Extension Ladies Organize Too
—See Page 5

Kansas Union Farmer

Organization ▲ Education ▲ Co-operation

VOL. 37 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1944 NO. 21

KFU Upheld By National FU Program

By Benton J. Stong, Editor
National Union Farmer

DENVER, COLO.—The Kansas Farmers Union program for 1945 was completely sustained and its objectives incorporated into the National Farmers Union program at the NFU convention held in Denver Nov. 20-22.

President E. K. Dean served as a member of the 1945 program committee for the National Farmers Union and assisted in shaping the basic principles for action in the year ahead.

In addition to Mr. Dean, Kansans present at the national convention included:

Harry Witham, general manager of FUJA.

John Vesecky, former National president, now with the jobbing association.

Esther Ekblad Voorhies, director of Education.

Margaret Moore, secretary to Mr. Dean.

Pat Nash, delegate and general manager of the Ellsworth county Farmers Co-operative Union.

Joe Erwin, a director of FUJA.

Norman Flora, former vice-president of KFU.

Ralph Schustrom.

Regina Lenherr.

Mary Pat Immenschu.

The latter two are Kansas Torchbearers, who received their Torchbearer awards from National President James G. Patton at the convention.

The 1945 program of the National Farmers Union will be reprinted in full in the National Union Farmer.

Outstanding in the national objectives is a new pricing formula, intended to assure family farmers a better living. The program proposes that the work of farmers, and members of their family, be included in any pricing system at 60 cents per hour, minimum, and that commercial farms be required to pay the same wage to their workers so there will be no unfair competition between the family farmer and the commercial farmer.

Development of our river resources on the pattern of the TVA was approved unanimously and the national and international proposals of KFU were written into the NFU program without any change in meaning.

The growth of the Kansas Farmers Union was hailed at the national convention by many delegates. Kansas was among four states given special recognition for splendid development in the reports of the national officers.

How TVA Aids Business

From an address by Senator Lister Hill of Alabama in the U. S. Senate:

"We talk of private enterprise, but let me say that the greatest thing which has ever come to the section of the South in which I live, has been the TVA. One of the greatest things TVA has done for that area, has been to encourage and help the building of private enterprise.

"In that great section of our country, we have more private enterprise and private business operating on a stable, sound and prosperous basis than we ever had before. It is because of the advent of the TVA."

Family Farming Key to Future, Secretary Says

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard discussed the future of family-type farming in an address before the National Farmers Union convention which we reprint in full:

"The ideal of the independent farm family, busy and secure on its own land, is embedded in the very foundation of our American way of life. Unless that way of life changes completely, the family farm must remain one of its chief foundation stones.

"As you know, I agree wholeheartedly with many of the principles and programs of the National Farmers' Union. But none of your principles is more important than your consistent championship of the family-sized farm.

"Today I want to talk with you about the future of the family-sized farm—about the place for that kind of farming in the postwar agriculture of this country. First we shall need to look ahead as well as we can to what the postwar world will be like; and second, we should consider how well the smaller farms fit into the picture, and what we can do to make them fit even better.

No Coasting

"Right at the start, I want to say something I have said many times before: The chief responsibility of every patriotic American still is to do everything in his power to help bring complete victory just as soon as possible. So when I talk about planning for the future that will come after the war, I am not implying in any way that farmers or any other group can begin to coast toward victory.

"Nevertheless, we must begin now to look ahead to the time after the war. This would not be true if the postwar world were something distinct from our present wartime world—if it were going to dawn suddenly like a clear new morning, with all the people and nations of the world able to start out afresh and rebuild everything just as they would like it to be.

"Instead, the first day of the postwar period will be just another day bringing with it the heavy accumulation of commitments, habits, problems and prejudices that every other day brings.

"The postwar period is not just a subject for hope and for model blueprints; it is something we are building now. The main outlines of the picture already are drawn. Chief among them is the trend toward more abundant and more efficient farm production.

Fine Record

"Nineteen forty-four is the eighth year in a row that farmers have set a new high record for food production. Overcoming scarcities of skilled labor and machinery and materials, farmers are turning out over a third more food than the average for the five years before the war. It is truly a wonderful achievement—one for farm people and the whole nation to be proud of. But when we look back across the years, we can see clearly that all this abundance of food and other farm products is far more than a temporary by-product of war. The first of the present

(Continued on Page 3)

Co-operators At Work



One of the most successful Farmers Union co-operatives in Kansas is the Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union, which saved its members more than $30,000 during the past year. Shown above are the members of the Board of Directors, giving a practical demonstration of co-operation and preparing the meat for the barbecue held in connection with the 30th annual shareholders meeting. Members filed through the produce station for more than an hour and a half, filling their plates with barbecued beef and baked beans.

National Opposes Shotgun Plan for Missouri Valley

The hurried combination of plans for development of the Missouri River by Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Engineers has been described as a "shotgun wedding" in a National Farmers Union statement criticizing Reclamation's acceptance of portions of the Army plan.

President James G. Patton of NFU said:

"State Farmers Union conventions have shown that our organization, clear down to the grass roots, sees through the Reclamation-Army Engineer's shameful, loveless, shotgun wedding.

BACK MVA

"They have, without exception, endorsed the position of the National Farmers Union in favor of a Missouri Valley Authority. This includes Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas in the valley, where the Farmers Union is the leading farm organization. The principle of TVA has been endorsed for all the river valleys of the nation by every Farmers Union convention in the nation to date.

"The shamefulness of the shotgun marriage of the Bureau of Reclamation and Army Engineers, creating a Siamese-twin arrangement for irrigation, flood control and navigation (only a part of the river's potential benefits which an MVA could develop) is perhaps best illustrated by the compromise on the proposed Gavin's Point dam in South Dakota and Garrison dam in North Dakota.

CRITICIZED ARMY

"Last June 8, W. Glenn Sloan, assistant regional director of the Reclamation Service at Billings, testified for his service before a Senate Commerce sub-committee holding hearings on H.R. 4485, concerning the $15,000,000 Gavin's Point dam, as follows:

" 'We think the Gavin's Point dam is unnecessary . . . it is very expensive for the benefits to be derived . . . as a power proposition the cost per kilowatt hour is some 30 to 40 times the cost of any other dam . . . as a regulator its capacity is so small that all it does is to regulate daily flows and no seasonal flows. . . . It has no flood control value and practically no value to navigation . . . We recommend the elimination.'

"Concerning the $130,000,000 Garrison dam, this same engineer testified:

" ' . . . . it is unnecessary . . . . not worth the expenditure . . . . floods can be adequately controlled without it . . . . floods out 50,000 acres of irrigable land, including 20,000 acres in an irrigation project just completed at a cost well over $1,000,000.00

NOW OKAY

"In face of this testimony against the two dams, which have a total estimated cost of $145,000,000, the Bureau of Reclamation stands today as co-sponsors with their shotgun marriage mate, the Army Engineers, of a plan which includes these two dams.

"This little view into what the bride thought of the groom and his intelligence just five short months ago, when our campaign for a Missouri Valley Authority was just starting, would be the most colossal laugh of the year if it were not so enormously expensive to the taxpayers of America, and

(Continued on Page 4)

Ellsworth Co-op Ends 30th Year With Barbecue

Savings Last Year More Than $30,000; Groups Support F. U.

Several hundred patrons of the Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union took over the city of Ellsworth, Kan., recently and celebrated their 30th year of successful operation with a barbecue and shareholders meeting.

The organization, one of the most successful co-operatives in the state, ended its last fiscal year on May 31 with $30,096 in savings.

The group operates an elevator at Kannapolis, Kan., and an elevator and feed mill, grocery store, filling station, bulk oil plant and cream and produce station in Ellsworth.

Pat (P. J.) Nash is general manager.

Officers and members of the board helped prepare the barbecue and entertain the crowd which assembled to hear reports and elect officers for the coming year.

The cream station was started a little less than two years ago and has proven to be a very successful department. All cream goes to the Farmers Union creamery at Superior, Neb. Through the Farmers Union Creamery at Superior the organization received $1,100 patronage refund the first year they operated and a little over $2,000 for the past year's operation. In addition to the patronage refunds from the Superior Creamery, the cream and produce station has made substantial savings in operations locally and is proving to be a real service to Ellsworth County Farmers Union members.

The Ellsworth County organization not only has the Farmers Union membership requirement in its by-laws, but it also pays a portion of its net savings each year to the state Farmers Union in educational funds. This was started three years ago following the state convention at Lindsborg. In 1942 the organization paid educational funds of a little over $400 and in 1943 over $500. In 1944 they paid just a little less than $400.

The organization is making plans now for further expansion in existing services and also expanding into the fields of new services as quickly as possible. Some of the new services under discussion at this year's annual meeting was a feed plant, and a cold storage locker plant, combined with slaughtering service.

Juniors Give Elbow Program

It surely must have been an interesting meeting that Mrs. Joy Hammett of the Elbow Local, Pottawatomie county, writes about: "We had our regular meeting last night (October) with Juniors and Reserves putting on the entire program. Wish you could have been there—it was really fine with displays, reports on year's work, bulletin boards, etc., and I could see it gave renewed pep to even our small group."

The Elbow Local Reserve study unit for the year has been "Everyday Insects." Many fine collections have been made by the boys and girls.

Seed Service Can Help Build New Farmers Union Co-ops

Dean Reports On Development Of State Service

The Kansas Farmers Union seed corn program has provided a mechanism through which new Farmers Union co-operatives can be started, President E. K. Dean said in his report to the state convention on the Central Co-operative.

President Dean's report, reviewed in the last issue of KUF, follows:

Change Nature

"In setting up the Service Company to handle the insurance agency, it was organized as an old-line corporation. This was done because the insurance department in the State of Kansas would not permit patronage refunds to patrons on their insurance commissions. This is termed by the state insurance commission to be rebating and is prohibited. Therefore, there would have been no advantage in having the Service Company set up as a co-operative. It was the intention of the Board that the savings of the Service Company on the insurance program would divert to the use of the state organization for educational and organization work.

