



The Kansas Union Farmer

ORGANIZATION

EDUCATION

COOPERATION

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BENEFIT PAYMENTS WHEAT UNCHANGED

PROCESSING TAX AGAIN FIXED AT 30 CENTS BUSHEL

Required Acreage Reduction Tentatively Announced at 15 Per Cent of Base Period Acreage, but Restriction May be Modified

IN TWO PAYMENTS

Final Action Regarding Amount of Reduction of Acreage Depends on How Other Wheat Nations Observe International Agreement

The parity price benefit payment on wheat for the 1935 crop will again be 29 cents per bushel, according to the announcement made Monday, July 9, by Henry Wallace, secretary of agriculture. This is the same as was determined for the 1934 crop.

The same announcement fixed the processing tax on wheat at 30 cents a bushel, which is also the same as last year. The tentative terms provide for a reduction of 15 per cent from the acreage of the base period of 1923-1932. This, too, is the same as was in effect last year.

The benefit payments will be paid in two installments, the first being 20 cents to begin in October, 1934, and the balance next year after proof of compliance with the terms of reduction contracts has been submitted.

In his announcement, Secretary Wallace said no reduction would be required below the amount of planting allowed for harvest in 1934. He hinted, however, that the requirement might be less than 15 per cent. Definite announcement as to this requirement will be delayed until early next month.

In the opinion of many observers, this indefinite fixing of the acreage restriction is in effect a warning to foreign wheat nations that under normal conditions a continuation of the present acreage would provide a crop of sufficient size to meet normal consumptive demand, provide full carry-over reserves, and leave more than 100,000,000 bushels of wheat surplus.

It had been expected previously the administration might call for an increase in wheat acreage next year because of extensive drought damage to the present crops. Many officials held, however, that the probabilities were for normal weather conditions which would guarantee sufficient supplies above domestic requirements.

"Continuation of the present acreage does not mean that the United States will retire from world wheat marketing," said an official AAA statement, "but means that with normal weather conditions and average yields, sufficient wheat will be produced during the coming season to more than supply our world wheat trade, as based on average exports prior to the depression."

Final Decision in August
"In any case, the final decision as to adjustments in the coming year will be made when the international wheat agreement is taken up in August."

Wallace declared the processing tax rate was continued at 30 cents because the difference between the parity price and the farm price, on which the tax rate is based, is now about what it was when the tax first went into effect.

It was estimated wheat farmers will receive approximately \$102,000,000 from the program during the coming year. At the present time about 575,000 farmers, producing about 77 per cent of the nation's wheat, are parties to the adjustment contracts.

To date they have received \$68,000,000 as the first installment under the 1933-34 program and will receive about \$30,000,000 in the second installment which is scheduled to begin moving out within a short time.

Kansas gets a larger share of the benefit payments than any other state.

The dairy cow is a heavy drinker. That is she drinks a great deal of water, an average of 3 pounds for each pound of milk she produces, according to W. H. Riddell, department of dairy husbandry, Kansas State College. Her requirements are high during the summer months, and they must be met if she is to maintain her production.

AAA TAKES STEPS TO CAUSE PLANTING OF MORE FORAGE CROPS

Ruling Last Week Permits Cooperating Farmers to Plant Corn and Grain Sorghums for Roughage on Contracted Acres

Further steps to encourage production of forage crops to offset shortage caused by drought were taken by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration last week with a ruling permitting planting of corn and grain sorghums for roughage purposes on contracted acres in all states.

The permission applies to lands rented to the Secretary of Agriculture under wheat, corn-hog and tobacco contracts. It removes all restrictions of any character on the use, for production of forage or pasture crops, of all lands, including both the "contracted" or rented and the "non-contracted" acres.

Since the beginning, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration programs have encouraged transition from intensive cultivation of surplus grains into grass, pasture, and soil-building and erosion-preventing forage crops.

Previous modifications of the adjustment contracts, made to encourage planting of forage crops to offset drought and insect pest losses of livestock feed, permitted planting and use of all forage crops on the general or non-contracted acres, and the planting and pasturing and harvesting of all forage crops except fodder corn and grain sorghums on the rented land. The June 30 ruling removes even this limitation.

