



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation



VOLUME XXIII

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MCKELVIE TO SPEAK AT JOBBING ASS'N MEETING IN SALINA

Ex-Governor McKelvie, Member of Farm Board, Will Speak At the Masonic Temple, Salina, on Friday, May 1st, at Eleven o'clock

SALINA, May 21st. — S. R. McKelvie will speak at the special Stockholders' meeting of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, called for the purpose of amending its by-laws, in order to more fully conform to the Capper-Volstead law.

This meeting will be an open meeting. We hope everyone in the Salina territory will get out to hear Mr. McKelvie.

Mr. McKelvie has been a member of the Farm Board for the past two years, and will be able to give us important information regarding the policies and program of the Federal Farm Board. He is a splendid speaker and everyone will enjoy listening to him.

Do not miss this opportunity of getting first-hand information about the Agricultural Marketing Act and the Federal Farm Board.

FARMERS UNION HAS NEW SHIPPING ASSOCIATION

A co-operative livestock shipping association has been organized in Ness City, to be known as the Ness County Farmers Union Livestock Shipping Association. The officers of the new association are the same as those of the Farmers Union Creamery and Produce associations and are as follows: Ed Mauch, president; John R. Beck, secretary-treasurer; E. E. Hermon, L. B. Burditt, and H. Hoss.

The association is organized for the convenience of livestock producers in the county. A manager is to be selected at an early date, and he will have charge of receiving, marking and handling all livestock which the members of the association may have to ship at different times. Livestock will be shipped to the Farmers Union Livestock Commission company at Kansas City whenever the several members have enough to put together to make a shipment. The officers and members of the new association urge all who are interested in co-operative marketing of livestock to get in touch with the management of the association and take advantage of the opportunity to market their livestock at the least possible cost. It is interesting to note that those who marketed co-operatively through the Farmers Union firm at Kansas City last year received paid roving dividends amounting to 20 per cent of their commission expenses. In other words, they paid 80 cents whereas those who did not co-operate paid \$1 for marketing.

The organization of the Ness County Farmers Union Shipping Association was completed at a meeting held at the Farmers Union Cream station Tuesday afternoon at Ness City. A representative of the Farmers Union Livestock Commission company, at Kansas City was present at the meeting—Ness County News.

THAT'S THE QUESTION

From the Florida Times-Union.
"You seem to be debating with yourself some big weighty problem."
"I am. I am wondering if it is time yet to take off my heavy underwear."

WHO'S AFRAID?

There's a feller in the city,
With a brain like mustard seed;
And he sings a little ditty,
"How the farmer can succeed."
He should patronize the traders
Who were never known to cheat,
Though they sometimes act as raiders
To depress the price of wheat.

O, this feller is a dandy
When it comes to spreading bull,
For disguised as taffy candy,
It goes out in shovels full;
And he tells the simple granger
Who dislikes the Board of Trade,
That he surely is a stranger
To this thing the Gods have made.

By its help the speculator
And the gamblers get their dough;
It is the accelerator
Keeping markets on the go;
He is sure this institution
Is the best you've ever seen;
Sacred as the Constitution,
Though it strips the farmer clean.

And he thinks Cooperation
Is all right in some small town;
But in state wide operation
It will throw the farmer down.
Then he says, "That it is certain
To build a gigantic trust
Which some crook behind the curtain
Will proceed to calmly bust.

It may be that we should worry;
But somehow it seems to me,
That this feller's in a flurry,
Scared he'll lose his broker's fee;
For with farmers all united
In this trust he talks about,
He has room to be excited,
For they'll kick the gamblers out.

A. M. Kinney.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our thanks for the beautiful floral offerings the kind words of sympathy and the thoughtful acts during our bereavement, occasioned by the death of our loving husband and father.

Mrs. C. C. Kilian
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kilian
Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Shaeble.

MORE MONEY IN CIRCULATION WILL CURE FARM ILLS

A Good Home Market Is Worth More Than All Foreign Markets Put Together, Says Uncle Andy

Radio Talk By Andrew Shearer, Over WIBW, Topeka, April 14th

I am making this talk under orders from Ralph Snyder to make clear and finish up statements in notes published in Kansas Bureau Farmer.

We farmers are somewhat encouraged. The President has appointed our national president, Sam Thompson, on the Federal Farm Board. Mr. Thompson will be the first member on that board who before the passage of the farm act was outspoken for legislation for farm equality. If any good for agriculture can be gotten out of the Federal Farm Marketing Act, Sam Thompson will get it.

We are living in strenuous times. Not only farmers but pretty much everybody else is in trouble over low prices, dull trade, shortage of jobs, scarce money and general distress. Over and against this situation we have the richest country in the world. Have we overproduced, or has our distributive system broken down? We have too much of everything, so we are told, and still there is suffering and want and general distress, simply because we cannot trade with each other.

It is clear as a people we are not nearly consuming up to capacity. In fact no one knows our capacity to consume. The saturation point in consumption has never been reached. We have all kinds of figures on so-called over-production, but with all our high-pressure statisticians we haven't a line on possible consumption. If our line on possible consumption is reached, we are fairly entitled to, there would be very little over-production. We have read widely through the financial and political journals to try to catch the drift of thought as to causes of present conditions, but are unable to find a clear definite thought or anything like a common understanding as to causes.

Many writers seem to think the sun rises and sets in the New York Stock Exchange and that the cause of the country being "on a spree" and suffering now for past excessive prosperity. Outside of Wall Street there has been no particular prosperity. In fact agriculture and lines of business depending on it have been having a hard time ever since the violent deflation of 1920 and 1921. If Wall Street rules the nation, those writers may be right. Other writers have the hackneyed theory of over-production. Still others (continued on page 4)

IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE WHOSE OX IS GORED

A Year or Two Before the Agricultural Marketing Act Was Passed, the American Association Creamery Butter Manufacturers held a Meeting in Chicago and Raised Several Million Dollars to Fight Cooperative Marketing

W. F. Jensen, Secretary-Manager of the American Association of Creamery Butter manufacturers, has been very much worked up over the Agricultural Marketing Act and the Farm Board program, since it started to function: He has been sending out bulletins over his signature, opposing the Act. In his latest, dated April 15th, he says:

"The Federal Farm Board, created under the Farm Relief Act, has not been successful in giving help to the farmer and farm commodities are very much depressed in price and the position of the farmer at the present time, is tragic in the extreme.

"Recent developments can be taken as proving that the Farm Board realizes some very great mistakes have been made in the policy that resulted in piling up vast stores of wheat and cotton, in stabilization projects.

"Seemingly, the Farm Board is turning from that, to what is claimed as another purpose in the Agricultural Marketing Act, namely, the promotion of farm cooperatives."

This last statement of Mr. Jensen's of the Farm Board turning from the stabilization operation to the promotion of farm cooperatives, either shows that he is very ignorant of the intention of the Agricultural Marketing Act, or that he is intentionally trying to deceive.

The title of the Act itself, proves that the thing Congress intended to do was to promote the establishment of Farmers' cooperative marketing institutions. We quote (H. R. No. 1):

"An act to establish a Federal Farm Board, to promote effective merchandising of agricultural commodities, in inter-state and foreign commerce, and to place Agriculture on a basis of economic equality with other industries."

