



THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION

Co-operation

Education

Organization

VOLUME 33

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NUMBER 1

Nat'l President Vesecky Looks to 1940 for Much FU Progress

Broadcast on Farm and Home NBC Hour Saturday Reviews Farmers Union Work in 1939 and Analyzes Many Current Problems Needing Solution

Address of John Vesecky, National President of the Farmers Union, delivered on the Farmers Union hour, December 30, 1939.

Members of the Farmers Union, Farmers, and all others listening in this program. This being the next to the last day of the year, 1939, it is but fitting that I talk with you as concerned with some of the most important happenings of the year now so nearly over and with an outline of what your organization is planning to do during the coming year.

I will make my review of the events of the past year short, because I do not want to be like Dean Call of the Kansas State College says too many people are. He says that the year has been a mythical bird called the Woolly bird. This bird is said to always fly with his head to the rear, because he is more concerned with what has been than with where he is going. He thinks that there is much truth in that analogy.

As far as the world affairs are concerned, the last year has clearly shown that there is a definite trend towards authoritarianism in government. Practically every nation in the world has surrendered either little or much of the essential liberties of their people to governmental agencies in order to be able, so they say, to assure them more security against some foreign foe, or in the enjoyment of the material things of this earth. Almost invariably the promise of security at the expense of liberty has resulted in the loss of both security and of liberty. Security gained as a result of the surrender of our rights as citizens and of the liberties that we enjoy because we have a democratic form of government, even a slight loss of security, is a security of the slave or an inmate of a penal institution. Neither is worth the cost.

War and Farm Prices
During the year that is now all but past, the whole world has been rocked by wars and rumors of wars. Even here in America, although we are at peace with all the nations of the earth, this war hysteria has profoundly affected our way of thinking, our every day life and our outlook on even the fundamental principles of our government. We farmers are faced with the question of the effect of a continued European war upon our prices and the demand for our products.

Almost involuntarily we take sides with one or the other of the nations at war. To many of our people, even to some members of our congress the fear of some foreign ism, or of foreign spies and agents, has become so real and all overpowering, that they are ready to suspend the operation of the safeguards to personal liberty which are guaranteed by Bill of Rights, in order to guard against any possible foreign influence.

Economically the year 1939 has not been of the best. We still have millions unemployed in our cities. We still have thousands of our farmers losing their homes and being forced out empty handed after a lifetime of honest hard toil. Still there are growing up on our farms and in our cities millions of undernourished, underprivileged children upon whom this nation must depend for its control and guidance.

There is something wrong with our economies with all this want in a land of plenty, all these poor people in want while some large corporations and powerful individuals are adding millions to their fortunes. There is something definitely and radically wrong with our economy when the government must borrow billions of dollars to, even in a miserly way, feed, house and clothe these poor people with all the natural resources which God has given us Americans here to use. Some politicians are making political capital out of government aid to the poor on our farms and in the cities. I shudder to think of what would have happened to us all if the government had failed to recognize its responsibility to the innocent and helpless victims of our monopolistic system of economies.

I am afraid almost to try to envision the possible effects of the withdrawal of government aid to the victims of this nation before the cause of the unemployment, and low prices is removed and conditions are made such that both our farmers and the workers in the cities get their fair share of the income that they help produce.

Get Legislative Results
During the year just past the Farmers Union has put in good ticks towards remedying some of the inequities under which we farmers are compelled to operate. We have worked out and introduced the Wheat and Cotton Income Insurance bills which are based on the income certificate, domestic allotment plan, and the Dairy bill on a combination plan that is designed to best meet the needs of the dairy farmers.

We have had introduced the Debt Adjustment bill which will when enacted into law bring the debts that our farmers owe federal lending agencies in line with the productive value of the land and permit payments on the basis of income. We have backed and helped formulate a bill to remove farm indebtedness of all kinds on the basis of productive values.

We have backed the amendment to the tenancy act which will greatly broaden the help that the law is now to deserving tenants in acquiring their own farms. We have helped take some of the bugs out of the pending Railroad reorganization bill, and we have pending an amendment which will enable the farmers in the drought districts of our country to get insurance on the first 3/4 of their average yield at very little advance over the present cost of insuring the last 1/4 under the present law.

We have prevailed upon Congress to provide the necessary funds to enable the Farm Security Administration to help rehabilitate as many as possible of our dispossessed farmers.

We have also been largely instrumental in letting congress to at least partially redeem its promise of parity prices made when it passed the AAA of 1938.

The publicity given the foreclosure and collection policies of the Farm Credit Administration as a result of the introduction of the Debt Adjustment bill was largely responsible for the suspension of Land Bank foreclosures at the latter part of 1939. That same publicity plus the work of our legislative committee and the Resolutions passed by the Omaha Farmers Union Convention helped the Farm Credit Administration into the Department of Agriculture. The preceding are but a few of the major legislative achievements of the Farmers Union during 1939.

We will not go into a discussion of the achievements made by our cooperatives nor by our educational department, because they have both been discussed by Jim Patton on last month's broadcast. We will content myself by telling you what the Farmers Union plans to do in 1940.

Discuss F. U. Plans
As in the past, so again this coming year we shall do our best to build soundly financed and soundly managed cooperative marketing and purchasing associations. Most of our troubles are as yet economic, not political. Since most of the problems are largely economic, as far as I am concerned, to judge the best solution to problems that stem from the inequitable distribution of the products of industry and agriculture and of the income from a single source of income, is to distribute that is based not on the profit motive but on service. The cooperative system is the best answer that I know of to the question of unequal distribution of the proceeds of labor.

The Farmers Union will continue to help our farmers extend the cooperative system of doing business into new lines of endeavor and into new fields. We will continue to be working a complete cooperative bridge over which Farm products can travel from the producer to the ultimate consumer without the necessity of the intervention of the middle man, the profiteering monopoly middlemen. We will also aid in building supply and consumers cooperatives. We will again give our full support to the cooperative movement among the workers in our cities.

The Farmers Union has no enmity towards the town merchant or any other business or professional man in towns or cities. Most of them are but one step removed from the farm. We are exploited by the system which has exploited all our wonderful natural resources including the soil, and in addition has so impoverished the land that it is necessary to use large percentages of our people that it is necessary to annually appropriate billions of dollars to keep them from starvation. That system must be changed if our country is to be spared the fate of Russia, Germany or some of the other dictatorially ruled nations.

For Equitable Income
In legislation we are going to do our best to get passed laws that will help give our farmers their share of the national income, without at the same time taking from them their liberties. We will push for the passage of the bills which we have presented, introduced in congress, and will work out the aid of the farmers of this country, other bills to assure those producing other products, not now covered by pending bills, their fair share of the national income.

There have been some criticisms of the National officers, because they do not continually repeat the slogan of Cost of Production for the farmer. The National officers are as much in favor of getting the farmers cost of production for their products as any of the critics. Farmers must receive such prices for their products as will cover all costs of producing them, including all overhead expenses and the wages of all the farm help who are employed on the farm, if they are to survive.

The point of difference between the various honest advocates of remedial farm legislation is just how to get that necessary average cost of production price? Who is to say what is average cost of production and how much of our liberty must we surrender to some government bureau or officer in order to get that promised average cost of production? The National officers of the Farmers Union do not believe that you can get cost of production by giving some official or bureau, such as the Agricultural Department, dictatorial powers over our prices without the surrender of our rights as Americans.

Against Dictator Methods
The methods of dictators, however efficient they may appear to be, are hardly those which we would be safe in endorsing in our farm legislation unless we are ready to surrender our liberties for the promise of security. That is why the Farmers Union has so consistently striven to safeguard the interests of the Family Farm home and to make all its legislation as much farmer controlled as is possible and still keep it simple and efficient in operation.

We will work for the scaling down of farm debts to an amount that the farm can be expected to pay under average conditions and we will work for the refinancing of all farm indebtedness at a low rate of interest, with amortization payments, based on the productive income of the farm.

(continued on page 4)

Senator Capper Holds Enjoyable Farmers Forum

Receives All Varieties of Information at Protest Meeting, Topeka, D. C. 20

Those fellows who argue that farmers don't know their own mind, that a half dozen farmers in agreement are a rare thing, even a Utopian farm legislator, program would be unappreciated and shortly unwanted—those fellows would find Senator Arthur Capper's Farm Forum in Topeka, December 20, to their delight. Some 700 attended, mostly from Eastern Kansas, and they heard 42 speakers and most of the speakers attacked the AAA in one phase or another and to uproarious applause.

It was apparent at the meeting that any reciprocal trade agreement admitting any farm products from abroad to compete with the production of American farms would be heartily in disfavor. Senator Capper was given encouragement in his pre-discussion legislative suggestion to "get rid of the reciprocal trade agreements act so far as they work against agriculture, if it does not make sense, any way, for the Department of Agriculture to be paying out money to farmers who reduced their production while Secretary Hull makes reciprocal treaties which open the gates for the admission of more foreign farm products."

Senator Capper particularly asked consideration of "some of the following questions that trouble me from time to time among themselves."

Continue Commodity Loans
"Should the commodity loans be continued? If so, to what producers; how financed?"

"Should the Federal Finance exports of farm products? If so, how financed?"

"Should the reciprocal trade agreements act be extended? If so, why?"

"Should the Federal government get out of the business of trying to help the farmer, and allow them to fight it out among themselves?"

John Vesecky, president of the National Farmers Union, was called upon before the general program of discussion. He praised Senator Capper for holding the Farm Forum and briefly suggested that two things in particular be considered in working out legislative improvements: first, that suggestions be practical from a farmer's viewpoint, and second, that they have a fair chance of Congressional approval.

Outlines His Program
Before the open discussion period, too, Senator Capper gave a summary of what he believed might be attempted for agriculture and the American farmer. This summary was as follows:

Regain and retain parity between Agriculture and Industry so the farmer will receive a fair share of the national income.

Continue parity benefit payments as long as farm prices are below parity. Provide for financing these payments, the income certificate plan, which is a new form of progressive tax, is worthy of consideration.

Protect, preserve, the family-size farm as the farm unit. Better to make parity payments to a large number of small farmers than to a small number of large farmers.

Continue and develop the soil conservation program on a voluntary cooperative basis.

Develop long time land use program; retire submarginal lands; control erosion, both wind and water.

Utilize regional research laboratories; develop new industrial uses for farm products. We have tremendous possibilities in the chemurgic field.

Pay reclamation projects—eventually to furnish the farmer with ready developed and threatened by water shortages—until demand approaches supply on present developed acreage.

Keep mortgage interest rates lower under Farm Credit Administration; provide more adequate financing for agriculture. I say, farmers are entitled to 3 percent interest rates.

