



THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION

Co-operation

Education

Organization

VOLUME 33

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1940

NUMBER 2

Urge Discussion Program to Farmers Union Locals

Joint Committee of Managers and State Directors Promote Educational Meetings—Publish First Outline in This Issue

The activity of the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of Kansas is being streamlined or modernized for 1940. A committee composed of the educational leader, officers and the board of directors of the Kansas Farmers Union and seven members of the Farmers Union Managerial Association met in Salina, Kansas, December 18, 1939. The purpose of the meeting was to formulate plans for enlarging and improving the activities and services of the organization and for the special purpose of promoting within the organization a better cooperative educational program among the farmer members.

Some of the points of discussion before the committee in arranging plans for a program were as follows:

1. Something more than emergency legislation is needed in molding a farm program.
2. The greatest and most permanent benefits will be brought to agriculture through self-help and through organized and united action of individual farmers.
3. Farmers are aware of the problems facing their industry and are capable of building their own program through organized effort.

4. Democratic government can function efficiently only through informed constituents, therefore, farmers should consider it their desirable duty to study and assist in the solution of economic problems confronting agriculture and their nation.

5. The Farmers Union has a definite program, but the planned program of the committee should stress self-help and democratic farmer activity. Therefore, the committee's program should seek the sentiment of the farmers of Kansas for the information and direction of our leaders.

Many other topics of interest were touched upon and it was obvious that the committee had enough material to interest every farmer of Kansas and every member of his family.

Since it was the desire of the committee to encourage the farmer to study his problems and work out through cooperation with his organization, his own desires for a farm program, it was thought the best mechanics toward the accomplishment of this purpose would be the formation of discussion groups in the locals of the state. Plans and instructions for the organization of locals into such groups were assigned to some members of the committee to be developed.

It was also thought best, to develop some discussion topics of general interest for use in all the locals. Topics of local interest might be developed by the locals themselves.

The committee chose to outline briefly the following topics for discussion groups: "Farm tenancy," "The Family-sized Farm," "The Cooperative Movement" and "Money and Credits." References for additional material on the above topics will be furnished.

A GOOD FAIR YEAR

Representatives of 92 Kansas Farmers Hold Annual Meeting
The past year was better for Kansas farmers than 1938, representatives of 92 farmers agreed at their annual meeting in Topeka, Jan. 10. S. M. Mitchell, secretary of the state fair, Hutchinson, told the group farmers have two main purposes, bring people from city and the country closer together and foster a better understanding of agriculture problems. Gov. Payne Ratter was a speaker.

REDUCE CASH BALANCE

Only About Half What It Was Year Ago, State Treasury Reports
Kansas had a \$794,045.56 cash balance in its general fund at the close of last year, little more than half the \$1,530,335.33 balance left at the end of 1938. However the state treasurer's monthly report showed a cash balance of \$10,171,220 in the fee funds, including highway, compared with \$8,078,313 on December 31 a year ago.

Receipts in the general fund so far this fiscal year totaled \$3,236,727 compared with \$3,623,866 in the same period last year. Warrants issued, totaled \$4,128,444 this year, \$3,911,241 last. A decrease is shown for both receipts and warrants issued in the fee funds: Receipts, \$20,690,348 this year, \$21,372,258 last; warrants, \$17,277,665 this year \$18,727,249 last.

WRITE LIFE INSURANCE

40 Per Cent in Kansas Last Year Over '38 Rex Lear Reports
Again of 40 per cent in 1939 over 1938 is reported by Rex Lear, state manager of the Farmers Union Life Insurance Company, in volume of Kansas business written. He estimated an increase of about 20 per cent in total business for the Farmers Union company with headquarters in Des Moines, Ia.

The work of Neal Dulaney as special fieldman, beginning only last year in this capacity, contributed materially to the increase in business, Mr. Lear said.

Let us reason together.

GOOD PROFIT AT SALINA

Farmers Union Oil Cooperative to Pay Over \$1200 in Patronage Refunds

Salina—A net profit of \$1,878.93 was reported to stockholders of the Farmers Union Oil Company here at the annual meeting January 16. Volume for the year 1939 went a little over one-half million gallons, total sales amounting to \$62,248.06.

A stock dividend was declared of six per cent, and patronage refunds of over \$1,200 were voted. Directors I. E. Sewell, M. J. Werhan and Ira McCall were all re-elected.

"Through the efforts of our 30-day credit plan, directors by the board of directors, we were able to keep enough cash on hand to take advantage of cash discounts on all our purchases," R. L. Flory, manager, reported. "Many similar organizations have gone on a strictly cash basis. Your directors wanted to give the patrons every service possible and concluded the 30 day plan would be quite a convenience over a strictly cash on delivery basis and would still give us sufficient capital to operate efficiently."

Rex Lear is president of the association, and directors in addition to those named above are J. F. Komar, Charles Arley, J. A. Neely and A. W. Newkirk.

FARM GROUP DISBANES

Agricultural Council Merges With Committee of Farm Organizations
Topeka—The Kansas agricultural council, organized 20 years ago to be a clearing house for agricultural ideas, has been dissolved and merged with the committee of Kansas farm organizations.

The farm organizations' committee, which watches legislative programs, January 10 chose Emil Gall, Ofertle, president; Dr. O. O. Wolf, Ottawa, vice-president and Julius Foltz, Wakarusa, secretary. It also will ask the board of agriculture, horticulture department and the state department of public instruction to join.

Join the Farmers Union today!

FARMERS UNION GRAIN MEN



Pictured above are, left to right: Roy Crawford, head grain salesman of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Kansas City; H. E. Witham, general manager; and Miss Marie McCarthy, secretary to Mr. Witham.

Vescky Praises Progress for Far. U. Self-Cultivation

National President Reflects on Fable of Meadow Lark and the Farmer

By John Vescky

When I was a boy I often read the old fable about the meadow lark family in the wheat field. I marveled at the wisdom of the mother lark, when time after time, she told her young ones that there is no need to move as long as the farmer is only talking of cutting his grain or depending on his neighbors to do it for him. But when the young ones reported that the farmer said that tomorrow he and his son would come out in the field themselves and cut the grain, she said, "Now is the time to move, because when the farmer quits depending on others to do the work and says that tomorrow he and his son will come out and cut the wheat themselves, the work shall be done."

We in the Farmers Union, and farmers generally have been like the farmer in the fable, we have been satisfied with talking about doing the job or of getting some one else to do it for us, so long that the birds that have so long lived upon things that we produce have decided that that is all we can do. We have talked about organizing the farmers to their own organization, if we could get some one to do the job. We have demanded, asked, and suggested, that the schools, the government, or some other agency educate our farmers in agricultural economy and in cooperation.

Yards of Resolutions
We resolved yards of resolutions, on the need of legislation, we have petitioned congress and our state legislatures, and the President, to give us relief from economic conditions that have been for generations, and are to this day taking from us all the income from our farms and causing us to lose our farm and the produce we produce more that the world can buy at fair prices. We have condemned monopolies that live like leeches on our agriculture and suck the life blood from all who produce in this country. But like the farmer with the wheat, we have only talked about getting some one else to do something about it.

I am glad to say, that in many of our Farmers Union States we have finally come to the conclusion that since the job is really ours, it will not be well done unless, and until, we do it ourselves. North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma and many other states, since the conventions, new life and a new determination, and has brought wonderful results. Many county unions are already now over their last year's total membership.

The Educational work is pushed as never before. New cooperatives are being built in new territories, the foundation of the old cooperatives which had gone broke because of a lack of member understanding and true cooperation. Our own farmers are raising legislative bills forward, ourselves, the legislation that we so sorely need to safeguard the interests of our farmers and our cooperatives.

The Kansas Farmers Union has also seen the vision and caught the inspiration that comes from the realization of our own power and might, if we only do our best. I have attended several conferences of State Officers, Farmers Union, the Managerial Association, and officers of our state-wide cooperatives and the every day run of our members, to these meetings and conferences the talk was not about how they can get some one else to do the work for them, but it was making plans and arrangements to carry on the work where they are producers.

At the conferences that I had the pleasure to attend, plans were worked out for a continued membership campaign, in which, managers of our Cooperatives, state officers of one Farmers Union, the state Junior League, and the juniors, the managers and officers of our state-wide cooperatives, and the whole membership of the Farmers Union will all do their part. The plans contemplate not have the building up of membership in our cooperatives and in the Farmers Union, but also from as many as possible of the farmer to join the union; and become members and shareholders in our cooperatives. A member of the Farmers Union or a shareholder of a cooperative is not of much value to our movement until he comes to understand the fundamental principles of the Farmers Union and of cooperation, and becomes so imbued with the spirit of cooperation, that no 10 cent or 100 cent monopoly bribe can mean him away from them.

