

KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation

VOLUME 37

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Where Do You Stand, Mr. Candidate?

An Open Letter To All Candidates For Congress And The Legislature

BIG BUSINESS in the United States—big grain marketing houses, big mining interests, chain store interests and monopolists interested in extracting just as much wealth as they can from the grass roots — has opened an onslaught on co-operatives.

At the moment, they are spending thousands, perhaps millions of dollars, in a great campaign that demands that co-operatives be strangled by taxation.

They do not want to meet the competition of People's co-operative organizations. They want to be scot free to exploit, and exploit, and exploit. They do not care if they drain our rural communities and our farm people until they are bankrupt so long as they continually build up economic reserves and economic power in the metropolitan vaults.

BIG BUSINESS is ready for its own D-Day as soon as this war is over.

On that day, it is prepared to invade rural America with chain stores as it has never been "chained" before. Three great tire companies plan hundreds of new retail outlets. According to the Civic Association of America—a small business men's organization—a single New York concern never before in the chain business plans to open 1000 stores.

There have been more than a half million (A HALF MILLION) small businesses closed as we went into this war. America's 200 corporations which own more than half of the industrial plants, got most of the war contracts. Little industries were squeezed out. The short supply of civilian goods have been distributed with favoritism to the affiliates of Big Business and tens of thousands of little merchants have been squeezed out.

More are to be squeezed out after Big Business D-Day—and Big Business will see to it that its chains get the first of the new civilian supplies so they can squeeze out independent community merchants.

THE greatest hope that the common people in America have left today is the co-operative movement.

Co-operatives do not drain our farm people of their wealth.

Local co-operatives keep money at home.

Regional co-operatives send savings back to the "grass roots"—to the producers and consumers. Instead of draining the common people, co-operatives protect their economic interest.

BIG BUSINESS and monopolists are trying to do two things:

1. Rid themselves of the competition of co-operatives, which send savings BACK to the country, and
2. Create a scapegoat—throw up a smoke

screen of public suspicion of co-operatives which will divert public attention to the co-operative question while Big Business raids the retail field in the nation.

* * * *

KANSAS' economic interest do not lie with the Wall Street bankers nor the 200 corporations which control more than 50 percent of the nation's industrial productive capacity.

Kansas' true economic interests are with the farmers—the producers and consumers of the state. We are a "common man's state."

Kansas' interests consequently lie in the protection of the co-operative movement.

* * * *

Mr. Legislator, you are going to be asked in Congress and probably in the Legislature of this state to help put co-operatives out of existence for the grain speculators, the chain stores, the exploiters.

You are going to have to cast a ballot FOR or AGAINST co-operatives.

We ask you now, before the primary election, will you vote FOR or AGAINST co-operatives?

Will you vote FOR higher taxes on co-operatives? Or AGAINST?

Will you vote to STRENGTHEN co-operatives? Or will you vote to WEAKEN them?

America's economic future may be decided on this issue.

The last mechanism—the last business device—by which People can protect themselves directly from unbridled exploitation MIGHT be destroyed.

* * * *

We ask each of you to send the Kansas Union Farmer, as quickly as possible, for its next bi-weekly edition, a reply to our question:

Will you vote FOR or AGAINST co-operatives?

We will publish your position.

We will send copies of your letter to local co-operative managers so they may see that they are publicized in your district. We urge you to send copies direct.

We will consider no reply a negative reply.

Sincerely yours,

E. K. DEAN, President

Farmers Educational and

Co-operative Union of America,

Kansas Division.

To Managers Of Local Co-operatives

Kansas Farmers Union will send you replies from candidates in your district just as soon as possible.

We urge you to contact all candidates directly, ask them to reply to this open letter, obtain copies of their replies and let your members know how they stand. This is not a party matter. All candidates of both parties should be contacted and their replies publicized.

Kansas Farmers Union

A copy of this letter is being mailed to each candidate for

The United States Senate.

The U. S. House of Representatives.

The Kansas State Senate.

The Kansas House of Representatives.

A complete list of all candidates will be found on Pg. 3

Government Owned Surplus Land To Be Sold Soon

WASHINGTON, July 9—Disposal of agricultural land acquired by the government in the war program "gives the Nation a major opportunity to make good on one of the great promises of American life, the establishment on the land of independent, prosperous farm families," James G. Patton, president of the National Farmers Union, said in a statement issued here today.

"There is every indication," Patton said, "... that the powerful financial interests represented in and associated with the National Association of Real Estate Boards and its affiliated organizations are dominating land disposal programs of the government." As far as farm land is concerned, he added, "such domination is intolerable."

Patton urged that the farm land disposal program be made the responsibility of the Farm Security Administration of the Department of Agriculture. His statement was as follows:

"Information has come to me that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has been assigned responsibility for the disposal of surplus agricultural land bought by the government during the war emergency.

"Farmers who remember the record of the RFC as it has touched upon agriculture, natural resources, and small business in the past, would find this assignment laughable if it were not so dangerous. The RFC has no experience with the management of land in any form. The Department of Agriculture and of Interior are the agencies of government experienced in land policies and practices, while the Department of Justice is the agency concerned with the technical legal aspects of land acquisition or disposal.

"All of these agencies have been virtually ignored in the decision of Mr. Will Clayton, Surplus War Property Administrator, to assign this program to the RFC. It is extraordinary not only that Mr. Clayton has made this decision but that he made it without announcement or public discussion. Why should the RFC have anything to do with farming? Why should the decision have been kept secret? There is every indication that the reason for the action and its attendant secrecy is that the powerful financial interests represented in and associated with

the National Association of Real Estate Boards and its affiliated organizations are dominating land disposal programs of the government. This is bad enough, in all conscience, when it relates to urban real estate, but when it relates to farm land, which involves the permanency of a fundamental national resource, such domination is intolerable.

"Does this assignment mean that an irreplaceable natural resource, millions of acres of farmland, is to be auctioned off to the highest bidder? Is it to be made a means of further enriching real estate interests rather than a means of settling thousands of family farmers in permanent security?

"Reports are current in Washington that the disposal of agricultural land is to be handled through private real estate agents, and that private appraisers are to make the appraisals. Farmers do not want this kind of dealing. They know that the government is far more capable of appreciating farm conditions than private businessmen, and they know that the government has plenty of qualified appraisers to do this job.

"Every farm unit carved out of presently government-held property should be a unit that, with reasonable diligence on the part of the farmer, can yield a living. Every farm should be operated according to a farm plan, agreed upon between farmer and government, that will yield such a living. Every farmer on such a farm should have adequate credit at sufficiently low rates of interest to enable him to make a go of it. This is particularly true in the case of veterans, few of whom will have large financial resources.

"Unless these principles are adhered to, the farms will be sold to the highest bidder, and that will be a ruinous course. Real estate agents will reap profits, some of the farms will come back to the government, and in the long run dominance of American agriculture by big farm and big business interests will be further entrenched.

"The way to avoid that result is to give the job to an agricultural agency.

"There is no earthly reason why the farm land disposal program should not

(Continued on Page 7)

Who Really Gets Tax Exemptions

Big Business has organized a "National Tax Equality Association" which is clamoring to tax co-operatives out of existence. The July 1 edition of your National Union Farmer tells how industrialists get property tax exemptions and favoritism in more than half of the states of the nation. The following story tells how they are obtaining special favors in federal income statutes. Who really gets the tax exemptions? Can it be that a furor is being unjustly raised against co-operatives as a smoke screen to cover Big Business' own tax grabs?

By John Carson

(Washington Representative, The Co-op League)

Washington D. C. (CLNS) — Another post-war-tax-raid on the Treasury is under way.

Already more than three billions of claims for "refunds" have been filed with the Bureau of Internal Revenue. If the raid is successful, the excess profits tax will be robbed of its war-burdens for the powerful tax payers.

Able and well-informed experts within the Bureau will not be surprised if the claims for refunds "filed under Section 722" reach a total of \$30,000,000,000.

Yet, not a word of warning or propaganda has come to Washington from the so-called National Tax Equality Ass'n. about "section 722" and the threat to government revenue embodied in the tax raid. The powerful corporations which are very friendly to the promoters of the National Tax Equality Association, are, no doubt, among the taxpayers who will have "claims for refunds under Section 722" and that phrase "section 722" probably will become as nauseating to honest men in post war days as was the phrase "special assessments" after the last war.

What is "section 722"? Let me go back to the last war and post-war tax history. We had an excess profits tax in the last war. It was designed to enable business men to escape from some of the stigma of becoming wealthy off war profits, altho even in its harshest application there was a plentiful margin of untaxed war profits which could be kept in corporation strong boxes.

Look At Base Sale

The important factor in any excess profits tax scheme—perhaps in any income tax scheme—is not the rate of taxation. That is merely something for political oratory. The important factor is the base. Rates can be fixed very high—60 and 80 and 90 per cent—but the rate applies against the base. And if the base is kept low thru allowed deductions, the tax-squelers can cry out against the high rates and cover up the fact that they actually paid little in taxes. Ninety per cent of a base of \$100 is \$90. But 90% of a base of \$1 is only 90 cents. The game is to keep the base low thru "deduction" from gross income.

You will always hear a great deal of political oratory about "90%." There may be justification for the howling. But before you swallow the oratory, it would be well to ask about the deductions and the base.

The base in the excess profits tax of the last war bill was "invested capital." That would mean, in honest English, the amount of new capital risked in the business. But it actually meant a lot of things before the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Courts got thru defining it. It meant the original risk capital or money, the prior excess profits, plowed back into the enterprise, money borrowed in some instances of "special consideration" and a number of other things. And then there was that "special assessment" feature.