"While the officers and board of directors of the Kansas Farmers Union were, at the time they organized the Farmers Union Service Company, looking for some mechanism through which they could launch an organization and co-operative program, they didn't realize, I am sure, that the meager beginning of the Farmers Union Service Company would, in so short a time, provide the program they were looking for.

"As I gave the possibilities and need for the program more thought, I was inclined to believe that it should be developed in some manner. I took the seed program up with Mr. Witham and suggested that the Farmers Union Jobbing Association undertake the development of it. Mr. Witham felt it should be developed but he didn't feel the Farmers Union Jobbing Association would want to undertake it. He advised me he had previously given the seed business some thought, but felt it was too hazardous to undertake. I shared Mr. Witham's opinion in that respect as I had seen a lot of people go broke in the seed business. In talking to Mr. Witham, I asked him if he had any objections to the State Farmers Union developing a seed business, beginning with the production of hybrid seed corn, if we decided we could find some way to handle it. Mr. Witham, of course, had no objections to our doing so, as he recognized the fact there was a real need for it.

"We planted 250 acres of corn that spring, but unfortunately lost a little over 60 acres through high water. We finished the year with 185 acres of corn which returned us approximately 4,000 bushels of corn as graded seed for sale. All of this seed was readily sold and before the 1944 planting season had hardly started, we were completely out of flat kernel seed.

Plant 200 Acres

"By this time we had become a great deal better acquainted with seed corn production and its possibilities. We decided to plant this last spring 700 acres of corn. This was carried out and we have a wonderful crop. Some of this corn will average 80 bushels or better to the acre and we anticipate we will have in the neighborhood of 25,000 bushels of seed for sale.

"The seed program through farmer salesmen in communities where there are no co-operatives in existence, provides a splendid foundation for our organizing Farmers Union locals, through which can and should develop a lot of interest among local people in our co-operatives.

"The Central Co-operative has developed in such a manner that the members of a Farmers Union local organized through the seed program can, through the Central Co-operative, easily avail themselves of local co-operative exchanges.

"Throughout the state of Kansas, there are hundreds of communities where there are no local co-operative facailities available to the farm people of the community. The Farmers Union has long recognized the need for developing co-operatives in these communities and has been looking for some method through which they could develop both the Farmers Union and the co-operatives at the same time, thus better insuring the success of the local co-operatives developed.

Self-Financed

"The Central Co-operative has been very unique in its beginning as no one was asked to put any finances into it until it had proven to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors that it could be made succesful. While there has been many times during the past two years when we could have used to a good advantage the capital we might have been able to get individuals and co-operatives to invest, we did not start out to raise funds as we had not yet been convinced the program justified our doing so.

"This year with 700 acres of corn planted, and an exceptionally good crop, it brought on demands for the use of a substantial amount of capital. Our being cautious in this respect has made us a little late in getting ready to handle this year's crop, but I am sure this was better than to have gone out and raised capital before we knew what the crop would be.

"In the handling of last year's crop we had a small amount of grading equipment set up in a large warehouse which, outside of being expensive, worked very satisfactorily for the volume of corn we had to handle. It would have been impossible for us to take care of this year's crop in the same manner. Consequently, we were faced with the necessity of building a new seed plant. We began during August making plans fo rthis plant and did at the same time start our campaign to raise funds for the financing of it.

"In making plans for the new seed plant, we have not only taken into consideration this year's crop, but we have taken into consideration a substantial expansion in our seed corn program and also a substantial increase in handling of other field seeds. Our plant is being constructed in such a manner so as to provide a capacity for grading seed corn in the amount of 500 bushels per day to start out with. The grading tower of the plant will be constructed in such a manner that this capacity can be increased to 2,000 bushels per day by merely adding additional equipment.

"In planning our plant, we have tried to look ahead for several years, as we are confident that not too far away the price of hybrid seed corn will be reduced substantially and thus the margins for paying expenses of operation will be substantially cut. We have taken this into consideration and have planned to build and equip our plant in such a manner that seed corn could be sorted, dried, shelled and graded in preparation for sale in the most efficient manner possible, reducing to a minimum the cost of operation.

"I am confident we will have one of the most efficient operating plants in the seed corn industry when our plant is completed. The new plant will cost approximately $25,000. We estimated we could reduce our costs in preparing seed by 40 or 50 cents a bushel with an efficient, up-to-date plant. On 25,000 bushels of seed, this reduced cost in handling would amount to approximately one-half the first cost of the plant.

Capital Needs

"The building of this new plant and handling this crop will require a substantial amount of capital. The board authorized and we announced as our goal the sale of $25,000 in certificates of indebtedness. Our goal has not been reached but we have approximately $18,000 pledged at the present time.

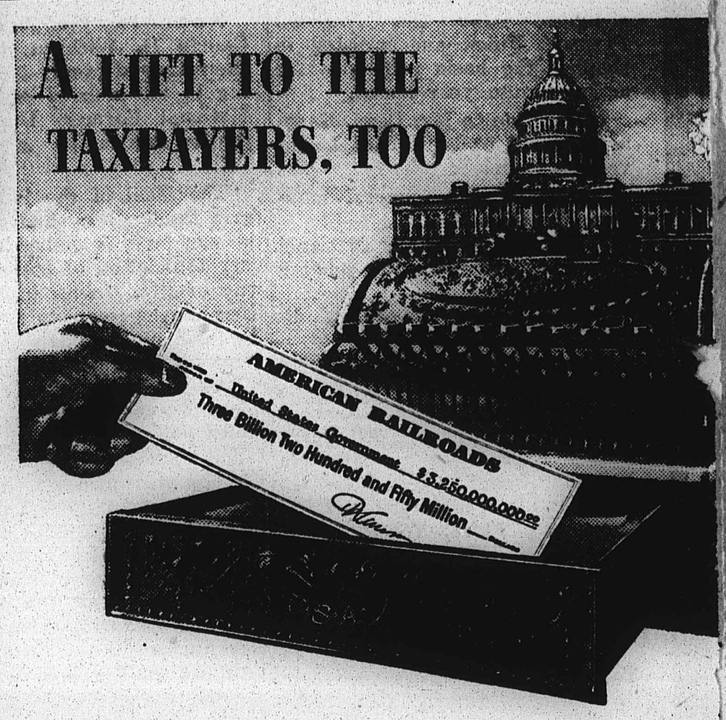
"In the Central Co-operative we have the foundation laid for a program that can return untold benefits to the members of our organization. As our program develops, we should have someone in the Central Co-operative who can work with the experiment stations, the Agronomy Department, the Kansas Crop Improvement Association, the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association and the State Board of Agriculture, both in the development of better seeds and in taking these newly developed seeds to the country for actual farm tests. This sort of a program, properly developed and handled within the Central Co-operative, will be worth a lot to farm people throughout the state.

"I want for just a few minutes to mention and discuss some of these with you. While livestock is one of the major industries in Kansas, our farmers are still subject to marketing their livestock through what I believe is one of the biggest monopolies in the field of farm marketing today. This is, of course, the packing house industry. One of the reasons we have never entered the field of operating our own packing houses, is because of the fact we lacked the retail outlets to dispose of them through retail outlets that were unfriendly to the co-operative program.

"Our livestock marketing agencies have done splendid work correcting the abuses that existed at the stock yards in selling livestock, but we must go farther than that. We must in some manner break up the packing house monopoly.



This group, photographed before the Ellsworth County Co-operative meeting includes, left to right, Ed Kohl, Dick Rathbun, Mrs. Will Hysell, and Mrs. Will Hunter. Mrs. Hysell was the first educational director in the Ellsworth county Farmers union and pioneered the junior work in that county. She has for several years been an outstanding leader in the Ellsworth county organization.



IN THIS WAR the railroads have done twice as big a transportation job as in the first World War.

But they are doing another job which may not be s well known, as is shown by these contrasting fact

In the last war, the operation of the railroads took money out of the United States Treasury.

In this one, the railroads are putting money into the Treasury.

In the last war, when the Government took over th railroads, even though freight rates and passenge fares were raised, Congress had to appropriate mor than $1,600,000,000 to meet deficits.

In this war, the railroads have been managed by thei owners. A far bigger and better transportation jo has been done. And, since Pearl Harbor, the railroad have turned into the United States Treasury th tremendous sum of $3,250,000,000 in taxes — a today are paying federal taxes at the rate of nea $4,250,000 every 24 hours.

And, on top of all this, the railroads in the same month since Pearl Harbor have paid for the support of stat county and city governments another $750,000,00 and are today paying state and local taxes at the rat of $800,000 per day.

That's five million dollars a day paid in taxes—te times as much as the owners receive in dividends.

ASSOCIATION OF — BUY MORE WAR BONDS

Send Christmas Gifts before Dec. 1st

AMERICAN RAILROAD

ALL UNITED FOR VICTORY

Human Welfare Real Goal, Wickard Tells NFU

Family Farmers Key to Future, Secretary Says

(Continued from Page 1)

ng of food production records set in 1937, long before the present war broke out in Europe. And even before that the trend toward higher production was clearly marked. In spite of the great droughts of 1934 and 1936, American food production of the 1930's was well above that of the 20's.

"The past 25 years have brought great progress in the technology of farm production. Consistently, over the years, fewer and fewer hours of the farmer's labor have been needed to produce given amounts of farm products. There is every reason to believe that the next 25 years will bring equally great advances—maybe larger ones. This means increasingly efficient, increasingly abundant farm production.

Congratulates F. U.

