the Kansas Farmers Union. The service is issued monthly to aid Farmers Union Locals in developing interesting programs. The January study is directed toward studying cooperative and socialized medicine. The subject of the lesson is Health and Happiness.

Mrs. Helen Denney of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Kansas City, is the writer of the suggested message to the Local. Floyd Clark of the Kansas Workers Education service, Topeka, prepared outlined material for a suggested panel discussion on the subject.

The study suggests the inclusion of the Wagner Health bill, recently introduced into Congress by Senator Wagner of New York.

FCA TAKES A MOVE

Department of Agriculture Now Controls Credit Administration

A point in the National Farmers Union program was won December 14 when the Farm Credit Administration went under the control of the Department of Agriculture, where it is felt it should be more responsive to agricultural needs.

Stephen T. Early, presidential secretary, announced the FCA would be placed under the complete control of the agricultural department.

Although the farm lending unit technically had been placed under the agricultural department by the provisions of the government reorganization program, in actual practice it has remained an independent agency under F. F. Hill.

Concerning that there has been a difference of opinion over the agency's status. Early stated that Wallace insisted that since he is responsible for FCA under the law he wishes to exercise complete control over the unit.

Early hinted that Hill might resign as a result of the decision.

The Farmers Union Program Service is available to Locals and individuals through the Kansas Farmers Union; the subscription price 60c yearly.

Associated Managers Should Plan Best Publicity Methods

"Ways and Means" for managers of Farmers Union cooperatives to gain beneficial publicity was the subject for Rex Troutman, editor of the Kansas Union Farmer, who was scheduled on the program of the recent series of elevator meetings sponsored by the Farmers Union Managerial Association. He was unable to be present at the Overbrook and Parsons meetings and the following paper by him was read:

You have perhaps known persons who have always known lots of gossip. You have been acquainted with others who seemed always to know the "news" of the neighborhood. The difference in regard by which these two types were held in the community shows the value of being careful in making publicity. The big point is to keep silent about the other fellow, and keep talking of what you are doing, how it will affect your members and patrons, and what further action you may develop in the future. All this, you will notice, has to do with yourself and your organization —nothing whatever in regard to your competitor nor what you "haven't" been doing or have been doing unsuccessfully

Most of you managers are visited by advertising men of one sort or another. There are varieties of inef-

(continued on page 3)

The President's Message

By J. P. Fengel

Stock Water Shortage

Our Governor Ratner is to be commended for his calling a conference of farmers and others in an attempt to discuss ways and means by which the stock-water shortages in so many areas in this state might be overcome and on his invitation to attend and participate I accepted the invitation attending the conference in Representative Hall on December 15.

The conference was attended by about two hundred interested farmers, state officials, engineers, geologists and representatives of Governmental Agencies, all of whom were interested in the solution of the stock-water problem and meeting the present emergency.

Several of the speakers emphasized their statements by relating where they had seen farmers hauling water in barrels, not only for their livestock but for household uses as they drove the highways into Topeka for the conference. The discussions covered practically every phase of the situation and the remedies advanced and advocated ranged all the way from terracing , contour farming, low dams in running streams to ponds and reservoirs for surface water storage. All of these things are very fine and no doubt will lend themselves to the immediate solution of the problem, in the event we do have rainfall heavy enough so there can be a water runoff to be checked by the contours, the terraces, or fill the ponds back of the dams in dry water courses.

We farmers do know our water levels have gone down, and further down that many of our trees, both orchard and shade trees, have died during recent years, even along our creeks and shade and windbreaks about the premises. Our subsoil has dried out with the loss of our alfalfa acreages and our field crops are determined to dry up and burn very soon after heavy rainfall, all of which should tell us there is a cause or causes producing this, a new condition of depleted sub-soil moisture upon which our trees and crops used to draw upon and continue to live and grow even during periods of scanty rainfall.

A few of the speakers made reference to the costs of our building and maintaining all of this surface structure to catch and hold surface water and were wondering what we were going to do for money since all of these types of structures cost a lot of money and to be of very material benefit would require so many units and so much time would be required to build them, all of which would be surface storage for water and for use as stock water only without solving the needs for household uses.

Look to Sub-Surface

While all of these things are commendable, I alone took the position they cannot and will not solve the problem, either of water shortage or the raising of the underground water levels, replenishing our sub-soil moisture to where tree roots and alfalfa roots can reach it, or restore the flow of water into our springs, wells and creeks.

We do know we do have surface streams of water, and do know that we do also have sub-surfaced or underground streams of water that we tap when we dig our water wells and which through provisions of an allwise creator our springs bubble forth furnishing fresh water for man and also furnishing the water in natural flow for our creeks and rivers.

Many of our water wells are dry, also many of our springs have gone dry, our subsoil has dried out, our trees have also died for lack of subsoil moisture and now the stock water shortage problem.

We have the effect and it would seem we have the intelligence to seek out and find the cause or causes responsible for the effects (Dry water wells, dry sub-soils, dead trees and alfalfa fields, dry creeks and water shortages) and that we do have those agencies at this time and we can and should use them, since their services are now available without much if any additional expense to the taxpayers.

Personally, we all know that rainfall water soaks into the ground and continues to go down deeper or until it reaches rock formation through which it can penetrate, thus establishing underground water levels, and beds of our underground water streams or veins of fresh water.

To Sheet Water Levels

These rock stratas have been placed where they are for a purpose and have functioned perfectly throughout the ages, until we disturbed them and it seems perfectly throughout the ages, until we distrubed them and it seems perfectly reasonable to me that we are responsible ourselves for this disastrous condition and that we alone can and should restore the rock stratas and by so doing maintain the undistrubed underground flow of underground streams and veins that fed our water wells and springs and finally maintained moisture in our subsoils.

All through our section of Kansas where we do not have sheet water underneath the ground, we find this condition most acute and most disastrious and to my mind it is an easy matter to find the causes for this water shortage, where our oil fields have been developed and expanded, we find our oil well drillers penetrated the rock stratas and have neglected to protect the water levels by cementing to a close the openings they had made and by their failure to do so have permitted the water they encountered at that level to descend to lower and still lower levels, causing our water wells to go dry, our springs to dry up, our sub-soil moisture to be exhausted, our trees and alfalfa fields to dry out and die.

An abundance of proof can be had by visiting the sites of our abandoned oil wells, with the majority of the water wells in that vicinity dry and in fact they went dry as soon as the oil wells were drilled through stratas of rock that prevented surface water from descending further downward. Thus far it is possible to again recapture those water levels and restore water wells and springs direct-

(continued on page 3)

Far. Un. Income Certificate Plan Gets Attention

Self-Financing Federal Farm Relief Program Receives Praise of Secretary Wallace

By Farm Research

Since the much-heralded war "boom" has failed to lift farm prices out of their doldrums and the sale of U. S. food products abroad has continued to drop, support for the income certificate plan to bolster domestic farm prices has been steadily mounting.

After rising only 11 per cent during the first month of the war, and thus lagging behind the advances on the stockmarket as well as increases of other prices, the index of farm products dropped back 1 per cent in October and remained stationary in November, despite widespread drouth reports.

Not only did general farm prices fail to rise in November but particular items dropped off sharply. Mean animals were 10 points below September 15 while chickens and eggs were down 9 points.

Year	Prices Rec'd. by Far.	Prices Paid by Far.	Ratio of Pric Rec. to Prices Paid
1912	100	100	100
1914	101	100	101
1916	118	124	95
1918	202	176	115
1920	211	201	105
1929	146	153	95
1930	126	145	87
1931	87	124	70
1932	65	108	61
1935	108	125	86
1936	114	124	92
1937	121	130	93
1938	95	122	78
1939 (Nov.)	97	122	80

Source: U. S. D. A. (1909-14 equal 100).

As against the present AAA program which, though allegedly aiming at parity, misses the mark by a wide margin and even prohibits parity payments when prices are closer than 75 per cent of parity, the Farmers Union income certificate plan makes mandatory the establishment of full "parity or cost-of-production, whichever is higher."

This plan, originally devised and put into legislative form by the National Farmers Union, is now attracting national attention. In his recent speech in Oklahoma City, Secretary Wallace spoke favorably of the proposal, saying:

"Such a plan has some obvious advantages. For one thing, it might be possible for the producer to cash his certificate at the time he sold his crop. And the certificate plan would not require funds from the Treasury."

Instead of leaving the farm program dependent upon an annual appropriation by Congress, which that body may at the last moment choose not to make as nearly happened this year, the Farmers Union proposes a "pay-as-you-go" or self-financing plan. Processors would be required to buy certificates covering the domestically-consumed portion of the crop at a price between parity and the market price.

Payments for these certificates would go into a common pool, which in turn would be pro-rated among the farmers. In dividing the pool, the Farmers Union provides, both in its wheat bill, introduced by Senator Wheeler and in its cotton bill introduced by Senator Josh Lee, that the family-size farms be properly safeguarded. Thus, the smallest farms would be allowed to sell 100 per cent of their output at the protected domestic price, but this percentage drops as the volume of output increases, thus putting the chief responsibility for reduction on the big syndicate farms which now cause the surpluses.

Though some of the more recent proponents of the income certificate plan are less favorable to the safeguards on family-size farms, the Farmers Union at its national convention in Omaha resolved:

"Protection of the family-sized farm shall be a constant and primary policy and aim in the formation, amendment and administration of all farm legislation."

BOYS TOWN GROWS

On Christmas eve of this year more than 200 boys will attend a huge party at the famous Boys Town home near Omaha, Nebraska, founded by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward Flanagan 22 years ago.

In 1917, Father Flanagan, then a young Irish priest, borrowed $90 to rent a large house in Omaha as a home for boys caught in the web of crime-breeding poverty. There he took five boys for their first real Christmas celebration. As the years passed, his work brought him international recognition.

In 1936, Boys Town was incorporated as a village. It has its own elected boy mayor, its own post office, operated by its citizens, its own police force, selected from its citizens. A municipal court settles many problems with boy judges and lawyers taking part. By Christmas, 1940, a building program now under way will be completed and 500 boys will be citizens of this town, only one of its kind in the world.

SELL WHEAT OVER $1.00

F. U. Jobbing Association Reports Number of Good Sales

On December 14, 1939, Farmers Union Jobbing Association sold several cars of wheat on consignment at Kansas City for $1.00 or over per bushel. This was just 18 months to the day after the last wheat consignment handled by them reached the dollar mark.

