



THE KANSAS FARMER

Organization

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Co-operation:-:

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Education



VOLUME XVII.

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1925.

NUMBER 39

So That The Farmers of the Nation May Know

The Agricultural Committee; The California Farm Bureau Federation; The California State Grange; The California Farmers Union—All Working in Unison Have Gone Far Toward Securing Needed Legislation.

April 25th, 1925. The fact that probably 60 billion dollars worth of property in this country or over 20% of the total is now exempt while the constant urge is toward the expansion of the functions of government and the services which it performs. This means that while ever greater amounts of money are required to carry on government, the basis of taxation upon which such funds must be raised is constantly being narrowed. But while other property is being exempted from taxation, either in whole or part, the farms of this state, like those of the older and more developed states of this nation, will stay within the basis of taxation. New York's case is typical—less than one-half of the property subject to the general property tax, every bit of agricultural property in that state is within the taxing unit.

Summing up our tax situation in California we face these facts: in the last forty years the expense of our state government has increased from less than four million dollars to over eighty million dollars annually, while the state's indebtedness has risen from slightly over three million to nearly eighty million dollars. In the last twenty years, the cost of government in the municipalities of this state has risen from about fifteen million to over one hundred and fifty million dollars annually. During the same period the cost of our counties' government has gone from about fifteen million dollars to over two hundred million dollars annually. The funded debt of our cities has risen during this time from about 10% million to over 200 million dollars while that of the counties has gone from less than 3 millions to over 170 millions. During this same period the assessed valuation of property (including that of utilities paying an "in lieu" tax) has grown from one and one-third billion dollars to slightly over five billion dollars while our population has increased from about a million and a half to slightly over four million or less than three-fold. Our cost of government and our public expenditures and consequently our rate of taxation grew out of all proportion to both our population and our resources. All of which means that if we in California continue to carry on such a program, financial bankruptcy and economic ruin are certain to be our destination, since vast as these figures are and almost incomprehensible, the people of this state pay about 384 million dollars in taxes while their total revenue was but 294 million dollars, leaving a deficit to be paid for at some future time out of taxes of about 90 million dollars. Aside from this California's citizens pay about 135 million dollars in taxes while their total revenue was but 294 million dollars, leaving a deficit to be paid for at some future time out of taxes of about 90 million dollars. Aside from this California's citizens pay about 135 million dollars in taxes while their total revenue was but 294 million dollars, leaving a deficit to be paid for at some future time out of taxes of about 90 million dollars.

The bonded indebtedness of California and her political subdivisions today totals about 600 million dollars (exclusive of school districts) which will require about a billion and a half dollars to take care of the principal and interest. In the fiscal year 1921-22 (the latest period for which we have figures) California's revenues for state purposes was about 66% million dollars, her counties about 135 million dollars and her cities about 92% million dollars. Her expenditures for this same period were for state purposes about 84 million dollars, for county purposes about 179 million dollars and for her cities about 121 million dollars. Consolidated, these figures mean that during that year the people of this state spent about 384 million dollars in taxes while their total revenue was but 294 million dollars, leaving a deficit to be paid for at some future time out of taxes of about 90 million dollars. Aside from this California's citizens pay about 135 million dollars in taxes while their total revenue was but 294 million dollars, leaving a deficit to be paid for at some future time out of taxes of about 90 million dollars.

The reason why our farmers are so deeply concerned with the sensible and efficient expenditure of public monies is always clear. Physical properties which constitute almost entirely the holdings of farmers cannot be concealed. Land, buildings, cattle, orchards, etc., are always visible. Exemptions of Federal taxes upon the income of farmers, however, are not so easily seen. The heavy surcharges applied to the holding of tax-free bonds of which the farmer has practically none. Mr. Watson, Director of Taxation Research of the Illinois Agricultural Association, says: "Of all classes of taxpayers, farmers receive fewest benefits from tax exemptions. More than all others, they pay increased taxes because of exemptions." The evasion of state taxes through Public Ownership is largely nonexistent in our congested centers of population, only a benefit which in the main our farmers cannot hope to enjoy but the practice of which works to their positive disadvantage. Intangible property which is largely owned by city dwellers, evades taxes almost entirely and even when it does not, is assessed in some cases by law upon a basis of about one-fourteenth its value.