"Already, with all the hardships and suffering of a great war, we are having a taste of what good markets for full production can mean to American agriculture. Farm income is far higher than it ever has been before. Farmers are paying off mortgage debts, buying war bonds and putting money in the bank besides. Most farm prices, of course, are good; but prices are not the real answer to the farmers' present prosperity and sound financial position. Prices have been higher in the past. Part of the answer is that farmers are producing much more than ever before, and there are good markets for practically everything farmers are turning out. The other is the program which has kept prices and wages stabilized and which has stopped runaway inflation. I want to congratulate and thank the Farmers' Union for supporting this program.

"When the wartime shortages end farmers can produce even more than now, and there should be markets for all of it. The American people have proved how much food and fiber they will buy when they have the money to pay for it, and millions of people in other countries also will want and need our farm products when the war is over.

"But most farmers are worried when they look ahead to the years after the war. They are wondering whether American consumers will continue to buy as much, and whether new markets, both at home and abroad, will open up to take the place of the present large purchases for our armed forces and for lend-lease. There is plenty of reason for those worries, especially during the years right after the war ends, when farmers are redirecting their production from the demands of war to those of peace.

Problems Ahead

"It would be foolish to discount the difficulties. It would be even more foolish to sit down hopelessly and tell ourselves that the obstacles are too great to be overcome. Fundamentally, our problem is to find good markets for all that American farmers are able to produce. That problem can be solved and it must be solved.

"Several times in the past few months I have outlined the steps that I believe are necessary to its solution. By far the most important is full employment in this country. If all Americans who want to work have good jobs, they will be able to buy—at fair prices—nearly all that American farmers are able to produce. I want to recommend the National Farmers Union on its enlightened and vigorous support of full employment and fair wages.

"But with the Nation's present income pattern, even full employment would not be enough to create the largest possible domestic market for food. Many families still would have incomes too low to buy all the food and clothing they ought to have. We must find some way to help those low-income families increase their purchases of farm products through such means as the school lunch program or some variation of the food stamp plan.

Foreign Trade

"Also we must have a healthy and expanding foreign trade, partly to provide markets for farm products we do not need at home, and partly—and this is even more important—to stimulate and sustain general domestic employment and prosperity. Healthy world trade requires a willingness to accept imports as well as a desire to sell exports.

"In addition, we need an adequate, well-rounded, national farm program. All of you know what happened to farmers after the last war. This war is vastly bigger, and agriculture is geared much higher to meet its demands. The strains of readjustment are going to be tremendous. While there is a potential market for even more than farmers are producing now, that does not mean that there will be an expanding need for every individual farm product.

"It is almost certain, for instance, that at least for a few years after the war the needs for peanuts and soybeans for oil will slack off considerably. It is equally certain that we will be able to produce more cotton and wheat than we can use at home; the long-range export prospects for these crops are by no means hopeless, but that is no reason to think that we can just sit back and expect foreign buyers automatically to take all we can raise above our home needs. On the other hand, the home need for milk, meat, eggs, some vegetables and other products is almost beyond measure. Take milk as just one example. In spite of the huge quantities of dairy products that are going to our armed forces or to lend-lease or relief uses, the American people themselves could and should use even more than the **total** present production. Only the other day I saw an estimate by some of the people in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics which indicated that American consumers in 1950 would need about 10,000,000,000 more pounds of milk than we produced for all purposes last year.

Special Problems

"Farmers are going to require help while they redirect their efforts from lines of production that are needed less, to those that are needed more. Price supports, aid in soil conservation work, and other phases of the national farm program can give them that help.

"Just as individual crops will create problems in a generally expanding agriculture, so different types of farmers will have special problems, even though farmers as a whole group may be prospering. Good prices don't mean very much to those farmers who sell only small quantities in commercial markets. Such farmers can be helped best through technical advice, or through special kinds of credit that enable them to get a fresh start with more land or better equipment. Already the present farm program is offering assistance along such lines.

"To sum up a very sketchy look into the future, the postwar world for agriculture will be a time of abundant production, of emphasis on efficient operations, of intensive search for adequate markets, and of the strains of conversion from a war to a peace basis.

Family Farms

"How will the family-sized farm fare in such a world? Before trying to answer that question let me first make it perfectly clear what I mean by family-sized. I am not thinking merely in terms of acreage. Instead I am referring to the farm that is large enough to keep the members of the family busy, and productive enough to yield them a decent living, but not so large as to need the services of more than a few weeks of hired labor during particularly busy seasons. A farm like that might be a lot larger than 160 acres or a lot smaller. It would all depend upon the type of farming.

"Now, to get back to the question, there are two ways to look at the future of the family-sized farm. We can ask either: 'Can the family-sized farm be made to survive?' or: 'Can the family-sized farm stand on its own feet in an atmosphere of fair competition?'

"Both are practical questions. I believe that all of us here today are agreed that the independent family-sized farm is the very basis of our agriculture and of our rural society.

Social Benefits

"A study recently made in the central valley of California gives some actual evidence in support of this belief. The study compared two towns in farming districts, one a center of small farms and the other of large-scale farms. In the large-scale farming community four-fifths of the people worked for wages, while only half were wage workers in the small-farm community. The small-farm community had more stores with a much greater volume of business, about twice as many civic clubs and twice as many churches, and a generally fuller and more stable community life.

"Of course, that is just one case, but the facts bear out an opinion that I share with you—that the family-sized farm makes for fairer distribution of farm income, for better care of the soil, for better citizenship and for happier living.

"In view of all those advantages, we as a nation could make up our minds to preserve the family-sized farm no matter what it cost. If we were to go that way, the great majority of our citizens, and that means largely city people, would have to be convinced of the wisdom of far-reaching laws in favor of the family-sized farm. Getting them convinced and keeping them convinced might not be easy, especially if the family-sized farm were the less efficient method of farm production, and interfered with our national aim of maximum abundance. There is a strong American sentiment in favor of doing things the best way.

Technology

"It would be a terribly hard choice to make if preserving our traditional way of farm living meant turning back the clock of efficiency.

"We do not have to make that difficult decision. I am convinced that the family-sized farm can be just as efficient as the larger unit—perhaps, in some instances, more efficient. In saying this I am not forgetting that the keynotes of the world after the war will be abundance, advancing technology and probably large-scale buying and selling. Even so, I believe that a fair break with its competitors is all the family-sized farm will need to assure its future.

"Already there is a considerable body of legislation and a good number of programs to give the family-sized farm that kind of break. For example, the tenant purchase program already has enabled more than 36,000 former tenants to become farm owners by meeting their special needs for credit. I hope that will be just a beginning of a much more extensive program in the future. Rehabilitation loans of the Farm Security Administration have helped more than 900,000 small farmers, both tenants and owners, to keep their heads above water. Agencies of the Farm Credit Administration offer loans with the particular needs of small operators in view. Payments under the agricultural conservation program are scaled especially to favor operators of family-sized farms. In disposing of farmland which the government has been using for war purposes, special emphasis is being laid on making the land available in family-sized tracts.

Unfair Competition

"These and other steps already have been taken. Other actions to supplement them should follow.

"However, it is perfectly clear that the steps I have been talking about are not nearly enough to enable the family-sized farm to hold and improve its position in the postwar world. For one thing, there is the question of farm labor. The family-sized farm will be at a competitive disadvantage if operators of large units requiring large amounts of labor ever go back to the very low wage scales and long hours that sometimes have prevailed in the past.

"In that kind of unfair competition the owner of the small farm who did most or all of his own work either would be compelled to accept a bare pittance for his own skill and labor or would be

(Continued on Page 4)



The store of the Ellsworth County Co-operative organization is shown in this picture. Jack Kohls, at the left, is the manager of the store. Pat Nash, center, is the general manager of the Ellsworth County organization. Mrs. Emil Barta, right, is the cashier.



Avoid Costly Weevil Damage by Using

KFU Hi-Power Fumigant

Made Especially for Farm-Stored Grain

Be prepared to stop weevil infestation and prevent damage by having an ample supply on hand—ready for instant use.

Application of any fumigant is fully 60% of its success. Read the directions for use on the label of each can.

Go to your local Co-operative Elevator and ask for K F U HI-POWER.

For Elevator Stored Grain we recommend K F U CERT-O-CIDE.

Distributed by

Farmers Union Jobbing Association

KANSAS CITY MISSOURI

Family Farmers Key to Future, Secretary Says

(Continued from Page 3)

forced out of business. That kind of farming has no place in our postwar program for abundance and security. Fair wages, decent housing, and good working conditions for farm labor, together with full opportunities to take part in community life, are essential to the well-being of the smaller operator, whether or not he employs any hired labor himself. The Farmers' Union is very wise in making the welfare of farm labor one of the foundations of its policy. But the master key to the future of the family-sized farm is co-operation—co-operation through national farm organizations, in national farm programs and co-operation through farmer-owned-and-operated co-operative associations.

"I don't need to tell this group anything about the advantages of a national farm organization. I don't believe we need to spend much more time on the national farm programs. Many aspects of those programs, of course, are as vital to large operators as to the smaller ones, but in the fields of credit and soil conservation, among others, the national programs do give the family operator his only chance to participate in some benefits that the larger operators might be able to arrange without assistance. However, it is the co-operative movement itself that can do the most to enable operators of family-sized units to meet large scale competition on its own ground and yet preserve their independence.

Co-Operatives

"The great strides that the co-operatives have made already are the best indication of what we can expect of them during the post-war period. Farmers first started forming co-operatives at about the time of the Civil War; from then until the period just before the first World War their progress was steady but slow. The great gains in co-operation have come within the past 30 years. The combined membership of farmers marketing and purchasing co-operatives last year was 3,850,000. Allowing for the fact that many farmers belong to more than one co-op, the total number of individuals participating is estimated at about 2,000,000.