Under the ruling, corn and grain sorghums planted under this modification shall not be harvested or used for grain. The ruling specifies that "harvesting for grain" shall include "hogging down" or pasturing after ears develop. Inability of farmers in many areas to obtain grass seed, which previously had been authorized for planting on rented acres, made it necessary that other forage crops be made available.

A previous modification permitted harvesting of seed for pasture and meadow crops from contracted acres to provide for future planting needs. Under the new modifications it is anticipated that in many areas planting will occur at such a late date that there will be little likelihood of grain maturing. However, the ruling provides that in cases where such a possibility exists, the Secretary of Agriculture may designate for each county a date before which corn and grain sorghums planted on the contracted acres must be harvested.

In announcing the new ruling, Administrator Davis made it clear that the effect of the forage crops, needed to meet livestock feed shortage, there is no relaxation of or departure from the original purposes of the adjustment programs which seek reductions in order to bring the basic commodities production into line with the effective demand.

OVER 580,000 CATTLE BOUGHT IN DROUGHT AREAS

A total of 580,806 beef cattle had been bought up to July 2 on the parched ranges of the west and turned over to the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation to be canned and distributed to needy families, it was announced by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The purchases were made by Drought Relief Service of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, which was established to cooperate with other governmental agencies in assisting cattleman and other farmers to meet the problems created by the drought.

None of the cattle so purchased and processed are to be sold, but all are being used for the help of needy families on relief lists throughout the country and will not find their way to market. Hides from cattle processed for relief purposes go to the processor or packer in part payment of processing charges. Hides from cattle that are condemned and slaughtered on the farms are the property of the farmer selling the cattle, for him to dispose of as he wishes. Such condemnations represent an extremely small per cent of the cattle sold, and reports from the field indicate that in a great many cases the farmers simply bury the carcasses without removing the hides.

"How many cattle we may eventually buy, and how long buying will be kept up, we cannot say now," Dr. E. W. Sheets, director of the Drought Relief Service, said. "It depends on conditions as they develop, including the inclination of the individual farmer to sell."

"We have no 'goal' or quota" in cattle purchases. We are planning relief to the hard-pressed drought areas and expect to continue buying and processing for relief purposes only so long as the situation warrants."

Records of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics show that during June the price of the better grade of beef cattle on the hoof went up, and that while in the main the prices of beef were approximately the same as in May, prices of some cuts of beef increased.

Have you a neighbor who should be a member of the Farmers Union. Perhaps you are the one who can encourage him to join. He is needed.

NOW IS THE TIME

to prepare your ground for another crop. Get to work on it early, so you can work it thoroughly.

NOW IS THE TIME

to prepare for increasing your membership in your Farmers Union Local. Get ready to keep in line with other Locals by calling attention of your neighbors to the Farmers Union program. Keep it before the farmers in your neighborhood. Then go out in an organized way and sweep the community with a determined drive for new and old memberships.

NOW IS THE TIME

to make the start.

FRAZIER-LEMKE AMENDMENT IS IN LINE FCA POLICY

W. I. Myers of Farm Credit Administration Says New Law Attempts to Prevent Selfish Creditors from Foreclosing Unnecessarily

IMPROVED CONDITIONS

General Recovery Affected Past Year Leaves But Small Minority of Farmers Who Will Have to Find Moratorium Relief

"The Frazier-Lemke amendment to the Bankruptcy Act is in accord with the program of the Farm Credit Administration, since it attempts to prevent occasional selfish creditors from foreclosing on distressed farm debtors," W. I. Myers of the Farm Credit Administration said in Washington, July 2. His comment continues:

"The program of the Farm Credit Administration has been to prevent farm foreclosures and to refinance excessive debt burden on a basis which would permit good farmers to work out.

"As a result of the general recovery during the past year, and the loans of the Federal land banks and the Land Bank Commissioner, the great majority of distressed farm mortgage cases have been relieved leaving a very slight minority of farmers who will have to go into bankruptcy to save their homes.

"Farmers as a class are very slow to take bankruptcy," Governor Myers stated, "and my experience in working with them personally and in the Farm Credit Administration gives me every confidence that they still retain an ever-present urge to pay their debts. More than 86 per cent of the installments on Land Bank Commissioner loans which generally have been made to the most heavily indebted farmers, which matured prior to June 1 were paid on or before they were due. Of those which are delinquent, two-thirds are for less than 30 days. This shows that even the most heavily indebted farmers are acting in the highest good faith.