The Kansas Union Farmer

E. K. Dean, Salina, Kansas Editor

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Cities Example

There were certain corporations to which the excess profits tax rates could not be applied without unjust hardship. One newspaper corporation I knew had in more than 50 years never changed its capital account to show more than the \$100,000 which was originally invested. They had plowed back all earnings throughout the years until more than \$25,000,000 was invested in the property. Now if the government had insisted that the invested capital was \$100,000, the tax against the company would have bankrupted it. The government said that was an "unfair hardship"—and it was.

To reach those cases, Congress wrote into the revenue bill a provision which said that a taxpayer might claim "undue hardship" and present his facts and if they were approved, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue might supply the "special assessment" feature. Then the Commissioner of Internal Revenue might supply the "special assessment" feature. Then the Commissioner was permitted to choose three newspapers, find out what their average tax rate and bill would be and apply the average against the "undue hardship case."

Tax Experts Blossom Out

That section of the law practically permitted the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and his subordinates to write the tax law and apply it. In the post-war period, a saturnalia of tax crimes resulted. Powerful corporation lawyers and tax experts swarmed in Washington. Every technique of "influence" was used. Word was passed down through the Bureau of Internal Revenue that a rule of "being reasonable with taxpayers" was to be applied.

Present Law

Now, there is "section 722" of the present law. It is also a hardship section. A taxpayer may make a claim for "refund" under that section. Space is limited here but let me briefly point out the unlimited field of language which permits a "hardship claim."

If the ordinary sections of the tax bill result in "an excessive and discriminatory tax"—that is a hardship case. If the "normal production" is interrupted or diminished by "events unusual and peculiar"—that is a hardship case. If the taxpayer was "depressed by temporary economic circumstances" and "temporary economic events"—this is a hardship case. If the business of the taxpayer was depressed "by reason of conditions generally prevailing in an industry of which the taxpayer was a member" and his "profit cycle differed in length and amplitude"—whatever that means—that is a hardship case.

Tax Administration Is A Secret

It must be remembered that the administration of the tax laws are "secret," that if a clerk in the Bureau should report to a friend the fraud and crimes being committed, he would imperil his safety. A prison sentence is held over the head of anyone who reveals any facts about a taxpayer's case.

It must be remembered that after the last war, these big corporation cases were often settled with a government clerk—paid \$3000 a year and with his wife and children dependent on that pay envelope on one side of the table and the most powerful million-dollar-a-year lawyers on the other side—and they were settled in secrecy.

There is considerable protection for that little and economically-weak-government clerk if he wants to be honest. That considerable protection may continue. It is in the Joint Congressional Committee on Taxation and its opportunity to "investigate." It has cleaned up the Bureau of Internal Revenue. The Bureau is now manned by honest and honorable men.

But I can see next year, a new administration, millions of dollars used to elect a president, demand from campaign contributors that they be paid off in "service"—and the opportunities for "service" in very, considerable administration of our tax laws. It happened in 1920 when billions of dollars were taken from the government. It can happen again. The stage is set for it. Only today, a lawyer told me one of his big corporate clients said the only thing he wanted out of the next election was the right to name the Secretary of Treasury.

Another Example

And I can think back to one young, honest lawyer in the Bureau of Internal Revenue who came to me one night and told me a case (we got in cold cash for the government in that case more than \$200,000, and a member of the House of Representatives is one of the family who had to pay and he is one of the most blatant enemies of "organized labor" and of "the administration," and of the people there is in Congress) and he sobbed as he told me his story.

He knew there was fraud in the case—there was at least \$200,000 of it as proved—he had opposed his superiors many times over and finally he had been told that if he wanted to retain his job and feed his wife and children, he had better keep still. He came to me quietly, secretly, and pleaded for help and protection. The government got the money and his part was not revealed. He is still in the government service. There were scores of others who came to me in similar circumstances.

There is Section 722. There is the "secrecy" provisions of the law. There is an election coming in which millions of dollars will be spent to elect the "right President." And there is the possibility of the payoff for campaign contributions in "Section 722." And that is only one section of the law under which payments can be made.

Paper Serves Organization, Not One Individual

An organization's newspaper cannot become the organ of our individual, be he editor, assistant editor or just an individual.

The June 8 edition of Kansas Union Farmer carried a full page article, by Mark Nichols, formerly assistant editor, which reflected his personal views. It was NOT the views of the Kansas Farmers Union nor its officials. The article was not submitted to or approved by any official. We do not think, for instance, that age signifies that anyone is "living in a past age", and the criticism was unfair.

The total condemnation of all Kansas Congressman (except Scrivner) in Nichols article was, in the opinion of Kansas Farmers Union officers,

unjustified and unfair. O two Kansas Congressmen, have been consistently against people's interests — Lamberson and Winters. To the others we offer our apology Mr. Nichols' statement.

Mr. Nichols requested Board of Directors to name him full editor of the Kansas Union Farmer subject only the Board, as a condition, continuing to work on it. I would, of course, have me that the paper would have come more and more a personal organ, rather than the official publication of an organization for the Board could not pervise each edition. It me quarterly.

Nichols' request was rejected and he has taken up other work.

We Must Speed Up Co-op Development, Veteran Editor Says

to make plans for the employment of labor when the war drums cease to beat, the soldiers come home and munition factories close their gates, but not much progress is being made. This is election year and Congressmen are more concerned about planning for their own re-election than they are planning employment for working people who will be idle when the war ends, or for the farmers who will lose their good market for food and fiber products when labor loses its good wages and full employment.

There is much talk over the radio and much print in periodicals about an "economy of abundance" after the end of the war. This "economy of abundance" is to take the place of the "economy of scarcity" which preceded the war in all capitalist directed nations.

An enduring "economy of abundance" is, according to our belief, impossible under our present type of capitalist economy. There is only one country in the world that can proceed fully with an "economy of abundance" program after the war and that is Russia. Russia can execute such a program because the only purpose of producing in Russia is to supply people with food, clothing and comforts of life.

We are not meaning to imply that the Russian system of socialism is the best possible system. We, ourselves, prefer the Swedish system of voluntary co-operation. In Sweden the government owns the railroads, the telegraph and the telephone, while the municipalities or districts supply light, heat and power to the people at rates so low compared with privately owned utilities in the United States that the difference is startling.

* * * *

The cooperatives in Sweden distributes better than 90 per cent of the commodities used by the people and most of these commodities are manufactured in plants owned by the cooperatives. The Swedish system is called the "middleway" because private ownership of business has not been supplanted by state socialism as in Russia. Private business, however, has to compete on an equal basis with cooperatives. The cooperative system is crowding out the capitalistic system in Sweden because it has demonstrated that the cooperative system is better for the people than an economy where industry is owned and managed by capitalists.

However, it took a long time to develop the cooperative system in Sweden to its present status and it will take a long time to develop such a system in the United States. Until we do develop the cooperative system in the United States we will continue to have a capitalist economy and that means monopolies, unemployment and depression. We should be prepared to face these facts and deal with them accordingly.

If you do not want the Russian system with its regimentations and if you do not like our present capitalistic economy with its depressions and bread lines, then you had better increase your efforts to spread the cooperative system.

It has been said many times that our working people of America will not accept the next depression as patiently as they did the one of the early 30's. It is in depression that great social changes are incubated. The ten-year period following this war may easily be a social incubator which will hatch great good, or great evil.

Independent Group Scores Farm Bureau Tactics Against Farm Security

The American Farm Bureau Federation has proved that some people have suspected for a long time—that it more interested in smearing the Farm Security Administration than in helping the little farmer find security on his land.

Despite its protestations of friendship for the small farmer, the AFBF is busily engaged in giving the widest possible circulation to a poisoned article appearing in the July 17 issue of its periodical *The Nation's Agriculture*.

In the article, the AFBF has been predicted by friends of FSA, took full advantage of as shown by the Cooley Committee of the House in its investigation of FSA. The committee, the article says, brought in a sensational report which thoroughly corroborated the Farm Bureau allegations and amounted to a complete vindication of AFBF's position on the FSA.

Unfair Quotes

In an effort to substantiate claim, the AFBF resorted to the unfair tactics of quoting at length unfavorable parts of the report and ignoring such praise as was bestowed. For example, most of the article deals with the resettlement projects which constitute only 1/4 of one percent of FSA's work and which were a dead issue and in the process of liquidation.

The Farmers Union has had the help of the "Emergency Committee for Food Production" in its successful fight to save the Farm Security Administration. The people and organizations discredited, including many outcasts, has just issued a release which charges the Bureau with bad faith in its efforts to smear FSA. The committee's membership includes such persons as Hon. Harold I. Wright, U. S. Senator from Kansas, Monsignor L. G. Ligutti of the National Catholic Rural Life Association, William Green of the American Federation of Labor, Elizabeth S. Magee of the National Consumers League and other church welfare and labor leaders. Here is their release—an interesting view of the AFBF fight on this small farmers' agency by an independent group!

Long before the Cooley Committee started its investigation.

No mention can be found anywhere in the AFBF article of the Committee's attitude toward rural rehabilitation and farm ownership programs, although these activities comprise more than 97 percent of the agency's work. Nor does the AFBF point out that the committee recommended the continuation of the FSA rehabilitation and farm purchase programs through an agency to be known as the Farmers' Home Corporation.

Hit Small Farmers

The Cooley Committee itself had taken up a disproportionate amount of time and space with the nonessential parts of the FSA program and in fact directed severe criticism at the FSA for doing what it was set up to do—that is, carry out the recommendations of the President's Farm Tenancy Committee.