The FCA should adopt a more liberal foreclosure policy where delinquency is caused by crop failures or low prices beyond farmer's control.

We should try to keep the farmer on the farms instead of sending him to the cities for the relief role.

Extend Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation after 5 years; continue operation of Farm Security Administration; Surplus Commodities Corporation.

Continue development of co-operative marketing associations and the marketing agreements.

Develop land tenancy and crop insurance programs as rapidly as experience warrants. Increasing tenancy is one of the most alarming developments of the present time.

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The Senate should reject the pending Argentine Sanitary Pact, which would lower bars to allow imports of Argentine cattle and beef subject to foot and mouth disease.

PLAN ANNUAL MEETINGS

Royalty and Mutual Insurance Companies Have Meetings Jan. 18-19

The Farmers Union Royalty Company will have its annual stockholders' meeting in Salina Thursday, January 18, and the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company will have its policyholders' meeting Friday, January 19. A good attendance is expected at each of these meetings.

Business reports covering the past year's operations will be read, and the annual election of officers and directors will be held.

The meeting of the Royalty Company will be held at 4:30 p. m. in the evening, and the meeting of the Mutual Insurance Company will be held at 10:00 a. m. on Friday. Both meetings will be held at the Hotel Lincoln in Salina. The Royalty Company will elect new officers and to provide for an audit of the company's books. At the entire meeting was the one of adjournment, carrying 30 votes to 433. L. Hardesty, Hill City, voted 423 points of the 433. W. L. Sayers, a Negro lawyer of Hill City and W. H. Clark, lawyer of Hoxie, were with Mr. Hardesty at the meeting and overthrew the present management.

Make Complete Audit
In view of the situation, the Royalty directors employed an outside auditor who has gone through the records of the company since its inception. The audit will report at the annual meeting.

Approximately 204,000 acres of Kansas land is included in the Farmers Union cooperative pool of oil royalties. By exchanging an interest in part of his mineral rights for a large volume of business, we have turned our efforts toward increasing our service to members.

Buy Topeka Terminal
This year we purchased a terminal elevator at Topeka, Kans., in order to add to our service and the savings it is possible to make in terminal grain marketing. In less than 3 weeks after the grain marketing began, the elevator was full. This proved to us the value of having our own terminal elevator and the need for increasing our storage capacity at that point to meet our members' requirements.

With the acquisition of our terminal elevator at Topeka and the opening of a branch office there, we expect to develop a somewhat better outlet for our carload lots of feed grain among our members than we have had up to this time. We also plan a feed mill at that point where we will manufacture our own poultry and livestock feeds and thus our members will be using more of the grain that they have grown.

Another opportunity for service Farmers Union Jobbing Association has found is through our finance agreement with some of our member elevators. This arrangement, whereby we furnish them our check book and other office record books and give them a daily bid at which we will buy the grain, takes the speculation out of local grain buying. The grain is bought by the elevators locally at a margin under our bid. This margin represents their gross profit in their operation. By combining the grain bought at all of the financed elevators, we are able to hedge even the small lots of grain bought by them during the dull seasons. Following a period of poor crop years, many of our Kansas cooperative elevators were without funds and would not have been able to open their elevators had it not been for their finance agreement with us which has proved to be a safe and very satisfactory method of operation.

Serve With Information
We have found, too, that daily market information concerning discounts and premiums have been of value to our member elevators in that it helps them in buying the grain from farmers. We do not mean by market information our opinion of what the market will do or what it has done and why, but the actual value of the cash of operation.

School for Employees Will Be Held in Early Spring
Action was taken December 18 by the Kansas Farmers Union state directors that the organization hold an institute for managers and employees of cooperatives and other interested older young people looking for cooperative business contacts. The institute will be held the latter part of March or early April, it is expected.

The board also approved the holding of a Junior Camp again in 1940.

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FCA's Credit Policies Lead to Shake-Up and New Chief

The Farmers Union has favored for some time the consolidation of the Credit Administration by the department of agriculture where it is felt the credit agency might be more responsive to agricultural needs. Technically this move came about when President Roosevelt brought about the government reorganization program, but in actual practice it has remained an independent agency under F. F. Hill, recently resigned.

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Discuss Terminal Grain Marketing and New Services

Opportunities for Expansion Are Measured by Ways of Serving Membership

A cooperative organization's opportunities lie in its ability to serve its membership. Each added activity means that we have found and made use another opportunity to better serve our membership. Again, it may be that we find our best opportunity to be of greater service to our members by improving our present manner of handling our business.

Build Solid Foundation
In the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, the routine tasks in the marketing of our members' grain on the terminal markets have become more or less fixed through the years. Board of Trade rules and regulations have been set up under which we must operate. Here a cooperative's opportunity lies in its ability to perform these services more economically and efficiently than do competitors. We have not found that we could operate efficiently by hiring inexperienced or incompetent help. Rather, we have done this through having capable, intelligent employees who help the association do away with any lost or waste motion. Neither have we developed any formula for operating a large terminal grain cooperative economically without a large volume of business. To get and to keep this large volume of business, we have turned our efforts toward increasing our service to members.

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The President's Message

By J. P. Fengel

A New Year Ahead
We welcome another year with the fondest of hopes that our dreams and ambitions might during the year become a reality and the disappointments of the years that are now behind us may be in some mysterious ways and by some unknown plan furnish us with the opportunity to satisfy our longings for many things that we need and cherish for ourselves and those dependent upon us for the necessities of life. We all realize that we are constantly in a process of change from year to year and while hopeful for the best in the future are fearful of the future and what it might have in store for us.

It would seem as though with the experiences of the past and the prospects for the immediate future such as the signs of the times indicate to most of us, we should be more or less fixed through the years. Board of Trade rules and regulations have been set up under which we must operate. Here a cooperative's opportunity lies in its ability to perform these services more economically and efficiently than do competitors. We have not found that we could operate efficiently by hiring inexperienced or incompetent help. Rather, we have done this through having capable, intelligent employees who help the association do away with any lost or waste motion. Neither have we developed any formula for operating a large terminal grain cooperative economically without a large volume of business. To get and to keep this large volume of business, we have turned our efforts toward increasing our service to members.

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State Far. Union Plans Program of Better Programs

To Encourage Discussion Studies at Local Meetings Through Lesson Outlines

Improved discussions and better planned programs by Farmers Union Locals is the goal of the Joint-Committee on organization and education from the State Farmers Union board and the Farmers Union Managerial Association. Improved discussions at meetings are desired that the program developed by the Kansas and National Farmers Union become definitely a practical farmer's program, and that all members should be informed, and have an understanding in its development.

Improvement of local programs is being approached by planning a discussion outline for each issue of the Kansas Union Farmer. The outlines are still in the hands of the sub-committees, but will become a regular feature of this publication within a short time. This will be a different feature from the program service of the National Farmers Union.

On Democratic Principles
Emphasis of the outlines will be upon facts rather than upon their interpretation. The interpretation and organized efforts for correction will need develop from the Locals. Believing that Democracy will work if people are educated, these problems, the Farmers Union of Kansas is inviting farmers to organize and conduct discussion studies with the view of developing their own program for their own security and general welfare.

Drummond Jones, noted Discussion Specialist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington D. C., will be scheduled for a series of district Farmers Union meetings throughout the state at February 26.

Discussion studies in all probability will include the family-sized farm, farm tenancy, cooperative marketing and purchasing, money and credit, and many other subjects. Suggestions will also be given relative to reference material under each study topic.

Plan Membership Drive
Relative to increasing the membership in the Kansas Farmers Union, it is planned to train these problems, the Farmers Union of Kansas is inviting farmers to organize and conduct discussion studies with the view of developing their own program for their own security and general welfare.

Attending the joint-committee meeting of managers and Farmers Union officials in Salina, December 18, were the following:

P. J. Nash, Ellsworth, president of the Farmers Union Managerial Association; David Train, Lindsay, secretary of the same; T. E. Hall, membership and information department head of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Kansas City; Harold Westgate, Manhattan, O. C. Service; Verle Moyer, Alta Vista; J. P. Fengel, Lincolnville, president of the Kansas Farmers Union; Rex Troutman, Salina, state secretary; Norman Flora, Quinter, state president; Esther Ekblad, state Junior leader.

Ross Palenske, Alma; W. E. Roesch, Quinter; Ray Henry, Zenith; and George Reinhardt, Parsons, state Farmers Union directors. Visitors present were John Vesecky, president of the National Farmers Union; Mrs. Charlie Olson, McPherson, county junior leader; Rex Lear, Salina, of the Farmers Union Life Insurance Company; and G. W. Bushby, Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company.

ELECTRIC LINE GAIN

Nearly Fourth of U. S. Farms Now Have Electricity, REA Reports

Approximately 1,700,000 farms, or 23 per cent of the total number of farms in the United States, now have the advantages of high line electric service as the New Year dawns, according to the Rural Electrification Administration. This is well over twice the number of farms, 748,924 or 10.9 per cent, having such service shortly before the REA was established in 1935.

There has been a substantial increase in the use of electric appliances. Continued and rapid increase in the average time each consumer had been using electricity was 10.7 months.

The percentage using refrigerators was nearly doubled, moving from 21.9 to 39.3 per cent. Water pumps increased from 19.8 to 27.1 per cent. Cream separators increased from 41.1 to 20.5 per cent. Increases in the use of other farm appliances have been slow but persistent. Portable motors, brooders, and poultry lighting are coming into more general use.

Plenty of Coal

There is no excuse for coal dealers boosting prices of bituminous coal on the ground that a shortage exists, or that the coal is in demand of the European War, according to Consumers' Council.

Reelect C. A. Ewing

C. A. Ewing, Conway Springs, was reelected president of the South Central Dairy Farm Record association at the organization's annual meeting December 27 at Harper. The association includes Sedgwick, Kingman, Sumner, Barber and Harper counties.

Too Bore Some

Judge—Now, don't you think you and your husband could live together without fighting all the time? Mrs. Mandy Johnson—Nosh, Judge, leave me alone, I couldn't 'joy' no self, 'an' be happy.

The Kansas Union Farmer

Rex H. Troutman Editor

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

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

NATIONAL OFFICERS

John Vesecky, President Salina, Kansas
H. G. Kenney, Vice-President Omaha, Nebraska
J. M. Graves, Secretary Oklahoma City, Okla.

KANSAS OFFICIALS

John Fengel, President Lincolnville, Kansas
Norman Flora, Vice-President Quinter, Kansas
Rex Troutman, Secretary Salina, Kansas
John Tommer, Conductor Waterville, Kansas
John Scheel, Doorkeeper Emporia, Kansas

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

FARMERS UNION MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.—Room 202 Farmers Union Bldg., Salina, Kansas, G. W. Bushby, President-Manager.