The oft published figures concerning the farmers' handicap in the matter of taxation, should be borne in mind. Of his gross receipts for the year 1923, he paid 16.6% to tax collectors while all other industries averaged when taken collectively but 11.9%. Of the net earnings or profits of his business enterprises, the farmer gave up 86% to the tax collector while all other forms of business activity which are conducted for commercial gain, paid only 34%.

In this state, in the decade of 1914-24 the amount of money which we raised by direct property taxes increased for counties and municipalities over 100% while for districts on the average it was over 200%. Our state receipts for this period increased 115%, our county receipts 275% and our municipal receipts over 100%. In the nation as a whole money raised by taxation increased from 2 1/2 billion to over 7 1/2 billion dollars annually.

The figures previously given were set forth here to call your attention to the necessity of the farmers of the nation at large and California in particular seriously considering them in relation to our agricultural economic situation and its connection with the non-partisan political activity of our collective life, whether as a city, a county or a state, we are subject to the same laws of Economy, the same Law of Business Sanity, the same conception of commercial integrity and regard for the Rights of Others, the same Sense of Justice and Fair Play which govern our Private relations. There is a limit upon Public expenditures just as there is upon Private expenditures. We must keep Expenditures within our Income and the state or its political sub-division which does not do that, is the ultimate headed for certain disaster.

Our Farmers are most vitally concerned in the same and different administration of our political affairs because they are owners of physical properties which cannot be moved and which are the ever ready and defenseless prey of the tax collector. It is a matter of history that those engaged in agriculture have always been the victims of the lower strata of society. In America, with our tremendous areas of still scarcely developed country and our facilities for education through publicity, we ought to be able to greatly slow down this process of degradation even if we cannot prevent it. It is in this hope that the organized farmers of California ask the aid of the patriotic and far-seeing citizens of this state, wherever they may live and whatever their business may be, to help in keeping Agriculture, the great basic industry of any self-respecting people, in a position economically as well as making farming a business and the American type of Farm Home a possibility for our present and future generations.

The California Farm Bureau Federation, A. C. Hardison, President. The California State Grange, George R. Harrison, Master. The California Farmers Union, R. V. Garrod, President.

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POLITICAL WORK IS REVIEWED AT UNION MEETING.

Secretary Davis Urges Finance Plan as Aid for Co-ops.

Congressmen and statesmen can hardly be blamed for the difference of opinion between the agricultural legislation when the farmers themselves are divided on the issues, in the opinion of A. C. Davis, national secretary of the Farmers' Union.

In the following article Mr. Davis makes no attempt to give an opinion as to whether or not cooperative and agricultural legislation should be pushed. He brings up, however, several interesting opinions that are at the basis of various differences of view.

In my judgment the National Union will do well to consider to what extent we may officially engage in political activities. Every reading, thinking American farmer is a potential politician. He naturally gravitates toward that party which most nearly embodies in its declarations, what he conceives to be the proper course of government. Placed in a position of responsibility and leadership, there may be developed within him a tendency to swing the crowd with which he associates in the political vehicle of expression. In an organization this is apt to lead to the endorsement of parties, platforms and individuals, implying the support of the organization. The reasons advanced by those who would advocate this method of attack are very plausible. They suggest that since the tendency is being developed in our country for politicians to cater to class organization, all organized classes must so align themselves in order to make their political influence felt. The reasoning is perhaps good, but has not worked out in practice. American political history bears no record of any great success at the polls by strict organization effort. The right of individual self expression is as sacred as the right of nations to self determination. The keeping in line of great fundamental principle hinges the fate of all government by the electorate.

Members of the Farmers' Union must be encouraged to exercise that selfishness common to the race and select those policies and officials best adapted to the protection and advancement of agriculture, but be assured that the guarantee of political liberty contained in the Constitution of the Farmers' Union shall not be abridged. A National Legislative Policy. It is reported that of the more than six thousand bills introduced in the last Congress, about 200 (two hundred) of them were intended for the relief of agriculture. The need of agriculture. The need of agricultural relief was universally recognized but no one seemed to know in just what form it should be applied. Considerable censure has fallen upon Congress but in its defense it may be said that Congress was no more divided than were the great farm organizations of the country. A lack of unity was everywhere manifest. Even our own great organization was divided as the proper course.

