THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization — Education — Co-Operation

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MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF GRAIN BELT FARM ORGANIZATIONS

This is Our Invitation to the Meeting of the Federation of All the Important Farm Organizations in the United States

Invitation

You, as President of your Association or any delegate selected by you or by vote of your organization, are hereby cordially invited to attend the meet of the Federation of Grain Belt Farm Organizations, which will assemble at the Savery Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa, on Tuesday, October 19th, at 10 a. m.

This invitation includes the affiliation of your organization with the Federation should you so desire.

What the Federation Is

The Federation of Grain Belt Farm Organizations was formed at Des Moines, Iowa, on May 12, 1925, the following farm organizations at that time participating: The Missouri Farmers' Association, the National Farmers' Union and the State Farmers' Unions of the following states—Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois, South Dakota and Iowa. The State Farm Bureau Federations of the following states: Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas; the Iowa State Grange, the Ottumwa, Iowa, Dairy Marketing Association, the Chicago Milk Producers' Association, the Equity Co-operative Exchange of Minnesota, ...orth Dakota and Montana, the Iowa Co-operative Creamery Association, the Farmers Elevator Association of Iowa, the National Corn Growers' Association, the National Producers' Alliance and the state organizations of the Alliance in North Dakota and South Dakota.

Since the formation of this Federation, the following additional organizations have affiliated: The Oklahoma Farmers' Union, the Wisconsin Producers' Alliance and the Farm Bureau Federations of Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

The Program

At Des Moines, on the May 13th, 1925, a resolutions committee composed of one member from each affiliated organization unanimously adopted the following platform:

In order to unify and co-ordinate the activities of the various farm organizations represented at this convention, both with respect to economic and legislative measures, your committee has agreed on the following statement of principles and program:

First, we recognize the fundamental principle governing all successful enterprises; that cost of production plus a reasonable profit is necessary to the success of the industry. In order to establish and maintain prices on farm commodities in conformity with this principle it is necessary that farmers be effectively organized to regulate and control the marketing of their products.

Second, we endorse and support the principle of co-operative marketing, the farmers to be placed in control of their own marketing machinery, including such terminal facilities as may be necessary for the orderly marketing of products.

Third, to insure to the farmer the cost of production plus an average profit of not less than 5 per cent, we urge the creation by congress of an export corporation with adequate capitalization for the purpose of buying so much of the available surplus of agricultural production as may be necessary to that end, the financing and functioning of this corporation to be properly directed and safeguarded by proper provision in the organization law, and in such way as will provide for the administration of said corporation by a board of farmers, nominated by the various producing farm organizations.

In order to carry out the program of this conference a permanent joint committee shall be selected, consisting of one member from each participating organization, and from such organizations as may hereafter affiliate.

This committee is hereby authorized to develop ways and means of bringing about joint action on the part of all farm organizations, both with respect to economic and legislative measures, both state and national.

Legislation

With respect to the third plank in our program, i. e., legislation. The Committee later formulated what is popularly known as the McNary-Haugen Bill. In conjunction with other organizations, including that formed at the Governors' Conference of eleven states held at Des Moines, Iowa, on January 28th, 1925, we made a determined effort to secure the enactment of what, though called the McNary-Haugen Bill, is in reality "the National Farm Board Bill."

In this effort we were later joined by the Cotton Growers' Organizations of the South, thus making an effective tie-up between the farmers of the Grain, Livestock and Cotton states.

The Federation, while loyally and effectively backing the National Farm Board Bill, has not confined its activities to legislative matters, nor is it the intent of those who formed the Federation to confine its activities exclusively to legislative procedure.

Federated Action

It was the hope of those who brought about the federated action on the part of Grain State Farm Organizations that the work of the Committee would result in better understanding, a more cordial relationship and effective united action in behalf of agriculture.

This hope has happily borne fruit. Our leadership in the participating organizations are now sitting down in council together instead of criticising each other. More charity for conflicting viewws has resulted, if indeed we may not say that a comradeship of farm leaders has developed, as among soldiers, fighting a common cause, where once criticism and ill-feeling abounded.

Our First Big Victory

Our first big fight and our first big victory was the defeat of the proposed 5 per cent increase of freight rates, which the western railroads demanded from the Interstate Commerce Commission early in 1925.

The Federation raised and spent some $4,000 in this fight, retained ex-Attorney General Jackson of Kansas as counsel and made such a showing before the Interstate Commerce Commission as to completely demolish the claims of the railroad for higher rates.

How We Did It

Early in the summer of 1925, at a Committee session, Milo Reno, President of the Iowa Farmers' Union, was placed at the head of a Cost of Production Committee.

This Committee retained the services of E. E. Kennedy, now Secretary of the Farmers' Union of Northern Illinois, and set about to put in comprehensive form a schedule of farm costs and farm prices covering the productive years of 1921 to 1925, inclusive.

A survey of farm prices, farm production and farm costs for these five years was made in the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri.

Henry Wallace, Jr. of Wallace's Farmer, was made Chairman of another committee to work out a schedule of farm costs on another basis. Our experts made a showing before the Interstate Commerce Committee which completely refuted the claim of the railroads, which was that the grain farmers are now recovered from deflation and could afford to pay higher freight rates.

We showed by indisputable figures that the exact reverse was true, and that the farmers had been carrying on their business at a financial loss for the past five years, and had been able to maintain their industry at all oply because they had not adequately replaced their work stock, machinery and equipment, which all successful industry provides for by setting up a reserve for replacement.

The farmers have not been able to set up any such reserve and have therefore charged it against the future, hoping in the meantime for better times.

Our rate fight saved our farmers millions of dollars on freight charges and since we defeated the railroads, we have heard nothing more about increases, but a lot about decreases.

We Make Definite Plans

At the last meeting of the Federation held in Des Moines, Iowa, on July 29th, 1926, it was decided hereafter to hold two annual meetings of the Federation, one in October and one in July.

Organization Committee

An organized committee composed of the following was formed:

A. W. Ricker, Chairman.

Kansas—Ralph Snyder, President Kansas Farm Bureau.

Minnesota — Thos. E. Cashman, Minnesota Farm Bureau.

Iowa—Chas. E. Hearst, President Iowa Farm Bureau.

Wisconsin—Orin Fletcher, President Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

South Dakota—J. W. Batcheller, President South Dakota Farmers' Union.

North Dakota — C. C. Talbott, State Manager North Dakota Farmers' Union.

Nebraska—H. G. Keeney, President Nebraska Farmers' Union.

Oklahoma—Z. H. Lander, OklahomaF armers' Union.

Missouri—Wm. Hirth, President Missouri Farm Clubs.

Illinois—Earl Smith, Illinois Association of Agriculture.

Indiana—Wm. Settle, President Indiana Farm Bureau.

We quote from a report of the Federation July meeting printed in the Farm Market Guide of Minneapolis for August, which sets forth the purpose of the Organization Committee as follows:

The committee, composed of the Secretary of the Federation and one member each from eleven states, will proceed to invite farm organizations not now members of the Federation to select a delegate to attend the October 19th gathering which will be held again at Des Moines.

Any farm or farm commodity marketing organization is eligible to membership. These include elevator associations of state or regional jurisdiction, egg, butter, milk, wool, fruit, vegetable, livestock shipping associations of national or regional scope, cotton, rice, tobacco, etc.

All farm organizations which are seeking cost of production for farm products are invited to participate in the work of the Federation. Our aim, be it remembered, is threefold:

First: To promote organization of farmers.

Second: To promote co-operation.

Third: To seek legislation as a means of stabilizing farm prices.

Let no one conclude that our work and our field of operation is purely legislative.

Legislation is only ONE of the means of attaining cost of production.

Primary organization is the first essential to success. The unorganized farmer is not only helpless, but he is a dead weight, which the organized farmer has to carry. We will get nowhere in a legislative way or otherwise so long as the masses of farmers are unorganized.

The first big objective of this Federation, therefore, is to get the FARMERS ORGANIZED.

A Formal Invitation

As Chairman of the Organization Committee, I hereby formally invite representation from your organization to meet with us at Des Moines, Iowa, on Tuesday, October 19th.

This invitation will be sent from our office to all farm associations and co-operative marketing organizations of which we have any record and the invitation will also be sent out by members of the Committee for the states represented on the Organization Committee.

Your invitation, whether received at the hands of the undersigned or by any member of the Committee, is official and authoritative.

Sincerely yours,
A. W. RICKER,
Chairman Organization Committee

TIME TO THINK

If there ever was a time when the American farmers should think deeply and act courageously, that time is here, for in a few short weeks they will be called upon, by virtue of their rights of citizenship, to assist in electing a congress of the United States, which congress will either rescue agriculture from its deplorable condition or will respond to the "demands" of big business, as voiced by the "directions" of political bossism, to keep the vocation of one-third of our population under subjection, to be manipulated for the financial benefit of those who daily feast at the expense of the tillers of the soil.

While party responsibility has some value in a republic, party power, when exercised for the sole profit of a few at the expense of the many, is not true to our best traditions and unworthy of continuation, if equal rights to all is to continue as one of the cardinal principles upon which this country hopes to grow and prosper. As a matter of absolute fact, while party lines may be closely drawn around election time, it matters but little here in Washington whether a congressman wears the label of one or the other of the major parties, unless it be the policy of those who lead to place party profit ahead of public welfare.

In some few instances, questions arise which are finally determined by the yardstick of party faith, but in the greater number of cases, the subjects discussed are settled by individual inclinations rather than by party tests. Some questions are too big and too important to permit party alignment. They are problems of great moment which no party leader would dare to advance or defeat on purely political grounds. In times like these, it is of little concern whether the representative "belongs" to one or the other of the parties. He stands face to face with a subject which demands and must have his most careful consideration and his honest vote. Such a question as this is now before the congress of the United States in the shape of a demand for agricultural recognition and the equalization of the value of the farmer's dollar with that of the dollar of every other industrious American. In such an hour, that citizens who would place party success ahead of the principle involved in this great question is unworthy of the blood bought privilege of casting a ballot. Further than this, that candidate who permits himself to be "tied" to the apron strings of political bossism, thereby making of himself a "rubber stamp" stateman rather than a free born, open-minded, fair-dealing lawmaker, deserves nothing better than utter defeat at the polls and that will be his lot if only the agriculturists will think deeply on the subject.

This year of all others marks the time when men and women who depend upon soil tilling as a means of support should give first consideration to that little home down on the farm. Through neglect or by reason of adverse legislation, that spot which the American farmer calls his domicile, wherein he is endeavoring to bring the rays of the sunshine of success, in order to make the lives of his loved ones happy and prosperous, is passing through the clouds of despair and desperation and, in many instances, is being swept from his control. Whether that fireside will ever again radiate the warmth of good fellowship, for which it has been noted from the beginning of this republic, or is doomed to become simply the "roosting place" of an American peasantry, rests largely upon the decision of the farmers when they enter the polling places in November next. Surely such a grave question is too serious to be trifled with as a partisan subject.

In such a crucial moment, let no farmer be swayed by political oratory, served only to catch votes for one or the other party, or misled by promises made by men whose history heretofore reveals them as "double-crossers" of those who placed confidence in their pledged word. These are perilous times for agriculture and it behooves every husbandman of the soil to carefully choose the candidate for whom he votes, remembering that his only hope for emancipation lies in the direction of frank and honest avowal of those measures which make for his final freedom from the galling yoke which he now wears through no fault of his own.

ON TO HOT SPRINGS

Official Call for the Annual Meeting of the National Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union of America

Springfield, Mo., Oct. 6, 1926.

To the Officers, Delegates and Members of the various State Divisions:

By the authority vested in me, I hereby call all officers of the National Union and all delegates to the twenty-second annual session of that body to assemble at the Municipal Auditorium in the city of Hot Springs, Arkansas, at ten o'clock a. m. on Tuesday, November 16th, 1926, that date being the third Tuesday in the month and the time fixed by the constitution for holding the annual meeting.