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

KANSAS FARMERS UNION—Salina, Kansas, Room 311, Farmers Union Insurance Co. Building.

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

FARMERS UNION LIFE INSURANCE CO.—Room 300, Farmers Union Insurance Co. Bldg., Rex Lear, State Manager, Salina, Kansas.

THE KANSAS FARMERS UNION ROYALTY CO.—Room 219 Farmers Union Insurance Co. Building, Salina, Kansas, G. E. Creitz, State Manager.

FARMERS UNION MANAGERIAL ASSOCIATION

P. J. Nash, Ellsworth, President
Glenn Hewitt, Osawatomie, Vice President
Dave Train, Lindsay, Secretary

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1940

Happy New Year!

A Happy New Year to all! Perhaps it is a good thing to make inventory of ourselves at the first of a New Year and plan how to better our lives. Nine requisites are listed by Goethe for contented lives, and so let's start with these:

Health enough to make work a pleasure; wealth enough to support our needs; strength enough to battle with difficulties to overcome; grace enough to confess our sins and forsake them; patience enough to toll until some good is accomplished; charity enough to see some good in your neighbor; love enough to make real the things of God; and hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future.

A Community Inventory

A good program topic at this time of year is the analysis of our community, an inventory of the community activities and how each is functioning. And surely the inventory should not overlook the cooperative business achievements.

Cooperative methods of business operation are now respected in every quarter, and it is no longer so much an item where a cooperative is, as what lines does the cooperative handle, and how large is its volume and membership. The Farmers Union has made cooperative history in Kansas.

But there are questions of cooperative development to solve in every field. We might expect as much, however, the farther and greater we build our cooperatives, the more complex and difficult are the problems we must meet. But we should be better experienced and able to handle them. While these questions may be largely problems of management, unless the membership is kept informed on just these things, the cooperative morale will weaken.

And the "farm problem" as considered legislatively is still with us, but coming no better very fast. In 1939, cash income from farm marketings in the United States was \$7,625,000,000 and from government payments, \$875,000,000 a total for 1939 of \$8,500,000,000. In 1938 the figures reveal: cash income from farm marketings was \$7,627,000,000 and from government payments, \$482,000,000, a total for 1938 of \$8,109,000,000, according to department of agriculture figures.

Are farmers expecting government payments to continue to increase? Or do they want a real cost-of-production Farmers Union legislative program?

It is good that farmers are enabled to borrow money at a low interest rate. But why do such a great proportion of farmers have this same need?

Good Field to Develop

Kansas farmers set around 23 million eggs, and sell considerably more than a billion eggs for consumption elsewhere. All told, the annual egg crop of Kansas exceeds one and a half billion. Kansas choice "boxed" poultry has an enviable reputation throughout the country and it is sold in large quantities, reports the Kansas Farmer. Kansas dressed poultry sold at the four leading markets of Chicago, Boston, New York City, and Philadelphia this year was expected to return more than 16 million dollars. Only five other states rank above Kansas in sales of dressed poultry at these important markets.

The poultry and egg cooperative at Sabatha may well be watched by Kansas cooperators. There should be no reason why cooperative marketing can't progress in this field as well as in the grain, livestock and dairy products.

The poultry and egg cooperative, however, has to go deeper into the selling channels, marketing graded eggs and dressed poultry directly to wholesalers and retailers for consumer demand. The procedure suggests different problems from selling to millers or packers through the live stock exchange.

Farmers in California did not permit selling problems to dismay them,

however, and the Sunkist products of the California Fruit Growers Exchange are leaders in their field. Egg and chick people of Kansas can cooperate in planning, processing and selling, and the future may find many more of them doing so.

Join the Farmers Union Today!

TRAVELOGUE

By John Fengel

My first visit since my last report was to Topeka to attend the Water Conservation Conference at the request of Governor Ratter on December 15—my report was published in the last issue of the Kansas Union Farmer.

Asks Water Information

I should like to have those who are in position to furnish me with any substantial evidence and refer me to instances where the drilling of oil wells that were not properly plugged to maintain sub-surface water levels please write me fully, giving me the facts, as I am anxious to take the matter before the Governor's Committee and see if we can not have something done in the matter of properly cemented the openings made in lower rock formations as a means of establishing again our underground water levels and the replenishing of our sub-sol moisture.

On December 18 and 19 was held a meeting of our State Board in Salina and also a conference with the Managerial Association's committee for the purpose of developing a close working arrangement between the State Farmers Union and our business cooperatives, where much progress was made in the way of outlines for the joint educational program. Our board and the committee worked together admirably, outlining the program, with the details to be worked out later. The Managerial Association committee was represented by Pat Nash, Harold Westgate, Verle Meyer, David Train, O. C. Servis, and T. E. Hall with visitors participating in the planning: John Vesecky, National President, Miss Esther Ekblad and Mrs. Charles Olson, Junior Leader from McPherson County; Rex Lear and G. W. Bushby, both of Salina, representing Farmers Union Life and property insurance. This conference will be continued in Salina, January 10, when we hope to complete and adopt the joint program and get to work.

To Capper Farm Conference
On December 20 I attended Senator Capper's farm conference in Salina all day and found the Farmers Union well represented in the conference.

I do not remember all of those I met there, but among them were Paul J. Lenheer, St. Marys; our friend Julius Immenschul, Yord Clarence Yocum, St. Marys; Bert Harmon, Ellsworth; Joy Hammett, Manhattan; M. L. Beckman and Wm. Goeckler, Clay Center; also John Vesecky and his daughter Marie, and Rex Troutman, Salina; Miss Esther Ekblad, Leonardville and Victor E. Hawkins, of Randolph.

After the Capper meeting I was invited to attend a regular meeting of Pleasant View Local No. 1643 of which Clifford Steele is President and Mrs. Frank Laocok is Secretary. 21 members answered roll call and at this meeting arrangements were made to collect the 1940 dues, with every prospect of a fine increase in membership, with all of their 1939 officers reelected for another year.

In addition to a splendid meeting the Local spent a most pleasant evening together with music and singing Christmas carols led by Miss Betty Jean Yocum with the evening's program in charge of Mrs. Clarence Yocum.

Prairie View is a real Local with splendid leadership and a really enthusiastic membership, which is what any one might expect in such a community. My good friend John Hesse was at the Local meeting as usual but did not pull any fast ones on us this time.

I was entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Yocum, where Farmers Union folks are made so welcome they just naturally feel right at home with them. I thank them for

the invitation and hope to visit this Local again before so very long. Any of our folks not too far away should just drop in and spend an evening with them, you will enjoy the evening and want to go back again. Just try it.

On December 22 I was called into Salina again for another conference at the State office in connection with the Joint Educational Program of the Managerial Association and our State Board to assist in the development of our joint educational program and on December 28 was in Salina again to assist in the development of the program for a three day institute for the preparation of our field men for duty in our joint educational project and membership drive as directed by the State Board.

All together we are planning on some real work this coming year and solicit our entire membership's hearty cooperation to the end that we might have more and better cooperatives, more Farmers Union members, who really know and appreciate the importance of a real farm organization as a means of working out their problems themselves in their own way.

I am beginning the year 1940 with a conference in Kansas City on January 2 and am expecting to be busy every day from now on through the year when the weather will permit my doing so, and just as anxious as can be to be of help or benefit to any of you and for you to call me whenever I might be of any benefit. I am truly grateful to all of our folks for the many courtesies extended to me during the past year and to each of you permit me to say Thank You, wishing you a Happy and Prosperous Year in 1940.

Just Before the Feud

"Thank you so much for your song, my dear," said the elderly woman when the daughter of the house had finished her solo.

"It took me back to my childhood days on my father's farm, and while I listened to your voice I seemed to hear the old gate creaking in the wind."

Finesse

"How do you make such a hit in society?"

"Well, you see, I mistake all the debutantes for society leaders, and all the society leaders for debutantes."

"Wine, women and song are killing you."

"O. K., doctor! I'll never sing again as long as I live."

Mrs. A.—Of course, my husband's income runs into thousands.
Mrs. B. How lucky you are! Mine merely strolls into the hundreds.

Farmers Need Define Life's Values In Planning Program

Julius Immenschul, president of the St. Marys Farmers Union cooperative business association, attended Senator Capper's Farm Forum in Topeka, December 20, prepared to deliver the following article.—The Editor.

Before any farm program can be drawn up that will really be beneficial to agriculture generally and to the nation at large it is necessary that we agree on our values. To speak of parity prices, processing taxes, removal of tariff, allotment subsidies, and so forth without first agreeing on the real values by which the instruments are to be measured, is to lose time, energy, patience and friends.

Dangers Are "Within"
Lord Macaulay years ago said of this country: "Your Republic will be fearfully plundered and laid waste by barbarians in the twentieth century as the Roman Empire was in the fifth; with this difference: that the Huns and the Vandals were outside the Empire came from without, and the Empire came from within, and your Huns and Vandals will have been engendered within your own country, by your own institutions."

Abraham Lincoln addressing a group of young men at Springfield, Illinois, sounded a like warning when he said: "All the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, with all the treasures of the earth (our own excepted) in the military chest, and with a Bonaparte for a commander could not, by force, take a drink from the Ohio or make a track on the Blue Ridge in a trial of a thousand years. At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it is ever to reach us it must spring from amongst us; it cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation, we must live through all time or die by suicide."

Gentlemen, these are the words of a great historian and the words of our own great Emancipator, Abraham Lincoln. If we now tremble in the face of a threatening Communism on the one hand, or grow weak on the other through fear of Fascism it is not because the Huns and Vandals have come in vast hordes from abroad. Out of our own flesh and blood we have bred them. In our own institutions have we nurtured them. Why? Because we have set store to false values. Our present day paradoxical condition of want in the midst of plenty of farmers on the land without milk and eggs; of the largest gold reserve in the history of nations while millions are penniless; all this is due to the fact that our sense of values has taken on a peculiar bend.

Against Finance-Capitalism

Not a man of us wants to watch his own children go hungry; not a man among us wants to see his neighbor lose his farm; yet too many of us have unwittingly been working toward just this condition. How then shall we right the wrongs done? How shall we rid ourselves of the dangers growing out of parasitic and foreign "isms"? How? By destroying the causes of these death-bearing "isms". And the first cause is our false ideas of values.

Gentlemen, it is high time we began to think of values in terms of man rather than in terms of dollars. God put man on the face of the earth and gave him dominion over it. When man forgot his real purpose in life; when he refused to consider the fact that he have not here a lasting kingdom but must look to a future life for that, he turned pagan, worshiped false gods, and spent all his time in accumulating things for the present.