Much Work to Do
I hope that our Kansas Farmers will give their officers and the others who helped work out the plans for 1940, their whole-hearted support. I especially hope that they will give their time to the cause whenever they are called upon to do so. Our County and local officers, and the managers and officers of the cooperatives, are the first line troops in this battle for better times and more security for the farmers. It is on them and the coming generation the Juniors that your leaders must depend for help and support. This is our union, this is our country and especially this is calling upon us, each one, to do our bit. The Union is made up of individual members. Take away the individual members and there is no Union, so every member counts, and every member and every Junior is important in this work we all have before us. Let us each and every one resolve that we will quit depending upon some one else to get that new member, or that new share-holder or to give the necessary business to our cooperatives. Let us, ourselves, do that which is our job, our duty. Build the Union, our cooperatives and through them our happiness, security, and contentment.

Sandy—You're always grumbling. What can't you be satisfied with your lot?

Jock—Because I haven't got a lot.

TUNE IN TO KSAL

McPherson Co. Juniors on Radio Monday, Jan. 22

McPherson County Farmers Union Juniors will present a fifteen minute program over radio station KSAL, Salina, Monday, January 22, at 4:15 to 4:30 p. m. Mrs. Charlie Olson, McPherson, is the McPherson county Junior Leader. Be sure to tune in, and tell your neighbors about it.

HOPE MAKES REPORT

Republican Congressman Conducts Hearings Through Seven States

WASHINGTON—After a seven-state survey, Representative Hope, Republican of Kansas, asserted that the average farmer is fairly well satisfied with the government's agricultural policies, but is concerned over the trade agreements program and the Federal deficit.

Gives Summary
Hope is chairman of a 50-man Republican committee of House members which recently sounded out "Grass Roots" sentiment at hearings in Salt Lake, Denver, Dallas, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Kan., Des Moines, and Springfield, Ill.

He gave the summary of "voluntary opinions" expressed at the meetings, which he said were attended by both Republicans and Democrats.

1. Comment on the Federal Farm program ranged from "lavish praise to severe condemnation; all seemed to think the should be some kind of a government program; complaints related mostly to administrative red tape, delay and complicated reports which farmers must make.

Concerned Over Deficit
2. The trade agreements were condemned for the most part, with the proposed Argentine treaty arousing the most opposition.

3. "Increasing concern" was manifested over the Federal deficit, with indefinite suggestions for a permanent method of financing farm benefit payments through a tax.

4. A desire was expressed for more emphasis on soil conservation and on crop control, as under the present program.

5. Strong sentiment was voiced for the United States to stay out of war, even if it meant farmers would have to sacrifice temporarily higher prices in the event of such a conflict.

Reelect Bert Harmon

Bert Harmon, Ellsworth, president of the Farmers Union Cooperative Business Association, was reelected a director of the Salina Production Credit Association at its annual meeting in Salina, January 8. S. G. McCall, Culver, was also reelected. Business of \$697,000 was reported for the year 1939.

The U. S. Census Man to Call

Enumerator Will Have New Set of Questions to Ask Farmer, Relating to Various Subjects

Enumerators for the United States Census Bureau will visit every one of the 7 million farms in America during April. On this 100th anniversary of the Census of Agriculture, they will present a new set of questions to American farmers, designed to produce information of maximum usefulness.

To achieve this end, a new system of regionalizing the questionnaires has been devised. This method will make it possible to obtain facts on production of all crops which are important at present, or which give promise of being important in the future. Those crops which are peculiar to a region will be the subject of inquiry only in the sections where they are produced.

The nine regions into which the country has been divided, and the States included in each region, are:

Region 1—Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Region 2—Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Region 3—Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

Region 4—Florida.

Kansas in Region 5.

Region 5—Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Region 6—Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Region 7—Texas.

Region 8—Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

Region 9—Arizona and California.

Of special interest to members of farmers' market associations and to the associations are three questions which are included on the schedules for all nine of the regions. Every farmer is asked whether he transacted any business in 1939 with any of the following: a cooperative buying organization, a cooperative selling organization, or a cooperative service organization.

Into Economic Questions
The Farm and Ranch schedules have been planned not only to take stock of acreage and harvest; they are aimed at finding answers to some of the perplexing economic problems of the American farmer. Farmers are confronted. Months of study and research went into their preparation, and as a result, the findings are expected to have a bearing on the life of practically every citizen.

After many conferences with an advisory board of progressive active farmers, representatives of the leading farm associations and of the foremost farm economists, the final schedule was approved. But this was only the beginning. Next comes the tremendous task of securing answers to the schedule from every farmer in the United States, ranging from those who produce eggs and garden truck to the value of \$250 or more in suburban places, to the vast ranches with thousands of acres of public and private range. Collection of the reports of several millions of farms, beginning in April 1940, will fall to the lot of 50,000 to 60,000 enumerators, who will at the same time take a count of the people in the farm areas.

MFA Live Stock Managers Urge Central Markets

Give Reasons for Condemning "Direct Selling" and Boost Co-op Terminals

Live stock marketing at the terminal through cooperative agencies was strongly recommended by managers of the Missouri Farmers Association in annual meeting at Columbia, Mo., January 9.

The resolution passed at the meeting follows:
The practice of selling livestock direct to the big meat packers is costing the farmers of Missouri and the Corn Belt millions of dollars. For, when the packers can supply a large portion of their needs at their doors without having to bid competitively for it on the central markets, this creates a lack of demand on those markets where livestock prices are made, and this in turn works livestock prices downward.

From 1880 to 1927, the big meat packers purchased two-thirds or more of their swine in competition with other buyers on the public market. Following the World War, the packing interests pursued an expanding policy of purchasing more of their swine "direct," a practice that enabled them to be free from competition encountered on the public markets. Since 1927, the direct buying of hogs has been rapidly extended until last year more than 51 per cent of the nation's hogs were sold direct to the meat packers.

In the "competitive hog buying era" existing prior to 1927, covering a period of nearly a half century, the average market prices of the three species of livestock were: hogs, 7.17 per cent; Beef steers, \$6.73 per cent; and lambs, \$7.47 per cent. In other words, hogs outsold cattle 44c per cent, and were only 30c below lambs.

With the non-competitive buying reaching 51.7 per cent in the 1938, hog prices averaged \$7.93 per cent, beef steers \$9.80 per cent, and lambs \$9.71 per cent. These figures indicate that not only is the vicious practice of direct selling detrimental to hog prices alone, but the practice is also in the "competitive" hog buying era classes of slaughter animals.

Therefore, we, the M. F. A. Managers of Missouri, assembled in annual meeting, condemn the practice of "direct selling" of livestock, and urge every farmer in Missouri to consign his livestock shipments to the cooperative livestock commission firms which operate on the central markets. Those serving Missouri farmers are: The Farmers Live Stock Commission, Co., National Stock Yards, Ill., and Springfield, Mo., and the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company at Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo.

Plan Annual Meetings of State-Wide FU Ass'ns

Farmers Union Jobbing, Auditing, and Live Stock Associations Plan Meetings in Kansas City, Feb. 1, 2—Royalty and Insurance Ass'ns in Salina

Annual Meeting days of Farmers Union state-wide business associations are here again. Today, January 18, stockholders of the Farmers Union Royalty Company have their meeting in Salina. A good attendance is expected, according to G. E. Creitz, secretary-manager, especially in view of the fight over control of proxies through the past year. The Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company, Salina, has its annual policyholders' meeting Friday, January 19. Business reports covering the past year's operations will be read, and the annual election of officers and directors will be held, according to G. W. Bushby, president.

The Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company which has houses in Kansas City, Wichita and Parsons has its big yearly meeting Thursday, February 1. W. G. Bernhardt is general manager of this organization, with L. J. Alkire manager of the Wichita house and W. L. Acuff manager of the Parsons house. Marketing problems especially of interest to the live stock feeder will be considered at this meeting, and it is hoped a good attendance may be had.

The Farmers Union Jobbing Association's meeting will be Friday, February 2. "We want a good crowd of Farmers Union people to the meeting," H. E. Witham, general manager urges. "Come hear our reports, and help us make plans for 1940." The Jobbing Association made the purchase of its Topeka terminal elevator last year, also celebrating its Silver Jubilee year in 1939.

The Farmers Union Auditing Association will hold its meeting Friday morning, February 2, according to T. B. Dunn, secretary-manager. The Kansas City meetings will have special program features, now being prepared, but not fully ready for announcement. There will be special speakers, men with cooperative messages well worth hearing.

A feature of the Jobbing Association program will be a panel discussion taken part in by selected local managers. Tom Hall is making arrangements for this attraction, and the names of the managers will be given in the February 1 number of the Kansas Union Farmer.

The President's Message

By John Fengel

During the past year we have received numerous requests for a uniform study outline and discussion topic program for the use and benefit of our Locals, which was one of my recommendations to the last state convention at WaKeeney in October.

The Managerial Association appointed a committee from the group and I appointed a committee from the State Board to confer with them and outline this study and discussion topic program.