"In lending almost a billion dollars on the security of farm mortgages, 90 per cent of which was used to refinance existing farm debt burdens, and in making commitments to lend \$700,000,000 more, the Farm Credit Administration has become the creditor of the vast number of farmers who otherwise might have needed to avail themselves of bankruptcy as provided by the Frazier-Lemke bill in order to avoid foreclosure.

"Ninety cents out of every dollar loaned by the land banks and Commissioner under the Farm Credit Administration has gone to put farmers in a position where they are not in need of bankruptcy. The total farm mortgage loans and commitments made under the refinancing program will raise the total outstanding loans of the land banks and the Land Bank Commissioner to more than \$2,500,000,000 shortly so they will become holders of over 30 per cent of the total farm mortgage indebtedness in the United States, now placed at \$8,000,000,000.

"In addition to the interest burden on the refinanced debt has been reduced on an average of about 25 per cent. Payments of interest and principal have been extended on mortgage (continued on page 2)

REMEMBER—
The Farmers Union broadcast period on WIBW, Capper Publications radio station, Topeka, begins at 9:15 o'clock each Thursday evening.

EVERSON IN VISIT TO SALINA OFFICE FARMERS UNION

Dropped in for Short Chat with Kansas Union Official Family on Way to Meeting of Texas Union Members

MANHATTAN FRIDAY

National Union President to Make First Kansas Appearance at Riley County Union Picnic; Kansas Union Workers Attend

E. H. Everson, President of the National Farmers Union, on his way to Dallas, Texas, to attend a meeting of the National Women of that great state who are determined that the Farmers Union shall develop into a power down there, stopped in Salina for a brief visit. Sunday morning, July 8, he will be in Manhattan, Kansas, for the Farmers Union Insurance Co. building which houses the offices of the Kansas Farmers Union.

The national president visited a while with W. J. Spencer, president of the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Companies; Cal Ward, president of the Kansas Farmers Union, and Floyd Lynn, state secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union. Mr. Everson was driving through alone, and had not announced his short visit in advance.

Mr. Everson is optimistic about the progress of the Farmers Union generally, and reports a good membership interest everywhere. He expressed particular gratification over the passage and signing of the Frazier-Lemke Farm Mortgage Moratorium bill. He said he is grateful for the support of the Farmers Union membership in this matter, as well as in other particulars. He referred to the fact that the Frazier-Lemke refinancing bill, which barely failed of passage in the Congress this year, has made such progress that a strong and determined fight in the next session will likely put it over.

President Everson expressed the desire that all state Farmers Union organizations might work together in harmony to the end that our programs may be made effective. Mr. Everson says he recognizes the right of different men or groups to have different opinions on various subjects; but insists that each man or group should bear in mind the fact that all are trying to reach the same common goal, and with this in mind should make allowances for differences of opinion. "In fact," he said, "we should fight for the right of the other man who is honest in his beliefs to have his own opinion. After all, we are all in the same Farmers Union."

Mr. Everson will appear in Kansas, for his first meeting in this state, on Friday of this week, when he addresses the Riley County Farmers Union picnic in Manhattan. Notice of that meeting is found in this (continued on page 2)

KANSAS DEALERS ORDERING COAL COOPERATIVELY

Jobbing Association Representatives Go Out in Hottest Weather and Take Orders for 180 Cars to be Delivered when Wanted

ORDER KANSAS COAL

The 180 Cars to Go to Thirty-Three Cooperative Kansas Dealers; Belden Says Dealers Show Fine Spirit of Cooperation

Booking orders for 180 cars of coal, to be shipped to Kansas cooperative stores, elevators or associations when needed was a pretty good record for a week's work, especially with the thermometer looking down on the 100 mark most of the time. Needless to say, the orders go to the Farmers Union Jobbing Association. The Belden, manager of the merchandise department of the Association, and Ralph Wilson of the Wier City Coal Company, did the booking.

During the last week in June, these two men visited a number of cooperative dealers in Kansas. Most of the orders are for Kansas coal, and will be shipped out by the Jobbing Association whenever the cooperative dealers order them out. The Kansas dealers are showing a fine spirit of cooperation when they order their coal supplies through the Farmers Union firm.