Paganism failed because it would not consider the real dignity of man and made slaves of men. Paganism broke down because it was rotten inside. A nation built on paganism is bound to fail because it has no strength left from within. And "has no strength from within because it dis-

Neighborhood Notes

In Cloud County

Pleasant View Local No. 529 held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, December 19. The Kenney letter was read. Invitation from Senator Capper to the Capper Farmer meeting, December 20.

Boyd Randle admitted to membership. All old officers retained for the coming year.

We are hoping our State President John Fengel can be with us at our January meeting. Mrs. Maud Kaiser and Mrs. Margie Regnier are on Menu Committee.

Duane Blackwood gave a recitation; Mrs. Coupal, reading; Dean Blackwood, reading; music by the Pleasant View orchestra. Dues for the coming year will be \$2.50 per member.

During the Social Hour sack lunch and coffee were enjoyed.

Mrs. J. E. McKelvey, Reporter.

In Osborne County

Portis Local held their monthly community night program Monday evening. A very nicely arranged program was enjoyed by all present. The main feature of the program was a one-act play which demonstrated some very able talent. The election of officers for the ensuing year took place after the program: Lane Staalund, president; H. Garber, vice-president; Chet Redow, secretary; Russel Wolters, chairman of program committee. At the close of business refreshments were served in a very pleasant manner. Those who had attended one of these Portis meetings should do so; you are missing something.

John Otte gave a report at our last Community Night on the state convention of the Farmers Union. John was the delegate from the Downs local and gave a very interesting report.

As Seen By Local Farmers Union Member

Samuel R. Stewart

At Salina, immediately after our 1938 state convention declared its program, our county president, Luther Beckman, secured the floor and stated that throughout the many years in which he had attended, that those resolutions were the best he had ever heard. Yet, at our county meeting two months later, in an effort to cripple the Farmers Union, he berated the state and national organizations and suggested each local might forward dues for only five members and use the balance in any way they saw fit around the local.

Later at our Wheeler local, President John Marsh openly advocated that we follow the Beckman suggestion, claiming the state organization need never know but what the membership had dropped to five members.

However the idea was blocked because local secretary Harold Printz had plainly stated, that to use the collected Farmers Union funds for any other purpose than that for which they were intended, would be embezzlement, so whatever funds he received would be forwarded in accordance with the Farmers Union constitution.

Our county secretary, William Goeckler was present and at mention of the word "embezzlement," Goeckler leaped to his feet, claiming Beckman did not mean to use the funds about the local (as Beckman had plainly stated and as all who heard him understood) but to hold the funds back till later in the year in an effort to force a change in the state policy, (a position which Beckman certainly never stated in any meeting.) Such is the help Mr. Beckman tried to give to an organization whose program was "the best he had ever heard."

Need Sound Distribution

These gentlemen are either grossly ignorant of American History or they are arch deceivers working for their own pocketbooks.

Nor was this to be all of that kind of "aid." Mr. Beckman attended our 1938 state convention and though not a delegate, was placed in position to help shape the current state Farmers Union program as expressed in their resolutions. After he had heard of the new just where he wanted Farmers Union dues to be sent. He took time at our following county meeting to extol what he thinks are the virtues of the Farmers Guild, and suggested we hold all paid in dues later, as a group, turn them to the Guild.

We wonder what explanation Secretary Goeckler may offer in an attempt to wriggle Beckman out of that position. Little wonder that Goeckler tried to shift out of the secretary's position by nominating a "capable young man" for that place. As far as I could learn, this young man was the only local president who attempted to follow the former Beckman idea of "using the balance of the funds in any way you see fit about the local." Mr. Goeckler hearing John Marsh defend that idea, perhaps realized Marsh would at least, as secretary, be very congenial with President Beckman.

Does our county organization really desire to help shape the state organization to any useful end? If we differ from the aims of the state Farmers Union, let me ask: Has our county organization ever gotten together, and by open discussion arrived at any clear program, and then ask for time at the state convention for a capable delegate to present such a program? Such a meeting would need to be called early in the year, and so as to carry out a discussion of policies, would not allow time for outside speakers, such as our officers aim to bring in, and time for but little other program.

Mr. Beckman though claiming to advocate it, has in open meeting refused a discussion of "cost of production" bill. Isn't he afraid he will find out who others have learned, that no practical workable cost of production bill has ever yet been written? Beckman openly scorns politicians, or from his words, appears to.

Yet every so called "cost of production bill" has borne one or more politicians' names and has been written by politicians, not to correct evils but to catch farmers votes.

Any such bill to be workable, must bear within it, means for fixing the prices of the machinery and things which the farmer must purchase for his operations, so the profit takers cannot forever hike prices and thus continually advance the farmer's cost of production. No cost of production bill has ever yet had such written in it, so none of them deserves continued Farmers Union support. But E. E. Kennedy is hoping to again ride to power through the "politicians' trick of holding up some of these high sounding, yet unworkable

we must live through all time or die by suicide." In other words, we shall either call for legislation that will aid in the wide diffusion of private ownership, especially of family-sized farms, which is one of the best guarantees a nation has against unwanted "isms", or we shall play into the hands of big capital and commercialization and finally die by suicide in Communism.

All is not lost yet, there is still hope. It is true that the disintegration and collapse of a nation begins to show itself first on the land, that is, when the small farmer is denied a just, equitable return for his produce he loses ownership, liberty, initiative, self-respect, moral responsibility, goes to the city and joins the breadline and the anarchists. History repeats this as exemplified by Rome, Spain, Russia, and now in our own country. Every great social reformer has recognized this truth and started reconstruction by means of agrarian measures to restore the farmer to his rightful status, a self-supporting owner of the land he tills.

Gentlemen, today we are honored in having with us the Honorable Senator Capper. If he is to speak in our behalf before the next Congress he must know our mind and he will want some definite program to present our legislation. I have tried to show the values that must be considered in drawing up such a program. I am convinced that whatever will benefit the small farmer and preserve the family-sized farm for the benefit of the family will also best benefit the nation.

As the Representatives Trade Pacts operate they are dividing the small farmer and should therefore be changed. The present allotment system favors commercial farming and harms the small farmer. A graduated allotment system should be put in force as a way to safeguard the family-sized diversified farm. This would put the burden of crop reduction on the commercialized farm where it belongs.

In Clay County

As Seen By Local Farmers Union Member

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Would Withhold Dues

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"If the railroads are so good — why aren't they rich?"

THAT'S a sensible question,

and we'd like to answer it, because business success in these United States is judged pretty much by whether or not you're able to make money.

But when you talk about the railroads you have to deal with two kinds of success that don't have much relation to each other.

On the one hand is operating success.

That includes, for instance, safety, and on this score the American railroads have the finest record in the world.

Or it includes ability to handle the traffic and in 1939 — when records of grain receipts for a day, for a week, or for a whole season were again broken at important markets in both the winter and spring wheat belts—the railroads handled the job without a sign of car shortage.

Or it includes speed — and the railroads in the past twenty years have stepped up freight speed by more than 60%—with similar improvements in passenger schedules.

A FAIR FIELD
NO GOVERNMENT FAVOR
IN TRANSPORTATION

SEE AMERICA BY RAILROAD—SPECIAL RATES FOR
GRAND CIRCLE TOUR... Ask your ticket agent!

ASSOCIATION OF

AMERICAN RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

bills, as bait to catch gullible followers.

In this connection let me add that Kennedy (the prime mover in the Guild) has shown here in Clay County, how conveniently he can cast aside the "cost of production" idea. More than a year ago while here talking for the "United Farmers of America" (the Guild, under another

name) he advised the farmers who were raising wheat, to increase their acreage so as to receive more money when selling their crop. In other words, if losing \$1,000 a year selling their acreage, they could by doubling their acreage lost \$2,000, in a year.

A man who for many years stresses (continued on page 4)

Announcing new KFU and Union Standard FEEDS

These feeds now are manufactured at your own feed mill in Topeka by your own employees. Only the best ingredients which have been thoroughly tested and analyzed will be used in their manufacture, and satisfactory results are guaranteed.

The cooperative manufacturing of feeds on a large scale is a step forward in the right direction for Kansas Farmers Union members. Savings made in this operation will be reflected in the price of KFU and Union Standard Feeds so that all who use them will be benefited by this new service.

As in other cooperative activities, the benefits, or savings, from the operation of this new feed mill depend largely upon the volume of feed manufactured and distributed by it. Help build this into another cooperative success story for Kansas Farmers Union members by asking your local dealer for

KFU & Union Standard Feeds

manufactured AND distributed by your own

FARMERS UNION
JOBING ASSOCIATION

KANSAS CITY

TOPEKA

Junior and Juvenile Department

Juniors from 16 to 21

Juveniles from 6 to 16

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

THE NEW YEAR

Why greet the New Year, if it is to be
A copy of the years that went before—
A tale of wrongs unrighted, golden ore
Unmined and songs unsung, of victory
That infirm hands let slip, of children's tears
That no one tried to dry? How dare we write
Another page, unless it set alight
A beacon for the marchers down the years?

Now, by our vision of a brighter day,
Our hope of dawn in everlasting night,
Let this year see us further on the way,
That winds through darkness to the win, crowned height
Where gleams a shining city. Ah, be bold—
And make the new year better than the old!
—Bruce Catton

YOUR LEADERS MESSAGE

Esther Ekblad

Haill the New Year

A new magazine in a recent issue stated that Americans would have at least two New Year's resolutions in common. Those being a stay out of Europe's war and to seek some solution for the baffling paradox of hunger in the midst of plenty. To those resolutions I believe most of us will add our "Amen."

As in other years, 1940 will be crowded with last minute news dispatches. Among them will be all that goes with a presidential election, a Congress in session and a war in Europe which becomes more threatening as each day goes by.

Election campaigns will most surely center around the preservation of peace and the finding of economic security. There will be a hundred offered. Congress will have many a lively session debating neutrality, farm problems, labor problems, public relief and the like. To keep abreast of the times will require eyes and ears open on our part.

Every one of us should be actively interested in our government. Public opinion is still more or less popular in America, so let's be a part of it. But on the other hand, let us not get so wrapped up in issues that are here today and gone tomorrow that we forget the things of more permanence. It is through cooperation and unity that we as farmers can build brick by brick the solution for hunger in the midst of plenty.

The play of the New Year is in our hands. Can we mold it in such a way that it will perform "the greatest good for the greatest number."

Push the Mercury Up

How about this for a New Year's slogan: "Farmers Union membership on the up and up!" It is a slogan for the campaign in which everyone of us can join. We can hang out our welcome sign and invite friends and neighbors who are not members to attend our January meetings. We can plan programs for those meetings that will make our visitors voluntarily want to be Farmers Union members. And as leaders, Juniors, Reserves, and Juveniles, we can spread out our wings and get other farm young people to join us in our Junior class meetings.