This joint committee met in Salina and after an all-day discussion outlined the plans and purposes and decided upon which subjects should be included within the study and discussion group, and from the original committee elected a sub-committee to work out the details of the joint program, which met in Salina January 10 for the purpose of making the divisions of the topics into lessons so arranged as to make the proper divisions of the subject or subjects to be discussed each month.

We are confident you folks are going to like this arrangement and also that these discussions and study topics are going to be a worthwhile benefit to each and every one of our Locals by our being able to study and discuss the same problems as an organization at the same time and in this manner we shall be the better able as an organization to develop our democratic solution of our problems and through these discussions develop interest in our local and national affairs, and after such discussions and decisions made, be the better qualified to suggest and prescribe the proper remedies and the mechanics to be used and applied to the causes as affecting farmers.

Our organization being democratic in principle, now has the means of intelligently outlining its own policy and intelligently and as a unit, advising our leaders as to positions we take regarding plans for the betterment of the farmers' situation as farmers and the means whereby these objectives might be attained and become a reality.

My personal wish is that every one of our Locals should meet at regular intervals, using the study topics as outlined and following each meeting either have your Secretary or better still elect a reporter, whose duty it shall be to summarize the discussions and after being read in your Local meeting before adjournment, be approved by your Locals and forwarded to our State Office, Salina, where we shall be more than pleased to file them, not only for our information, but furnish us with the desired and much needed information we need in the development of future discussion

WOMEN CAN VOTE

Farmers Union Ladies Have All Rights and Privileges as Men

Membership cards are not only available to men, but to women and Juniors. Only the head of the family pays Farmers Union dues, that is, only the men. Women and Juniors of either sex may secure membership cards without charge. The women receive an "honorary" membership card, of a blue color; while the Juniors have a card, in force as long as he or she of junior age and whose parents retain membership of good standing.

Women have voting rights the same as the men, as the National Constitution, Article IV, Sec. 2, reads: "Females over 16 years are eligible to membership in the local, county and State Union, with all the rights and privileges of male members, but shall be exempt from all fees and dues."

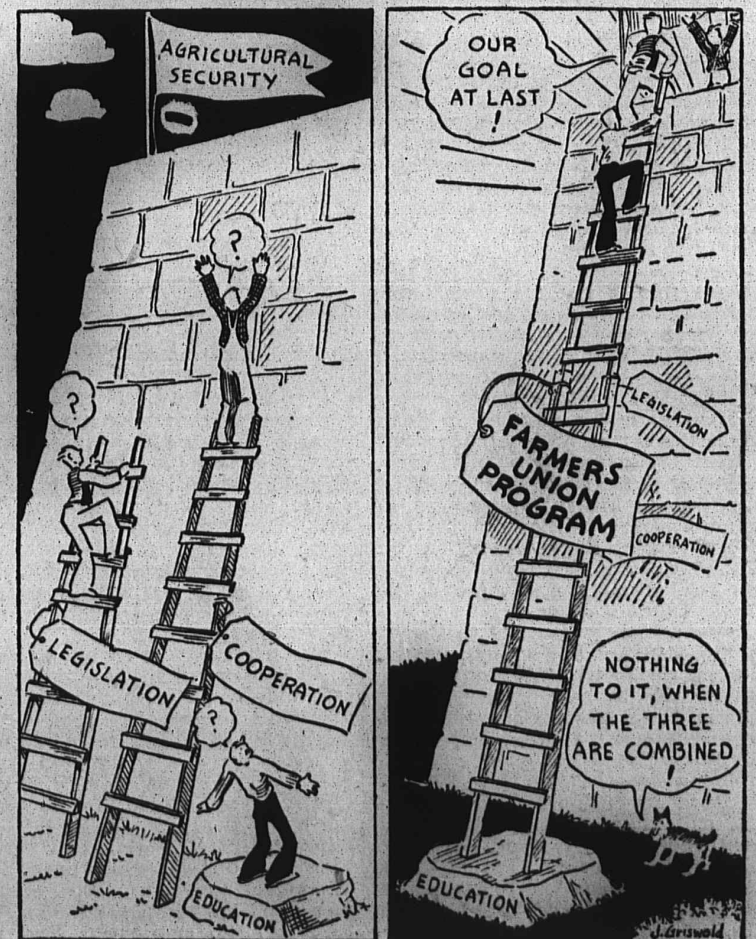
subject matter, as well as reference material so we can be in a position to develop future courses or improve upon what we now have.

This is a new venture, with us and we are in need of your advice and must have it if we are to make the plan succeed and accomplish the purpose for which it has been fashioned. In order to do the thing we are anxious to have this course do in supplying a needed and uniform study and discussion project we must have regular meetings, develop our own local discussion leaders, attend the meetings ourselves and invite our neighbors to attend with us and come to the local meetings prepared to discuss some phase of the subject and lessons for that particular time.

If our Farmers Union folks will all do this, there need be no lack of interest in our organization or our Local meetings and from the interest in our organization or our Local meetings and from the interest and benefit to be received we are so anxious to create a sympathetic interest and understanding of our problems, their causes and apply the sane and sensible approach to the remedies ourselves, upon which we are all agreed.

I am anxiously awaiting your reports and shall be interested in the reports you will mail to us after your discussions on the lessons and discussion topics as we outline them.

UNITED WE REACH THE TOP



The Kansas Union Farmer

Rex H. Troutman Editor

Published the first and third Thursday of each month at Salina, Kansas by THE KANSAS BRANCH OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL & CO-OPERATIVE UNION, 119 South Seventh Street, Salina, Kansas.

Entered as Second-Class Matter August 24, 1912 at Salina, Kansas, Under Act of March 3, 1872.

Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1003, Act of October 3, 1917, Authorized July 30, 1918.

Subscription Price, Per Year \$1.00

Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success. When change of address is ordered, give old as well as new address, and R. F. D.

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KANSAS FARMERS UNION—Salina, Kansas, Room 311, Farmers Union Insurance Co. Building.

FARMERS UNION ADJUSTING ASSOCIATION—Room 308, Farmers Union Bldg., Salina, Kansas. T. M. Dunn, Secretary-Manager, Salina, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION LIFE INSURANCE CO.—Room 300, Farmers Union Insurance Co. Bldg., Rex Lear, State Manager, Salina, Kansas.

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1940

The Annual Meeting
Any legal meeting of a cooperative can and might be a very important one. When a business is small, the association is usually tremendously important to its patrons. When the cooperative is a large one, every single member counts just as importantly. No one should use his responsibilities blindly to others.

Indeed, there are real responsibilities to being a cooperators. And loyal patronage is not the whole of them. The member should carefully watch for ways in which his organization can be of greater service to him and his neighbors, and inform his directors or manager. There is no such thing as standing still in this world of business, either it is progress or a backslide.

Every member should keep informed concerning his cooperative organization, having knowledge of its managing and directing personnel, its physical facilities and general inventory, and an idea of its financial position.

In short, attend your association's annual meeting. If it is a cooperative, keep it so; if it isn't make it. Mind is 1939, with fifteen delegates present and your own business, that is to say.

It is difficult to decide whether it would be easier to evaluate cost of production of farm products or to measure the family-sized farm. Rather appears to be the same familiar trail with a different approach.

TRAVELOGUE

By J. P. Fengel

My first contact for the new year was with the Farmers Union Jobbing Association in Kansas City, where ways and means were discussed relative to membership organization work in connection with the Jobbing Association around several elevators that used to be, but now are not Farmers Union.

Experience has taught us that it is impossible for our cooperatives to continue for any length of time and our informed farmer membership has failed and the usual thing is for the cooperative to decline as our members decline in numbers and cease their active participation in their Locals. We are expecting to be very busy in this connection as soon as weather will permit and arrangements were completed at this meeting to do so.

On January 9, I attended the annual meeting of the Kansas Committee of Farm Organizations, which is composed of the Kansas State Grange, the Kansas Farmers Union, the Kansas Farm Bureau, the Consumers Co-operative Association, the Cooperative Grain Dealers Association, the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company and several other organizations that are state-wide in their activities.

Since this is not the proper time according to the views of the majority present, our political positions were not outlined at this meeting, but many positions will be outlined at the oncoming meeting, which will be in time to affect platform building before the campaign gets under way. From Topeka I went to Salina where a meeting of the sub-committee of the State Board and the Managerial Association had been called for the purpose of outlining and developing our joint educational study courses, which will be begun in this issue of the Kansas Union Farmer.

From Salina, I returned to Topeka on the 11th for the annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture and found Merle Tribbey from Winfield, on the Resolutions Committee and from McPherson County, Mr. Gibson and Julius Gibson Jr. on the job and attending every session. I was unable to attend all of the sessions, since I was obliged to attend the annual meeting of the Board and the stockholders meeting of the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company at Saint Joseph, Mo., on the 12th and 13th, where I represent the Kansas

improvements are what made any agricultural country wealthy for after the rural country was improved then they began to build railroads, packing houses, post offices, manufacturers, and if it wasn't for the farmer, they wouldn't need any of them.