R. D. Crawford, head of the Association's Grain Sales Department, reports that three of these cars came from the Osborne County Farmers Union Cooperative Association at Alton, Kansas, where W. Z. Hadley is manager.

"Let us have the courage to stop borrowing to meet continuing deficits . . . . I regard reduction in Federal spending as one of the most important issues of this campaign." — F. D.

The Kansas Union Farmer

Rex H. Troutman ..... Editor

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

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1939

Extension Service Cooperation

There are good reasons why every farmer should become a member of the Farmers Union. On the other hand there may be reasons of personal importance and of local significance why individual farmers may be prejudiced against an unsuccessful Farmers Union business venture in their community, or its officers. But this is no argument against the Farmers Union, or even justification for their seclusion from Farmers Union cooperative efforts.

It is with some chagrin that farmers of loyal standing in our organization watch the activity of the Farm Bureau-Agricultural Extension service in invading the Farmers Union cooperative business associations with a self-defined plan of 100 per cent cooperative organization, which plan forbids any Farmers Union membership requirement.

Farmers through the years might have been led to believe that the Extension Service through its prenatal demand for its educational organizational affiliation, the Farm Bureau—that it migh recognize the need of an independent and cross-roads' born Farmers Union as the educational arm of cooperative business development. But this is not so. The 100 per cent plan does not include Farmers Union membership, and the basis of the plan is developed from law and some rulings from Washington, D. C.—and so they say, is not to be questioned.

There have been few laws or rulings of much importance passed out from Washington, D. C., which have been wisely adaptable to all farms and farmers—and the same things may be said for cooperatives. Different considerations may better decide the forming of by-laws for the local cooperative business association. At best their counsel may be questioned. For instance the Extension department is greviously concerned over "non-producer" members in "producer" cooperatives in the same breath as advising the Farmers Union membership requirement break.

Speaking of the 1931 cooperative marketing act of Kansas, Warren Mather, extension specialist in marketing, writes: "All farmers' cooperatives should endeavor to come under the provisions of this act if possible. It was written specifically for cooperatives that are owned and operated by producers of agricultural products and gives legal authority to many desirable provisions that should be or possibly are in the by-laws of such companies." A letter accompanying the article and addressed to manabers, presidents and secretaries of cooperatives is signed by Frank S. Burson, Extension Economist in Marketing, as well as Mr. Mather, and includes the following: "We are asking your local county agent to obtain a mailing list of the directors of your association so that he may forward this and future articles to them. If there are any questions which you have in regard to cooperatives coming under the latest cooperative marketing act, or if we can be of assistance to you in explaining it or discussing new by-laws at your dicertors' or annual meeting, please let us know."

The legal situation is that observance of a law's provisions is more convincing than the actual adoption of by-laws. Laws can be changed and rulings decided with great rapidity, as cooperative managers have discovered in following tax assessments. And the desirable benefits of the 1931 Cooperative Marketing Act may be secured without throwing out other benefits now enjoyed by many Farmers Union cooperatives. Counsel with the Extension Department people may well be tempered with thoughtful discussion and deliberation, for it is they who will directly learn the results of change. The farmers must actually do the developing of cooperative business despite the lact of titles as specialists.

And of the Extention department which has developed a quickened interest in the cooperative movement in recent years, we recall that their early purpose in existence was to improve the lot of the farmers. While the program of improvement and unrestriction in farm production seems not to be enough to reach this goal, the cooperative movement has generally developed with greater speed than has the financial security of the individual farmer. That the slowness of reaching agricultural prosperity might give reason for greater Extension-Farm Bureau business administration may well be questioned.

TRAVELOGUE
By John Fengel

The past two weeks have probably been the busiest time for me since I can remember. My first assignment was the McPherson County Junior banquet in McPherson, where Farmers Union history was written, as this was the first County Junior banquet to be held in Kansas and such a banquet too, with about 100 Juniors in attendance in the banquet room of the Community Building, long rows of tables, Juniors as hosts and hostesses, to see that no one was neglected, with others just as busy serving the many guests.

There were music, readings, impromptu addresses, a toastmaster thrown in good measure, and Niles Gibson did a masterful job too, with the main address of the evening by Mr. Neil Dulaney of the Farmers Union Life, and he did a very fine job of it too and advanced a line of thought that our young folks need and certainly should heed. Among the visitors were, Secretary Rex Troutman, and his wife, Mrs. Neil Delaney and family and the mayor of McPherson.

Much credit is due Mrs. Charlie Olson, and her splendid group of Juniors, not only for the manner of conducting the banquet and the menu, but to all of those contributing to the banquet program. We all really did enjoy every minute of the time and shall never forget the hospitality of our McPherson County Juniors and their leader, Mrs. Olson.

From the McPherson County Junior Banquet, Mom and I took off for La Harpe, Kansas, for a Thanksgiving feed, or several of them, with my sister Mrs. Dora Wade, another with Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Henderson and finally another turkey feed with my nephew, Howard Wade, also near La Harpe. Well, Mom and I are still alive and able to circulate around.

At Parsons Meeting

From La Harpe we drove over to Parsons, for the first session of the Farmers Union Managerial Association, which was presided over by Jim O'Hara, manager of the Farmers Union Elevator at Parsons. This was a good meeting, although not as well attended as it should have been and from there we drove back to La Harpe, staying over night with my sister Mrs. Wade and on Tuesday morning started for Overbrook, where the second meeting of the Managerial series was held. This meeting was in charge of our good friend Glenn Hewitt, manager from Osawatomie, and this too was a good meeting and with a better attendance than at Parsons.

We also had the pleasure of a report from Clyde W. Coffman, who is the Legislative representative of the Kansas Committee of Farm Organizations, relative to his work during the last session of the legislature.

Clyde is capable of making a good report and did not fail this time. From Overbrook, we drove home and from there to Salina for the third meeting in the Managerial series, which was the best meeting they had held up to that time, and also with the largest attendance. Our good friend David Train from Lindsborg was in the chair at Salina and as is the custom with him did a splendid job of conducting the meeting.

I was unable to complete the series at Blue Rapids, since I had a series of meetings in Cloud County, with a County meeting for Thursday at Concordia.

The Cloud County meeting was not too well attended, but they are very much alive up there, with Jance Carr, as county president and Henry Cedar county secretary. They had a good county meeting, which was my first in Cloud County. Mr. George Larsen, of the Farmers Union Creamery at Superior, also attended this county meeting and for Friday and Saturday of that week we put on a membership drive around the county and with splendid results.

With the help of such outstanding men as Jance Carr, Herman Cedar, Clarence Ott, Martin Flynn and Victor Dallen, of the Miltonvale community, we were able to rebuild Fortney Local No. 1682 with about 35 members paid for 1940, and for Pleasant Valley about 25 members, with the help of our splendid young cooperator Clarence Ott, who is president of Pleasant Valley Local No. 1750 at Miltonvale. I worked with Secretary Victor Dallen and revived Carmel Local No. 1056 with 10 members to start with and at Cottonwood Local No. 317, I worked with Brother Martin Flynn and secured in one day 8 members to start with and many more in prospect.

From Miltonvale, I returned home by way of the office for a contact and am scheduled into Topeka for Friday at the call of Governor Ratner, for a conference, in an effort to devise some remedy for the stockwater shortage in Kansas.

Was disappointed when the call from Mr. A. D. Bergman, of Vermillion was cancelled probably they can and will have their meeting later. We are having our State Board meeting in Salina Monday the 18th, also a conference with the Managerial Association Committee and hope to have some favorable reports and plans for our educational program in connection with our own and our business organizations. Am wishing you all a Merry Christmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year in 1940.

THE CROSS ROADS
W. P. Lambertson

The deadline for paying the fiddler is March 15 for gay old '39.

F. D. R. greets our Minority Leader, Joe Martin, personally as "Peck's Bad Boy."

The headline LANDON TO DRILL does not mean squads right, though the belt hints he needs to.

By next year Germany and Italy will be fighting Russia in Europe's Battle Royal.

Interpret the meaning of Harold Ickes' 17-in. gun across the path of McNutt.—W. A. White.

Keeping home our ambassador to Berlin is our second step in—the Finnish loan, our third.

There is a new theory that the House must save the country from the Senate and the Supreme Court.

Colleagues, trot out seven such constituents in one county of your district as Landon, Capper, Sheldon, Hamilton, Colmery, O'Neil and Thompson.

The late Carl Mapes was my best friend in the House aside from my Kansas colleagues. We supported him alone for our leader in '35.

One item in the first bill for the coming session is 18-million for an eight month's unparalleled army maneuver for '40—anyway, let's have Christmas first.

Neighborhood Notes

In Allen County

The Fairview Local No. 2154 held its regular meeting on the evening of December 7 at the Fairview schoolhouse. Due to the president being absent, one of the members, Stanley Harris, presided over the business meeting with Opal Larson, secretary, assisting.

Twenty-two members were present. A committee was appointed for the next social meeting to be held on the evening of January 4. Those on the committee are Mesdames Elsie Stewart, Mable Smith and Nola Bodine.

J. C. Moore gave an interesting talk on "Creating More Interest at Local Meetings." The refreshment committee, Mesdames Stanley Harris, W. K. Smart and Will Moss—served sandwiches, pie and coffee to all.

June Heathman
Reporter.

In Cowley County

Resolution of Sympathy: Whereas the All-Wise Being has seen fit to remove from our midst a beloved member and friend, Charles O. Weakly, we as the Bethel Farmers Union have lost a true member and coworker.

In Memorial

There is a day of sunny rest
For every dark and troubled night
And grief may bide in evening guest
But joy shall come with morning light.

Gene Brant, Pres.
Elizabeth Gralapp, Sec.
Bethel Local No. 1969,
Winfield.

In Clay County

A meeting of the Clay county Farmers Union was held the evening of December 7 in the city hall at Clay Center. M. L. Beckman, county president who recently attended a national meeting of the Farmers Guild in Monticello, Ind., promoted by the E. E. Kennedy group asked consideration of the county organization joining the Guild.

Mr. Beckman didn't bring the matter of withdrawal from the Farmers Union before the house but said he wanted the membership to investigate the new organization and look into its leadership "before any action is taken." He suggested that action be taken at the regular cooperative meeting which is held in February.

Sam Stewart raised an objection to the transfer as a unit but Mr. Beckman said time would not permit a discussion of the proposition at that meeting.