DECLARATION OF POLICY

Section 1. (a) That it is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress to promote the effective merchandising of agricultural commodities in interstate and foreign commerce, so that the industry of agriculture will be placed on a basis of economic equality with other industries, and to that end to protect, control, and stabilize the currents of interstate and foreign commerce in the marketing of agricultural commodities and their food products—

- (1) by minimizing speculation.
- (2) by preventing inefficient and wasteful methods of distribution.
- (3) by encouraging the organization of producers into effective associations or corporations under their own control for greater unity of effort in marketing and by promoting the establishment and financing of a farm marketing system of producer-owned and producer-controlled cooperative associations and other agencies.

The fact that Mr. Jensen calls this Agricultural Marketing Act a Farm Relief law, shows, on its face, that he is woefully ignorant of the intentions of this act. It was not intended as a relief measure, except so far as the stabilization operations, which are emergency operations only, would tend to raise the price temporarily on farmers' products.

We think there has always been a question in the minds of all farm leaders, whether the stabilization operation could be a success. There has never been a question in the minds of farm leaders, that the real help to the farmer from the Agricultural Marketing Act, would be the building of farmer-owned, farmer-controlled marketing agencies.

Probably, the main reason for this latest attack of Mr. Jensen's, on the Agricultural Marketing Act and the Farm Board, is the establishment of the new regional sales agency, to handle dairy and creamery products.

The American Association of Creamery Butter Manufacturers, the so-called "butter trust," of which Mr. Jensen is Secretary-Manager, has always been a bitter foe to farmers' cooperatives. It is to be expected that Mr. Jensen will oppose any action of the Farm Board, in helping to set up cooperative creamery and dairy products.

The dairy and creamery business has probably been instrumental in the making of more millionaires, than any other line of business in the country, and, naturally, any kind of a proposition which would return the profit from this business to the farmer, would not appeal to Mr. Jensen or to the company which he represents.

Mr. Jensen, in his bulletin, publishes a resolution which will be submitted to the annual meeting of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, which meets in Atlantic City, New Jersey, April 23th. The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, The Chamber of Commerce of the United States is definitely on record against the government engaging in any and all business in competition with private citizens;

"THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the officers and directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States are hereby instructed to organize and lead the business interests of the country in an aggressive and continuous campaign, national in character, against the government entering business in competition with its citizens."

Mr. Jensen concludes his bulletin with this advice:

"My advice is to make friends within, in order to combat the dark forces from without."

These dark forces of which Mr. Jensen is so scared, are the farmers trying to establish their own concerns, in order that they may save some of the profit, which Mr. Jensen and his friends, the old line creameries, have been pocketing for years.—A. M. KINNEY.

BIG FIGHT AHEAD FOR KANSAS GRANGE

The Grange in Kansas has tackled a big job in lining up strongly for a state income tax, and a great victory has been won in securing the passage, by the legislature, of a bill which will submit to the people at the next election an income tax amendment, whose passage is believed will point the way to genuine tax relief in Kansas.

This victory was made possible through the concerted action of farm organizations of the state, in which the State Grange is a very active factor. This group is known as the Committee Kansas Farm Organizations and embraces a dozen farm and rural bodies, who pool their interests and go after legislation in dead earnest. Permanent offices are maintained at Topeka all the time the legislature is in session and a regular corps of officers direct the affairs of the joint group.

The income tax amendment lost out at the polls in Kansas last fall, though it polled more votes than the governor, who was elected; and its proponents believe that much more favorable results can be obtained at the polls next fall. The full strength of the farm group will be put behind the income tax project and the Grange will be very alert, following a similar Grange stand in several other states in recent years.—Grange Bulletin.

WHEAT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ENDORSES FARM BOARD

The Wheat Advisory Committee, meeting in Chicago April 7-8, 1931, endorsed efforts of the Federal Farm Board in helping to cope with the wheat surplus problem called upon all producers to cooperate in curtailing production and controlling the flow of wheat to market. Resolutions adopted by the Committee have just been filed with the Board.

Referring to the recent announcement that wheat stabilization purchases will not be made from the 1931 crop, the Committee said, "We realize the impracticability of the continued control of a surplus year after year by the Grain Stabilization Corporation without an effort on the part of the producers toward production control."

"The present indications," the resolutions continued, "are that with an average wheat crop this year prices obtainable will be far below the cost of production, causing great loss and hardship to American farmers."

In regard to production and marketing control, the Committee "Resolved, that the Farmers National Grain Corporation, its stockholder members, the members of such stockholder associations and all other wheat producers be urged to carry on a definite and

forceful campaign not only toward the reduction of wheat acreage, but also for the limitation and control of the marketing of the 1931 crop."

The Wheat Advisory Committee was established by the grain cooperatives in accordance with the provisions of the agricultural marketing act.

F. U. LIVESTOCK TO BROADCAST OVER WIBW APRIL 24

George Hobbs, Manager Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company, at Kansas City, will have charge of the program which his firm will broadcast over WIBW, Topeka, at eight o'clock on Friday night, April 24th.

This is the regular broadcast of the weekly Farmers Union Hour which is heard from that station each Friday night at eight o'clock.

HE WINS

Mabel: My big sister's got two doctors.

Harold: Huh! Mine's got two lawyers.

Mabel: My big sister's going to have an operation.

Harold: That's nothing. Mine's going to have a separation.—Passing Show.

NEW FARMERS UNION SONG BOOK

Copy for our new Farmers Union song book is in the hands of the printer and will be out sometime in the near future.

This new book will contain a few of the old songs and a lot of new ones. These songs will all be set to music, the most of them to popular tunes. There will be about sixty pages in this book.

This book will be priced at thirty cents each, single copy, postpaid. Or, in dozen lots, \$3.00 per dozen. Every local should have some of these song books, as this book will be up to date. The songs are timely and will illustrate conditions confronting agriculture at the present time.

Send in your orders at once for these books, to State Headquarters at Salina. They will be filled as soon as the book is off the press.

CHAIRMAN STONE IS INTERVIEWED

Excerpts from Conferences of Mr. Stone With Representatives of the Press in Washington, D. C., April 6th and 9th, 1931

Says the Farmers National Grain Has a Splendid Business Organization

Q. Did you see this article, Mr. Stone? (Mr. Raskob, Chairman, Democratic Committee). That's the Democratic party going on record, talking about the Farm Board that way.

A. I don't think that's anything that has not already appeared in the press.

Q. Is there anything new in the movement to organize these fruit and vegetable marketing agencies?

A. Yes, Mr. Teague had a meeting down in Jacksonville, Florida, Saturday. He had a pretty good sized group there. Everything seemed very harmonious.

Q. There will be those other two meetings?

A. Yes, before there is anything definite decided. One in St. Louis today and Washington, Wednesday, each one of those three group meetings to appoint an organization committee to meet afterwards and see just what can be done.

Q. Are the Farmers National Grain Corporation and the Stabilization Corporation holding their annual meeting this week?

A. Their annual meetings are tomorrow in Chicago.

Q. Does the Board have a member at those meetings?

A. Mr. McKelvie is in Chicago this week.

Q. Now that the stabilization work is at least temporarily in obedience, is there any better way to judge how successful the Board's program is proving to be than to find the number of members that the cooperative associations have gained?

A. Well, I think that's one indication, but I think it's very much more enlightening, for instance, to take the volume of business that they have Salina, were closed the day of the funeral (continued on page 2)

DEATH OF C. C. KILIAN A LOSS TO KANSAS FARMERS UNION

Was Elected President Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Companies in January, 1930

Mr. Kilian was One of the Farmers Union's Most Active Workers and Organizers

Christopher C. Kilian was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, April 9, 1860 and departed this life at his home in Green, Kansas, on Monday, April 13, 1931 at the age of seventy one years and four days.