AAA Causes Surplus

The triple "A" has caused more wheat to be sown in the United States than would have been sown if they had left the wheat alone. When wheat began to go up in price in November, Wallace broadcast to the world and told them that there wasn't any need to let the farmers profiteer on account of the war for the government had so much wheat and corn. Wheat went off three cents the next day and it lacked about forty cents being to the party price that Wallace was going to bring this wheat to. Even his signers are not feeling very good over it and when the drought held out so long and covered so much wheat territory then they began to talk about not exporting more wheat for fear this country would have a shortage after spending untold thousands to take care of the surplus and didn't take care of any of it—only to look it up from year to year so we would have a large surplus all the time, and then take imports of farm products in 1937.

Corn, 17,434,837 bushels.
Wheat, 86,337,248 bushels.
Barley Malt, 371,243, 456 pounds.
Rye, 206,860 bushels.
Tapioca, 432,557,783 pounds.
Hay, 146,149 tons.
Soy Beans, 109,418,304 pounds.
Cottonseed Oil, 194,008,241 pounds.
Butter, 11,110,762 pounds.
Cattle, 494, 943 head.
Hogs, 16,552,218 head.

Fresh Pork, 20,876,569 pounds.
Hams, Bacon, 47,422,022 pounds.
Fresh Beef, 4,665,558 pounds.
Canned Beef, 88,087,113 pounds.
Total meat products, 191,906,012 lbs.
Eggs in shell, dozen, 520,789.
Dried yolks, 5,426,358 pounds.
Frozen yolks, 1,482,562 pounds.
Egg albumen, 2,844,072 pounds.
Wool and mohair, 326,034,700 pounds.
Dried milk, 2,924,157 pounds.
Hides, 312,449,599 pounds.
Inedible molasses, gallons, 301,449, 599.

Just stop and consider how many acres of land it would have taken to have produced these imported farm products. How much more the income of the American Farmer would have been if we had raised these additional amounts at home instead of importing them from the foreign farmer, and the men it would have given work and buying power.

Here we are paying the farmers to build up their land so they can produce more and paying them to cut production. We have had these low prices before. In 1889 I sold corn for 3c and 11c a bushel and hogs for 24c a pound and the next fall the feeders had to pay 75c a bushel for corn and haul it. But our Government wasn't making trade treaties at the expense of the American Farmer. If the foreign countries have anything we need, let's pay them for it, and if we have anything they need, they will do the same without penalizing the American Farmer, and Laborer.

Yours sincerely,
H. C. Gottlob,
Winfield, Kansas.

News and "Influence"

Large newspaper syndicates with radio stations and Farm Research bureaus with their well built "influence" agencies should be given careful consideration when dealing with comments on the present farm ills. Today there is a good market for "influence" and propaganda of which the farmer is not in a position to bargain for.

When I read the "Farm Research" article of Dec. 21, and all the "fear" which it contains and then consider the old Farmers Union Cost of Production program, asking for a fair price for that part of our products which we do not want to export, it recalls to my mind the old saying, "Mind our own business (and produce) and we will have a business to mind," rather than ask the regional F. S. A. supervisor, "What shall I do next, Sir?"

Why the needless worries of Farm Research when our annual consumption of wheat is approximately 650,000,000 bu.—when our '39 yield was 563,431,000 bu. and 1940 yield is estimated at only 400,000,000 bu.?

How idiotic for farmers to permit them to become farm leaders who will play into the hand of the Secretary of Agriculture who holds A FEAR FOR HIGHER PRICES, a Secretary who points his finger of shame on the word prosperity and uses the word "boom" instead, a Secretary who wants farm prices so low that he "needs" control machinery (processing tax) with which to support prices to his liking.

It has been demonstrated time and again that Wallace-Farm Bureau-National Farmers Union triple A can exist only on low prices, thus a control of farm prices which comes into our country and creates the "need" for triple A and its snooters.

I beg to quote some COMMON SENSE from an editorial in Weekly K. C. Star of Sept. 13, '39, which reflects on the above: "Until wheat prices pass the dollar mark, (on the farm) and top cattle, hogs, lambs, at \$10 a hundred, there should be no complaint about farm prices being too high."

Another "news item" in our Kansas Union Farmer of Jan. 6 about "Shakeup in F. C. A. Credit Policy."—Like to make believe that the shakeup is in the interest of the debt ridden farmer, but it must be remembered that F. C. A. is a set-up which functions betwixt and between the government and the farmer.

Regulated income (unless stimulated from foreign shores) and when a stockholder in the National Farm Loan Association for this country (there are 5,000 of them in the U. S.) the conditions have been exactly the reverse to what the above "news item" quotes, in that the board of directors, for the good of the other stockholders in the Association, have at times recommended foreclosure where the F. C. A. officials (Wichita) have ignored the recommendations, and additional expenses have been added to the case.

Inasmuch as the F. C. A., P. C. A., and P. S. A. are a credit policy, institutions, it makes little difference if it is Hill or Black who says which (if) arm is to have the "shot." Our Riley Co. Farmers Union urges to get rid of the infection and a genuine farm recovery will follow.

Discussion Outline No. 1 Farm Tenancy

American Capacities of Abundant Production are Weakened by Effects of Faulty Distribution

Out of a total of 6,812,350 farms in the United States in 1935, only 2,210,224 were farmed by full owners; 688,867 were operated by part owners, 48,104 by managers and 2,865,155 (42 per cent) were operated by tenants.

The first substantial basis for a comparison of agricultural extent and value is the 1850 U. S. Census. Then the number of farms was 1,449,073 as compared with 6,812,350 in 1935. Farm acreage in 1850 was 293,560,614, while in 1935 it was 1,054,515,111. The average size of farms in 1850 was 202.6 acres, and the average size of farms in 1935 was 154.8.

The total value of farms in 1850 was \$3,271,575,426, while in 1935 the value was \$32,858,844,012. Of the total value full owners operated farms worth \$14,824,644,795 and tenants operated farms worth \$10,952,747,497. The value of land and building per acre in 1850 was \$11.14 and in 1935 it was \$31.16. In 1920, following a period of high farm prices after the war, the value of farms rose to \$66,316,002,602 or an average of \$69.38 per acre, as against the \$31.16 fifteen years later.

Heavy borrowings against these inflated post-war values not only contributed to the present distress of farmers but accentuated the growth of tenancy.

Types of Tenancy

There are a number of types of farm tenancy. "Share tenants" are those who pay a certain share of the products, as one-half, one-third or one-quarter, for the use of the farm, but furnish their own equipment. "Share cash tenants" are those who pay a cash rental, as \$7 per acre of crop land or \$500 for the use of the whole farm.

"Standing renters" are those who pay a stated amount of farm products for the use of the farm, as 3 bales of cotton or 500 bushels of corn. "Croppers" are share tenants whose work animals are furnished by their landlords. Standing renters and croppers are types that are of importance only in the Southern states.

Most of the tenantry is a short-term share or cash rent arrangement between the

owner and operator. Insecurity of tenure, leading to constant shifting and soil depletion, is a well known feature of the system. The worst conditions as regards the length of tenure are found in the South. Here 20.1 per cent, or 1 in 5 persons operating farms whether as owners or tenants had been on the same farm less than one year in 1920.

In the North and West, share tenantry and cash rental or a combination of the two are in force. In these sections the renter has had capital, and historically has climbed the ladder to ownership. Many times a father has started his sons in farming as tenants. An interesting study of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics of 57,000 farm tenants widely distributed throughout the United States revealed the fact that 23 per cent were related to the landlords.

In the relationship between tenant and landlord, the form of lease is important, especially in time of later disagreement. It will be appreciated then if the lease is written rather than in oral form. The tenant should have a clear understanding of every clause in the lease. The length, whether one, three or five years' duration, is a popular point of debate in discussions of farm leases.

Need Make a Profit

Whether the farmer operate the farm as owner or tenant, he must be able to make a profit on his farm operations. There are three essentials which have been named as necessary that a profit be attained:

(1) The farmer must have opportunity to raise products in volume enough for profitable operation. He cannot maintain his home and farm overhead on too small production.

(2) Quality in land and livestock is important. It need be enough for profitable operation, except under most adverse economic conditions, and without "soil mining."

(3) There need be suitable conditions, both as to natural resources and environment and as to markets; to permit the development of a dependable organization of fairly diversified activities. It is said that a disregard of these three basic principles is responsible for a large percentage of farm failures.

Discussion Question

What Factors Other Than Prices of Farm Products Enter Into the Problems of Increasing Farm Tenancy?

- Is Tenancy Increasing in Your County?
- How Would You Advise a Young Farmer without funds to enter into farming in your Community? Or would you?
- What Should a Lease Contain?

