



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation



VOLUME XXII

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NUMBER 29

SPECULATORS TRYING TO DISCREDIT FEDERAL FARM BOARD

ANNUAL MEETING FARMERS UNION CO-OP. PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Kansas City, Kansas, February 5, 1930.
Meeting called to order at 10:30 A. M. by Chairman Bullard at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building. After making a few opening remarks, the Chairman read the proposed order of business for the consideration of the delegates. It was moved by Mr. Turman that the order of business as suggested by Chairman Bullard be accepted. Seconded and carried unanimously.
The Chairman then appointed the following committees:

Credentials Committee
Chas. Norris, Chairman Erie Walter Knisley Logan C. E. Prothe Paola
By-Laws Committee
C. B. Thowe, Chairman Alma George Frank Paola J. W. Jones Herington B. F. Hegler, (Attorney as legal counsel) Wichita
Resolutions Committee
R. M. Kaff, Chairman Michigan Valley C. P. Mathias Burlington L. C. Gretten Kincaid Julius Harries Wakeeney V. E. Hanson Olsburg
Grievance Committee
David Thomas, Chairman Burns George Lawhead LaCyena Miles Syboda Bremen

Mr. Norris, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, requested the delegates to present their credentials.
Mr. Thowe raised the question of his eligibility to serve on the by-laws committee inasmuch as he was not a member of the Produce Association. Mr. Bullard, Chairman, stated this was simply an error on his part in making the appointment. This was followed by a motion from Mr. Heidicker that the matter of Mr. Thowe's not being a member of the Produce Association be overlooked and that he be requested to serve on this committee. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bullard at 1:30 P. M. Mr. Bullard made a few opening remarks (welcoming the delegates and expressing appreciation for the splendid representation.
Mr. A. M. Kinney, State Secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union, was called upon to address the group and his remarks were well received.
Mr. Bullard advised of Mr. Seaman's illness which would prevent his taking an active part in the affairs of the meeting.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read by Mr. Schell, Assistant Secretary, and approved by the delegates as read. Also the minutes of the Special Stockholders' Meetings held December 2 and December 16 were read by Mr. Schell and approved as read.

The Credentials Committee was called upon to report but the report was not yet complete however, a quorum was already assured and the meeting was continued.
Mr. Schiefelbusch, Vice Chairman, gave a very interesting talk on some of the major problems that had confronted the Board during the past year and related the action taken by the Board.

Next in order of business was the auditor's report given by Mr. Dunn, of the Kansas Farmers Union Auditing Association. Mr. Dunn explained in detail all phases of the report after which it was moved by Mr. Roescher that the report be adopted as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Erbert. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Eye expressed his gratitude and moved that the meeting extend a vote of appreciation to the Board of Directors and Management for the splendid showing made. Seconded by Mr. Gerstenberger. Carried unanimously.

The By-Laws Committee was called upon to submit its report and Mr. Thowe, Chairman, suggested that Mr. Hegler, Attorney, be permitted to give same. There was no opposition to this suggestion and Mr. Hegler submitted the following report:

Report of Committee on By-Laws.
We, your committee on By-Laws, report as follows:
We recommend the adoption of the amendments to the By-Laws set out in the attached statement, entitled "Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of the Farmers Union Cooperative Produce Association"; and also the re-adoption of those amendments set forth in said statement of proposed amendments which were adopted at the meeting of December 17, 1929.

We also recommend the adoption of the resolution hereto attached ratifying the amendment of the charter of this corporation adopted at the meeting of December 17, 1929 which resolution is hereto attached.
Respectfully submitted,
C. B. Thowe, Chairman.
J. W. Jones
Geo. Frank
Benj. F. Hegler.

(1) BE IT RESOLVED that whereas, the Board of Directors have, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of said directors, approved the following

amendment to the By-laws of this association:

ARTICLE II. Section 1. Certificates of stock shall be of such form and device as the Board of Directors may direct; shall be signed by the President or Vice President, and countersigned by the Secretary; and the certificates of each class of stock shall express on their face the number, date of issuance, and the number of shares; provided, that no stock except preferred stock shall be sold except to producers of poultry, eggs and/or dairy products, and provided further that before the issuance of any certificate of common stock to producers of poultry, eggs and/or dairy products, such producers must have signed, as a condition precedent to the receipt of such certificate of stock, agreements with the association for the sale of all their products to the association, subject to the pre-existing marketing agreements.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said amendment is hereby adopted and the said By-Laws amended accordingly.

It was moved by Mr. Eye that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Laughery. Carried unanimously.