The obvious intent of the Farm Bureau is to strike again at the small farmer's only source of assistance. The Cooley Committee, which also professed friendship for FSA thus has furnished ammunition to its bitterest enemies. Nevertheless, the committee did include praise of the programs that make up more than 97% of FSA's work.

Quoted below are portions of the Cooley report which the Farm Bureau ignored, although these statements refer to FSA's present activities and not to something that has long since

This Is Not Really News

The good judgment of the Emergency Food Production Committee is affirmed by the fact that on a recent list of "Congressman Unfavorable to Farm Security Administration and small farmers they listed Lamberison and Winter of Kansas. Obviously the committee knows the score.

ceased to be a part of the Farm Security program.

Rehabilitation Loans

"The rural rehabilitation loan program constitutes the major portion of the Agency's activities in dollars expended, in loans granted, and in supervision and assistance rendered.

"Through this activity of the Farm Security Administration, the Agency has made loans to more than 950,000 farm families, most of which families have also received farm and home management supervision. Through this activity the Agency has actually relieved distress and human suffering in many stricken agricultural areas of the Nation, and through grants the Agency has actually rehabilitated many destitute farm families and has brought welcomed relief to thousands who were made to suffer on account of drought, floods, and other catastrophes over which individuals had no control."

Supervisory Duties

Continuing, the Cooley Committee spoke of the guidance and supervision that FSA offers its borrowers and an indispensable part of their rehabilitation.

"Many farm people have not had a chance to learn about new short cuts and savings in farming. They have never had a chance to go to school or to read much about some of the new ideas in agriculture. That part of the Farm Security Administration program which makes it possible for these low-income farmers to raise better crops, get more for what they sell, save on what they buy, and for their wives to learn more about canning and saving food and caring for the health of their children is worthy of consideration."

Farm Ownership Loans

With respect to the farm ownership program, which gives many thousands of tenants their only hope of becoming owners, the Committee said:

"The traditional American system of independent, family-type farms, owned and operated by individuals who enjoyed the pride of ownership, was threatened by the highest tenancy ratio in the history of our Nation at the time Congress enacted the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, authorizing loans to worthy farm tenants on long terms and at low interest rates. This act has proven to be one of the most farsighted legislative steps ever taken to aid worthy small farmers of this country. According to the 1940 census, there was an adult male farm population in the United States of 9,288,000 of which 3,736,000 or 40.2 percent were landowners,

What the Locals Are Doing

"I Will Attend My Local Meetings"

St. Marys Co-op Saves \$33,809

Celebrates Silver Jubilee With Biggest Volume and Earnings On Record

The Farmers Union co-operative at St. Marys, managed by C. M. Yocum, announced annual savings of \$33,809 at the annual meeting of stockholders and patrons Tuesday, June 13.

It was the co-operative's silver jubilee and was a record savings for the 25th birthday party. The St. Marys Star, weekly paper, reported:

"The earnings announced a year ago, at the end of twelve months of business, stood at \$29,213. Two years ago, \$23,650. Three years ago, \$9,000.

Sales Are Up

"Gross sales during the year climbed to \$679,000, a jump of \$140,000 over the previous year, and the highest in a quarter-century.

It was the dollar volume that

and 5,552,000, or 59.8 percent, were nonlandowners. Of the nonlandowners, 2,361,000 were tenants and 3,191,000 were farm laborers. Approximately 2,000,000 of the 6,097,000 farms in the United States produced less than \$400 gross a year and an average of only \$215, a sum quite insufficient for the maintenance of a family. The number of family type farms had greatly decreased, while farms of 1,000 acres or more in size had increased from 28 percent to 34.3 percent between 1930 and 1940.

Success of Program

Strongly supporting this program, the Committee said:

"The investigation discloses that the tenant purchase program as such has been operating efficiently and has resulted in many worthy citizens being placed definitely on the road to farm-home ownership. One hundred and ninety-one million four hundred and eight-seven thousand, seven hundred and forty-nine dollars had been loaned to 33,559 tenant-purchase borrowers through June 30, 1943, and \$18,500,605, said to represent 98 percent of maturities, had been repaid. Payments have been made in excess of maturities. The purchases of farms have been financed upon a fair and reasonable basis.

"The tenant purchase program, operating as it has, through local committees of farmers, has been successful and should be continued and expanded in the interest of worthy citizens who cannot otherwise arrange to finance the purchase of family-size farm units and who without such assistance may never become home owners.

Aids War Effort

The Committee pointed out that the FSA program is good business for the Nation:

"It should be noted, however, that the national advantage in Government assistance to the low-income farmers who could not obtain adequate credit from other sources does not arise solely from humanitarian reasons. This assistance reduces the demands for private and national relief. It adds to the total wealth and revenue of the country by increasing the per capita income and resources of the farmers. It makes for a better citizenry and, therefore, for law and order. Finally, it has aided substantially in the war effort because of the sizable contribution these low-income farmers have made to the national supply of commodities essential for civilian and war needs."

spiraled skyward, rather than the grain volume.

The association purchased 419,000 bushels of grain during the twelve months as compared with 490,000 bushels the previous year, and 525,000 bushels the year before that.

A 2-year comparison in corn and wheat is interesting. During the past year 263,000 bushels of corn were bought as compared with 313,000 the preceding year. Wheat, at 87,000 bushels, was almost identically the same in both years.

365 Members

C. M. Yocum, manager, disclosed the fact that the co-op association now had 365 stockholders as compared with 296 a year ago and 157 in 1939 when dividends were placed on a patronage-producer basis.

The year's payroll at the elevator amounted to \$14,500. It was \$10,300 the previous year and about \$8,000 the year before.

Gross sales of the E. U. business during the last ten fiscal years have been as follows:

1944	\$679,000
1943	539,000
1942	397,000
1941	314,000
1940	331,000
1939	255,000
1938	425,000
1937	300,000
1936	275,000
1935	208,000

Lucas Co-operative Has Best Year

The members of the Farmers Co-operative Manufacturing and Mercantile Association of Lucas, at their regular annual meeting held Friday evening, June 16, at the regular meeting room of the Farmers Union Local in Lucas heard one of the best reports the organization has ever had.

The report showed an exceptional large volume of business with an exceptional small expense per unit, leaving net earnings in the association of \$7,894.98, the report was very well received and very much appreciated by the members present.

The Lucas organization like many others of our local coops got into pretty serious financial difficulties in the early

history of the organization, but with the able management of Henry Kvasnicka and the splendid assistance of his wife, together with good support from the members they have been able to work the organization out of the hole. The organization today is in an exceptionally strong position financially and the directors as well as the management are taking every precaution to see that the organization continues in that position and to expand its services in the community. In the past few years the organization has done considerable work on the elevator as well as add warehouses for the handling of feed and merchandise.

The directors whose terms expired were reelected for another term and the directors will organize the board at their next regular meeting, naming the officers of the organization.

The directors of the Lucas organization, believing that co-operation must spread and the movement grow, voted to invest \$100.00 in the Farmers Union Central Cooperative Exchange to help expand the cooperative seed program of the Farmers Union. This was the first sale of certificates in the new program and the organization will be issued the first certificate.

E. K. Dean, President of the Kansas Farmers Union was present for the meeting and addressed the group, discussing the growth of the cooperative movement in Kansas as well as the nation and the fight now being carried on against the cooperatives, by private business.

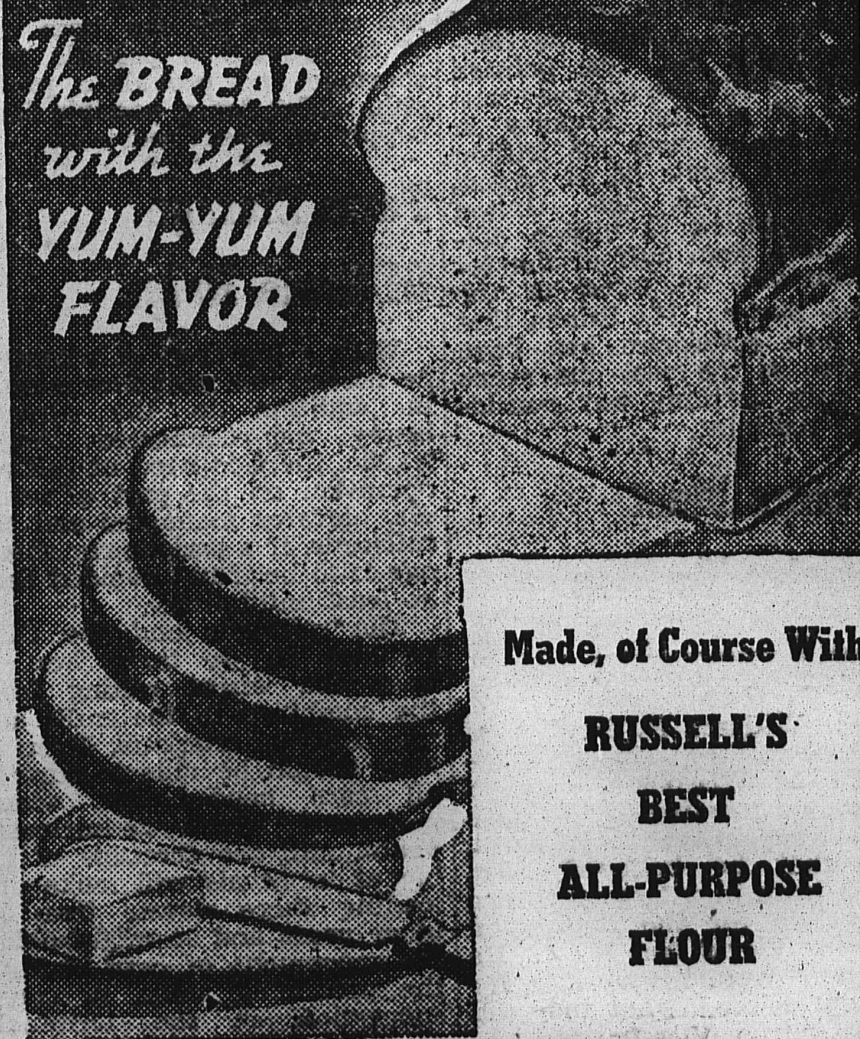
After the business meeting was over a fine lunch was served by the ladies, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Chas. Dolezal New Manager

Charles Dolezal, has been appointed manager of the Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union at Kanapolis. He succeeds Lee Cochran, who has gone with the Missouri Pacific railroad. Cochran will move his family to his new station at Council Grove.