There has been developed among our members two distinct schools of thought. Both recognize that the Farmers' Union is to move the economic handicap under which agriculture is laboring, but the methods of attack differ. One group insists its faith in the power of the farmers themselves, working in cooperative enterprises, aided by such legislation as may be necessary to insure cooperatives a free field. The other group recognizes the value of cooperative effort, but maintains that under present conditions the power of cooperation is so limited that farmers may not hope to bring that degree of economic relief so necessary to the rehabilitation of the industry by their own efforts. This group would utilize the functions of the federal government to stabilize values and thus remedy the ills to which we are heir. This second group has a large following among our members who are engaged in the production of those crops whose price is determined in the world competitive markets.

No question of greater importance to the future of agriculture, and to the oncoming of a great Farmers' Union, will be before this session than that of adopting a definite legislative policy. The hope of success lies in unity of action. There is here assembled the leaders of our great State Unions, fully capable of settling this question. Out of our deliberations may there come a definite Farmers' Union agreement upon national legislation if it is determined that legislation is needed, having the support of our entire membership.

It is not my purpose to inject into any discussion which may arise, my personal views upon the general subject of legislation, but to urge the importance of determining here and now what course we shall pursue during the coming year. The subject, permit me to make one observation. Among the newer activities of the Farmers' Union are our cooperative banks, local and state wide. All students of the American finance know that there is no federal provision for such institutions, and state provisions as now exist are very meager. The banking system now operative in the United States under the control of the federal reserve board function for what has been generally termed commercial banking and for that only. Practically the only recognition given to the peculiar financial needs of agriculture has been expressed in the creation of the farm loan banks and the intermediate credit banks, neither of which as now operated meet the requirements of strictly cooperative effort. The success of any cooperative effort hinges more nearly upon any single agency aside from the human element. It is safe to assume that the American farmer will not hope for a high degree of cooperative development until adequate provisions have been made for finances.

It may be further assumed that our efforts to establish and maintain local and state banks purely cooperative in nature and practice, without results indifferent if not disastrous, until a radical system of finance is evolved to function for that class of business.

The ordinary short time practices of the business world and the long extended operations of agriculture are far apart as the poles. The Farmers' Union who profess to encourage cooperation cease trying to tie its efforts to the commercial banks of the country, but rather bend their energies to developing a system to fit its needs.

This Union might with profit spend some time discussing just what is meant by cooperative benefit to the members. Shall we maintain the Farmers' Union to help the individual members who support it by their loyalty and their dues, or shall we cater to the influence in order to create large volumes of business and make a striking showing. This is a question up for consideration in several places throughout the jurisdiction and is worthy of careful consideration.

Concluded.

Actuated by no thought except to be of service, I have had the temerity to offer these suggestions as a foundation for the active work of this convention.

Years of close and intimate association with the work of the National Union is offered in extenuation. The Farmers' Union has years of splendid achievement in her history. Beginning the fight for economic equity in the treatment of agriculture, she has waged a war in the economic camp and forced the world to recognize the justice of her claims. We are proud of her record, but the achievements of the past will not answer for the needs of the future. Each decade, each year, almost, presents its peculiar needs and problems. This great organization must and will rise to each of them as they come in never ending procession and continue to inspire hope, faith and courage in that great host of American farmers who have enlisted under her banner for the duration of the war.

Fraternally submitted, A. C. DAVIS, Colorado Union Farmer.

ROLLING DOWN THE CLAY IN CLAY COUNTY.

Monday night, April 27, saw a crowd of over forty men and women members of the Farmers Union assembled at the hall in May Day. For more than one hour I tried to present the Farmers Union program and prove its beneficial results by reference to our own local and state wide statistics as proof of the practicability of cooperation.

C. C. Killian the veteran insurance agent for the Union acted as pilot and continued in that capacity during the week. I stayed with him and ate his wife's good cooking.

Along the road from Green to May Day were good substantial farm buildings on either side of the road. Practically all the farmers were Union men and had shown extremely good judgment in insuring their property with their own company which is unexcelled in the State. The Union Insurance covers hundreds of farm buildings in Clay County.