Mr. Belden writes: "We are going to have a very good line of coal connections this winter, and will be able to furnish the best coal from the fields of Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Colorado. Our most recent connection was made with the Oliver Coal Company, Paonia, Colorado, producers of the Colorado coal which sells under the trade name of 'Red Glow'."

It is well to remember that every car of coal bought through the Jobbing Association helps every stockholder organization in the state.

Mr. Belden listed the managers' names, and the towns where they are located when he reported the booking of the 180 cars of coal. The 180 cars are divided among the following managers, all of whom are in Kansas:

1. F. E. Wilson, Lancaster.
2. Walter Boyd, Huron.
3. Tom Strahan, Haworth.
4. L. Cardwell, Morrill.
5. Jno. Grote, Sabetha.
6. W. E. Mettlen, Fairview.
7. Mr. Haverkamp, Seneca.
8. Mr. Byrne, Centralia.
9. Mr. Spicer, Wetmore.
10. Herman Weiters, Barnes.
11. Dan McGrath, Greenleaf.
12. D. O. Wanamaker, Blue Rapids.
13. Martin Kaemer, Herkimer.
14. P. J. Nash, Green.
15. C. H. Stiles, Broughton.
16. Everett Alquist, Clay Center.
17. H. L. Merritt, Wakefield.
18. Anton Peterson, Morganville.
19. Mr. McKelvey, Washington.
20. Ed Rosenquist, Courtland.
21. Chas. Martin, Formoso.
22. Susan Rogers, Esbon.
23. P. W. Hendrickson, Lebanon.
24. C. J. Greenburg, Randall.
25. Geo. Bicknell, Osborne.
26. W. Z. Hadley, Alton.
27. W. J. Fleming, Stockton.
28. Tom Ewing, Ellsworth.
29. Don Wilcox, Bennington.
30. Ray Sullivan, Solomon.
31. Harold Westgate, Manhattan.
32. Clarence Yocum, St. Marys.
33. W. Herman, Bavaria.

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS LOWEST IN 20 YEARS SAY AUTHENTIC FIGURES

The volume of agricultural products exported from the United States in May was only half of the May average for the pre-war years, July 1905 to June 1914, according to the monthly index reported by the Foreign service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The May index number of 50 for total volume of agricultural exports was not only the lowest for any May in the past two decades, but it was also the lowest monthly index for any single month in twenty years.

Although there is always a decline in agricultural exports in the spring and summer months, the decline this spring has been especially pronounced, says the bureau. A decline in the May 1934 exports of cotton as compared with those of May 1933 was the chief factor in the low index of the total volume of exports for the month. With exports of cotton in May, 1934 amounting to only 299,000 bales as compared with 628,000 bales in May 1933, the cotton export index stood at 42 as compared with 89 a year ago. Japan, the United Kingdom and Germany, the three principal foreign outlets, all took much less American cotton than in May 1933. Total exports of cotton during the eleven months ending May 30, 1934, however, were not far below those for the corresponding months of 1932-33. The shipments up to May 30 in 1934 amounted to 7,884,000 bales of 500 pounds each, valued at \$409,531,000 as compared with 7,999,000 bales valued at \$292,961,000 in the corresponding eleven months of 1932-33. The May index for wheat and flour stood at 31 as compared with 18 for May 1933, exports during the month amounting to 2,725,000 bushels which raised the total exports for the eleven months ending May 30 to 35,557,000 bushels. Exports in May 1933, were 1,523,000 bushels. A little more than half of this total was exported as grain, the larger part going to the Orient. Exports of wheat flour show a wide distribution, with Cuba and the Philippines as our two best customers. Exports of fruit held up fairly well for this season of the year, with oranges and dried fruit in great demand.

There was a noticeable gain in exports of lard to the United Kingdom, which raised the index for May to 168, the highest May index since 1925. Foreign demand for American pork continued at a low level. Foreign countries took more leaf tobacco than during May, 1933, a large share of the fine-cured going to the United Kingdom and China, the dark fired Kentucky and Tennessee, and the dark Virginia to the Netherlands.

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NEBRASKA CREAMERIES HELP KANSAS MEMBERS

George McPeak, secretary of Ashvale Local No. 1316, near Hunter, Kansas, this week sends in a check and report for 92 members, which boosts the total for that local up above a hundred. Mr. McPeak accompanied his report with some interesting comment.