Mr. Dolezal was formerly assistant manager under Cochran and became the new manager on June 1.

ASK FOR IT AT YOUR CO-OP ELEVATOR AND STORES



Made, of Course With
**RUSSELL'S
BEST
ALL-PURPOSE
FLOUR**

RUSSELL MILLING CO.
RUSSELL, KANSAS

Day by Day with FUJA

by JOHN VESECKY

Free Enterprises Here Brain Trust To Define What They Really Want

The news is out that the National Chamber of Commerce has found it necessary to organize a Brain Trust of its own to define what Free Enterprise means.

It is reported that because there is so much misunderstanding among the members of the various chambers of commerce as to what is meant by "Free enterprise", Eric A. Johnston, the dynamic President of the National Chamber of Commerce, made arrangements with Dr. Vervon Orvall Watts, Canadian born, a PH.D. and an ex-socialist, but presently, economist for the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, to teach the Free Enterprises his definition of what they really are or are supposed to be. It seems that the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce found so much difference of opinion among its members as to what Free Enterprise, the prize slogan of the NAM, really meant that in order to end the confusion they organized discussion groups with Dr. Watts as head master and a crew of long haired professional economists as helpers, to bring order out of chaos, tumble down the tower of Babylon, and bring forth a unified official definition of Free Enterprise.

The result of the discussion meetings was so promising, or the need outside of Los Angeles so great, that the president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce decided to have Watts conduct schools in some over a thousand local chambers of commerce.

We hope that the schools will be successful in teaching the Big Business Boys in the various chambers of commerce in the United States, not only the correct definition of Free Enterprise, but also move their consciences enough to get them to renounce monopolistic practices, International Cartels, and other such practices which make their professed faith in Free Enterprise a hollow mockery, and threaten to bring under monopoly control all means of production whether in factory, mine, forest, farm, or any where else. Already the wealth of the nation is largely under the control of a very few large corporations. Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, in his report to the Senate committee on Post War Economic Policy and Planning, known as Senate Document No. 106, pointed out that while the assessed valuation of all the property in the 48 states was 143 Billion dollars the assets of 34 largest corporations in the United States equalled 73 billion dollars, more than half of the total assessed valuation of the United States. He thinks that Big free enterprise has been too free in the past and needs not only defining but considerable restraint.

Farmers Must Organize To Stop New Depression

Pres. William O. Perdue of the Pure Milk Products Co-operative of Wisconsin, said at the annual meeting of the Cash Crops Cooperative in Madison, Wis., that he believed farm people were in a large measure responsible for the depression following World War No. 1. He said they were responsible for the depression in that they did not in sufficient numbers join the general farm organizations in addition to their commodity cooperatives. He further stated that if farmers do not build

strong farmer controlled general farm organizations the 1930 depression will look like a "tinker toy" compared to what we will experience following world war No. 2.

We are inclined to agree with Mr. Perdue. It behooves every cooperative manager to not only himself join the Farmers Union in his locality, which is the most active in championing the interests of cooperatives and of the family type farm operator, but also to get as many of his members as he can to join the general farm organization most interested in serving them.

Strenuous times are coming. Big Business and finance is organized, and is doing its best to dupe the small business man to help put over their program of monopoly-control. Farmers and their cooperatives must also organize or they are gone goshins.

Hog Crop Off, Many Needed

The annual government report on Spring Pigs suggests that the number of hogs on farms Jan. 1, 1945 should be about 50,000,000 head as compared with 83,756,000 head Jan. 1st, 1944.

Of course, as there is no bureau for vital statistics to which sows would report the number of pigs they have farrowed this spring and the number they will farrow next fall, with all respect to government statisticians and estimators there still is quite a chance that the sows will do better than the estimates would indicate. Allowing for a considerable increase in hog population over the estimate of 50,000,000 head, there is still indicated a possibility for a shortage of pork next winter to feed our own soldiers and people, without anything left to send to the starving peoples of presently Nazi occupied countries.

With one of the largest crops of wheat in our production history in view, and the possibility that an unfavorable spring time corn crop condition may possibly develop into a good crop next fall. It seems the part of wisdom and our patriotic duty to produce as many fall pigs as we can take care of to prevent a possible pork shortage and provide a profitable outlet for a possible large supply of wheat and corn.

Farm Storage Of Grain Helps

With a big crop of wheat to be moved the next few months in addition to the already heavy war connected freight traffic, there is need of full cooperation on the part of farmers, elevator managers and the railroads, if a serious car shortage is to be if not avoided then at least minimized.

The railroads and the ODT promise to do their best to keep the wheat rolling from the combines to the mills and the terminal markets. Even if they should be able to furnish all cars needed for wheat movement, which we seriously doubt, still the shortage of labor at terminals will make unloading there slower than in other years and so might delay the movement of cars back to the producing areas, or cause congestion in the terminals which would necessitate embargoes or at least severe restrictions on the shipment of wheat to the terminals.

We farmers can help relieve

Norris In Court Race



William S. Norris

William S. Norris, for several years attorney for Kansas Farmers Union, is a candidate for the Republican nomination for position No. 7 on the Supreme Court of Kansas. The post is now held by Justice John S. Dawson who is not asking re-election.

In an advertisement elsewhere in this paper, Mr. Norris states he is running on a basis of experience, ability and integrity. He has had a varied and successful experience as an attorney and has handled agricultural and co-operative matters so he understands farmers' viewpoints.

Mr. Norris states that he has never been a reactionary in politics, but has favored and worked for legislation which would be socially and economically beneficial to the majority of people. We now have many such laws, he says, but their application depends upon the character and judgment of the men we place on the bench.

the tight shipping situation by storing as much wheat as we possibly can on our own farms. It entails more labor to unload wheat in the bin and then haul it to market later after harvest but besides being the patriotic thing to do in order to help with the war effort, wheat in the bin does give an added sense of security in present insecure times, that is worth the extra effort necessary to put it there instead of hauling direct to elevator.

Short Of Help? Here's A Plan

The Western Department of the Grain Dealers National Mutual Fire Insurance Co. reports that replies to a questionnaire sent out in April indicates that many managers will find themselves short of help this year.

Some of the managers will be compelled to operate the plant almost or entirely alone. The Insurance Company recommends that instead of the manager working himself and his help to death, and running the risk of a break down of the machinery or a fire, because in the rush of work it is not possible to keep the machinery in repair and the premises free of fire hazards, the manager and board decide to keep the plant open only a part of each week.

Notices should be posted in prominent places and published in the local papers, that because of shortage of help, it will be necessary to close for one or two definitely designated days each week so as to give the manager and his help, if any, a chance to examine, overhaul and generally put in condition the machinery, so that efficient service can be rendered the rest of the week and possible fires and total breakdowns prevented.

You, that are very short handed, think the suggestion over and adapt it to your circumstances if you think it will help you render better service and avoid the danger of a physical or mechanical breakdown that continuous operation might bring on.

Solomon Co-op Triples Volume

The Solomon Farmers Union Co-operative Business Association tripled its volume in 1943-'44, handling 105,000 bushels of wheat and making savings of \$3,514.18.

It has reduced its liabilities from \$16,305 in 1940 to \$10,727 in 1944—are deduction of \$5,578.

These facts are contained in the annual report of Solomon manager Alfred Rensmeyer, presented at their annual meeting June 17. Mr. Rensmeyer and his wife, who is bookkeeper, were given a vote of thanks by members, expressing gratification over the expansion and successful operation for the year. The financial report was presented by E. C. Broman of F. U. Auditing association.

New directors for the year are B. J. Moorman and Frank Bell, who succeed Lewis Donmyer, secretary and James Ryan, treasurer.

John Vesecky of FUJA gave an interesting talk in place of Manager H. E. Witham of FUJA, who could not attend. H. C. Stephens of Wichita Bank for Co-operatives also appeared and discussed distribution of inactive shares to non-members. President Kirn presented retiring members of the Board with presents for their three years of faithful service.

Beatrice Castor and Dale Miller, accompanied by Miss Irene Rensmeyer, presented several musical numbers on violin and trombone. Delicious refreshments closed the meeting with a good taste.

Kansas Farm Report Is Available

Anyone with an inquiring mind might be interested in having available for reading or reference a copy of the Board of Agriculture's 33rd Biennial Report, which has recently come from the press.

Aside from crop and livestock statistics for the state, and by counties, the 576 page volume contains subject matter which will catch the fancy of both the women of the house and the men folk who are largely concerned with farm matters out of doors. And, also, a boy or girl in school could doubtless make use of the book. If you wish to learn more of

ALADDIN HOTEL

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HEADQUARTERS FOR THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION

Rates—\$2.00 Up

H. C. KYLE, Manager



Each of these 26 stars represents one employee of the Farmers Union Creameries in the Armed Forces of the Government.