Reference Material: Public Affairs Pamphlets, "Farmers Without Land" 10c and "Saving Our Soil" 10c, may be received from the Kansas Farmers Union. Other sources: U. S. Census Reports, Department of Agriculture Bulletins, Farmers Bulletin 1164, U. S. Dep. of Agri. The Farm Lease Contract, statistics available at the county Farm Security Administration office, and various school textbooks on economics.

"Life Begins in '40" For KFU FLOUR

KFU fancy patent all purpose flour will be available to all KFU members, through their local dealers, after January 15. You can bake bread, rolls, biscuits, layer and angel food cakes and finest pastries with equal success with the new KFU flour. This is possible because it is milled from carefully selected wheat, it has tender elastic gluten, is distastefully balanced and is so fine that every particle must pass through a silk cloth mesh containing over 16,000 openings per square inch.

On the back of every bag, made of the finest quality toweling, you will find this printed guarantee: "Use this entire sack of KFU fancy all purpose flour and then, if for any reason, you are not entirely satisfied, return the empty sack to your dealer and he will cheerfully refund the full purchase price."

"Regardless of what brand of flour you have been using, we guarantee KFU fancy short patent all purpose flour to give as good or better results, in any of your recipes."



Ask your local dealer for KFU FLOUR, the new flour milled especially for KFU housewives from the finest quality Kansas hard wheat.

DISTRIBUTED BY
Farmers Union Jobbing Association
KANSAS CITY TOPEKA

membership will probably drop in the coming year. Some of our members seldom attend so they don't think they get very much good out of it. If they would only attend the meetings they would get more than \$2.75 worth of neighboring out of it.

If they would come and join in on discussions or bring some new thing to discuss they would get several new lights on any problem. If I didn't attend I don't think I'd feel like rejoicing either. But if you attend and then think you don't want to rejoin you would probably have a more definite reason.

Yours for a bigger and better Farmers Union year.

Thomas K. Darrah, Sec.
No. 8 Local
Marquette.

Streamlining the National Farmers Union

National Board Members James A. Patton and Morris Eriksson attended the joint meeting of Directors of the three central business activities, state boards, and national members, held on Saturday, December 16, following the close of the stockholders' meetings on Friday, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Both national board members made clear and exhaustive statements with reference to the organization of the National Farmers Union into departments, each with a department head, and each department with well-defined responsibilities.

Junior Education has been expanded to include adult education. Mrs. Edwards, Junior Leader, becomes head of the National Department of Education, with duties relating to study programs, production and distribution of literature and program publicity.

M. W. Thatcher was named by the national board as the head of the department of legislation. All legislative matters, including legislative proposals, will clear through this department.

C. McCarthy, manager of the Nebraska Farmers Union Exchange at Omaha, will have charge of the department of cooperative work. The goal in this department will be to develop unity, standardization, and cooperation among and between the many Farmers Union Cooperative business enterprises.

The importance of this department and the goal sought cannot be overemphasized. Long ago, we should have been about the work of bringing our many cooperative enterprises, comprising insurance, farm supplies, livestock, butter, poultry, grain, and cotton marketing, into cooperation with each other. Brother McCarthy has a large size job on his hands and will need all the help we can give.

Jim Patton will be in charge of the organization, both in unorganized and organized states. There is a tremendous job to be done by this department in unifying organization work throughout the Union, and in spreading the Union into new states.

The National President will have the job of supervising and coordinating the work of the departments. He will also have general charge of the national paper. A staff of writers is being recruited from the editors of our other Farmers Union papers, who will contribute articles on subjects on which they are, so to speak, specialists.

Radio programs will be developed in conformity with the program adopted by the Omaha convention, and in accord with the work of the four departments.

It begins to look now like the Farmers Union is approaching a time when we will not speak with a babel of tongues, but with one mind, speak the language of unity. And of course this does not mean regimentation. It means unity through conference, discussion and education.—Farmers Union Herald, St. Paul.

U. S. CENSUS MAN TO CALL

(continued from page 1)
conservation and erosion, and legislation having to do with farming, it is a matter of self-interest to help the enumerator get accurate information. This furnishes the basis for crop adjustments by the individual farmer to avoid the low prices of over-production, while it points the way to newer and broader markets for his products.

The Bureau must be on the alert to take notice of any new grain, cereal, or forage plant which is coming into quantity production. Crop changes sometimes come about almost unnoticed,

ed, but they have a very definite effect on the planning program and even on the type of farming in many sections. Thus, numerous crops appear on the 1940 schedule that were total strangers to the farm a decade or two ago.

In the early days timothy and clover were the old standbys for hay, but today they have been supplanted from alfalfa and lespedeza. The use of forage crops for hay and silage for stock feed has grown apace in recent years. One inquiry on the schedule asks the acreage and tons of hay obtained from cowpeas, peanuts, Canadian peas, Austrian peas, other peas, vetches, crotalaria, soybeans, velvet beans, horsebeans, mungbeans, other beans, beggarweed, and lupines.

Was Simple in 1840

In the first Census of Agriculture, taken one hundred years ago, the yield was given only for the big six of "cereal grain" crops—Indian corn, wheat, barley, oats, rye, and buckwheat. Since that time, not only have the methods of farming changed materially, but new crops better adapted to local conditions have become firmly established. Some of the new crops have foreign names indicating the country of their origin.

Adequate space on the schedule is given to fruits, nuts, and vegetables, which are taken on the importance of major crops. Since the American family has come to expect year-round supplies of the leading vegetables, growing supplies for the canneries runs into big money. Nearly a score of vegetables are separately listed with space for acreage and value, and as many more are expected to be reported when found by the enumerator. In addition to a report on production, the inquiry on orchards and fruits provides for the enumeration of "trees of bearing age" and "trees not of bearing age" to better determine and districts in which future production will show the greatest increase. Besides the usual small fruits or berries, the enumerators will report loganberries, blueberries, and youngberries and will show separately wild and tame blueberries and red and black raspberries, in the appropriate regions. A special block of questions on citrus fruits is included in the schedules for those States where citrus groves are found.

Under the heading of "Livestock and livestock products," on the schedule, appear horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, and poultry. For the first time there will be an inquiry relating to fur farms, asking the number of silver fox and mink females on hand and the number of pelts taken in 1939. In view of the growing importance of herds of goats for dairy purposes, the enumerator will report on the number of goats milked.

Other inquiries to be made concern mortgage debt, taxes, and amount of farm income. Items on the schedule which reflect living conditions on the farm include days of labor performed for pay elsewhere than on the operator's farm; the number of days' work at nonfarm jobs; cash expenditure for feed for purchasing farm implements, automobiles, motor-trucks, building materials and equipment, fertilizer, gasoline, and so forth; sales during 1939 of crops, livestock, and livestock products; number of cows milked during the year; amount of wool clipped during the year; production of butter and eggs; and the type of public road on which the farm is located.

As more and more farmers turn to a simple system of bookkeeping to

(continued on page 4)

We Manufacture—

Farmers Union Standard
Accounting Forms
Approved by Farmers Union
Auditing Association

Grain Checks, Scale Tickets
Stationery
Office Equipment
Printing

—the
CONSOLIDATED
printing and stationery co.
SALINA • KANSAS

Junior and Juvenile Department

Juniors from 16 to 21

Juniors from 6 to 16

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

EMBRYOS

"The dreamer's mood is very well.
But now," I said, "it seems
That people want realities;
They do not care for dreams."

The poet looked at me and smiled,
And said with gentle scorn,
"Do you not know realities
Are dreams before they're born?"

YOUR LEADER'S MESSAGE

Esther Ekblad

On The Air

On the air is what we really mean, so get this engraved in your mind, red-lettered on the calendar and posted on the radio table so that you'll not forget it. The McPherson county Juniors are going to present a fifteen minute radio program over KSL, Salina, Monday, January 22, at 4:15 p. m. This will be a Farmers Union Junior debut on the air, and if you like it, perhaps there will be more appearances.

The time, 4:15 to 4:30, will give those who are in school, time to either hurry home or get near a radio somewhere. Be sure to tune in and tell your friends and neighbors about it.

Service Awards are Presented

Kansas Juniors, Junior Reserves and Junilets, who earned sufficient points on their achievement records, have been presented with their Service Awards from the State Junior Department. Juniors who completed the first year of required projects, received the blue, gold and white Union pins; second year Juniors received the blue bar pin with the one gold star. The Reserves received the blue and gold lithographed poems; and the Junilets, pins for first year work and eversharp pencils for second year work.

It gives us much pleasure to present the Service Awards. Our cherished hope now is that we shall have many more to present in 1940.

Cooperators to Meet

With the first of the year annual meetings are in the air and cooperatives are no exception. I can vision Leaders and Juniors planning programs and lunches. In particular, busy planning the menus of cooperative dinners and lunches.