Mr. Kilian came to Kansas in 1885 and the same year married Catherine Heimerich, whom he had known in Indiana prior to the time he came to Kansas. Besides his widow, the immediate family consists of three children, Dan Kilian of Clay Center, Mrs. Grace Hill of 233 E. 26th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, and Mrs. Martha Shaeble of Selden, Kansas; eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one brother and one sister.

At the time of the opening of the "strip" in Oklahoma in 1893, Mr. Kilian made the run with thousands of others and secured a claim near Deer Creek in Grant County, Oklahoma. After five years there, Mr. and Mrs. Kilian returned to the community of Green to reside. Thirteen years ago they retired from their farming activities and moved to Green, where they were living at the time of Mr. Kilian's death.

Mr. Kilian joined the Lutheran Reformed Church when he was a young man, living in Indiana. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masonic Lodge in Green, the Knights Templars in Clay Center, and the Isis Temple Shrine at Salina.

Many years ago he joined the Farmers Union and from the time he joined until his death, was one of the most active workers and organizers. He served in various capacities and on numerous boards. He was elected a director of the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Companies in January, 1920, Vice-President of the Companies in 1928, and President in 1930. His work with the Farmers Union, and the insurance companies in particular was extraordinary and outstanding. He wrote more insurance during the period from 1920 to 1930 than any other man.

Mr. Kilian was one of the organizers and President of the First National Bank of Green, and had held many positions of public trust. By occupation, a carpenter as well as farmer, he contributed greatly to the upbuilding of his community, and forty six years ago he helped in the erection of the Methodist Church in Green, from which place his funeral was conducted last Thursday, April 16, by the Reverend Homer Winters.

Such men as Mr. Kilian are out standing and few, and we will miss his kindly council and advice in our future deliberations. His views and opinions were sought by all, and they were freely given. To the relatives, we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and to his neighbors we offer the consolation that it has been an honor and a rich experience to have known such a man.

All offices of the Farmers Union in Salina, were closed the day of the funeral (continued on page 2)

SPRING MEETING OF THE FARMERS UNION MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Coates House, Kansas City, Missouri, May 27th and 28th, 1931

PROGRAM

May 27th

1:00 P. M. Meeting called to order by Pres. C. B. Thowe. Reading of the minutes of previous meeting. Appointment of committees. Report of C. B. Thowe.

1:30 P. M. Address by A. W. Ricker, St. Paul, Minn. Subject—Program of The Farmers Nat'l. Grain Corporation.

Discussion—H. E. Witham, Kansas City, Mo. A. M. Kinney, Salina, Kansas.

3:30 P. M. Address by C. A. Ward, Pres. Kansas Farmers Union. Subject—Co-operation.

3:45 P. M. Address by Harry Neath, Kansas City, Mo. Subject—Elevator Loans.

Discussion.

4:15 P. M. Address by H. E. Witham. Subject—Terminal Elevator.

Discussion—Clifford Miller, Brewster, Kans., C. E. Elder, Beloit, Kans., and C. A. Clark, Girard, Kans.

Adjournment.

May 28th

9:00 A. M. Meeting called to order. Report of Committees.

9:30 A. M. Address by H. A. Cowden, President Union Oil Co. Discussion—Mr. Kamp, Grainfield, Kans., John Fangel, Lincolnville, Kans., Thos. Ramsay, Ottawa, Kans., and Others.

10:00 A. M. Address by L. J. Walsh, Washburn Crosby Co. Subject—Merchandising Feeds.

Discussion.

10:30 A. M. Address by W. G. Swanson, San Francisco, Cal. Subject—Co-operative Fruit Marketing.

10:45 A. M. Address by Geo. M. Peet, Madison, Kans. Subject—Merchandising UNION GOLD products in the Farmers Union Store.

11:00 A. M. Address by A. W. Seamans, Farmers Union Creamery, Kansas City, Mo.

11:15 A. M. Address by Sam. H. Ray, Success Mills, Inc., Kansas City Mo.

11:45 A. M. Address by A. M. Kinney, Salina, Kans. Subject—What The Farmers Union Managers Ass'n Means To Me.

Adjournment.

2:30 P. M. Ball Game at Fairmount Park.

6:00 P. M. Banquet at Fairmount Park.

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A. M. Kinney, Editor and Manager
Mary Riley, Assistant Editor
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Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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

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

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FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION—1146 Board of Trade Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., 915 United Life Bldg., Salina, Kans.; 1004 Corby Bldg., St. Joseph, Mo.

FARMERS UNION CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION—301 Oak St., Kansas City, Missouri.

FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION—400-3-10 Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Kansas City, Missouri; Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Wichita, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.—Room 202 Farmers Union Bldg., Salina, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION AUDITING ASSOCIATION—Room 308 Farmers Union Bldg., Thomas B. Dunn, Salina, Kansas.

KANSAS FARMERS UNION—Salina, Kansas, Room 208 Farmers Union Bldg.

FARMERS UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Farmers Union Building, Rex Lear, State Manager, Salina, Kansas.

THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION ROYALTY COMPANY—Room 311 Farmers Union Building, Salina, Kansas. G. E. Greitz, State Manager.

FARMERS UNION MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

C. B. Thowe, President
C. B. Belden, Secretary

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1931

FARMERS UNION MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION HAS EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

We wish to call attention to the program on the front page, of the eighth annual spring meeting of the Farmers Union Managers' association. This meeting will be held in Kansas City May 27th and 28th, at the Coates House.

Everyone who has attended these meetings in the past, know that they are wonderful meetings. No other organization in Kansas has done as much to build up our state-wide business institutions, as this organization. And at the same time, it has been a wonderful benefit to the local business institutions.

The meeting in Kansas City this year will undoubtedly prove to be the best one which has been held. They have a splendid program arranged and we hope every Farmers Union manager, director, and member, who can possibly attend this meeting, will do so.

The last afternoon there will be a picnic at Fairmount Park, with a banquet at night, and a ball game in the afternoon, between the managers and the office forces in Kansas City. We hope that the managers will not allow themselves to be defeated, this year.

LEGISLATION AND AGRICULTURE

"Isn't it barely possible," the Iowa Register asks, "that if agriculture had been left alone it would have adjusted itself? Everything else," the Register thinks, "has been tried. Why not try the let-alone medicine for a while?"

We don't know that whatever has been tried to raise agriculture out of the ditch has at all prevented farmers from adjusting themselves, or has interfered with any individual measures they might adopt if let alone to work out their salvation.

Agriculture certainly is not at this time an attractive business, though the oldest in the world. Lands have pretty steadily gone down in price and are a drag on the market. Undoubtedly legislation has aided farmers in cooperative marketing, which may pull agriculture out. We think legislation has helped agriculture also by creating cooperative borrowing through Federal Farm Loan Banks. Uncle Sam supplied the original capital, but is now out of it, the capital being supplied by the co-operative associations. The notion that legislation always works harm is a common one, but not very intelligent. If correct, it would imply abolition of government at the earliest practicable moment.

FORD'S PROFIT AND DETROIT'S LOSS

Auto Magnate Clears \$55,000,000 in a Year of Depression While the City Cares for His Out-of-Work Employees

The Ford Motor Company, which is Henry Ford, cleared \$55,000,000 net profits in 1930.