During the last month a plan has been in making for an organization crew which will have among its members several Junior boys who have attended our camps and who have taken active part in Farmers Union work. A 3-day training camp will be held in Salina to equip the boys with the needed information, then they will go out on a house to house membership campaign.

Along with membership drives, educational programs are also in the air. A joint-committee from the Farmers Union managerial association and the Farmers Union Board has been meeting and has been working on plans for promoting group discussion and other forms of cooperative education in our locals. With all of us on the job the mercury will go up!

The New Calendar

There are no idle days in the offing for 1940. A swift glance through the new calendar reveals a hustle and bustle through all the days, weeks, and months. We shall be kept busy during January and February getting classes and projects started and membership drives under way. Also for this winter we are planning a statewide Cooperative Institute and a series of District discussion meetings for the week. A Drummond Jones, Discussion Specialist from the Department of Agriculture, will spend with us.

The summer will bring us camp and picnic days, but the thinking of them really starts now. It is during the winter months that we have our plays, socials and other money-makers to raise the necessary camp funds.

We are going to have other projects too. We are working on a scrapbook and poster contest which will give Juniors, Reserves and Juveniles alike an opportunity to show their creative ability. Will we have a Junior Minuteman by convention time this year, and will we have Juniors working on the Writers' Project? With so many things in the air it might be a good idea to make a special Farmers Union calendar with all the important activities of the weeks and months red-lettered.

GAMES

For Juniors

Extreem... Extreem! For those who come early to the local meeting plan some activity to keep them happy and occupied until the other members arrive. At the New Year's the newspaper often retells the major news events of the year in politics, society, science, sport and other fields of activity. Cut out pictures of the outstanding news events or personages (or draw them roughly) or lay out objects which suggest them. Number these and post them around the room. Give the first comer a pencil and paper and ask them to write down numbers and topics of names. The one with the most correct list at the close of this activity is given a small prize.

Bad Habits: Each person is given paper and pencil. They name on the top of the sheet and below it writes a bad habit he has decided to discontinue in the coming year. Papers are then exchanged, and just below the discarded bad habit, someone else each writes the reason why that person has decided to throw it away. There is no rule against the imagination running riot in this game! Exchange papers again and read aloud.

The Year in Drama: Divide the group into twelve small groups, even though there may be only two or three in each group. Whisper the name of a different month for the group. Allow 5 to 10 minutes for the group to work out an appropriate skit representing the month. Call on the groups at random and ask the other groups to guess which month is being portrayed.

—Games from the Recreation Bulletin Service National Recreation Association.

THE MINUTEMAN PROJECT

A Speech for Juniors

The Minuteman Project has been developed in order to give young people who are interested in public speaking, an opportunity to develop their ability and to become more valuable to their organization.

Rules
1. Four speeches must be given before the Local. These must conform to all rules of the four-minute speech project, as to time, subject matter, delivery and poise. Speeches too short or too long will be disqualified and the Junior must give another talk which will qualify, until he has given the required four speeches before his local. The Junior Leader will appoint judges to check these speeches according to four-minute speech rules.

2. After the first four speeches have been given before the Local, the Junior will give four other speeches before four other organizations. These speeches must comply to four-minute regulations, excepting that they may be four to eight minutes long. A speech under four minutes in length is disqualified.

3. Each of these eight speeches must be upon a different topic. Using the same speech twice is not permissible in Minuteman qualification. Each

speech must be upon a topic of interest to agriculture.

4. A fine speech, ten minutes in length, must be presented before an audience and before a member of the State Junior Department (or some one designated to act for the Junior Department) as Judge.

Questions from the audience must be answered by the speaker in a manner which convinces the judge of the poise and understanding of the Junior.

If the speaker attains a grade of eight (according to Four-Minute Speech Rules) he receives the silver pin which designates him (or her) as a Farmers Union Minuteman.

5. Work on the Minuteman project may not be begun before the Junior is sixteen nor after he (or she) is twenty-one.

6. The full quota of nine speeches must be completed within a two-year period. It is advisable to complete the project in less time if possible, but in a Local having a large membership this sometimes cannot be accomplished.

Names of Minutemen are kept on file at the State Junior Department office, and these Juniors are notified when special work, needing trained speakers, is to be done. Minutemen make meetings in their adjacent territory, work for legislation, share in, or educate for new cooperatives.

The insignia on the Minuteman badge is a lighted lantern. Once in America's history, a man, at the signal of a lantern in a church tower, rode through the night arousing the sleeping farmers to the danger that menaced the newly declared democracy.

That democracy is again endangered by economic forces. The countryside sleeps.

The Minutemen strive to bring the light of education to awaken those who sleep in the midst of danger. The Minuteman badges are presented by the State Junior Department—From the Junior Manual.

White Lead in Color
With spring painting already being planned by the fore-sighted, news comes from the paint industry of the marketing of pure ready-mixed white lead paint in colors.

It means that those who do not wish to reduce white lead paste to paint consistency may purchase the ready-mixed paint in a grooved number of localities throughout the United States. Heretofore "old reliable" white lead was, for the most part, available only in paste form, to be mixed on the job with linseed oil and then tinted to taste.

Justice First
Friend—So you fined Miss Sweetly \$5 for speeding. Is she appealing? Magistrate—Oh, very. But we could not let that affect our decision, you know!

It is a wise father that knows his own child.—Shakespeare.

PRIZE WINNING ESSAYS

Recently an essay contest was held in Corn Valley neighborhood for Farmers Union boys and girls, and the two essays which won first and second, respectively, are being published herewith.—The Stafford Courier.

"Why Dad Belongs to Farmers Union"

Do you remember a few years ago when you planted your wheat in faith, watched it grow in hope and reaped it in charity, in fear of just, grasshoppers, hail and drought? Some one stepped in and removed that daily worry. Who did it? The Farmers Union with the Crop Insurance Plan.

Some years ago drought and dust storms hit our Western States with no crops, feed, potatoes, not enough clothing or food to save the people from a famine. Someone had to act quickly to save these unfortunate people. The Farmers Union through its business activities, consisting of the Farmers Union Central Exchange, The Grain Terminal Association, The Live Stock Commission Co., The Local Oil Companies and the Local Unions, has helped to do this.

Is it fair to share the benefits and not help pay the costs? Why not pay your dues to the only farm organization in Kansas that stands between you and destruction. By doing this you can hurry the coming of the day when Agriculture will be raised to an equal level with other industries.

We all plan and work together and have co-operative advice and support of our industry, and they need us for the interest of the farmers. It is worth a penny a day for the insurance of your family and future and to save for you the benefits already gained and to secure other leadings toward fair prices.

Is it not a pleasure to go to an evening Farmers Union meeting, to have a program and a social hour with all your friends and neighbors and cooperate together?

This is why my Dad belongs to the Farmers Union.

Rosaleen Heyen.

Why My Daddy Belongs to the Farmers Union

The Farmers Union is a cooperative union of farmers. Any group of people can work together better when banded together in a common cause. There are many farmers in the U. S. living far apart, and it is not necessary for the farmers to band together.

The Union makes it possible for co-operative buying and selling. My Daddy first joined the Farmers Union in 1924 in order to buy oil at reduced prices. Today many things can be bought through the Union at a reduction. Every penny counts with the farmers. The old maxim is still true, "A penny saved is a penny earned."

The farmers are not directly represented in the legislative government, but through the Union they are able to get bills passed that help the farmers.

The Farmers Union is interested in education. They have the Junior Union. Here the children get training in public speaking, music, dramatics, recreation, and business. This helps to make the youth.

Our local programs are educational. Through the Union we have seen pictures of Alaska, Canada, Hawaiian Islands, and different states in the U. S. We have a speaker equal to lyceum numbers. Some programs are funny. All these programs are free to the community. We have pep songs that make you feel good.

After you attend one meeting you are ready to attend another. The county meeting calls for county business. Corn Valley Local is a neighborhood gathering place. It is a place for farmers to discuss their problems, and get one and another's viewpoint.

With all these constructive points my Daddy could not keep from pointing the Farmers Union, and getting all these good benefits for himself and his family. A place for the entire family.

Carol Ann Knoche.

THE CROSSROADS

W. P. Lambertson

Senator Capper's free luncheon to the farmers was served right in the arena.

It took the prayers of the longest night in the year, finally to bring us the rain.

England should win if she can continue to force the sinking of German ships with the use of shells.

Farmers with opposing theories should not say naughty things about each other on the knottiest problem.

The Sherman monument is always the site of the capitol's Christmas tree in spite of the paradox of "War is hell" and "Peace on earth and good will to all men."

If any of you are discouraged and are sure the odds are against you, think of Finland as you resolve for the new year.

The Powhattan High School boy who rides a tractor three miles to school regularly has added new color to "difference."

There was wheat amidst the chaff at the farm conference and there was some threshing in the end.

When Hitler stepped on French soil on Christmas morning he grounded our resolutions.

Our resolution No. 1 is that we will not further protrude our nose into the European odor.

The international, political, economic and grocery-bill situation will make the year interesting.

The reason this session is not expected to pull any white rabbits from the hat is—the donkey.

"The American Farmer Union" is divided on who the aggressor was in the Russo-Finn war. The Dies Committee should extend sympathy.

Every time we have the urge to do some special piece of work on the farm we just get in the car and drive till it leaves us.

There was only one bell that rang in the New Year in Fairview when always before we had three. Possibly the uncertainty of the day is the reason.

"The personal ambassador to the Vatican is for peace over here. It is to modify the lifted embargo. Our not would not stop the war over there right now, if he could.

BOOKS FOR WINTER READING

Most folks like to read, but so many times we cannot afford to buy the books we'd like to read, or we live too far from a public library that we might have the books. The State Junior Department now has the small beginnings of a rental library through which we hope to furnish Farmers Union folks with the books they'd like to read. A book may be kept for a period of three weeks at a rental

Organizing Farmers Is Hard ... But It Must Be Done!

From The Producer-Consumer

It's difficult to get a farm organization to do the job farmers want done but we must keep on trying, said Bob Montgomery at the annual Texas Agricultural Market in Dallas, December 27.

"I have spent all of my life. My father lived to be 96 and he spent his life. His father died younger because of the civil war but he spent his life. And his father who knew George Washington spent all his life. All of us trying to organize farmers. And we haven't done it. Gray Silvers of the Farm Bureau at 70 said he had spent his life trying to save the farmers over to learn that they didn't want salvation.

"I have seen the Grange, the Alliance, the Farmers Union, the Farm Bureau. We don't get the job done. Why?