"When you count in all types of co-operative enterprise — rural electrification co-operative associations, mutual fire insurance companies, the various financing co-ops, mutual irrigation associations, FSA machinery co-operatives and others—it is plain that more than half of the Nation's farmers already are taking part in one or more co-operative enterprises.

"I stand foursquare behind the co-operative movement. I am not saying this as any outside observer who just believes in the principle; I say it as a member of co-operative associations over a long period of years, and as one who knows at first hand the responsibilities as well as the benefits of membership.

"As most of us recognize, the great weakness of the family-sized farm has been lack of financial resources to provide up-to-date machinery, the best sires and other expensive stock and equipment that are necessary to modern, efficient production. Through co-operatives the smaller farmers can pool the buying of all of these essentials, and pool their use of some.

"Recently, manufacturers have shown an increased interest in designing smaller models of power machinery that are well fitted to the needs of many family-sized farms. I understand that some manufacturers already have an all-purpose unit that will enable a family on a small farm to avoid much of the drudgery of the past and match the large farm in efficiency. This is a most hopeful trend, and should be encouraged in every way possible.

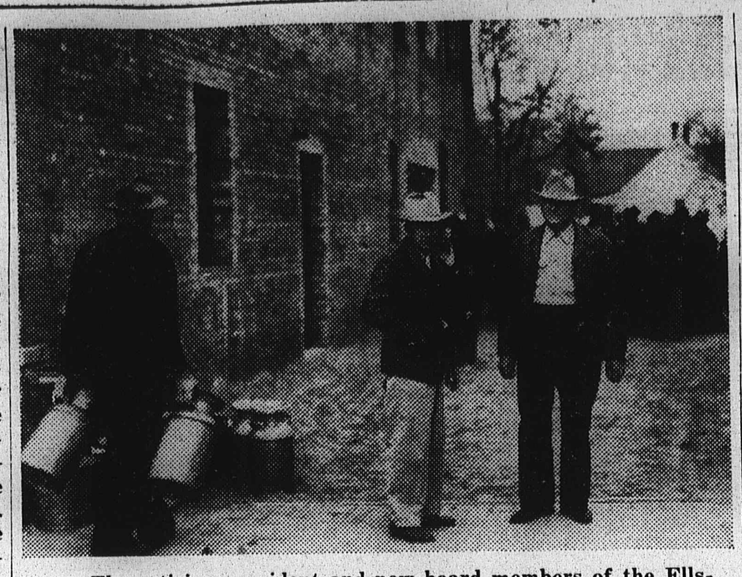
"Also, by bringing central station power to the farm, Rural Electrification co-ops enable small farmers to use dozzens of fairly inexpensive appliances that match the work of heavier machinery on larger farms. Great gains have been made in the past ten years, but nearly six out of 10 farms still are without electric power. As soon as men and metals are available again, REA co-ops can resume their task of taking power to those farms through their full area-coverage programs. Incidentally, the materials and manpower that will be needed to build the lines and the equipment that farmers will want will contribute mightily to our national program of full employment. The REA already has plans for extensive expansion when the war ends, and just a few months ago the President asked Congress for legislation that would make possible an even greater expansion.

Price Not All

"Buildings, fencing and water facilities often offer special problems to operators of smaller farms—and by buildings I mean dwellings as well as barns and other farm structures. Farm families that are well housed usually are healthier and able to do a better job of farming. Having better livestock is a small advantage unless the animals have adequate shelter and water and unless stout fences keep them from breaking out. For the smaller farm, co-operative buying alone cannot bring the long-term capital improvements that most larger farms are able to finance. A special program to encourage housing and other improvements is needed.

"Once the operators of family-sized farms take full advantage of the possibilities of co-operation, the natural advantages of the smaller unit will have full play. Permanent owners and operators take the greatest interest in the care of their soil, and they usually know their land so intimately that they can use every acre to its best advantage. On the family farm all members of the household work as a team. The children take a greater interest as they grow large enough to help. Everyone works as a partner in a family enterprise.

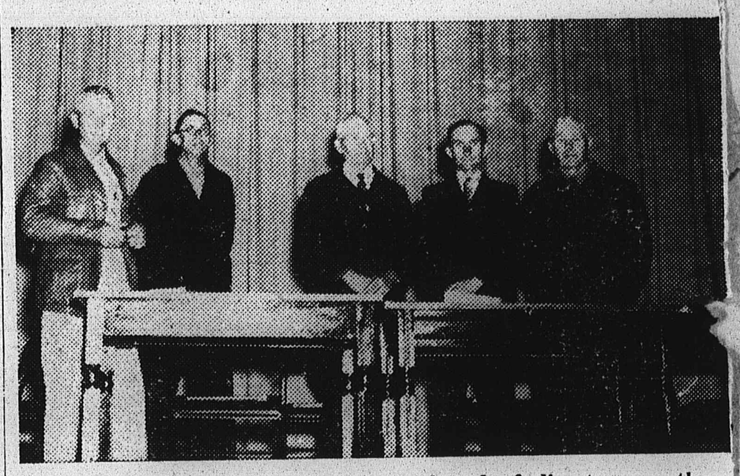
"In conclusion, let me say this: The family-sized farm has a place—a very large place—in the kind of agriculture we can and must build for this Nation after the war. In strengthening and encouraging the independent smaller unit we will not be compromising with the need for full and efficient production—we will be contributing to it. Let us never forget that farm prices and farm incomes, however important they may be, are mere index figures—human well-being, health, security and happiness—for both city people and farm people—are our real goals. We must never lose sight of those aims, or let up in our drive to attain them."



The retiring president and new board members of the Ellsworth County Co-operative are shown in this picture. Bert Harmon at the left was president of the organization and Mr. Scheuch right, was elected to the board this year. Mr. Harmon's term expired and by a clause in the By-Laws he was ineligible for re-election. Mr. Harmon has been a member of the state Farmers Union board for four years and was re-elected for another term at this year's convention. Mr. Scheuch is a member of the Farmers Union Auditing Association's board.



Ellsworth County Co-op's new cream station is shown here. The cream department was started about two years ago and has proven a big success. Those in the picture are left to right: Lester Krueger, part-time employe; W. E. Sheridan, who is in charge of the poultry and egg department; Miss Mona Wachs, an employe, and Pete Schwerdtfeger, the manager of the produce and cream station.



This picture was taken of the board of directors on the platform of the annual meeting of the Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union as Bert Harmon, president called the meeting to order. The directors are, left to right: Bert Harmon, president; Emil Stroede, director; H. E. Kline, secretary; Joe Prochaska, director; Will Hunter, director. In accordance with the By-Laws of the organization, Mr. Harmon retired from the Board at the expiration of his term at this year's meeting. Emil Stroede, who had been the vice-president, has been elected president.

While domestic tobacco consumption has declined in recent months, this decline has been offset by shipments to armed forces abroad, so that overall consumption is at or near the highest in the history of the industry, the department of agriculture reports.

National Opposes Shotgun Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

such a dire warning of the lengths to which the entrenched office-holders of the Bureau of Reclamation will go to hold their jobs, regardless of people's welfare.

"The St. Louis Post-Dispatch has asked the Bureau of Reclamation to explain this amazing performance and they, and all the rest of the people in America, are entitled to an answer.

"On these two dams alone, according to the Bureau of Reclamation itself, the Siamese-twin plan born of the forced marriage would cost $145,000,000 more than a unified plan.

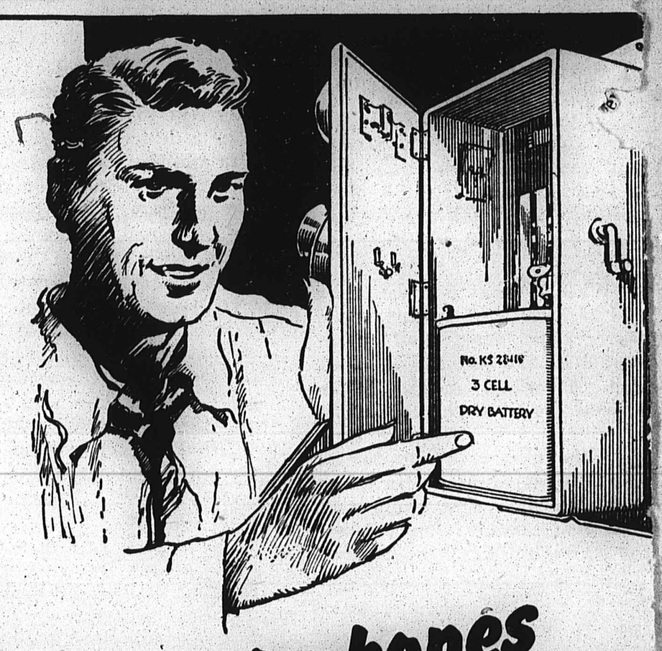
PAY MORE TAXES

"I do not know what better proof the American people need that the Bureau of Reclamation and Army Engineers should NOT be given control over a river that affects 15 per cent of the area, and 7,000,000 of the people of the United States.

"Apparently there is no price the Bureau of Reclamation is unwilling to pay to thwart a unified development of the river and maintain their own power—provided the money comes out of the taxpayers' pockets, of course.

"This whole scandalous performance should arouse the people of the valley and of all America to the necessity of a new type of administration where people's interest are given at least minor consideration.

"The cost to the Missouri Valley of the defeat of a unified Missouri Valley Authority plan will be infinitely greater, in money, human welfare and even human lives, than the $145,000,000 now being so casually traded off."



Farm telephones need good batteries

They make your telephone "talk"

If you own your farm telephone line and do all the upkeep work, please remember to have the batteries in your telephone tested regularly.

If others can't hear *you* when you talk over your line, but you hear others fairly well, it is probably time to check up on your batteries.

Bring them to our office. We'll gladly test them for you free. If you need new batteries, we'll tell you how to go about getting them under government priorities.

In wartime, especially, it pays to keep your farm telephone talking.

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO.