The very first days of February will bring many cooperators to Kansas City for the Annual Meetings of the F. U. Live Stock Commission Company and the F. U. Jobbing Association. Among the managers, Juniors and Junilets, and others going to Kansas City will be Farmers Union Juniors and Leaders. To utilize every opportunity to learn more of how cooperatives do and can serve farmers is one of our "must" activities.

We'll Exchange—Ideas

A new service for Farmers Union Locals is being initiated in this Kansas Union Farmer. It is the first in a series of group discussion outlines which will be published as guides to discussion in Farmers Union Locals. It is our hope that these discussions will create a buzz, buzz, buzz, all over the state. We want folks here and folks there thinking and talking about mutual problems.

In our Junior educational work group discussion is often a theme song. Leaders and Juniors, it will probably fall your lot to be the promoters of this feature in your local meetings.

Farewell—Welcome

One of our pioneer Junior Leaders has called a halt now and the duties of leadership have been given to one of her proteges, Mrs. Harriet Eaton of the Johnston Local, McPherson county, was one of the first to grasp the significance of educational work in her county. Through hard work she and Mrs. Charlie Olson conducted Junior and Juvenile classes in their local and set the example for the county and we might well add, for the state. Before our camps, they used all kinds of schemes to bring camp attendance. They succeeded and both years McPherson county was a success in Farmers Union work. Mrs. Eaton has taken Mrs. Eaton's place as the Johnston Junior Leader. Bernard attended both of our camps, attended the All-State Camp in the Black Hills of South Dakota last summer and has taken part in several county projects. He earned his second year Junior Service Award in '39.

To Mrs. Eaton goes our most sincere appreciation and to Bernard our welcome and best wishes.

In Ellsworth county we welcome Mrs. Will Hysell as Junior Leader of the Ellsworth Local. A hearty welcome to you!

With Your State Leader

There has been much activity in the air since the first of the year but snow and cold has managed to freeze a good portion of it. Some of us, who get itching feet for coasting and skating, I'm afraid would be willing for snow to interfere with anything.

It was a pleasure to visit the Sandy Hook Local at St. Marys, Wednesday evening January 3. The local there has been reorganized within the last year and the enthusiasm and splendid work of the local is a splendid example of what a local can do.

A very fine home talent program was presented that evening and movies of local community happenings were shown by a movie hobbist of St. Marys. Many folks in the local are interested in Junior education. While waiting for the midnight train that would take me to Salina, I had opportunity to chat with Mrs. Bernard Immeschuh and Mr. Julius Immeschuh. Both are community leaders and are at the present time doing much to push Junior work in their Farmers Union Local.

The Junior Advisory Council and the membership committee of McPherson county met at the Morning Star schoolhouse, McPherson, the evening of January 5. Mrs. Olson, county Junior Leader, was kind enough to invite me to meet with them.

A membership drive, a radio broadcast, a Junior News bulletin and many other things were slated for consideration that evening. The meeting was just one further proof of how much can be accomplished in a small planning group. How much better to shoulder all the responsibility. By the close of 1940 we'll all be turning to McPherson county for a report on the good or bad of having a Junior Council.

At Your Service

Farmers Union Cooperative
Educational Service
Gladya Tabott Edwards
Director

"Education—A debt due from the present for future generations."

The Advisory Council of the Educational Service consists of the State Leaders of Montana, North Dakota and Wisconsin. Minnesota will have a place on this Council as soon as a State Leader is appointed there.

This group, the Director of the Educational Service, meets to map out plans for the work of the Educational Service, in order that its services may be most valuable to the state educational departments.

Under discussion at the December meeting, held during the Annual Stockholders' meetings in St. Paul, were topics of interest to the four states which, with the Farmers Union business activities, sponsor the Educational Service.

The Director's time for each state is set by the Advisory Board. It was

The cost of the tuition will be fifteen dollars, with five dollars of the fee absorbed by the camp for those students who came from the Educational Service states.

Mrs. Mary Jo Uphoff, Wisconsin, is chairman of the Advisory Board. Dorothy Pulley of North Dakota is Secretary. Mrs. Mildred Stoltz of Montana and Mrs. Edwards are the other members.

Your Dollar

By Consumer's Union

A Sanforized shirt will usually fit well, and keep its fit after laundering. But the Sanforized label is no guarantee of quality. Consumers' Union found in recent tests, Of the seven Sanforized shirts tested, one was of such poor material and workmanship as to be rated "Not acceptable."

Reliable pre-shrinking is an important factor in shirt quality. Thread count, tensile strength, resistance to abrasion, fit and workmanship also help determine the shirt satisfaction you will get. The points were one of the first products to rise markedly at retail after the outbreak of the war, have dropped. And merchandisers in other commodity fields, according to the New York Times, are pondering that fact.

As a case in point, furniture manufacturers, who had planned to advance quotations on Spring goods about 10 per cent, are now holding prices at the Fall level or limiting increases to 5 per cent, because furniture buying has lagged noticeably in the past month. Spring prices for many products have been set with a certain amount of caution. Manufacturers and wholesalers want to put them as high as the traffic will bear, but at the same time they realize that decreased consumption is a fact.

If within the couple of months just ahead, products which have been boosted sharply don't move off the shelves, manufacturers may pause to think twice about consumer reaction to higher prices.

To Discuss Plans of Rehousing U. S. Rural Workers

Senator Capper Will Speak at Public Housing Conference in Washington

The vital topics which will be considered at the Ninth Annual Meeting of the National Public Housing Conference, to be held at the Hotel Willard, Washington, D. C. Friday and Saturday, January 26 and 27, Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas and Congressman Henry Ford of Michigan will address the luncheon meeting on Saturday, which will be given over entirely to the problems of housing rural workers, industrial and agricultural workers.

Other authoritative speakers will include Leon H. Keyserling, Deputy Administrator of the United States Housing Authority, Robert Handschen, Executive Secretary, Farm Research, Inc., and Cecil E. Brown, Director of the Federal Industrial Organizations. Irving Brant writer and journalist, will preside at the session.

In calling the meeting, which will be attended by Housing officials, business, labor, civic, church, and social service groups from all over the country, Mrs. Mary Kingsbury Simkhovitch, President of the National Public Housing Conference, stressed the need for a new approach to housing conditions among rural workers. Mrs. Simkhovitch's full statement follows:

"The Housing Needs of Low-income wage earners are today receiving consideration in many cities. With the aid of Federal subsidies, provided under the terms of the U. S. Housing Act, progress is being made toward solving the shelter needs of the population. Individuals and families whose annual earnings are \$1500 or less. With additional subsidies to be appropriated by the Congress in 1940, further strides will be taken in this direction.

Plan Public Loans
But there remain areas of necessity still untouched. Sharper focus on housing conditions among rural workers, industrial and agriculture, is urgently necessary. The study of cooperative housing in the form of public loans at low rates of interest to local authorities for rehousing cooperatively organized farmers with incomes just above those of the families eligible for subsidized housing. Private money is the high price for such projects adequately to attack this phase of the public housing problem. Such loans will have to be permitted, in clear and specific terms by Federal, State and municipal governments."

Mrs. Simkhovitch will open the conference at 10 o'clock, Friday morning, when Jacob Crane, Assistant Administrator of the United States Housing Authority, N. H. Dosker of the Louisville Housing Commission and Sam Howell, of the Omaha Housing Authority, will take part.

Cooperative Project—Qualifying Public Housing Loans will be the topic of the luncheon meeting at 1 o'clock, with Dr. Harry W. Laidler, president. The speakers will include Dr. Edith Elmer Wood, Chairman, National Public Housing Conference; E. R. Bowen, General Secretary, The Cooperative Housing Association, Inc., and Ira Robinson, Council, New York State Division of Housing. At 3:30, a bus tour will be made to inspect housing projects in the District of Columbia.

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War and Prices

The clothing field, contrary to previous announcements in business circles, reports are that Spring coat and suit lines will be maintained at their established price range, although quality will undoubtedly suffer in some cases as the result.

In contrast, retail prices for some types of clothing are being inched up, especially in the low-priced brackets. Thom McAn shoes, for example, have been increased 15 cents a pair and advances by other chain stores handling men's shoes are expected soon. Woolworth has followed the example of the manufacturers of high-priced shoes and has upped the price of its brands long sold at an established price; other variety chains have also made increases.

For several reasons, consumers will be unwise if they allow themselves to be lulled into a feeling of false security insofar as prices are concerned. To mention one, the cost of raw materials continues to fluctuate. Wheat and cotton, for example, recently reached a new high for the past two-year period. Rayon yarn has also been boosted.

And predictions which come from various sources give food for thought. Isador Lubin, Commissioner of Labor Statistics, testified before the Temporary National Economic Committee at the opening of its hearing on prices

that there was no assurance that the commodity cost increases which have already begun would not continue and include a constantly wider group of materials.