(2) BE IT RESOLVED that whereas, the Board of Directors have, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of said directors, approved the following amendment to the By-Laws of this association:

ARTICLE III. SECTION 8. Every producer upon entering the association shall pay an entrance fee of \$1.00 and shall subscribe and pay for one share of the common capital stock of the association of the par value of \$1.00. (Adopted December 17, 1929.)
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said amendment is hereby adopted and the said By-Laws amended accordingly.

It was moved by Mr. Jones that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Zerbe. Carried unanimously.
(3) BE IT RESOLVED that whereas, the Board of Directors have, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of said directors, approved the following amendment to the By-Laws of this association:

ARTICLE III. SECTION 10. From the association charge provided for in the marketing contract, organization and other association expenses not properly chargeable to marketing costs shall be set up; provision shall be made for the payment of annual dividends not greater than eight per cent of the par value of the outstanding stock of the association, for the retirement of such stock; and all losses resulting from resale shall be met. Any annual surplus from such association charge shall be prorated at the end of each operating year to the members of the association on the basis of their respective deliveries. Said said reserves may not be held by the association for more than five years. The association shall not be required to pay any interest to any member on such member's pro rata share of the reserves during the time the payment of the same to him is withheld by the association.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said amendment is hereby adopted and the said By-Laws amended accordingly.

It was moved by Mr. Tiffany that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Heidecker. Carried unanimously.

(4) BE IT RESOLVED that whereas, the Board of Directors have, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of said directors, approved the following amendment to the By-Laws of this association:

ARTICLE III. SECTION 11. Inasmuch as the remedy at law would be inadequate, and inasmuch as it is now and always will be impracticable and extremely difficult to determine the actual damage resulting to the association should the producer fail to sell and deliver all of his poultry, eggs and/or dairy products under the terms and conditions hereof; therefore, and solely for the reasons set forth herein, the producers, including any persons hereafter becoming producers and acknowledging notice and acceptance of these by-laws, agrees that any share which he may have in the profits of the association or in its reserves and which shall remain undistributed at the time of his breach of the marketing contract, shall be forfeited to the association as liquidated damages for the breach of said contract, all parties agreeing that the marketing contract is one of a series dependent for its true value upon the adherence of each and all of the producers to each and all of the terms and conditions hereof.
(Continued on page Four)

We Believe That the Present Slump in the Wheat Market is a Deliberate Attempt on the Part of the Grain Speculators to Discredit the Farm Board's Plan to Stabilize the Price of Wheat—No One Denies That There Is a Shortage of Wheat

But They Would Like to Have the Farmers Believe That the Agricultural Marketing Act Will Prove a Failure

is is not the first time that they have, by offering untold millions of bushels of wheat for sale when they never owned, driven the price down where it has been ruinous for the farmers of this country. They are offering the best possible argument at the present time in favor of putting them out of business for good; they are driving the nails into their own coffins, and it will only be a short time until we will be able to attend their funerals, and we will not shed any tears either.

The farmers and the cooperative associations should sit tight and not rock the boat; they should support the Federal Farm Board and the National Grain Corporation with every ounce of energy in their power. The buying agents for the Farm Board are buying wheat at the pegged price in every market where they can get storage. We have absolute faith in the Farm Boards power to handle the situation.

THE SAME OLD STORY

When the corn is in the tassel
And the wheat is in the shock,
Then the farmer thinks of paying
Off the note he has in hock;
He has labored long and faithful;
Hardly taking time to eat;
But alas, his hopes are blasted
By the sudden drop in wheat.

He has worried all the season;
He has watched with anxious eye,
For he chinch bug's yearly visit,
For the signs of Hessian fly;
He has paid out hard earned money
For insurance 'gainst the hail;
But he could not stop the gamblers
As they spread the same old tale,—

Too much wheat was raised in Texas,
Russia, Argentine and Rome;
And the reindeer crop in Iceland
Cuts the price of wheat at home;
Liverpool is feeling gloomy;
Germany has beer to sell;
I suppose some time they'll tell us,
"Too much wheat is raised in hell."

So it goes, the same old story,
With the farmer as the goat;
He can only pay his taxes
And the interest on his note.
O, its fun to be a granger
And to till the dusty soil,
But the guys who farm the farmers
Are the ones who get the spoil.
A. M. KINNEY.