"We must have organized effort to get the things we are entitled to have. The first plank of any farm organization ought to be that we are going to see to it that the agencies needed to serve farmers see to it that they do. You just take the pressure off and all of us (college professors too) who work for you will sit down. You get service only just so far and so long as you see to it that you are going to get it.

"You may be perfectly sure that nobody else is going to see to it for you!

Why Organize

"Why have organization? All the world has them. My barber in Austin told me his union dues were \$24 a year. I asked him if the organization were worth \$2 a month to him and he exclaimed: 'Worth it? Many times over! It does a lot for us. Do you know there isn't a barber in Austin out of work?'

"I saw a little news boy count out seven pennies to pay part of his organization dues. He said the newsboy organization cost him 35c a week and I asked him what he got for his money. 'Why,' he said, 'if it was not for our organization I could not keep my goods good stand here on the state house steps. Them bullies would come and run me right off if it wasn't for our organization.'

"Think of that! And the farmers were run out of the state house 70 years ago. They have no organization.

Put 50,000 On The Line

"You can go to Washington and get parity prices or anything else that is right—when you put 50,000 good farmers on the line. I will take the job then and go to Washington for you and I'll guarantee to bring back parity—or the national capitol! If—you just get together. But, so long as you keep petty jealousy alive and make impossible a powerful organization, farmers will keep plodding the same old road of poverty and distress.

"Texas farmers draw less than half of the average national per capita income. Have the poorest schools, save a few cotton states that are even worse off than Texas. Have no voice in determining the national policies. Oh, yes, you make sporadic moves to get justice. Sometimes you win a little battle between your teeth and descend on Washington in a fury—and get what you want after. But that is not the same as a real, strong organization.

"There are three things to discuss about why farm organizations do not do the job. Either they do not have a program that is vital to farmers and the farmers' fundamental needs—or there is something wrong with the type or method of the organization—or there is something wrong with the leaders.

Right Program

"The right program will mean something to the folks who live on the farm. Successful organizations the world over are built on the fundamental needs of the people. You can sell the 57,000 people in Texas the right program, but I am not suggesting what your dues be, but if the right program isn't worth \$10 a year to every farm family it ain't worth four-bits. Wherever an organization serves a real need, it will get followers.

"Why can't farm communities have a decent community life? In the cities they build playgrounds, swimming pools, take care of the health, in my town they even feed the poor, undernourished children. You want better prices. And a better chance at a decent standard of living on the farm. A good farm organization can get these.

"In Washington and Oregon organized farmers (The Grange) have fought for every farm to have electricity and today 85 per cent have it. Some have a rate of one cent a kilowatt hour to all and it is paying out. If Texas had that rate (most Texas farmers don't have any electricity much, less a low rate) we would save \$25,000,000 a year.

"Taxation is vital to farmers.

"Our whole educational system is designed to teach our youngsters to live in the city. It is not merely a matter of making a better life in the city (and that's important) but also living a better life. But—out in Washington farm families live a very satisfactory life. Our educational system needs revising just as much as did the educational system in Denmark 60 years ago when they revised it.

"You must have a program that means something to the people."

Wrong Methods

"If a farm organization has a good program for the people and is still not getting the message to the people, or doing the job it ought to do—then maybe it has slipped and got the wrong methods.

"An organization of any kind—church, lodge, workers, business men, government or farmers—must always keep away from two impossible situations. The first is the danger of too much centralized power on one hand and complete anarchy on the other.

"It is awfully hard not to let an organization build its own strength until you have a little clique determining all the policies and its direction. That is disastrous.

"It is difficult on the other hand not to have pure anarchy. We have the problem of striking the proper balance.

You cannot leave to the individual the right to determine all the policies. If you do that, you do not have an organization. It is like Will Rogers said about the democratic party. It is too democratic. The Republicans on the other hand have power concentrated in too few hands. They have power, cohesion, ability to stick together—but they don't know how to hold the people back home. As evidenced in 1932, 1936 and 1940.

"You cannot leave the county organization to determine all of its own policies. I am for leaving the government locally as possible. But all of us have enough sense to know that I as an individual farmer, or my organization in my home county, cannot do much about farm prices, tariffs, freight rates or parity. So we have got to surrender some of that authority to the state organization and the state some to the national.

But you are giving up more than you have to. That is dangerous. Georgia and Vermont on some things to get what you want.

Give and Take

"If a problem can be solved locally, keep the power to solve it at home. But we have got to do it. Things we don't like to do. There are millions of farmers and all must say: 'I'll go this far—if you will go this far.' That is the way democracy works."

Intelligent Leadership

"We must have intelligent leadership. And you have got to watch your leaders. You just give the government as much power locally as possible. But all of us have enough sense to know that I as an individual farmer, or my organization in my home county, cannot do much about farm prices, tariffs, freight rates or parity. So we have got to surrender some of that authority to the state organization and the state some to the national.

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WHIPPING WINTER...with a telephone

HELLO, CENTRAL. I WANT NUMBER 624. THAT'S THE SMITH HARDWARE STORE

BILL, MY WATER PUMP BROKE DOWN AGAIN. CAN YOU SEND ME A SECTION OF PLUNGER ROD AND TWO COUPLINGS BY THE MAIL MAN TODAY?

BOY, OUR TELEPHONE SURE COMES IN HANDY. THIS TIME IT SAVED US A TRIP TO TOWN IN THIS AWFUL WEATHER

Yes, the telephone is a mighty handy thing to have on a farm—especially when winter plays its pranks. If your telephone is not working well—if you don't have a telephone now—talk it over with the telephone people. They'll be glad to help you.

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

See That Children Get Right Kind of Entertainment In 1940!

As you stand ready to enter upon a new year, have you any definite plans of goals which you intend to develop or attain during 1940, asks Marie Busch in Women's section of the Producer-Consumer, Amarillo.

During this new year, will your outstanding work deal with improving the home, the clothes and the food your family eat? Or do you plan to improve the lives of those in your home by giving them more cultural opportunities—in reading material, music, movies and worth-while social entertainment?

In our magazines and in our clubs we have given a good deal of space and time to the information or improving exterior and interior of homes; how to make clothes and dress properly; how to produce, can and cook and serve food. Our next goal is to help the proper functioning of the individual in the home—who has been properly housed, dressed and fed. Just as the mother leads in the other plans to fulfill body needs, she should lead in cultural things of the home. You may say offhand that you have no time for such a program. However, if that is true you are about to fail miserably—for after having completed only half of the goal you have set.

It is very important that a mother should select good entertaining books and magazines for her children to read. She should encourage them to study, appreciate and enjoy good music. Proper associates as well as proper entertainment for the children are a challenge to any mother.

Should she fail to assume these responsibilities — all too soon she will be complaining because her children are not measuring up to her expectations mentally, morally and socially. Some mothers feel that when they permit their children to read any books or any magazines or listen to any music over the radio or go to any kind of movie — they have done their duty. Such procedure is not only careless but dangerous. It is almost like sending a young child who is sick to the medicine cabinet and telling him to take whatever medicine he desires. The result might prove fatal.

One book—wrongly chosen—might mar your child's thought-life. Your child does not know how to choose. Choosing he is in danger. One movie film may be enough to warp the wholesome development of your children's career. You are responsible for his choosing—because he does not know—you should know

NAT'L PRES. VESECKY LOOKS TO 1940 FOR MUCH F. U. PROGRESS

(continued from page 1)

and the farmers ability to pay. We will help push through legislation to compel congress to again resume its constitutional duty of coining money and regulating the value thereof.

We will help put over legislation to enable worthy tenants to become land owners, and to get a square deal to the poor tenants and share croppers of our Southland and to the dispossessed of all our land. We will oppose the enactment of un-American witch hunting laws. Hitler was able to foil a Nazi dictatorship on the German people largely through scaring them with the communist bugaboo. Now he has joined hands with Stalin, clearly showing that there is very little real difference between the two ideologies. A Nazi Dictator is just as obvious to every liberty loving American as is a Communist dictator, and an American dictator would not be one whit better.

Oppose War Propaganda

We will oppose all war propaganda and insist that the United States keep out of all the foreign disputes. We can do much to bring peace to the troubled world to counteract the tendency toward authoritarian government by making democracy work in America, and through democratic processes, getting our people that security and internal amity and contentment that has been the hope and inspiration of the human race ever since the beginning of time. We in the Farmers Union will prove by example that all races and all nationalities can live and work side by side in peace. That brotherhood of man is more than just a nice byword reserved for church sermons.

Most wars and revolutions are really caused by economic pressure either on the whole nation or on some large class of its citizens. The best insurance for international and domestic peace is a fair distribution of the income of industry and an opportunity for able bodied men to be employed at fair remuneration and own a home of his own and be secure in his possession.

To get the things that we need and should have you and I have three things we must do. We must organize and we must educate and we must cooperate. We begin to realize much organization work is needed when we stop to think that of the more than six and one-half million farm families now in the United States, less than one million are members of any of the three great National Farm organizations. With Agriculture less than 15 per cent organized and most other groups and industries from 50 to 100 per cent organized it is no wonder that our farmers have all these years and are still to this day selling the products of their toil for less than it costs to produce them. That in spite of the subsidies given us in the past in the form of free or cheap land, at present in government payments under the AAA and soil conservation programs we are still going broke and losing our farms.

Organization Is Need

Organization is now a necessity if we are to have a chance to survive as a home owning class. I am glad to report that most of our State Unions and many of our county and local Unions have awakened to the need of really getting out and telling their neighbors why they need the Farmers Union and what they can help do for their own benefit if they join with their fellow farmers in a real militant farm organization. The National Board has established a department of organization with Jim Patton, National Director and President of the Colorado Farmers Union as the head of the department. We have now a Southern, and Eastern organizing committees which work under the direction of Mr. Patton. New Farmers Union locals are springing up all over the United States. New England, which has not in the past taken any interest in the Farmers Union is waking up and asking for organization work. We have thriving locals in several of the states and Mr. Mikhelek of Massachusetts is working to get enough members in that state to enable it to get a state charter.

Michigan, where the state charter was revoked last year for noncompliance with the requirements of the National Constitution was granted a new charter and has built up its membership to about 3,000 members in one year, promising to soon be one of the strongest Farmers Union states.

1940 can and will be a banner Farmers Union year if we all put some earnest effort into explaining to our neighbors the Farmers Union Program.

Must Meet Regularly

It is not enough to have a large organization, we must see to it that the membership understands in what way they can better their condition by working through the Farmers Union. Our educational department with Mrs. Gladys Edwards at the head, is better organized for service than ever before. We have a fine efficient group of state, county, and local Junior educational leaders who will spread the Gospel of Cooperation into every farm community in our organized states.

During this winter and really all the year all our locals should meet regularly, at least once a month, or better twice a month, to discuss all questions affecting their welfare. Whenever the call goes out to the locals for help to push across some of our bills all locals should respond. Do not pile all the work on a few willing workers.