The Committee itself has announced that although the skyrocketing of prices which occurred just after the outbreak of the war (due largely to speculation) has come to a halt, later evidence indicates that prices are entering a second upward phase. And business advisers, such as Bikson's Reports, predict higher commodity prices by the end of the first three months of 1940 or even earlier.

One event in the merchandising field supports CU's advice. Given in the November Reports, that consumers should complain about price rises to retailers who in a position to put pressure on manufacturers and wholesalers. At the New York trade shows held by the shoe manufacturers recently, retailers put up so much resistance to higher prices that some manufacturers cut their proposed increases in half and a few abandoned the contemplated advances entirely.

Consumers should also, whenever possible, refuse to buy commodities which have risen sharply, or at least keep their purchases to a minimum. The points were one of the first products to rise markedly at retail after the outbreak of the war, have dropped. And merchandisers in other commodity fields, according to the New York Times, are pondering that fact.

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If within the couple of months just ahead, products which have been boosted sharply don't move off the shelves, manufacturers may pause to think twice about consumer reaction to higher prices.

Adult Education in Eastern Nova Scotia

The Extension Program of St. Francis Xavier University Compared with Study Club Program Among Farmers in the United States

by Paul L. Vogt

United States Department of Agriculture

Study clubs in Eastern Nova Scotia, Canada, have revolutionized rural agricultural and rural industrial life in the past few years. They have substituted hope for fatalistic indifference; self-confidence and self-help for dependence on others; happiness for bitterness; self support for state aid.

The following comments are the result of a two weeks' tour of visiting Nova Scotia Cooperatives and listening at conferences explaining the philosophy of the movement. To one who was professionally interested in the study clubs and their relation to the progress made in rural life in Eastern Nova Scotia, questions as to size of groups, leadership training and functions, times of meeting, subjects discussed, methods of groups in the community, methods of organization, study materials, relation to action programs and similar subjects were of the most importance.

Background of Conditions
Underlying the Eastern Nova Scotia Adult Education program will be aided by a brief background of conditions there. We were told that economically the fishermen and other rural industrial workers were like many of our American farmers, constantly in debt to the middlemen and entirely dependent on them for prices received for their products. A real need for economic improvement was being felt. This has long been recognized as an essential for the successful growth of cooperatives.

Nova Scotia was fortunate in having a far-sighted, public spirited representative of the Church in charge of a fisherman's parish. Like John Frederick Oberlin, Father J. J. Tompkins, recognized as the pioneer of the movement, felt the need for the people doing something to improve their economic condition. He brought his people together in little groups to talk among themselves what could be done for their own improvement. The work begun by Father Tompkins has been expanded through the efforts of Father M. M. Coody, A. B. McDermott and others of the Extension Department of St. Francis Xavier University with the full cooperation of the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and other agencies. One of these little groups, meekly has grown the cooperative development that has made Eastern Nova Scotia famous.

The practical means for improvement through cooperation were in full harmony with the ideals of the Catholic and Protestant Churches. Community work was spreading among the industrial workers. According to the philosophy expressed by the leaders of the conference Communism advocates the abolition of private property. Cooperation, on the other hand, accepts the principle of private ownership of property and individual enterprise and self-help. Religious organizations were interested in encouraging the cooperative movement as a means of solving the economic problem as well as a practical solution of pressing economic problems.

A real economic need, capable leadership, and the philosophy of economic reorganization all have contributed to the growth of the movement. Although St. Francis Xavier University in its extension work has encouraged the study of cooperative movement as an immediate field of practical interest, its adult education program includes the encouragement of study in every phase of human interest. It has tried to provide for the wishes of all of cultural, civic, vocational or other educational interests in the communities served. The more extensive stress on cooperative education has been a response to the economic problem, for most in the minds of adults in the several communities.

Study groups as the basis for cooperative development fitted in perfectly with the philosophy of the Extension Service of the University. Cooperation offers a solution of many problems and is in harmony with Christian principles. It is not inconsistent with private ownership of property which is even a democratic majority in these forms of economic organization requires a considerable degree of autocracy and compulsory

technical Service, Vassar College and Charles V. Doyle, of the Pennsylvania State board of Housing, Senator Capper of Kansas, will be the principal speaker at the luncheon meeting at 1 o'clock on Saturday morning. The problems of rehousing rural workers will be considered. Others on the program include Leon H. Keyserling of the U. S. Housing Authority, Robert Handschen, Executive Secretary, Farm Research, Inc., and Cecil E. Brown, Director of the Federal Industrial Organizations. The closing event will be a tea for members at the White House.

Directors of the National Public Housing Conference, in addition to Mrs. Simkhovitch are Irving Brant, Vice President; Harry W. Laidler, Chairman of the Board, Louis H. Pink, Treasurer, Helen Alfred, Secretary and Executive Director; Edith Abbott, L. Israel, Loula D. Lasker, Edward C. Lindeman, Ralph J. Francis, J. M. Connelley, Jr., Mgr. John O'Grady, Mrs. William Paley, Ira S. Robbins, George Soule, Frank A. Vanderlip Jr., William Allen White, Edith Elmer Wood and Clarence Woolley.

In McPherson County
The Juniors of the Scandia Farmers Union Local entertained their parents at a Christmas party during the holidays. The party was held at the home of their leader, Mrs. Dan Borth. The evening was spent in playing various games. A tasty lunch was served by the Juniors.

The Junior members of the Scandia Local have presented a three act play, "Aunt Samantha Rules the Roost" at two different schoolhouses. The play was given December 11 at the Scandia schoolhouse and at the Morning Star School, December 18. The Juniors expect to present the play at the North Union School in the very near future.

eral interest. In the United States the general topics probably have a larger place than Nova Scotia.

In Eastern Nova Scotia the study clubs are parts of a movement which is not broken by the presence of other organizations. In this country the trend seems to be for the Grange, the Farm Bureau, the Farmers Union and the religious organizations each to develop its own educational program, each being helped as far as possible by public agencies. In some states, state organizations such as women's clubs, county planning committees, boys' and girls' clubs, take their place alongside private agencies with their own programs. State agencies have a powerful impulse to work through existing state educational organizations to the neglect of private groups. This difficulty does not appear more present in Nova Scotia where state organized and fostered farmer groups have not developed to such an extent as here.

Broad Community Basis
The question has been raised as to whether the study club and cooperative movement in Nova Scotia has been successful because based on the influence of a particular religious organization. Although much interest has been taken in the Movement by St. Francis Xavier University, a Catholic institution, and by the Catholic Church generally, it has also developed around Sidney, Cape Breton Island, as strongly if not more so than anywhere else in Nova Scotia. Here the population is said to be predominantly Protestant although it is reported that Cape Breton County as a whole is 53.8 per cent Catholic. Reports from both Catholic and Protestant leaders insisting that members of other groups be included in local cooperative organizations. The insistence that the study club movement be on a broad community basis instead of made up of a number of local study clubs independent of each other has also aided in preventing the movement from growing along religious or other sectarian lines.

Interest in Church
As compared with the United States the Nova Scotia farmers do not seem to have such extensive organizations as the Grange, the Farm Bureau, or the Farmers' Union. There is a Nova Scotia Farmers' Association with fifteen County or District Associations and some 5000 members. Their interests in Eastern Nova Scotia, at least, seem to center much more around the Church as a rural welfare agency. This may be why the Church has been so important a factor in the Canadian Study Club movement.

In the United States group study of public questions is now definitely encouraged by Federal and State agencies. In Eastern Nova Scotia it seems to be primarily a movement under the leadership of private organizations, such as the Church and its educational agencies and Cooperative Associations. The State cooperates in this movement by making available the fullest possible use of the extension specialists and others from the College and other state agencies. So far, however, study clubs seem to have given more attention to problems of cooperation instead of more general civic questions.

In Eastern Nova Scotia the study club is not thought of as an individual unit but as a part of a community movement. The small units are brought together frequently for common community forums to be addressed by outside speakers. These community forums give inspiration and guidance to the local groups and help to answer questions raised in the several clubs. In this country the study club is still a distinct unit without relation to other groups. In Eastern Nova Scotia 30 to 40 clubs in this country are frequently found. In this country one club in a community is something worth mentioning.

Both countries have yet to develop adequate concepts as to what constitutes a community. The prevailing idea still is that the community is a local territory limited by vague boundaries determined by local school, church, industrial or other interests. Community is a term which is used in state, national or international affairs appears only in times of extreme stress. Consequently the subject matter discussed in both countries is likely to be of local rather than general interest.

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Senator Wheeler Tells Program of Legislation

Also He Reviews Cooperative Accomplishments in Other Lands

Senator Burton K. Wheeler, U. S. Senator from Montana, was a principal speaker at the recent Farmers Union Meetings in St. Paul, Minn., and discussed at some length the program of the National Farmers Union, legislation much of which he has introduced into Congress. The following is from his speech.