"We will have to give the credit," said Mr. McPeak, "to the Farmers Union Cooperative Creamery Company of Superior, Nebraska. They have a station in Hunter, run by R. T. Runkles, and he is on the job all the time."

"The creamery company sent to this station \$989.77 in dividends—and that is what it takes to bring in members."

This is but one of many similar cases. Hundreds of Kansas members are getting dividends from the Farmers Union creamery setups in Nebraska. Much of the volume of some of those plants originates in Kansas. State lines should not and do not stop farmers from cooperating.

The Farmers Union is the one farm organization which is by far, for and of the farmers. It needs support, but only farmers can support it with membership.

VETO SHIPSTEAD BILL BUT URGE REINTRODUCTION

Bill which Would have Boosted Parity to Include Labor, Taxes and Interest Had Sanction of Farm Leaders, AAA and Other Farm Interests

NEED HOUSE ORIGIN

Since it Originated in Senate, would Have Been Unconstitutional and Might Have Led to Many Difficulties

The Shipstead Bill (S.3185) which was an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act to increase the parity price to include farm labor cost, interest and taxes in the computation, was vetoed by President Roosevelt June 27, after having successfully passed the House and Senate. The passage of the bill by Congress was hailed as a great step toward actual cost of production for the farmer.

Farm interests all over the United States expressed a great deal of surprise at the announcement. The President had vetoed the measure. It was known that Senator Shipstead had worked the Bill out with the assistance and cooperation of prominent farm leaders. It was known, too, that the Bill had the sanction of the National Agricultural Conference and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Provisions of the Bill came very close to being a complete answer to the wide-spread demand, on the part of organized agriculture, for cost of production.

Now, a statement issued by Chester C. Davis, Administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, explaining the reason why the Bill was vetoed by the President. In brief, it was because the Bill was revenue legislation, which, to meet requirements of the Constitution, must originate in the House. Its shadow on the constitutionality of the entire Act of which it would become a part, and would lay it open to attacks from the enemies of agriculture. Therefore, it is the expressed desire of the Administration leaders that it be reintroduced at the next session of Congress as a House measure.

Davis' Statement

Mr. Davis' statement follows: "This bill, which would have increased the parity price goal that the Administration seeks to attain, was worked out by Senator Shipstead with the help of farm leaders of the National Agricultural Conference and with the assistance of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration."

"The bill had the hearty endorsement of this Administration at that time, was supported by us in hearings in Congress, and was introduced by this Administration for enactment early in the next session of Congress. It is good legislation and should become a law."

"Nevertheless the bill is revenue legislation and such legislation must by constitutional requirement originate in the House. The Department of Justice recommended that the bill be not signed at this time, but that it be re-introduced in the next session of Congress."

"If enacted into law the measure would require a re-determination and recomputation of processing tax rates. This gave rise to the possibility that the legality of processing tax rates, providing the revenue for benefit payments, might be made to depend upon the constitutionality of the Shipstead bill, which is proposed as an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act and would become a part of that Act."

"Hence for the best interests of farmers throughout the United States, it was deemed advisable not to sign this bill, but instead to urge prompt re-passage of the Shipstead bill."

(continued on page 2)

Transfer RACC Loans

Many readers will be interested in the disposition being made of the loans formerly made by the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation of Wichita, which will take the notes on a rediscount basis.

Farmers and livestock men whose notes are so transferred will benefit by having their notes placed under the "close-to-home" jurisdiction of the local association in their own district, which is managed by a board of local farmer directors.

Approximately 4,000 loans have been made during the four months of operation by the local production credit associations. Total loans made amount to approximately three million dollars, although definite figures are not yet available. The short-term credit plan, government-supervised, with funds secured through the sale of debentures to the general investing public, has proven immensely popular in this, the ninth district, in as much as the Wichita district has, for the past several weeks, led the rest of the 12 Farm Credit Administration districts in total number of applications received.

Transfer of the RACC loans will be done efficiently and promptly. Interest rate of 6 1/2 per cent charged by the RACC will remain unchanged, unless the Regional borrower whose loan is transferred wishes to purchase Class B stock in the local association in an amount equal to 5 per cent of his loan, under which circumstances, the interest rate will be reduced to the current 5 per cent charged by the production credit associations. No borrower will be required to purchase (continued on page 4).

