KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization ~ Education ~ Co-operation

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Congress Can Solve Food Problem By Voting FSA Aid

92 Percent Of Money Paid Back

Rate is Even Higher on Loans to Help Worthy Buy Own Farms

Rehabilitation borrowers from FSA had repaid 92 percent of the maturities on their loans by December 1, 1942, including prepayments made by some.

Loans to nearly a million farm families totaled $690,133,091. Of this sum, $351,029,321 had matured, and, including payments on installments not yet due, $322,973,484 had been repaid. In addition, $42,527,738 had been paid in interest.

Principal and interest to the amount of $8,435,671 had matured on farm ownership loans last June 30, and 97.6 percent of the matured debt had been paid. Extra payments on principal brought the total collections to $9,779,538, or more than the matured indebtedness. For the calendar year 1941, farm ownership borrowers operating under the variable-payment plan repaid about $950,000 (or 40 percent) more than they would have paid under the fixed payment plan.

AMERICAN LEGION IN SLAP AT LAMBERTSON

In Resolution the Congress Member is Attacked for His "Un-American" Statements

(Editor's Note: In a front page article in the Kansas Union Farmer of August 6, 1942, it was stated that it was felt that the Record of Congressman Lambertson from Kansas' First District was a disgrace to Kansas Farm families. It is now apparent that this belief is now becoming that of other groups, in the state and the nation.)

Marysville, Kan., March 10—The local American Legion post, by resolution, condemned Representative W. P. Lambertson for his attack on President Roosevelt in connection with showing alleged favoritism toward his sons who are in the battle areas.

The resolution:

Be it resolved that we, as voters of the First Congressional District of Kansas, apologize to the four Roosevelt boys and the nation for our part in placing a man of the character and mentality of W. P. Lambertson in office.

Shamed and Disgusted

It has been with the mixed emotions of shame, disgust and nausea that we have witnessed the attacks by Mr. Lambertson on these fine American soldiers. If Mr. Lambertson feels that he must heckle the President, we feel that to be his American privilege, one which a million American boys, including the President's four sons, are now fighting to maintain, but we regret this attack upon these soldiers who are too far away to defend themselves as un-American, unsportsmanlike and indecent.

As former soldiers, we know of a time-tested method for a soldier to defend his honor and we suggest to the Roosevelt boys that the first one to return to Washington settle personally with Mr. Lambertson, if he can be caught away from the sanctuary of the House of Representatives.

And to you, Mr. Lambertson, we recommend that in view of your

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PROFITS UP 750%; HE STILL COMPLAINS

NEW YORK—Although the net profits of his company increased more than 750 percent from 1941 to 1942, Chairman Faris F. Russell of the Ward Baking Co., called for an increase in the price of bread in his annual report, February 10.

The report showed that net earnings after all taxes were paid amounted to $1,241,333 in 1942 as compared to $150,820 in 1941. Dividend payments were $4.85 per share in 1942 as compared to 59c in 1941.

Gross profits in 1942 were $2,067,333 as compared to $273,820 in 1941, or an increase of $1,793,513.

A Letter
To the Congress

Gentlemen:

Food is a No. 1 weapon in this war.

We are short of it. We need every ounce of fod we can get.

Do you REALLY want greater food production?

Do you REALLY want to minimize shortages, shorten the ration lines, feed our armed forces and our Allies overseas?

If you do, you will not delay a day in making adequate loan authorizations and appropriations to the Farm Security Administration to put 1,850,000 into all-out production of Food-for-Victory.

We are not speaking of $100,000,000.

We are speaking of a billion dollars—enough to let the FSA forget its would-be assassin lurking in Washington lobbies and concentrate all its energies on an all-out job.

They can get enormous food production increases. They have. The records prove it. The limited number of rehabilitation borrowers on the program in 1942 produced added mountains of food which are no mirage, and cannot be denied.

And a billion dollars? It is about 1 per cent of what you will appropriate for war this year—a small price to advance for foodstuffs which will save lives, help to shorten the war and secure the peace. It is a pittance, and, even so, much of it will be returned to the U. S. Treasury as loans are repaid.

This issue of the National Union Farmer is dedicated to a presentation of some facts about the situation. The increased production that FSA has obtained, the production that it can obtain, the working of the administration, the views of administrators and of citizens famliiar with the agency's work are included here.

The decision as to whether or not this proven method of increasing food production shall be used; whether or not at least a million underemployed farm families shall be equipped to put all their hours into the war food battle is entirely up to you. You, and you alone, can release the war food battle is entirely up to you. You, and you alone, can release this battalion of food producers.

You cannot erase the record of past production increases which FSA borrowers have obtained when equipped. Under-employed farmers CAN increase food production.

You cannot plead that there are alternate methods of getting all the food production we need while American housewives stand in ration lines and meat is not procurable in large areas of the United States, and while other groups in agriculture are all crying that they can hardly maintain their old production levels under present handicaps.

You cannot shift responsibility to any other branch of government for failure to make all-out use of FSA. The President and the Food Administrator want the fullest possible conversion of under-employed farmers to maximum production.

The Machinery to do it is Standing By

They await only the necessary authorization of loan funds and administrative money which must come ffrom YOU.

The responsibility is YOURS.

A year ago a group of you killed a proposal to authorize $350,000,000 in rehabilitation loans.

American food supplies are shortened today because of that action. As food rationing becomes more stringent American housewives are going to become more aware of where the responsibility lies.

Certainly they are not going to stand in ration lines, and turn disappointed from meat counters, without ferreting out the names of men who today try to block—or even assassinate an agency that can obtain increased production of the food stuffs our nation and our Allies so desperately need.

Certainly the men, or the coalition of men, who plot against all-out conversion of under-employed farmers to full-time producers must stand ready to accept the responsiblity for the fruits of their plot.

They must be ready to accept the responsibility for blocking food production which can shorten the war; for voting against food production that can save millions of lives and win the peace.

They must stand ready to answer the charge:

"You played politics to your nation's peril and voted against FOOD PRODUCTION.

"He voted against equipping a food production army of a million farm families who clamored for the materials to do all-out battle on the food front."

from ***National Union Farmer***

Billion Dollar FSA Appropriation Urged

1,850,000 Farmers Ready for All-Out Production with FSA Aid —Large Percentage of Loan Money Would Return to U. S. Treasury.

"Where can we get more food to reduce the shortages that confront us?"

The answer to the nation's most disturbing problem is standing by, awaiting only a "Go" signal from the Congress of the United States.

The answer is an Army of 1,850,000 under-financed, under equipped and under-employed farmers ready for quick mobilization and conversion to all-out production by the Farm Security Administration, which has years of experience—and proven results—behind it. A billion dollars—about 1 per cent of this year's total par appropriations —would do the job. A large percentage of it—loan money —would eventually be returned to the United States Treasury.

What We Would Get

On the basis of actual FSA experience in production increases the United States could expect to get these increases in food production from the now-under-employed farm families:

MILK: 6 1/3 billion pounds, or 2½ times the increase in milk production sought in 1943.

PORK: 660 million pounds, dressed, or one-fourth of the increase sought in 1943 goals.

BEEF: 300 million pounds, dressed, or one-third of the increase sought in 1943 goals.

EGGS: 220 million dozen, or two-thirds of the increase sought in 1943 goals.

CHICKENS: 140 million dressed, or a sixth of the increase sought.

SOY BEANS: 16½ million bushels, or 75 per cent of the total increase sought in 1943 goals, over 1942 production.

PEANUTS: 366 million pounds, or one-third of desired increase.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS: 93 million pounds, or one-sixth of desired increase.

SUGAR (from sugar beets): 125 million pounds, or more than a fourth of desired increase sought.

These estimates are based on actual results obtained by the Farm Security Administration and the 450,000 borrowers operating under the FSA program in 1942. (See table on Page 3).

Basis of Figures

The figures on the total under-financed, under-equipped and under employed farm operators is based on USDA and U. S. Census figures.

It does not include large farmers ,already operating at near peak capacity. Nor does it include more than one million farmers at the bottom of the economic heap, who have so little land and other resources that they can best serve the nation by getting jobs on other farms, or in industry.

In order to be conservative, the total excludes farmers over 65 (and thousands of them could help) as well as 560 sharecroppers and farm laborers who work away from their own farms for than 100 days each year. They, too, can make a substantial contribution to the nation's total production through FSA farm labor programs.

Billion Dollars Needed

The billion dollars which would release this manpower to all-out production of food-for-victory is

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What the Locals Are Doing

"I Will Attend My Local Meetings"

ZENOR F.U. LOCAL IS FIRST TO REPORT ON BOX SOCIAL NIGHT

Annual Fund Raising Campaign Attracts Fine Crowd for White Elephant Sale

Zenor Farmers Union Local 2209 was the first Kansas Local from which a report was received by the State Office, on the annual fund raising "Box Social Night," which was celebrated by the Local with a white elephant sale. The report follows:

Stafford, Kans.
March 10, 1943

Kansas Farmers Union,
Salina, Kans.

Gentlemen. Enclosed please find check for $22.09 which is 80 percent of the proceeds from a White Elephant sale which the Zenor Farmers Union Local 2209, Stafford County, had last night for your annual fund raising campaign.

Nearly 80 percent of our membership was present besides a good many visitors. It looks like our local this year is going to have about the same number of members this year as we had last. Since gas rationing went into effect, we have scheduled our meetings for one meeting a month this year.

Miss Ekblad visited in our community the first of the month and we are starting a Juvenile Study Group at our next regular meeting, with Mrs. Cecil Hornbaker as leader.

We have twenty-five paid-up members to date and we will be forwarding you the dues by the first of April.

Respectfully yours,
J. E. Sims,
Secretary-Treasurer.

HEADQUARTERS LOCAL PLANS SOCIAL FOR FUNDS-RAISING NIGHT

Headquarters Local at Salina has planned a pie supper as its fund raising project, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Solomon, on Friday night, March 19, it is announced by Alfred Renzmeyer, president of the Local.

Renzmeyer is manager of the Farmers Elevator in Salina.

Members of Headquarters Local from Salina will attend the Solomon event, to which everyone in the Solomon community has been invited. Following auctioning of the pies, a recreational program has been planned under the direction of State Education Director Esther Ekblad.

Among the Headquarters Local members attending from Salina will be State President E. K. Dean and Mrs. Dean. E. C. Broman, Manager Farmers Union Auditing Association and Mrs. Broman, and Art Riley, Manager Salina office FUJA, and Mrs. Riley also plan to be among Headquarters Local members who will attend the event. Mrs. Broman is secretary-treasurer of Headquarters Local.

REPORT OF SANDY HOOK LOCAL

March 3rd was the regular meeting of the Sandy Hook Local. The Vice-president, Mrs. Paul Lenherr, presided. Mrs. James Conley, our secretary, read the minutes and the roll. Roll call was answered by each person naming his favorite vegetable. The message to the local was read by Mary Pat Immenschuh. A letter from the state office concerning Kansas legislation aroused much discussion. Mary C. Lenherr, a Junior Reserve, then entertained the group with a recitation, "Stella at the Pitcher Show."

After this plans for the box social to be held March 16 were then discussed. It was decided that we would hold a card party and sell lunch afterwards. Arrangements were left to committees.

Then our Junior leader suggested several things that the members, especially the Juniors could do during the summer. A victory garden project and a music festival were among the things proposed.