According to Mr. Beckman, the by-laws and program of the new Farmers Guild is practically identical with the present Farmers Union, reports the Clay Center Dispatch, but said the difference was in "leadership," the Guild, he said, being headed by men who believe in the Farmers Union principle of "cost of production."

George Frederick, county vice president and delegate to the state convention held at WaKeeney in October, gave a brief report of the convention.

He stated that the convention was pretty well "oiled" and went smoothly but "accomplished practically nothing."

The annual election of officers resulted in M. L. Beckman being elected president; George Frederick, vice president; Will Goeckler, secretary-treasurer. Executive board chosen was George Blackwood, George Slingsby and John Marsh. Alfred Woellhof was named conductor; Ed Carlson, doorkeeper and Will Goeckler delegate to the state board of agriculture with Clarence Neill as alternate.

Will Goeckler gave his annual treasury report.

The Pleasant View orchestra played two numbers. Members of the orchestra are: Frances Blackwood, director; Mrs. Fred Schoneweis, Lila Kaiser, Elsie Covey, Rose Mary McKelvey, Joe Regnier, Loral Blackwood and Warren Coupal.

Following the meeting George Kreeck showed several reels of motion pictures including the war in Poland, and other interesting features.

The meeting was held in the auditorium of the city hall with a large attendance present. Refreshments were served in the basement of the city hall following the meeting.

In Ellis County

Resolution of Sympathy: In the event of the death of the infant child of our members Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schuster,

Be it resolved that we the members of Excelsior Local No. 606 extend our sincerest sympathy.

Resolutions Committee
Joseph L. Weber.

Elect County Officers

Ellis county held its last quarterly meeting of the Farmers Union, December 9, 1939, and we had a nice attendance.

The following officers were elected for 1940; Leo Rayeroski, president, Victoria; and Frank B. Pfeifer, secretary, Hays.

Frank B. Pfeifer,
Secretary.

RE-ELECT IN RILEY CO.

V. E. Hawkinson Again Heads County Organization—Pass Resolutions

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Riley Co. Farmers Union No. 45 was held in the Walsburg schoolhouse on December 2. A large crowd was present when the meeting was called to order by President V. E. Hawkinson. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and the committees were appointed and a basket dinner was enjoyed by all.

The following resolutions were adopted:

1. Resolved that we are opposed to any and all processing taxes on farm products in whatever form they may be proposed and we urge our Senators and Congressmen to place their votes against them.

2. We reaffirm the solutions of the Kansas Farmers Union as adopted by the recent convention at Wa-Keeney.

3. We want to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to the ladies of the Walsburg Local for their good and bountious dinner.

The nominating committee presented the names of the following candidates who were duly elected to serve the following year: President, V. E. Hawkinson; vice president, Vincent Larson; Secretary-treasurer, Henry G. Nanninga; Conductor, L. D. Buss; Doorkeeper, Clayton Kunze; and the Executive Committee of Gust Larson, Harry Toburen and Howard Oman.

Henry G. Nanninga,
Sec.-Treas.

In Riley County

The regular meeting of the Center Hill Farmers Union was held at the Center Hill schoolhouse, December 5. Meeting was called to order by the president, E. G. Kaump. The following program was given:

Reading, Marvin Swenson; Reading, Arno Samuelson, and reading, Ruby Samuelson. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted. The three amendments to the Constitution were submitted to the members for their approval or rejection. The vote was unanimous for all three.

Report of the county meeting was given by E. G. Kaump. The treasurer's annual report was read and accepted as read. The following were elected as officers for the coming year: president, E. G. Kaump; vice president, O. A. Swanson; secretary-treasurer, Merle E. Isaacson; conductor, Hiram Johnson; doorkeeper, Louis Sand.

Program committee: Mrrs. W. E. Johnson, Mrs. Nelan Swenson, Mrs. R. N. Samuelson, Verneal Anderson, Anetta Potts and Anna Mae Toburen.

Resolutions committee: V. E. Hawkinson, Harry Toburen and R. N. Samuelson. Good of the order committee: Emil Samuelson, Mrs. Elmer Lundberg and Mrs. Merle E. Isaacson.

Reporter, Verneal Anderson. Meeting adjourned to drink coffee and eat lunch which was served by the ladies.

Merle E. Isaacson,
Secretary.

In Riley County

Resolution of Sympathy: Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in His divine wisdom to remove from our midst Mrs. Anna Peter, mother of our faithful brother Edward H. Peter of Fancy Creek Local 1610.

Therefore be it resolved that we members of said Local extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

Committee:
J. A. Amnell
Oscar Carlson.

CONDEMNS RESOLUTION NO 2

Stafford County Union Asks State Directors to Ignore It

Believing that the vote on resolution No. 2 as passed by the Kansas Farmers Union Convention, meeting at Wakeeney, does not represent the real or true spirit of Farmers Union of the state of Kansas for two reasons:

1st, the resolution is directly opposed to our National policy. 2nd, this resolution was introduced and voted on a day after the majority of accredited delegates had left for home.

Therefore, we members of Stafford County Farmers Union at our regular county meeting December 4, 1939, condemn said resolution and petition our State Directors to disregard putting said resolution into effect for reasons stated.

"In Conclusion"

My part of the discussion on Resolution No. 2 is fast coming to a close.

In a closing paragraph from "The Height of Folly," covering constitutional Democracy and freedom of speech and press editors, please allow me to remind you of ONE EDITOR who prints exactly what his manager instructs him to print; and that is the editor of F. S. A's own "Farm Credit News." They mind their business of working for their boss, the money trust in mortgaging the nation's main source of new wealth.

Just as ridiculous as if there were a personal mortgage on the government mint in Denver.

F. C. A. is not our baby. It is a child that was born in the East and left on the farmer's doorstep for him to raise. Critics of Resolution No. 2 are pretty well covered by the recent remarks of a member of a prominent farm organization in Kansas, wherein he says, "farmers and farm organizations in some cases have been so subsidized that they have lost faith in their ability to support themselves and have become afraid to speak their minds on matters of policy."

It is, and should be, the policy of the Kansas Union Farmer to help put the farmer on his feet by advocating proper means of income, which we were privileged to advocate through our freedom of speech and Constitutional Democracy rather than to make farmers believe that we can borrow ourselves out of debt.

A good example or policy for any sincere farm publication to follow can be found in the Constiutional Money League of America, Washington D. C. Its editor holds the highest respect of the Kansas Farmers Union and can well be used in an advisory capacity if needed.

Victor Hawkinson,
Randolph, Kansas.

"THIS AND THAT"

It seems that whenever an ambitious politician wishes to put over some of his selfish programs, he first quotes such great men as Jefferson, Jackson or Lincoln, and then proceeds to twist the principles for which they stood for to suit his ideas. Do we now have in our Farmers Union those who would twist the principles for which the Union stands for to suit their individual ideas? I refer to the principle in our National Preamble, which reads—"To discourage the credit and mortgage system."

Resolution No. 2 reads—Whereas the Constitution of the Kansas Farmers Union calls for discouragement of the mortgage system, therefor we instruct the management of the Kansas Union Farmer to do so and discontinue printing propaganda desidable to Farm Credit Administration, Production Credit Administration and the Farm Security Administration. Please take sharp note of "propaganda desirable to," which takes on the form of free advertising. Now the Federal Land Banks and the Production Credit Associations are private corporations.

The Federal Land Banks sell bonds on a commission basis. The Production Credit Association's Intermediate Bank sells debentures on a commission basis. Do we wish to give them free advertising? My understanding is that the bonds sold by the Federal Land Banks draw the same rate of interest that is stated on the bond, but the difference between that stated on the bond and the rate paid by the farmer is paid to the bondholders out of the U. S. Treasury. Am I correct? If so, please bear in mind that the Treasury is also borrowing money from bondholders to pay the interest on the interest. Since all taxes are paid eventually by the producers and consumers do you think this a low rate?

An anonymus quotation—"Want and opinion are the two great agents which make all men act. Cause the want, govern opinions, and you can overturn all existing systems, however well cosolidated they may appear." Too often the bondholders cause the want by the influence they have in the money market and also in Congress. I am reliably informed that it was principally through the efforts of the lobbyists of the Federal Land Banks that the Frazier-Lemke mortgage re-financing bill was defeated. Representatives of the aforesaid banks admitted that their lobbyists bitterly opposed this bill. Why did they oppose this bill? They would have been paid in full together with interest, and the farmers would today be paying 1½ per cent interest, and 1½ percent on the principle.

Now what do we have today, foreclosures on every side, farmers being disposed of their means of livelihood, obliged to go on relief thus increasing the tax burden which will in turn cause more foreclosures continuing the merry-go-round until a majority of our citizens will be propertyless and will have to depend wholly on the relief agencies to succor them. Will it not then be an easy matter for some ambitious political party to get into power on a promise if elected they would pass a law declaring that, for the most good for the majority, the state would assume title to all land. Just what will your title be worth then? Now some will say that through the savings of the local farm loan associations we will be able to increase our capital until we will become independent and will supply our own credit.

This, my friends is but wishful thinking for if such would come to pass there would be no further need of the Federal Land Banks and the Class A directors would be out of a job. Again it is said that we can always go to these banks and get the money we need to finance our farm indebtedness. Have we forgotten the years of 1931-32-33. If my memory does not fail me, the government was obliged to loan the Federal Land Banks something like 750 million dollars in 1933 in order to keep them from going broke. Always bear in mind that they must first have a buyer for bonds before they can get the money, unless the government furnishes it to them.

I am of the opinion that if the government had not helped them then, many farmers today would own their farms through a tax title and clear of any other indebtedness, too.

Now as to the Production Credit Association, if I understand correctly, they too, start with their capital borrowed from the government then proceed to sell debentures issued against chattel mortgages on grain, livestock, these debentures drawing 1 per cent. interest.

I asked a representative of the Wichita bank, "who purchased these debentures," and he replied, "the investing public," but he failed to state just why "the investing public," preferred a debenture drawing 1 per cent interest, backed by a chattle mortgage to a government bond drawing 2 5/8 per cent interest and backed by the wealth of the entire nation. Now I wonder, could it be that the investing public is the same public who buys our grain and livestock at the terminal markets? If so, would this not afford an effective means to exploit the farmer borrowers? They would only need to refuse to renew the loans on a few hundred livestock or grain farmers to materially increase the supplies of same at the terminal markets.