Farmers Union Co-operative Creameries

Superior — Fairbury

the extent and utilization Kansas resources, these have been treated by Raymond G. Keson of Kansas Farmer and by Prof. R. Q. Brewster of Kansas University; weeds, the pests, are discussed by F. J. Timmons, Hays, Prof. J. V. Zahnley, Kansas State College and by T. F. Yost, state bird weed supervisor, Topeka; and if pointers are desired on the home garden, dehydration of fruits and vegetables, or preservation of food by freezing, they are supplied by Prof. Pickett, Smith and Filing, Kansas State College.

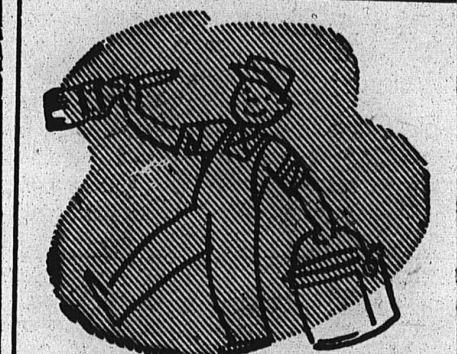
These are but samples of book which is yours for the asking. Other subjects treated include grass, sorghums, wheat machinery, livestock and poultry. So long as the edition lasts copies will be mailed to those who address requests to Secretary J. C. Mohler, State Board of Agriculture, Topeka.

Vote For

C. D. LANK

For State Superintendent

THE MAN WHO KNOWS how to improve education so a child learns 5 times as fast. 30 years experimentation and preparation. Help make Kansas lead!



Painting Time

Match Mother Nature's springtime skill in dressing up the world by painting up your particular part of it! Our color chart will help you in selecting color schemes.

At no time did we have greater need for cheerful home surroundings—a need for protecting and brightening up those possessions that we hold dear enough to go to war to safeguard.

KFU paints and enamels are skillfully blended from fine quality products, yet sell at moderate prices. Ask for them at your local Farmers Union dealer.

Distributed By FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION

Kansas City 6, Mo. Vi. 5781

Test Your Cows,

Keep The Best.

Sell Your Culls,

Feed The Rest.

THE JUNIOR PAGE

ESTHER EKBLAD VOORHIES, DIRECTOR, Salina, Kansas

"He Loves His Country Best Who Strives to Make It Best"

Esther Ekblad Voorhies Reports On Visit In South

Vivid blooming Crepe Myrtle, Magnolias, and Scarlet Hiciscus lent a colorful festive air as I was introduced to Augusta, Georgia, a few weeks ago. Stiff hollies, tall pines, and graceful rounded oaks rustled and whispered a welcome. This small corner of the southland has its charm. The soft green of the trees and the warmth and color of flowers are a gracious background for a casual "you-all" speaking people.

It is a shame that so few travelers are able to see the beauty and the friendliness of any but their home states. People here, like many of us in Kansas have learned to say, "I don't suppose you like it much here", instead of, "I hope you'll like our state." We have come to expect criticism and unfavorable comparisons from people who are sent here and there without choice.

Yet, there are times when I could be lonely here... cotton hasn't the meaning for me that wheat and corn have. There are customs which seem strange. But Georgia is still a part of the United States, and just as between Kansas and Nebraska the state line is no visible barrier. Most barriers between people are creations of the mind. Only let us get acquainted. All we need to do is get together on familiar things like homes, and families, and common problems and suddenly the fences are gone and we are no longer strangers, but friends and neighbors.

Hello To Old Friends

Augusta, Georgia, is the home of Helen Denney, popular publicity director of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association up until a year ago. Helen is well known among folks in Farmers Union co-operatives, and Juniors will not soon forget her as the congenial publicity instructor and dean at our camps. During my stay in Augusta, Gene and I are living at Helen's house, and while Gene tends duties at Camp Gordon, we two have frequent reviews of days together in the Farmers Union. Helen misses you and asks that I give you her warmest greetings.

Mrs. Henningsen Reports On Education Conference

It was a privilege for me to take part in one of the panel discussions held by the Institute of Public and Professional Relations at Emporia July 6-8.

The general purpose of the discussions was to find, "What are the goals for rural life in Kansas and how can these goals be achieved?" Following is a summary of the ideas advanced as goals by the panel members.

First, the rural people of Kansas need a sounder economic basis. Second, there should be wider participation of the people themselves in solving their problems and they should have the help of intelligent leadership. Third, we should attempt to improve the resources that make good living; such as schools, health,

soil conservation, roads, farm surroundings, etc., and we should start now. Fourth, it is necessary to have people develop a sense of pride and learn more of the values and opportunities of rural life.

It was generally agreed that the schools are very important in keeping the American way of country life, and that all rural groups, such as parent-teacher associations, churches, and the farm organizations, should work with the schools in achieving the goals we are working toward for better rural life in Kansas.

Through such meetings as these, some definite progress is being made in improving our educational system in Kansas.

—Mrs. Ruby Henningsen

Visits Husband in Georgia

Mrs. Voorhies has been spending a few weeks in Augusta, Georgia, visiting her husband. Sgt. Voorhies is temporarily stationed at Camp Gordon, Georgia, as a member of an Ordnance Inspection team. Mrs. Voorhies will be back in time for the McPherson County Camp.

At This Years Camp



Enjoying a game of croquet at the Clay County Farmers Union camp. Croquet is one of the games that is being thoroughly enjoyed at this years camps by the campers.

Clay County Camp Group



Farmers Union campers at the Clay County Farmers Union camp. This was the first county camp held in Clay County and was reported one of the best county camps the Farmers Union ever held. It is expected that Clay County young people will be looking forward to future camps. Clay County was the location of last years State convention and is the largest Farmers Union membership county in the State. There were over thirty young people registered at the camp.

At Your Service

A Monthly Service To Farmers Union Papers from the National Farmers Union Education Service, Denver, Colorado.
GLADYS TALBOTT EDWARDS, Director

"Education . . . A Debt Due from the Present To Future Generations"

A monthly service to Farmers Union papers from the National Farmers Union Education Service, Denver, Colorado
"Education . . . A Debt Due From The Past To The Future Generations."

Gladys Talbott Edwards, Director

All roads lead to camp at this time of year, and if you need a guide post along the way you'll find it in the camp book entitled **ALL ROADS LEAD TO CAMP** by Mildred K. Stoltz. This book covers a camping expedition from the time you just begin thinking about having a camp, right down to planned programs and menus, and includes suggested games and even gives the by-laws for a cooperative camp store. The information contained in this book is invaluable to campers. It sells for 15 cents.

* * * *

Whoever heard of going to a Farmers Union camp and not singing? It just isn't done. But are you going to be a hummer because you don't know the words? "Favorite Songs of the Farmers Union" will save you from this fate worse than . . . well, almost worse than silence. For 10 cents you can get the songbook with all the words, but not the music. The handy pocket size book of words and music sells for 25 cents. The songs in both books are on corresponding pages so there will be no confusion if you campers use both editions.

* * * *

A good eye-opener for early risers at camp would be a brisk march to James Thatcher's catchy "SOLDIERS OF THE SOIL." If the march doesn't leave you breathless, or if you are one of these hardy souls that can sing and march at the same time, you'll find the words easy to learn and easy to sing.

The sheet music for this song can be purchased through the National F. U. Education Service for 35 cents.

* * * *

Another grand help for camp entertainment and recreation is "SINGING AMERICA." It has over a hundred folk songs, negro spirituals, cowboy songs, French-Canadian, Mexican and Spanish songs, and many others. With each song is a little note giving a short sketch of its history or source. The large size edition with accompaniments sells for \$1.50. It is a beautiful book and would make a thrilling award for an outstanding contributor to your camp, or it would also make a lovely gift for anyone — young or old.

The vocal edition of the same book sells for 25 cents. This has the identical songs but is smaller in size and has a different type cover.

Either book would be a worthwhile addition to a music library or a good start for one.

* * * *

The "A B C's of the Farmers Union" is now off the press and ready for sale. This leaflet, printed in red and blue, is so exceptionally attractive, that even a bitter opponent of the Farmers Union couldn't resist reading it! This short and simple explanation of the Farmers Union sells for 5 cents for 2 copies. They may be ordered either from your State or National Farmers Union.

* * * *

"Porky Rorky Goes Co-op" by Helen Matheson, which was reviewed in a previous edition of this column, sells for 10 cents. We neglected to price it for you and it is such a cleverly written little story that you won't want to miss getting it for your youngsters.

* * * *

You, too, can be an authority on North American trees! All you need to do is take a little time and study "The Complete Guide to North American Trees" by Dr. Carlton Curtis and S. C. Bausor. This book has over 350 illustrations and gives the essential distinguishing features of any tree in North America. Young students of botany will find it most helpful and your scrap books of trees will establish a new high in information value when you use this tree study. This book may be ordered from the National F. U. Education Service for 69 cents.

County Camp Schedule

McPherson	July 19, 20, 21
Stafford	July 25, 26, 27
Jewell-Mitchell	August 1, 2, 3
Pottawatomie-Wabaunsee	August 8, 9, 10

Kansas Has Big Stake In Missouri River Projects

National Farmers Union Asking River Development Serve Many Purposes

George Reinhart Proposed To Serve On NFU Committee Which Will Study and Support Plan For Most Useful Development

Kansas has a stake in every phase of the development of the Missouri River for it needs irrigation in the northwest, a source of cheaper power, conservation, water transportation and protection from the Missouri River floods which have devastated areas in the state.