Mr. Julius Immenschuh then suggested that Frank Ronsee read an article entitled "A Mid-west Farmer Tells the WPB" which Rev. Mr. J. T. White S. J. of the college had printed in the "America" magazine. It was decided that Mr. Immenschuh get Mr. White to reprint the article in Kansas Union Farmer.

The meeting then adjourned.

Regina Lenherr,
Reporter.

ELEVATION LOCAL HAS MEETING

Elevation Local No. 1916 in Shawnee County, held a meeting March 12, at the Elevation school house, 10 miles southwest of Topeka. Plans were completed for the Box Social to be held there the night of March 16, in conjunction with the other Farmers Union Box Socials over the state.

W. E. Corbett, chairman of the program committee, announced that the program will consist of moving pictures, community singing, auctioning off boxes, and eating their contents. A good time is promised to all.

Mrs. Elwyn Engler,
Secretary

Many Box Social Reservations Received for Funds Raising Night

Among the Locals registering to and including March 8, for Farmers Union Box Social Night, March 16, were:

Sandy Hook Local No. 1867 of St. Mary's, had a Box Social and card party at the Sandy Hook School, in St. Mary's. Bess M. Conley is Secretary of this Local.

Black Wolf No. 925 of Blackwolf, in Ellsworth County, will have a Farmers Union card party at the meeting hall in Blackwolf. J. A. Shanelic is Secretary.

Buckeye Farmers Union Local No. 1031 is unable to have a funds night meeting, but is sending a donation for the event, according to information received from Secretary Walter R. Joy.

Clyde R. Toppin, Secretary of Four Mile Local at Clay Center, writes that their local will have a Farmers Union Social at the Four Mile School house.

Mankato Local No. 1848 of Mankato, will have a Pie and lunch social at Lamb School house. Mrs. George Wharton is Secretary.

A Covered Dish supper at the Pleasant View Schoolhouse at St. Mary's, is planned by Pleasant View Local No. 1843. Clara Grieshaber is Secretary.

Henry Knoche, Secretary of Corn Valley Local at Stafford writes that his local will have a pie social at the School house 3 miles north and 3 miles west of Stafford.

Johnstown Local of McPherson, will have a meeting for funds raising night at the Morning Star meeting hall in McPherson, Robert Sellberg is Secretary.

A penny supper and carnival on March 12, was planned by the North Star Farmers Union of Stafford, at the North Star School house. Mrs. Mildred Byer is Secretary.

Sherwood Local No. 1158 of Clay County, at Clay Center, will have a Sack Lunch at Dry Creek meeting hall. Fritz H. Meenen is president, and Erwin Oelschlager is Secretary of this local.

MANKATO LOCAL HAS MEETING AT LEGION HALL

Mankato Local No. 1848 had its meeting at the Legion Hall Wednesday night, February 24. A very interested crowd attended the meeting. Because of moving, several members were unable to come. We are a pretty well organized Local and wish that all Locals could be. Many members do not realize how necessary these locals are and that they should attend every meeting, get their shoulders together and work harder for more members to build up our Locals.

We were glad to have Esther Ekblad give a splendid talk, which everyone enjoyed. We want to thank her and President Dean(who was also present and gave a splendid talk.

Mrs. Will Pair gave a reading and George Wharton reported on the meeting at Clay Center. William Pair also reported on this meeting.

We are planning an all day meeting at Mankato on March 24. We plan to have President Dean and Education Director Esther Ekblad at this meeting.

We are planning on our Pie and Plate Lunch Supper, also a program for March 16 at Lamb school house.

We had sandwiches and coffee. After the meeting all departed about midnight, looking forward to the next meeting, March 10.

Sandwiches and cookies are planned for lunch by the Refreshment Committee, for the next meeting. Members of this Committee are Mrs. Helen McMullin, Mrs. C. E. Freshour and Mrs. Talmadge Steel.

Mr. and Mrs. Rollo Henningsen from Ionia Local were our guests. Mrs. Rollo Henningsen is the Education Director.

Mrs. George Wharton,
Reporter.

JOHNSTOWN LOCAL

The Johnstown Local, No. 749, McPherson County, met at the Morning Star school house March 8. The meeting was called to order by the president, Walt Eaton and 22 members answered rollcall. The minutes were read by Secretary Bobby Sellberg, a Junior member of the local. An earlier decision to have a Pie Social March 22 was reaffirmed, and the announcement was made that the Johnstown and Scandia Locals would exchange programs on Pie Social nights. The Johnstown Local will furnish the program at Scandia March 16, and Scandia will return the favor the 22nd.

A letter from Representative Chisholm was read by the secretary. A letter regarding current legislative matters had been written to Mr. Chisholm at the previous local meeting. Discussion continued on the value of giving local cooperatives full patronage. Mrs. Chas. Olson read an article from "The Lantern," a publication of the National Education Department, requesting letters be written to Representatives James Wadsworth, Senator Austin, and Major Walker on our opinion of the Registration of women and occupational deferment. Discussion followed and the opinion seemed to be that women should not be registered for war work. Farm women will do all in their power to help the husbands on the farm, and in many instances the work can be handled fairly well if the 18 and 19 year olds are permitted to stay on the farm. It was also suggested that the boys in the Army, who have lived on the farm, could be sent back to the farm on furloughs. Mrs. Olson was asked to write letters to the above named leaders in Washington.

FOUR-MILE LOCAL

The Four Mile Farmers Union of Clay County held a very interesting meeting. Wednesday evening, March 3 at the schoolhouse. Rollcall on "WhyI Joined the Farmers Union" brought out the need of a Farmers Union today as well as the need of it 30 years ago, also the difference in the way the meetings were conducted. When first organized it was strictly a men's Union, now it is the Family Union. Community singing was led by Mrs. Stromire; Elsie Carlson acted as pianist. The following committees were appointed:

Cooperative—Jake Engert; Legislation—Floyd Smith; Organization—Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Suverin; and Education—Mr. and Mrs. Castle Stromire. A chicken project for the Juveniles was discussed and voted by the local to purchase 25 chicks for the boys and girls who will carry on Juvenile study. Plans were made for a "Four Mile Sociable" instead of a box supper, on March 16. Anyone who will help with the program please meet with us at the schoolhouse on Friday evening, March 12, to plan program.

Games were played under the direction of Mrs. Stromire. Everyone greatly enjoyed the "Mulligan Stew" which was prepared and served by Mrs. Herman Sieverin.

The next regular meeting of the local will be held on April 7, 8:30 wartime.

Mrs. Roy Bumsted.

LOCAL NO. 1558 MEETS AT BEAVER HALL

Winfield, Kans.
March3, 1943

Local No. 1558 met at Beaver township hall Monday night March 1. We still meet twice a month the 1st and 3rd Mondays. Owing tc the sudden change of weather the attendance was rather small with 12 members.

In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Fred Abel acted as Secretary.

The meeting was opened by the President, Mr. Karl Kukuk and by singing several songs.

Due to tire rationing and the busy season of the year it was voted to donate money to the legislative fund instead of having a program or box supper. March being Red Cross month the Union donated $10 to the fund also seven became Red Cross members. After the business meeting the refreshment committee, Mrs. Fred Abel and Mrs. Karl Kukuk served a covered dish supper—

Mrs. Ford Heffron,
Reporter.

WABAUNSEE COUNTY MEETING

The 90th Wabaunsee County Farmers Union meeting was held at Turkey Creek Local Wednesday, March 10. The meeting was called to order by County President Bert Wilson. We opened our meeting by singing two songs—Junior Patriot Song and On His Coat He Wears a Union Buttton. Rollcall of county officers was answered by four. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Frances Bernritter of Turkey Creek Local read the Message to the Local. Erma Jean Haase of Kaw Valley Local gave a 4-minute talk on "What is the Farmers Union." James Petty, our county lecturer, of Maple Hill gave an interesting talk about cooperative movement and credit unions. Questions were aroused in regard to our state dues which resulted in an interesting discussion.

We had visitors from Sandy Hook Local near St. Marys.

Our next county meeting will be with Kaw Valley Local in June. The meeting was closed with the song "Viva La Campagnie" and lunch was served.

Mrs. George Seele,
Secretary.

STAFFORD COUNTY MEETING

A covered dish dinner opened the Stafford County Farmers Union meeting at the Legion Hall in Stafford, Tuesday, March 2. In the afternoon Mr. Blaine O'Connor, County President, called for reports from the locals. Corn Valley, North Star, and Liberty answered the roll call. A special program feature of the day was a debate by the High school team which has received debate honors in the state. The topic was "Resolved: That a Federal World Government Should be Established."

Esther Ekblad, State Education Director, was present to lead a discussion on educational work in the local and county unions. Ray Henry entertained with two vocal solos.

BLACK WOLF LOCAL

The March meeting of Black Wolf Local was held Wednesday evening, having been postponed on account of the weather. There was a good attendance of both adults and Juniors. The Juniors met at the home of Mrs. Frank Toman. During the Junior meeting Hubertine Mog, County Education Director, told the children about the Chicken Project the county F. U. is sponsoring. After the meeting and classes were over we adjourned to the adult meeting.

The Black Wolf Local will hold a card party on March 31 in place of the Box Social.

Mrs. Fred Mog,
Education Director

ANNUAL FUN NIGHT

The McPherson County Farmers held held their annual Fun Night at the Community Building, McPherson, Tuesday evening, March 11. Some 300 members from over the county enjoyed the movie "Uncle Joe" and the hilarity of the numerous stunts. August San Romoni of the McPherson Highschool was Master of Ceremonies. Both ladies and men were made a part of the stunts, and the climax was reached in the kick ball and basketball games, played largely without rules.

Sandwiches, doughnuts and coffee were served with the men as cooks and waiters. Lloyd Palmer of the Johnstown Local was chairman of the evening.

FAIRVIEW LOCAL MEETS

Fairview Local No. 2154 met on its regular meeting date, March 4, with President Clarence Morrison and Clara Teague, Secretary, opening the meeting.

There was no new business or new members to be taken in. The meeting was adjourned to the refreshment committee, Mrs. Roy Stevenson and Mrs. O. E. Banta. Pie and sandwiches, and coffee were enjoyed by a fair crowd. All members are urged to come to Fair View Local for a good sociable time.

Mrs. Opal Eisenbrandt,
Reporter.

BRUCE WINCHESTER VISITS AT THE STATE OFFICE

Pvt. Bruce Winchester, of North Star Local in Stafford County was a recent visitor at the State Office in Salina. He is taking a Service Pilot course in the Airforce Enlisted Reserve and upon completion of the course will enter the service as an Instructor, or ferry pilot.

During his training, his wife is also making her home in Salina. Pvt. Winchester is taking his ground work at Kansas Wesleyan University.

AMERICAN LEGION IN SLAP AT LAMBERTSON

(Continued from Page One)

own war record you cease your scurrilous sniping from the rear. There is something in warfare you would not understand, and that is—that nothing is as disturbing to troops in action as to be fired upon from the rear.

The only think you have accomplished by your attack is to focus attention upon your lack of qualifications for the high office you hold, and to distract the attention of our troops from the enemy toward what should be a friendly rear territory.

Lay Off the Boys

Keep up the attacks upon the President if you feel it is the only way you can attract attention, but in the name of decent Americanism lay off the boys; let them do without hindrance what you were not willing to do—fight for this country.

Be it further resolved, that the state officials of the Kansas department of the American Legion be requested to investigate Mr. Lambertson's right to membership in the American Legion.