Now I believe it is the duty of the government to lend a helping hand, as it must do in all cases of economic injustice that can be reminded in no no other way; but in all such instances we must remember that it is the duty of government to take them out of their need. In other words, help these people help themselves.

In conclusion I wish to touch briefly on the subject, "freedom of the press," which we read and hear so much about. My friends, this too is propaganda. As a matter of fact, the press is controlled by the money changers either directly or indirectly through its advertisers.

If you doubt this statement just get some able man like the Hon. Charles G. Benderup to write an article for you exposing our dishonest money system, then wait until Congress has under consideration a monetary reform bill which if enacted into law would correct this evil, send your article in ask that it be published at once. Please send it to your favorite daily newspaper, that one which so strongly maintains that it prints "all the News that is News," and see the result. Space will not permit me in this article to expose the many and diverse ways that they are obliged to employ to shield and defend the money changers.

I am pleased to see Resolution No. 2 receiving this publicity and glad to be favored with the brother's opinion on same. Since Resolution No. 3 is so closely related to Resolution No. 2, why not give it some publicity also? Brother Farmers, let us hear from you. Let us profit by your knowledge.

C. W. O'Brien
Rush Center, Kansas.

The Silver Jubilee Year of your grain marketing cooperative draws rapidly to a close. Through your patronage and interest you have added another year of accomplishment to its history. Twenty-five Christmases ago there were but a few sturdy-hearted farmers as members of this association which now, through its large elevator membership, serves over 30,000 farm families throughout Kansas.

The directors and employees of the Association join me in expressing sincere appreciation for your patronage, and in wishing for you and yours a Happy Holiday Season with the New Year bringing you much that is good.

H. E. WITHAM, General Manager

Farmers Union Jobbing Assn.

GRAIN OFFICES: Kansas City, Mo. Salina, Kansas

WAREHOUSES: Kansas City, Kansas Wakeeney, Kansas

Terminal Elevator & Feed Mill, Topeka, Kansas

ASSOCIATED MANAGERS SHOULD PLAN PUBLICITY METHODS

(Continued from page one)

fective advertising, but the best of advertising can do but four things: 1. Attract attention to your organization; 2. Create interest toward patronage; 3. Convince the prospect that such patronage will be to his advantage; and 4. Produce that actual patronage by the prospect's action.

Advertising and Publicity

The difference between advertising and publicity is, First, that you don't pay for publicity in the immediate way you do advertising. Second, publicity ordinarily cannot be expected to complete the four points expected of good advertising—it reaches only the first three. The actual selling job is left to you. You can expect the sale will be easier, however, because your prospect will know of you and your organization; he will be friendly toward your set-up, impressed by your services and development and membership, and he should be ready to accept your invitation to deliver his wheat to your elevator, to buy his supplies from you, and to deliver his wheat to your elevator, to buy his supplies from you, and to become a member of your business association.

Differing from ordinary advertising the purposes of your publicity can well be considerably expanded. Your publicity should develop first a consciousness by your member-farmer that he is a definite and responsible part of your organization, and that his organization has a respected and service roll in your community and territory. Second, your member should feel, as a farmer, his close relationship with other farmers in other parts of the state and nation, and he should feel his opportunity for expression and development in his own independent and democratic organization, the Farmers Union. The manager of any cooperative, whether designed Farmers Union or not, has good reason to encourage and actively promote good programs and large attendance at meetings of Farmers Union Locals in his trade territory.

Ways and means of publicity can be variously classified, but few managers care to put much effort into publicity unless it goes further than merely to catch attention. He may paint "Farmers Union" in big letters high on the elevator, and it is well to keep the entire property in a clean and **attractive** fashion. For the annual meeting or summer picnic, he may invite some notable and perhaps famous speaker to address his stockholders on a subject only as instructive as an assembling of native jokes or as definite as a political promise. Nevertheless he seldom applies the obvious tricks of P. T. Barnum to gain attention.

Little Need for Tricks

But, there is a big difference between "tricks" and honest "news" facts. When you install one of these new-fangled, monstrous scales that will weigh a big trailer-truck—your patrons and their friends would be interested. The editor of your local newspaper would be interested, and Cooperative and Farmers Union people throughout the state would read of your development with interest—in the Kansas Union Farmer. The same interest by your editor will be evidenced in other things, and when you can add something more than the bare statement of fact that you are installing new scales, to describe them and tell how your service will be improved, then so much better will that publicity become.

And I would suggest that too many of you managers are overly modest or backward in reporting of your own activities. When you connect your name to the business association—and the same can be said for your officers—it becomes publicity for your association. Let us hope that it is always good publicity! And it becomes of much greater benefit when your travels take you to a Cooperative or a Farmers Union meeting—such as this Managerial meeting, the State Farmers Union convention, or the annual meeting of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association. And don't be afraid to tell what happened at such meeting when you get back home.

I might timidly suggest too, that there are more local managers who are too locally minded than there are those other fellows who are so ambitious in various state-wide activities that they are sometimes accused of neglecting their jobs at home. The Managerial Association itself can well enlarge its work with benefit to the organization, the Farmers Union and the managers themselves.

It is important in thinking of a method of publicity, to evaluate the cost, to evaluate the worth of the special publicity to you, and to consider whether that type of publicity is being adequately secured already, or if the special field could be secured and covered at less cost in some other fashion.

Encourage F. U. Locals

In good Farmers Union communities where members come to Local meetings where they enjoy good and educational programs, there is less need of special publicity efforts than where the Farmers Union is weak, and where the farmers are not now cooperatively minded. In such localities a mimeograph bulletin is especially desirable to develop group consciousness by members of the cooperative association.

It is important to make your cooperative a part of the community. I don't mean that you need to join the Chamber of Commerce and various town clubs, for this may be questionable. But we generally live in agricultural communities, and our townspeople are usually but a generation or two off the farm. It gives us satisfaction to stand in some regard. We should not treat them as strangers, but use the facilities of the church kitchen and help of the church ladies on putting on an occasional "feed" and get-together. We should fight for cooperative business methods, but not against the people who live by income through a different business set-up. Such a philosophy should be apparent in our publicity.

Publicity from the manager's viewpoint in the larger sense is simply the manager's activities in directing the public's viewpoint toward his organization and his business as he would like that viewpont to be. The manager should consider the present situation, and judge the publicity needs of his organization. On deciding the needs, he can generally quite easily decide the methods to better the situation. If not, conusel should be called—quite logically at a Manaberial Association meeting.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

ly connected with the punctured stratas of rock by simply cementing to a close these holes that have been drilled through the rock formations. In areas where core drilling prevails or has been practived, that is another matter.

I took the position in this conference that we should first restore our underground water levels by closing these openings and in this manner restore our sub-soil moisture—save our water wells and springs that nature has so generously provided.

Let us congratulate our Governor and work with him and the Water Conservation committee, lending ourselves to the solution of this water problem.

You who forget your own friends, meanly to follow those of higher degree, are a snob.—Thackery.

Junior and Juvenile Department

Juniors from 16 to 21 Juveniles from 6 to 16

Junior Motto: "He Loves His Country Best Who Strives to Make It Best"

THE EVER NEW CHRISTMAS

Again, and still again, at Christmas time
In lowly homes, plain shadowed rooms, moist with toil
The mounting star stops o'er a world in travail
And grows brightly to mark anew the birth of promised brotherhood.

Again, and still again, over the prairies
Strong, earthly folk watch cattle and blowing soil,
Listening—hear the singing of the spheres foretelling
That glad day when men shall live in peace with fellow men.

Harold V. Knight.

YOUR LEADER'S MESSAGE
Esther Ekblad

Christmas Comes Again

The spirit of Christmas that never grows old is so beautifully expressed in the above poem by Harold V. Knight. Though the world be torn by war and strife, and though a third of our nation remains ill-housed, ill-clothed and ill-fed, the bright shining star of the Christchild's birth can still send its rays through stormy clouds.

It is disheartening to the strongest soul when we see a cooperative and peace-loving country such as Finland torn apart by the greedy fingers of war and we find it easy to shake our heads in despair when oftentimes it appears impossible to build a strong and unified farm organization.

Christmas can be more than just a season that comes once a year cluttered with worries of gifts and festivities. Its true message of peace and good will can lift our doubts and wonderings and instill in our hearts new zeal to look again for "the birth of promised brotherhood."

Toys for Johnny

What fun it is to visit the toy department to adorn the baby dolls and watch the magic trains. Children can have such an array of toys these days. Sometimes we think too many to be appreciated and enjoyed.

For the child much of life is lived in the realm of the imaginings with toys a part of it. With imagination so real can a child's playthings influence his attitudes? We are inclined to think so, and are convinced that special care should be exercised in the selection of toys for boys and girls. For instance, what influence can war toys have on a child's thinking? Will children who have machine guns, crippled soldiers and gas masks play war? War toys as Christmas gifts seem far removed from the peace that the season signifies.

We are also puzzling over toys that boldly display the names of nationally known business firms. Are the merits of such and such products so worthy that we must firmly fix them on the minds of children through their toys? Perhaps on our boycott list of toys we should place as enemies No. 1 those suggestive of war, and those which proclaim the merits of this firms trucks, and some other company's floor wax and cleaning powder.

Dressing Up Programs

Why do we talk about programs? Of what importance are they? What place do programs have in a Farmers Union organization?

Programs can be extremely important. A good program is a drawing card, a nice way of saying come mack again, and a means of dressing up a point that we want to drive home.

With a year just around the corner this is the opportune time to get ideas in mind for a year of local and county programs. In the KUF is published "Long Term Planning" written by Frances W. Butts who is an expert on program planning. Give her suggestions your consideration, and may we also drop the hint that the Farmers Union Program Service can be a faithful helper in developing some of the ideas.

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

With Your State Leader

Looking back to a very warm summer day, Wednesday, December 6, we recall this meeting held in Salina for Cooperative Elevator Managers. That was only one of a series of such meetings held over the state, but it was the only one we were privileged to attend. It pleased us very much that David Train, manager at Lindsborg, took two leaders with him to Salina, Mrs. Charlie Olson, county Junior leader, and Mrs. Carl Wardell, Junior Leader, North Side oLcal, McPherson county.

It is certainly a part of our job as leaders to keep in touch with the activities of our cooperatives and always to seek more information so that we can talk intelligently about them.