We only grow by doing, and the member that does not take an active part in the work of the farmers Union does not get the full benefit of his membership. We must remember at all times that our welfare as Farmers and our security in the enjoyment of our privileges as American citizens, depend upon our understanding of farm economics and of our duties as citizens, and on our willingness and ability to shoulder our fair share of the responsibility for their safety.

Because our nation, and community, consist of many groups each with its own particular interest but all largely interdependent upon each other for continued welfare, it is necessary that each try as much as is possible to understand the functions and problems of the others, and that they all cooperate for the common good of all. In this broader cooperation all groups of our citizens and all classes should take part.

The Farmers Union will again this coming year try to build up better understanding and more cooperation with organized labor, and with all groups of earnest folks in our country, to the end that we may help each other increase the well-being of our members and avoid as near as possible all misunderstandings.

Must Have Understanding

I am sure that if labor groups would understand that all the farmers' wages for the whole year are tied up in his crop, there would be no necessary strikes during harvest time. If we farmers on the other hand would give some real study to the condition under which much agricultural labor must live, there would be no sympathy among real farmers with vigilante organizations organized for the purpose of having the small farmers pull the chestnuts out of the fire for the commercial farmers and processors of farm products.

As for business groups that are coming to so fear the spread of the cooperative, they have nothing to fear if they put their operations on such a basis that the business will return to the investor of capital a just wage for the investment and to all those who work in the business wages commensurate with the work they actually do. I firmly believe that the unrest in the whole world and the suffering and hardships that many of our citizens must endure because of the economic conditions of the world are mostly caused by money, capital taking for itself too large a part of the productive income of the United States and the world, in the form of interest, dividends and excessive profits in monopoly controlled industries. After the take of capital there is not enough income left to buy the products of our farms at fair prices, not to keep the people in our cities employed at fair wages. It is time that all the conscientious people of America gave some honest unbiased study to the causes of the ever increasing unrest and unemployment and cooperated together in finding and applying the remedy. That remedy, and probably must largely reduce the income of some groups, but in the end all will be benefitted, because the most precious things of this world are happiness, security and contentment and those can only be secured through the cooperation of all classes and groups of our citizens.

SENATOR CAPPER HOLDS ENJOYABLE FARMERS FORUM

(continued from page 1)

mittee studies; break up monopolistic practices.

Continue the Dies Committee investigations into un-American activities. I am convinced the farmer is entitled to lower transportation charges, particularly in the Southwest. I say, balance Federal budget mainly thru reduced Federal expenditures. I am opposed to more taxes.

Keep bureaucratic politics out of relief and give states more control.

The number of Federal employees can and should be materially reduced.

My last suggestion, probably the most important, although it is not an agricultural problem—Keep out of war.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

that we did not enjoy good times for the farmer, with labor employed and an abundance of surplus production in either industry or agriculture, with good wages for the industrial worker in mill, mine and factory?

And on the other hand and to the other extreme, can you cite me to a time in the past when the farmer received starvation prices for the products of his farm, that we were not confronted with surpluses, under consumption, unemployment, starvation, misery, crime and want in the midst of plenty?

When we see the present conditions and face the possibilities of the future, can we sit idly by and permit the small minority to continue to develop our programs in their own interest, instead of the bringing up all over the majorities, or at least giving them equality in opportunity, through the use of their natural thrift and industry?

Do we realize our weakness as individuals and know our strength for the transaction of our own business through our own cooperative facilities, in the interest of all of the people, instead of a few?

Competition and individualism has failed and has bankrupted the world and made slaves of untold and numbered millions of peoples in the past and is continuing right up to the present day and if we are ever to have anything different we must organize, cooperate together as farmers and laborers as a means of self protection and self preservation and build upon the ruins of the present a real democratic commonwealth ourselves, applying the golden rule, replacing selfishness with unselfishness, providing an abundance for all, a reasonable degree of security for all who desire it and who will strive to attain it within their allotted span of life.

Is Practical Program

These noble purposes can be an established fact, not a fancy, if we as farmers will join together, determined to bring it about ourselves and would be asking too much of our Farmers Union folks to appoint a committee of one to honestly and earnestly go to your neighbor and ask him to join with you, back of the Farmers Union program in 1940, spreading the gospel of organization and cooperation, that we might have bargaining power in numbers of farmers bound together, determined to reach the goal we have set up in our State and National convention convention, with economic power behind our cooperatives, whereby we can and will transact our own business ourselves, and instead of farming for a living, farm as a respected citizen in a time-honored occupation, rendering the most necessary service to society and humanity and receiving for it, in return, received valuable assistance from them.

It has many times been said, and truthfully, that the regional cooperative must keep close to the local cooperative it serves so that it does not lose the point of view of the local that we must know "what riles them tick," or stop tickling them. It is just as important for the local to be thoroughly familiar with the activities of the regional—know what it plans to do, and how and why, in a large regional cooperative such as ours, the directors, who generally decide on those plans, cannot be expected to carry this information to more than a few of the local elevator members. For this reason we have kept our field men well advised on our plans so that they may be actually representatives of the association. Since they generally contact only the manager of the elevators, we have made every effort to keep the members and directors of our local

stitutions, perpetuating Christianity and our civilization.

No nation can survive being half slave and half free.

No political Democracy can survive economic dictatorship.

We have a potential membership of 20 thousand adults in Kansas and we can have them if we will go to work and do the things we should do and we can have them during this year too, if we will. The Kansas Farmers Union is ready to do its duty and is asking you to do your best with us.

I am wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year, with Health, Peace and contentment of mind, with a determination to your duty to your God, Your Neighbor and lastly yourself.

DISCUSS TERMINAL GRAIN MARKETING AND NEW SERVICES

(continued from page 1)

grain on the terminal market. Our bid cards carrying this information are mailed daily to our elevators.

Because of their close affiliation with local elevators, it is very convenient for regional grain marketing cooperatives to cooperate with the Department of Agriculture in new programs relating to grain. This summer we handled hundreds of cars of loan wheat, some of these cars being split up into as many as 14 separate loans. This year the program was changed. It was a simple matter for the farmers to send their loan grain through their local cooperative elevator and on to us. The elevator merely made a notation on the bill of lading that the grain was loan wheat, and gave us the information concerning the bushels of grain owned by the various farmers. We then got all the necessary papers together, made up the loan papers, and, being a leading agency for the Commodity Credit Corporation, sent them their checks. This was a service to the farmer as well as to the elevator. We are continuing this service with the exception of making up the actual loan papers. Since the loan papers must now be made up by the county committees in Kansas, we must now send the warehouse receipt and other papers back to the elevators which, in turn, give them to the farmers who take them to the county committee. We have the loan papers made. Then, as the farmer must again send the papers to us and await for the return of his check, he sometimes takes the loan papers to the bank and gets his loan there. When this happens, the loan is made through noncooperative channels.

Did you ever notice how quickly we become accustomed to modern conveniences? It doesn't take us long to grow used to the marvel of a very-control box on the radio, to a machine that washes dishes, or gadget on the wall that controls the heat. They soon become so much a part of our daily life that we cease to notice them. So it is with services. Once they are established for a few months, the members get so accustomed to them that they do not think much about them. The organization which supplies the services, a cooperative organization, just as any private business organization, must constantly seek new ways to improve its services to members, add to them, or perhaps substitute more modern ones for the old established ones. We have grown too familiar through use.

Study Local Problems

One of the ways in which we have added to our services to our members in the last 2 years is to take the time to work more closely with them on their local problems. We have done this through meetings with managers and their board of directors, through meetings with members, and through bulletins mailed by the local elevator to its members.

Meetings with boards of directors have been more or less discussions with them on how to operate their elevator more efficiently, how to improve their membership relations, and how best to work with them to advance their local cooperative program. Our field men, on their regular calls, have been able to observe the difficulties of the various cooperatives and learn how many of the problems may be solved. Also, many of our local elevators have been organized for a long time and their bylaws need to be changed in order for the organizations to operate under existing cooperative laws.

Our part in the meetings with members of the local organizations usually is to help the directors and manager present their program and plans more clearly and show the members how they will be benefited from any changes.

The new bulletins I mentioned are mimeographed booklets containing the cover page bearing the name of the local association, and three or four other sheets. One page is what, for convenience, we have called "Illustrated Cooperative Program." These are simple drawings showing the difference between the cooperative organization and the stock company in control, distribution of net earnings, ownership, etc. To this is generally added a "Question and Answer" page and possibly a letter from the organization to its members, ending with a page of advertising on the sidelines handled by the elevator. In a number of instances, these bulletins have paved the way for drastic changes in the local organization. When the time came to make the changes, the membership had a better understanding of what a cooperative should and could do, and therefore, the changes met with their approval.

Along this line of endeavor we have cooperated with the Extension Department of the Kansas State College and the Department of Agriculture in their work with the local farmers and have, in return, received valuable assistance from them.

It has many times been said, and truthfully, that the regional cooperative must keep close to the local cooperative it serves so that it does not lose the point of view of the local that we must know "what riles them tick," or stop tickling them. It is just as important for the local to be thoroughly familiar with the activities of the regional—know what it plans to do, and how and why, in a large regional cooperative such as ours, the directors, who generally decide on those plans, cannot be expected to carry this information to more than a few of the local elevator members. For this reason we have kept our field men well advised on our plans so that they may be actually representatives of the association. Since they generally contact only the manager of the elevators, we have made every effort to keep the members and directors of our local

In Remembrance Of those Kansas Farmers living (alleged) and dead who did not pay their '39 F. U. dues.

elevators informed regarding our activities by direct mail material and through the columns of our State paper. Any cooperative which fails to do this is most certainly passing up an opportunity to retain the interest and patronage of its membership.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

(continued from page 2)

cost of production, and then in the moment of figuring farmer income he omits the factor of operating costs, he either does not sincerely believe what he advocates or else is stooping to a low political trick. In either case he reveals himself unworthy to now act as a leader of farm people. Also, the Kennedy group in the past, gathered large sums of money from farmers and farm groups, under pretense of getting money from congress what people of average intelligence realized never could be secured. This is the man Beckman asks us to support by "going over in a group to the Guild."

Beckman may not be able to secure a majority of votes for the change which he asks. But if so, many of us have no intention of supporting the type of man Kennedy has proven himself to be. What will be the result to the cooperative store if this issue is forced over? The least it can mean is reduced patronage. Either outcome does not spell cooperation. Either outcome will mean less business and reduced office force. Five men must be laid off in the final shakeup, no one can foresee. From the lower brackets or the higher ones, which? Even now many do not believe it is cooperation to single out one individual and grant him an income, times greater than the farmers receive, who pay him, and patrons are wondering what the directors are thinking about.