When a man makes such gains in a year of depression and disaster, it is proper to ask what he does with them. Millions of people are out of work. Countless families have been supported in part by charity. Hunger has been stalking through the land—between warehouses bulging with food which the hungry cannot buy.

In addition to all his previous profits, in addition to a fortune of not less than a billion dollars, Mr. Ford cleared fifty-five millions in a year when armies of his countrymen did not get enough to eat. What part of his money did he spend to relieve the distress of his fellows?

None of it!

In proportion to population, Detroit is the unemployment capital of America. Ford has helped to make it so; for he closes plants with utter disregard of the welfare of his employees. The city is caring for 45,000 families besides vast numbers of unattached individuals; and 36 per cent of all illes besides vast numbers of unattached individuals; and 36 per cent of all illes who apply for relief are laid-off Ford workers.

Ford does not pay local taxes. His plants are located outside the city limits, where the municipal authorities cannot levy on them; but his workers live in the city, where the municipal authorities care for them. In this time of unexampled distress, Henry Ford has saddled the city with the upkeep of his working force.

He does not even give in so-called charity. His son, Edsel Ford, sent the relief committee of Detroit a check for \$125,000. W. G. Bergman, the relief committee of Detroit, reports that the city has spent \$8,000,000 to save Ford workers from starvation. The Ford family's contribution is about 1.5 per cent of this sum—and less than a quarter of one per cent of Ford's 1930 profits.

And to add insult to injury, while the city to which he pays no taxes takes care of his deserted hungry workers, Henry Ford suns himself in Florida, and says that the "average man" won't work unless he has to!

The American people once had a warm liking for Henry Ford. They are fast losing it. In the cold light of a starvation winter, he shows as hard and callous and stupid as any other "captain of industry."

Perhaps there was more philosophy than we dreamed in a famous man's gibe that "God shows what He thinks of money by the kind of men He gives it to."—Labor.

ABOLISHING THE DIRECT PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

Tax reform in states that have made progress in this difficult matter proceeds by slow stages. It is a progressive movement. One change is soon followed by another logically growing out of the first, and so the question arises as to what the outcome is to be, or what goal is actually aimed for.

An illustration is the present campaign in New York state for abolishment of the taxation of all personal property. New York is a leader in state tax progress. It has a comparatively diversified system and has gone a long way from the simplicity of "uniform and equal" assessments of property. It raises every year upwards of 60 million dollars from its income tax alone.

In the present movement to abolish all assessment of personal property in New York state the New York World reports that "the list of civic associations which have endorsed the proposal is impressive, and their action will be supported by the mayor's committee on tax revision." Of the direct personal property tax, or what remains of it in New York, the World remarks that "it is the verminiform appendix of the state's revenue system, and the sooner it is excised the better." Besides its inequities, poor administration and high cost of collection the World challenges it as "conducive to perjury and to general disrespect of the government."

The President's Column

By CAL A. WARD

LOOKING FORWARD

PESSIMISM VERSUS OPTIMISM: The present situation of depression that finds itself prevalent in all sections of the country has and is developing pessimists at an unusual rapid rate. A pessimist never did, nor never will, solve our problems. We need men of vision; and men of action. A great deal of stress has been laid on the fact that optimism will create and advance the proper psychology that will start us on the upward trend. This is only partly true. We have arrived at the point where men must take action and do things, and one of the conditions we find today is that there are large groups who are in a state of lethargy and discouragement and have thrown up their hands in despair. We must go forward.

HISTORY AND FACTS: The last several years has brought forth some interesting though discouraging history. The world and especially our nation is all out of economic joint. Selfishness and greed have entered in and groups and classes of society do not sustain a rightful relationship one with the other. This fact has been forcefully brought to the door of agriculture. All groups, when appraised of the situation, acknowledge this fact. Great volumes of figures have been compiled by statisticians, and economists are revealing the facts of times past. This is necessary that a proper analysis of the situation may be arrived at. But this is not enough.

ACTION IS REQUIRED: The thousands and millions of our commonwealth, and I speak especially to the farmers of the country now, are not satisfied with simply a revelation of past tragic conditions but are rightfully demanding of leadership everywhere that something be done about it. We need tens of thousands of men who are in leadership of affairs to immediately take the challenge of the masses. We need men and not puppets. In all walks of leadership the crying need is men of action who will reflect the thinking of the masses everywhere into constructive channels that will bring us better times. If we are true and faithful to our constituents, we will brush aside petty differences, prejudices and personalities, and we will find ourselves working together in common defense of common interests. As an humble leader in a great farm organization, I have endeavored to arrive at this point. The distress of agriculture is so far-reaching that we dare not delay. Of special significance at this time, several

CONVENTIONS HAVE BEEN CALLED. Governor Woodring of Kansas has just issued a call to several of the governors of our sister states to meet in session at Wichita on May 19, to go deeply into the problem of agriculture in this section, and especially the wheat situation. It is hoped that this gathering will be void of political maneuverings, and that the agricultural question will be discussed on its merits from a standpoint of bringing real benefits to the farmer, and the working-out of constructive plans that will look toward a solution. I am sure that worth-while progress will not be made unless the thinking of the farm organization groups is concentrated and incorporated into some proposed plan. The Kansas Farm Organization and Co-operatives are well organized and can be of definite help, and their voice will be heard. The

KANSAS LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION, through its officers has issued a call to a meeting to be held at Emporia on April 24, to also wrestle with the distress farm problems. The prices the farmers of Kansas are receiving for their live stock do not properly reflect the price the consumer has to pay for the product and something should be done about it. Representatives of the farm board have been asked to be in attendance at this meeting, along with other agricultural leaders in Kansas and again it is hoped that those in attendance and control of the meeting will come with unprejudiced, open minds, and will adhere to the interests of the producer rather than their own selfish inclinations.

CORN BELT MEETING. A call has been issued to members of the Corn Belt Federation to meet at Des Moines, Iowa on May 5 and 6. The thought and thinking of the organized farmers of the middle west section of the country has found expression during the past several years through the Corn Belt Federation. The Federation took the initiative several years ago and demanded national legislation in the marketing of our farm commodities. We failed in the McNary-Haugen Bill, but the pressure was so keen, and the demands were so outstanding that the Agricultural Marketing Act was the result of these years of work. It is a national law, and is the first step, and only the beginning. We should take it, and possibly amend it to the extent that its application to our marketing program will be beneficial, not to those gigantic commodity gamblers and speculators who have exploited the farmers all of these years, but to the man at the cross-roads, "the man behind the plow." Those who expect to be in attendance at this meeting will do well to set their house in order and arrange their thinking, looking toward constructive ends. A note of warning is sounded to us farm leaders to attend this convention and keep uppermost in our thoughts and action, the tiller of the soil, the farmer himself.

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONVENTION will soon assemble at Atlantic City, April 28. "Can any good come out of Nazareth?" Can any good to agriculture come from this convention? History of times past has been quite largely to the opposite. Money barons and captains of finance most usually settle down in the industrial east. The interests of the East are not the interests of the West and Middle West. A few money hoarders who are in a majority so far as wealth and politics are concerned, should see the "hand writing on the wall," because present trends are going to compel the masses of commonwealth to get closer together, thus putting these money lords in the minority, both in economic structure and politics. This national group should see the picture of the entire country rather than just the interests of the favorite few.