Previews are considered very good advertising as far as theaters are concerned. The Scandia Juniors of McPherson county were on their toes and presented a preview of their 3-act play as a local meeting, Thursday evening, December 7. Who wouldn't want to see "Aunt-Samantha Ru'es the Roost" after getting a glimpse of it through a few exciting teasers? The real performance was scheduled for Monday evening, December 11.

The Scandia Juniors in a class meeting that same evening discussed plans for a Christmas party, and their program for 1940 into the talking entered projects and the earning of achievement points. In working for Junior pins during 1940 the group expressed interest in giving four-minute speeches, making posters, envolope files and scrapbooks, and getting subscriptions for the National Union Farmer.

The last time we were at the Scandia schoolhouse an old-fashioned rain was in process. No rain this time, but it was fun to be back. Having supper at Bonnie Dee and Bernard Gibson's home was also a pleasure not soon to be forgotten.

Leaving McPherson on a bus late Thursday evening and arriving in Salina at midnight, there were only three hours grace until the train which started me on my way to St. Paul, Minnesota, left town.

As a member of the National Junior Council which is made up of our National Junior Leader and four State Leaders, it was necessary for me to make a trip to St. Paul for a meeting of this Council. At Kansas City I boarded the Rock Island Rocket, 9:00 a. m. Friday, December 8, and arrived in St. Paul at 6:00 p. m. Fast moving it was, but it seemed that we were just crawling along.

The city proclaimed the season with Christmas trimmings in brilliant colors, and the stores in a big city during the holiday season are always a big thrill, even when one hasn't much to spend.

In our Junior Council meetings we discussed many things that have to do with Junior work during 1940. Our educational program does not stand still and our methods must constantly change to meet our mistakes and our successes of past days.

Beginning with Monday, December 11, St. Paul became the meeting place of hundreds of farmers who believe in doing business for themselves. All during the week the Annual Stockholders' meetings of the Farmers Union Business Activities of the Northwestern states were held. These states have three important cooperative organizations which were in the limelight during that week, namely, the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association, and the Farmers Union Central Exchange, Inc. On Tuesday afternoon it was good for the soul to see close to a thousand farmer-members and cooperative managers present for the opening of the Grain Terminal meeting. The climax of the weeks' activities was scheduled for Thursday evening when some 1400 would gather for the Annual Banquet and at that time hear Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, and Burton K. Wheeler, United States Senator from Montana.

How nice it would have been to stay in St. Paul all week, but I still rather like Kansas and as a result started for home in Tuesday evening. The only disappointment of the trip was that the North was enjoying summer in winter too, and I was looking for a taste of cold and snow.

McPherson Junior Leader Describes Tours in Omaha

Mrs. Olson Tells of Trip to Central Exchange, Father Flannagan's Boystown, and Topeka Terminal Elevator

(Note: Mrs. Olson was not a Torchbearer or a delegate to the National Convention but she kindly consented to share some of her convention experiences with us. We asked her to tell us about the tours enjoyed by visiting Juniors and Leaders, and she has very generously done so.—E. M. E.

By Mrs. C. Olson

I shall try to give a bird'seye view of three very interesting tours we made while attending the National Convention in Omaha. The first one was taken on Tuesday afternoon when a group of us drove out to Father Flanagan's Boystown. As we came on the grounds, we were met by a young lad, and told where to park our car and instructed which building to go to for a guide. As we entered the reception room, we were greeted by a Negro lad who designated another boy as our guide.

First we visited the post office. This is run by the boys with two outside helpers. We then went back to the main building and again entered the reception room. On the wall of this room hangs a picture of Father Flanagan, his mother and father, and also one of the priest's who gave his help and consent for this home to be erected. Here, also, were articles made from wood, also pictures and books, made by the boys to sell. There were bronze memorial plates designating those who had been large donors for the support of the home.

We then went into the library which we were told had been donated The school rooms are also located in this building. Next we went to the chapel. We were informed that those who wished worshiped in the Catholic faith and the others in the Protestant faith. The altar was surely a work of art. It was made of small blocks, all done by the boys; the benches also were made by the boys.

Make Visit to Boystown

We were then taken to the Manual Training room. Here were much old furniture and lumber, and with this the boys made all their own furniture for the home. We then went to the kitchen where supper was in preparation and I will say these boys receive well-balanced meals and all the milk they want to drink, as they have their own dairy herd.

We next visited the recreation room where they may play games. Then to the gym where a basket ball game was in progress. In this home you do not see an undernourished child but all healthy, hearty boys. We had the good fortune to meet Father Flanagan as we were going from one building to another. As he greeted us, he noticed our badges. He remarked that he was very much interested in cooperation and it was his opinion that if anything could save the world today, cooperation was going to do it. He also told us he was going to Nova Scotia this summer to study the Cooperative Movement there.

There are four large buildings besides the laundry and dairy barns, and four more nearing completion. At the present time some over 200 boys have a home there.

Our next tour was on Wednesday morning when Henry Negley, Junior Leader of Nebraska, chartered a street car to take the Junior Leaders to the Farmers Union Exchange Building, located in Omaha. At exactly 10:00 a. m., a lively group of Juniors and Leaders, numbering 91, boarded the street car. This was exciting in itself as many had never been on a street car before, then our lively group from Oklahoma made the trip pleasant with their songs and cheers. When we arrived, Mr. Negley acted as our guide. First he took us to the office which is well equipped to handle all of the Farmers Union business. He also had the Board of Directors and the President on hand and introduced them. The Juniors then sang, "God Bless America" for the office force. We were then taken through the warehouse and stock rooms. In the grocery room Mr. Negley was asked how it came that all of the brands were those of rather large concerns, such as Kellogg, and no F. U. Cooperative brands. We were informed that they are working on getting their own Farmers Union brand for the products they sell and hoped that this may soon be accomplished. The question was also asked if all employees must be members of the Farmers Union, and he said that was up to each individual if they wanted to join or not, We then went into the grocery store. This is very modern and up to date, and of course we all had to buy something from our Farmers Union folks.

We then gathered on the side walk to wait for the street car to take us up town again. Nebraska really has a very fine Cooperative Exchange and we hope that more of these will be scattered over the United States in the next few years. The Omaha Farmers Union also has its own Credit Union which has proven very successful.

Our third tour took place when we stopped at Topeka, Kansas, on our way home. Here we were shown our new Terminal Elevator. We first went into the office which is well equipped to handle all their business. We then went down to the next floor. One end of their room was being equipped to make our own feeds and pellets. This pellet machine is very interesting, and is now in operation. All feeds that are mixed and prepared there are sold under the K. F. U. brand. Our terminal at Topeka is a branch of our F. U. Jobbing Association at Kansas City. So by using our own brand of feeds we are not only helping ourselves but the Farmers Union as a whole. When we go to our cooperatives let's call for the K. F. U. feeds.

On January 22 T. E. Hall, of the F. U. Jobbing Association will be at the Morning Star schoolhouse, McPherson county and show pictures of the new Terminal Elevator at Topeka and also show many other pictures of special interest to Farmers Union people. We hope that anyone within driving distance will take advantage of this chance and come to see the pictures.

Mrs. Charlie Olson,
Junior Leader,
McPerson county.

A four-yolked egg was laid last week by a Rhode Island red hen at the home of Mrs. Minnie Clark, near Marysvale, whose hens are proving unusual. Not so long ago she discovered a crowing hen in her flock.

"LONG TERM PLANNING"

That's just another way of saying "planning for a long time ahead." It means having a meeting of your Program Chairman and his committee, and talking over the things you want to accomplish in your year, then laying our plans long enough in advance to allow plenty of time for program preparation. Each member of your committee then has time to be on the lookout for usable material, clippings, talent, etc., and there need be no special scramble to get any program ready as far as planning details are concerned.

In Preparing Projects

When you are doing your "long term" planning, keep in mind these projects that should find their place in your year's program of activities.

1. At least two special projects a year—such as a play, music, festival, pageant, hobby show, folk dance party . . . The sooner you decide on what these will be and begin definite publicity on them, the better your project will turn out. Choose your special projects with due regard to the talent you have in your group, but meantime help in developing other talent.

When you have decided what you will do, see that everyone gets interested in it. The Juveniles and Reserves should make your advertising posters for you, etc. Remember, the more of your group who have a "finger in the pie" the more a real group project it becomes.

2. Try to develop some original project in your community that may be exchanged with a neighboring community. This might be a band—harmonica, rhythm, kitchen or real—or a group of singers or falk dancers—or a clever skit, play or puppet show.

3. Give due regard to special days. Keep your program committee on their toes collecting material for the recognition of holidays and special occasions.

4. Prominence of educational features. Plan for four minute speeches, forums, outside speakers, educational films, etc.

5. Games. Find a good leader or a series of leaders, and make the playing of games a definite part of your program. These are of inestimable value in keeping your group interested. "Folks that play together, pull together."

What Is Good Program

What would constitute a good evening's program? A good program is one that is properly balanced. By that we mean, it is both educational and entertaining, with sufficient variety to hold interest. It should have—

1. Music. By all means have community singing to open your program, and several other times during the evening too.

Besides community singing, develop quartettes, trios, choruses, etc., for novelty numbers such as ballads, folk choruses etc. You can't have too much music—but here let me add a word of warning. We become too prone to work any special talent we have in our midst "to death." When you find that some persons are appearing time after time on the program, it's time you began to work more people into your program.

2. Drama. This may be a play, a playlet, a dialogue, a pantomime, a reading, a good story well told, a stunt or a pageant.

3. Educational feature. This may be a speaker, a forum, an educational play or film.

4. Variety numbers. These add a great deal to the interest displayed in your programs. Besides those named under drama and music there are dancing dolls, finger puppets, tap and folk dances, etc.

5. Games. Try to conclude every meeting, and start them, too, if you can "while the folks are gatherin' " with some good games. Try both quiet and active games.

Special Suggestions

When you have planned your evening's program, check it over to see if it answers these requirements for a good Farmers Union program:

1. Could a stranger recognize it as a F. U. Program? Does it begin with the Creed and a Good Farmers Union song that everyone can sing?

2. Does it have a good educational feature?

3. Has it music, drama and variety numbers, preferable with several people taking part?

4. Have you planned things the whole group can do together?

5. Is the program appropriate for the season?

If you can check these items, rest in peace. It'll be a fine program. Your monthly Farmers Union Program Service can prove of inestimable value in planning your program.