The object of the meeting is the election of officers and the transaction of such business as may properly come before it.

The Union will remain in session until disposition has been made of all business under consideration.

Fraternally,
C. S. Barrett, President.

Attest:
A. C. Davis, Secretary.

A Pressing Invitation to the Membership

You are now officially apprised of the fact that the National Union will hold the 1926 meeting in one of the most famed of the world's health and pleasure resorts. Without any question the Hot Springs of Arkansas are among the greatest of nature's wonders. The fact that they are almost within the door-yards of thousands of our members who live in adjoining or nearby states, leads me to believe that many of the members will avail themselves of this opportunity to enjoy a few days in the city of vapors and meet with the National Union as well.

That spot of old mother earth in and around the city is peculiarly distinctive. Perhaps no other place of equal area has such a varied assortment of springs. In addition to the numerous springs flowing thousands of gallons hourly of absolutely pure but intensely hot water, there are numerous cold springs in the little valley practically all of which are heavily charged with minerals in solution and for which medicinal properties are claimed.

The city of Hot Springs has a resident population of but 16,000 yet it easily takes care of 250,000 visitors annually, who come for the healing of the waters, or purely for the social life enjoyed in this great winter resort.

The mountain from whose base flow these hot waters, is one of our National Parks. The federal government supervises and regulates the use of the waters and for the public protection all physicians are licensed by Uncle Sam. The army and navy hospital maintained for the sick and disabled is a feature of the reservation as is also the great free bath house maintained by the government for the unfortunate poor and down-and-outs of this old world.

You who live on the great prairies of the middle west will enjoy the change of scenes which this trip will bring to you. These Hot Springs are in the foot-hills of the Ozark mountains, a series of low ranges that traverse western and northwestern Arkansas and southwestern Missouri. A magnificant view is obtained from the tower at the summit of East mountain, reached by the winding trail.

Reduced railroad rates apply at all seasons of the year. It may be possible for us to get even a lower rate for this occasion, but however that may be you will be well repaid for any sacrifice necessary to make the trip.

Upon behalf of the National Union, I extend to each member and his family a pressing and cordial invitation to the national meeting.

Fraternally yours,
A. C. Davis, Secretary.

BRICK AND CEMENT PLANT

Oct. 4, 1926.

Gov. Ben S. Pulen,
Topeka, Kansas;
My dear governor:

The farmers of the state are very much in favor of the state making an appropriation for the purpose of establishing a brick and cement plant in the penitentiary to be operated under convict labor the same as the twine plant. This brick and cement to be used for the purpose of making brick and cement for the construction of public roads, school buildings, etc. at cost.

We ask that you publish your views in regard to such a plan. I would also like a personal reply from you in regard to same.

Respectfully yours,
President.

IDAHO CREAMERY APPOINTS EVERY MEMBER A FIELDMAN

"Every member a fieldman" is the slogan of the Dairymen's Co-Operative Company of Boise Valley, Caldwell, Idaho, an organization which claims to return to its patrons the highest possible price for butterfat consistent with sound financial operation of its business. Every member is a producer and always ready to explain the plans of this co-operative project.

Beginning business in May, 1925, the creamery manufactured that month 32,916 pounds of butter. In May, 1926, the quantity manufactured was 134,863 pounds. Every churning is tested and, as a superior quality of butter is produced, it finds a ready market in Los Angeles and other Pacific coast markets.

Real estate, buildings and equipment owned by the association have a depreciated value of $46,700

OSAGE COUNTY FARMERS SEND OUT QUESTIONNAIRE

QUESTIONNAIRE

Ordered by the Osage Farmers Union in session at Vassar, Kansas, June 10, 1926, to provide information that the voters of Osage county may vote intelligently:

1. Would you work for a reduction in the value of farm real estate and an increase in the value of public utilities for taxation purposes?
Sure. I did and will.

2. Would you work to maintain our present road law as it is?
Yes.

3. Would you work against any appropriation to reimburse parties that borrow money to meet funds for road building?
Yes.

4. Would you work for a law granting farm organizations the right to conduct their own banks?
Yes.

5. Are you in favor of repealing the intangible tax law?
Yes.

6. Are you in favor of consolidating the offices of county and state so the work may be done by 80 per cent of the present officials at their present salaries?
Many salaries can be reduced. Others abolished entirely. I am for radical changes on this line.

7. Would you work for an effective bank guarantee law?
Yes.

Failing to answer any or all of these questions or ignoring them altogether, will be considered a negative answer.

Please return to the committee by September 4, 1926.

Signed by: Jonathan M. Davis, Democratic candidate for governor.
Committee:
W. C. Haufler, Vassar, Kansas
J. J. Cooper, Carbondale, Kansas
R. M. Kaff, Michigan Valley, Kan.
W. A. Britte, Overbrook, Kansas
W. M. Lyons, Lyndon, Kansas
Please mail to last address.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Ordered by the Osage County Farmers Union in session at Vassar, Kansas, June 10, 1926, to provide information that the voters of Osage county may vote intelligently:

1. If elected will you be in favor of an effective bank guarantee law?
Yes.

2. Would you vote for farm organizations to receive charters to conduct banks?
Yes.

Signed by: Rudolph J. Sharshal, Democratic candidate for sec'y of state.
Committee:
W. C. Haufler, Vassar, Kansas
J. J. Cooper, Carbondale, Kansas
R. M. Kaff, Michigan Valley, Kan.
W. A. Britte, Overbrook, Kansas
W. M. Lyons, Lyndon, Kansas
Mail to last address by September 4, 1926.

Sept. 2, 1926.

Mr. Wm. Lyons,
Lyndon, Kansas:
My dear friend:

The Farmers Union questionnaire with request to answer to you came a few days ago while I was away and although I may be a little late am answering the questions as follows:

1. I am in favor of the lowest scale of assessment of farm lands possible to secure and making public utilities bear their just share of the tax burden.

2. The road law at present is practically the same as enacted in 1923 when I was chairman of the roads and highway committee and did away with the benefit district provision in the auto tax fund. Am strong for leaving supervision under the board of county commissioners.

3. Am opposed to borrowing money for road purposes either by bond issue or otherwise.

4. I have supported every Farmers Union bank bill that has been proposed in the last six years and am still in favor of giving farm organizations an equal chance with others to engage in the banking business.

5. Would favor repealing the intangible tax law or materially increasing the rate.

6. Am in favor of any consolidation that will reduce expenses.

7. Am at a loss to know a solution of the present bank difficulty but would support any law that appeared to be effective.

Hoping these answers are clear enough to be understood, I am
Very truly yours,
Clyde W. Coffman.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Ordered by the Osage County Farmers Union in session at Vassar, Kansas, June 10, 1926, to provide information that the voters of Osage county may vote intelligently:

1. If elected will you be in favor of an effective bank guarantee law?
Answer: Yes.

2. Would you vote for farm organizations to receive charters to conduct banks?
Answer: I would give an application for a charter to conduct a bank from a farm organization the same consideration that I would give it from any other organization, and would be governed entirely by the facts in the case, and by the law.

Signed by: William A. Smith, Republican candidate for Att'y Gen.
Committee:
W. C. Haufler, Vassar, Kansas
J. J. Cooper, Carbondale, Kansas
R. M. Kaff, Michigan Valley, Kan.
W. A. Britte, Overbrook, Kansas
W. M. Lyons, Lyndon, Kansas.
Mail to last address by September 3, 1926.
Received Sept. 22, 1926.

(Continued on page 4)

KANSAS SEEDWHEAT ASSOCIATION CHARGES TOO HIGH!

Farmer Cannot Afford to Give One-Fifth of Crop to Loan and One-Third to Landlord

Farmers of Norton, Phillips, Smith, Jewell, Graham, Rooks, Wallace and Logan counties have raised little wheat in the past two years. Many tenants have come to another seeding time with their credit at the bank exhausted and with no way of getting seed for another crop. It is an unfortunate situation, especially when you consider than many of them have been growing and selling wheat for a quarter of a century.

Now comes the Kansas Seed Wheat Association, formed at Topeka recently, and sponsored by boards of trade, milling companies, cement companies, and individuals with money. The goal is $100,000, which is to be distributed in these eight counties. A local committee of three business men in each town will authorize the amount of seed each grower is to get and will complete a contract with the recipient, to be filed with others at the main office in Topeka. Contributors to the pool share in the returns from the eight counties. In case one district should lose the grain seeded, through drought or other causes, the loss would be distributed. A similar pool in 1923 furnished seed wheat to a dozen or more western Kansas counties. This pool netted investors $2 for each and every $1 invested.

Little Left for Farmer

This brings us to the point we are trying to make, namely, that the farmer who gets his seed wheat through the Kansas Seed Wheat Association is paying too much when he pays one-fifth of his crop for the loan. Supposing, for instance, that a Logan county tenant gets his seed from the seed wheat pool and that he raises 20 bushels per acre. One-fifth, or four bushels per acre, goes to repay the loan. The landlord gets one-third of the remaining 16 bushels, or five bushels per acre, in round numbers, leaving the tenant 11 bushels per acre with which to finance the operations and expenses on three wheat crops, two of which were complete failures.

This is an unpopular position to take, but it seems that if contributors to this seed wheat fund were genuinely and altruistically interested in the welfare of the farmer, on whose labor they profit directly, that they would be willing to furnish such assistance at more reasonable rates. On no other ground can the seed wheat association be condemned.

J. C. Mohler, president of the relief organization, if quoted correctly, has inadvertently "let the cat out of the bag." He is quoted as saying recently that persons who contribute to the fund "have nine chances out of 10 for big profits." If "big profits" is the idea back of the whole enterprise—and I am sure it is not—then there is no philanthropy in the whole undertaking. Be that as it may, I am sure that rough calculations will show how dear the farmer who takes one of the loans is paying for it.

An Example of "Big Profits"

Take, for example, the man who has 100 acres of ground ready for seeding. Not more than 125 bushels will be required. Figure that the 125 bushels cost $1.40 per bushel, or $175. Supposing, then, that the grower gets 20 bushels per acre next season, or 2,000 bushels in all. The man who furnished the seed, under the contract the farmer signed, is entitled to one-fifth of the crop, or 400 bushels. If the investor in the seed wheat pool is able to sell the 400 bushels for only 60 cents a bushel, he has a clear profit of $65 on a $175 investment, or approximately 45 per cent interest on his money for 10 months. In view of the fact that the legal rate is only 10 per cent, 45 per cent seems a little steep.

On the other hand, suppose contributors furnish seed and all eight northwestern counties have a total crop failure. Can't the man who has prospered on producing enterprises sufficiently to give to the seed wheat pool stand the loss he would have to take for one year as well as the farmer who has met three consecutive losses? I believe he can especially if he was a contributor to the 1923 seed wheat pool, which made investors $2 for $1. It is very unlikely, however, that such a loss will occur. In case one district suffers a failure, through drought or other causes, the loss will be distributed over the whole area. That's pretty good insurance.

Should Provide Seed at Cost

The grain trade, until four years ago, handled 100 per cent of the wheat grown in Kansas. Since four years ago, or the date the pool began operation, the grain trade has handled 95 per cent of the state's wheat crop each year. The profits accuring to the trade in handling such a vast amount of wheat, year after year, should put those engaged in that business in a position where they could well afford to help the farmer liberaly, expecting nothing in return but their money back with a reasonable rate of interest. Had the Kansas wheat pool been handling such a vast length of time as the grain trade has handled it, all such emergencies would be handled on an actual cost basis, with the idea of service to farmers always in the foreground.

Officials of the Kansas wheat pool have been so busy in attending to a multitude of other pressing problems that such important things as seed wheat pools have been neglected. However, a seed wheat pool will ultimately be a concern of the Kansas Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association. It cannot be handled by the association proper, but it can be taken care of by a separate and temporary organization, with all clerical work handled by the accounting department of the pool. Just how such an organization would be operated can only be hazarded now, but the writer believes $100,000 could be raised by a promised return of 10 per cent net to investors.