The recent Rivers and Harbors Bill, on which action was delayed by Congress, provided appropriations to carry on river work under an Army engineers plan for flood control and navigation only. The upper river states protested vigorously, for irrigation and electric power were being ignored.

The National Farmers Union, convinced that the unified development of the Tennessee Valley for power, navigation, flood control and conservation had a basic idea which should be copied in the Missouri Valley, created a "Water Resources Development Committee" to study the Missouri Valley problem and campaign for the best possible plan of development.

Reinhart Proposed

George Reinhart has been proposed by President E. K. Dean as the Kansas Farmers Union representative on this committee, which includes a representative for each of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. Reinhart asked that all action on the National Farmers Union Missouri Valley development be delayed until unified development, using the TVA idea, could be studied.

The Water Resources Committee probably will go to the Tennessee Valley early in September to study its work. Meantime, Chairman Glenn J. Talbott of North Dakota Farmers Union has written a letter to the Kansas City Star, denouncing efforts to grab the waters of the river for navigation only.

The Letter

The Star did not print his letter. It follows in full:

June 9, 1944
Editor of the Kansas City Star
Kansas City, Missouri
Dear Sir:

Seldom has there been a more shortsighted and selfish stand than that taken by the Star on the so-called Pick plan and plans for the development of the Missouri Basin generally, as evidenced in its editorial of May 21, 1944. This stand is the more noticeable since Kansas City suffers from a newspaper monopoly with no voice for opposing opinion.

The Star in effect accuses the people of two-thirds of the Missouri Basin of selfishness, because they oppose a "quickie" development of the Basin, which would prevent their sharing adequately in the resources of the Basin and would foreclose their future development and expansion.

We of the Upper Basin are heartily for the protection of the people of the Kansas City area by adequate flood control works as soon as those works can be reasonably constructed.

But the Star advocates a plan by which a blind and selfish desire on the part of a few communities for navigation works which would swallow up five-sixths of the flow of the river, is hitchhiking on the humanitarian impulse to prevent floods.

Will Work For United Plan
The people of two-thirds the Basin are quite willing to help work out the unified plan which the Star calls for; only they are not so certain as is the

Star that the Pick plan is that plan. (I may mention in passing that another great newspaper, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, is although located in the Lower Basin, quite certain that the Pick Plan is NOT the best plan for Missouri Basin development and that the TVA offers a better model.)

But the people of two-thirds the basin feel a special sense of outrage that even while this Pick Plan was under discussion, and even while the President, the Director of the Budget and other federal officials with a national view of the whole basin be served, these people of the Upper Basin got a deadly sneak punch from the very interests which the Star champions.

9-Foot Channel Would Take Water

In the Rivers and Harbors bill HR 3961, is a \$6,000,000 proposal for a nine-foot channel, 300 feet wide in the Missouri River between Sioux City, a proposal which had been made by the Army Engineers in 1939 and had laid dormant since. Why was this so suddenly resurrected and placed in the bill when if it is enacted it will forever foreclose the use of most of the Missouri's waters in the Upper Basin? The Geological Survey and the Bureau of Reclamation say that the Engineers own estimate of the amount of water it will take to keep such a channel in being (it must continuously flow down from above, since the proposal is for an "open" river, not one controlled by locks and dams) amounts to five-sixths or more of the average annual flow of the river. This would mean that any plans which might be otherwise hoped for by the Upper Basin states for post-war development, over the 350,000 square miles of the Upper Basin must be foreclosed and given up forever, simply that navigation may be fostered in the lower reaches. It is this Upper Basin opposition to seeing its own future impoverished that the Star characterizes as "selfish." And it is this attempt to sneak over navigation development in the name and cause of flood control, that I characterize as wholly hypocritical and wholly selfish.

The Star criticizes any proposal to irrigate in the Upper Basin as unnecessary competition with farmers in its own area, and as unnecessary in general, because it asserts our present crop acreage is more than sufficient. Is the Star aware that to meet war needs we are once more drawing on our capital in the "topsoil bank"—capital which once gone, can never be replaced—simply because there is not enough land right now to implement our war needs otherwise, including an additional 16,000,000 acres of dryland in wheat alone? This of all moments is perhaps the worst in our history to argue that we have too much crop acreage.

Further, the Star may know though it may not have shared the knowledge with its readers, that the so-called Pick Plan ties in with earlier authorizations for huge reservoirs on the Lower River, including half a dozen in Missouri — and that such reservoirs would flood permanently several hundred

Parsons Manager



Roy F. Mitchell, Mgr. of the Parsons branch of the Farmers Union Livestock Cooperative of Kansas City. Roy who has been the cattle salesman at Parsons, took over the management when the former manager Bill Acuff was transferred to Wichita as manager at that branch.

thousand acres of the finest Missouri bottom land. The largest reservoir, at Osceola, would flood 260,000 acres alone. The Star complains of floods inundating Missouri lands. What essential difference is there in acreage between the area covered by such floods in bad years and the acreage which these big dams would cover forever?

Two Essential Principles

Wide development of the Missouri Basin depends upon two essential principles:

1. The Lower Basin does not want or need the millions of acre-feet of annual flood waters, and its greatest fear is of flood. The Upper Basin can use those waters to good advantage and at the same time prevent them flooding the lower basin.

2. But above and beyond that, the problems of the Basin must be approached as a whole, not from the standpoint of any "quickie" solution which might bring small benefits for a short time to the people of one narrow area, but would at the same time foreclose forever the future expansion of the economy of two-thirds of the basin and the most fruitful use of its vast resources.

What better model for basin-wide expansion is there than the TVA?

Sincerely,

Glenn J. Talbott,
President North Dakota Farmers Union and Chairman, Water Resources Development Committee, the National Farmers Union, Jamestown, North Dakota.

What About Rural Kansas

A conference to discuss rural life and education in Kansas was held at the Emporia Teachers College, July 6-8. The meeting was sponsored by the college and the National Education Association, and was attended by leading educators from many parts of the state. We were happy to have Mrs. Rollo Henningsen of Jewell county represent us there. This issue gives her own report of the proceedings.

Summer Picnics

There is no fried chicken that tastes quite like the chicken that goes to a picnic. There is no pie quite so good. There is no summer Farmers Union gathering that can be as satisfying as a picnic. Let's have one.

Yes, folks, the season is not complete in your county or local without a special picnic day. Get arrangements under way immediately.

Recent Department of Agriculture Releases

LIVESTOCK AND WOOL SITUATION — The regular BAE situation report. In summary it says: Prices received by farmers for meat animals probably will remain at a comparatively high level through the last half of 1944 and will continue high throughout the first part of 1945. However, prices for hogs, now under price ceilings, and for cattle, may not equal prices received in the last half of 1943. Marketings of cattle during the last half of 1944 are likely to be larger than a year earlier. Smaller marketings of sheep and lambs, and of hogs after September are in prospect. Demand for meat by civilians, the armed forces, and for lend-lease probably will continue strong. Cattle and calf slaughter in the first 5 months of 1944 was much larger than in the first part of 1943. However, slaughter was about normal in relation to total numbers on farms. If present slaughter trends continue, total cattle numbers at the end of this year would not be materially changed from the record numbers on hand at the first of the year.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION — In brief: Civilian supplies of all the principal foods will be at least as large this summer as they were last summer, but for most foods they will be somewhat below the relatively high levels reached in April-June quarter. The total quantity of meats available to civilians in the July-September period is expected to be less than in the past few months but about last summer's supply. Meat consumption in the third quarter is usually less than in April-June quarter. Poultry marketings will probably set a new record for this time of year. On the other hand, the supplies of dairy products and eggs will be much the same as last summer, but less than in recent months when the seasonal peaks in production were reached. Prospects for fresh fruit and vegetable supplies are good this summer and show a market improvement over last summer.

UNITED STATES AND CANADA ARRANGE MUTUAL GRAIN - HARVEST AID — Under special arrangements, says this release in part, effective July 7 temporarily suspending certain border crossing formalities, Canadian threshing outfits will help harvest the Western Great Plains grain crops, while American machines and crews later will go to a Prairie Provinces.

Song of The Milk Pails

So, bossy—so, the farmer's hand is firm,
So, bossy—so, each in your proper turn;
So, bossy—so, stand steady in your place,
So, bossy—so, now move your foot a pace.

Pull, Farmer John, it's rapid work you know
That brings the foam and makes the greatest flow;
Squeeze, Farmer John, you know just how it's done,
'Tis lack o' fskill that makes it tiresome.

Switch, bossy — switch, but watch your aim,
To hit the farmer would be disgrace and shame;
Blow, breeze — blow, and dry those drops of sweat,
Cool Farmer John, he's not through milking yet.

Set, sun—set, you've had it all your way,
Dim out your glow, and call today a day;
Strip, strip—strip, the last few drops, my dear;
But stay, Farmer John, the night is here.

So, bossy — so, the farmer's hand is firm,
So, bossy — so, each in your proper turn;
So, bossy—so, the hush of night is all around—
So—bossy—so.

—Mrs. Lillian Lee, County Leader, North Dakota

Hears Grain Facts

The Bunkerhill Farmers Union Local of Glen Elder, Kansas, met Tuesday evening, June 20, with 8 families present. The song "Solidarity" was sung by the group.

In the absence of Mrs. Thelma Rominger, Mrs. Edna Schilling acted as leader of the Juniors. Officers were elected for the next half year.

Clyde Porter read selected paragraphs from "The New Republic," and an article entitled "Courage, Little Guy," one of William Allen White's last writings. These were very interesting and were much enjoyed.