Frances W. Butts, in
"Recreation Service."

In Crawford County

The Farmers Union Juniors met with the local at Warner's Holl Mon. evening, December 4. Two reports were given to finish up the year's work. Olive Hanshaw reported on "Their Blood Is Strong," by John Steinbeck. A story of the true life conditions of the Migratory Agricultural Workers in California, telling how people lived in Squatters' Camps.

Thelma Hanshaw gave a talk on the subject "Rochdale Principles Come to America." The Rochdale principles are: A cooperative society shall be democratically controlled. Money invested in a cooperative society, if it received interest, shall receive a fixed percentage which shall not be more than the prevailing current rate. If a cooperative society makes a net profit; that profit shall be returned to the consumer who patronized the society on the basis of the amount of purchases. She also told how the cooperative movement came to the United States.

The principal speakers of the evening were Mr. Mathers of the Extension Service, Manhattan, and Dr. John Parker of the Wheat Improvement Association. He introduced the Kawvale and Tanmarq wheat in Kansas. He expressed the need of improvement in the quality of wheat in Kansas since it ranks No. 1 in wheat and flour production. The baking industry uses 85 per cent of the flour milled, and the housewives only 15 per cent. He hopes to do away with the "kettle" test for it only tells the miller the yield of flour in the wheat and since the bakers use most of the flour, they want the gluten test. He recommends that we judge wheat not by the looks, but how it will mill and bake. He recommends Clarken and Chiefkan wheat for this part of Kansas.

The next meeting will be a social meeting on December 18. Hope to see everyone present.

Olive Hanshaw,
Reporter.

Your Dollar

By Consumer's Union

You could get along without a dentifrice, many dental authorities agree. Brushing your teeth is important, but it's the toothbrush, not the dentifrice, that does the trick. Your tooth paste, powder, or liquid dentifrice will not stop decay, prevent or cure disease, disinfect the mouth, or cure bad breath. It will not rid you of "pink toothbrush" or "film," will not and need not alkalize the mouth and cannot whiten the teeth except by the use of bleaches dangerous to tooth enamel. The most your dentifrice will do is flavor the brush and provide a very small amount of help in cleaning.

This does not mean that the choice of one's dentifrice is not important. 28 per cent of the tooth pastes tested by CU, for example, were harsh enough to scratch a glass plate. Tooth enamel is softer than the test glass, and so when you use these tooth pastes you take a chance of irreparably damaging your teeth.

In its December issue, Consumers Union reports on 46 brands of tooth pastes, tooth powders and liquid dentifrices. Among the tooth paste ratings are: Best Buys: Milk-i-dent (Woolworth's, CD (Cooperative Distributors) Also acceptable: Craig-Martin, Colgate, Dr. West's, Pepsident, Squibb, Iodent No. 1, Bost, Worcester Salt.

Not acceptable because too abrasive: Forhan's, Iodent No. 2, Kolynos, Listerine, Phillips', Rexall, Wrigley's Spearmint.

Electric Shavers

Electric shavers have come down in price and gone up in quality. Some shavers tested by CU this year give as speedy and close a shave as a safety razor. And some cheaper models, CU found, give a better shave than the more expensive editions of the same brand.

Beards vary. So do faces. It's hard to decide in advance whether any particular shaver will suit each individual user. Therefore CU recommends buying only on a "satisfaction or money back" guarantee. Ratings of 16 shavers (the two Best Buys cost $7.50) are given in the December issue of CU Reports.

Union Made Electric Shavers

Unskilled labor does most of the work in manufacturing electric shavers. Because of this, because of the newness and comparative instability of the industry and the anti-labor attitude of the manufacturers, union organization has not as yet made startling gains, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (CIO) reports the following shavers to be made under contract: Williams Roto-Shaver, Caso, Gem-lectric (in spite of the contract, UERMWA considers Gem-lectric's attitude is anti-union.) The International Association of Mechinists (AFL) has a closed shop contract with Schick, covering 30-odd skilled workers, but the great majority of workers (up to 1,500 in rush times) are unorganized.

3c a Day

The 3c-a-day hospital plan may be the best you can get in your community. But it's better insurance for hospitals than it is for patients, CU reports in its December issue. Benefits of the largest plan, Associated Hospital Service of New York City, have been cut to fewer days of hospital care. Maternity benefits are curtailed, use of operating room and x-rays is limited, so that in many cases the contract won't cover your total hospital costs when you fall ill.

Even more important, 3c-a-day plans do not cover doctor's bills. Hospital costs are only part of the expense of being ill. High doctors' bills may offset every cent you save by having hospital bills already paid.

Adequate health insurance should cover both doctors' and hospital bills. at reasonable yearly rates. It should also prevent many severe illnesses by providing regular medical attention, before the illness gets to the hospital stage.

Why don't the present hospital insurance plan provide more adequate protection? One reason, CU suggests, may be too high administrative expenses, and too high payments to hospitals. Another is the pressure of the American Medical Association. Acting in the interests of its wealthier, more influential members, the A. M. A. uses its strength to veto prepayment for physicians' care.

CU's advice is to join a good cooperative health group offering both medical and hospital care, if you can find one. If none is available, and if you want and can afford to pay 3c a day for hospital service in acute emergency illness, join a non-profit hospital plan accredited by the American Hospital Association. As a member you can exert pressure for more liberal hospitalization benefits, medical benefits, and greater consumer control in the plan.

HOW TO DARN SOCKS

A letter to the New York Sun.

To the Sun: "M. Y." has some very practical advice which I fear manufacturers will ignore for the simple reason that it would be bad for business if everything were to be safeguarded against waste and wear and tear. She can, however, reinforce her men's wool socks as I do. When she buys them she should at the same time buy spools of matching thread and neatly and carefully darn the heels before they are ever worn. This darning with thread does not show, but it does save the socks. My mother used to knit her men's socks and always took long separate hairs from her head to knit into the heels for reinforcing. I never remember seeing her mending those socks, and I never have to mend mine after using the cottan thread when new. When wool socks are washed they should be dried on a stretcher.

Ruth Bittner,
New York.

A mule and a human being are much alike, thinks M. A. B. of the Phillips County Review. Neither one can kick while pulling, nor pull while kicking.

If Hitler wants to, we are willing to settle the present difficulty by letting Joe Louis and Max Schmeling fight it out.—Altoona Tribune.

WE HAVE SEEN HIS STAR . . . AND ARE COME

We were all cross in the Christmas hurry
(Lord forgive us!) the wear and worry,
Things gone wrong without reason or rhyme,
Too much bustle and too little time.
Some were restless, and some beset
By last-minute duties they mustn't forget;
All but the youngest, the five-year-old
There by the hearth in a pool of gold.
Still, so still, in her little chair
We had forgotten she was there,
The firelight on her.

A knock at the door,
Sudden and loud, and we fretted some more:
Was it a guest, or a beggarman,
Or a last-minute message changing a plan?
Something, no doubt, no hurry and push,
And all so tired with Christmas rush!
All but the youngest. She came to her feet
Caught by a wonder wild and sweet,
Starry-eyed, brethless, with lifted head:
"Listen! The Wise Men have come!" she said.

Nancy Byrd Turner,
"Good Housekeeping,"
December 1939.

PROFITS TO FEW

One-Third of Sales Yields Two-Thirds of Net Profits

The 78 largest manufacturing corporations received 69.4 per cent of the net profits taken by all manufacturing corporations in 1933 although their gross sales were only 33.8 per cent of the total for all manufacturing corporations. Thus they received more than two-thirds of the total net profits for handling one-third of all sales.

These findings are presented by the National Resources Committee, a federal research agency in Washington.

These 78 largest corporations engaged in manufacturing constitute less than one-twentieth of one per cent of all manufacturing corporations.

Keep Up the Interest

The average farmer member of a cooperative organization does not take enough interest in his own business. He is apt to turn the operation and management over entirely to the manager and the board of directors, but retains the right to criticise them severely if a mistake has been made.

A farmer should give the same attention to his cooperative marketing agency that he gives to the production end of his business. Some farmer members do not even attend the annual stockholders' meeting of their organization.

The ideal cooperative is where a large percentage of the members take an active interest in their organization. They talk to their neighbor, Mr. "Doubting Thomas." They set a good example for others to follow in patronizing and supporting their own business.

Where there is a substantial number of farmer members who do not take the proper interest in their local cooperative organization, plans must be laid to carry an educational campaign of them that will awaken their interest and their support. An educational program will accomplish a lot toward increasing and holding interest. —Equity Union Exchange.

Had His Jolts

The guide was conducting a tourist party through the automobile plant. He stopped by the assembly line. "Do you know what would happen if that man over there ever missed a day at work?" he asked the members of the party.

"No; what would happen?" spoke up one.

"Twenty-two hundred and sixty-one cars would go out of the factory without springs."

"Say, mister," said an interested onlooker, "that fellow's been off a lot, hasn't he?"

Price List of Vaccines and Serums

CATTLE

Abortion Vaccine—For lasting or long time protection Money back guarantee, per dose	50c
Blackleg Bacterin, Life protection in 100 dose lots, per dose	7½c
Bovine Mixed Bacterin. For prevention and treatment of shipping fever, Hemorrhagic. 100 dose lots, per dose	7½c
Pinkeye Bacterin. For prevention and treatment, 100 dose lots, per dose	7½c
Mastitis Bacterin (gargot), 10 doses	1.00
Calf Scours Bacterin, 10 doses	1.00
Branding Fluid—1 lb can, (for approximately 100 head), used with cold iron	1.00
Branding Iron, 3 inch bronze letter	1.00
Special brands $3.00 each.	
De-Horning paste—preventing growth of horns on calves and goats. For 50 head	1.00
Wound Paint—Used after dehorning or casteration and on screw worms. Per gallon	3.00
Syringes (Heavy Duty). Last a lifetime, 40 cc or 20 cc size	2.00
Two Needls, 2 Ex, supplied with each syringe, free. Extra needles, 3 for	.50

HOGS

Hog Serum—Cholera—100 ccs	.75
Virus, 100ccs	1.65
Swine Mixed Bacterin—"Flu," swine plague, hemorrhagic Septcemia, Para-typhoid, etc., per dose	.08
Hog Worm Capsules—Guaranteed to rid hogs of worms, per box of 50 with instruments	3.50
Creosol Dip Disinfectant, per gallon	1.00

HORSES

Sleeping Sickness Vaccine. One treatment package (2 10-cc doses)	@1.50
Equine Influenza Bacterin—distemper, influenza, shipping fever. 10 doses	1.25
Equine Polyvalent Bacterin—for abscessed infections, fistulous withers, etc. 10 doses	1.25
Colic Capsule for horses—indicated in colic and gastric indigestion, 3 in box	1.00
Purgative Capsules for horses. Rapid. Dependable. 3 in box	1.00
Dalling Gun, Brass, heavy nickeled. For giving capsules to horses and cattle. Only	2.00

POULTRY

"Big Pay" mineral. For all livestock and poultry 100 pound bag. (5 bags $20.00)	4.25
Poultry Antiseptic Tablets. 100 tablets makes 100 gallons drinking water, box	1.00
Respirtabs. Used in lung type poultry diseases, 100 tablets to box	1.50
Poultry Worm Tablets, adult size, per dose	1½c

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See Your Local Secretary Early, That You May Secure a "Low" Number!