THIRD ANNUAL SCHOOL OF MARKETING AT THE KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE MARCH 6 AND 7, 1930

PROGRAM

All sessions held in room 354 of the west wing of the Agricultural Building (Waters Hall)

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Dean L. E. Call, presiding
General Topic: Cooperative Marketing of Grain
Morning session beginning at 10 a. m.
Some Human Aspects of Cooperative Marketing F. D. Farrell
President, Kansas State Agricultural College
Possibilities and Limitations of a Large Scale Cooperative Grain Marketing Association Hutzel Metzger
Division of Cooperative Marketing, Federal Farm Board
The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1929 and the Marketing of Grain Samuel R. McKelvie
Grain Member, Federal Farm Board
Afternoon session beginning at 1:30 p. m.
Public Warehouses in Kansas Scott Bateman
Warehouse Commissioner, Kansas State Grain Inspection Dept.
Progress in Cooperative Grain Marketing Hutzel Metzger
Division of Cooperative Marketing, Federal Farm Board
The Farmers National Grain Corporation C. E. Huff
Vice-president, Farmers Grain Corporation, and National President, Farmers Union

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Dean H. Umberger, presiding
General Topic: Cooperative Marketing of Livestock
Morning session beginning at 10 a. m.
Present Status of Cooperative Marketing in Kansas W. E. Grimes
Department of Agricultural Economics, K. S. A. C.
Methods of Cooperatively Financing Feeding and Marketing of Livestock C. G. Randall
Division of Cooperative Marketing, Federal Farm Board
Afternoon session beginning at 1:30 p. m.
A National Livestock Marketing Program C. G. Randall
Division of Cooperative Marketing, Federal Farm Board
Plans for Coordinating the Cooperative Marketing of Livestock in Terminal Markets Dr. O. O. Wolf
Member of Committee of Terminal Livestock Cooperatives to prepare a plan
All sessions held in room 354 of the west wing of the Agricultural Building
Division of Cooperative Marketing, Federal Farm Board

O'SHEA MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK

Feb. 27—Thursday P. M.—Axtell opera house 1:30
Thursday Eve—Barn.

Feb. 28—Friday P. M.—Hiawatha Court House 1:30
Friday Eve—Huron Hall 7:30.

Mar. 1—Saturday P. M.—Manhattan Community Hall 2:00.

Saturday Eve—Junction City Court House 7:30.

These are all open meetings

THE O'SHEA MEETINGS

It was my good fortune to accompany Jimmie O'Shea to four meetings, held Friday and Saturday of last week. Meetings were held at Hays, Ellsworth, Osborne and Beloit. Good crowds were in evidence at all meetings. It was my first opportunity to meet these groups and I was pleased to address the audiences briefly in advance of National Secretary O'Shea.

Kansas is exceedingly fortunate in having the advantage and services of Secretary O'Shea for a whole month. The weather and road conditions, with few exceptions, have been good and large crowds and keen interest has been in evidence at all places. Secretary O'Shea is recognized as one of the outstanding farm leaders of the country.

He appeals to people because of the fact that he is a real farmer himself and operates a large ranch in Montana. His keen sense of knowledge with reference to agricultural matters and his Irish wit and humor interests his hearers. His addresses are very practical and are of the type that meets the approval of the average thinking farmer over the country. One can readily understand by associating with him that he is in sympathy with the masses of common folks of this country and is giving his life and energy in their behalf for the betterment of living conditions and farm life. In all of his addresses there seems to be that which establishes confidence and one can know this is necessary to accomplish the very good results.

We find our folks are keenly interested in the Farmers Union program. I am convinced that the thing most necessary at the present time is forming a closer contact with our various groups reaching out through the locals to the men and women on the farms. It is going to be the policy of our executives to apply our program especially along the above lines referred to. We are desirous of your suggestions with reference to accomplishing the best and most effective results.
C. A. Ward.

OIL AND GAS PROGRAM

One of the main features of the aggressive programs of the Farmers Union for this year, is the organization of Farmers Union Oil and Gas Companies. This program has developed during recent weeks until it has swept from one end of the state to the other. The oil program is being developed jointly by the State Union Jobbing Association, and other state wide activities, in co-operation with the Farmers Union and local members.

The big reason for the rapidly increasing interest in this movement is the fact a number of Farmers' Union Companies are now handling petroleum products in carload lots. Without exception they are making remarkable progress and savings for their members.

We recently published a financial statement of the Farmers Union Cooperative Oil company at McPherson, Kansas. The company at McPherson has only \$2,125.00 capital, for the first nine months of 1929 and they show a profit of \$7,431.74. Wherever there is a Farmers Union Oil and Gas company there is also a record of successful achievement.

A large number of Farmers' Union Companies have during the past three weeks arranged to put in bulk stations, among these is Grainfield, which is one of the outstanding successful Farmers Union Companies. Last year they paid a refund of 7c per bushel on wheat and 4c per bushel on corn. Some of the Farmers' Union members recently received from this company refunds amounting to as much as \$1,000. The Osborne County Farmers' Union at Osborne, Kansas is planning to put in a bulk station. This company has 1,100 stock holders and owns seven elevators. It is in a splendid position to successfully operate a bulk station.