HOME FOLKS. The Farmers Union of Kansas must accept the challenge and play its part in the saving of agriculture which in reality means the saving of the nation, as agriculture is basic and fundamental, and since the origin of our nation has been the stabilizing factor in an equitable, economic structure. The Kansas Farmers Union needs scores of men of the courageous, constructive, fighting type, exemplified in John Tromble, Clarence Brasted and Clarence Huff. These men were and are outstanding, and our organization has at present a definite program being carried on and promoted by this type of men. Our state institutions, and dozens of our local co-operatives are headed by boards and managers who are taking their responsibilities religiously. This is as it should be, and our ultimate goal should be only honest, responsible, trustworthy men at the heads of all of our local and business institutions. Our program is constructive and beneficial but not perfect. The weak places will be strengthened because my contacts with the entire membership of the state tells me that we are LOOKING FORWARD, and from the spirit of optimism will develop a worthwhile program of helpfulness to the farmer himself, which is fundamental. And if we should fail to carry out the purposes and principles of our organization, our own purposes have been defeated, and the farmer is the victim.

Cal A. Ward.

The Insurance Corner

By CHARLES A. BROOM, Secretary

As we sum up our loss of the past week in the death of our President, Mr. C. C. Kilian, we cannot help but think of the encouraging words and acts he has given us personally as well as the company during the eleven years it has been our privilege to know him and work with him. Any time when the road seemed tiresome or the burden heavy, his encouragement and assistance has always been ready. He was a tireless worker in our cause and his judgment and opinions were always the best. His place with us as well as in his home community will be hard to fill, but we must ever forge ahead and do as he has done—"make history."

Mr. Kilian's first connection with our company was as an agent. His first contract was dated early in 1919, but he had been a leader in Farmers Union work in his own community for a number of years previous to that time. He was elected to the Board of Directors in January, 1920, and served continuously since then. In January, 1926, he was elected Vice-President, and last year was elevated to the office of President, following the death of Mr. Brasted. It has certainly been a pleasure to have known him and to work with him. He was a man that any person could be proud to call friend.

CHAIRMAN STONE IS INTERVIEWED

(continued from page 1)

Q. There is nothing very important to tell you about cotton this year. The receiving season is about finished, you know, and there is nothing going on except hoping for reduction in acreage. They are right in the midst of planting or will be in the midst in the next few weeks. Of course, they have planted some cotton down in South Texas and the Delta.

Q. Do you think you might have something to say about the 1,300,000 bales when you find out what the acreage is?

A. Nothing I can say about that, except that it's still on hand.

Q. How much did the cooperatives handle of the 1930 cotton crop?

A. They handled about 2,300,000 bales, the American Cotton Cooperative Association 2,100,000 bales and the Staple Cotton Growers Association about 200,000 bales.

Q. Did they sell that much?

A. No, they received that much.

Q. How much is that an increase over the 1929 crop?

A. For American Cotton Cooperative Association, it's about double. Receipts of the Staple Cotton Association, account of the drought in the Delta were a little smaller than last year.

Q. Can you tell us anything about the grain meetings in Chicago?

A. Nothing, except just reports I have heard indirectly and that is that they had a very satisfactory meeting. The Farmers National showed a net earning of something over \$600,000 on its operations for the year but I got that information from the papers. Not so bad for an infant, is it?

Q. Do you expect the cooperatives to handle even a larger percentage of the new cotton crop?

A. We hope they will.

Q. If the Farmers' National is \$660,000 to the good, with prices going down—

A. That wouldn't make any difference in the earnings. They keep an even position all the time.

Q. They haven't got a lot of wheat on hand?

A. They keep an even position as near as possible all the time. If they did not do that they would be speculators in grain.

Q. It strikes me that they have a beautiful business organization.

A. They have. Splendid!

Q. Is that commission profits as agent for the cooperatives?

A. Agents for cooperative units that are members of it and sell their grain through it.

Q. I notice the Department of Agriculture estimates that the number of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt on April 1 was the smallest in ten years.

A. Yes, it seems that cattle are on as good a basis as any livestock product.

Q. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics observed in that connection that in the states where feeding was as high or higher than last year—Minnesota, the Dakotas and Nebraska, they said those were states where corn was not bad. I was wondering if it might be as much due to the fact that those are states that cut their wheat acreage and are going into diversified farming?

A. That's more particularly true in recent years of Minnesota which has been changing gradually from a wheat state to a mixed farming state for the last six or eight or ten years.

Q. Doesn't it indicate as much a movement away from wheat as it does to corn?

A. I think that trend has been developing in a good many sections. Take down in Southwestern Kansas, where Ed and I were week before last. From the looks of that territory they could do almost any kind of farming they wanted to down there. Splendid section! Splendid country! The trend will be gradual in that direction for diversified farming.

NEW OIL STATION

Glascow, Kans., Apr. 16, 1931

We have put over the proposition of an oil station at Concordia for our Farmers Union membership.

The charter has been granted by the state of Kansas. We have leased a track of ground for the bulk oil tanks and have ordered two 15,000 gallon tanks and one 12,000 gallon tank with all other equipment necessary for operating such a station.

We have hired a manager and two truck drivers, so we expect to get started delivering gasoline and oil products at an early date.

Trueman Bates.

F. U. LOCAL NO. 1498 MEETING

The members of Farmers Union Local No. 1498 were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Soule Friday evening, April 11. The president, Geo. Peet, conducted the business meeting. Mr. Troutman, the assistant auditor, was present and gave us an interesting talk on the work over the state. A general social time was enjoyed by all. Refreshments were served by the hostess. Our next meeting will be April 25 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Springstead.

MAUD BANGS, Cor. Sec.

While many people believe that the Indians originated in Asia, there are others who claim them to be the Lost Ten Tribes of Israel, or descendants of a Welsh colony, or from Greece, China, Phenicia, Ireland, Polynesia, or Australasia. Their real origin is still in doubt.

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE

If members of the Union have anything to sell or exchange, they should advertise in this department. Rates: 2 cents a word per line. If run 4 times 10c per word for the four issues. Count words in heading, as "For Sale" or "Wanted to Buy," and each initial or figure in the address. Compound words count as two words. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—TRY THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

SEEDS AND PLANTS

PLANTS—Write for beautiful catalog of Cabbage, Onion, Tomato, Lettuce and Pepper plants. Davis Plant Co., Tiffin, Ga.

RED CLOVER, \$10; Alfalfa, \$10; Alfalfa, \$8; White Sweet Clover, \$2.50; Timothy, \$4.00; Mixed Alfalfa and Timothy, \$5.00; Yellow Soy Beans, \$1.50; Sudan Grass, \$3.40; Amber Cane, \$1.25; all per bushel. Bags free. Samples and catalog upon request. STANDARD SEED CO., 31 East Fifth St., Kansas City, Missouri.

FROST PROOF CABBAGE, open field grown, well rooted, strong, each bush fifty, mottled, labeled variety name Jersey Wakefield, Charleston Wakefield, Succession, Copenhagen, Early and Late Dutch, postpaid; 200, 75c; 300, \$1.00; 500, \$1.25; 1,000, \$2.00.

Onions, Crystal Wax and Yellow Bermuda postpaid; 500, 75c; 1,000, \$1.25; 2,000, \$2.00.

Tomato, large, well rooted, open field grown, mottled, labeled with variety name Livingston Globe, Marglobe, Stone, Baltimore, June Pink, McGee, Earliana, Succession, Copenhagen, Early and Late Dutch, postpaid; 200, 75c; 300, \$1.00; 500, \$1.25; 1,000, \$2.00.