Be it further resolved: That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Mr. Lambertson; to Mr. Roosevelt for transmission to his sons, to Representative Lanhan of Texas and to Mr. Walter Winchell, who we thank for his efforts in attempting to silence these unjustified attacks.

BILLION DOLLAR FSA APPROPRIATION URGED

(Continued from Page One)

enough to make loans to a million farm families, to cover recruitment and transfer of labor to the large commercial farmers which must have labor to maintain 1942 production levels and other programs contributing to food production.

"A dollar invested with these farmers will get consumers two dollars worth of food,' President James G. Patton of National Farmers Union has said.

It will get production not only in the year ahead—but it will get production each year in the shortage years of war and peace which follow.

And much of the money—the loan funds—will be returned to Uncle Sam.

Collection of FSA rehabilitation loans, including prepayments, now stands at 92 per cent.

FSA Has Proven Ability To Get A Greater Production of Foods

Output in 1942 Increased

Nation Fortunate in Emergency to Have Agency of Proven Experience to Do the Job

Uncle Sam, in his hour of crisis, is fortunate in having a great nationwide agency already set up, with years of experience and a record of undeniable results, ready to put small farmers into all-out food production.

England, confronted with food shortages, had to create new agencies to do the job of surveying farms and bringing under-productive farms up to full output. Much of her program was drawn from and patterned after U. S. Farm Security Administration.

The FSA, operating for seven years, has assisted 976,000 borrowers who could not get financial aid elsewhere to rebuild their production and their economic condition.

Produce Over-sized Share

When the food call went out last year, the FSA and its 463,941 borrower families heard it the first time.

From their farms came an over-sized share of the Nation's increased production—her wartime out-put of food.

Records show that 463,941 of the country's small farmers supplied more than a third of the total increase in milk. Although they represent only 7.6 percent of all farmers in the United States, they accounted for more than a quarter of all the added pounds of dry beans, a tenth of the national increases in chickens, eggs, peanuts.

These farmers are tenants, sharecroppers and small farm owners who formerly were not able to raise enough food for themselves and turned to the Farm Security Administration for help to get a new start.

Even before Pearl Harbor, they began to expand production. In wartime they put all their time and effort into the job of turning out foods and fibres needed by the civilian population, the armed forces and the Allies. The entire FSA program was shaped to help them reach their goals.

What the Nation Did For Small Farmers

In the years of drouth and economic depression, one-third of all the farmers in this country were in the same fix as the Ryans. They were poorly housed, poorly fed, poorly clothed, and their distress could not be blamed entirely on the drouth and low prices. The background of their precarious condition went back 50 years or more. Woven into the background were poor settlement laws, commercialized farming, insecure land tenure, depleted soil. The depression made the situation acute. Of 6,000,000 rural families, 1,700,000 had incomes of less than $500 a year, including the value of everything they produced for their own use. Forty-two percent of all American farmers were tenants. Many of the "lower one-third" were receiving public assistance. Neglected housing and sanitation and ill health were helping to undermine the family-type farm—and with it, American agriculture.

In 1935 the Federal Government started a program to give small farmers the opportunity they had lacked, and in 1937 created the Farm Security Administration as an agency of the Department of Agriculture to take over the responsibility of carrying it out.

Training As Security For Federal Credit

Confronted with the job of doing away with the need for rural relief, the Farm Security Administration struck at the causes of failure. For families who could not get credit anywhere else, it developed a plan of combining financial assistance with on-the-farm training in modern farm and home manegement methods.

With a farm supervisor to help them, families who applied for loans first made out written plans for the coming year's activities and borrowed enough money for the cows, hogs, chickens, machinery and other things they needed to make the plan work. From time to time supervisiors went out to the farms, pointing out to the farmer better ways of feeding livestock and cultivating crops, helping the wife with problems of gardening and canning and poultry raising.

By 1941 families getting FSA help already were producing twice as much food for themselves as they produced before. Their incomes had increased an average of 80 per cent and they had made a gain of 43 per cent in net worth, after deducting all debts, including FSA loans.

To shift into war production, many FSA borrowers got additional loans to buy an extra cow or two, more baby chicks, another brood sow. With the help of county supervisors, they made plans for repairing fences and barns, for putting up a new henhouse or a pig pen, for changing from non-essential production to the production of dairy and poultry products, meat, and oil crops.

As a result, FSA borrowers stepped up their 1942 production of critical foods and fibers from 20 to 106 per cent.

Known as "FSA rehabilitation," this program has reached into nearly every agricultural county. From 1935 to the end of 1942, average original loans of $402 had been made to about 976,000 borrowers. Most of the borrowers also had obtained supplemental loans, averaging $191. More than 204,000 families had paid their loans in full and were, as one man said, "shaped up to raise things that'll lick the Axis."

Security on the Land Found a Prerequisite

As soon as they began to work with the little farmer, FSA supervisors found other things wrong. Prevailing rental arrangements were one of these. Three-fourths of all FSA borrowers are tenants and sharecroppers—and in 1937 one out of every three tenants in this country moved from one farm to another every year, wasting time and substance, interrupting the children's schooling, breaking neighborhood ties, and retarding their own progress.

To enable a family to stay on one farm long enough to build up their resources, improve the soil and better their living conditions, the FSA developed a written lease and brought the landlord and tenant together on terms that would protect the interests of both.

When the war started, a "war lease" was worked out to give the tenant a chance to stay on the same farm for the duration, with specific provisions for garden space, pastures, and improvements necessary to produce essential crops and livestock.

Farmers Are Helped Toward Better Health

Measures to protect and improve the health of low-income farm families in the years before Pearl Harbor took on a new significance in wartime because of the growing shortage of doctors and the need for home-front health.

In the early stages of FSA's work, it became distressingly apparent that poor health often was to blame for the family's failure. The farmers suffering from chronic ailments could not do a good day's work. Medical bills for emergency illness sometimes wiped out a whole year's income and threw the family in debt.

"These folks aren't no-accounts," was the way an Alabama home management worker answered an argument, "they're sick."

In 1940, complete physical examinations were given to 11,000 FSA families in 21 counties in 17 states. Only four out of every 100 scored "excellent" in health. The others—men, women and children—had an average of 3½ defects each, ranging from bad teeth to rickets and hernias.

The first attack on poor health was made through better diets. FSA families plan their year's food supply a year in advance. They keep cows for milk, hogs for meat, hens for eggs and raise big gardens. The women learn to plan and cook good meals, and to preserve fruits and vegetables for the winter.

To help FSA families get medical care when they need it at a price they can pay, local physicians have helped to establish group health plans. The plans usually are set up on a county-wide basis, the families each paying an annual fee at the beginning of a one-year period and pooling them to pay the group's medical bills. Besides physician's care, many plans also provide for emergency surgery, necessary drugs and limited dental care.

By October 1, 1942, more than 117,000 families were getting part or all of these services through medical care plans in 1,123 counties.

Further health protection came through improved living conditions. With FSA help, 92,302 families have built sanitary privies, 58,417 have screened their homes against flies and mosquitoes and 45,353 have safeguarded their drinking water sources.

Production Up When Small Farmers Cooperate

All over the country, small farmers are doubling up on the use of farm machinery. Most of it they bought in the years before metal became a critical war material, and with it they are producing many times as much food and fiber as they could have without it.

Small farmers started sharing the cost and use of machinery, because, alone, none of them could afford to own it. Many were using obsolete tools—the same kind their grandfathers once used—when the Farm Security Administration came on the scene and helped them get together to share modern equipment and made loans to those who couldn't get money anywhere else to pay their share. Not only FSA borrowers but other small farmers in the neighborhood belong to the co-ops. They share all kinds of machinery and equipment, and many groups have co-op bulls, co-op rams and co-op stallions.

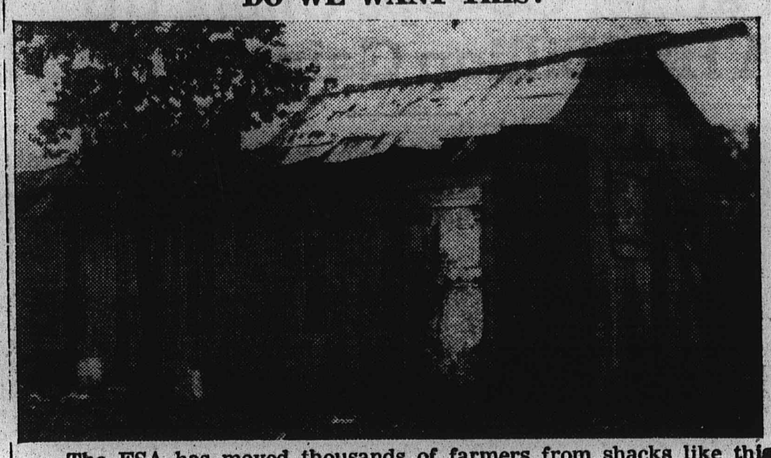
In the same cooperative way, small farmers established such facilities as canning and dehydrating plants, creameries, poultry processing plants and storage houses needed to make full use of the community's food-producing capacity, and they can get FSA loans to join existing farmer-organized cooperatives.

At the end of 1942, nearly 18,000 small community co-operative services were in operation. Of these, 9,898 were machinery and equipment co-ops, and 3,887 were sire services. Altogether about 200,000 families were using cooperative services. In addition, 300 cooperative processing facilities had been set up.

The co-op way of doing business has spread to many other small-farmer activities. Finding that they can operate more efficiently by buying supplies and selling their products together, small farmers have organized Purchasing and Marketing associations in 1,340 counties where no other cooperatives serve their needs. In Arkansas, families belonging to the "P and M's" saved $19,930 by pooling money for volume purchases of seed, fertilizer, workstock, equipment and other farm and home items. Through their marketing facilities, 79 families in the Escambia county, Florida association sold $70,000 worth of eggs last year—and also quantities of beans, syrup, hogs and cattle.

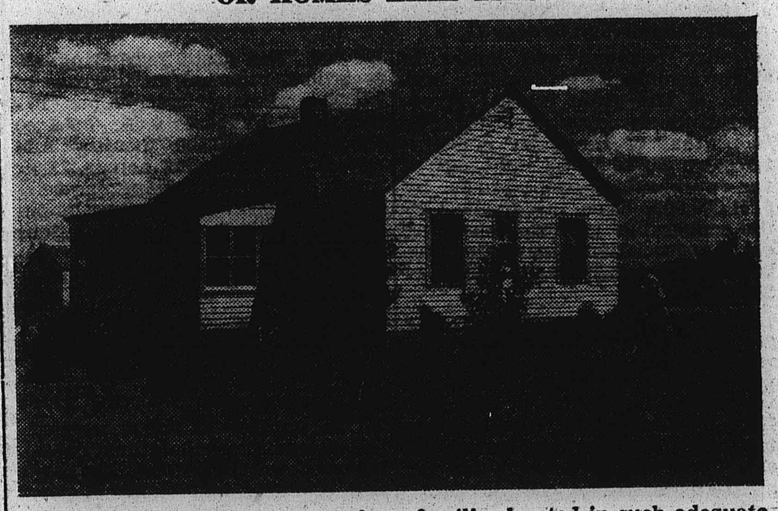
In the same spirit, many farm families all over the country are getting together to form neighborhood discussion groups to talk over their problems, to exchange information on farming and homemaking, to help each other with farm work, and to participate in social activities.

DO WE WANT THIS?



The FSA has moved thousands of farmers from shacks like this.