The Farmers Union at Schroyer has ordered their bulk station equipment and they expect to be operating very soon. This company is close to Herkimer where they started a bulk station a year ago. The first six months they operated they made enough profit to pay for their entire equipment. Each of the above bulk stations are being installed in connection with Farmers' Union companies.

At Ottawa a new Farmers' Union Oil company has been organized, this new company is starting out with 342 share holders and each one of them is a Farmers' Union member. The organization of the new oil company has helped in materially increasing the membership in that county. Mr. C. E. Steele is president of the company and Mr. Ben Nelson is secretary. The Ottawa company have placed their order for the equipment and expect to be operating very soon.

At Conway Springs another Farmers Union Company has been organized. A splendid bunch of Farmers Union men have developed this com-

NEW INSURANCE AGENT AT WOODBINE

Herman Brehm of Woodbine who is a director of the Farmers Elevator at that place is now the agent for the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Co. We wish Mr. Brehm great success in his new venture.

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

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A. M. Kinney Editor and Manager
Subscription Price, Per Year.....\$1.00

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

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.

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1930



A TRIBUTE

Washington, D. C., February 15, 1930.

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

Brother Kinney:

Please convey to the family of Brother Brasted and to the brethren of Kansas my deep sorrow in the loss of our departed brother. It was a distress to me, that on account of family illness, I was unable to be present at the funeral.

One of the greatest privileges of my life was the long acquaintance and friendship with Brother Brasted. He was a loyal soul. His heart was tuned with sympathy and devotion. His courage never faltered. Those who enjoyed his friendship were privileged and blessed beyond expression.

In my many years of labor in the Farmers Union, Brother Brasted stands out among the best for his dependability, devotion, wisdom of council, vision and honesty in service. I do not believe Brother Brasted was capable of a selfish thought. Unquestionably the hardships endured and the strenuous labors in his work over a long period of years contributed to his failing health and final passing. With vision and foresight, he worked tirelessly for the long objective ahead and the imprint of his efforts will mark achievements of our organization for all time both in his own state and the national field.

A noble laborer has been called to rest. Those of us left behind, to properly express our love and devotion, can do so best by showing continued and greater efforts in the cause for which he gave so much. He leaves us with a great opportunity and a greater responsibility.

Fraternally,
CHARLES S. BARRETT.

WHAT DOES JONAS WANT FROM THE FARMER NOW?

Hon. Jonas Slickery, M. C.,
And Candidate for U. S. Senator,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jonas:

I picked up a grain trade paper the other day, and noticed you were quoted as saying, "The grain men need not be unduly alarmed over the present situation in the grain trade, created by the Federal Farm Board, as in your opinion, there was no intention on the part of Congress in passing the Agricultural Marketing Act, to destroy the present efficient system of grain marketing." You also said, "The power still rests with Congress to correct any evils arising from the administering of this Act."

I believe Jonas, that this is the first time in your long career as a corporation attorney and politician, that you have let your personal feeling and conviction get the better of your political judgment in making a statement on a question of so vital an interest to the farmers of this country, as this Agricultural Marketing Act.

I am certainly surprised at you Jonas; here you are a candidate for the United States Senate, from an agricultural state with from three to four hundred thousand farmer votes, and yet in a public statement you seem-

The President's Column

C. A. WARD

KANSAS FARMERS SHOWING A KEEN INTEREST IN ORGANIZATION AND CO-OPERATION

Apparently the spirit of organization and co-operation is becoming more and more attractive to the Farmers of this country. From every available source, and from the most remote sections of the country comes the call for assistance, in building up new existing locals, and the organization of new ones. Back of every great movement there is always a fundamental reason that serves as a starting point. It is a generally recognized fact that all classes of business and industry, along with its farms of the country agree that agriculture lacks a lot of being on an equality with industry, and hence there is a "Farm Problem".

These days we hear a lot of comment from business men, relative to agriculture, as it affects the economic conditions of the country, but this one thing is true: There can be no enduring permanency and prosperity in business circles unless there is a "Prosperous Agriculture".

Any business men who consistently whines and finds fault, because the farmers are organizing, and standing back of, and supporting the only government agriculture measure we have ever had, are most certainly standing in their own light. But worst of all I find there are still a few of our farmers themselves who are hurling attacks at the Farm Board in their attempt to give us some relief, however I am happy to say that this group is comparatively small compared with the large group who are squarely back of the Board and are assisting in every conceivable way to make the whole program a success.

This is the opportunity for the farmers of this country to show "their hand". The Farm Board is urging these farmers to organize in order to get the benefits of the marketing aid and unless we get on the job, and get busy, the old line business concerns whose slaves we have been for many generations will win the day, and the farmers of this country will forever be under their clutches and they will rule with an iron hand.