If a seed wheat organization would lend the $100,000, properly secured, at eight or 10 per cent interest, as the Kansas wheat pool would likely do, adding whatever expenses are incurred in administering the fund and whatever losses are sustained, it would be obvious that contributors were genuinely interested in putting the farmer on his feet financially.

Some of our members seemed to be somewhat surprised because the association did not make arrangements to furnish seed wheat for our members in the north-central and northwestern counties of the state who are not able to buy their seed wheat this year.

Pool to Take Up the Problem

In the first place the need for seed wheat was not called to our attention until very late in the season. The association of course knew of the bad crop conditions in the northwestern and the north-central part of the state but did not realize that so many of these farmers would need help in securing their seed wheat. After the matter was called to our attention, it was too late in the season to make arrangements and furnish this seed wheat in time for sowing at the proper time. In the future, we shall expect to give this matter attention early in the season each year and try to determine whether members in any section of the state will need seed that year and in case they do, will try to make arrangements early in the season so that the matter can be properly handled.

In Oklahoma, last year, some members of the wheat pool organized a company of their own and furnished seed wheat to a number of members in the northwestern part of the state. This seed was furnished on an understanding that the man receiving the seed wheat must become a member of the pool and deliver all of the wheat to the pool. The man who participated in this work advised us that they were able to do a great deal of good in this way.

As this organization develops, we expect that it will be of service to its members in a number of ways besides selling their wheat and that it will do everything possible to assist its members in the matter of securing seed wheat or in connection with any other proposition of this kind that may arise.

Pool Has Won Against Odds

However, so far, it has been a desperate struggle every minute of every day to establish our organization in this state. Our pool has revolutionized the wheat marketing business in Kansas and has made millions of dollars for Kansas farmers by furnishing competition to the grain trade. It has done a number of things that people thought a farm organization could never do, and has demonstrated for all time the value of co-operative principles applied to the marketing of wheat. Therefore when talked about what the association should do or should not do, it is well to keep in mind that our pool has made Kansas farmers enough money to buy a lot of seed wheat even though the men who need the seed wheat this year do not have enough omney to purchase it.

It is a sad commentary on the marketing system that has dominated in this country for half a century when, a territory as old as northwestern Kansas, farmers find themselves too poor to buy seed wheat, and their credit so nearly exhausted that they cannot obtain seed without having to give one-fifth of their crop. The whole thing is reminiscent of feudal days, when the poor peasant was required to give to the landlord, in return for protection, a bushel of each and every kind of grain he grew, whenever a birth, death or marriage occurred in the family of the peasant.
—The Wheat Growers Journal.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The farmer who gives one-fifth of his crop to the seed wheat pool and one-third to his landlord, is giving slightly more than half of his prospective yield for the mere privilege of remaining in the wheat business. The cost of preparing the ground, sowing the wheat, harvesting, threshing and delivering it will, on the average, leave the farmer poorer at the end of the year than when he started. Rather than give more than half the crop, and brave the vicissitudes of the elements, it would be more profitable for the grower to quit for a year and hire out to some railroad company as a section hand, or at some other work equally as remunerative.

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W. C. LANSDON.....Associate Editor

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

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

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

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1926

IMPORTANCE OF FARM PRODUCE

There is one crop that seldom fails. No matter how unfavorable the weather may be for other crops, eggs are harvested practically all the year round. The same is true in a little lesser degree with butter. The cow and the hen properly utilized put the farm on a weekly pay roll and abolish the yearly turn-over that has always been the greatest obstacle in the way of successful agriculture. The grain farmer and the livestock and fruit producers go to market but once a year but the dairyman and the poultry keeper have something to sell at least once a week.

The magnitude of the produce interests of this country are indicated in some measure by the following extract from an eastern paper:

The National Butter, Egg and Poultry association is in session in Chicago. The members are discussing competition, transportation, standardization, cold stortge, grading and public confidence.

This is a vast national business—the handling, storage and marketing of 1,250,000,000 pounds of butter, 500,000,000 pounds of cheese, 5,000,000 cases of eggs and 90,000,000 pounds of poultry.

Without a co-ordinated and effective system, the consuming public could not possibly be served with these necessaries of life so accessible to all. The average family could not enjoy the privilege of fresh butter, fresh cheese and fresh poultry at all times were it not for the vast system of assembling production, storing supplies in refrigerators and distributing supplies in refrigerator cars.

More than 75,750,000 pounds of butter, 63,750,000 pounds of cheese, 3,500,000 cases of eggs and 71,000,000 pounds of poultry are kept in cold storage to meet the demands of the public. To maintain a regular supply, not too much nor too little for the average demand, requires skill of the first order. An excess would cause enormous losses and a shortage would increase prices. The success of the modern system of handling, storing and distributing these products of American farms and dairies is a tribute to the genius and foresight of the association. But for it, the cost of living would be higher and the comfort of living more uncertain.

The only thing lacking to assure the success of the produce industry is the effective organization of the producers for the conversion, control and marketing of their own cream, eggs and poultry. Farmers are making a good start in this direction in Kansas and other western states but what on earth prevents all of them from getting into line?

A membership of 2,585, poultrymen, owning 3,106,542 hens, is reported by the secretary of the Poultry Producers of Central California, San Francisco. By means of the one-cent deduction, the revolving fund or working capital was expected to amount to $575,000 by July 1. Since the total revolving fund as fixed by the by-laws of the association is $500,000, the excess of $75,000 will be paid to holders of advance-fund certificates.

THE DEBTS OF THE FRENCH

As we have so often pointed out in these columns, the only way that France and other European nations can ever pay what they owe to this country is for them to figure out some way to borrow or otherwise obtain the cash from the United States. It is reported that Premiere Poincare is now anxious to have the debt settlement with this ocuntry ratified by his congress or whatever it is that passes for and poses as a law-making body in that country. The following editorial from an eastern paper has some sense, though not much in it. It is right in one respect, however, France must borrow money and the United States is the only place where much of a supply of that commodity is available. Thus the Washington Post:

Premier Poincare is reliably reported to have reached the conclusion that the Berenger-Mellon debt agreement should be ratified, without amendment or condition; but he expects to make an oral reservation which will be published in the official journal without being a part of the act of ratification. So far as the United States is concerned, ratification would be unconditional, but the oral reservation, it is hoped, will induce the French parliament to ratify the agreement.

Evidently Premier Poincare is co-operating with Foreign Minister Briand in trying to bring into effect the agreement reached by Briand and Foreign Minister Stresemann of Germany. This agreement has for its basis the floating of a huge loan secured by German railroad bonds. The bonds can not be sold in Germany or France. They must be sold in England and the United States—principally in the United States. The French statesmen have discovered that they need not hope to borrow money in this country until they have arranged to pay what has already been borrowed. Therefore they are planning to put through the Berenger-Mellon agreement. They do this with extreme reluctance. They could not get the agreement through parliament without some "safeguard" clause providing that France should not be required to pay if Germany should default on reparation payments. But the Unit l States will not agree to such a clause. Hence Premier Poincare will ask to have the agreement ratified unconditionally, but accompanied by an oral statement setting forth the safeguard clause.

What the United States desires is adjustment of the French debt. It does not care what oral statements Premier Poincare may make to his own people. They will not be binding upon the United States.

Hereafter, if after ratification of the debt agreement the French and German governments should approach the United States with the request that it sanction the purchase by Americans of a large amount of German railroad bonds, the proposition will be examined on its merits. The fact that the French government may have ratified the debt agreement will not bind the United States to approve the propose' bond issue.

The Superior Court of Carrollton, Georgia, recently held that a member of the Georgia Cotton Growers' Co-operative Ar ciation had violated an injunction previously entered against him restraining him from disposing of his cotton outside of the association. Consequently, he was sentenced to spend ten days in jail.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

Congress will reassemble for the short session in a few weeks. Agriculture is in the same desperate situation that it was last June when our lawmakers gave up the attempt to enact any farm relief legislation and went home to explain what it was all about to the voters. Doubtless most of the members who assisted in blocking farm legislation hoped that something would happen before they were called on to pass on any more agricultural measures.

Well, something has happened. In fact a good many things have happened since the first of July but none of them have relieved the desperate situation of the farmers of most sections of the country. There is a short corn crop. That may mean an increased price for the few fortunate growers who have a surplus of that grain for sale. There was a very spotty wheat crop. The whole country had a fair yield but like Kansas it was spotty. In this state we have a few counties that harvested an unexpectedly large return and as many more that failed to get their seed back and must have help if they are to sow anything for next year. So much for the two great staples of the middle west.

With an early freeze in the northern part of the corn belt it is certain that the hopes of the corn farmers in that section are to be disappointed and that the banks, filled as they are with slow farm paper, are in a different situation. Same is true over almost half of Kansas. The northwestern quarter of the state has been living on borrowed money, encroaching on its capital for three years, a condition that is already manifest in the failure of many banks and in the curtailment of further credits by scores of others. It is a safe prediction that there will be many bank failures in the territory between the Arkansas river and the Canadian line unless something is done to take care of the frozen credits that are paralyzing bank resources throughout all that section.

For some years there has been no progress made in co-operative marketing. A few small wheat pools are still functioning, largely for the benefit of the employed personnel necessary to care for their business. Two of the biggest tobacco co-operatives have released their members to the tender mercies of the loose leaf warehouses and the old speculators are again waxing rich out of the necessities and the follies of the farmers. The reconstituted cotton pools have such a small percentage of the crop that the big cotton gamblers are again in control of the situation and their renewed power is already evidenced by a declining price that is now lower than since early in 1920.

From all these sorry facts it is easy to conclude that farmers will again make an effort to secure remedial legislation from a congress that has already refused to do anything except apply a little salve in the way of encouraging co-operative marketing. It would seem that all interested in the rehabilitation of agriculture should see by this time that the day of palliatives and poultices, of emollients and liniments for the ease of surface symptoms instead of the cure of deep-seated diseases is long since past. The time has come for constructive statemanship to apply its best efforts to the solution of the problem that is so important to the republic. The situation cannot be dealt with by emergency legislation because it is not an emergency but a long present condition that exists.

It should be made perfectly clear to begin with that no help except self help will avail very much. The obstacles in the way of co-operative marketing must be removed and it must be frankly conceded that the only worth-while purpose of co-operative marketing is price fixing at levels that will make farming possible. To do this two things are necessary: First, ample provisions for financing the growing, movement and storage of crops, and second, a nationwide awakening of farmers to the possibilities of such a system. The financial end of the general scheme must be so constructed that it will force farmers into co-operative marketing organizations in order to secure financial results.

The only thing that is certain about the future action of congress on the agricultural crisis is that nothing will be done of permanent value unless the farmers get mad, get together and force the recognition to which they are entitled and which they must have if freedom is to endure in this republic.

TO HELL WITH THE WEAK

William H. Vanderbilt was the first big railroad man to suggest that if the public did not like his ways it could be damned. He owned the New York Central and he proposed to run it in his own interest entirely regardless of the needs or convenience of the public. Vanderbilt, like many others of his kind before and since his day, lacked the sense to understand that his interest and the interests of the public were identical and that he could best serve his own fortunes by serving the public with efficiency and at moderate cost.

Since the day of Vanderbilt most railway presidents have acquired better manners even if they have not changed their views as to the rights of their patrons and their own obligations to the customers from whom they derive all their revenues. In their secret hearts most big railway men still believe that the public is nothing more than a big cow which it is their sacred right to milk in their hearts' content and any protest by the cow is a thing with which they have no patience. Since the days of Jay Gould and Vanderbilt, railway managers have become more polite in their dealings with their trade but under the surface of their modern polish and sua ity is the old contempt for their customers.