Even Ladies of Extension Must Help Build Ed O'Neal's Political Lobby in Kansas

"As they are public teachers . . . they (extension service employes) may not properly act as organizers for farmers' associations; conduct membership campaigns; solicit membership. . . ."

Even the ladies of the Kansas Extension Service are required to carry on the odious duty of helping to organize for the Farm Bureau Federation in violation of the United States Department of Agriculture regulation above.

Kansas rural papers reveal that, along with the county agents, they must help build up the membership of the organization which fights Farm Security Administration, baits labor, and goes to bat for large commercial farmers on such issues as abandoning the family-type farm pattern in the Central Valley of California.

The KANSAS UNION FARMER reprints herewith four of several clippings it has received, two of them illustrating the fact that home demonstration agents are used to organize.

In County Total

"Miss Ida Hildebrand, county home economics demonstrator from the Farm Bureau office at McPherson, will attend the meeting, explain the purpose of Farm Bureau units and organize one or more, if enough interest is shown by the local farm women. . . ."—says the clipping at the upper left.

The lower left-hand clipping reveals a home demonstration busy on organization work, and relates that work to the county Farm Bureau membership totals.

The clippings at the right, typical of many which could be accumulated, show county agents announcing the results of their membership work.

Don't Like It

As revealed in a telegram reproduced with a previous article, not nearly all Extension Service employes want to do this work. Most of them would prefer to conduct the educational work that it was intended for them to conduct when co-operative agricultural extension education work was established. However, they early learn that they must build the O'Neal organization, or be listed in the column of failures by their superiors and dismissed.

Violations of the United States Department of Agriculture regulations are generally a result, not of individual county agents' desire to violate them, but of policies openly or privately enunciated by State Extension Service officials.

NEXT: Kansas Extensionists on government payroll build a private business.

KPA Clipping Bureau
701 Jackson St., TOPEKA

Lindsborg News-Record
Cir. 1,100 W

JAN 20 1944

PLAN TO ORGANIZE FARM BUREAU UNIT

All rural women in this community who might be interested in belonging to a Farm Bureau unit are invited to attend a meeting which will be held on Wednesday afternoon, January 26, at two o'clock, in the City Hall, (above the old postoffice). Miss Ida Hildebrand, county home economics demonstrator from the Farm Bureau office at McPherson, will attend the meeting, explain the purpose of Farm Bureau Units and organize one or more if enough interest is shown by the local farm women.

Hutchinson Herald & News
Cir. 31,477 D

MAY 18 1944

New Farm Bureau Unit Organized

Mrs. J. A. Johnson has been elected president of a new Reno county Farm Bureau unit organized in the community east of Buhler, Helen Blythe, county home demonstration agent, announced Thursday.

With the organization of the Buhler unit, there are 440 paid members and 26 units in the county. Earlier this year a unit was organized at Langdon.

Ottawa Herald
Cir. 5,222 D

DEC 31 1943

Promoted Better Farming Practices

The Franklin county Farm Bureau attained a greater membership in 1943 than in any year in the past decade, according to County Agent R B Elling. This enrollment increase occurred in the face of war-time conditions which have decreased the number of boys and girls in 4-H club work. Following is a comparison of membership figures for 1943 and 1942.

	1943	1942
Farm Bureau Men		
Farm Bureau Women		
4-H Clubs		

BUREAU UNIT TOPEKA

Larned Tiller & Toiler
Cir. 1,350 D

JAN 7 1944

Plan A Membership Drive.

Township vice presidents and associated vice presidents will meet at the Farm Bureau office Saturday to review accomplishments of the extension and Farm Bureau programs and to complete plans for the 1944 Farm Bureau membership campaign in Pawnee county. To date, 390 memberships have been received by mail without solicitation, said County Agent Carl Conger. The 1943 membership of 550 represented about half of the farmers in the county.

Lawyer Lauds KFU Graduated Tax Plan

Support of the Kansas Farmers Union program proposal for a graduated land tax, to encourage owner-operated farms, is contained in a letter received at state offices from J. C. Ruppenthal, attorney in Russell, Kans.

His letter follows:

10-30-44.

E. K. Dean, President,
Kansas Farmers Union,
Salina, Kansas

Dear Mr. Dean:

I have noted with much interest the reports in the press in connection with the recent state meeting of the Farmers Union at Salina, that you are quoted to favor (1) preference for former owners of lands taken for public use in wartime by the United States when these lands are returned to the private ownership; (2) that an objective shall be to keep "family size" farms in making such return; (3) to develop such system of taxation, etc. as to discourage vast land holdings whether by graduated taxes on amount of land owned, and on non-resident holders or by other means.

So little constructive is said or talked or thought or envisioned along this line that it is heartening to have even one voice raised in the economic totalitarian wilderness.

The number of farmers grows steadily less as shown, at least in this and neighboring counties, in the past few years. The large AAA bonuses have enabled many large owners to buy more land and to avoid having tenants, using instead transient labor for a few weeks in fall and harvest for wheat raising. Our farmers who have oil income are steadily buying land and running up the price of land to twice what it was three years ago. (Inflation?) This land hunger on part of those who pay cash leads to baronial estates. Non-resident of this county, for example, are absentee landlords of many thousands of acres in Trego, Gove, Logan, Wallace, Sheridan, Norton, Smith, Osborne and other counties. Unless by co-operative effort, I do not see how family size farmers will be able to own individually the vast machinery needed.

Very truly,
J. C. Ruppenthal
Attorney-at-Law,
Russell, Kansas

Juniors Get Award Pins

The following juniors, Ethlyn Parry, Marjorie Tennant, and Max Soupene, and the following Reserves, Myron Parry, Bonnie Hofman, and Kay Hofman received their achievement award pins at the November meeting of the Elbow Local, Pottawatomie county. Mrs. Joy Hammett, Education Director, also received a Leaders' pin which is given after a Leader has served for two years. The Award Presentation Ceremony was used.

At the meeting Marporie Tennant, who became a Minuteman at the State Convention, reported on the junior phase of the Topeka meeting. She had award books and Minuteman pin on display for the members of the Local to see.

November 17 the Elbow Local will join with the Elbow School District in a carnival.

LaHarpe Ends Bird Study

Mrs. Opal Eisenbrandt of LaHarpe, Allen county, writes of completing the study of "Birds Are Good Neighbors" in her local.

This is what she says of the meetings held: "The way we conducted classes was when the F. U. meeting took up we all went to our hall. We had a chapter or two (depending on the length of time we had), discussed the lessons, had them tell stories of birds, name, describe, and tell history of different birds, etc. Then when we went back in the room, we gave reports and talks and my class usually did the most of the program. The children have each made nice bird houses and painted them and have made scrapbooks of cardboard and wallpaper. I had them on display at the last meeting, but no many were there, so I'm going to take them to our elevator and store at LaHarpe for display."

Ellsworth Co. Plans Supper

The Ellsworth County Farmers Union meeting was held Nov. 14.

J. W. Urbanek, one of the members of the Ellsworth County Farmers Union, being sick in the hospital, the meeting asked the secretary to send flowers.

Chester Chapman, delegate to the state convention, gave a full and detailed report of the convention.

A discussion of the possibilities of the Central Exchange and desirable changes in its set-up followed.

Walnut Grove local, through a committee, requested neighborhood discussion groups to be held among their members this winter and volnteered to furnish some of the discussion leadership from their members.

Walnut Grove local also reported a discussion held at their last meeting regarding the desirability of the local co-operation acquiring a lumber yard.

The meeting voted to hold the annual evening meeting December 15 and to have a pot-luck supper. The Farmers Union Juniors were requested to give a short program of entertainment for the meeting.—Dolores Schultz, Reporter.

Fourmile Jr. Meeting

The Fourmile Junior Reserve class met October 6 at 8 p. m. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Leon Stromire in the absence of Warren James, the president. Roll call was answered by each member naming a bird. We then sang "We're On the Upward Trail," "We Shall Not Be Moved," and "On His Coat He Wears a Union Button," led by our local leader, Mrs. Castle Stromire.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. We had no old business. In new business a motion was made by Frank Bumsted that for our next unit we study trees and weeds. Motion was seconded by Ione James. A discussion followed. Motion was voted upon and carried. It was also decided to start a Junior class as well as a Reserve class.

For recreation we played Black Magic, and Daisy, Daisy, a musical game, and also had the Grand March.

The meeting was adjourned.

All who are interested in joining the new classes for the Junior Reserves and Juniors are invited to attend the next meeting, third Wednesday in November, 8 p. m., Fourmile schoolhouse.

—Leon Stromire, Reporter.

Billy Bond Home On First Leave

W. H. (Billy) Bond, Jr., arrived in St. Marys a few days ago to spend a few days furlough with his parents. Billy is a former Farmers Union Junior. Before entering the services he took an active part in Farmers Union Junior Activities in the St. Marys community. During his work as a Farmers Union Junior, he attended the Manhattan and Ponca City state camps.

He entered the Navy about 18 months ago and this is his first trip home. His first training was pre-flight training which he took at St. Marys college in California, went from there to Liverpool, Calif., for a supplementary basic training, and then to Corpus Christie, Texas, for basic and advanced training. A final, or operational training was taken at Jacksonville, Fla., which he finished just a short time ago.

He went from Jacksonville to Chicago, Ill., where he made his first landing on the flight deck of an airplane carrier and also made his first check-out from the deck of the same carrier. Billy is now a second lieutenant in the naval air corps.

Landing on the carrier and his first take-off were the biggest thrills of his lifetime he says. He is very interested in the Navy and has made application to continue in the Navy after the war.

Billy's father has been an active member in the Farmers Union for some time and is now employed at the Farmers Union Elevator at St. Marys.