OR HOMES LIKE THIS?



The FSA has sought to get farm families located in such adequate, healthy homes as this one on the Fairfield project.

The "Pay-Off" in Food

The "pay-off"—the amounts of increased production of vital foodstuffs—which Farm Security Administration borrowers gave back to Uncle Sam in 1942 in return for his assistance toward rehabilitation and productivity, is illustrated by the Department of Agriculture table below:

Food, of course, is not the only "pay-off." The FSA borrowers repay most of the money borrowed, with interest. And they have repaid Uncle Sam with healthier boys for the armed services, with better citizenship, with tax contributions and by accepting their share of all citizen-responsibilities in war.

But in terms of food alone, which the nation desperately needs, they have proved that the nation can well afford to advance large sums to put a far greater number into full production.

Below are the national increases in Production of several vital foods in 1942, and a table showing the percentage of the increase which FSA borrowers (just 7.6 per cent of all farms) contributed.

Commodity	ALL FARMERS: Amount of Increase 1941-'42	ALL FARMERS: Percent of Increase	FSA BORROWERS: Amount of Increase 1941-'42	FSA BORROWERS: Percent of Increase	FSA BORROWERS: Percent of Total Increase By FSA Borrowers
Milk	3,914,000,000	3%	1,419,000,000	20	36
Pork (lbs. live weight)	2,252,000,000*	13%	192,400,000	36	9
Eggs (dozens)	516,000,000	15%	49,900,000	31	10
Chickens (lbs. live weight)	366,365,000*	14%	37,100,000	36	10
Beef, (lbs. live weight)	1,767,000,000*	11%	124,300,000	38	9
Peanuts (lbs.)	1,028,000,000	70%	101,700,000	88	10
Soybeans (bushel)	104,000,000	98%	3,360,000	106	3
Dry Beans (lbs.)	110,500,000	6%	30,100,000	34	27
Sugar Bets (tons)	1,616,00	16%	113,000	24	7

Total No. Farms	6,097,000
Total number of farms actively supervised by FSA on which borrower was producing in 1942	463,941
Proportion of all farms which are supervised by FSA	7.6%

* Preliminary estimate based on commercial slaughter plus home use.
Chicken figures include commercial broilers.

Day by Day with FUJA

By HELEN DENNEY

Farmer Co-Ops Chalk Up A Half Billion Gain

(Taken from Address by T. F. O'Neill, Assistant to General Manager of Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association, at Fifth Annual Stockholders' Meeting in St. Paul.)

Farmers' marketing and purchasing associations chalked up last year a new all-time high in the matter of dollar business. The $2,840,000,000 reported for the 1941-42 marketing season is greater by half a billion dollars than the business of the preceding season. Furthermore it is larger by more than a third of a billion dollars than the previous high reported for the 1929-30 marketing season, which included crops and animals produced in the last year of the prosperity period of the late twenties.

All Commodity Groups Gain

Dollar business was larger in all the commodity groups. The business of the grain marketing cooperatives increased by $137,000,000, that of the dairy cooperatives by $122,000,000, and that of the purchasing cooperatives by $111,000,000. Even the smallest of the cooperative groups—consisting of 11 associations marketing tobacco—registered an increase of $800,000.

Some of the increases in percentage were: Cotton, 62.3 percent; wool and mohair, 37.1; grain, 35.4; poultry and eggs, 28; fruits and vegetables, 18.6; dairy products, 17.6; livestock, 15.4. The percentage gain for the purchasing associations was 30 percent and for all the associations 24.6 percent.

There was an increase in membership during the last year of 209,000. The grain marketing associations reported an increase of 17,000 and dairy associations 15,000. Other increases were: Tobacco associations, 10,500; poultry and egg, 10,000; wool and mohair, 2,000; nuts, 2,000; purchasing associations, 190,000. There were membership losses by the associations handling cotton, fruits and vegetables, livestock and miscellaneous products.

The number of active associations are fewer by 50 than at the close of the 1940-41 marketing season. The groups reporting gains in the number of active cooperatives were those handling cotton, tobacco, miscellaneous products and services, and those engaged in purchasing supplies. The number of marketing associations decreased by 119 and the number of purchasing associations increased by 69.

The decrease in number of marketing associations is partly due to consolidations among the existing associations and partly to small, poorly located, inadequately financed, and inefficiently managed organizations losing their members and business to strong and energetically operated associations.

There has been developing in the farmer cooperative movement during recent years a long-time trend toward larger and larger associations, serving more and more farmers, in a constantly increasing number of ways, and with efficiency—News for Farmers Cooperatives, February.

Here's how co-op business has grown

Group	Estimated business 1929-30 (former peak year)	1940-41	1941-42
Marketing:	$ 1,000	$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Cotton and products	110,000	85,000	138,000
Dairy products	680,000	693,000	815,000
Fruits, vegetables	320,000	274,000	325,000
Grains, dry beans, rice	690,000	387,000	524,000
Livestock	320,000	292,000	337,000
Nuts	14,600	31,000	39,300
Poultry, eggs	79,400	82,000	105,000
Tobacco	6,800	14,400	15,200
Wool, mohair	10,800	17,000	23,300
Miscellaneous	78,400	35,600	38,200
Total marketing	2,310,000	1,911,000	2,360,000
Purchasing	190,000	369,000	480,000
Total marketing and purchasing	2,500,000	2,280,000	2,840,000

Don't Trust to LUCK

INSIST ON QUALITY

chicks and give them proper care; take no chances with poor equipment and inadequate feed. Provide the essential nutrients for sound, vigorous growth by giving your chicks

KFU CHICK STARTER

Manufactured Cooperatively by

FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION

TOPEKA — KANSAS CITY — GIRARD — WAKEENEY

STRESS EFFICIENCY IN CHICK BROODING

Chick brooding under present conditions should stress increased efficiency to conserve feed and increase production. No feed should be used in any livestock program unless it is efficiently used, declares E. R. Halbrook, poultry extension specialist, Kansas State College, Manhattan.

An efficient chick brooding program should include the following practices, he says:

1. The purchase of disease-free chicks and the use of management practices which will reduce mortality. This means the purchase of chicks from pullorum tested flocks, the use of clean ground to control coccidiosis and worms, and brooding entirely away from the adult flock to avoid spreading disease from the old birds to the young birds.

2. The use of a balanced ration and a sound feeding program. Full feeding of grain and mash, with the use of an abundance of green feed, is the most efficient feeding program. High protein mash concentrates, self fed with whole grains after about eight weeks, will reduce labor in grinding grain.

3. Efficient labor in chick brooding calls for the use of labor-saving equipment and planning to reduce steps. The location of the brooder house and water and feed storage near the brooder house should be considered.

More high quality pullets and more poultry meat with less feed and less labor should be the goal of every poultry producer during the coming brooding season.—

BODE BOYS INTO ARMY

Bill Bode, with FUJA until the first of March, was inducted into the army recently, and, together with his twin brother Carl, is now at the Fort Leavenworth Induction Center. Both boys are active Farmers Union Juniors—having been good workers in the Sandy Hook Local at St. Marys, Kansas, until coming to Kansas City to work. Bill has continued with his Farmers Union work, submitting a number of articles to the Writers' Project through the Kansas Farmers Union. He was one of the two Kansas Juniors elected as Torchbearers and attended the 1942 National Convention at Oklahoma City. The army "careers" of both these boys will be followed closely by their many friends.

BOB STARKEY TO K. C. OFFICE

Bob Starkey, former manager of the Gove County Cooperative Association which operated elevators at both Grainfield and Park, is now working in the Kansas City office of Farmers Union Jobbing Association in the wheat loan department. Mr. Starkey is married and has two children, Gary who is two, and little Roberta Lee who is seven months old. The family has not as yet moved to Kansas City, but even if he is lonesome for them he is doing fine at his new work.

NEWS FROM "OUR BOYS"

Proud Harry Neath, Senior, foreman of the Kansas City warehouse, tells us that Lt. Harry Neath, is acting as Company Commander during the absence of his senior officer from Camp Attebury in Indiana. Lt. Neath was formerly bookkeeper at the Kansas City office, and has stepped right up in rank in the army. His family and former fellow-workers look forward to seeing him on furlough due soon.

T. C. Belden, manager of the Merchandise Department of Farmers Union Jobbing Association, was pleased to learn that his brother, Major Hugh Belden of Horton, Kansas, is now a Lieutenant Colonel in the field artillery. Being too young for the first World War, when Ted and another brother were sergeants, Hugh enlisted in the National Guard in 1921 and has remained in that and the regular army since that time.

Private Lawrence Witham has been in the army just long enough to earn a furlough and lose twenty-five pounds. He looks fine and his report is that "the army's swell!" Larry, until last December, was grain salesman on the trading floor, and sold many thousands of bushels of grain for our country elevator members.

Word has reached us that James Cass, formerly in charge of the grain desk in the Kansas City office, is a Warrant Officer. He was "okey" at his post in New Guinea the last of February.

PURCHASE BUFFALO PARK AND COLLYER HOUSES

Farmers Union Jobbing Association added to its facilities recently by purchasing elevators and buildings at Collyer and Buffalo Park. The elevator at Collyer has been operated by the Association for several years under lease. It is expected that as soon as materials are available the storage caapcity of Collyer will be increased and a feed mill purchased to supply home manufactured feeds to the farmers in that community.

CO-OPS CAN COMPETE

It is clearly evident that a cooperative organization that cannot deliver and cannot keep pace with old-line marketing is doomed to die an early death. We believe however, that well organized and well managed cooperative organizations ought to not only do the job as well as the regular old-line concerns but they ought to have many advantages that the old-line companies do not have.

For example, the procurement expense in a cooperative marketing concern should not be as high as in an old-line concern. This is based upon the principle that cooperators ought to bring their business to their own organization and save a lot of procurement expense which somebody must pay in the long run.—Farmers Equity Union Exchange, Greenville, Ill.

WIN-THE-WAR CO-OP

At the present time a vast majority of the human race under the collective name of the United Nations has set as its aim the task of winning the war and assuring a just peace. In this sense, a "Win-the-War Cooperative Association" of the United Nations came into existence.

The aim of the Cooperative venture of the United Nations is clearly defined as the winning of the war. Every cooperator understands that joint action must be taken towards the achievement of a cooperative end. Does it not behoove cooperators to fight for the joint action by which alone can be attained the aim of the "Win-the-War Cooperative Association" of the United Nations?—O. S. Sindelka, Editor "Rochdale Cooperator."

JOHN RITZ UNDERGOES OPERATION

John Ritz, Manager of the Farmers Elevator at Corinth was operated on at the Veterans' Hospital in Wichita, recently

The last report received indicated that his condition is satisfactory.

AB JONES A VISITOR IN SALINA

Ab Jones, Manager of the Farmers Elevator at Carlton, was a visitor at the Salina office of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association on Friday, March 12.

He also visited State President E. K. Dean, at State Office headquarters in the Journal Building in Salina.

CO-OPS AND PUBLIC OWNERSHIP LINKED AS CREATING HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING

New York (CLNS)—"In Europe the one country that has the highest standard of living, Sweden, is the country that has more non-profit enterprises such as cooperatives and public ownership than any oher democratic country," Harry W. Laidler, director of the League for Industrial Democracy declared in a nationwide broadcast, "Wake Up America" over the Blue Network, February 14. "I believe that under such a non-profit system we would find that the common people were obtaining far higher standards than under an insecure competitive system," Dr. Laidler said.