Most Farmers Are Not Able to Use Modern Machines

In 1936 Most Farmers Required 2.4 Man-Hours Per Acre for All Operations

For even the most mechanized crop, wheat, a recent study of field implements by the National Research Project of the W. P. A. shows that in man-hours than did the best-equipped 10 per cent of all wheat farms. Most farms used 2.4 man-hours per acre for all operations as compared with only 1.4 man-hours by the top 10 per cent.

At the other extreme, more than 5 per cent of the farms were still usin gthe type of equipment which was in common use back in 1909. Such equipment requires the same amount of time for handling 52 acres at the top 10 per cent use for a half section.

Man-Hours Needed Per Acre of Wheat

Type of Equipment:	Pre-Harvest	Harvest	Total
1909			
Most Common	4.7	4.0	8.7
1936			
Least Effi.	4.7	4.0	8.7
Most Common	1.7	0.7	2.4
Most Effi.	0.8	0.6	1.4

In corn production the process of mechanization until 1936 was slower than in wheat, with the most efficient equipment still needing 40 per cent as much labor as was commonly used in 1909, as against only 17 per cent in the case of wheat. Morover, implements less efficient than those in general use back in 1909 are still being used on more than 5 per cent of all farms in the commercial corn area.

Two-row mechanical corn pickers cut 3 hours per acre, or over 50 per cent from the harvesting time, so that about 1½ months of labor is eliminated on each quarter-section.

Man-Hour Needed Per Acre of Corn

Type of Equipment:	Pre-Harvest	Harvest	Total
1909			
Most Com.	10.6	5.6	162
Least Effi.	12.5	5.6	18.1
Most Com.	6.8	5.6	12.4
Most Effi.	37	2.6	6.3

The mechanization of cottan has proceeded much more slowly over the past 30 years, and hence cotton requires many times as much labor per acre as does corn or wheat. The most common equipment in 1909 is still found to be the most common in 1936, except that plows are somewhat improved. The inability, as yet, to successfully mechanize hoeing, chopping and picking, which together take up three-fourths of all labor under the methods in most common use, has retarded the use of machinery for the remainder of the operations.

Man-Hours Needed Per Acre Cotton

Equipment	Mc. Hd.	Hv	Total
1909			
Most Common	24.5	25.0	50.0	99.5
1936			
Least Efficient	29.4	25.0	50.0	104.4
Most Common	24.5	25.0	50.0	99.5
Most Effi. Usd	11.0	25.0	50.0	86.0
Most Effi Md.	5.5	25.0	8.0	38.5

Mechanical cotton-pickers are not yet sufficiently perfected to compete seriously with hand labor.

MUCH TAX DELINQUENCY

Tax Loads Unadjusted in Northwest Drouth Area

Nearly 70 per cent of taxable farm land, covering over 7 million acres, in the 14 North Dakota counties south and west of the Missouri River was tax delinquent for one year or more on January 1, 1937.

One-fifth of the total taxable acreage in these counties has been delinquent for a period of 5 years or more. Only about one-fourth of all farm land in southwestern North Dakota paid any taxes in 1935.

Reported Tax Delinquency on Missouri Slope Area of North Dakota

	Acres	Per Cent
Taxable Acreage	10,255,856	100
Tax Delinquent	758,093	69
Non-Tax Delinquent	3,197,763	31
Tax-Exempt Acreage	2,113,058	...

Other studies of this area have disclosed great variation in the relation between assessed valuation of farm land and average value as appraised by the Federal Land Bank. The ratio of assessed valuation to value varies from 46 per cent in Sioux County to 102 per cent in Dunn County. Further reports have shown that maladjustments in land use are prevalent in this area and that cash crop farming has been greatly over-extended in an attempt to pay off excessive debt burdens. Many farms are either too small for cash grain crops or consist of land on which cash crops can no longer be grown successfully. —Farm Research.

Lower Third lives on Deficient Budget

"The level of living maintained by the entire lower third of the Nation falls below the minimum requirements for healthful and decent living, and few even of the middle third are able to enjoy what is customarily called an 'American' standard of living," concludes the National Resources Committee in its recent study of "Consumer Expenditures in the United States."

The top half of one per cent of the Nation received neary 10 per cent of the $59 billion consumer income in 1935-36—or almost the same sized slice of the national income as did 13 million families, one-third of the total families in the United States, at the other end of the scale.

The lower third of the Nation, with incomes under $780, spent 50.2 per cent of their income on food whereas the upper half of one per cent, with incomes of $15,000 and over, spent only 6.2 per cent of their income on food. Though spending over half of their income on food, the lower third account for only 18.4 per cent of the Nation's food bill and spend only $1.-60 per capita weekly for food. Moreover, this figure includes the estimated money value of home-produced food, amounting to 23 per cent of food expenses for families with incomes below $500. For farm families, the value of home-produced food represents 50 per cent or more of total food "expense."

VIZZLE

I bought a wooden whistle, but it wooden whistle,
So I bought a steel whistle,
But steel it wooden whistle,
So I bought a lead whistle,
Steel they wooden lead me whistle,
So I bought a tin whistle.
And now—I tin whistle.
—Burning Question.

Discuss Tractor Dvelopment and Appearance of Small-Type

The number of tractors on American farms will double during the next five years, in the opinion of J. J. Frey, head of the technical sales division of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation. Speaking before nearly 300 commercial fleet operators, oil men and manufacturers at a conference on operating and maintenance problems in New York City last week, Mr. Frey said the new small-type tractor would play an important part in this expansion. He told the conferees that it will put power farming within the reach of hundreds of thousands of farmers because of its low first cost, low operating and maintenance costs.

Another advantage, and one frequently overlooked, Mr. Frey said, was the simplification of service problems and modern types of tractors will bring about. In the past the tractor has been something of a mystery to even the best automobile and truck mechanics. They were mystified by the strange hot-type manifold, different type spark plugs, fuel valves and other gadgets. The modern tractor is built along automotive lines with the engine, clutch, transmission, differentital, axles and other parts similar to those found in the truck. In the future, Mr. Frey said, the mechanic will tackle a tractor repair job with the same confidence he has when he goes to work on an automobile or truck.

"The year 1939 was a notable one for the farm machinery industry and the farmer. It saw a continuance and acceleration of the trend toward mechanized farmer—more tractors, corn pickers, combines and other labor saving machinery. But perhaps most significant of all, it saw the small tractor and the high compression engine firmly established in the nation's farm economy. For a little more than the price of a pair of good draft horses, a farmer can now buy a tractor that will do the work of from four to six horses.

"There have been scores of predictions as to what this development will man in the farm economy of the future," said Mr. Frey, "among them the virtual disappearance of the horse as a source of farm power and tremendous social and economic upheavals. Time and time only will attest the accuracy of these forecasts. But the developments that led up to the small tractor are known and a backward glance might be in order as we prepare to enter the year 1940.

"It would be convenient to say that the tractor was simply keeping abreast of the automobile as the two marched down the road of progress; but such was not the case. By 1935 the tractor was approximately 10 years behind the automobile in efficiency and fuel economy. The reasons for this state of affairs were numerous but no longer particularly important. The important thing is that early in 1936 there came a turning point—the first high compression tractor was put on the market. This marks the beginning of a new era in tractor efficiency. The new type tractor was an instantaneous success. One manufacturer after another adopted the high compression principle until now, after 4 short years, every major company is launching a line of high compression tractors designed to take advantage of the power and economy that have been available in good gasoline for a number of years.

"The development of the small tractor is closely allied with the high compression engine. Some of the really efficient small tractors could not have been built had it not been for the availability of high compression engines and good gasolines. It is impossible for a tractor manufacturer to build a low compression engine of equal size that will deliver anything like the same amount of power. And power is what the farmer is buying. Cost per horsepower is an important item.

"The amount of power that a tractor engine will produce depends, in general, on the size of the engine, the speed at which it turns, the pressure of the burned fuel and air mixture. Obviously, it would be impractical to increase the power of the present tractor engine by increasing its size. The trend is definitely the other way—smaller engines without sacrifice of power. Likewise, to increase its maximum operating speed would require that practically all the gear ratios be changed so as to give the correct operating speeds for drawbar work. However, it is practical to increase power output by increasing the pressure of the burned gases in the cylinders and this is what all tractor manufacturers are now doing. The result is a modern, highly efficient, high compression engine which squeezes more power out of every drop of fuel.

"Automotive engineers should get some of the credit for the modern tractor; first, because the high compression principle was developed by them; and second, because the precision engineering of the automobile industry furnished the inspiration for many of the improvements that have taken place on the tractor during the last two years. For example, the rating at the drawbar and at the belt. Not so long ago a farmer was lucky to get half as much power on the drawbar as he did on the belt. Now the rating is almost equal. Why? Better and more efficient gears, better transmissions, better rear axels and, of course, rubber tires.

"Unit for unit the farmer uses the same petroleum products in the modern tractor that he uses in his car—the same good gasoline, the same crankcase oil, the same lubricants. The new tractors use pounds of lubricating greases now where they formerly required gallons. Crankcase capacities are smaller because the dilution problem has been removed. Radiator capacity has decreased sharply—three to four gallons as compared to 12 and 15 in older types. Nowadays it is possible to get anti-freeze protection without borrowing money from the bank.