In an appeal to the farmers of occupied Holland, Radio Orange, the Netherlands Broadcasting Station in London, pleaded—"The authorities advise the Netherlands farmers most emphatically to avoid any destruction of threshing machines. That destruction would be detrimental to the cause of the fatherland. The country wants the farmers to gather and deliver their harvest and report the results to the authorities in charge of distribution of agricultural products."

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

Of Kansas Union Farmer, published semi-monthly at Denver, Colorado, for October 1, 1944.

STATE OF COLORADO, } ss.
County of Denver }

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Benton J. Stong, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the executive editor of the Kansas Union Farmer and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Kansas Farmers Union, Salina, Kansas; editor, E. K. Dean, Salina, Kansas; executive editor, Benton J. Stong, Denver, Colorado.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

(No shareholders who have 1 per cent or more of stock.)

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union, Kansas Division.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

(Seal) BENTON J. STONG.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of September 1944.

(Seal) JANE M. HAMMERSMITH,
My commission expires June 22, 1947.

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER
50 Cents Per Year
Publication Office: 3501 E. 46th Avenue, Denver 16, Colorado.
Published the second and fourth Thursday of each month by the Kansas Division of the Farmers Education and Co-operative Union of America.
General Office of Kansas Farmers Union is at 218 Journal Bldg., Salina, Kansas.
Entered as Second Class Matter August 10, 1944, at Denver, Colo., Under Act of March 12, 1879.
Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1003. Act of October 3, 1879, Authorized July 30, 1918.

FOOD IS VITAL

MR. LIVESTOCK PRODUCER and FEEDER: You have done an excellent job so far. Continue the good work!

KEEP UP PRODUCTION and BUY BONDS

Farmers Union Live Stock Co-operative

Kansas City Wichita Parsons

AROUND THE TRIANGLE

By Esther E. Voorhies
KFU Education Director

Counting the Cost

Lying at home with a broken nose,
Black and blue from head to toes,
Face all skinned, and back all scratched,
Head all bandaged, legs all patched;
Now I've time to count the cost
Of things that I have gained or lost.
Gained? Oh, nothing but lots of scars,
And a very good knowledge of handlebars.

Down the hill came Bob and I,
As fast as any wheel could fly;
I was on the handlebars—
Crash! and we were seeing stars.

Well, it cost me quite a bit,
And also Bob; he, too, was hit.
Half a tooth, and doctor's bills,
Lots of bumps, and other ills,
Liniment and plasters, too,
And more, I guess, before we're through.
—F. C. FARRAR.

▲ ▲ ▲

Junior Age Change

Farmers Union Juniors now have that title upon attaining the age of 14 or upon entering high school. Every Local should have two youth classes for the 1945 year, one for Reserves, 8 years up to 14 or high school, the other for Juniors, 14 or high school through 21. The age for Juniors who vote in the Local meetings remains the same, at 16. Membership cards for Juniors under that age will carry the stamp, NON-VOTING.

We feel that this new grouping of ages will make the organization of Local classes easier. Junior groups have been slim of late with young people leaving home just as soon as they are out of high school. This year particularly, with recreation as the study topic for Juniors, larger classes, brought about by admitting all young people of high school age, will be welcome for working out projects of plays, social parties, and programs.

▲ ▲ ▲

National in Session

This KUF goes to press while the National Convention is in session at the shirley-Savoy Hotel in Denver, Colorado. 1944 Torchbearers, Regina Lenherr and Mary Pat Immenschuh, and '43 Torchbearer Ralph Sjostrom, arrived in Denver Sunday morning. They will take part in the Torchbearer dinner and meeting to be held Sunday evening, and on Monday evening they will participate in the Junior program and Torchbearer Ceremony.

A Education Conference is to be held Tuesday afternoon, and Wednesday morning promises a special Leaders' Breakfast. We expect to have complete reports for you by the next issue.

▲ ▲ ▲

New Bulletin on Insects

"Insects in Kansas" is a publication just issued by the State Board of Agriculture. It has 440 pages of text, 461 individual illustrations, and 6 color plates. The book will be mailed free, as long as the edition lasts, to anyone who writes for a copy. The address is: State Board of Agriculture, State House, Topeka, Kansas.

This is excellent reference material for our "Everyday Insect" unit. Every Leader using the Unit this year should have one or more copies of "Insects in Kansas." Order your copy immediately.

▲ ▲ ▲

Special Reading for Reserves

We have received a series of small books in a Social Education Series. These are attractive and are excellent reading for Reserve age members. Extra points can surely be given on achievement records for reading and reporting on the following: "Story of Democracy," "Soil, Water, and Man," "Trees," "Prairie Children," and "Soil." These may be borrowed or purchased from the Education Department. The price for each is thirty cents. May we add, since it is getting to that season of the year, the books can make splendid Christmas gifts to youthful friends.

▲ ▲ ▲

The Magic Chore Boy

A report from the REA carries some very interesting information of progress in rural electrification, but the report also indicates that we still have a long way to go in that program. In 1925 3.2% of farms in the United States had electric service; in 1944, 41.9% had electricity.

The 1944 percentage is good considering previous figures, but we cannot be content until the 41.9% climbs closer to the hundred mark. So in communities still without electricity now is the time to do some postwar planning for lines. REA says that groups of farmers wanting electricity should immediately see the manager or local representative of the nearest REA co-operative, or if none is close at hand, they should write to the Rural Electrification Administration headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. Electric power and light is a chore boy no farm family can afford to be without, especially if the service can be obtained the co-operative way.

▲ ▲ ▲

"Mother Goose in the Co-operative Manner"

You have been hearing about Mother Goose for years and years, but MOTHER GOOSE IN THE CO-OPERATIVE MANNER is this year's streamlined edition. The verses were written by Mildred Neilson and the illustrations are by Frances Butts. The cover is attractively done in blue ink on light blue paper. Everyone, from the cradle roll on up, will enjoy this little book.

Price . . . 10 cents

Central Co-op at St. Marys

By William Honan, Junior

In the past years the Farmers Union has made great strides in the building of solid farm communities. And every American knows that the farmer is the backbone of our nation. This organization had made many people realize what co-operating means, especially during these trying times.

The Farmers Union co-operatives cannot be kept going with only a few people. They must have organization. The people in the vicinity of St. Marys have shown a great deal of attention to the growing of hybrid seed corn. This type of corn may require a little more attention at the beginning, such as detasseling, but in the long run it pays more than ordinary corn.

With the upward movement of this great organization in our region a new step forward is the building of a new hybrid seed corn plant called the Central Co-op. This great project will employ a number of men the year around. The corn that comes into this plant will go through such processes as separating good seed from the bad, drying, grading and treatment and storage for distribution in the spring. The Co-op expects to have about 20,000 bushels of hybrid corn for sale in the coming spring.

If all the people would support this new project until the organization could stand on its own feet, it could move on with little or no effort at all. With the local Farmers Union Elevator, which proved to be very successful in marketing all available grain products for St. Marys and vicinity, the new Central Co-op should help to make our city one of the state's leading rural communities.

(Editor's Note: The writer of this article, which appeared in "The Torch," worked on the detasseling project this summer.

Know the Meaning of the Triangle, KFU Junior Urges in Her Speech

The following four-minute speech was written and delivered at the Pottawatomie County Farmers Union meeting Sept. 8 by Marjorie Tennant of Manhattan, an FU Junior:

"The Triangle is the symbol of the Farmers Union. Each side of the Triangle represents a phase of the Union work. These phases are Co-operation, Legislation, and Education.

"The base of the Triangle represents Education. The basis of any organization is well informed members. The Junior Educational program of the Farmers Union prepares young folks from eight to twenty-one for useful adult membership. Camps, one days rallies, class meetings, and conventions are events that help the younger generation of Farmers Union people understand and appreciate the principles of philosophy of the organization. Adult education programs are carried on also. The more informed membership, the stronger—the better the local.

"The left side of the Triangle represents Co-operation. Co-operation is more than a way of business, it a way of life. The history of co-operation is a fascinating story. Gladys Talbott Edwards' booklet, "The Co-operative Movement, Yours and Mine," tells the story of co-operation in business. The first co-operative business was started in 1844 at Rochdale, England. The aims and principles of the first co-operative still remain sound and practical after a century of rapid change.

"On the right side of the Triangle is Legislation. This is very appropriate for it is through legislation that our rights are established and maintained.

"Any organization which is working for better conditions for a class of people must have a vigorous legislative program. The interests of the people are pushed and protected in the law making halls of our government. In a democracy such as ours, the legislative program is all the more important.

"That is the Triangle picture—Co-operation, Legislation, and Education. When I see the Triangle with all of its symbolism I see the three sides joined together to provide a successful fture for the farm family. I know that this future will not come about without much effort on many people's part. There is a long hard road leading to this bright future. To travel this road we need leadership, sincere belief in our organization, and the willingness to work long and hard for our convictions. The opportunities to advance down this road come every day and to be prepared to take advantage of these opportunities is our immediate task. Strengthen your local by becoming a better informed, more active member. Let us all come to realize the meaning of the Triangle, which is the Union symbol. This symbol can guide us, along with thousands of other farm families, to a bright, successful future with the Farmers Union."

Juniors Study Blue Cross

On Sept. 28 the Farmers Union Juniors of St. Marys, both boys and girls, met for the purpose of discussing the Blue Cross.

The Blue Cross is the easy way in which one hundred and fifteen million Americans can now pay their hospital bills. This fine plan, as a co-operative effort on the part of the hospitals and the public, brings prepaid hospital service to the community at the lowest possible cost. It pays the hospital direct and membership is not affected by any benefits to which the subscriber may otherwise be entitled.

This organization protects members against the heavy expenses of serious illness that would hospitalize them. Therefore, there are no home benefits.

The cost of belonging to the Blue Cross is:

Single Membership..$ .65 mo.
Family Membership (including wife and all unmarried children under 19.....$1.30 mo.