The Time to Buy and Feed Nondescript Feeds Are Gone

Yes, Sir! The day when hens can be permitted to roam the farmyard, picking up their own feed, is gone. America's "Food For Freedom" drive makes it your patriotic duty to get the most from your flock by sound management and food feeding. And, remember, the sensible way is also the profitable way. Your hens will have something to cackle about when you feed them . . .

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TOPEKA — GIRARD — WAKEENEY

THE JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

ESTHER EKBLAD, DIRECTOR, Salina, Kansas

Juniors 16-21 Junior Reserves 13-15 Juveniles 8-12

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

A HEBREW SAYING

Out of the heart
Is born the beauty that we know:
The delicate blush of spring caught by a brush,
The cool, untroubled singing of a bow
Drawn o'er a violin; the heartening glow
Of fellowship when mind to mind
Strikes sparks of recognition.
All kind endeavors start
Out of the heart.

—Laura Taylor Ayers

SPEAKS FOR FSA

This issue of KUF is being largely devoted to the case for the Farm Security Administration. This is being done not to glorify a particular agency of government, but to give credit to a program that is doing a worthy and sane job in helping farmers get keyed to the war effort. The FSA is in a position to help the small farmer secure credit needed to add a few cows to his herd or to buy a few pigs, and it is helping farmers work out plans for getting essential machinery and trained manpower into the average farm community. But the crux of the whole thing is that FSA must have money. The bill for appropriations is now in Congress ,and in Congress there is danger of severe cuts in funds when really substantial increases are needed. We must write to Senators and Representatives without delay. We must speak before it is too late.

PROJECTS

The Four Mile Local in Clay County and the Ellsworth Farmers Union have announced chicken projects for this spring. The Clay county local is giving twenty-five chicks to every boy and girl who takes an active part in Junior work. With so much emphasis on production goals a poultry project is surely a practical way to give Farmers Union boys and girls a part in the effort to make increases.

McPherson county is demonstrating possibilities with the Livestock Project. After getting a group of Juniors and Reserves well started in class work, this project could do much in many places to cement the interest and loyalty of the boys and girls. and too, it helps them view farm production with a practical eye.,

LEADERS IN STAFFORD

Stafford county will soon have Juvenile classes in three locals, Corn Valley, Zenor, and North Star. Mrs. John Heyen for some time now has been doing a fine job at Corn Valley. Recent meetings found Mrs. Florence DeSelms and Mrs. Mead McMillan willing to take over at North Star, and Mrs. Cecil Hornbaker at Zenor. At North Star Mr. Glenn Reed will also assist with educational work. The local is having planned discussions at every meeting ,and that program will be continued with the Farm Ownership Kit as added reference and study material.

A MEMBER McPHERSON COUNTY LIVESTOCK PROJECT DISPLAYS TWO STEERS

Ida Mae Olson, Johnstown Junior and daughter of Mrs. Charles Olson, County Education Director, wrote an essay on livestock marketing as part of her work in the Project.

McPherson County Livestock Project Arouses Much Interest

The McPherson County Farmers Union Livestock Project has entered its third year. The Annual Meeting was held January 29 and new officers were elected. Robert Larson replaced Keith Peterson as president; Burdett Larson is now vice-president, and Vincent Cederholm, secretary-treasurer. Much praise is due the outgoing officers for their fine work. As president Keith Peterson gave much time to the Project, and Helen Johnson, secretary-treasurer, kept excellent records and accounts. To handle the financial angle of a Project that makes loans in the amounts required to buy livestock is a sizable responsibility for a Junior.

At the meeting the following Board of Directors was elected: Robert Larson, Vincent Cederholm, Helen Johnson, Burdette Larson and Bobby Sellberg. Bernard Larson, Howard Palmquist, and Ida Mae Olson were elected members of the Loan Committee. Mrs. Chas Olson continues as Project Supervisor. All of last year regular monthly Project meetings were held. In the meetings a series of lessons on Livestock Marketing prepared by the State F. U. Education Department, were studied.

The membership in the Project is changing. Keith Peterson is out of farming this year and is a student at Kansas State College, Manhattan. John Larson, Johnstown Local, and Warren Hawkinson, North Union, are in the Navy now. Albert Larson Jr., Marquette, has been recently employed in a Carnation Milk Plant at El Monte, California. He was inducted into the Army, March 9. Clara Olson is working and attending college in Greeley, Colorado; Earl and Donald Johnson, North Union, are employed in a Wichita Aircraft factory. Bernard Larson, Marquette, expected to leave immediately for Army induction, but he has now been deferred until after harvest. However, even with many leaving, Mrs. Chas. Olson, Project Supervisor, reports that the work will continue, and that an effort is being made to get new members among younger Juniors and Reserves. Also to make it possible for the young people to continue, the F. U. Livestock Commission Company has increased the maximum for loans to $170 so that livestock can be bought at prevailing prices:

Project members in 1942 were as follows:

No. 8 Local, No. 671

Hoawrd Palmquist, one cow (calf sold to pay part of the note; cow still in the Project.)
Vincent Cederholm, two heifers.
Robert Larson, one steer
Bernard Larson, one steer
Albert Larson, Jr., four pigs
Mary Margaret Meyers, one cow

Johnstown Local, No. 749

Bobby Sellberg, one cow
Ida Mae Olson, two steers (paid out and during year bought two heifers).
Clara Olson, two steers (paid out).
John Larson, one cow (paid out).

North Union Local, No. 716

Warren Hawkinson, two heifers (paid out).
Donald Johnson (no report).
Helen Johnson, one cow (paid out but still has calf in Project).
Earl Johnson (no report).

Scandia Local, No. 1152

Burdette Larson, one sow (ten pigs).

MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE LIVESTICK PROJECT

By Keith Peterson

When Mr. Alkire first introduced this idea of raising stock strictly for cash profits, it sounded good. The Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company through the Wichita House with Mr. Alkire as manager was willing to lend any Farmers Union Junior, who had the right qualifications, the money to buy stock. We met with several older members of the Union and adopted a set of by-laws. It was not as smooth sailing as it sounds here however. We had to revise many of the by-laws and still the law covering insurance does not quite work out, but by the trial and error method we will soon master it. Mr. Alkire has never in any way tried to influence our project. True he has given us many helpful suggestions, but we have had to stand or fall by our own decisions. In all the time this project has been going I have not heard one complaint against it. Many of the members have already paid off their notes. The by-laws state that a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars can be borrowed, but already some of the members that have paid their first note have asked to borrow again.

I for one have been well pleased with this project. I invested in two cows. Later on these cows had calves. One calf however died, but I sold one cow and one calf in the fall; paid the full note and feeding cost, and had five dollars as surplus. This does not seem very much until you consider the other cow clear profit. The cow this summer has had another calf. But this is not the only success story. Many of the others have had the same experience. Three of the good points about this project are: First, we raise the stock for our own project. We do not have to enter them in fairs to compete for prizes. We sell them when we please. Second, The interest on the note is a low rate putting more money in our pocket. Third, The project gives us needed experience in handling stock at a profit.

Before this project is over there is going to be many a large herd built up, and that boy or girl can thank Mr. Alkire, the Farmers Union, and his or her own hard work and good sense in taking advantage of it. I would like to mention at this time that Mrs. Olson was always ready to help us in every way she could. I feel that we have many of us gotten a start in something we may have to fall back on at one time or another.

WHY WE SHOULD PATRONIZE OUR F. U. LIVESTOCK COMMISSION COMPANY

by Helen Johnson

We should patronize the F. U. Livestock Commission Company first of all because it is a Farmers Union organization and any such organization should receive all of our patronage because we know it is a safe company.

A second reason is that it is a cooperative, and everyone knows that there is no better market for the livestock of a farmer. Since individual farmers have stock in the Livestock Commission Co., it pays dividends if there are any profits. It is better to sell livestock at a commission company than any other market because one can be sure of a "fair deal" and a good price, if it is possible. The farmers should patronize the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Co., because their patronage will expand the company and it will be more able to regulate the prices of livestock for the good of its customers, and thereby helping to rid itself of competitive markets which would tend to regulate prices to their own advantage.

The Juniors of the McPherson Livestock Project are very grateful for the aid that the Livestock Commission Co. at Wichita has given us to carry on our project, and we know that this market is the best place to sell our produce now and in the future.

WHY WE SHOULD PATRONIZE OUR FARMERS UNION LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO.

by Ida Mae Olson

Meat animals are one of the most important commodities produced on the American farms and ranches. Cooperative organizations are playing an important role in the marketing of these animals, aproximately 600,000 producers now hold membership in marketing livestock.

Cooperative livestock marketing associations may be divided roughly into two groups—those operating primarily at terminal markets and those operating primarily in the country. The first group is composed mainly of large terminal sales agencies handling chiefly the livestock of local associations engaged promarily in assembling and shipping. A few of the local associations do their own selling, but a large majority of them consign the livestock to commission associations at the terminal market.

With the coming of hard-surfaced roads, the movement of livestock by motortruck caused the local shipping associations to become less active and in many cases to cease operations altogether. During recent years direct buying on the part of packers caused the number of active associations to decline still further. In 1938 approximately 850 were still in operation. Some function more or less as "bargaining" agencies in arranging with private truckers to haul the livestock under terms and conditions favorable to the livestock producers.

In the 1939 survey, more than three-fourths of the 2,128 producers reporting had patronized the auction sales. The survey showed that from 2,082 producers 49 percent owned their farms, 32 percent owned farms and rented additional land, while 18 percent were tenants, and 1 percent had an interest in the farm, such as that of a partner or manager, the size of farms varied from less than 100 to more than 10,000 acres.

In 1917 the Farmers Union of Nebraska established the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Co. of the Omaha market. That was the first of the present Commission Associations. From that time on the movement expanded rather rapidly.

Why should we patronize our Farmers Union Livestock Commission Co.? Because like our cooperative elevators, if we have shares in it, we get some dividends back from it ;then, too, we all want to support our cooperatives as much as we possibly can to keep them going. We all know we can keep our cooperatives going if we only work through them. Also, we like to patronize our own cooperatives because by taking our cattle to the closest cooperative we can gain more in service and profit than by taking them to the closest private company.

FORMER JUNIOR MARRIES

Miss Ruby Larson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Larson, McPherson, was married March 5 to Sgt. Virgil J. Anthony of Camp Walters, Texas. Ruby has been active in Junior and Leadership work in the Farmers Union, and she has many Farmers Union friends who send congratulations and best wishes.

JUNIORS IN ARMY

Bill Bode, 1943 Torchbearer, and Carl Bode are at the Leavenworth Reception Center awaiting assignment orders. Russell Peterson, McPherson County Junior, and well known F. U. camper leaves in a few days.

Local Leaders and Secretaries, please send names and addresses of Farmers Union boys to the State Office so that Honorary Service Men's Cards can be sent to them.

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The Kansas Union Farmer

E. K. Dean, Salina, Kansas ..... Editor

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

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

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FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION—719 Board of Trade Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. H. E. Witham, General Manager; T. C. Belden, Manager Merchandise Department; Roy Crawford, Head Grain Salesman; A. T. Riley, Manager Salina Grain Office; Merchandise Warehouse: Central and Water streets, Kansas City, Kan., Harry Neath, Manager; Wakeeney, Kan., M. M. Gardner, Manager; Farmers Union Terminal Elevator, Santa Fe and Union Pacific tracks, North Topeka, George Bicknell, Manager.

FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION CO.—Room 100 Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.; Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Wichita, Kansas; Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Parsons, Kansas.—W. G. Bernhardt, Kansas City, General Manager; L. J. Alkire, Manager, Wichita Branch; W. L. Acuff, Manager, Parsons Branch.

FARMERS UNION AUDITING ASSOCIATION—Room 308, Farmers Union Ins. Co. Bldg., E. C. Broman, Secretary-Manager, Salina, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION—Live Stock Exchange Annex, South St. Joseph, Missouri, Paul Steele, Manager

FARMERS UNION DIRECTORS' AND MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION

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Midwest Farmer Tells The WBP

by
J. T. White

(The following article, taken from the Weekly magazine, "America," was written by the Rev. J. T. White, S. J., a Kansas student of rural economic problems at St. Mary's College, St. Mary's).

NO matter how far the rationing program goes, the Middle West feels confident that common sense will never be on the list. It seems to be extinct.

Produce more poultry and eggs, we are told, more beef, more pork, more dairy products, more soy beans; and, of course, keep up the grain production. We'd like to do it, you know, for we are a sincere people. We take the war seriously. If you will bother to look at the enlistments—especially for the Navy—you will see that we have a personal stake in the affair. We want to see our boys well fed, not only because they are fighting for America, but because we feel they really are "our boys." But we tell you frankly we're not going to be able to do it the way things are.

If we are going to increase our poultry and egg production, we mmust have special feeds. Well, we can't get them. All winter we have had trouble getting the ingredients for chicken mash. The same thing is true of increased meat production. If we can't have concentrates: oil meals, alfalfa meals, meat scraps, cottonseed, dried buttermilk, tankage; we simply can't do the job. And we aren't getting them. Feed companies tell us they haven't any.

What has happened to the supply of concentrates and feeds? There was a plentiful supply of cottonseed, but now you simply can't buy it. We understand that much of that on hand was shipped out of the country. Whether or not that was wise is beside the point. It is gone and we can't have it back. But why isn't more being produced? A partial answer, we suspect, is that the producers are still more interested in profits than in making personal sacrifices to help the war effort. The price ceiling has made it less profitable to process the seed, so the processors have stopped production and invested their capital and effort in more lucrative occupations. After all, there are many more profitable business that are at the same time more apparently patriotic.

Of course, we don't expect big business to operate at a loss. All we ask is machinery and government permission to produce our own needs cooperatively. We feel we can do it within the price ceiling and still come out better than ever. We need soy-bean mills to process our crop; we need cooling systems to preserve our eggs and cream until there is enough to ship; and we aren't fooling.

Recently the Consumers Cooperative Association of Kansas City sought permission to biuld a large grain-alcohol plant as part of the synthetic rubber program. Part of the plan was to use the by-products for feed concentrates of nutritious value. The permit to build was given to National Distillers—a corporation, according to Senator Gillette of Iowa, eventually controlled by Standard Oil of New Jersey—and the concentrates will not be produced. For National Distillers does not intend to bother with these by-products. This is a big business. Today we laud it as the patriotic all-out war effort. Tomorrow we are likely to call it what it is: the type of foolishness that caused us to tighten our belts another notch, and that contributed heavily towards the production of an under-nourished generation of potential neurotics.

The Farmers Union has encouraged its members to organize local farm-production boards to study the farm labor and machinery problem, and to try to coordinate farm effort to ensure maximum production. Recently I attended a meeting of one of these boards in Kansas. These men are earnest. You will remember that the farm population was being drained of its youth long before the beginning of the war. For years we have been educating the young people away from the land. Consequently, the members of this board are not young men. It is not easy for them to undertake increased production, but they are eager to do it. The sad thing is that they know they will not succeed unless the production boards begin to manifest a little sense.

There is an unusual situation in this part of the country that must not be overlooked, but rather obviously is being overlooked. During the drought many farmers were forced into dry-crop farming. As a result, they have kept up their wheat machinery and let the other equipment deteriorate. Now that they are able to grow other crops and feed livestock, and are expected to do so, they haven't the equipment to do it with. This doesn't seem to impress rationing boards or production directors.

Farmers are conservative. They are not apt to ask for things that they don't need. In fact, their money income doesn't permit them to go on spending sprees. And they don't like government interference, even in the form of subsidies. Therefore, when they say they want certain types of machinery, you may be sure they downright need it.

Here are some fo the things these Kansas farmers must have: cultivators ,harrows, listers, mowers, corn-binders. And they must have them soon.

Remember, a farm is not a factory. If a factory is held up for material for a few months, it loses time, but can begin production when the material arrives. But if a farmer doesn't have a lister when it is time to plant corn, he just doesn't plant corn that season. Nor will the best lister on the market help matters a month or two too late. For growing corn is not an artificial process. It depends on the laws of nature, and according to those laws, there is a time for planting, a time for cultivating, and a time for harvesting. If the Government production boards want a maximum corn crop, they had better see to it that enough listers and cultivators are available to Kansas farmers in a very short time.

Mind you, the Kansas farmer is not making unreasonable demands on the war economy. The men with whom I met are eager to do all they can to make what they have go as far as it will. They are willing to exchange farm equipment with other counties in order to ensure a balanced distribution of all types. They plan to keep their tractors busy and to extend their lives as long as possible. But in order to do this, they must have a service station for repairs. In the past they have traded in machinery when it began to wear out. Now they must repair it and keep it running. In this community there is neither a service station nor a trained mechanic equipped for repairing tractors and other types of farm machinery; so the local Farmers Union agreed to open a cooperative service station. But when they went to Kansas City for tools, they were told that none were available for this purpose. Now, how in the world can the farmers keep up production if they can neither have new equipment nor have their old equipment repaired? You might as well tell a tank factory to increase production of tanks when its equipment is worn out and there is no way of replacing it.

I suppose all of this means very little to a man who has never worked on a farm. I have seen twenty men and several teams stand idle all afternoon because a corn-cutter broke down and there was no one on hand to repair it. This fall, tons of corn had to be scooped off trucks and later back into them because the local sheller broke and had to be shipped off for welding. This means hours of labor wasted, and the farmer can't afford to waste labor now. This community simply must have tools, vavve-grinders, presses and a good mechanic, if it is to do the job assigned to it. The same thing is true of every rural community.

Obviously this cannot be administered from beginning to end from a central office. Washington does not and cannot understand the problems of every rural community in the nation. Each local district must have its own board of farmers to decide what it must have and what it can offer to other communities. There should be State boards to coordinate these offers and requests and redistribute the supply on hand. From here on, there is place for national action. Reports should be sent to Washington; and where there is evidence of a shortage of any type of machinery, it should be released or manufactured and delivered without delay. The efficiency with which this business is dispatched will determine to a great extent the ability of the American farmer to meet the wartime production demands, and that in turn will have much to do with determining the stamina of America at war.

Add to this problem the manpower shortage on the farm, and you'll begin to understand why it is the Mid-Western farmer shakes his head when he reads of our plans to feed the world, manufacture for the world, and raise the world's largest armed force, He knows that Russia, with more acres and more manpower, has not been able to feed hersself and that agrarian China is half starved. He knows that coeds will never fill the boots of farm labor, no matter how optimistic Life's news camera becomes. And as each day of hard work comes to an end with the bedding-down of the last cow, he knows that he is growing older. Don't be hard on him. He is not a defeatist. He just places a premium on common sense.

HAVE YOU WRITTEN YET?

WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN AND SENATORS TO VOTE FSA AID!

These are the steps that the Farmers Union demands from Congress immediately to assure a win-the-war plan for agriculture. If you have not already written to your Congressman and Senators do so at once—the more letters they have from their constituents, the stronger fight they can make.

$350,000,000 for FSA supervised loan program.
$100,000,000 for mobile labor camps and training migratory labor.
$100,000,000 for "incentive payments."
An unrestricted program of "incentive credit" for war crops.
100,000,000 bushels of Commodity Credit Corporation wheat for feed at 85% of corn parity price.
Across the board support of Farmers Union proposals to convent agriculture to a "win the war" production plan.

Following is a list of Congressional Districts and the Congressmen representing them, and the names of Kansas' two Senators, with addresses:

Senator Arthur Capper, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Senator Clyde Reed, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
First District
W. P. Lambertson, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Second District
U. S. Guyer, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Third District
Thomas D. Winter, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Fourth District
Edward H. Rees, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Fifth District
Clifford Hope, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Sixth District
Frank Carlson, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.

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Ask for "Russell's Best" at Your Farmers Union Co-Op. Elevators and Stores.

You can always depend upon successful results—if you use "Russell's Best" Flour for ALL of your baking needs.

You will find that this flour is the dependable, all-purpose baking flour which you've always wanted to find.

RUSSELL MILLING CO.

RUSSELL, KANSAS

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Kansas City Livestock Markets

Calf Market Cecil David, Salesman. Stock calves steady to slow with last week's high prices, with the best calves selling at $16.50 for steers weighing under 500 pounds, heifers same quality, same weights $14.50. Plainer kinds of Whiteface steers selling from $15.50 down to $13.50. Heifers about $1 lower. Good red steer calves weighing under 500 pounds, selling at a top of $15 down to $12. Heifers about $1 less. Killing calves a little slower. Extreme top $16 on a few choice, $15.50 practical top, with the plainer kind selling down to $11. Good medium weight calves selling from $14.50 down to $12, with some plainer kind selling down to $9. Heavy calves weighing 550 pounds down selling from $14.50 down to $13, with the plainer kind selling as low as $11, with the plain junk kind selling down to $8.50.

Hog Market W. F. O'Neal, Salesman. After establishing a new high level for many years past, the hog market due to a threat of a price ceiling on live hogs, received a setback the middle of last week, however, part of this has been recovered. Best hogs are now selling at $15 with practically all weights of killing kinds selling within a very narrow price spread. Desirable 180 to 300 pound weights selling mostly $14.85 to $15. Fat underweight lights, 140 to 170 pounds, $14 to $14.75. Bulk of the best packing sows $14.40 to $14.60. Just a few smooth light weight kinds bringing $14.75. Underweight lights, weighing 140 to 170 pounds, in just feeder flesh $14.50 to $14.85. Stock pigs very scarce, strictly choice kinds quotable around $14.50.