Every farmers union member should strive hard to get at least one of his neighbors to join the Farmers Union. You out at the cross roads, in the country locals can help a lot. We, your leaders are doing what we can to help and wherever we go, we are getting a fine response. We will never be satisfied until we have told the story in every nook and corner of the state and built our membership up to more nearly where it belongs. We are filling the calls as rapidly as we can and I might add that beginning in a few days we will have the help of a couple of our good loyal men of this state to do organization work. You will know of them later as I see it, the future of the Farmers Union in Kansas will depend very much on our loyalty, and the well organized work we put in the next couple of years, because this is a day of organization and unless we take advantage of it, we will be forever defeated and our enemies, old line business, money holders and big chain corporations of various types and kinds will step in and take the field in that event and one can easily guess what will be the result in a few years or at least a generation or two.

Will you keep your locals alive by having meetings regularly, and will you help educate us put in the next where they see, in the Farmers Union more than just the dollars and cents they get and the rebate from the business associations? We are specializing in organization this year so send in your suggestions and we will do our best to meet you more than half way and really put the Farmers Union on the map in a more definite way.

ingly ally yourself with a group of grain traders and gamblers who at the most, can only control a few thousand votes.

I have no doubt but what it was the intention of the House of Representatives of which you are a member, to pass an agricultural bill which would not have interfered with the organized grain gamblers of this country; and therefore of no benefit to the farmers; but when your bill got over to the Senate, there was a baldheaded guy representing the organized farmers, who succeeded in having an amendment placed in the Bill. This amendment, known as the "Huff" amendment, is a real "Nigger in the woodpile" to the organized grain trade. I think that the "Wild Jackasses" in the Senate, when they insisted upon the "Huff" amendment going into the Agricultural Marketing Act, slipped one over on you wise guys in the House, after you had so carefully drawn the Marketing Act in such manner that it would have been suicide for any cooperative organization to have tried to function under it. Then again, Mr. Hoover's good judgment in selecting Alexander Legge as Chairman of the Federal Farm Board, was a blow that killed papa again for the organized gamblers and grafters, who have been living off the producers ever since Heck was a pup. The lemon which you smart guys intended to hand out to the farmers, proved to be a golden delicious apple.

But what I started out to tell you was, you may find that this interview from which I have quoted, may prove embarrassing to you when you are out in your campaign over your state asking the farmers to elect you to the United States Senate because of your professed friendship for them. Our friendship for the farmers which you so loudly proclaim, puts me in mind of an incident that happened back in our school days in the sand hills. We had arrived at the age when we began to have serious attacks of puppy love for the girls: I had taken Kitty Ryan home from church a few times, and was beginning to have quite a crush on her, and seemed to be pretty solid with her in spite of the fact that you had tried to cut me out; Well, there was to be a meeting of the literary society, and Kitty had promised to go with me; a short time before I was ready to start, you came over to our house, and gave me a big black cigar and dared me to smoke it; you remember what happened, in about twenty minutes I was so sick I forgot all about Kitty and the literary society; you went over and told her what had happened to me, and she went to the meeting with you. That particular case of puppy love was cured, of course, and I do not like cigars to this day. When you profess such great love for the farmers, Jonas, I am very suspicious, for I know you are figuring on taking something away from them.

Your old schoolmate,

A. M. KINNEY.

SPECIAL SESSION

Governor Clyde Reed has called a special session of the legislature to take up the question of tax reform. We believe the Governor is in earnest in his effort to have some of the load of taxes lifted from the farmers of the state and placed where it will not be a burden. We hope every friend of the farmers in the legislature will rally to the support of the Governor. We shall have a representative of our organization in Topeka during the session, and the members of the legislature who join with the reactionaries in blocking legislation relieving the farmers of part of their tax burden, will be tagged for future reference. This organization is not in politics as such, but in the future, we shall endeavor to remember both our friends and our enemies.

O'SHEA THE SPEAKER

There was a considerable attendance of farmers yesterday at a public address by James O'Shea, national secretary of the Farmers Union, who spoke at the Lyric theatre under the auspices of his organization and in opposition to the federal plan of farm relief. The national organization of the Farmers Union is opposed to the federal plan for the reason that they do not believe it will result in any particularly effective relief, and it presents the spectacle of unfair competition and that the already existing agencies are sufficient, if enlarged to handle the situation. The president of the Farmers Union, Mr. Huff, is also a member of the National Grain Corporation and is of the opinion that if the Farmers Union wishes federal money it is entitled to it without going through the medium of the regional sales agency.—Colby Free Press-Tribune.