Will Carpenter reported on a Grain Dealers meeting which John Schulte, the county manager attended at Downs recently.

Carrie Carpenter and Millie Clover were appointed to serve on the Cooperative Committee. Edna Weidenhaft led a discussion as outlined in the Farmers Union Program Service. Invited speakers were unable to be present because of the river flood.

Our next regular meeting will be July 18. Won't you join us?

WILLAM S. NORRIS

Salina, Kansas

Candidate for Republican Nomination for Justice of the

SUPREME COURT

Position No. Seven

Mr. Norris is qualified by experience, ability and temperament for this office.

He has wide experience in legal matters of all kinds, in cases before the District Courts and Supreme Court, and is highly recommended by those in a position to know of his qualifications.

He is asking for support only on a basis of his experience, ability and integrity.

For several years he has served as attorney for the Kansas Farmers Union.

LIVESTOCK MARKET NEWS

by the FARMERS UNION LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVE, KANSAS CITY
and
FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION, SOUTH ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Live Stock Sales

Of Farmers Union Livestock Co-operative
KANSAS CITY

C. Gretten, Anderson Co., Kansas, 24 steers	1092	16.00
S. Baker, Linn Co., Kansas, 13 str & hfs	820	14.50
oud Ames, Greenwood Co., Kans., 13 str & hfs	726	14.00
I. Myers, Hardy Co., Nebraska, 12 str and hfs	648	13.00
rnold Thowe, Wabaunsee Co., Kans., 25 steers	950	12.60
E. Rice, Clay Co., Missouri, 17 heifers	711	11.85
Arthur Atwood, Shawnee Co., Kansas, 12 cows	1097	11.50
Ohler, Wyandotte Co., Kansas, 22 cows	1201	10.90
red Boehner, Mitchell Co., Kansas, 20 steers	901	10.75
oy Mizner, Johnson Co., Kansas, 23 cows	1117	10.65
E. Dreer, Clay Co., Missouri, 36 heifers	679	10.00
has. Burton, Johnson Co., Kansas, 27 cows	907	9.80
E. Force, Johnson Co., Kansas, 17 cows	816	8.75
E. French, Ray Co., Missouri, 32 cows	907	8.15
ona Roy, Rooks Co., Kansas, 10 cows & hfs	605	7.50
E. Meredith, Wyandotte Co., Kans., 16 cows	727	7.90
E. Rich, Clay Co., Missouri, 27 cows	815	7.85
as. Burton, Johnson Co., Kansas, 47 cows	721	6.75
E. Jorce, ohnson Co., Kansas, 46 cows	601	6.40
astland & Company, Johnson Co., Kans., 30 hogs	212	13.50
R. Head, Linn County, Mo., 23 hogs	234	13.50
arold Mooney, Linn Co., Kans., 23 hogs	197	13.50
runk Barker, Lafayette Co., Mo., 16 hogs	223	13.50
ederick Sims, Lafayette Co., Mo., 22 hogs	212	13.50
W. Chamberlin, Osage Co., Kansas, 24 hogs	207	13.50
O. Hoover, Osage Co., Kans., 15 hogs	249	13.50
H. Freeman, Smith Co., Kans., 19 hogs	205	13.50
ild & Williams, Ray Co., Mo., 23 hogs	214	13.50
E. Sapp, Saline Co., Mo., 33 hogs	201	13.50
Warren, Linn Co., Mo., 10 hogs	185	13.00
oy Lee, Miami Co., Kansas, 27 hogs	203	13.60
E. Nixon, Greenwood Co., Kans., 6 hogs	220	13.55
roducers Exchange, Linn County, Mo., 17 hogs	230	13.50
roducers Exchange, Linn Co., Mo., 7 hogs	233	13.55

C. A. Morrison Succeeds C. Moore At LaHarpe

After more than 14 years of service, J. C. Moore has resigned as manager of the LaHarpe Farmers Union Co-operative Association.

Mr. Moore was succeeded July by C. A. Morrison, formerly director.

The story of Mr. Moore's administration of the LaHarpe Association has been one of steady building of business and financial stability and the board of Directors passed a resolution of regret but deep appreciation when he resigned.

In Good Shape

The co-operative was badly in debt and had only 60 members when Mr. Moore became manager. At the present time it has approximately 180 members, owns its own buildings and equipment and has enough capital to handle all normal business demands. It has been able to pay interest on capital and to set up patronage dividends every year since 1935, which have been paid in cash or credits.

During the period, the manager has had a very able assistant in Mrs. (Anna) Moore, who helped during the early years although not regularly employed by the association. For the past several years she has been book-keeper and "handy-man" and her work has frequently been praised by the auditors. She is continuing her work until a successor can be found.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Moore have been interested in all Farmers Union activities. They have been and will continue to be boosters of the FU program. They are going into business for themselves, having bought a grocery.

C. A. Morrison, the new manager, is a member of the Fairview Farmers Union local and is at present serving as its president. He resigned from the Co-op board to take over the managership.

George Ross has been elected to the board to fill the vacancy.

We Manufacture—

Farmers Union Standard
Accounting Forms
Auditing Association
Grain Checks, Scale Tickets,
Approved by Farmers Union
Stationery,
Office Equipment
Printing

the  CONSOLIDATED
printing and stationery co.
SALINA - KANSAS

Cooperative Auditors

KANSAS FARMERS UNION COOPERATIVE
AUDITING ASSOCIATION

Write for Rates

WE WRITE ALL KINDS OF BONDS

SALINA, KANSAS

PHONE 570

Witham Heads Kansas Co-op

(Continued from Page 8)

nounced a new public relations service for co-operatives, to educate the public on co-operative work, and to explain the tax situation. This will, of course, be carried on.

"The Kansas Farmers Union will oppose legislative strangulation of co-operatives, either by state or national taxation, with all its might.

"One of the sorriest facts in the tax fight is that some co-operatives and farm groups at the national level actually offered to make a trade with the anti-co-operative organization—the 'National Tax Equality League.' Ben McCabe, head of that group, recently wrote Congress saying that some leaders of so-called co-operatives had offered to help lower corporation taxes, and impose a Sales Tax on consumers instead, if the co-op tax fight was dropped.

"Such a deal would have been a sell-out of the People's interests by co-operatives who had forgotten their members. They were willing to trade their members' basic welfare to protect their own balance sheet.

"Kansas Farmers Union is interested, not just in balance sheets, but in People—the people who make up the co-operatives and build them to render service to People. We will co-operate with any group which is basically seeking to serve People.

Farmers Union co-operatives, affiliated with a People's movement, consistently remember this basic obligation and objective.

"The relationship between a people's organization, devoted to people's welfare, is a vital one. Farmers Union would not, of course, approve any action which would tend to substitute a purely 'co-operative business' organization for its own total program including the three great People's inter-

ests: education, legislation and co-operation.

"As I pointed out at preliminary discussions of the new Council, it should not attempt to replace other organizations."

Government Owned Surplus Land

(Continued from Page 1)

be handed as an integral part of the tenant purchase program of the Farm Security Administration. The possession by the government of 8,000,000 acres of disposable land, much of it excellent farm land gives the Nation a major opportunity to make good on one of the great promises of American life, the establishment on the land of independent, prosperous farm families.

"Within the next two weeks the Democratic party will be meeting in convention at Chicago. There it will face the task of writing platform to appeal to farmers as well as other citizens. As it turns to that duty, the resolutions committee will have before it the 1940 Democratic platform, in which the party pledged itself 'to safeguard the family-sized farm in all our program' and 'to extend and enlarge the tenant-purchase program until every deserving tenant farmer has a real opportunity to have a farm of his own.'

"Here at hand is a concrete, immediate opportunity for the party to make good those pledges. Let it show the voters that it means what it says. The way to do it is to vest responsibility for the land disposal program where it belongs, in

the Farm Security Administration of the Department of Agriculture."

First Funds Will Finance

(Continued from Page 8)

raised more than \$75,000, with-ber ship capital this year.

"Co-operatives recognize that, both for safety and strength, they must not be dependent upon money borrowed either from government agencies or from private sources to carry on their operations. The best co-operatives—that will endure through the hard times when they are most needed—are those fully financed by membership.

"We should, in the present period, greatly expand the co-operative movement in Kansas."

\$30,000 Saved At Ellsworth

(Continued from Page 8)

gument in their attack but because farmers have not found time to take an interest or because things are going so good for the farmer that he has become indifferent to the necessity of a co-operative for controlling this part of his marketing and business. Farmers Union meetings are held the first Wednesday evening of each month at Ellsworth and the County meeting is held the 2nd Tuesday evening in the month. Not enough members have attended to make a meeting the past several months.

Binder Twine

AVOID costly delays in harvesting by having on hand a sufficient supply of one or both of the following brands of binder twine:

Mexican Three Star

(All Sisal)

International Standard

(Sisal-Cotton Construction)

Due to lend-lease operations the War Production Board has this season limited the distribution of the Mexican All-Sisal Twine. We think we will have sufficient quantity to meet your requirements for the entire season but it is possible our supply will be entirely absorbed by the latter part of June. We suggest you anticipate your immediate requirements for prompt shipment.

See Your Nearest Farmers Union
Dealer

NOW

Distributed By The

Farmers Union Jobbing Association

719 Board of Trade Building
Kansas City 6, Missouri

BUYING CATTLE?

Prices are high and markets fast moving. It is to your benefit to have an experienced man help you make your selections.

Our order buyers know cattle and markets—and will work for your best interest at all times.—Come in or send us your order.