Pepper mottled and labeled Chinese Giant, Bull Nose, Ruby King, Ruby Case, open field grown, 100, 75c; 200, \$1.00; 300, \$1.25; 500, \$1.50; 1,000, \$2.00.

Porto Rico and Nancy Hall Potato Plants Postpaid; 100, 75c; 200, \$1.00; 300, \$1.25; 500, \$1.50; full count, prompt shipment, safe arrival, satisfaction guaranteed. Union Plant Company, Texarkana, Ark.

STURAC GARDEN SEED \$2.00 cwt. Dams \$1.50 cwt. Red Bull Kaffir \$1.50 cwt. Special prices in car-lots. Bags free. Cedar Vale Co-op. Co., Cedar Vale, Kansas.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—O. I. C. Red Gilt, Pedigreed, Improved—Peterson and Sons, Oaage City, Kansas.

ALFALFA SEED

Hardy Type Common Variety Per bushel \$2.50, \$3.40, \$10.30, \$11.40. Grimm Variety Alfalfa Seed, \$14.00, \$15.00, \$16.00, \$17.00, \$18.00, \$19.00, \$20.00, \$21.00, \$22.00, \$23.00, \$24.00, \$25.00, \$26.00, \$27.00, \$28.00, \$29.00, \$30.00, \$31.00, \$32.00, \$33.00, \$34.00, \$35.00, \$36.00, \$37.00, \$38.00, \$39.00, \$40.00, \$41.00, \$42.00, \$43.00, \$44.00, \$45.00, \$46.00, \$47.00, \$48.00, \$49.00, \$50.00, \$51.00, \$52.00, \$53.00, \$54.00, \$55.00, \$56.00, \$57.00, \$58.00, \$59.00, \$60.00, \$61.00, \$62.00, \$63.00, \$64.00, \$65.00, \$66.00, \$67.00, \$68.00, \$69.00, \$70.00, \$71.00, \$72.00, \$73.00, \$74.00, \$75.00, \$76.00, \$77.00, \$78.00, \$79.00, \$80.00, \$81.00, \$82.00, \$83.00, \$84.00, \$85.00, \$86.00, \$87.00, \$88.00, \$89.00, \$90.00, \$91.00, \$92.00, \$93.00, \$94.00, \$95.00, \$96.00, \$97.00, \$98.00, \$99.00, \$100.00.

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ALFALFA SEED Kansas or Utah grown, hardy types \$7.00, \$8.00, \$11.00, \$14.00, \$15.00, \$16.00, \$17.00, \$18.00, \$19.00, \$20.00, \$21.00, \$22.00, \$23.00, \$24.00, \$25.00, \$26.00, \$27.00, \$28.00, \$29.00, \$30.00, \$31.00, \$32.00, \$33.00, \$34.00, \$35.00, \$36.00, \$37.00, \$38.00, \$39.00, \$40.00, \$41.00, \$42.00, \$43.00, \$44.00, \$45.00, \$46.00, \$47.00, \$48.00, \$49.00, \$50.00, \$51.00, \$52.00, \$53.00, \$54.00, \$55.00, \$56.00, \$57.00, \$58.00, \$59.00, \$60.00, \$61.00, \$62.00, \$63.00, \$64.00, \$65.00, \$66.00, \$67.00, \$68.00, \$69.00, \$70.00, \$71.00, \$72.00, \$73.00, \$74.00, \$75.00, \$76.00, \$77.00, \$78.00, \$79.00, \$80.00, \$81.00, \$82.00, \$83.00, \$84.00, \$85.00, \$86.00, \$87.00, \$88.00, \$89.00, \$90.00, \$91.00, \$92.00, \$93.00, \$94.00, \$95.00, \$96.00, \$97.00, \$98.00, \$99.00, \$100.00.

Many live stock shipping associations are organizing

Kansas City, Mo., April 18, 1931.

Mr. A. M. Kinney, Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Kinney:

We are enclosing a clipping that may be of interest to you and the readers of your paper. There is quite a lot of activity just now over the state in the matter of organizing live stock shipping associations, and perhaps a mention now and then in your paper would help things along.

I had the pleasure of being in Dighton and Ness City to do a little organization work this week and last, and I was pleased to learn that the Farmers Union organization as a whole is in great favor out there. This, of course, is a reaction from the organization work affected by the creamery.

Thanking you for your cooperation, and with best personal regards, we remain

Yours very truly,

Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co.

By Floyd H. Lynn.

FARM WHEAT STOCKS APRIL 1

Junior Cooperators by Aunt Patience

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THIS DEPARTMENT

Any boy or girl between the ages of six and sixteen, whose father is a member in good standing of the Farmers' Union, who writes a letter for publication, can be a member of this department, and is entitled to a pin. In order to receive a book, he must signify his intentions to study the lessons and send them in. We cannot send out books to those who do not intend to send their lessons. The address to which all Juniors should send their letters is: Aunt Patience in care of the KANSAS UNION FARMER, Salina, Kansas.

Dear Junior Club Members:

I think I can steal enough space this time to thank you all for the lovely Easter cards so many of you sent me. Space forbids my thanking each one of your personally but I want you all to know how I appreciated them and how happy I was to find that you remembered me.

A few weeks ago, Gloria Thomas of McPherson joined our Club. The package which I sent her containing her book and pin was returned from McPherson, unclaimed. If she will write me giving a more complete address, I shall be glad to send it to her once more.

School will be out for most of you within a week or so—for many of you it is over now. Let's all make a resolution to work hard on our Junior lessons this summer and get new members for the Club. Let me hear from you who would like help in forming a Junior local. You could have a great deal of fun this summer—have picnics and meetings together.

Aunt Patience.

Codell, Kans., Apr. 13, 1931.

Dear Aunt Patience: How are you? I am fine. We sure had a lot of snow out here. I could not send in my lesson, but I am sending in the February lesson now. It is an essay. I did not have time for I had to get my school lessons. I try to send in all the next lessons.

Yours truly,

P. S. My birthday is May 4th.

Dear Aunt: Alright, I'll depend upon you to send in all of the lessons from now on. Let me know when you find your twin.

Aunt Patience.

Rydal, Kans., April 16, 1931.

Dear Aunt Patience: I am 11 years old. My birthday is May 12. My father is a member of the Farmers Union. I have written to you before. I would like to get a book and a pin. I will get my essay in as soon as you send me my book and pin. Please send it sometime next week.

Your niece,

Care H. E. Ames.

P. S. My brother and sister Junior and Dorothy wrote to you too. They are 10 and 9 years old. They will study hard and get their essays in as soon as you send their books and pins.

Dear Maxine: I don't think I've ever received a letter from you before—we'll send your book and pin. Please write to me soon again. Aunt Patience.

Aunt Patience.

Grainfield, Kans., April 16, 1931.

Dear Aunt Patience: I am in the seventh grade and am fourteen years old, and I would like to join the Farmers Union club. My teacher's name is Mrs. Rice. For pets I have a dog named Rover and a little white dog named Teddy. My father is a member of the Farmers Union. My birthday is February 4th. It rained last night. Please send me a pin and book.

Sincerely yours,

Nick Schmidt.

Care of Adolf Schmidt.

Dear Nick: I am glad to put your name on our Membership Roll and I send your book and pin this week. Let me know how you like them.