No Right to Destroy

Is that the "Rockdale plan?" Certainly the Rockdale voters did not intend, through cooperation, to set up certain individuals to receive many times the income of their fellow members.

Some have said this idea of "going over to the Guild in a group," will not be brought up again. But please do not overlook the never ceasing, fanatical efforts of Kennedy to destroy the Farmers Union, a fanaticism that has been imparted to many of his followers. Because both he and Beckman, in their own spheres have, in past times given sincere, worthwhile service to the Union, does not mean the right to destroy it because the Union refuses to implicitly follow their wishes.

The constitution of the Union permits changes in policy as the group deems best, and the charges group are not true. The state and national organizations have joined forces with the Farm Bureau. Recently, one who believes that the two organizations should work together, was removed from the Kansas Farmers Union state presidency, by stoppage of his salary. That does not look like joining forces with the Bureau. Joining with the Bureau is the excuse given by Kennedy and Beckman for their efforts to destroy the Farmers Union.

A final word to Beckman. Whatever the outcome of your efforts, take notice, we are not forcing this issue, but you are trying to. Continue to burn with fire if you feel you must, but realize this. Some of us do not intend to be driven like cattle, into E. Kennedy's corral.

Fraternally,
Samuel R. Stewart

In Wabunsee County

A total of 227 persons have answered roll-call at the ten past meetings, making an average attendance of 22.7. Our largest number was in March, when 34 answered roll-call; the lowest in May and September with only 18 attending each meeting. John Bernitter Jr., V.P. Hoobler, Happy Reding, Mrs. John Bernitter Sr., Mrs. A. H. Struble have attended all meetings in the past 10 years. We have been pleased to welcome to our local the following new members: Adults, men: Howard Ames, George Aldid, and Ronald Turnbull; Ladies: Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Wild; and one junior member, Miss Olive Ames. Hugo Peterson, a member years ago, has returned to the fold. All members except two have paid their dues for the year 1939, and I say, thank you. I had several nice visits with different members while collecting membership paid their dues unsolicited.

We have enjoyed a number of good programs during the year. Sandy Hook local has presented two for our entertainment. The county meeting was held here, and at a special meeting our state president, Mr. Fengel, gave a very interesting talk. At the same meeting a representative of the Kaw Valley Cooperative Electric gave a detailed explanation of the workings of this organization and we hope we shall have good lights and many other desirable appliances in our homes soon.

We Manufacture—

Farmers Union Standard
Accounting Forms
Approved By Farmers Union
Auditing Association

Grain Checks, Scale Tickets
Stationery
Office Equipment
Printing

the CONSOLIDATED
printing and stationery co.
SALINA - KANSAS

Our local business at St. Mary's has rendered its usual efficient and commendable services to its patrons. The number of stockholders has been increased from a little over 100 to about 160. We have placed the organization on a cooperative basis and the stockholders have received substantial rewards. Cooperation is nothing new, it is as old as the world, but real cooperation always pays.

Have Education Fund

Miss Olive Ames, a junior member, was sent to the Junior Camp at Eureka Lake last summer. Miss Ames returned with a good report. Miss Frances Bernitter and Billy Marshall attended the "Co-Op" school at Hutchinson and both gave fine reports. These trips were sponsored by the Cooperative Business Association of St. Mary's through an educational fund set up by that organization.

Two rather large baskets have appeared at our meetings recently, one in pink the other in blue; they have been carried by two young men who seem a little proud but they carried the baskets very carefully and tenderly. These little visitors, we believe, will make good cooperators as they are very orderly, causing no disturbance at our meetings. We extend our congratulations.

Mr. Seth Weeks started to stray away to Halifax; the high altitude of that vicinity seems to have caused a matrimonial daze, so the customary consequences. We extend a sincere welcome and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Weeks.

We have been fortunate during the past year, no fatalities have occurred among our members. Mr. A. D. Keyser, who was seriously ill, has recovered and we are glad. We regret the passing of an old friend and neighbor, Mr. Mike Sweeney, to those near ones we extend our sympathy.

Our past year may not have been all we hoped for but mutual interest smiles and a friendly halo has made for much pleasant.

In Cowley County

On the evening of December 16 a group of 20 Juniors of the Kellogg Farmers Union Local enjoyed a Taffy Pull. The evening was spent in singing, playing games and pulling taffy.

The regular meeting of the Kellogg Juniors was held December 20, the same evening that the regular local meeting was held. Six Juniors were that evening received into the Local as Junior members.

The program was presented by visiting Juniors from the Beaver Local and by the Kellogg Juniors. A covered dish supper was enjoyed before the meeting. After the meeting all enjoyed a quiz game.

Leah Schmidt, Reporter.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Per Word, 1 Issue..... 3c
Per Word, 4 Issues..... 10c

FOR SALE—Registered Hampshire and Hereford pigs, bred sows and gilts, Cunningham Bros. Bison, Kansas, 2-1-40.

TO FEEL FINE, use our all-vegetable laxative. Trial package 9c stamps. Edwards Company, Tarpon Springs, Florida. 11-2-4

BUY A KANSAS FARM, where real profits can be made. Wide selection available at actual values. Small payment down. Long terms. Low rates. Take advantage of Federal Land Bank values and be assured of opportunity to make farming pay. Also productive Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico farms available. Write today for descriptions, naming state interested in.—FEDERAL LAND BANK, WICHITA, KANSAS.



Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company

YOUR firm where you buy and sell through your own experienced Farmers Union Live Stock men.

Patronize Your Own Firm

WICHITA PARSONS
KANSAS CITY

The Zero Year

By a strange coincidence, beginning with 1840 every man elected to the presidency in a year ending in a zero died in office. In other words, the President elected in 1840 and the one elected in every twentieth year thereafter failed to complete his term of office. The Presidents, with the dates of their election, are as follows:

1840—William H. Harrison.
1860—Abraham Lincoln.
1880—James A. Garfield.
1900—William McKinley.
1920—Warren G. Harding.
After considering this, the potential candidates may not be anxious to capture the 1940 election.

They conquer who believe they can.—Emerson.

HAVE you ever served on a program committee? Did you ever wish that new ideas would drop down from the sky?

Good news for worried program committees is the Farmers Union

PROGRAM SERVICE

It is available to Locals and individuals through the Kansas Farmers Union; the subscription price 60c yearly.

ORDER FROM THE

**Kansas
Farmers Union**
Box 296
Salina, Kansas

Bovine Connoisseurs

A city girl, spending some time in the country, spoke to the farmer about the troubled way in which the cattle regarded her.

"Well," said the farmer, "it must be on account of that red dress you are wearing."

"Dear me. Of course I know it's terribly out of style, but I had no idea a cow would notice it."

Local Supplies

Below is a Price List of Local Supplies, printed for the convenience of all Local and County Secretaries in the Kansas Farmers Union.

Cash Must Accompany Order. This is necessary to save expense in postage and mailing.

Application Cards, 20 for .. 5c
Constitution .. 5c
Credentia Blanks, 10 for .. 5c
Demit Blanks, 15 for .. 10c
Local Sec. Receipt Book .. 25c
Farmers Union Watch Fob .. 50c
Farmers Union Button .. 25c
F. U. Song Leaflets, dozen .. 10c
Farmers Union Song Books 20c
Business Manual .. 5c
Delinquency Notices (100) .. 5c
Secretary's Minute Book .. 50c
Book of Poems, (Kinney) .. 25c
Above, lots of 10 or more 20c
Gifts, lots of 100, each .. 15c
Militant Voice of Agriculture (John Simpson) each .. 75c

WRITE TO

**Kansas Farmers
Union**
Box 296 Salina, Kansas



A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Grant all your hopes a singing breeze,
Happy harbor safe to win;
Quick upon untroubled seas
May your ship sail in!

IN REMEMBRANCE of our pleasant relations during the last twenty-five years, please accept our sincere good wishes for your success and happiness during the coming year.

DIRECTORS and EMPLOYES

FARMERS UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION
KANSAS CITY - SALINA - WAKEENEY - TOPEKA

Price List of Vaccines and Serums

CATTLE

Abortion Vaccine—For lasting or long time protection
Money back guarantee, per dose .. 50c
Blackleg Bacterin, Life protection in 100 dose lots, per dose .. 7½c
Bovine Mixed Bacterin—For prevention and treatment of shipping fever, Hemorrhagic, 100 dose lots, per dose .. 7½c
Pinkeye Bacterin, For prevention and treatment, 100 dose lots, per dose .. 7½c
Mastitis Bacterin (gargol), 40 doses .. 1.00
Calft Scour Bacterin, 10 doses .. 1.00
Branding Fluid—1 lb can, (for approximately 100 head), used with cold iron .. 1.00
Branding Iron, 3 inch bronze letter .. 1.00
Special brands \$3.00 each.
De-Horning paste—preventing growth of horns on calves and goats. For 50 head .. 1.00
Wound Paint—Used after dehorning or castration and on screw worms. Per gallon .. 3.00
Syringes (Heavy Duty). Last a lifetime, 4 cc or 20 cc size .. 2.00
Two Needles, 2 ½x, supplied with each syringe, free. Extra needles, 3 for .. 50

HOGS

Hog Serum—Cholera—100 ccs .. 75c
Virus, 100ccs .. 1.65
Swine Mixed Bacterin—"Piu" swine plague, hemorrhagic Septicemia, Para-typhoid, etc., per dose .. .08
Hog Worm Capsules—Guaranteed to rid hogs of worms, per box of 50 with instruments .. 3.50
Creosol Dip Disinfectant, per gallon .. 1.00

HORSES

Sleeping Sickness Vaccine. One treatment package (2 10-cc doses) .. \$1.50
Equine Influenza Bacterin—distemper, influenza, shipping fever, 10 doses .. 1.25
Equine Polyvalent Bacterin—for abscessed infections, fistulous withers, etc., 10 doses .. 1.25
Colic Capsule for horses—indicated in colic and gastritis indigestion, 3 in box .. 1.00
Purgative Capsules for horses. Rapid Dependable, 3 in box .. 1.00
Dalling Gun, Brass heavy nickle. For giving capsules to horses and cattle. Only .. 2.00

POULTRY

"Big Pay" mineral. For all livestock and poultry 100 pound bag. (5 bags \$20.00) .. 4.25
Poultry Antiseptic Tablets: 100 tablets makes 100 gallons drinking water, box .. 1.00
Respirators. Use in lung type poultry diseases, 100 tablets to box .. 1.50
Poultry Worm Tablets, adult size, per dose .. 1½c

We Sell Results—At Reasonable Prices—That's What You Want. Direct Orders, with remittance, to

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