The Editor,
Colby Free Press-Tribune,
Colby, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

In your paper of February 20th there appears a notice of a public address by James J. O'Shea, National Secretary of the Farmers Union. This notice is misleading and untruthful in saying that Mr. O'Shea "opposed the Federal plan of farm relief."

You also say "The National Farmers Union is opposed to the federal plan for the reason that they do not believe it will result in any particularly effective relief." This statement is not true, as the National Farmers Union and the different state Farmers Union organizations are working in perfect harmony with the Federal Farm Board and the Farmers National Grain Corporation.

I am enclosing some clippings from the Kansas Union Farmer setting out our position on these matters. I hope you will give us the same fair publicity as you did this unfair notice.

I do not believe it was your intention to be unfair in this matter, but you should have informed yourself of the facts.

Yours truly,
A. M. KINNEY, Secretary.

BIG FARMERS UNION MEETING

Last Saturday, the 8th inst., J. J. O'Shea, secretary of the National Farmers Union, addressed about 250 members of the organization, and others, in the courtroom, Paola, Kansas. There was a good representation from the different local unions. President S. J. Lohr of the county organization here, presided. The meeting was called for 1:30, an hour earlier than Mr. O'Shea had understood the speaking hour to be, so, in order to fill in until the regular speaker arrived, Mr. Sheridon, a member of the Vickers local branch, talked a few minutes, urging the Farmers Union everywhere to uphold, defend and support the Federal Farm Board in the exciting and important work it has in hand.

Secretary O'Shea was introduced by President Lohr, and for 2 hours reviewed the general progress and scope of operation of the Farmers Union throughout the Northwest. He particularly stressed the fact that if the Federal Farm Board failed, and he believed it would not fail, still the Farmers Union was based on the principles, and it had developed the strength of co-operative marketing; and no other organization had gone to bed-rock in building the foundation, and that every state of the Nation had a part in the work; that farmers only got their just dues by systematic organization, and loyally sticking to the principles; that the fairness of transportation rates, the privies of every kind of food, and the handling of the surplus of some years, along with the shortages of other years, were problems that had already been worked out by the men and women who for 18 years had been building up cooperative elevators, jobbing houses, sales companies and the like.

Mr. O'Shea makes no attempt at fine speaking, but deals in common language, mixing in now and then a little slang that carries the point. He aims to emphasize. He was born in Ireland, and has lived for 40 years in Montana, where with his own work with the help of his wife and seven children, he owns, free from debt, a wheat and live stock ranch of 2400 acres. He lives on it, has faith in the ground, believes in farmers, and has

DON'T
When your local is on the bum
Blame the secretary.
When the members will not come
Blame the secretary.
Don't take hold and do your part.
Show them all that you are smart.
Just blame the secretary.

When the programs are a frost
Blame the secretary.
Don't help put the thing across
Blame the secretary.
When the grub's not what you like
Threaten to go on a strike.
Don't help for the low of Mike
But blame the secretary.

When you get a bill for dues
Blame the secretary.
When you're asked to help, refuse
And blame the secretary.
Why should he be asking aid?
For you know he is well paid.
That is why his job is made
So blame the secretary.
—Mrs. W. A. Young, Arkansas City.

The one great enemy of young timber and desirable volunteer grasses which arrest erosion—is fire.

Would you swap top soil for sub-soil?

Federal Farm Board News

Importance of improving the quality of American grown cotton is stressed in a letter to Mr. Carl Williams, member, Federal Farm Board, has just written to Representative Charles H. Brand of Georgia, in response to an inquiry by Mr. Brand as to what varieties of cottonseed should be planted in the South. The text of Mr. Williams' letter follows: "I appreciate your inquiry concerning the types of cottonseed which should be planted in the South. The Federal Farm Board has recommended no specific varieties of seed because there are so many satisfactory varieties each suited to a particular climate or soil condition. We have 3,000,000 bales, much of it a quality comparable or superior to American staple and much of it offered on the markets of the world at cheaper prices than American growths. Foreign spinners have learned to use these cheaper foreign growths.

"It would appear that the United States is past the danger line on the quality of its cotton and is also past the danger line on its acreage. A yield equal to that of 1926 on the acreage of 1929 would have meant 18,000,000 bales of cotton. A yield equal to that of 1924 on the acreage of 1929 would have meant 22,000,000 bales of cotton. If Southern farmers are to get anywhere near cost of production, plus a profit, and if the Federal Farm Board, regardless of its good intentions, can fully help them, it would seem to be necessary that the quality of cotton production should go up and the quantity should come down."