Aunt Patience.

Grainfield, Kans., Apr. 16, 1931.

I am 11 years old and in the fifth grade. I go to East Big Creek school. My teacher's name is Mrs. Rice. I like to go to school very well. Please send me a pin and note book so that I could get my lessons in. We milk eight cows. For pets I have a dog named Shep and my father is a member of the Farmers Union for the last 13 years. I like to read the children's page. I do not know anything else so I will close now. I would like to join the Farmer's Union club.

Yours truly,

John Schneider.

Care of Adolph Schmidt.

Dear John: I'm glad you enjoy "Our Page"—we're going to have a good many new members to put on our next Membership Roll. Please write and let us know what you like best in our members make it, you know, and your letters are the most important thing on it.

Aunt Patience.

Grainfield, Kans., Apr. 16, 1931.

I am 9 years old and in the fifth grade. For teacher I have Mrs. Rice. For pets I have a dog named Shep. My father has joined the Farmers Union club. For pin I have a cat. Her name is Snowball. I want to join the Farmers Union club. Please send me a membership pin and pen.

Yours very truly,

Richard Schmidt.

Care of Adolf Schmidt.

Dear Richard: I'm sorry, but we don't give Eveready pencils and pens to every one—just to the winners of some of the contests. To each new member I send a Club pin, and a Junior's note book. In which they get their lessons and keep which they seem important to you. I hope you'll win a pen and pencil some day.

Aunt Patience.

Cawker City, Kans., Apr. 13, 1931.

Dear Aunt Patience: I am sending in my essay on "How Juniors can help their Local Unions." I have a new pet. You couldn't guess what it is. A tiny little dog. We call him "Smiley." Our school is out April 12. We are going to have a picnic. I wish that you were here to go with us, don't you? I am in the 8th grade and am 13 years old. My birthday is August 8. Do I have a twin? We are having fine weather now. I'd better close.

With love,

Ethelreda Smith.

Dear Ethelreda: I'd love to see

Ladies' Auxiliary

THE LADIES AUXILIARY

One of the most serious problems confronting the members of Farmers Union Locals or Local Auxiliaries is what to do in the meetings that will build for the Union both in numbers and interest. This can not be overcome by ignoring the problem, neither can it be done by deploring it.

It takes work, earnest, sincere effort to make things go right and this service to the organization can be rendered by a lot of folk who have the talent and ability to do, but have never been called upon.

Let us not spend too much time in deploring the conditions relative to some fallen institution that may once have been in our locality or to the fact that someone who used to be a leader in our community is gone. The army on the field of battle would not last long that would do that. Fill in the ranks with the best material at hand and press forward, each doing the best we can and though we sometimes encounter obstacles these obstacles can be overcome—must be overcome—if we are to succeed.

The question might be asked by some: Why the auxiliary? Why the Junior Department?

Well, let's see. Does the church of today find a need for more than one department? Do the railroads with their gigantic systems of transportation and their hauling freight and the problems of hauling freight and

passengers? No, they have Agricultural Departments for the development of territory along their lines that will develop business in the future. They spend thousands annually through various avenues to keep the public mind directed in a way that will always build future business.

Every organization of any size or importance builds various departments to carry on certain phases of the work they have in mind in order that the job may be thorough and complete.

Did you ever visit the habitation of some splendid old bachelor. Was it a home? Did it show attention had been given to all those little details that only a woman can think of?

Did it appeal to you as a place where you would like to live, did it look complete? No, because as homes were destined to be it was lacking in various ways, and so the organization that fails to recognize the need of completeness in its program is not an ideal institution, for it has not made provision for the future. Think this over and write E. L. Bullard, Vassar, Kansas, about your own Local Auxiliary or Junior Department in connection with your local. We want to help you build the cooperative spirit and cooperative thinking in your community to the point where we have the largest possible number of families in every community thinking and acting cooperatively and we need your help.

E. L. Bullard.

COOPERATIVE OIL NEWS

HOWARD A. COWDEN,
President Union Oil Company

CONCORDIA, KANSAS, HAS NEW COOPERATIVE

The organization of the Farmers Union Oil Company, Concordia, Kansas, has just been completed. Leaders in that territory have been active in selling stock in the company for several weeks, and are glad to announce that they have "put it over the top."

They have ordered a complete Union Bulk station consisting of three large storage tanks, two truck tanks, and other necessary equipment. F. M. Hanson, president of the board, said that they are anxious to start operating.

Consumers in the Concordia territory have manifested a lot of interest in purchasing their petroleum products through the new channels, and the company has a splendid opportunity to render a valuable service to them. Other members of the board are C. A. Olson, Clyde, Kansas, and F. E. Brown, Rydal, Kansas.

AN OPTIMISTIC COOPERATOR

John M. Karns, President of the Cooperative Oil Company, Bucklin, Kansas, is a staunch cooperativist. In speaking of present conditions, Mr. Karns recently made the statement: "If this business depression does no more good than to make good cooperators out of us, it will bring a great benefit to the American people." He is a firm believer that farmers must stand shoulder-to-shoulder to improve their present condition.

Recent announcements show that the profits of the Standard Oil Company (Indiana) in 1929 were \$46,000,000. Their profits in 1929 were \$78,000,000.

EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OPERATING

Each employee of the member companies of the Union Oil Company have been mailed application blanks for membership in the Employees' Association which carries \$500 insurance for members, without any cost to the employee.

The announcement made by the Union Oil Company a few weeks ago that the Employees' Association had been organized for the benefit of employees of the member companies who are rendering a very real service in building their own Cooperative Oil Company, has created much interest. It is the plan of the company that by giving the employee a part of the benefits of cooperation that it will keep within the ranks of Cooperatives efficient men whom they have helped to train, and who are sometimes lost to the Cooperative movement because of more attractive salaries offered by "old line" firms.

It represents an opportunity on the part of the employee to make his work mean more to him than just his daily tasks. A part of the plan is for the Union Oil Company to handle tires, the profits of which accrue to the Employees' Association. A complete price list has been issued in connection with the announcement of the Employees' Association. The company is handling Lee brand of tires, tubes, and accessories. The quality of this brand compares with the quality of Union Certified products, and by pooling the large volume of the member companies these tires are offered to them at a price less than they can buy other tires, quality considered.

Employees of the various companies have also been mailed application blanks for insurance at each employee who has been with any member company which distributes Union Certified, for six months is eligible to membership in the Employees' Association.

SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Burlington Equity Exchange, Burlington, Colorado, held a short time ago, was well attended. This company operates a bulk oil station in connection with their elevator. H. L. Divine, manager, and R. J. Ackley, president of the Cooperative Oil Company at Garden City, Kansas, and W. H. Arensburg, manager of the Goodland Equity Oil Company, Goodland, Kansas, attended the meeting. Each of these cooperators

made interesting and instructive talks. It was unanimously voted at the meeting to issue participating membership certificates. This plan has been successfully used by many Cooperative companies, and permits consumers to become members without investing any money, to enjoy the profits of Cooperative savings, by simply patronizing a Cooperative Oil Company.

The stockholders of the Burlington company also voted to operate their bulk station on a cash basis.

During the annual meeting of the Kansas Farmers' Grain Dealers Association at Hutchinson, Kansas, "Bob" Ackley, president of the Cooperative Oil Company at Garden City, made a stirring speech in which he pointed out that the company at Garden City had made \$44,350.00 the first eighteen months it operated, and that it was still going strong. He also said that last year they handled over a million gallons of Union Certified gasoline and kerosene.