FARMERS UNION
LIVESTOCK
CO-OPERATIVE
Stock Yards

Kansas City, Wichita,
Parsons

KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation

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THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1944

Witham Heads Kansas Co-op Tax Council

KFU Board Will Pass On Affiliation; Dean Discusses Tax Fight Background

Harry E. Witham, manager of Kansas Farmers Union Jobbing Association heads a new Kansas Co-operative Council, set up July 3 "to acquaint the public generally on all phases of co-operative activity, with particular emphasis on federal and state income taxes in relation to co-operatives."

It is contemplated that the Kansas organization, including Kansas co-operatives and farm organizations, will become a state chapter of a new National Conference of Co-operatives, organized by large regionals and co-op groups for the same purposes.

The Kansas Farmers Union has been invited to become a member of the Kansas group. The matter will be submitted to the Board of Directors meeting later this month.

J. H. Foltz, master of the Kansas Grange, is vice-president of the new Kansas Council. The directors are Mr. Witham, Mr. Foltz, Emil Gall, president of the Farmers Co-operative Commission Co., F. Dean McCammon, president of the Kansas Farmers Co-operative Association, and Glen S. Fox of CCA. Rev. Chas. A. Richard, pastor of a church in Seneca, Kansas, was named executive secretary and instructed to rent office space in Topeka.

The national organization, with which an affiliation is planned, is headed by Clark Brody, with Farm Bureau Services in Michigan. M. W. Thatcher of Farmers Union Grain Terminals is vice-president, and Donald Kirkpatrick, attorney for the Illinois Farm Bureau affiliate, is secretary. Several large regional co-operatives, including CCA, Farmers Union Central Exchange, Georgia Cotton Producers, Pure Milk Association of Chicago, and the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives, are members.

"It is gratifying that co-operatives outside Farmers Union have begun to awaken to the necessity of some steps to save the co-operative movement from being strangled legislatively as a result of false charges brought by selfish, monopolistic interests," President E. K. Dean of KFU commented.

"I will submit to the Board of directors the question of affiliation with the new group. It involves both a small expenditure and policy."

"The National Farmers Union has carried on the fight for co-operatives almost single-handed at the national level for several years."

"The moneyed interests have been 'after' co-operatives and, I regret to say, have been actually aided by some farm organizations and some co-operative groups in the past."

"National Farmers Union alone defended the FSA co-operative loan program. It supported the Farm Credit Administration against banker attacks when other farm groups were also attacking FCA. It was the only national farm or co-operative organization, which flatly opposed the co-op tax return provision which was passed at the last session of Congress."

"If we affiliate with the new group and we want to work with other groups in areas of agreement — Kansas Farmers Union will in no way slacken its own work on behalf of co-operatives."

"Prior to the first planning meeting for the new group, Kansas Farmers Union and

(Continued on Page 7)

Reinhart Nominated

George Reinhart, secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union, has been nominated by President E. W. Dean to represent this state on the National Farmers Union committee on River Valley Development.

The National Board of Directors created such a committee in July after condemning efforts of interests in the lower valley to grab water for the exclusive purpose of a deep channel for navigation.

President Glenn J. Talbott of North Dakota recently wrote a letter denouncing the Kansas City Star's advocacy of a one-purpose plan, which the Star did not print. It is carried in full on Page 2 of this paper, together with details of the NFU committee plan. Read it. It is an issue of great importance to this state.

\$30,000 Saved At Ellsworth; Patrons Warned

Manager Nash Says Co-Operatives Face Turning Point In Fight Against Them

Patrons of the Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union have been advised of \$30,000 savings on their business from last year's operation and told that this year may be a turning point against co-ops because farmers haven't taken the time or have become indifferent about their organizations, now under attack by monopolies.

In a letter to members, Manager P. J. Nash advises them that \$21,000 of the annual savings will be prorated to the members on the following basis:

Elevators:
Wheat purchases 2c per bu.
Coarse Grain purchase—2c per bu.
Merchandise Sales—5c per dollar.

Oil Station:
Gasoline, Tractor fuel, Distillate and Kerosene—¾c per gallon.
Merchandise, Grease and oil sales—3c per dollar.

Grocery Store:
Merchandise sales—4c per dollar.

Cream Station:
Butterfat purchases—2c per dollar.

After advising on financial matters, Manager Nash wrote:

"This year may mark the turning point in the co-operative way of doing business. An organization is waging a terrific fight in an effort to get legislation passed to cripple co-operatives. It represents the co-operatives as receiving special privileges in matter of income tax exemption but that is not the reason for all the pressure. What our enemies hope to do is destroy the co-operatives."

Co-operatives do not enjoy any special privilege. Any old line company can get the same exemptions if they will prorate their profits to their customers. Their argument is that we should pay income tax on the \$16,000 we are returning to the stockholder patrons and treat it as profits instead of a refund to the member.

We do pay income tax on non-members business. I do not have the figures on the income tax we will pay this year but last year we paid over \$5,000.

Again I repeat that this probably marks the turning point in your organization—not because our opponents have a valid ar-

(Continued on Page 7)

K.F.U. Central Co-operatives Offers Investment To Locals, Individuals and Local Co-ops

Use This Blank

Farmers Union members, locals and individuals can help build the co-operative movement by investing in Certificates of Indebtedness of the Kansas Farmers Union Central Co-operative.

The investment will pay double dividends: dividends on patronage and dividends on the capital invested. The certificates pay 6 percent interest out of earnings.

This is a request to every Farmers Union member, and every officer of locals and co-operatives, to determine how much you or your group can invest, fill out the blank below and send it in.

Subscription Blank

KFU Central Co-operative

Post Office Box 296

Salina, Kansas

Enclosed find \$..... for which please issue a Certificate of Indebtedness in the Central Co-operative to the undersigned, who is properly affiliated with the Kansas Farmers Union. (Member, local or Fu co-op.)

Name.....

Route..... Town.....

We Must Speed Up Co-op Development, Veteran Editor Says

A. W. Ricker, editor of the Farmers Union Herald at St. Paul, is the dean of Farmers Union journalists and an elder statesman of the movement—one of the "Northwest Committee" which has built the Farmers Union to great strength in the Northwestern area.

In this editorial, in the current issue of his paper, he warns that we must speed up development of co-operatives if we are to have an economy of abundance instead of drastic changes in our system of government.

By A. W. RICKER, Editor

Here are some official estimates of how many persons may be laid off when the war is over and industry goes through reconversion to a peacetime basis.

Half a million persons laid off in iron and steel.

A half million persons laid off in the chemical and automobile industries.

A quarter million persons laid off in food processing industries.

A million laid off in machinery industries.

A million laid off in aircraft industries.

A million laid off in shipbuilding industries.

Five million laid off in government war jobs and services.

That adds up to at least nine million persons. To say nothing about the millions of men who will be mustered out of the service. To offset that peacetime jobs are expected to absorb not more than three million persons.

"That is going to have its impact on agriculture if this great market of many million persons is unemployed, has no money with which to buy the food and clothing it needs. That is a concern of both industry and agriculture."

"But here is how one private-profit enterpriser looks at such a matter. You've heard of Sewell Avery. He is chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward. How does he look upon this responsibility as a champion of private-profit enterprise? On March 2, 1944, Sewell Avery attacked the philosophy that the chief responsibility of business after the war is to provide jobs for everyone. The Chicago Sun quoted him as saying:

"A corporation's efficiency is indicated by the number of men it can release from a job—not by the number of men hired."

Nice outlook, isn't it?"

The above is from a radio address on the Food for Freedom Program by Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association, over a chain of eleven stations on May 28, 1944.

An attempt is being made by the Federal Government

(Continued on Page 7)

First Funds Will Finance Corn Program

Dean Urges Co-operators To Invest in Their Own Business—Make It Safe

Farmers Union members, locals and co-operatives have been invited to "invest in their own business" and help to expand the co-operative movement—Farmers Union Central Co-operative in Kansas by the Kansas erative.

The Co-operative, now handling hybrid seed corn and insurances, was created by the Kansas Farmers Union as a mechanism for expanding the Farmers Union co-operative movement into new areas and new fields of operation not now served by Fu co-ops.

Although without capital funds, the co-operative has made more than \$5000 this year on seed corn and insurances and the total will be more before the state convention.

An original goal of \$25,000 needed to finance and buy a complete co-operative program, has been set by board.

Open to Affiliates

Membership in the co-operative is open to all Farmers Union members, who have only to sign an application blank to obtain a membership certificate.

Certificates of Indebtedness—a co-operative form of investment share—will be sold in any amount from \$10 up to the members.

A blank which YOU can use is printed herewith. All you need to do is fill in the amount, sign your name and address, enclose a check and mail.

"The hybrid seed operation has been carried on with borrowed money, and by paying a percentage of earnings to obtain seed stock," President E. K. Dean explains.

Let's Own Our Own

"It now appears that we be able to save \$1.50 or more per bushel for patrons on the seed corn they have bought. They will be issued Certificates of Indebtedness for such savings."

"We can, of course, save more and make this operation our OWN, independent of the necessity of borrowing, if the co-operatives patrons will help us obtain the original capital with which to finance the operation."

"There have been few better times to build and finance our own co-operatives. Most of us have some investment money available now, many locals have money in their treasuries which should be put to work building co-ops, and many local co-operatives have funds which they might well invest in the movement."

Others Financing

"Co-operatives all over America are insuring themselves against restricted credit in the future by membership financing at the present time."

"Ohio co-operatives received \$500,000 in shares."

"The Farmers Union Marketing Association of Denver has

(Continued on Page 7)