In a radio talk today (1:15 p. m., Friday, February 14, 1930, station WRC, Washington, D. C.), Mr. Carl Williams, member, Federal Farm Board, had the following to say in regard to the desirability of cotton acreage reduction: "The recent weakness in cotton prices should be taken as a sharp warning to cotton growers. That weakness rests on two things—a low current rate of cotton consumption and trade anticipation of a larger crop in 1930. Cotton growers cannot do anything about this year's cotton consumption, but they can do a great deal about the crop of 1930. If they want a better price in 1930, it is not too late to plan to get it. They can get it by cutting down the acreage.

"On 48,730,000 acres in 1926 there were produced 18,000,000 bales of cotton that brought the growers less than \$1,000,000,000. The following year, a crop of 18,000,000 bales was produced on 41,905,000 acres and was sold for \$1,300,000,000; that is, the acreage of 1927 was reduced 6,825,000 acres below that of 1926, but the crop raised thereon sold for \$300,000,000 more. This is not ancient history, it is history only two or three years old. "In 1928 and again in 1929 cotton growers increased their plantings substantially above those of 1927. The crops were larger and prices have been lower. This year's crop of 14,900,000 bales is bringing less money than the 1927 crop of 13,000,000 bales, although world stocks are lower. This policy does not pay. A cotton acreage of 40,000,000 acres, whatever the yield per acre, can be counted

on to bring considerably more income than an acreage of 47,000,000 or 49,000,000 acres.

"World consumption of American cotton in 1926-27 was 15,800,000 bales—a very high figure. Why? American cotton growers produced 18,000,000 bales and had to sell it for much less than it cost to produce it. Low prices always increase consumption. World consumption in 1928 was still high, 15,400,000 bales, because the textile industry had heavy stocks of low priced cotton to draw on. World consumption declined still further in 1928-29, has been less than for this year than it was in the same period last year, and may be still declining. World stocks of cotton are not excessive. Domestic and foreign demand are likely to be somewhat stronger next year than this year. If the United States produces in 1930 a crop of 13,000,000 bales or less, growers may expect considerably better prices and larger incomes next year than they got last year.

"The Federal Farm Board cannot fix the world price of cotton. It cannot fully protect farmers from the consequences of over-planting, neither can the cotton cooperatives nor the new American Cotton Cooperative Association. The Board wants to help farmers to help themselves. If growers will reduce their cotton acreage, they will thereby help themselves to better incomes. The interests of the entire nation are involved in this problem. The earnest cooperation of every farmer, merchant, banker, newspaper, educational institution, and every public spirited citizen of the South is invited to make effective this plain lesson of recent years."

The Federal Farm Board announced today that the Wheat Advisory Committee had recommended to the Board that it recognize the Grain Stabilization Corporation, a non-stock corporation organized by grain cooperatives, as a wheat stabilization corporation under the terms of the Agricultural Marketing Act and that a loan be granted to this corporation sufficient to carry on its initial operations.

The Grain Stabilization Corporation is composed solely of the Capital per-Volstead grain cooperatives and its membership is open to all such cooperatives. The various members have waived all rights or claims to any profits which may accrue from its operations, to the end that all profits or losses will fall upon the revolving fund provided in the Agricultural Marketing Act.

This is simply another step in the program of the grain cooperatives and the Farm Board for a unified national system for marketing grain and has been under consideration by the Board for several months. The Board, after careful study, is prepared to recognize this organization, set up by the grain cooperatives, as a wheat stabilization corporation under the terms of the Agricultural Marketing Act.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Wheat Advisory Committee, the Board will provide an initial credit of \$10,000,000 to the corporation.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

STAFFORD COUNTY FARMERS UNION MEETING

Farmers Union Met Feb. 14 (By Club Reporter)
February 14 with about 150 present. The meeting was called to order by the president, and the group joined in singing "America".

The report of the county meeting at St. John was given by Mrs. Harve Crawford and Mrs. W. T. Buckle. It was decided to have a program in the future at the first part of our meetings and have the business session later. At this time we were requested to vote upon the proposed amendment to the constitution and by-laws of the National Farmers Union. The amendment was presented and explained by W. T. Buckle, after which it was voted upon and carried.

The new officers had previously made out a program of standing committees for the year. Each committee is to have charge of the program and refreshments for both meetings of one month during the coming year. The program and refreshment committee for this night was Harve Crawford, W. T. Buckle, Ed Gerdes, M. C. McCune, Earl Winick, John McClure, H. H. McCandless, and their wives. The program consisted of a paper by Mrs. Harve Crawford, being "America First." Mrs. Harve Crawford also gave another paper, entitled "Going South with the Birds", which was written by Mrs. Perry Crawford. Group singing followed. Next came the North Star local news, a recent paper of the local edited and read by the editor, Mrs. Crawford, which was a combination of news, actual happenings to local members, jokes and poetry, and was enjoyed very much.