L. F. Loree is one of the modern railway magnates. He is chairman of the boards of the Katy and the Kansas City Southern and is interested in many other southwestern railway properties. Just now he is engaged in the business of merging the Katy, the Southern and the Cotton Belt lines into a single system. He wants to exclude from the new concern all lines, even though parts of existing roads, that do not pay. Naturally the people served, in some slight and haphazard way by such branch lines object to being left out on a limb. Truth is they are already on the limb and Loree proposes to saw it off if he can have his way about it.

Discussing what he frankly regards as a socialistic plan for having weak roads helped by stronger lines Loree told the protesters and the representatives of the government that he has no sort of patience with such ro'. He said, in part:

"If you can't pay your own way, you ought not to go into my pocket to do so. It is highly immoral to take earnings from the pockets of the strong and transfer them to those of the weak. Such a suggestion is so socialistic that it is unthinkable."

And there you have Mr. Loree, described by some sychophantic newspaper reporter who is doubtless in the secret pay of the big roads, as "baron of many properties and considered one of the outstanding minds of the rail transportation business." It is his considered and deliberate opinion that at least thirty thousand miles of existing roads should be abandoned and their trackage and equipment junked.

Such men as Loree have no conception of the relation of railways to the public interest. They regard them as simply so much private property to be operated for income only. They forget that transportation is a public service, that railways derive all their rights and opportunities from charters given them by the public with the understood and often expressed condition that service is an obligation that cannot be evaded. The railroads were charteerd and are maintined to supply service to the public. Tht they cannot meettheir obligations without sufficient income is so self-evident that it is no longer questioned even by the most radical of big business baiters.

In the contract between the railways and the people there is nothing that authorizes onep ublic service corporation, a type of public servant, to take huge profits and deny any assistance to lines that serve other sections of the country. All the people who are entitled to equal transportation facilities, or rather to avoid the appearance of "socialism" to adequate transportation fcilities. This provides for the recapture by the government of one-half of all railway earnings in excess of a little under six per cent for the creation of a fund for lines that cannot earn their operating expenses and a fair return on their invested capital. This recapture clause has been the law of the land for nearly ten years and so far the contemplated fund is not large enough to render an effective assistance to the weakest an dshortest necessary railroad in the country. The roads have deliberately ignored the law and have withheld from the public treasury a sum of money sufficiently large to rehabilitate every weak but needed line in the country.

The law also provides for the consolidation of lines and the creation of sectional competing systems. Loree thinks that part of it is all right if some way can be found to enable the proposed mergers to include only roads that are making money. He believes that any property that cannot pay its way should be abandoned and that the people in the territory of such weak lines should revert to the ox cart and the flat boat for their transportation facilities. He is a modern and scarcely more polite than William H. Vanderbilt. He believes that the public is his cow and that anyone who interferes with the milking is a public enemy who should be deported as a dangerous socialist.

The tobacco growers of the dark belt in Kentucky and Tenn ssee and of the entire producing area of Virginia and the Carolinas have permitted their marketing associations to die. Through lying propoganda and by the traitorous work of their agents within the organizations the buyers and speculators have killed the tobacco co-operatives. The prices now obtaining on the so-called auction make it certain that the trade will get back the cost of killing the growers association in a single year. Live and learn is an old proverb that has some merit in it but it some times seems that tobacco growers will all die before they allow themselves to learn. They should be unanimously co-operative like the wheat growers of Kansas would be if they had 66,000 members of their association instead of the mere handful that is keeping the co-operative fires burning in this state.

REPORTED BY THE ASSOCIATIONS

An effort is being made by the Maryland Tobacco Growers' Association to secure contracts for 85 per cent of the 1926 crop.

The membership list of the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., Calgary, now contains 36,583 names, and the mailing list shows 231 afilliated local units.

Comment On World's News For Week

Hearst
Refuses to Support Smith

For governor of New York but has put his O. K. on the democratic candidacy of Judge Wagner for the United States senatorship from that state. It will take the official count after the November election to tell for sure whether this is bad luck for Smith or Wagner. Some think Hearst's opposition will gain more votes for Smith than his support will lose for Wagner but after all that sort of a prediction is only a mere guess at the measure of the unpopularity of the Hearst publications and their boss.

Last year Hearst was against Jimmy Walker for mayor nd the governor came down from Albany and waded into the campaign in the interest of his east side boy friend. Hearst supported the fountain pen man, Waterman by name, and Walker was elected by something like a half million majority. That result indicates that Judge Wagner may be very unfortunate in his friends and is another proof that Smith is mighty lucky in his enemies.

Yet there are folks in this country who ridicule the suggestion that Al Smith was born under a lucky star.

In the New York contest for the governorship we have the highly American spectacle of an east New York Bowery boy running for governor against a candidate who was born with a gold spoon in his mouth. The result should indicate whether we have departed very far from the old log cabin ideals for men for high places in the government.

Indiana
Threatens Loudly

To kick up an awful row just as the campaign for two senatorships is well under way. A group of republican editors are charging that the state government is in the hands of a corrupt political gang elevated and retained in power by the Ku Klux Klan under the leadership of a gentleman of the name of Stephenson, who is now serving a life sentence in state prison for the murder of a young woman.

Governor Jackson is charged with being a mere agent of this gang and he is the man who appointed Robinson to the senate in succession to the late Sam Ralston and is now actively supporting both Robinson and Watson in the campaign for two senatorial seats that is becoming unusually warm even for Indiana. The democrats of the Hoosier state are beginning to sit up and take notice. They prepared themselves for the opportunity that seems to be at hand by nominating two exceedingly able and popular men to the job of rooting Robinson and Watson out of the senate.

A country that is able to pay fifteen or twenty millions of dollars for a prize fight one week and then turn around the next week and pay several million dollars to see a few gamcs of baseball is not in any serious danger of having the paint scratched off its front door.

Also kicking over the traces. There are quite a number of old-fashioned folks in the Grand Old Party in that state who do not understand just why Samuel Insull, the president of the biggest and almost the only public service corporation in the state, should have felt it his duty to donate $55,000 to the campaign war chest of Smith in his contest against McKinley for the republican senatorial nomination.

It always makes a good deal of talk for a well known and heartily despised corporation to openly support any candidate for office but when the man selected for special favor happens to be the chairman of the board that fixes the rates that the people must pay for service from the corporation the conversation is a good deal more active and acid.

Julius Rosenwald and other republicans who believed that Cleveland was right when he declared that public office is a public trust are financing a campaign to prevent public office from becoming a private snap.

Jim Reed may not retire from the senate and he may not be nominated for the presidency by the unterrified democracy but his announcements that he will do the one and is not a candidate for the other has stirred up more friends than he knew he had in all this world. It is too bad that we never learn just how good a public official is until we are about to lose his services.

Farming
Is a Hard Game

Even for the experts who have learned how by doing it. For the amateur, and especially for the rich amateur tiller of the soil, sometimes more or less seriously referred to as the country gentleman, it appears to be a hopelessly losing proposition in spite of the alleged high class business principles that such folks claim to apply to farm operations.

Governor Lowden admits that he has lost several million dollars in the operation of his farming and livestock interests during the past six or seven years. Samuel Insull bought a big place in Illinois and started out to show the common plug farmers of the country that their business would pay big if conducted in a business like way. He conducted his farm that way and now admits that he loses money every year.

Reginald Vanderbilt, in his life time, had a horse breeding farm somewhere near New York where he raised the best known types of the hackney horse, whatever that is, in America and the executors of his estate now admit that the best he was able to do in any year was to take in receipts in the amount of a round $2,000 at an operating cost of about $30,000.

The Honorable Dempsey declines to sanction the story that he was poisoned four days before his championship meeting with the still more Honorable Mr. Tunney and went into battle with a stomach ache and four pimples in each armpit. Dempsey may not be very much of a fighter but his worst enemies must admit that he is one good sport and that he does not know the meaning of the word alibi.

Alexander
King of Macedon,

Generally known as the Great, conquered the known world before he was thirty and first wept and then got drunk because he could find no more nations willing to battle with him. Shortly thereafter he died and has been dead ever since. But his name has lived on and annually is conferred on many thousands of otherwise fortunate boy babies and is the surname of not a few distinguished citizens of this and other countries.

Thirty-nine years ago a family already marked for greatness by the hereditary name of Alexander named their new boy baby Grover Cleveland. That was a rare combination and fore visaged remarkable achievements of some sort. The long delayed arrival of greatness to Grover Cleveland Alexander arrived on a Sunday in the American League ball park in New York. In two hours of perfect work in the pitcher's box for the National League club of St. Louis this modern Alexander conquered the base ball world and unlike his illustrious namesake of so many centuries ago he neither wept nor got drunk over his victory.

It makes little difference after all who wins the world's championship in baseball but it is mighty good to know that as a nation we are now living so well and wisely that 40 year old athletes like Walter Johnson and Grover Cleveland Alexander are no longer regarded as mere freaks.

Farm hands are badly needed in many parts of Kansas and their wages are so high that few farm operators can pay their help out of their income from crops. One of these days agriculture will find out just whose chestnuts it pulled out of the fire when it threw all its influence, if any, to the support of the immigration restriction law which is one of the best beloved children of organized labor.

Ford
Started Something

When he installed the five day working week in his industries. All who have analyzed the matter and have all their facts on straight know, of course, that our richest and most highly honored tinner has not raised the pay of his men. Quite the contrary. Due to the unexplained and rapidly waning popularity of the tin lizzie it was necessary to reduce labor cost at the Ford plant.

It would never in the world do for the greatest of all labor managers to reduce the number or the pay of his workmen. So his master mind found another way to meet the problem. He reduced the working week to five days, not five days' labor for six days' pay, but five days' labor for five days' pay and gave it out cold to his men that he expected them to turn out more work as a mark of appreciation for having their incomes reduced. If Ford employs 60,000 men, as his press agents report, a short and simple arithmetic computation quickly leads us to the conclusion that in addition to the millions of dollars worth of free advertising that he is getting he has reduced his operating expenses something like $500,000 a week and for most folks that is important money.

But the thing that Ford started and that no employer in the world is big enough to stop is the organized labor movement to reduce the working week to five days and still receive six days' pay.

Unless Aime McPherson desires to lose her case now being tried before the bar of American public opinion it would be just as well for her to have no more photographs made for publication in the newspapers.

Russia
Wants to Establish

Friendly relations with the United States. Our folks tell her that she must do this and that before we will engage in any conversations on the subject of renewed diplomatic relations. Russian statesmen respond that they are perfectly willing to do both that and this but cannot get anywhere until they have a chance to talk it over with our representatives.

In the meantime our manufacturers, merchants and business men have not waited for any treaties of amity and friendship but have gone right on developing trade until they are now selling the Russians two or three times as much as they did before the war. Our flag flies nowhere in the broad expanse of the farmer Czar but we are doing a lot of trading over there without such protection.

Russia owes us a few hundred millions of dollars that were borrowed by the Kernsky regime during those gladsome days when Uncle Sam was staking every belligerant nation in the world that would promise to give the Germans some of their own medicine. The Soviet government says it is willing to pay this debt if we will just be good friends again. As the loan to Russia is about all that may ever get from Europe it might as well go after it.

The weather man seems determined to prove that it is impossible for modern science and enterprise to impound all the flood waters that can be dumped on the state of Kansas in a reasonably wet year.

Labor
And Agriculture

Agree that the primary election system is a fine thing and that its abolition would be a surrender to the worst elements in our two rather widely known political party. They are right about it, of course. If the country ever makes up its mind to utilize the primary election system in the interest of the plain every day folks who after all outnumber the politicians at least ten to one there will be an immediate improvement in the type of men elected to public office.

When it comes to running the governments of the republic and of the states, labor does a lot better than agriculture. The trades unions may not have a great many men in congress and in the state legislatures but they have convinced the average run of politicians that without labor no election can be carried. As a result all our law making bodies are filled with men more than willing to do anything that labor wants done.

Before agriculture gets anywhere as a practical force in our public life, the farmers must get together, get mad and stick together and then use the primary election for the selection of public officers who will work for their salaries in preference to any perquisite, that may be offered them by the professional politicians.