Great interest was manifested by the managers and directors present, in the appeal made by Mr. Ackley for Cooperatives to stand together and build their own oil company, instead of patronizing the "Old Liners."

ANOTHER COOPERATIVE USES NATIONAL COLORS

T. G. Ramsey, Ottawa, Kansas, is having their bulk station painted orange and blue. He wants folks to know at a glance that the consumers in the Ottawa territory are working with thousands of other consumers throughout the midwest in building their own Cooperative brand, and their own company.

The large storage tanks are being painted orange with a wide band of blue near the top. The name of the Farmers Union Oil Company appears in the center of the tanks in lettering, outlined with white. They are placing the words "Union Certified" below the name of the company. It won't take long to locate the Farmers Cooperative Oil Company when driving through Ottawa.

OIL RACKETEERS

Recently, Senator Capper published an editorial in Capper's Weekly entitled, "Big Oil Companies Outdo Al Capone." He charges the big oil companies with "one of the greatest economic crimes in the history of the United States." He also says, "Scarface Al Capone of Chicago is a piker compared to the big oil racketeers." He mentions particularly the "Royal Dutch Shell, the Standard Oil Companies, and the Gulf (Mellon-owned) companies." He states further, "Today three big oil groups, I am informed, control 50 per cent of the petroleum products of this country. These same big oil companies control 80 per cent of the refining and transportation and sale of gasoline and other petroleum products. And if we sit by and watch the small independent oil producers ruined and put out of business, as they are being ruined and put out of business by importations of cheaply produced foreign oil and by the manipulation of crude petroleum prices by these big companies, it is only a question of a few years, perhaps only a few months, until these big companies will control 80 to 90 percent of the oil production, and virtually 100 percent of the refining and sale of gasoline and other petroleum products."

Senator Capper also points out in the editorial that five years ago crude oil was selling for \$2.04 per barrel, and that gasoline in 52 representative cities at that time was selling for 18.09 a gallon. He says that the price of crude had dropped to \$1.29 a barrel by 1929, and at the same time gasoline had increased in price to 18.39 a gallon. He says that right now with the price of crude at 87c a barrel, gasoline prices are still around 18c a gallon in these 52 cities, just about where they were five years ago. Senator Capper gives a good reason why farmers should organize Cooperatives. The little "Big Oil" companies should then develop their own organization rather than buy from what he terms, "Big Oil Racketeers."

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

SMALL GARDEN WILL LOOK BIG THIS YEAR IN TOWN AND COUNTRY

"Small gardens are going to look larger this spring than they have for many years, because they will be unusually useful in piecing out diets and in checking inroads on the family income," says Dr. William A. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture. "Drought and unemployment," he says, "have made diet relief and income relief of prime importance this year."

"Backyard gardens and near-by vacant lot gardens should be more common this year than usual. More farmers, particularly in the drought regions, will need productive gardens, and the gardening should get under way as early as the weather and moisture conditions permit. There are some sections still," says Doctor Taylor, "in which the drought remains practically unbroken, and in such areas gardeners will find it wise to delay general planting until after good rains. Early garden planting, however, can include such quick-growing vegetables as radishes, peas, lettuce, spinach, onions from sets, and early turnips. These grow best in fairly cool weather and do not require so much moisture as the later crops. They will do fairly well with a moderate supply of moisture."

Vegetable growing has usually been a hobby or a "spare time" occupation for city dwellers, Doctor Taylor points out, and many farmers have not considered the garden as a real competitor of the cash crop. Actually, the experience of many farmers shows that comparatively little of the farm work is likely to be as profitable and productive as is time spent on the garden. "It's good business management to 'spare' the time for the garden, and to leave gardening as a chore to be picked up when there is nothing else to do."

"In the cities the value of garden produce ranges higher than on the farms and a good vacant lot garden often will prevent inroads on the income of even greater money values. This is not to say that an employed worker should neglect his job for his garden, but the garden can provide a profitable market for morning and evening hours and much healthful recreation. To the man out of a job a garden is a godsend."

"Good seed, good soil, adequate fertilization, sufficient moisture, and careful cultivation are the essentials for gardening either on the farm or in the city. Rely on established seed firms for good seed. On the farm, the garden deserves the best of the fertilizer material. In the cities a rank growth of weeds often prevails, which would be more desirable for gardening than some of the backyards now in cultivation. Long rows are easier to cultivate than short rows in vegetable beds. If water is available for irrigation or sprinkling, the garden is more certain to be productive."

SPELLING VICTORY THRILLS 'EM

Youthful ambition backed up by ability to achieve acknowledgments in the State Spelling Match by Mary Ellen Harkin from a humble home "down by the railroad tracks" won the right to represent Topeka in the Capper Publications Statewide Spelling Match by defeating 28 carefully selected champions, many of whom came from homes where the greatest advantages offered in the Capital City are enjoyed.

The event was not without drama. Interest grew steadily from the time the first speller dropped out of line until there were only two remaining—Mary Ellen representing Assumption School and Lillian Williamson, representing Boswell Junior High. The contrast between the methods of attack used by these two girls was amusing. Lillian was calm and deliberate. She spelled her words slowly and distinctly. Her composure and self-reliance led one to believe she could keep it up indefinitely. Mary Ellen, on the other hand, went at her words like a battering-ram. She plunged in with all the impulsiveness of her Scotch-Irish ancestors. There was a tremor in her voice that grew more pronounced at each trial. One was not sure whether she was frightened or was nearing collapse. But she held right on until Lillian failed to spell "interpretation." Then Mary Ellen made the necessary correction, and, in accordance with the national rules, spelled the next word pronounced. It was all over! She had won despite all her handicaps. Not until then did the audience realize that the emotion it had thought to be fright was nothing more than joyful expectation. Quickly Mary Ellen glided across the stage. She was not a teary-eyed victor, but of sheer joy! And Mary Ellen's were not the only tears visible. Many handkerchiefs were furtively dabbing at moistened eyes.

And who was the rather large ruddy faced woman approaching Mary Ellen with open arms? Was it her teacher? Was it an admiring member of the school board? No, it was the janitress of Assumption School, but that janitress was none other than Mrs. Patrick Harkin, mother of the girl who had fought her way to victory though pitted against talented youngsters from the wealthiest homes in Topeka!

That's how it happened that the happiest home in Topeka is down by the Shunamunga. Does any competitor envy Mary Ellen her honors? Not one. The little Irish Rose of the Shunamunga has all of Topeka back of her. Even her nearest rival, Lillian Williamson, says: "It's all right. I'm only 11 in 7-B, so I'll get another chance next year." That's the spirit!

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

TONGUE TWISTED

An oculist was examining the eyes of a patient and had requested him to read the top line of a test card, the letters of which ran H P R T V Z B F H K.

When some moments elapsed, the specialist said: "Do you mean to say you cannot read letters of that size?" "Oh, I can see the letters all right," replied the patient, "but I can't pronounce the bloming word."

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Whereas Almighty God in His divine wisdom has seen fit to call from our midst, our faithful brother, Chris C. Kilian of Green, Kansas, member of Fact Local No. 566, Therefore be it resolved that we, the members of Fact Local No. 566, extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

Be it also resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Kansas Union Farmer, one to the bereaved family, and also spread on the minutes.

W. Bauer, Pres.
Walter Knitter, Secy.
Committee.

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