—From "The Torch," the Mimeographed magazine of Pottawatomie County.

Former Junior Takes a Bride

A former junior, well known to many in Kansas, Pfc. Bernard Lee Gibson, was married August 6 to Louis Swenson of Windom, Kansas. This news reached us a little late, but it is never too late for friends to extend congratulations and best wishes. Bernard is stationed at Harlington, Texas.



"BREAD IS THE STAFF OF LIFE"

TRUE YESTERDAY, TRUE TOMORROW
ESPECIALLY TRUE TODAY!

If Your Bread Is Made from Russell's Best All-Purpose Flour

Russell Milling Co.

RUSSELL, KANSAS

Ask For It At Your Co-op Elevators and Stores

NEWS FROM K. F. U. CO-OPERATIVES

Day by Day with FUJA

By JOHN VESECKY

While there is so much discussion of the possibility of an effort being made to tax the "savings" of farmers' co-operatives, we are of the opinion that our co-operative farmers will be interested in a discussion of recent decisions of the United States Tax Court upholding the co-operatives' contention that patronage refunds are not income, and are therefore not taxable under the income tax laws. The article is taken from the Farmers Union Herald, of St. Paul, Minn., and we hasten to give Brother Ricker full credit for it.

Co-op Stand on Taxes is Upheld by U. S. Court

The United States Tax Court on Sept. 29 announced from Washington, D. C., an important decision upholding the co-operative contention that patronage refunds to members and patrons are not income to the co-operative and therefore cannot be taxed as income.

The court ruled specifically that United Co-operatives, Inc., Alliance, O., rightfully deducted patronage refunds from that part of its gross income which was subject to income tax.

The decision, signed by every one of the 15 judges on the Tax Court, is particularly timely and significant in view of attacks now being made on the tax position of the co-operatives by the National Tax Equality Assn.

Midland Case Cited

It is of additional interest hereabouts because the opinion, written by Judge Kern, cited approvingly no less than four times the findings in Midland Co-operative Wholesale's successful contention before the same sourt (then called the Board of Tax Appeals) in 1941 on patrons' equity reserves. In that case the court held that Midland, or any other co-operative, has the right to put savings into a reserve fund (such as patrons' equity reserves) for the use and benefit of members and patrons without being liable for payment of federal income taxes on those funds. It was pointed out that such a fund is the same as a patronage refund except that payment is deferred.

Congressional exemption of farm co-operatives from income tax payments did not enter into the present case involving United Co-operatives. (Midland, incidentally, does not claim tax exemption as a farm co-op). Indeed, United Co-operatives, which is a federation of wholesale co-ops doing business chiefly in lubricating oil, barn paint and farm equipment, was not even incorporated as a co-operative, and was decidedly not tax-exempt. When it was incorporated at Indianapolis it could not muster the nine incorporators required by the co-operative law and it had to be incorporated for profit.

Its articles and bylaws, however, were typically co-operative and they contained provision for return of net savings to members and patrons in proportion to patronage.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue sought to collect income taxes on United's gross income before deduction of patronage refunds for the years 1937, 1938 and 1939. The revenue department contended that the articles and bylaws did not in themselves make the co-operative liable for payment of patronage refunds, and furthermore that in the case of a profit corporation, the revenue laws do not specifically authorize deductions for patronage refunds from gross income subject to tax.

United Co-operatives, whose case was handled by Attorney Eugene L. Hensel and Walter L. Bradley, C.P.A., contended that the articles and bylaws do constitute a liability as far as the patronage refunds are concerned, and that the fact that the board of directors acted after the end of the taxable year was immaterial.

What the Court Found

The court held, in effect, (1) that United was organized and operated as a co-operative regardless of its incorporation under the profit laws; (2) that patronage refunds are, in reality, not the property of the co-operative but of its members and patrons and hence are tax-free as far as the co-operative is concerned; (3) that the liability of United for payment of refunds to its patrons was created by the articles and bylaws and hence no further action by the board of directors was necessary each year.

It was held, however, that income of United to an amount equalling 8% on the value of outstanding common stock was not deductible from gross income for tax purposes because this amount was property of the co-operative which, under the bylaws, the board could use at its option to pay as dividends (or interest) on stock.

The case was tried before Judge Kern in Minneapolis and had been in the hands of the court since March, 1943. The government has 30 days in which to appeal or acquiesce in the decision.

▲ ▲ ▲

There has been some talk in circles opposed to co-operatives, of business making use of the co-operative setup, purportedly to escape the payment of income taxes.

As a matter of fact, so-called private enterprise has for a long time been using co-operative methods as far as buying their supplies and furnishing certain services to the members of their combines. Some of those private business co-ops, such as the combinations of independent grocers, have been operating very close to real co-operative principles, and have benefited thereby, others such as the management or holding combines are based on the old money superiority basis and give very little real service to the constituent companies they were organized to serve. In fact many of the holding and management trusts sap the life blood and fatten their own stockholders bank accounts out of the subsidiary corporations they were supposed to serve.

An article in a recent issue of the Chicago Journal of Commerce discusses the reduction in the gross margins taken by food retailers. The article states that the gross margin taken by retail food stores has decreased from 30 per cent in 1917 to 17 per cent or less in 1944. The author attributes the narrowing of the gross margins to chain store and supermarket efficiency and to the development of buying co-operatives.

"Such co-operatives" says the author, "pool the purchasing power of several large retailers and fulfill the functions of wholesalers, and by making bulk purchases far larger than previously known, they reduce the administrative overheads and secure better terms from the manufacturer."

Then the author continues, "Integration of middlemen, distributors, jobbers and wholesalers, into the sales organization of big manufacturers is another way in which the reduction of distribution costs is now being attempted." The article continues by stating instances of large manufacturers of cheese and other food products increasing their efforts to set up their own distributing agencies. It does not take a prophet or a crystal gazer to forsee the end of independent small business as we have known it in the past. Any one who will take the time to read the papers or to observe the store signs on Main Street and note the predominance of chain store signs, should be convinced that if the present trend towards chain store and monopoly control of American business continues for another two decades at the present rate of absorbtion, there will be precious little so called small business left. The co-operatives now being built by big business are not built for the good of the little man. Except in the case of small retailers co-ops, they are being built to camouflage the efforts of big business to get around the anti-trust laws and to coral more and more of the business of this nation.

Coming back to the reduction in retail distribution margins from 30 per cent in 1917 to 17 per cent in 1944. One is faced with the question of what became of the 13 per cent which was saved in retail distribution. If the memory of your reporter does not deceive him, the farmers' share of the dollar spent by a consumer with his retail store was approximately 48 to 50 cents in 1917. It has fluctuated between 46 and 54 cents ever since, and in August, 1944, was 52 cents. The farmer was enabled to receive 52 cents from the consumers dollar in August this year only because the government is paying subsidies to processors and marketing agencies handling or processing farm products so as to enable them to pay the farmers a fair price for their products without raising the cost too high for the consumer. If the retail margin has been narrowed by 13 per cent or 13 cents on the dollar, and the farmer is getting only 2 cents more of the consumers' dollar than he received in 1917 one is led to wonder what has become of the other 11 per cent of the reduction in retail margins and of the whole government subsidy. Did they just disappear or were they absorbed by the food and textile monopolies and other giant processors and handlers of consumers' needs?

Wherever in our business world there has been a strong development of co-operatives (real grass roots co-operatives, not the phony monopoly serving creatures) there margins have narrowed. Monopoly business has been taking an unconscionable margin in practically every line where it has been able to keep control. That is why they fear so the entry of co-operatives into the manufacturing and processing of farmers' supplies and products. That is also why, if we are to build up a sound post-war economy it is necessary for co-operatives to extend their operations to all lines of business where the margins are too wide or which controls supplies or furnishes services necessary to the welfare of our people.

Sixteen Juniors and Reserves of the Ellsworth Local attended the meeting held in the hall over the creamery, Tuesday evening, Nov. 14. The regular classes were held and then in the atmosphere of the room they had decorated, the group enjoyed several games. The adults who were attending the regular local meeting were invited in for refreshments. At the December 15 local meeting achievement awards will be presented and the Juniors will give a special program.

LIVE STOCK SALES

KANSAS CITY, MO.

November 17th, 1944.

Bert Wamser	Lyon Co., Kansas	32 heifers	814	$15.10
Harry Dragoo	Anderson Co., Kansas	10 heifers	831	15.00
W. H. Wamser	Lyon Co., Kansas	11 heifers	890	15.00
Noble Jones	Lyon Co., Kansas	15 heifers	786	14.90
Jones & Sedgwick	Lyon Co., Kansas	16 heifers	798	14.75
Sharples Bros.	Osage Co., Kansas	26 steers	1,080	14.75
Chas. Kellar	Lyon Co., Kansas	11 heifers	830	14.65
B. D. Wild	Ray Co., Missouri	23 heifers	850	14.35
Henry Barnett	Lafayette Co., Missouri	17 steers	1,135	14.25
O. B. Thompson	Ray Co., Missouri	21 steers	881	14.25
D. H. Hobbie	Mitchell Co., Kansas	34 heifers	975	13.75
R. J. Mounkes	Lyon Co., Kansas	31 steers	760	13.50
H. J. Linsey	Lyon Co., Kansas	32 heifers	766	13.50
Arnold Thowe	Wabaunsee Co., Kansas	15 steers	1,025	13.25
Merle Helberg	Lyon Co., Kansas	15 heifers	775	13.00
O. R. Caldwell	Lyon Co., Kansas	14 heifers	780	13.00
Rex Cook	Clinton Co., Missouri	30 steers	1,031	12.75
C. J. Chambers	Geary Co., Kansas	57 steers	815	12.65
L. J. Dreiling	Ellis Co., Kansas	46 steers	929	11.50
E. M. Jones	Henry Co., Missouri	10 cows	986	11.50
Anton Ochs	Gove Co., Kansas	28 calves	421	11.50
J. Newman & Sons	Ellsworth Co., Kansas	24 steers	944	11.40
R. T. Rice	Osage Co., Kansas	27 heifers	803	10.50
Farmer's Co-op	Logan Co., Kansas	26 heifers	734	10.00
A. J. Dreiling	Ellis Co., Kansas	30 steers	807	10.50
J. U. Hoofer	Rush Co., Kansas	19 cows	872	9.50
M. R. Caughey	Russell Co., Kansas	21 cows	992	9.50
Chas. Burton	Johnson Co., Kansas	71 cows	907	9.26
H. E. Doverspike	Chase Co., Kansas	11 cows	1,074	9.00
I. N. Dickens	Anderson Co., Kansas	12 cows	1,055	8.50
Dan Lynd	Ellis Co., Kansas	22 cows	934	7.35

Livestock Market News

by the

Farmers Union Livestock Co-operative, Kansas City,

and the

Farmers Union Live Stock Commission, South St. Joseph, Mo.