At our meeting there will be a question box, so be sure to have your questions ready as someone will try to answer them for you. A discussion of both the farm board, the national grain corporation, and the reading of some of the constitution and by-laws by Mr. Harve Crawford followed. Others who talked on this topic were: E. C. Winkchester, J. E. Guyer, and W. T. Buckle.

Also, there were a few remarks upon the subject by visitors from Rose Valley local. Mr. Harrison, whom we were glad to have with us, made a few remarks.

The union has been making a drive for new members and renewals of old members. In former years annual rabbit hunts have been held for paid up members. The hunt has been discontinued, and this year the drive was under the leadership of two captains, Homer Fortner and Chas. Kirkpatrick. Cecil Cline and Joe Dale acted as inspectors of the captains' reports. Mr. Kirkpatrick with 36 renewals and 2

new members, won over Mr. Fortner's 28 renewals. This brings the total membership to 73 members in good standing.

There will be a celebration at the next meeting, February 28, when the losing side will entertain the winners. Refreshments were served in the basement after the business and the program, and a pleasant social time was enjoyed. We expect to see a large crowd present at the next meeting of February 28, the meeting to start at 8 o'clock.

—Stafford Courier.

Parker, Kans., Feb. 16, 1930.

A. M. Kinney,
Salina, Kans.

Dear Bro. Kinney:
I expect you think we are slow about saying anything about our Parker meeting with O'Shea. Well, we are, but from the report of Mr. Neely you have plenty to do and so have not missed my note yet.

I am sending you a clipping from the Parker Message that tells of our meeting as well or better than I can tell you, only the editor calls me chairman of Linn County Union. F. C. Gerstenberger of Blue Mound is President and I only acted in his absence. I still hold the secretary-treasurer job which you know gives one something to think of in spare time. Will say we did not have as many non-union people out as we should have but it was well advertised.

Many of the side roads were in very bad condition and kept many at home who wanted to hear Mr. O'Shea. Hoping you are having good meetings this week, we are,
Yours respectfully,
V. F. CARRICO.

The boys said there was no charges that night. If there is, please send me your bill.

JIMMIE O'SHEA
CONVINCES FARMERS

With an accent unquestionably Irish Jimmie O'Shea of Montana aroused the enthusiasm of the audience of over 800 people at the Parker High School Auditorium Saturday night.

Vernor F. Carrico, secretary-treasurer of the Linn County Farmer's Union, presided at the meeting, introducing O'Shea after a short talk of his own. The program began with the singing of the hymn, "America," followed by a prayer by Ed Redding and an address of welcome by R. J. Tyson.

O'Shea talked on the farmer's problems almost exclusively relating the many phases which enter into a farm-

ers financial program. He spoke some length on cooperative marketing and the raising of better live stock and utilization of better methods of farming.

Among the witty things he said was that a farmer is something like a banana and is likely to get skinned as soon as he leaves the bunch. O'Shea was applauded repeatedly in his declaration that the middleman had no right to take so much profit that rightfully belonged to the farmer and the consumer. He quoted figures showing the profits the farmer is losing each year.

Many men attended this meeting and prominent members of the Farmers Union from all over Linn county came to this meeting. Linn county is fortunate to have heard O'Shea.—Parker Message.

TEMPLIN LOCAL 1891

Regular meeting was held February 14th. Mildred Thoes was 1st from the Union Song Books opened our meeting. After the regular meeting procedure the local voted to give Mrs. L. H. Johnson, who is ill, a card shower.

The two referendums were discussed and voted upon. Miss Mildred Thoes was appointed pianist for the ensuing year and G. H. Johnson as song leader.

A committee of men will serve and entertain at our next meeting with Mr. Ed Bock as chairman. The committee with Miss Mildred Thoes as chairman entertained with a musical program as follows: "My Wild Irish Rose" "Mah Lindy Lou" "Tip Toe Thru the Tulips" "Loraine and Hazel Kietzman" "If Only Dreams Come True" Mrs. G. H. Johnson, Reporter.

The Templin Local enjoyed a most delightful time Wednesday evening, Feb. 12 when they gave a farewell party in honor of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Eissler and family.

The Eissler family are staunch members of the local and will be greatly missed when they leave for their new home.

The evening was spent by playing games suitable for St. Valentine's day. Refreshments consisting of sandwiches, cookies, fruit salad with whipped cream and coffee were served.

The large crowd present bespoke of the high esteem of which the Eissler family are held. At a late hour all departed wishing them happiness in their new home.

O'Shea talked on the farmer's problems almost exclusively relating the many phases which enter into a farm-

Mrs. G. H. Johnson, Reporter.

(continued on page 3)