Reduce Cost Per Horsepower

"But standing head and shoulders above even all these important economies is the reduction in the cost of horsepower. Four years ago most two-plow tractors sold for $1,000 on steel wheels, or for more than $50 and $60 per horsepower. Today high compression two-plow tractors on rubber, are available for several hundred dollars less, at a cost as low as $25 per horsepower. However, there is still considerable room for improvement. Among well-known tractors now on the market, cost per horsepower still ranges from less than $25 to more than $50. This gap will almost certainly close as time goes on. The farmer is buying power, wants power, and is willing to pay for power—but he is not for long going to continue to pay twice as much per horsepower as is necessary.

"Improvement in power-weight ratio has accompanied reductions in cost per horsepower. Four years ago it required 230 pounds or more of tractor to produce one horsepower. Today 70 pounds produces one horsepower. Here again the new efficient engine gets most of the credit although the instruction of steel alloys also was a factor. This is a remarkable gain, but the surface has been barely scratched. For instance, one present-day airplane engine delivers nearly one horsepower for every pound of weight.

"The net result of these vast improvements in efficiency in the modern tractor is lower first cost, lower operating costs, lower maintenance costs. The farmer has shown his approval by buying as many tractors in the last three years as he had in the previous ten. There are now approximately 1,650,000 tractors on American farms. I predict that by the end of 1945 that number will more than double.

"It is often said that the safest method of predicting the future is to examine the past. By determining the rate and direction of trends which have changed past conditions into present conditions, it is possible to make a fairly shrewd guess as to what lies ahead. On that basis there is only one possible conclusion. Automobile engine compression ratios have been rising steadily for the last 15 years In 1925 the average compression ratio of automobile engine was 4.4 to 1. In the new 1940 cars the average is about 6.43 to 1. The improvement in performance during that period has been tremendous. A distinguished chemical engineer recently predicted a still further improvement in the not too distant future. What the motorist gains in more miles per gallon, the farmer will gain in more acres plowed, disked, harrowed or cultivated on the same number of gallons."

War Appeal to Canadian Farmers

Premier Asks Western Farmers to Accept Orders and Discipline With Good Grace

Editor's Note—The following article is taken from The Western Producer, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada. Farmers in the United States—may well view with interest the treatment received by farmers in our neighboring British dominion during the pressure of emergency war measures.—R. T.

Premier John Backen of Manitaba last week appealed to western agriculture to enlist in service of the empire and to serve as it had never served before.

In a speech of 500 delegates at the Union of Manitoba Municipalities' convention in Winnipeg, he asked the industry to accept with good grace the orders and discipline of directing authority whether it was the British government, or the two working together.

At the same time he made plain that western farmers expected that the central authority would see to it their industry would not be crushed so that it could not play its part.

"It is for these reasons," he said, "that Western Canada is not at the moment pressing the question of markets and prices which is so vital to this country and the contribution it may make in the war. We expect those in authority to deal justly with those engaged on the economic front, whether in agriculture or other branches of industry.

"Failure of Western Canada to protest more vigorously at this time therefore is not to be taken as acquiescence in the present situation with respect to its wheat. Rather it is an acceptance of a measure of confidence in those who are in authority, a confidence that they will see to it that in a time of great emergency, no large section of the people will be left in a position of obvious inequity with respect to the community.

'If for some good reason Great Britain feels that it is not in her interest to pay a fair price for wheat to her Canadian and Austrian allies at this time, that does not absolve the dominion government from seeing to it that this large section of the Canadian economy does not carry on at line with prices of other commodities.

"In the position western agriculture finds itself today, it is the opinion of most of us that it is not good general policy to let it remain in that condition, even though some may regard it as necessary from a military point of view."

The premier warned that farmers should not count upon war conditions to solve either their agricultural or municipal problems.

"There are vast differences between conditions today and 25 years ago," he said. "We must guard against mistakes made in the last war. Our plans should keep in mind two things, the immediate need of winning the war, and the post-war situation with its inevitable difficult readjustments."

Great Wheat Store

Present world wheat carryover was more than twice the normal, and acreage far greater than in the last war. Canada now has 450,000,000 bushels for export as compared with less than one-third this quantity in 1914. Only sacrifice and determination of farmers during 10 years of depression had kept the industry together to make it available for the Allies in the present emergency.

"Under these circumstances," he continued, "some of us think it would be in the interest of Great Britain to pay a fair price for Canadian wheat now, a price fair to British consumers and fair to Canadian producers. On the other side it would be expected that Canadian producers would ask only a fair price should conditions be reversed."

Great Britain now was paying $1.-32 at home and farmers of the West were getting 70 cents for high grade wheat. Fort William.

"It is not for the private soldier to protest," said the premier. "It is not for the rank and file to mutiny, In time of war it is the first duty of the true patriot to be a good soldier whether on the military or economic front. Our first duty is to win the war. If that is done, it is possible markets of the world may be reopened to us. If we fail, we may be sure they will be largely closed."

The convention continued discussion of resolutions following the premier's speech. It passed one recommending that the provincial government make a $5,000 levy on municipalities, through the municipal commissioner's levy to provide free radium treatment for rural Manitoba, and to engage a supervising nurse to aid in early diagnosis of cancer.

Both moves were recommended Tuesday by Dr. P. A. MacDonald, head of the Cancer Relief and Research Institute. The resolution originated with the rural municipality of Portage la Prairie.

Millions Down the Streams

The loss of soil in Kansas each year represents the equivalent of 6 inches of topsoil over 150,000 acres of land, according to Soil Conservation Service experts.

At the average value of Kansas land of $31 per acre, this is an annual loss of $4,333,333.

This loss is small compared to the estimated losses due to the run-off moisture from fields that are so badly in need of all the moisture that possibly can be conserved.

Soil conservation is not a new problem. It has been of fundamental importance in every civilization.

In America it became a problem when the first settlers cut down the trees, cleared the brush, and plowed the soil. At that time, however, it was easily evaded, since there apparently was an inexhaustible supply of new land that could be had by homesteading.

Long and Short

In the corner of a Liverpool club three men were discussing the question of names.

"Mine," said the first man, "is Edward Henry Patrick Richard Fortescue. I'm sure none of you chaps can beat that for length."

"I can," reported the second. "My name is James Clifford Percival Ronald Albert Michael Marshall."

"I beat you both," murmured the third, an American.

"Eh?" they exclaimed. "What's your name?"

"Miles Long," he replied simply.

An old darky got up one night at a revival meeting and said: "Brudders an' sisters, you know an' I know I'se robbed hen roosts and stole hawgs, an' tol lies, an' got drunk, an' slashed folks wi' mah razor, an' shot craps, an' cussed, an' swore; but I thank de Lord dere's one thing I ain't nebber done; I ain't nebber lost my religion." —Atchison Globe.

When a magazine writer stated women control 70 per cent of family incomes, a contempory writer felt puzzled until it dawned upon him that the remaining 30 per cent is accounted for by taxes.—Charley Townsley in Great Bend Tribune.

Forward-looking editors begin to work on a farmer's obituary whenever he is heard explaining what a "gentle" bull he owns.—Topeka State Journal.

"Hybridizers are perfecting a stronger variety of tobacco, it is said. Who cares how strong tobacco is, just so pipes do not become any stronger," says Harry Valentine in his Clay Center Times.

Perhaps, muses the Norcatur Dispatch, it is a good thing the people haven't but one stomach t osupport. Roosevelt in July, '32.

Pampering the Pooch

Lady (handing over dog to man in baggage car): "Now, before you give him his meals, I want you to say 'Diddum Dinkle want oo' dindums?' And if he yawns, he's not quite ready for his meal yet."

Gone But Not Forgotten

"I suppose you carry a memento of some sort in that pocket?" said one woman to another.

"Yes, a lock of my husband's hair."

"But your husband is alive."

"Sure; but his hair is gone."—Labor.

Lines for Any Son

When you are somewhat older
You'll mostly find it true
That what you think of folks depends
On what they think of you.

Ahem!

"Is the head of the house in, sonny?"

"No, sir. There's nobody home but dad and me."

The Whole Thing or Nothing

The steamfitter got a job in a music store. A lady came into the store one day and said to him:

"I want to buy some piano pieces, please."

The man could not help laughing.

"Sorry lady," he said, "but we sell only whole pianos here."

Stymied

"You look all in today, Mill. What's the trouble?"

"Well, I didn't get home until after daylight, and I was just undressing when my wife woke up and said, 'Aren't you getting up pretty early?' In order to save an argument I put on my clothes and came down to the office."

And then there is the girl who said she didn't have to watch her step as she crossed the streets, because all the men on the corner did it for her. —Fred Cloud.

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WRITE TO

Kansas Farmers Union
Box 296 Salina, Kansas

Offer Lift to Dairying

Old Bossy is about to get a lift in her efforts to break the depression on Kansas farms. For years she has been supplying the wherewithal necessary to keep many families in groceries, and often in clothing, schoolbooks and other essentials. Deprived of a horn to toot, thanks to the dehorners, she has moved her way into the economic picture until her products loom larger than the average person realizes. But she needs reinforcements to realize her ultimate goal of making all her farm friends independent with a year-around income.

Here is where the boost comes as a welcome first aid. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation offers to guarantee loans up to 90 per cent for purchase of dairy herds. The Kansas Banking Board has instructed examiners to approve long-term loans by the local banks. The idea is not so much to increase the size of the dairy herds beyond the ability of a farmer to properly feed and handle, but to encourage a few cows on every farm.

It is of record that the Kansas farmer who was able to keep his cows during the depression and drouth had an easier time than his neighbors who had to sell off the dairy stock. The cream checks tided over many a family that otherwise would have had to appeal for Federal loans, or even accept WPA or other relief employment.

A plan by which the borrowers could repay their dairy loans in installments, or at least which would prevent them from being closed out if feed became scarce, ought to work wonders in increasing the number of dairy cows. It takes two or three good producers to supply the average farm family with butter, cheese and milk. An additional two to six cows will assure an income comparable, in many instances, to that received by the average city worker.

Once the dairy problem is solved, the next step ought to be in the direction of restocking the farms with poultry and hogs. The old slogan of the "cow, sow and hen" was sounder than some of the New Deal formulas for saving the country. Once the farmers get back to the predrouth basis they will be able to solve one of their own most pressing economic problems. That is what the State Industrial Development Commission, the State Banking Board, RFC, and State Board of Agriculture have in mind. The bankers and businessmen generally can help by lending encouragement and advice, where necessary.—Topeka Daily Capital.

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