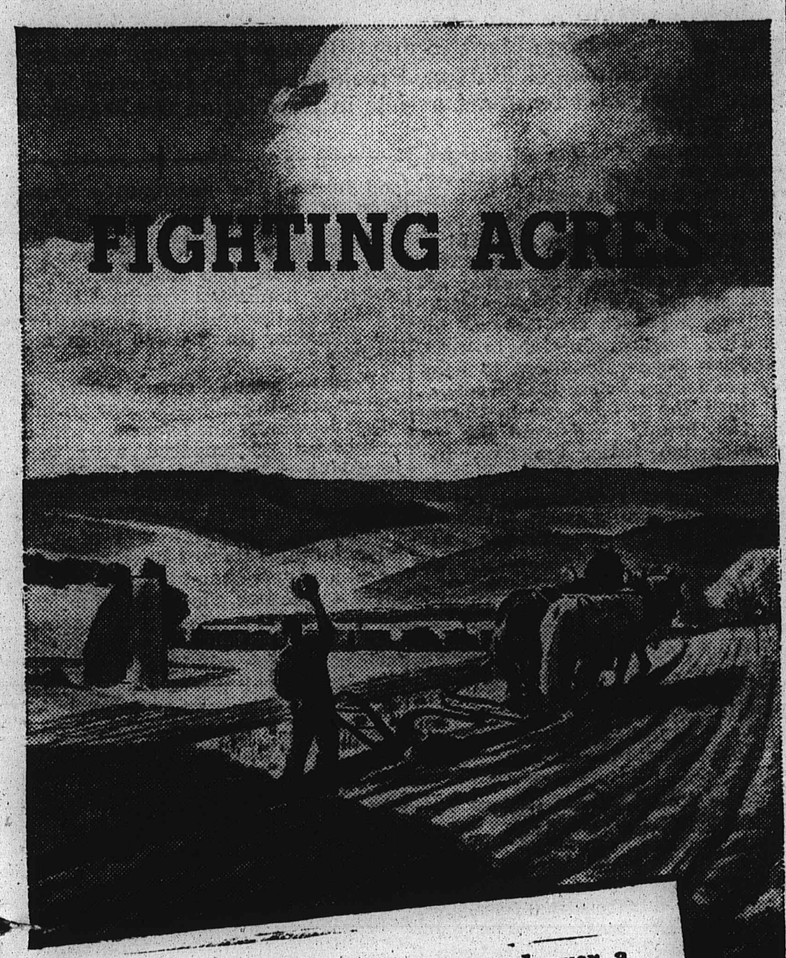
There still seems to be some talk of a price ceiling being put on live hogs and naturally there is no way for any one to know at just what figure this ceiling will be placed, if it is put on, but barring any outside influences of this sort in the near future we feel as though that hog prices should maintain at least their present level. Receipts continue lighter than expected and we believe until the spring volume shows up that hog prices should stay somewhere around the $15 figure.

Steer Market L. O. Martin, Salesman. Our fed steer market is about steady for the last 10 days on all classes of fed steers, especially the better kind of killing steers. Good to choice long fed light weight steers are selling from $16 to $16.50, with the inbetween kind around $15 to $15.50. Plain dogie kind of cattle down around $13.50 to $14. Stockers and feeders selling about steady for the last two weeks. Good Whiteface feeders selling up to $15.50, most of them selling around $15, with the plain kind and inbetween kind around $14 to $14.50. Light stock cattle selling right along in line with the feeders. Jersey and Holstein around $10.

Butcher Market Johnnie Hannon, Salesman. The general butcher market has been active the past two weeks until this week when we ran into a little trouble, however, prices are still 50c to 75c above two weeks ago on all classes of killing cows, heifers and mixed yearlings. The bulk of these short fed heifers are selling from $14 to $15, with the long fed ones up as high as $16.50. Canners and cutters are selling all the way from $7.50 to $10, with beef cows showing a range of $10.25 to $13. Our bull market has had its ups and downs but has settled down now to where we are able to sell a few outstanding bulls at $13.75 which is about as high as they have been any time this year. Stock cows and stock heifers in very good demand.

Sheep Market Fred Grantham. Salesman. Opening sales on lambs around 25c lower. Ewes and shearing lambs about steady. Good to choice fed lambs $16. Some held higher. Odd lots good to choice trucked-in natives $15.75. Odd lots slaughter ewes $9.50. Load lots $8.25 to $8.60. Early sales shearing lambs $15.25 to $15.35.

More than 5,500,000 first aid training certificates have been awarded by the American Red Cross since Pearl Harbor.



America's 6 million farms spread over a half-billion acres.

Right now these are fighting acres.

They're feeding at least 7 million soldiers and sailors, each of whom eats nearly twice as much as the average civilian.

They're feeding America's 35 million families.

And to top all this, they've supplied 1¾ billion dollars worth of food to our lend-lease allies in the last 18 months.

Most of this produce was carried by the railroads to the ports—carried in addition to the vast movement of troops, military machines and other war goods.

To keep it all on the move, the railroads are starting off a heavily loaded freight train every four seconds—are hauling a million and a quarter tons of freight a mile every minute of the day and night.

In doing their job the railroads face pressing problems similar to the farmers'.

A lot of our men have joined the armed forces. We cannot get all the extra engines and cars the rush of work requires.

But just as the farmers are going all-out to produce everything they can, we'll do our level best to continue to carry everything they grow as swiftly and reliably as we always have.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR THE BEST SERVICE

Sell and Buy Your LIVESTOCK Through Your Own Firm

A Friendly Expert Heads Every Department

Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company

Kansas City Wichita Parsons

Soil Conservation Districts Can Be Set Up In All Kansas Counties

Soil Erosion Problems Must Be Solved for Maximum Farm Production—Kansas Legislature Passed Legislation in 1937 to Enable Organization of Soil Conservation Districts

It has long been recognized that soil erosion is one of the principal causes of land abandonment and poverty. Recently there has been an increased consciousness on the part of the public that assistance must be given to individual farmers, since farm income is not always adequate, in the solution of problems of soil erosion and land use.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has determined that its resources can be best utilized in assessing local groups of farmers who accept the responsibility of determining their own soil and water conservation program.

Our Kansas State Legislature in 1937 set up legislation enabling farmers to organize soil conservation districts to accomplish this purpose. A soil conservation district under the state law is organized by means of petitions and referenda. All "land occupiers," either owners or tenants, may participate in the election. If 75 percent of the votes cast are in favor of organization of a district, a Board of Supervisors consisting of five local farmers is chosen to represent the farmers of the district, and conduct the business affairs of the organization. In line with the needs and wishes of the farmers of the district, the District Supervisors develop a work program which lists the kinds of work for which farmers desire assistance. The Supervisors then request the assistance of the various agencies who are in a position to render the assistance requested in the plan of work. Participation in the district program is entirely voluntary on the part of each farmer.

No provision is made in the state law, whereby the district may levy taxes or vote bonds. The district, through its Boards of Supervisors, will make technical assistance available for laying out conservation practices on individual farms and may provide special equipment for the establishment of trees and grass.

It may also make available dirt moving equipment such as rotary fresnos, small graders and terraces as needed for construction or maintenance purposes where assisting agencies have them available.

There are now 16 soil conservation districts in operation in the following Kansas counties: Marshall, Brown, Doniphan, Geary, Morris, Lyon, Osage, Franklin, Coffey, Allen, Wilson, Labette, Pawnee, Trego, Ness, and Grant. A newly organized district in Neosho county will soon be in operation. In the operating districts in Kansas, first priority for the service of soil conservation districts is now given to farmers who need assistance in establishing simple conservation practices on farm lands where they apply, such as:

1. Contour farming.

2. Terracing gentle slopes where terraces can be built by the farmer with his own tractor and plow.

3. The establishment of hay and pasture crops that can be utilized directly by livestock.

4. Maintenance and replanting of shelterbelts.

5. Drainage, where simple measures will solve the problem on individual farms.

It is the opinion of District Supervisors that these practices give the greatest returns for investment in manpower and equipment. On lands where serious problems exist, the solution of which will require the expenditure of large amounts of manpower and heavy equipment treatment had best wait until after the war.

On the poorer lands, which are being dropped from cultivation as a result of shortage of farm labor and equipment, the district is encouraging the planting of legumes, temporary pasture crops, such as sudan or rye, and in many cases native grasses in order that this land may be used for the production of hay or pasture and which may be utilized directly by livestock.

One of the most beneficial results coming from operation of the soil conservation district is the development of a community enthusiasm in the use of conservation practices as an aid in production. If present maximum demands for food and fiber are maintained over a considerable length of time, much land which is now productive may be badly damaged by erosion if farmers intensify their efforts for increased production without giving attention to the establishment of soil conservation practices.

President, Wickard Want FSA's Help

The desire of the executive branch of government for expansion of the Farm Security Administration is made clear both by President Roosevelt's Statements and by food Administrator Claude Wickard, the Secretary of Agriculture.

Both the President and the Secretary have advised the Congress direct of the need for expansion of the agency which can increase the production of now under-employed farm families.

Both in messages to people in civil life, have reiterated their belief that FSA must be expanded if we are to win the war.

Secretary Wickard, in an address to the National Catholic Rural Life Conference at Peoria, Ill., on October 5, 1942, said:

"As this group knows particularly well, the Farm Security Administration for several years has been helping some of the underemployed families through loans and supervision and through the tenant purchase program.

"For a long time I have been deeply interested in the efforts to aid the less successful farmers, and I have wished that the work could be broadened. Until recently I have thought of the problem of eliminating rural poverty and waste from the standpoints of simple justice and of long range welfare of the Nation. Now I think of it also as a pressing wartime necessity . . .

"As I have often said, one of our greatest hopes for increased production lies in the small farmer. Unless this type of family lives on very poor or very crowded land the best way it can help is to keep on farming right where it is.

"There is much these families can do especially since they do practically all of their own farm work and thus are not handicapped by the scarcity of farm labor. While the large-scale farmer has trouble to milk 40 to 50 cows he already has, the small farmer finds no labor trouble in milking 8 cows instead of 2. For the same reason he can find it easy to raise 20 pigs instead of 10.

"The small farmer will have to come through next year if we are going to maintain our food production."

EGG PRODUCTION

The five major factors to consider in breeding for egg production are: 1. The age at which a pullet begins to lay; 2. the rate at which she lays; 3. the amount of time taken out for broodiness; 4. the extent to which she produces eggs in late summer; 5 the size of the hen eggs.

KANSAS UNION FARMER

THE BACK PAGE | THE KANSAS UNION FARMER | THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1943

FSA Swings Into Action On Dairy Animal Conservation Campaign

Kansas Farmers Union Supports Program to Increase Milk Production—Finance Available Through Commodity Credit Corporation to Divert Milk Cow from Non-Milk Production Use

(Editorial Comment: According to estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, fifteen million man-hours were wasted daily by the low-income farmers of the United States previous to the Pearl Harbor catastrophe. This idleness was due to a lack of farming facilities with which to carry on. Since the declaration of war and the call of Selective Service, the waste of man-hours has been somewhat less but there are still many evidences of under-employment. Although there are more than 6 million farmers in the United States it is estimated that fully 1,500,000 of them are either unproductively employed or under-employed. The former are slaving on worn out land that yields little and the latter are on farming units too small for full time employment.

Many of these families today are being assisted in getting located on productive farms as tenants with adequate arrangements for obtaining equipment, seeds fertilizer and livestock, through the Farm Security Administration.

It is planned that those not relocated as tenants are being given special short course training at Government expense in designated Agricultural colleges and other appropriate centers .They are to be transported at Government expense to places where full time employment can be arranged. This army of under employed farmers is in a vital position—the persons involved have had valuable experience on which the country must capitalize today, in its "Food for Victory" campaign.

The following article is a release of FSA from its Lincoln, Nebraska office, in which its dairy animal conservation program is explained.)

Uncle Sam's fighting boys need lots of milk and other dairy foods. So do the war industry workers and all other citizens as well as the millions across the ocean who look to us for food supplies. The Kansas Farmers Union supports any program that helps increase the needed milk production.

Kansas and other mid-west farmers want to produce this milk. But a shifting of the farm population has taken place. Thousands of farm boys who milked and cared for these cows have gone to war and into war work. Lack of farm help has broken up dairy herds, and smaller operators, becoming short-handed, have had to get rid of at least a cow or two. Many cows started moving toward the packers, or were diverted to stock cows for raising calves or for beef production. Their milk production was gone.