Harry Daugherty may not be the greatest or the most honest man who ever presided over an administrative department at Washington and sat in at the meetings of the cabinet but everyone must concede that for this reason and that and possibly another he has plenty of loyal friends who are willing to go to the last ditch in his interest.

"EVERYBODY HAS HIS FINGER IN OUR PIE

Now Farmer Rubes! Let's just wake up,
Put on a clean new collar;
The middlemen are organized
To get our last "derned" dollar.

The railroads just have had a "turn,"
Cleaned up a hundred million,
And still they "Bellyache" and say
They should have had a billion.

The Board of Trade is pulling fine,
Our grain prices to diminish;
And the steal they've not quite put across,
The millers sure will finish.

The packers too are out for blood,
While our crops were burning drier,
Beef steak went up a hundred points,
And pork chops soaring higher.

The Chamber of Commerce "birds," they sing
"Good roads from town to city,"
We'll help Old Dobbin out of the mud,
Oh Farmers! What a pity!

But—When taxpaying time comes round,
From ocean on to ocean,
Us farmers mortgage all our stuff,
To pay our double portion.

The traveling guys and commission men,
Editors and a lot of "city cattle,"
Have got their "tales" up in the air,
To help fight the farmers' battle.

The politicians' crop was large,
There's no use now for weeping,
When primary election day came round,
Too many farmers sleeping.

But, boys, be ready for election day,
Fill your Fords and fix your "crankers,"
Then take your wives and sweethearts too,
And let's "salt down some bankers."
When statisticians spread the bunk,
Which shows crop yields too highly,
We'll load our guns with prairie anthracite,
And take a shot at Smiley.

So, Uncle John, bring on the "hounds,"
Let's help to run our nation,
We've got the plan for every man,
It's just plain "Co-operation."

And on your Union meeting night,
Come out and show your will, sir,
Don't stay at home and "jaw" your wife,
And send thet boy to mill, sir.

The women's clubs are boosting fine,
They're feeding, singing, talking,
Pay up your dues, get into line,
And stop your "golderned squawking."

When every farmer knows his eggs,
And his wife, she makes the stitches,
We'll sell our produce, grain and stock
And wear the middle fellow's breeches.

O. M. Lippert.

ANALYSIS OF KANSAS WHEAT POOL SETTLEMENT

An analysis of the 1925 business of the Kansas Co-Operative Wheat Marketing Association, Wichita, made by the management, shows that the average net price to members was $1,322 per bushel, after deducting all expenses, the two per cent reserve, and the average freight and country handling charges. This price, it is explained, was determined by taking the total net amount of money to be paid members of the 1925 pool and dividing it by the number of bushels of wheat of all grades and classes in the pool, simply for purposes of comparison.

This sum of $1,322 includes an item of 2.43 cents which was the average amount paid by the association for farm storage. Some members who sold early did not receive any storage, some received smaller amounts, and some who held their wheat until the end of the storage season received as much as 8.25 cents per bushel.

The quantity of wheat handled by the Kansas pool in 1925-26 was but 2,631,758 bushels, compared with 6,138,122 the previous year, due to a very short crop. This resulted in a somewhat higher charge per bushel for expenses, as it was found impossible to reduce expenses in proportion to the great decrease in volume. Handling charges, including terminal and country storage, insurance, interest and exchange, laboratory tests, and treating weevil, amounted to 6.834 cents per bushel, sales expenses came to 1.218 cents per bushel, office expenses were 1.883 cents per bushel, and the two per cent reserve amounted to 3.230 cents per bushel.

It is reported that more wheat has been received in the 1926 pool than has been received on a corresponding date in any previous year since the association was organized. With the prospect of handling a very large volume of grain this year the management is confident of a better showing than for the season just closed

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Where soil fertility is a problem the absence of a legume in the rotation hasten the date of the sheriff's sale.

Cattle should be blanketed for a period of six weeks prior to showing them at the county fair

The Country Woman

THE FARMERS UNION CLUB

When you're feeling bum and grouchy,
And your mind refuses to think,
When you've driven, talked and argued,
'Till you cannot sleep a wink;
When you've gone to see a member,
And his wife tells you right away,
He is nine miles over yonder,
Helping neighbor Jones to hay.

When they go and "set a meetin',"
At the schoolhouse over there,
And you come to do your darndest,
And they've all gone to the Fair;
When you meet in empty schoolrooms,
Talk to empty seats awhile,
And you wish the devil had them,
(But you don't forget to smile).

When you've talked and they've admitted,
"Union" was our only plan,
But they'd like to wait a little,
And see what came to the faithful man;
Then you bet your head grows weary,
And your wheels begin to stick,
Then you change your little program,
Go and attend the big Picnic.

It was across the line in Anderson,
Where the Union is going strong,
Every fellow and his lady,
Came to help the cause along;
There were baskets filled with good things,
Stacked on tables there that day,
Cakes and pies, all kinds of chicken,
Happened in a fellows way.

And around that table serving,
Stood a throng of ladies fair,
Talking Union to their neighbors,
Scattering sunshine everywhere.
Fellows! Now don't think they're flirting,
As they pass around that "grub,"
They're the "backbone" of the Union,
They're the Farmers Union Club.

So I tell you, Brother Fieldmen,
If you chance to come this way,
You will always find a welcome,
Just drop in prepared to stay.
You can help to feed the chickens,
Milk the cows, do up the work,
And you'll surely catch the dickens,
If the Union work you shirk.

—O. M. Lippert.

HOME HINTS

(By Aunt Aggie of K. S. A. C.)

Store Summer Treasures Now

It's time to store vegetables. And all one needs is a cave, a basement or a few square feet of ground — and the vegetables to store, of course.

Cabbage, most vegetables, and apples may be stored in the cellar for early winter use and outdoors in pits for later use. But to avoid the "wild" taste that vegetables often develop when stored in the cellar, they may be packed in boxes with alternate layers of sand or earth, and the boxes set in the coolest part of the basement; or the vegetables may be stored in an outdoor pit.

It is best to make the outdoor pit above the ground, unless drainage is exceptionally good. Such vegetables as cabbage, turnips, Irish potatoes, beets, carrots, salsify and parsnips may be stored in the pit, and in much the same way.

Taking cabbage as the example, for instance, pull the cabbage with roots and leaves on, and place the heads down in regular rows on the ground. Pile earth or san against the cabbage until the entire plant and root is covered. And use enough covering so the heads won't freeze. Parsnips are an exception—they are not injured by freezing, and may be buried or left in the ground.

A warm, dry place with plenty of free air circulating are the best storage conditions for sweet potatoes, pumpkins, squashes and onions.

Farmers' Bulletin 879 on Home Storage of Vegetables explains how home storage may be carried out on both a small and a larger scale.

WELL FITTED SHOES

This is a homely subject, but one of the greatest importance to the comfort and well being of our people. When we see men and women hobbling along the streets, hobbling through life, suffering with corns, bunions, fallen arches and many other ailments due to improper and badly fitted shoes, we offer no excuse for mentioning it.

We urge parents, especially those living in the country, to use the utmost care in selecting winter footwear for their children. Plain, neat, sensible styles are to be selected, with plenty of breadth, but not too much, with broad, substantial heels.

Cheap shoes are not economical. Buy good, strong, well-built shoes for the boy in which his feet will be comfortable and keep dry and warm; then do the same thing for the girl. The girl's shoe may be somewhat lighter but built along the same lines. Do not start them or allow them to wear the short, peg heel, women killers which are so often worn because the wearers think they are a thing of beauty. The price they pay in health and comfort is entirely too great.

Select shoes for the children with an eye to comfort and neatness and they will bless you in after life.—Southern Planter.

HALF A DOZEN FRUIT DRINKS

(By Betty Barclay)

Now that the slogan of food writers is "Eat Ripe Fruit and Green Vegetables," why not drink some of these vitamins as well as eat them?

"You can't drink vegetables" you say? Surely you can! How about soup? It may be polite to say you EAT soup, but there is a very faint line between eating and drinking in this particular case—especially with consomme and other thin soups.

You surely can drink fruits, or at least, fruit juices, though. In fact, it would be very beneficial if a few million of us would get out of the habit of drinking some kinds of bottled beverages with synthetic flavors and charged water, beverages usually called "pop," and get down to the old-fashioned soft drinks that we had on the farm thirty years ago. To them, it would be wise to add a few of the latest drinks that have been composed since oranges became an every-day food rather than a Christmas delicacy, and since pineapples and other fruits became almost as common as apples and peaches.

Here are half a dozen beverages that will prove pleasing at any time of the year—but particularly in warm weather when we always crave something cooling and tasty:

Quaker Mint Julep

2 sprigs mint
3 cups tea infusion
Juice 3 lemons
Juice 3 oranges
½ teaspoon powdered sugar.
2 tablespoons hot water.
2 tablespoons cold water.

Bruise mint in a pitcher and pour the tea over the fruit juice, ginger mixed with two tablespoons hot water and the cold water. Chill and serve. Serve eight or ten.

Grape Punch For Twelve

1 cup sugar
2 quarts water
1 pint grape juice
1 cup cut oranges
1 cup halved and seeded Tokay grapes
Juice 2 lemons; juice 2 oranges; ice.

Boil the sugar and water together 10 minutes. Cool, add the fruit juices and fruit and either serve with cracked ice, or iced in a punch bowl.

Orangeade

Ten small glasses.
2 cups sugar
1 quart water
1 cup orange juice ,reserving rinds of fruit
Orange or mint garnish

Boil the sugar and water ten minutes with the orange rinds. Remove the rinds, chill the syrup, add the fruit juices and dilute to taste. Serve very cold with a bit of orange or mint as a garnish.

Sweet Cider Punch

Juice 3 oranges
Juice 1 lemon
1 quart cider
¼ cup maraschino cherries

Extract juice from the oranges and lemon and add this to the cider, together with the cherries. Chill thoroughly and serve. Serves six to eight.

Fruit Julep

1 cup crushed pineapple
1 cup sugar
1 cup water.
½ cup strawberry syrup
1 pint bottle ginger ale
4 maraschino cherries
Juice 1 orange
Juice 1 lemon
Ice.

Mix the pineapple, orange juice, lemon juice, sugar and water together an dboil for 10 minutes. Cool, then add the fruit syrup and ginger ale. Strain and pour over a cake of ice in punch bowl. Slice 4 maraschino cherries in paper thin slices and add to the bowl.

Rhubarbade

Makes about three quarts.
3 pounds rhubarb
Boiling water
6 lemons
12 oranges
3 grapefruit
1 cup grape juice
Sugar.

Wash and cut rhubarb in small pieces, place in granite saucepan, and barely cover with water. Cook until tender, drain through a colander, add strained juice of lemons, oranges and grapefruit, and add grape juice. Measure juice and add one-third its weight in sugar. Bring juice and sugar to boiling point, cool and bottle. Keep in refrigerator. Reduce with water at serving time.

ALFALFA LEAVES DO NOT PUMP WATER FROM STEMS

There is a popular belief that alfalfa and other hays cure more rapidly when handled so as to keep the leaves in a fresh condition until the stems have lost much of their moisture. This belief rests on the assumption that so long as the leaves are not dry they continue to draw or pump the moisture from the stems. It is partly because of this theory that curing in the windrow has been so commonly advocated, says the United States Department of Agriculture.

It is generally recognized that hay cured in the windrow or cock does not in more of its leaves, thereby increasing its feeding value. So far as can be ascertained, however, no experiments have hitherto been conducted to determine whether or not the leaves actually aid in removing water from the stems. With this in mind some tests were begun in 1924 and continued in 1925 by department investigators, the results of which are discussed in Department Bulletin No. 1424-D, just published.

Samples of alfalfa were taken and weighed immediately. Some of them were left to cure in the natural condition—that is with the leaves on—while the leaves were picked from others by hand. Weighings were made at intervals to determine the rapidity with which the various samples lost their moisture.