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

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

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

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1934

EDUCATE OURSELVES FIRST

Not all the effort and energy of the Farmers Union organization is to be spent in fighting outside interests who seek to dominate government and trade at the expense of farmers. Much of the effectiveness of the Farmers Union will have to be reserved for the purpose of correcting wrong impressions and practices among farmers themselves.

This is not a new thought nor a new problem. In fact, knowledge of this condition has existed since the beginning of the Farmers Union. That is why the word "Educational" is inserted in the title of our organization. "The Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America." It was not the thought of the originators of this great organization to educate those outside the agricultural class as much as to educate those within this great class of American people.

If there were such a word as "mis-educate" we would use it in connection with what outside interests attempt to do with farmers. Other interests who get along best when farmers are misinformed, and kept out of their own farm organizations, certainly put out a lot of misleading statements or thoughts.

In this connection, it is well to start off with the fact that the most reliable information relative to agricultural matters naturally comes from agricultural organizations which exist because farmers have formed them and are supporting them.

How Farmers Got in Debt

Recently a farmer was heard to make the remark that there is no excuse for any farmer to lose his farm, or to be badly in debt. This astounding statement was followed up by more of the same from the same farmer. This farmer, by the way, has been successful and has paid for his farm. He is honest and was perfectly sincere in making his statements. He is not a member of the Farmers Union or any other farm organization, and never has been. He has simply been misinformed, or has formed faulty conclusions after reading the daily papers. He has not read the farmers' side of the questions involved.

This farmer declared that any farmer, under conditions which have existed throughout the past few years, could make money and pay his debts if he were not too lazy, or if he were careful with his money. He cited his own case as an example.

We will have to admit that we do not know just how he went about paying his own debts, as he undoubtedly has done. We did not attempt to find out. We know he did it honestly, however. It may be that he had accumulated reserves before the depression hit agriculture. It may be that he made some lucky sales or

trades. Certainly, he did not do it by spending a dollar to raise a commodity unit which would bring but fifty or seventy-five cents on the market.

When this man says that any farmer could do the same as he, and that there is no condition existing, or has been one, which would force a farmer into bankruptcy or a condition equally as bad, he is speaking from a misinformed mind.

Why the Banks Failed

Speaking of banks and bank failures, this man maintains that no small bank would have failed if the banker had been careful and had insisted on security adequate to secure each loan made. Evidently, he has failed to grasp the fact that at a certain stage of the approaching depression, countless farmers borrowed money, on honest advice from their bankers, securing the loans with live stock or other farm property or products, which, at the time, were adequate security to protect the loans; and that before the loans became due, something happened which made the money represented high in price, and which made the security involved low in price. Under such a condition, the farmer could not sell his property or products for enough to pay the original loan. The bank could not take the security and turn it into sufficient cash to liquidate the loan, simply because the money had become harder to get and higher in price, while the property had become ridiculously low in price.

This condition was widespread, affecting virtually all farmers and proving too much for thousands of banks. No one can say, rightly, that this condition was the fault of the farmer—except insofar as he might have prevented it had he been sufficiently organized and in position to right the wrong before the dirty work was done.

Give Them Chance to Pay

The farmer who made the observations commented on above, was of the opinion that the Frazier-Lemke Moratorium bill, now a law, would do no good but would simply encourage lazy farmers to go into bankruptcy and thus escape paying their honest debts. He overlooked the fact that this new law gives the farmers no more than other industries already have, and that it but gives them a breathing spell during which they may have an opportunity to gather themselves together and get in position to pay their debts.

Must Fight Own Battles

Above all, this farmer overlooks the fact that there is a militant organization which has come into being because farmers organized it for themselves for the purpose of giving them an organized and recognized voice in their own affairs. He overlooks the fact that no one is going to fight for the farmers except the farmers themselves; and that the only way the farmer can fight effec-

tively for himself is through his own organization.

The farmers' organization known as the Farmers Union has a good record of service, both in cooperative buying and selling and in legislative effort. Its activities have not been entirely free from mistakes. But its history as a whole shows conclusively that it is aiming at the right goal, and that its principles and program are worthy of the active support of every farmer in America.