When one farmer sent his cow to market and out of milk production, another farmer, maybe close by or maybe hundreds of miles away, was wanting an extra cow. The two farmers were not in touch with each other, so the cow's production was lost and the potential buyer lost his opportunity.

Here is where the U. S. Department of Agriculture stepped into the picture. The Government made money available, through the Commodity Credit Corporation. Farm Security Administration was made responsible, as agent, for diverting the milk cow from non-milk production to the farm which can utilize her milk production. Farm Security buys the cows with CCC money and sells them to farmers who want them. If necessary, the cows can be shipped and held at concentration points where caretakers handle them and from where they can be sold to farmers who need them to increase their milk production. Prices to buyers are determined by local market values instead of by original costs. Agreements made at time of purchase eliminate "horning in" by speculators.

George McCarty, state FSA director, has informed us that the county supervisors over the state are already at work on the dairy animal conservation program. The Farmers Union Live Stock Commission company is cooperating, on the Kansas City yards under the management of Wm. G. Bernhardt and on the Wichita yards where L. J. Alkire is manager. The firm is helping buy cows that come into those yards and that are suitable to go back into the country as milkers. Some cows are bought on farms and some at local sales points, where FSA supervisors are on the lookout for them. All cows bought for the program are given TB and Bangs tests and reactors are sold to killers.

Cal Ward, regional FSA director, designates counties for distribution of milk cows. His recommendations are based on local requests as received by him through the county and state FSA offices. Bert Winchester, district FSA supervisor in the district including Hutchinson and Wichita, is active in getting cows placed in that part of the state. Counties now officially designated pretty well cover Kansas.

E. W. Johannesen, regional acting chief, dairy animal conservation program for FSA, informed President Dean that 80 head of cows rounded up by the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company at Kansas City have gone to Jewell county, Kansas, and are back in milk production. Buying on the Wichita market began March 8.

Harry Dole, FSA district supervisor at Dodge City, working with Bert Winchester, has contracted for 350 cows in the Dodge City area. FSA people are expecting 480 head of Holstein bred heifers, yearlings and calves from the "surplus" areas of Wisconsin and Minnesota. These will be high class stock and will form the nucleus for good foundation herds. While the young stuff will not contribute to 1943 milk production, yet it will boost production in the fairly immediate future.

It is helpful to understand that this program is not simply a "cow buying" program. It is well named as a "dairy animal conservation program." The service is available to all farmers and not confined to high-type dairy cows. It applies to milk cows, and that means any reasonable good milk cow giving milk or soon to freshen, capable of 125 to 175 pounds of butterfat a year and with perhaps a couple of years of production still ahead of her. It also means other cows from this "borderline" class up to the really good cows.

Commercial Agriculture Has Sabotaged American Farm Production

In Magazine Article, National Farmers Union President Patton Charges "Farming as Usual" Endangers War Effort of United Nations—Urges Immediate Appropriation of One Billion Dollars

WASHINGTON—"Several million people in the United Nations and in countries that we may have been able to liberate are going to be unnecessarily hungry next ffall, winter and spring because the tightly organized forces of commercialized agriculture have prevented the conversion and expansion of our farm plant to meet the war time demands for food," says James G. Patton, President of the National Farmers Union, in a two-part article in the Nation for March 6 and 13,1943.

"Without a plan for all-out production in the past two years, agriculture has been unable to protect its resources or experienced manpower, machinery, fertilizer and other supplies. Now that these are all critically short, panicky efforts are being made to repair the damage, not with the hope of increasing food production in 1943, but in a desperate effort to keep it from falling below 1942 levels.

"Until the people speak, 'farming as usual,' will continue to produce too little, too late, too dearly."

On March 5, Patton proposed to the Economic Stabilization Board, of which he is a farm member, an immediate, specific program for increasing food production by $1,500,000,000 at present consumer prices. The federal government, he said should appropriate immediately up to one billion dollars to expand the nation's farm plant by one-sixth. Another billion and a third dollars, he said, should be invested in the following two years.

Of the initial billion dollars, 1,200,000 farm operators now producing from $400 to $1500 in farm commodities should be advanced an average of $700 apiece for machinery, supplies, seed, fertilizer or feed. At least $100,000,000 should be used "to mobilize, train, and transport—and maintain labor standards for—most of another two million farm families who have so little land, equipment and other resources that it is advisable to find them employment as farm laborers during the war emergency, thereby giving the top million farms the farm-bred labor they need. It may be that some of this labor can be spared for replacements in industry as inductions into the armed services continue at the rate of 12,000 a day."

Patton also proposed mobilization and orderly use of farm labor, more efficient utilization of farm machinery by pooling in farmers' cooperatives, better use of farm credit, prices and production goals, price floors, crop insurance, integration of all farm agencies, expansion of county and township committees to include representation of all types of farmers and farm labor, and the conversion of food marketing, processing and distribution practices to meet war time needs.

"Although it is now too late to get in 1943 the maximum production of which American agriculture is capable, it is not too late to step it up somewhat. More important, it is not too early to act to get the maximum production in 1944. And the world will probably be hungrier in 1944-45 than in 1943-44."

For the probable food needs of the next three years, our farm plant is wholly inadequate, Patton points out. "Compared with the intensive farming of Europe, American agriculture is inefficient in its use of land, machinery and manpower. More than 3/4 of our farm families do not have enough livestock, tools, and other equipment to employ their full time efficiency. Many of them, compared to our large commercial farms, are grossly undercapitalized. In World war I we met increased food demands by bringing more land under cultivation. This time we cannot use that easy solution. We must expand production by investing in machinery, fertilizer, feed and seed, and by better organization of farming operations on the land now occupied."

Food, Patton says, has become a paramount political issue. Senators, Representatives, industrialists, economists and editors want, one and all, to be saved from food shortages and public resentment. "The gravest consequence of a food scarcity will be its effect on the prosecution of the war. The unity of the United Nations will be destroyed if we betray the starving millions of the countries we promised to liberate. The less food we have, the smaller the share that will go abroad.

"Thus food, which the Secretary of Agriculture said a year ago would 'win the war and write the peace,' may lose the war and bring about revolutions that will postpone real peace indefinitely . . . As a matter of practical politics, conversion of agriculture to war is impossible until Congress feels the public demand. At present Congress is most conscious of the demands of big agriculture seeking ever higher prices, even at the risk of inflation. Closer attention and courageous leadership by the Administration will help. But the people have the last word."

THIS IS THE SPIRIT

Great things are simple.

Some of our great declarations of principle and our greatest avowals of purpose have come, not from the pens of professionals, but from the pens of untrained but sincere people setting down the things indelibly stamped in their hearts.

Such a document, typifying the spirit of low income farm people who ask only the opportunity to contribute to their nation's war effort, was written a year ago by Mrs. W. W. Dison of Cedar Cove, Ala.

Mrs. Dison's spelling and punctuation differ, perhaps, from the spelling and punctuation of more fortunate fellow farmers. But so does her attitude differ from that of some large farmers who threaten decreased food production unless they get more price, more cheap manpower—more of more and more—to do the food job.

Mrs. Dison has "Pearl Habor Rote down in her hart."

Beyond that, she, like a million other family farmers, asks only the barest essentials to produce to her utmost for the boy in service, for her country and for her country's "brothers across the pond."

Mrs. Dison's document is a letter never intended for release, but one that should be read by every American, and particularly those who see no place for the Disons' and their million neighbors in the war food program.

Her letter:

Cedar Cove, Ala.

Mr. M. H. Pearson:
Dear Sir:

In an to your seclar of Jenry 17 in close you will find a list of what I canned in 41 tho that is not all my husbon has been in for about 12 months now and I had to make crop and take carè of him in Bed. I am going to tell you what I and 2 girls did we made 100 Bu. of corn and a ton of pea nuts and 20 bu of peas 20 bu Irish pat. 40 bu of sweet pat a good garden one bale of cotton rase about 200 chickens and have about 75 hens now and get plenty of eggs. 11 months ago a friend give us a little pig I fed him with a spoon and in December 1 butchered this pig he weigh a round 400 lb. If I could get the hogs and wair to fix a hog paster and canning equipment I could can more. I just have a 7 qut canner we farm with the farm secruity projecct and of carse I cant get a very large lone.

I Pleg myself to do in 42 if the Lord gives me health and pervides a way for me to get the acupements to can with and his will for me to rase the food, I will can double the amount in 42 than I can in 41 if I can get the hogs and wair to make a hog paster I will raise 2 hogs for the boy in service and 1 for myself. I have Pearl Harbor Rote down in my hart.

Excuse me for tilling this But I just want to show you what the womon on the farm can do if she wont volenteer her service I am in favor of forcing her to do it this is the Ladys war same as the men and if we cant feed our boys then they cant win make all shere the Burden if this is any thing I can do that will be more service just let me no what it is I will be on hand I am sure that if all had the same atitude I have we will win the war we have got to win with our hand and mind not our mouth

Mrs. W. W. Dison.

I have 20 acres of land and a small mule about 800 lb now you can see this family is sure true americans and if all farmers larg and small will do as much as I do I am sure we can give our Bro across the pond food.

All so our Boys plenty of food now I cant by any bonds but I will do my part evry way I can at home I will serve 1 meat at home and give the good old usa the other 2 meals.

Yours truly,
Mrs. W. W. Dison.
Cedera Cove, Ala.

The list of goods canned, which was attached to the letter, reported in quarts the following items: Blackberries, 150; Huckley Berrys, 125; Peaches, 250; Peches Pickley, 150; Peas, 200; Green bens, 100; Butter beans, 100; Irish Pot., 50; turnip greens, 25; Chow Chow, 50; tomato, 100; corn, 100; Black berry jam, 100; Heckly berry jam, 100; Pul jelly, 100; peach preserves, 100; pickle peppers, 20; soup mixtury, 150; cucumber pickle, 175. (Total, 2245). Mrs. Dison then noted "Benevolence, 441 quarts if you want proof of this lest rite the RR office in Tucaloosa, Ala."

The National Farmers Union believes that Uncle Sam can well afford to see (and we say it with deep respect) that Mrs. Dison gets hogs and the "wair for a hog pasture" and that the hundreds of thousands of low income farm families who need similar simple production facilities are extended supervised credit so they can help give our "brothers across the pond" the food they need to win the war and the peace.

"The Meat in the Cocoanut" of the Farm Program Controversy

By. A. W. Ricker in Farmers Union Herald

The meat in the cocoanut, so to speak, of the nation-wide conflict in Agriculture over the question of price ceilings, what makes up the measuring stick of parity, incentive payments, inflation, etc, etc., is simply this—The so-called Farm Bloc in Congress represents a combination of anti-Roosevelt, anti-new deal Democrats and partisan Republicans. This "bloc" seeks to destroy the New Deal Farm program. The National Farm Bureau Federation seeing an opportunity to capitalize on this political split in the Congress is bending its best efforts to overthrow the Triple A as now constituted. The alternative to the present Triple A set up is Agricultural College and County Agent control of all farm programs, R. E. A., Triple A, F. S. A. and F. C. A., dominated by the Bureau through the Extension service. That means complete and absolute Bureaucracy. Somebody, some group, some day, had to head up a movement to save for the future of our farm program. Admittedly that program has not been perfect, but, it has been to a very large extent democratic in management through committees elected by the Farmers themselves and without the domination of any one farm organization. If you want to preserve such a program it is time, brother farmers, whether you belong to a farm organization yourself, or to none, that you wake up, and do something about it.