In every case where the leaves were removed from the stems the alfalfa dried out somewhat more rapidly than where it was allowed to cure in its natural state; that is, with the leaves on. The difference was not great and just how much of this is due to handling can not be easily determined. However, it is perfectly clear from the data that alfalfa in the quantities used in the tests cures at least as rapidly with leaves removed as with them attached, which is contrary to the popular belief.

These extensive tests would seem to indicate the fallacy of the popular theory concerning the pumping action of the leaves, but this need not necessarily change the practice of curing hay in the windrow or cock. Some other explanation must be made for the the beneficial results of the practice, however.

A copy of this bulletin may be secured as long as the supply lasts by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.



5619. Girls' Dress
Cut in 4 Sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. A 10 year size requires 2⅝ yards of 40 inch material with ¼ yard of contrasting material for facings, if made with long sleeves. If made with short sleeves 2⅛ yards of one material is required. Price 15c.

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FASHION BOOK NOTICE

Send 12c in silver or stamps for our Up-to-Date Fall and Winter 1926-27 Book of Fashions, showing color plates, and containing 500 designs of Ladies' Misses' and Children's Patterns, a Concise and Comprehensive Article on Dressmaking, also some Points for the Needle (illustrating 30 of the various, simple stitches) all valuable hints to the home dressmaker.

Pattern Dept. Kansas Union Farmer
Box 48 Salina, Kansas

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

Whereas, God, in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to call from our midst our brother, J. E. Hedberg:

Therefore be it resolved, That we, the members of Falun local No. 1729 of the Farmers Union do extend to the members of the bereaved family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this their hour of bereavement and sorrow.

Be it further resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, one to be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer for publication and one to be spread on the minutes of the Union records.

R. E. Terry
E. J. Englund
J. Y. Hudson.



"ROSE OF DELHI" DRESS

This charming little rose colored dress, of guaranteed fast color, serviceable Delhi Crash, you will find to be a most practical as well as attractive dress for your little girl. Explicit instructions for the embroidery work are attached to every dress and the design works out beautifully. This is flat stamped and you should allow for extra size when making. You can get this number, 8 to 10 years only in size, for the unusually reasonable price of only 88 cents. By embroidering it yourself you will practice real economy, as well as assure a garment of individuality and beauty. Its equal can not be obtained in the ready to wear for many times its cost. In ordering give number, 1102.—Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kans., Box 48.

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE

If members of the Union have anything to Sell or Exchange, they should advertise it in this department. Rate: 3 cents a word per issue. Count words in heading, as "For Sale," or "Wanted to Buy," and each initial or figure in the address. Compound words count as two words. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—TRY THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

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A Mild Remedy That Cures Piles

It was formerly held that the only way to really remove piles entirely and permanently was by a surgical operation, cutting them off. However, Dr. O. A. Johnson, well known specialist, has demonstrated in hundreds of cases than an operation is not necessary to get rid of piles. He does it without using the knife, electricity, burning, tying off, acids, cautery, ligatures or other harsh drastic means. Yet the piles are removed cleanly, entirely, and for good.

He has written a book that fully explains his method and is anxious to send it free and without obligation to any sufferer from bleeding, protruding piles o rother rectal troubles. Simply send name and address to Dr. O. A. Johnson, suite 181-D, 1324 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. This book tells how to be rid of piles without the expense, pain, danger nad inconvenience of a surgical operation, and also how to be rid of various other diseases caused by rectal troubles, such as nervousness, backaches, headaches, rheumatism, sciatica, stomach trouble, constipation, etc. When piles are cured, the troubles they cause are cured, too.



While in France with the American Army I obtained a French prescription for the treatment of Rheumatism and Neuritis. I have given this to thousands with wonderful results. The prescription costs me nothing. I ask nothing for it. I will mail it if you will send me your address. A postal will bring it. Write today.

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Farmers' Union Managerial Association
A. M. Kinney, President, Huron, Kansas.
Jack Stevens, Secretary, Kansas City, Mo.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 26
(L. 1925, ch. 192)

A proposition to amend section 3, article II, of the constitution of the state of Kansas, relating to the compensation of members of the legislature.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members concurring therein:

SECTION 1. That there is hereby submitted to the qualified electors of the state of Kansas for their approval or rejection a proposal to amend section 3, article II, of the constitution of the state of Kansas so as to read as follows: Sec. 3. The members of the legislature shall receive as compensation for their services the sum of eight dollars per day for each day's actual service during any regular or special session and five cents per mile for each mile traveled by the usual route in going to and returning from the place of meeting; but such compensation shall not in the aggregate exceed the sum of four hundred and eighty dollars for any regular session, nor more than two hundred and forty dollars for any special session and such sums shall constitute all of the compensation of members of the legislature for all purposes whatsoever.

Sec. 2. This proposition shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Kansas at the general election in 1926. The amendment hereby proposed shall be known on the official ballot by the title "The Legislative Compensation Amendment to the Constitution," and a vote for or against such proposition shall be taken as provided by law.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of original House Concurrent Resolution No. 26, now on file in my office.

(Seal) FRANK J. RYAN,
Secretary of State
52-13t

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Department of Practical Co-Operation

WOODSON COUNTY

The county union will meet at Vernon the last Saturday in October at 10 a. m. A report of the state convention will be given. Other important business to be acted upon.

S. C. Cowles, President.

NOTICE

The 13th annual stockholders' meeting of the Washington County Farmers Union Co-Operative Association has been postponed until after the January audit. Notice of exact date will be given each stockholder by card later.

Signed, Board of Directors.

REPORT FROM WOODRUFF 870

Henry Griffith, secretary of Woodruff 870, writes that wheat sowing is about a thing of the past. First sowing is up and looking fine. Quite an acreage has been sown. No corn to pick to speak of. Feed crop short. Hogs and cattle shipped out down to a small number. Good milk cows are bringing good price at sales, $50.00 to $85.00. Horses selling cheap. Good teams from $50.00 to 150.00. Hasn't been much moisture yet.

Woodruff, Phillips Co.

OTTAWA COUNTY

The Ottawa County Farmers Union will give cash prizes of $5, $3 and $2 respectively for the three best agricultural exhibits by locals at the Ottawa County Fair, Oct. 26-29.

Bring in your farm products and let's show the people that the Farmers Union is the leader of all farm organizations in the county.

G. Postlethwaite, President.
I. E. Sewell, Secretary.

MARSHALL COUNTY HAS SUCCESSFUL MEETING

The third quarterly meeting of the Marshall County Farmers Union held at Marysville Friday, Sept. 17, was the largest and best meeting held in the county this year. The basket dinner at noon was up to the standard for which our Marshall County Union ladies are noted for. The meeting was called to order by President Maldoon at 1:30 and was opened by all rising and singing "America." This was followed by a violin solo by John Easton and a duet by Mrs. Will Griffin, Mrs. Ed Nelson and Mrs. A. W. Peterson of Blanchville Local. Then followed the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, reports of committees and other business. The credential committee reported fourteen locals with seventy-seven delegates present and over 100 visiting members. The following resolution was presented and adopted as read. We, the committee on resolutions express our thanks to the City of Marysville for the use of the park and auditorium and also to Mr. Thompson for ice cream and the ladies for the sumptuous dinner. The committee on constitution and good of the order recommended the following change which was adopted. That the words third Friday be striken out of section two, and the first Friday be substituted.

Also we recommend the following which was adopted for the good of the order. That the county organization shall pay $5.00 towards the expenses of a delegate, sent by any local to the annual state meeting, provided that said delegate makes a report to his local within three weeks after annual meeting. That the county secretary-treasurer shall be authorized, after receiving report from local secretary, to pay same out of the general fund.

A. J. Wempe was elected as delegate to our state meeting and H. L. Travelute his alternate, and they were instructed to do all in their power to bring our state meeting to Marysville in 1927.

We next had violin solos by Sam Herring and Chas. Kloxin and a few whistling selections by Vernon Lass.

Hon. John Tromble and E. L. Bullard, vice-president of the Farmers Union Co-Operative Produce Association gave us two splendid talks. Mr. Bullard praised us for having a good average bunch of locals in our county and a big average representation present. They both paid high tribute to our ladies for the splendid dinner served. Congressman James Strong was next called on and during his remarks paid high tribute to Mr. Bullard and especially so to our Hon. president, John Tromble, for the time and work he has done in Washington in the past, for the farmers and advised us to do all we could to help him as our leader until some legislation would be accomplished for the farmers' benefit. A few remarks from Rex Montgomery and our meeting adjourned to meet in Frankfort Tuesday, Dec. 7.

HAD SOCIAL TIME

Brogan local No. 226 of the Farmers Union held a social session at their last meeting. The local furnished ten gallons of ice cream and the lady members and wives of the members furnished some of the finest cakes ever seen as accompaniment to the cream.

This was the regular night for the election of officers and an enthusiastic crowd attended the meeting. Five new members were obligated showing that the idea of co-operation is growing. The following were elected as officers:

President—Tom Casey.
Vice-president, Francis Crager.
Secretary—H. A. Bender.
Doorkeeper—Matt Cavanaugh.
Conductor—Eugene Sevart.
Executive Committee—A. J. Hopkins, Henry Sevart and John Crager.
Official Correspondent—A. J. Hopkins.
Delegate to State Meeting—Henry Sevart.

This local is planning a series of educational meetings and a drive for new members the coming winter months.

Brogan local is located just east of St. Paul in Neosho county. St. Paul is the center of the co-operative movement in southeast Kansas. There are several good locals in the community, the Produce Association has a growing station here, the Live Stock Association is well represented here, the Insurance Company has an active representative here, there is a local wheat pool with a good membership and co-operation is practiced through the local co-operative elevator. Keep your eye on Southeast Kansas as a co-operative farming center.

A. J. Hopkins, Correspondent.
No. 226, St. Paul, Kansas.

DO THEY REPRESENT AGRICULTURE?

The Corn Belt Committee and the committee of twenty-two held simultaneous meetings in Des Moines. One of the actions of the two committees was to approve a report on costs of production of farm crops which seems ridiculous to sane thinking men who are vitally interested in agriculture.

When a group supposed to represent agriculture agrees that the corn belt farmer must get $1.42 a bushel for corn to make a reasonable profit, farmers who have profited by growing corn at one-half of that amount are apt to feel other statements emanating from the same source must be discounted 50 per cent. There may be a few farms now devoted to the production of corn on which the acre yield is so low that even $1.42 a bushel would not return a profit. The problem on such a farm is not to be solved by continuing to grow corn with the expectation or hope of cost of production but to devote that area to some crop which can be produced profitably. If cultivated land is too poor to produce satisfactory yields under normal conditions it should either be built up to a point where this is possible or be devoted to grass or forests. If too poor to produce grass or trees it should be abandoned.

The same report indicated that the cost of production of wheat is $2.42 a bushel. The Kansas farmers who have produced 140 million bushels of wheat this year would be perfectly willing to enter into a continuous contract to grow wheat for the next ten years if guaranteed one-half of the indicated price.

The men who adopted this report are determined to carry forward the figure for the principles which have been defeated during the past two sessions of congress. If men whose ideas of cost of production follow these lines should be appointed to determine the amount of an equalization fee necessary to make agricultural products profitable to American farmers, the public at large would have a real right to fear agricultural legislation.

The cost of production report tends to destroy confidence in the sincerity of the committee as a whole. There were doubtless some conservative members who approved this report in order that they might retain the support of the entire committee on other matters which they considered vital to the success of their program.

What is really needed is a committee to represent agriculture in which the public has unlimited confidence. Some of the members of present committees have excellent qualifications but they are not in the majority.

Agricultural spokesmen cannot secure results until the general public believes in the integrity of their motives and that their demands are reasonable. If congress could be convinced that any measure offered would ultimately better the condition of the farmer there would be no difficulty in securing its passage.