Its greatest weakness lies in the fact that it does not have the support it needs from the farmers themselves. Give it the support it deserves, from every farmer, and its goal will be reached. Its goal is to establish equity and justice for farmers.

Mr. Farmer, assert yourself as being for the advancement of your class by joining your own farm organization—your own Farmers Union Local.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

CAL A. WARD

President Kansas Farmers Union

POSSESSED WITH HOPE WE FORGE AHEAD

As I write these notes, the wide spread drouth of Kansas and of the nation hangs on. With the thermometer registering 108, the blistering sun and the hot winds from the south are doing millions of dollars of damage to growing crops in Kansas at this time. We still have hope that our state will receive a good soaking general rain and that the drouth will be broken.

It is not too late yet to raise a good average crop in Kansas. Another couple of weeks of this blistering heat will play ruin with our growing crops. The farmer is about the biggest gambler of all. He hopes to raise one crop each twelve months. He starts out preparing the ground and making all necessary arrangements for growing a crop. He usually does his work well, and lives in hope. Many times because of drouth, floods, hail storms and other devastating elements of the weather the farmer's crop is sometimes cut short or ruined within the period of a few days.

Our Government is attempting to meet the drouth situation and bring emergency relief in Kansas. This is as it should be. Our Government should be for the people and in times of dire need and calamity should come to their rescue. The people of this nation would be much happier if we practiced more completely the principal of "live and let live." There never has been a time in the history of our nation that our government has attempted such a wide and gigantic program of relief. It is true that large sums of money are required to carry on this work but the need is here and should be met.

As our Government searches for additional revenue, quite naturally we will have to look to additional channels of taxes. As we work out a program of taxation the burden of this load must be placed upon those most able to bear it. If intelligently worked out and adequately administered it will simply mean a shifting and will not hurt our people, as a whole. Farmers are terribly discouraged and they have a right to be. They have their operating expenses to meet. They have their taxes and interest to pay, and many of them do not know where the money is coming from.

Farmers Union on the Job

Bearing all of this in mind, the farmer should think well of an organization like the Farmers Union. The Farmers Union is eternally on the job trying to make the burden of the farmer easier. Were it not for the organized farmers and the work they are doing, those of our class would find themselves in a much worse condition even than we are in today.

It is too bad that altogether too many times our farmers fail to see the real good that comes from organized effort. We are too inclined to nourish and cherish prejudices. We fail to have confidence in each other and division arises, which only tends to obstruct the real purpose of the organization.

Builders or Wreckers

Some of us have the opportunity of reading and knowing of the different views of our farm leaders on these controversial questions. Farm leaders may be divided into two groups, namely, constructionists and destructionists.

On the one hand we have a group of builders and on the other hand we have a group of wreckers. Our country and our people have been wrecked altogether too long. Building has collapsed and fallen down and now we need builders. We need leaders who are not swayed by emotion and sentiment. We need men who have intelligence and courage. The great process of building certainly involves cooperation. Therefore, we must give and take. There is always hope when a group of real builders get together and start on a program. Mistakes may be made but in the

main, we continue to gain ground. With the wreckers there is no hope. They shout calamity from the house tops but are unwilling to take the material at hand and try to make something out of it.

We cannot expect perfection instantly. We go on to perfection. This fundamental principle is involved in agricultural recovery. It is a long hard pull and the thing we should be most interested in is that we are making some progress. When progress is once assured then, through our organization, we should do all within our power to simplify and expedite any worth-while program to the end that our farmers may obtain the quickest possible relief. We beg of our farmers to stay by the ship by paying their dues in the Farmers Union and keeping up their membership.

FRAZIER-LEMKE

AMENDMENT IS IN

LINE FCA POLICY

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loans of worthy farmers who through no fault of their own temporarily have been unable to meet these payments.

"The Federal land banks were placed in a position to grant this relief to borrowers by receiving compensating payments from the United States Treasury. The Emergency Farm Credit Act of 1933 authorized the Treasury to grant this aid to the Federal land banks which Congress selected as the vehicle to carry out the refinancing of the farm debt program. From June 1, 1933 to July 1, 1934 the banks will have called on the Treasury for about \$50,000,000 for this purpose. The Emergency Appropriation Act of Fiscal Year 1935, just signed by the President, carried \$22,890,000 to be used for this purpose if necessary during the year ending June 30, 1935.