South St. Joseph, Mo.
Thursday, Nov. 16, 1944

Slaughter steers are closing the week steady to strong, good to choice steers selling $15.25@15.75, medium to good $12.50@14.75, common to medium $11.50@12.00, with some plainer kinds $10@11.

Good and choice yearlings are steady to strong, best mixed yearlings $16.50, heifers $15.50, bulk $14.50@15.65, medium to good grades strong to 25c higher, mostly $11@13.50, common kinds shared the same advance as medium to good kinds, bulk $8.50@10.50. Beef cows are fully 25c and spots more higher, a few good cows $11.50@12.50, bulk of beef cows $8.50@10.75, canners and cutters strong to 25c higher, bulk $5.50@7.75. Bulls are strong to 25c higher, practical top on beef bulls $11.50, a few outstanding ones to $12, bulk of sausage bulls $8.10@10.50.

Stockers and feeders are closing strong to 25c higher for the week and are selling $10.25@11.50, with some plain kinds $8.25, strictly good stockers $12.50.

Veal calf market is steady, top $13, bulk $12@13, common to medium $9.50@11.50, culls $6.50@8.50. Heavy calves are steady to strong, a few choice $13, bulk $11@12.50, common to medium $9.50@10.50, culls $7.50@9.50.

The hog market is steady, good to choice 200 to 270 pounds, $14.15, top $14.25 paid sparingly by shippers; sows $13.65@13.75, stags $13.75, down.

Choice native lamb top $14.25, practical top $14; good to choice $13.75@14.25; medium to good $12@13.50; culls $11.50, down; ewes $6, bulk $5.75, down.

FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION,
South St. Joseph, Mo.

ALADDIN HOTEL
1213 Wyandotte
Kansas City, Mo.
HEADQUARTERS FOR THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION
Rates—$2.00 Up
John N. Singleton, Manager

We Manufacture—
Farmers Union Standard Accounting Forms
Auditing Association
Grain Checks, Scale Tickets, Approved by Farmers Union
Stationery,
Office Equipment
Printing
the CONSOLIDATED printing and stationery co.
SALINA · KANSAS

Co-operative Auditors
KANSAS FARMERS UNION CO-OPERATIVE AUDITING ASSOCIATION
Write for Rates
WE WRITE ALL KINDS OF BONDS
SALINA, KANSAS PHONE 570

It's Easy to Sell KFU Hybrids



Farmer-salesmen, to take orders for KFU hybrid seed corns, are wanted. If you wish to make extra money at a pleasant job, qualify at once!

IN COMMUNITIES WHERE A CO-OP DISTRIBUTES THE CORN, make application to the local manager. (See list of local distributors at bottom of this ad.)

IN COMMUNITIES WHERE THERE IS NO CO-OP DISTRIBUTOR, make application to Farmers Union Central Co-op, Box 296, Salina, Kansas.

Both the local co-ops, in their distribution area, and KFU Central Co-op, want farmer-salesmen. There is consequently an opportunity for profitable and pleasant spare time work in every community in Kansas.

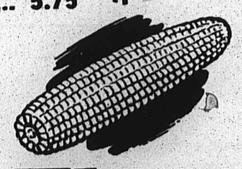
Farmers Who Have Planted It Testify That KFU Hybrid Seed Corn Is:

RETAIL PRICES ON FARMERS UNION HYBRIDS

KFU No. 100—200—300—500—600

Large Flats	$8.00
Medium Flats	8.00
Small Flats	8.00
Short Large Flats	7.50
Short Medium Flats	7.50
Regular Round	6.50
Semi-Round	6.50
Large Round	5.75
Medium Round	5.75

KFU 400 (K 2234) our white hybrid will be one dollar ($1.00) per bushel higher on all grades.



1. DEPENDABLE It has the unseen quality given it by a reliable, conscientious organization doing everything possible to make their hybrids the best there are!

2. PROPERLY BRED From inbred lines produced by the most reliable breeders and certified by them to be absolutely true to strain.

3. WELL DETASSELLED So the hybrid delivered to you will be a perfect cross. Not even the one per cent of tassels permitted by state inspection stay in KFU hybrid fields!

4. UNIFORMLY GRADED With the finest equipment so that it plants properly. We guarantee our select flats, when planted with proper plates, to fall 95 per cent accurate.

5. PROVEN PERFORMANCE Not only in field tests, but in hundreds of Kansas farm fields, these hybrids have proven themselves. See letters and testimonials in this and following editions of this paper.

Contact These KFU Hybrid Dealers!

ABILENE
Farmers Elevator Co.
AGENDA
Farmers Co-op Elevator
ALMA
F. U. Co-op
ALTAMONT
Farmers Co-op Elevator
ARKANSAS CITY
F. U. Co-op Elevator
ALTA VISTA
F. U. Co-op Elevator
AURORA
Farmers Co-op Elevator
BARNES
Farmers Co-op Elevator
BEATTIE
F. U. Elevator
BEELER
Farmers Co-op Grain & Sup. Co.
BELLAIRE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
BELOIT
F. U. Co-op Elevator
BENNINGTON
Farmers Co-op Elevator
BLUE RAPIDS
Farmers Co-op Grain Co.
BREMEN
F. U. Elevator
BURDICK
F. U. Co-op Elevator
BURLINGTON
Farmers Co-op Elevator
BURNS
F. U. Co-op Elevator
CARLTON
F. U. Co-op Elevator
CAWKER CITY
F. U. Co-op Elevator
CENTRALIA
F. U. Co-op Elevator
CLAY CENTER
F. U. Produce Station
CLIFTON
F. U. Co-op Elevator
CLYDE
Clyde Co-op Elevator
COLLYER
F. U. Co-op Elevator
CONCORDIA
Wilbur F. Larson
COURTLAND
F. U. Co-op Elevator
DENNIS
Dennis Co-op Elevator
DILLONG
Farmers Co-op Elevator
DODGE CITY
Dodge City Co-op Exchange
ELLSWORTH
F. U. Co-op Elevator
ERIE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
GIRARD
F. U. Elevator
GLEN ELDER
F. U. Co-op Elevator
GREENLEAF
Farmers Co-op Elevator
HANOVER
Farmers Co-op Elevator
HERKIMER
Farmers Co-op Elevator
HOLYROOD
Holyrood Co-op Grain & Sup. Co.
HUNTER
F. U. Co-op Elevator
KELLOGG
F. U. Co-op Elevator
KIMBALL
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LaHARPE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LANCASTER
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LEBANON
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LEHIGH
Farmers Co-op Elevator
LEONA
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LEONARDVILLE
Riley Co., F. U. Co-op
LINCOLNVILLE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LINDSBORG
F. U. Co-op Elevator
LORRAINE
Lorraine Grain, Fuel, Stock Co.
LUCAS
Farmers Co-op Elevator
LURAY
F. U. Elevator
MANHATTAN
F. U. Co-op Elevator
MAPLE HILL
F. U. Jobbing Association
MARION
Marion Co-op Elevator
MARQUETTE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
McCUNE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
McPHERSON
F. U. Co-op Produce Station
MINNEAPOLIS
Farmers Elevator Co.
MORGANVILLE
Farmers Co-op Elevator
MORRILL
Farmers Co-op Elevator
NATOMA
F. U. Elevator
OLATHE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
OLSBURG
F. U. Co-op Store
OSAWATOMIE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
OVERBROOK
F. U. Co-op Elevator
PARSONS
F. U. Co-op Elevator
PAULINE
Farmers Co-op Elevator
RAMONA
Farmers Co-op Elevator
RANDALL
F. U. Co-op Elevator
RANDOLPH
F. U. Co-op Elevator
ROBINSON
F. U. Co-op Elevator
SABETHA
Farmers Co-op Elevator
SCOTTSVILLE
F. U. Co-op Elevator
SENECA
Farmers Elevator Co.
SMITH CENTER
Farmers Co-op Elevator
SOLOMON
F. U. Co-op Elevator
SOLOMON RAPIDS
F. U. Co-op Elevator
SOUTH MOUND
F. U. Co-op Elevator
STAFFORD
Independent Co-op Grain Co.
ST. MARY'S
F. U. Elevator
STOCKTON
F. U. Elevator
TAMPA
Farmers Co-op Elevator
TESCOTT
F. U. Co-op Elevator
TIPTON
F. U. Co-op Elevator
UDALL
F. U. Co-op Elevator
VLIETS
F. U. Co-op Elevator
WAKEENEY
F. U. Co-op Elevator
WAKEFIELD
Wakefield Farmers Co-op Ass'n.
WALNUT
Farmers Co-op Elevator
WATERVILLE
Farmers Co-op Elevator
WINFIELD
F. U. Co-op Elevator
WINIFRED
Winifred Farmers Co-op Elevator