The most certain way to gain public confidence would be to select spokesmen who have a record of successful farming back of them. They should also be men whose judgment is respected. If the outstanding farmers of each of the corn belt states could get together, consult with the men in charge of agricultural economics at their state institutions, then adopt a definite, permanent and constructive program, agricultural legislation backed by such an influence would undoubtedly be enacted.

Farm relief has been used as a political football for the last few years. A few representatives and senators have voted, not upon their judgment, but upon the possibilities of their return to Washington. Several of the spokesmen have been activated by a similar motive. They want to retain their present offices. A program devised by the most outstanding farmers, after due deliberation with recognized economists, none of whom are dependent upon their election to office of any sort, would command the respect not only of representatives from agricultural but from industrial centers. Such a group would be accepted as spokesmen for agriculture.

There is no doubt that farmers have suffered inordinate losses in recent years. Conditions are gradually growing better. Statistics show that the farmers' income has practically doubled during the last four years. The trouble is that it had reached such a low point that a further increase, greater than that already obtained, is necessary to maintain American standards of living. This will not be secured by legislation designed by a committee which would adopt a report on costs of production which make them appear ridiculous to all who are vitally interested in the farmer's problem.

By E. E. Kennedy, secretary of the Farmers Educational and Co-Operative Union of America, Illinois Division.

The Kansas City Star of recent date carried an editorial under the captain "Do They Represent Agriculture?"

The Corn Belt Committee is composed of representatives of thirty-six distinct groups of producing farmers. These representatives were selected for positions of leadership in their respective organizations by the farmers' exercise of their right of franchise. Men, who think and men who know agriculture and its problems, do not question the authority of these men to represent agriculture. The organized farmer does not question the authority with which they speak.

The editorial referred to shows that the Kansas City Star is incompetent or unwilling to fairly or accurately judge the existing farm problems. The editorial states, "Kansas farmers who have produced 140 million bushels of wheat this year would be perfectly willing to enter into a continuous contract for the next ten years, if guaranteed one-half the indicated price ($2.42 per bushel). One-half of the indicated price would be $1.21 per bushel. The ten years (1915-1925) weighted daily average farm price paid to Kansas farmers was $1.35 per bushel and the five years (1920-1925) daily average weighted farm price of Kansas wheat was $1.21 per bushel. In substance the Star declares the Kansas farmer would be perfectly willing to enter into a continuous contract to grow wheat for the next ten years, if guaranteed the same prices that he has received for the last five years. If the Star has correctly quoted the Kansas farmer, then is there a farm problem? We shall permit the Star to answer.

"There is no doubt that farmers have suffered inordinate losses in recent years." The Star presumes that "When a group supposed to represent agriculture agrees that the Corn Belt farmer must get $1.42 a bushel for corn to make a reasonable profit, farmers who have profited by growing corn at one-half of that amount are apt to feel other statements emanating from the same source must be discounted 50 per cent." The five-year daily average farm price paid Iowa farmers 1920 to 1924 inclusive was 76 cents per bushel. One-half of $1.42 is 71c per bushel. An average of seventy-six cents per bushel has measured the purchasing power and the debt-paying ability of Iowa farmers in the five years period referred to above.

If the Star knows what they are talking about, Iowa farmers have received an average of five cents per bushel in addition to having profited by growing corn. The Star persists "The trouble is that it (farmers' income) had reached such a low point that a further increase, greater than that already obtained, is necessary to maintain American standard of living."

The Star as well as many others are not entirely to blame, because the premises upon which their conclusions are based are so astoundingly absurd. The blame can be more accurately accredited to such reports captioned "cost of raising bushel of corn 56 cents a bushel."—These results were obtained on 16 farms in Champaign and Piatt counties, Ill. According to figures which the farm management department of the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, has just released." In a letter addressed to the writer, John Lee Coulter, president of the North Dakota Agricultural College, said: ". . . . while referring to Professor Willard and his work, I want to be sure that you understand that his cost of production figures are not an examination of what the price of an article should be in order to give the farmer cost of production on the basis of a recognized American standard of living. His figures are merely a compilation of what farmers actually did spend in each of the years in the production of their crops. On account of conditions, of course, farmers actually did not buy paint and keep their buildings in repair and actually made every sort and kind of sacrifice. It is also likely that the reports from these farmers would be somewhat above what might be called the average farm and the average farmers in the state." The Iowa state college of agriculture gave figures to the press based upon the reports of a few farms, reporting the cost of production of a bushel of corn in Iowa at 68 cents per bushel, "As being the average cost of producing corn."

Recently an official of the bureau of the Western Lines wrote me in part as follows: "As to the yearly loss entailed by the Illinois farmer, I have located in Crops and Markets supplement, April 1925, pages 116 and 117 the following:

Estimated Value of Farm Products for Illinois

Year	Crops	Animal Products	Total
1920	$ 554,000,000	$502,000,000	$1,056,000,000
1921	359,000,000	374,000,000	733,000,000
1922	471,000,000	379,000,000	850,000,000
1923	506,000,000	421,000,000	927,000,000
1924	613,000,000	42,000,000	1,015,000,000

Comparing the above with your cost of production of $781,574,360.41, with the exception of 1921, do you not agree that there must have been a margin of profit?" To this I answered as follows: "Next I view with utter amazement, the table 'estimated value of farm products for Illinois farmers' incomes? If we are to say that these values mean income, we would also have to say that farmers have sold on December first at December first prices, all corn, oats, barley, hay and other feed crops produced on the farm each year. And we must then ask how can livestock have sale value to say nothing of 'existence' without feed? And again inquire how after having cashed on December first on his work horses, milk cows, breeding cows, brood sows, breeding ewes and other producing animals, this farmer can have crops, hogs, cattle, lambs, butterfat, and other products to produce income? Miracles alone can produce such results, the laws of nature are immutable and are the laws obtaining in the reproduction of animal life and the production of animal products and crops on Illinois farms."

I can readily understand how honest men, who know very little if anything about the practical side of farming become grossly misinformed. I can understand also how men who are insincere and unfair are unwilling to face a fact.

The agricultural problem can not longer escape the attention of honest thinking men. That the problem is serious no man cares to deny. The problem is in the price the farmer receives. The Corn Belt Committee specifically and definitely raises the question as to what that price should be and has submitted the facts and figures to a candid world for their support.

The figures submitted by the committee as being the average cost are submitted as being the average cost per unit considering the farm as a business unit and if the farmer is to earn five per cent on the investment (1925 U. S. census values.)

A proper schedule of depreciation is considered an expense on improvements and equipment and a salary of $1,800.00 for the farmer and his family. The farm income was based upon five year average yields and five year average daily farm prices. This determined the average per cent of the average farm income produced by each crop, kind of livestock and produce. The same percentage of the operating cost is borne by each crop, kind of livestock and produce that each provides of the average farm income.

Public utilities, manufacturers, printers, merchants and business generally cannot consistently ask the farmers to apologize for following an example that has been their standard for years. Their position is very awkward when they condemn farmers for using a method of ascertaining the cost of their service that has been their method of fixing farmers' operating costs for a quarter of a century.

The Corn Belt Committee is firmly entrenched behind the principle that farmers' operating costs are being fixed by manufacturers and other industries. Farmers must fix their incomes to meet such fixed costs. Industrial effort on the part of the farmer or legislation that is not based upon these fundamentals is doomed to failure. Failure for the sole reason that it not sound business.

OSAGE CO. FARMERS SEND OUT QUESTIONNAIRE

(Continued from page 1)

QUESTIONNAIRE

Ordered by the Osage County Farmers Union in session at Vassar, Kansas, June 10, 1926, to provide information that the voters of Osage county may vote intelligently:

1. If elected will you be in favor of an effective bank guarantee law?
Yes.
2. Would you vote for farm organizations to receive charters to conduct banks?
Yes.

Signed by: Maurice Murphy, Democratic candidate for att'y gen.
Committee:
W. C. Haufler, Vassar, Kansas
J. J. Cooper, Cardonbale, Kansas
R. M. Kaff, Michigan Valley, Kan.
W. A. Britte, Overbrook, Kansas
W. M. Lyons, Lyndon, Kansas
Mail to last address by September 3, 1926.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Ordered by the Osage County Farmers Union in sessio nat Vassar, Kansas, June 10, 1926, to provide information that the voters of Osage county may vote intelligently.

1. Would you work and vote for a reduction in the value of farm real estate and an increase in the value of public utilities for taxation purposes and for a state income tax law?
Yes.
2. Would you work and vote to maintain our present road law as it is?
Yes.
3. Would you work and vote against any appropriation ou t of general funds to reimburse parties that borrow money to meet funds for road building? Yes.
4. Would you work and vote for a law granting farm organizations the right to conduct their own banks the same as other organizations or individuals?
Yes.
5. Are you in favor of repealing the intangible tax law?
Yes.
6. Are you in favor of consolidating the offices of county and state, so that the work may be done by 80 percent of the present officials at their present salaries? If consistent with efficient service, yes.
7. Would you work and vote for an effective bank guarantee law?
Yes.

Failing to answer any or all of these questions or ignoring them altogether, will be considered a negative answer.

Please return to the committee by September 4, 1926.

Signed by: W. H. Behrens,
State Senator 16th District.
Committee:
W. C. Haufler, Vassar, Kansas
J. J. Cooper, Carbondale, Kansas
R. M. Kaff, Michigan Valley, Kan.
W. A. Britte, Overbrook, Kansas
W. M. Lyons, Lyndon, Kansas.
Please mail to last address.

It is difficult to answer all of the above questions intelligently with merely yes or no; if any further information is desired I will answer frankly upon request.

Sincerely,
H. W. Behrens.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Ordered by the Osage County Farmers Union in session at Vassar, Kansas, June 10, 1926, to provide information that the voters of Osage county may vote intelligently:

1. Would you work and vote for a reduction in the value of farm real estate and an increase in the value of public utilities for taxation purposes?
Ans. I am in favor of reducing all values for taxation purposes but to raise values on public utilities might only mean an increase price in rates on commodities.
2. Would you work and vote to maintain our present road law as it is?
Ans. A list of counties before me show that some have obtained results while others spending larger sums have not. To illustrate, from 1918 to 1925 inclusive, Osage county spent $194,181 and at that time had not a foot of hard surface road. The same report shows Lyon county paid $1,244,865 and they have a modern hard something wrong.
3. Would you work and vote against any appropriation to reimburse parties that borrow money to meet funds for road building?
Ans: I would vote against any such appropriation.
4. Would you work and vote for a law granting farm organizations the right to conduct their own banks?
With one condition they must be safe.
5. Are you in favor of repealing the intangible tax law?
Ans. The present law is not all that might be desired but with a market full of tax-free bonds and all U. S. postoffices soliciting deposits tax-free, there is some question how far to go with a repeal.
6. Are you in favor of consolidating the offices of county and state, so that the work may be done by 80 per cent of the present officials at their present salaries?
Ans. Many should be consolidated and many others abolished altogether and I am positively opposed to creating new ones.
7. Would you work and vote for an effective bank guarantee law?
Ans.: Am very much in favor of such a law.

Failing to answer any or all of these questions or ignoring them altogether will be considered a negative answer.

Please return to the committee by September 4, 1926.

Signed by: E. J. Rice,
Democratic Candidate for Rep.
Committee:
W. C. Haufler, Vassar, Kansas
J. J. Cooper, Carbondale, Kansas
R. M. Kaff, Michigan Valley, Kan.
W. A. Britte, Overbrook, Kansas
W. M. Lyons, Lyndon, Kansas
Mail to last address.

Sept. 1, 1926

Mr. W. M. Lyons,
Lyndon, Kansas:
Dear Mr. Lyons:

In reply to the questions submitted in your questionnaire, will state that I have frequently and consistently refrained from answering questionnaires, and it would be unfair to others for me to deviate from this practice in this case.

I feel you can appreciate my position since almost every organization has a program outlined to which they would bind the gubernatorial candidates.