In my home state—Montana—the Farmers Union is the dominant farm organization. It is a vigorous and virile group which militantly seeks to serve its members and agriculture. Its cooperative enterprises are far flung. It operates local bulk oil, livestock shipping associations, and grain cooperatives throughout the state. It is my understanding that you likewise have attained the same character of cooperative development in other northwest states.

Certainly this huge gathering—this great annual cooperative banquet attests to your success. You are to be commended for your accomplishments. I congratulate you.

Cooperative enterprise can exist only in a democratic nation. And by its very nature it protects and preserves democracy.

The history of the cooperative movement in the United States is not the story of complete success—but it has developed, and it has earned for itself a definite status in this country. Making cooperatives work is not easy. If cooperative enterprises are to succeed—you—its members—must be prepared to help.

The history of the Farmers Union Cooperatives is one of which you may be justly proud. During depression years and in the hard-hit spring wheat area you have developed and federated over five hundred local cooperative associations. And these in turn are federated with your three financially strong regional cooperatives here in St. Paul.

Democratic Europe has encouraged and fostered cooperatives—both marketing and consumer. And from Sweden, a few years ago, there came a story of service—a contribution—made by a cooperative.

The Example of Sweden

Four Swedish manufacturers of overshoes formed a trust. Prices were boosted. A tariff wall furnished protection. In fourteen years this trust showed profits of twelve million dollars—and that profit on an original capital of a single million. Management costs were inflated. They finally reached a point at which they exceeded the entire wage cost. The public paid more than two dollars for necessary overshoes. The Cooperative Union Congress was held in 1926—and this threat of organized consumers brought a slash of fifty-three cents in price. Consumers demanded further reductions—the trust balked. Then a new factory—a cooperative one—was established. Its operation and extension brought the price of overshoes down to ninety-three cents—a dollar and thirtyfour cents below the highest trust manipulated price.

Galoshes at ninetythree cents, and not \$2.27, meant that farmers and workers could discard their home-made and wooden shoes. They bought galoshes—and the total number sold quickly doubled. The number of workers employed in the industry increased. Greater efficiency in the industry resulted. The per unit wage-cost was less—though the workers received higher wages in the cooperative plant.

A similar story, with slight variations, can be told about fertilizer in Sweden; matches in Finland; meat products in Switzerland; oatmeal and binder twine in Denmark; salt, soap and fats in France; and bread in Stockholm. The cooperatives in the Scandinavian countries have reduced prices for the consumer and increased wages for labor.

They likewise have established standards of honest weights and measures, cleanliness, efficiency and economy of operation.

In 1923 I saw the cooperatives operate in Denmark, in Sweden, in England and elsewhere. In Copenhagen, Denmark, the bank which I thought was the best equipped to serve the people of that city was cooperatively owned. What cooperatives have accomplished in these European nations can be accomplished in the United States.

Cooperatives are a powerful weapon—they are a great aid—in the fight against monopolistic, fixed or administered prices. Hesitantly, but because honesty demands it, I must say that cooperatives alone are not the complete answer.

(Senator Wheeler then turned from a consideration of the contribution which cooperatives are making, to the necessary part which legislation must also play in safeguarding the welfare of the products of wealth.)

Pays Tribute to Farmers Union Legislative Committee

May I pause to pay tribute to the national legislative representatives of the Farmers Union. I have worked closely with them. They have furnished to the Congress many constructive proposals. They have been vigilant in protecting your interests. They need, deserve, and must have, your support. No legislative representative has been more effective or has accomplished more—for the farmers of the country—than your own Bill Thatcher.

More and more, farm and labor groups appreciate an understanding of political and economic trends. During the seventeen years I have been a member of the United States Senate I have observed the growing influence of organized labor and organized farmers. Most of the economic and social reforms of the past seven or eight years have long been advocated in and out of Congress by progressive leaders and groups such as yours here in the northwest.

The Present Farm Legislation

Though you endorse it, and I voted for it, there are weaknesses in the present farm legislation. It has increased farm income though it has failed to solve the problem of agriculture. But in addition—farmers dislike what they call bureaucracy and regimentation; they dislike interference with their conception of sound farming practices; and they dislike red tape—and I don't blame them.

There are charges of discrimination in acreage allotments. But the most important weakness lies in the fact that to be at all effective this legislation requires the appropriation of

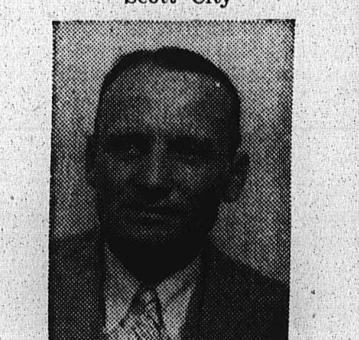
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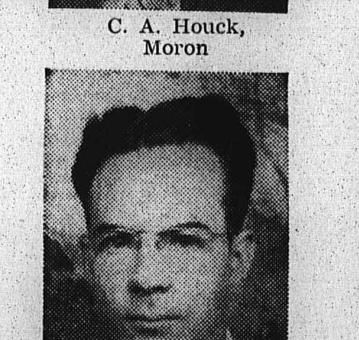
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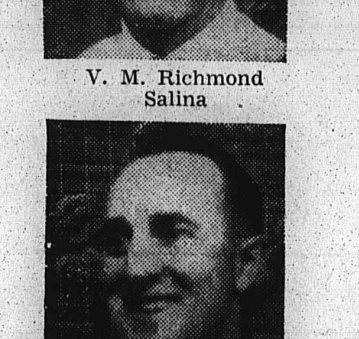
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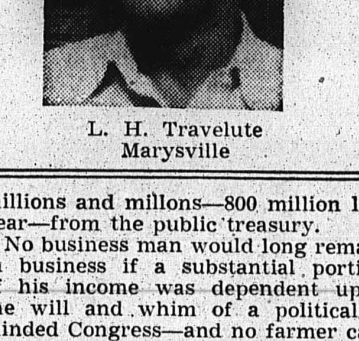
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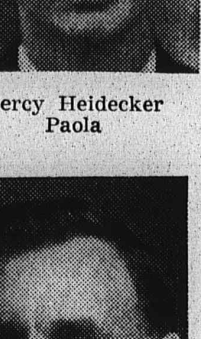
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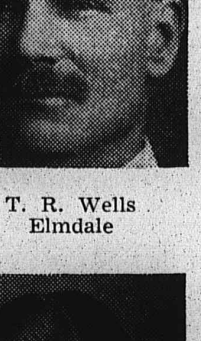
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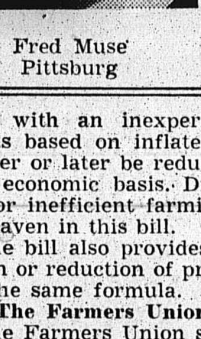
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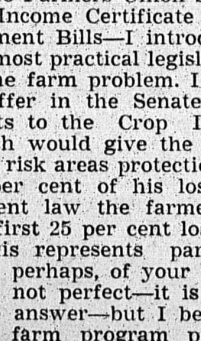
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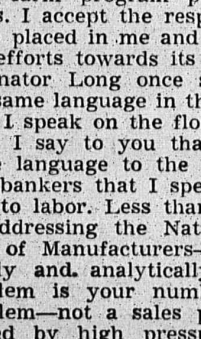
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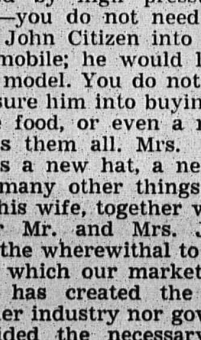
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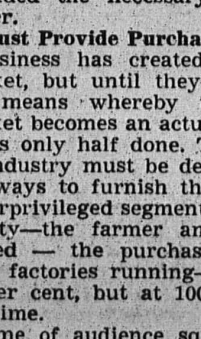
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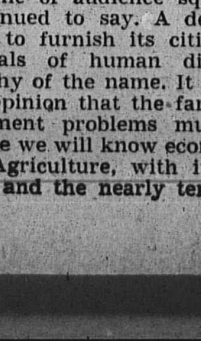
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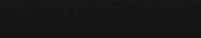
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KBI PLANS NEW SERVICE

Considers Establishment of Identification Bureau

The Kansas bureau of investigation is planning creation of an identification service to help sheriffs and police departments of the state in crime detection. Attorney General Jay S. Parker outlined the plan in a talk to the Riley County Republican club, January 10. It is to include ballistics, photography, fingerprinting and other mechanical equipment.

Parker said few counties or cities now have access to or are equipped to use latest scientific methods.

Thatcher on NBC
M. W. Thatcher will report on National Farmers Union legislation over the NBC Farm and Home Hour on the regular monthly Farmers Union broadcasts Saturday, January 27, at 11:30. The second of the popular Farmers Union Newscasts, prepared by Mrs. Gladys Talbot Edwards, national educational director, will be given.

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U. S. CENSUS MAN TO CALL

(continue from page 2)

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