"Loans by the Land Bank Commissioner have been made, and will continue to be made, up to 75 per cent of the normal value of farms although less than one-tenth of the farms in the country were indebted for more than 70 per cent of their value at the time the refinancing program began. At that time more than one-half of all the farms in the country were free from mortgages. The 10 per cent of the farms mortgaged for 70 per cent or more of their value has been cut to an even smaller percentage since last year by the refinancing program, thus diminishing to exceptional cases the number of possible applicants for bankruptcy under the Frazier-Lemke bill.

"Reduction in the number of foreclosures shows that an increasing number of heavily indebted farmers are getting their indebtedness in better shape. In the last year more than 40,000 farmers have appeared directly to the Farm Credit Administration in Washington for emergency aid because the mortgage holders were pushing them for settlement. The creditors of these farmers were requested not to press foreclosure proceedings until the land bank could determine if they could be refinanced. Appeals for such emergency assistance have fallen from a peak of 2,000 a week in November to about 500 recently. Of the 40,000 emergency cases, more than two thirds of the farmers applied for loans of about 70 per cent obtained loans of commitments, thus removing thousands of farmers from the 10 per cent class which otherwise might have needed to resort to bankruptcy.

"Foremost among the creditors who have greatly reduced the number of their foreclosure actions during the past year have been the Federal land banks. The number of farms acquired by the Federal land banks during the past year has been the smallest in many years. The policy which the Farm Credit Administration has pursued during the last year is not to foreclose upon borrower who is doing his honest best to meet his obligations, who is making proper application of his income, if any, after meeting necessary living expenses, and who is adequately caring for the mortgaged property. This policy has also been followed by many other creditors believing that avoidance of foreclosures wherever possible will prevent losses of capital to debtor and creditor alike.

"Further pursuit of this policy, pending continued recovery and further rise in farm values, will obviate any extensive need for resort to the bankruptcy provisions of the Frazier-Lemke act. One farmer in several hundred farmers who cannot come to an agreement with his creditors or arrive at a solution through one of the 2,300 debt conciliation committees by voluntary action, can obtain court action under the bill.

"Under the refinancing program of the Farm Credit Administration, scale-downs of the claims of creditors have been necessary in less than one out of seven loans."

EVERSON IN VISIT TO SALINA OFFICE FARMERS UNION

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issue and a similar announcement was made last week.

It is expected that several of the men who are prominent in Kansas Farmers Union affairs will be in Manhattan Friday to hear Mr. Everson.

The National Union president spent considerable time in Washington with national secretary E. E. Kennedy and other Farmers Union leaders, in the interests of the Farmers Union legislative program. He was made president upon the death of John A. Simpson.

VETO SHIPSTEAD BILL BUT URGE REINTRODUCTION

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stead Amendment of the next Congress with origination in the House. This would remove any doubt of its constitutionality, and assure farmers the increased benefits under the amendment without any danger to their existing advantages under the Adjusted Act."

Farmers Union Membership Harvest

It is important that you cut your wheat when it is ready to cut. It is important that you cultivate your corn when it needs it. It is important that you take care of all your crops at the right time, and that you handle them in the right manner. It is important that you take good care of your live stock, watch your feeding operations, care for your work stock and your implements.

It is necessary that every farmer should market his products, his grain, his live stock and his poultry and eggs, with as little marketing expense as possible.

The farmer has plenty to do at all times. He has no time to loaf around doing unnecessary things, especially during this, the busy season of the year.

But he is busy for a purpose—to make a living for his family and himself. He is not working for fun—and he should not be working for the sole purpose of making some one else wealthy.

It is important, if he wishes to do well for himself and family, that he do the things suggested above.

It is most important that the farmer identify himself with his own organization—his militant farm organization which exists solely to improve the opportunities of farmers, with membership restricted to farmers—the

FARMERS UNION

This is the organization through which the farmer can make his other efforts worth while, the organization through which he can elevate himself to the same level of opportunity with those of other classes.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY

to do your part is right where you face it every day. It is right in your own Local—in your own community. The only way your neighbors will ever be influenced to support the farmers' own organization is through your efforts.

Yours is a great responsibility—a great opportunity.