My record, however, should satisfy your members on most of these questions. As to roads my attitude has been for roads that first would supply the requirements of the agricultural sections, and the public to decide the kind of roads they prefer. I stood out against a special session of the legislature for the reason that I felt it was unnecessary. Roads can be built by revenue derived from automobile and gasoline taxes and I am opposed to any bond issue.

As to taxes, the records will bear me out in the statement that the present administration reduced farm land values $14,063,576 this year over last and the taxpayers will pay $278,528.85 less taxes this year. Corporation taxes were placed at $530,103,381 this year, an increase of $15,047,906 over last year. Intangible property increased this year in the amount of $10,398,007. This phase of taxation is new and should be given a fair trial. In every state where it has proven successful at least three years were required for the experimental stages. However, I feel that the rate should be increased, otherwise the law should be repealed.

As to banking, I favor any workable guaranty law and feel that farm organizations or any other organization has the right to conduct banks just as much as they have the right to engage in any other business.

I am opposed to placing a general tax on the people for raising funds to reimburse moneys borrowed by public officials for road purposes.

I have practiced economy in all my official acts as your chief executive and favor the consolidation of all state and county offices that will permit safe and economical government.

Yours very truly,
Ben S. Paulen, governor.

KEEPING UP OUR WHEAT REPUTATION

"The Southwest has a world-wide reputation for high quality winter wheat, and there is no question but that this high standard is going to be maintained," says H. M. Bainer, director, The Southwestern Wheat Improvement Association. Continuing, he says, "Our wheat farmers are doing more and more each year to improve the quality and increase the per acre yield. They realize that quality has much to do with the price and that the yield per acre controls the profits.

Much is being done to build up the soil and make it more productive than it was when new. Wheat growers have learned that it does not pay to continue to raise wheat too many years on the same fields, also that it is as important to maintain the organic matter and the soil nitrogen as it is to plow and keep down the weeds. They have also found that no straw, stubble or trash should be burned; that the soil needs this vegetation and it should be plowed under.

"More attenion is being paid to good seed and adapted varieties than ever before, and while the fanning mill is finding increased use in improving seed, yet there is a great need of increasing its use still more. Thousands of farmers are treating their seed wheat for smut this fall who have never done so before. Smutty seed and rye mixed seed is taking a back seat and is being rapidly replaced with certified and pure seed. New fangled varieties are not finding a ready sale; farmers are sticking to the old reliable varieties and are waiting for the approval of the experiment stations before trying out the new ones.

"The wheat farmer's problems are being solved through earlier seedbed preparation, rotation of crops, better seed, growing more legumes and handling more livestock. A combination of this kind builds up the soil fertility, increases the yield, improves the quality, insures greater profits and maintains our established reputation for high quality wheat."

Prayer is a key to the day and a lock to the night.

MANY CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS HAVE CAPITAL STOCK

Sixty-nine per cent of the farmers' buying and selling associations in the United States have capital stock and 63 per cent of the total co-operative business is transacted by associations so organized. More than 10,000 reports respecting capital stock have been analyzed by the Division of Co-operative Marketing of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Eighty-five per cent of the associations in the New England states are organized with capital stock, 77 per cent in the west north central states, 72 per cent in the mountain states, 43 per cent in the south Atlantic states, and but 33 per cent in the middle Atlantic states. The percentages of the associations formed with capital stock in several of the leading co-operative states are as follows: Kansas, 9 per cent; Nebraska, 91 per cent; Ohio, 82 per cent; Wisconsin, 80 per cent; Minnesota, 74 per cent; Iowa, 65 per cent; Michigan, 63 per cent; California, 50 per cent; and New York, 31 per cent.

In the case of the farmers' elevators, 98 per cent are organized with capital stock. Eighty-five per cent of the associations marketing dairy products have capital stock; 30 per cent of the associations marketing fruits and vegetables are capital stock enterprises, as are also 35 per cent of the associations marketing eggs and poultry, 15 per cent of those marketing livestock and 9.5 per cent of those marketing wool.

The 432 Illinois associations and the 207 Ohio associations all organized with capital stock. The percentages of capital stock grain marketing associations in North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota, Indiana and Nebraska are just under 100.

The percentages for the fruit and vegetable associations varied from 8 per cent in Missouri to 91 per cent in Minnesota.

Less than 2 per cent of the livestock shipping associations in Illinois have capital stock, while 31 per cent of those in Michigan are organized with capital stock.

More than 6,800 of the associations reporting regarding form of organization also reported regarding the amount of business transacted in 1925. The data indicated that 63 per cent of the total business was handled by associations with capital stock.

HOW CALIFORNIA PRUNES WILL BE ADVERTISED

Opening prices to the trade for 1926 prunes were announced on August 16 by the California Prune and Apricot Growers' Association, San Jose. Prices on the different sizes were quoted on bulk basis and in 25-pound packages.

The management has decided that for this year, instead of the regular advertising program, more attention will be given to a sales promotion program with just enough advertising to stimulate this work. The program calls for sales promotion work in 450 cities this fall, requiring the services of about 200 salesmen for a period of about eight weeks, depending upon the size of the city. Display material including a reproduction of the billboard poster, suitable for a store window, and a counter display featuring the new 11-ounce can of prunes, will be distributed.

Billboard advertising has proved successful in the past and will be the main form of advertising this year. An attractive poster has been prepared and will be shown in about 256 cities, some of which are in California. In certain sections where the winters are too rigorous for effective billboard advertising, local newspaper advertising will be done. The newspaper advertising is to be confined to small, snappy coppy with a good deal of black background, and all these advertisements will be small in size and carried for a longer period than would be financially possible if larger space was used.

In New York and Boston where poster space is difficult to secure the advertising will be confined to subway and surface cars.

The objective for the present year is to secure the greatest amount of favorable publicity for the products of the association with an economical outlay of time and money.

In addition to the one and two-pound cartons of Sunsweet prunes two new packages have been placed on the market. One is an 11-ounce can of Sunsweet prunes ready to serve, and the other a two-pound carton, hermetically sealed, lined with parchment paper and wrapped in a cellophane wrapper.

INSURING WHEAT AGAINST SMUT

"For a premium of less than one-half of a cent a bushel, every bushel of next year's wheat crop can be insured against smut, and the only way to do this is through seed treatment this fall," says H. M. Bainer, director, The Southwestern Wheat Improvement Association. Continuing he says, "Thousands of farmers all over the Southwest are treating their seed wheat for the first time this fall. The number of home-made and commercial smut treating machines have multiplied several times over the number used a year ago. One manufacturer of machines reports the sale of more than seven hundred in the past two months in Kansas alone. There are single counties in Kansas where as many as one hundred machines have been sold this summer, with a large number of home-made machines put into use in addition.

"There is no wonder that wheat farmers are putting forth this special effort to control smut. They realize that it is foolish to lose part of the yield on their crop and take a heavy discount for the smutty wheat besides, when a few cents' worth of material and labor, per acre, will prevent the loss. Data of the Federal Grain Supervision shows that out of all the wheat delivered to the Kansas City market, 15 per cent was smutty in 1924; 23 per cent in 1925 and 23 per cent in July and August of 1926. This represents an annual loss of from $5,000,000 to $7,000,000 in Kansas alone.

The Copper Carbonate Dust Treatment

"Two to three ounces of the dust per bushel of wheat is sufficient. Thorough mixing is necessary and on account of the fineness of the dust, it is impossible to mix by shoveling; it must be done in some kind of a mechanical mixer, either home-made or commercial. The copper carbonate and seed should be rotated in the mixer until every kernel is thoroughly coated with a film of the dust. Copper carbonate is cheap and easy to apply and it does not injure germination."

NEW DISTRICT CHEESE WAREHOUSE IN WISCONSIN

Dairy farmers in the vicinity of Marshfield, Wis., celebrated on August 28 the establishment of a warehouse for the storage and curing of cheese for the members of the Wisconsin Cheese Producers' Federation in that section of the state. The new warehouse is a two-story concrete and brick structure, with ice-making equipment and four large cold-storage rooms. On the second floor is an assembly hall where the cheese producers may hold meetings. Twenty-four cheese factories have signed contracts for the delivery of cheese.

ILLINOIS FARMERS DEVISE MILK POOLING PLAN

A selling and pooling plan on a three-price basis has been worked out by the Illinois Milk Producers' Association, Peoria, and was put into effect July 15. Milk is to be paid for by the distributors according to whether it is used as fluid milk, for the manufacture of condensed or powdered milk, or for making ice cream, cheese or butter. Prices for the three classes of milk will be determined by a joint committee made up of producers and dealers. The distributors co-operating with the association have agreed to deduct 5 cents per 100 pounds of milk from payments to producers. In the case of producers who are members of the association this deduction is paid to the association. When the producers are not members the money deducted is to be paid to the Dairy Council to be used in campaigns for improving quality and increasing consumption.

COLORADO WHEAT POOL ADVANCING SEVENTY CENTS

Seventy cents a bushel is the figure decided upon by the directors of the Colorado Wheat Growers' Association, Denver, as the amount of the first advance on 1926 wheat, basis No. 2 or better. Checks for the advances are mailed on receipt of reports from the receiving elevators.

Deliveries of wheat to the pool began early in July. Under date of August 20 the management reported that the receipts to that date were the equal of those to the same date last year. While grain is not being received from as many growers as a year ago, the deliveries per capita are larger. This is said to be due to the fact that considerable selecting was done in signing members for the new marketing period. In the opinion of the management only growers who understand the pool method of marketing are likely to take advantage fully of the facilities of the association. Hence, an effort is being made to confine the membership of the organization in the future strictly to grain growers who are believers in the co-operative method of marketing.

This season, for the first time, the Colorado association has received wheat from the western slope of the Rocky Mountains.

OHIO POULTRY PRODUCERS PLAN TO IMPROVE QUALITY

An analysis of the affairs of the Ohio Poultry Producers' Co-Operative Association, Wauseon, Ohio, was made recently at a meeting attended by directors and producer members. It was generally agreed that the organization was becoming stronger as it gained in experience regarding the merchandising of the eggs delivered by its members. Attention was called to the fact that the deficit arising out of getting started had been wiped out.

According to statements made by one of the leaders in the movement, "the association has passed the first year and is now on a sound financial footing. We have put our grades of supreme quality eggs into good markets. We have a reputation for honesty, honor and good quality eggs and poultry. We are getting substantial premiums. We are further ahead."

The field service staff of the association has been increased by the addition of two men. It is proposed that stress be laid upon quality products and to that end the members of the association are being advised as to approved methods of handling eggs. A recently issued statement to growers reads in part as follows: "Our success as a marketing association has so far been due to the supreme quality of our eggs and poultry. . . . If we, as poultry farmers, improve the quality, grade and standards, we shall obtain ever increasing prices for our products.

NORTH PACIFIC PRUNE ASSOCIATION CLOSES BOOKS

During the 1925-26 marketing season the North Pacific Co-Operative Prune Exchange, Portland, Oregon, received from its grower-members 2,889,863 pounds of Italian prunes. Nearly the entire quantity was handled in the regular pool, about 239,130 pounds going into the consignment pool. Sales f. o. b. plants, packing deducted, amounted to $233,657. Total deductions amounted to $27,200. An adustment of $1,809 from the consignment pool brought the net balance credited to the producers to $208,266. Prices on the various sizes of prunes ranged from 4 cents to 14.7 cents a pound.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Crawford County F. E. and C. U. of A. meets on the last Tuesday of each month over the union store in the A. H. T. A. Hall in Girard. E very local elect your delegates to attend these meetings. It is to your interest.

Geo. W. Hamm, Pres.
G. W. Thompson, Sec'y-Treas.

NOTICE NEOSHO COUNTY

Neosho County F. E. C. U. of A. will meet on the following dates to transact all business. The second Saturday in March, June, September and December and at any special meeting called by the President or Executive Committee.

Sanford Miller, Pres.
J. O. Foust, Sec-Treas.