Green mustered out fifty men and women on Tuesday night and despite the fact that the gardens were frost we kept things worked up in the hall for one and a half hours, while outside Jack Frost got in his silent work. The store under the efficient management of Mr. Hurley is building bigger and better. The trade for the outsider is not bound by loyalty to the store but trades there because he gets good goods and at the same time buys for less.

Ross Dillinger is having a severe attack of the "Rabies" for he has a couple of cars of wheat on hand which threaten to cause the elevator to lose money. Between the "Bulls" and the "Bears" they are just about to get his "goat." Dillinger is a fine manager but he is compelled to suffer agony because he is at the mercy of a system of speculative marketing which causes farmers to lose their farms, and elevator managers to have fits so fast they cannot have them right.

Garfield Local met north of the store in the schoolhouse and eighteen of the faithful ones were there to take part in the deliberations of the meeting. Brother Allen is a wheat pooler and seems to be alone but the day is drawing near when he can laugh last and best.

Morganville held their meeting in the theatre and twenty farmers were present. The house was rather cold and we bled headed fellows soon were shivering on top of the head. I told the story of how the Union was organized and how the farmers flocked in as long as there were dividends coming from their local elevators and stores. When prices dropped and the elevator lost money they flocked out. Now the elevator cleared over \$9,000 this year and will prorate four thousand dollars after putting five thousand in the reserve it is expected that the old members who own stock will pay their dues in the Union in order to get their dividends from the elevator.

Young Stoneback is manager of the elevator, is a full fledged Union man and is not fighting the wheat pool. Carlson manages the store but so busy covering his tomato plants to keep the frost off that he could not attend the meeting.

Four Mile Local ended our weeks tour of the County. Over twenty-five attended the meeting. Church was the church across the road before our meeting so Mrs. Glessner and I attended church. The preacher made a very nice talk and several of his congregation attended our meeting.

The county is being planted to corn. Wheat is not very good. Roads are nearly all good. Livestock is in good condition. Farms look rather well taken care of on the whole. Some of the boys are worried over the way the "home brew" is being wasted by the sheriff.

Politics are at rest. Churches are prospering. Farmers Union institutions are doing better than in past years. The only man that has cause to worry is Killian and the only thing that is bothering him is how to increase the farm population so he can write more Farmers Union Insurance.

M. O. GLESSNER.

FROM THE MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO TURE HORSE DIS-TEMPER.

Hoxie, Kansas, April 27, 1925.

Mr. John Tromble, Dear Sir:

Well, I guess everybody read the paper full of my advertisement that I put in the paper. It sure does the work. You can publish this letter in the paper. Now, if some of you are a little late in hearing from me, just have patience for we were in bed with the flu and have received so many answers to our ad and have so many letters to write we will be a little late with some of them but they will be answered in their turn.

Your respectfully, W. R. Vaughn.

KNOW THE SUCCESS FAMILY. The Father of Success is Work. The Mother of Success is Ambition. The Oldest son is Common Sense. Some of the other boys are Perseverance, Honesty, Thoroughness, Foresight, Enthusiasm and Co-operation.

The Oldest Daughter is Character. Some of her sisters are Cheerfulness, Loyalty, Courtesy, Care, Economy and Harmony.

Get well acquainted with the "old man" and you will be able to get along pretty well with all the rest of the family.—Exchange.

SPECIAL. There will be a special meeting of the Voda Local No. 742 Friday evening, May 8th. Important business for the trader but as admitted in the offensive article, the organized farmer is now exerting influence, even in

Letters From President J. W. Batchelor of South Dakota

A Reply to a Newspaper Article, with Which a 100% Co-operator, Such a Mr. Batchelor, Cannot Agree; A Report of Their State Meeting Held in April; Says South Dakota Agriculture is Flourishing

Mission Hill, S. D., 4-27-25. To The Presidents, Dear Brothers:

One of our loyal members of Prairie local, north of Yankton has called my attention to an article in the Yankton Press & Dakotan where a fling is taken at the organized farmer and his activities in national legislation. The P. & D. may get some satisfaction out of slamming the farmer or rather organized farmer but in Yankton county I would imagine it would be a mighty unprofitable move. I have now written the P. & D. as follows:

P. & D. Yankton, S. Dak.

Dear Sirs: My attention has been called to your issue of April 23rd, in which you vent your spleen in an appeal to prejudice and skulking attack upon Uncle "Reuben" because of his efforts to unify his group and place his business upon a business basis and while you have never wavered from the economic program that would keep the farmer down to the bread line of serfdom, with a multitude of overloads and advisors I am disposed to go to bat with you and thereby discover if possible why agriculture must needs be the speculator's and gambler's paradise, why cost plus should not apply as well to agriculture as to other production, why all the bird dogs of commerce are forever dictating to or advising agriculture and meddling in agricultural activities and why the farmer should be denied the privilege of putting on a strictly farmer farm organization, provided he has the ability so to do and an ambition, not to be outclassed by other interests.

Self-assertion and self-determination are basic to any advancement, whether same be individual or class. Without organization, agriculture can function as servant or as muscle behind the plow but can aspire to nothing higher, so that those who would discredit or disrupt farm organizations have not altruistic motives but are impelled on with motives of exploitation, under an economic program that views the farmer as a chattel slave or private property.

Through Extension and Farm Bureau promotion, hundreds of millions have been lavished in an attempt to effect a strictly Chamber of Commerce farm organization which would assure 100% efficient production, without endangering the agencies of collection and distribution, with all control and benefit divorced from the farm, and through this pompous imposture squandered money like a drunken gamester normal and sane, to the detriment of the farmer and the nation.

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Washington, and is showing his ability to defeat such legislation as is objectionable or would place him under the domination of the Federal agent. If the farmer does not organize "God pity the rest of you" for bankrupt agriculture will make a very unreliable raft for your play houses, citskioshaeage.

The fact that your sheet has announced itself as the spokesman and champion of the scab, should make it as popular in Yankton county as a pest house and restrict its circulation to the city limits and to not over a dozen there. What a progressive and strictly farmer farm organization needs is more opposition and hostility and since you think you have the goods deliver them and we will go to the mat together for a finish with all rules waived.

Respectfully yours, J. W. B.

STATE BOARD MEETING

APRIL 23 & 24.

On the morning of April 23rd our state Board met in the rest room of the Court House with all members present. I might mention in this matter that the directing of the policy and affairs of a state Union involves the working on problems, many of which have not as yet been solved. Those who would stress enterprise as primary and the Union as secondary have entirely different viewpoints from those who would make the safe guarding of the Union the major objective. For example if we had ignored the national constitution as regards eligibility to membership and had taken in associations (regardless of their personnel) the same as individuals, we would have received a few thousands of dollars for said associations, most of which now has gone to other states, since association memberships (like in Nebraska) swelled the amount of membership business, thereby reducing the amount of outside business and outside dividends for proportion and at the same time increasing their percentage of claim on S. Dakotas association business and other non-membership business in the general divide.

J. A. Hinken of Burke reported as to the state of our prospects and as to the prospects for the summer. It is evident that we have worked ourselves out of a bad hole, caused by that terrible storm last June. F. A. Utecht reported the Produce & Brokerage Commission business which has made a fine record of our business, the lack of loyalty on the part of so many. A suitable truck is to be provided for the Sioux City House. Some time ago I mentioned a publicity proposition that had been put up to us by a representative of the Western Newspaper Union but that it would cost a few thousand dollars to put it on. The representative came before the Board and repeated his proposition with the result that the Board took it on and sometime in May we should be prepared to supply 50 weekly papers of the state with a full page of material, from our own composition or editing and without price to them and with but little price to us (\$2.50 per page of material, delivered to editor accepting it). It is now up to our membership to prepare the way for a free page of our ready to run copy, in your own home paper. Said to be published under the heading "RURAL ECONOMICS". If more information is wanted on this let me hear from you. As to place for holding the National Convention, it was thought advisable to make some further investigation before the final decision.

YANKTON COUNTY FARMER'S UNION TO PUT IN GAS TANK.

The recent county F. U. convention held N. E. of Mission Hill, appointed a committee to look after sight and purchase of tanks. The equipment may cost \$1000, but that amount can be saved several times over during the summer.

FLOURISHING AGRICULTURE.

"I read in a farm paper before me that the farmers of the U. S. have steadily advanced since 1800, that in their efforts to increase the efficiency of their soils they have been ably assisted by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, the agricultural colleges and the thousands of county agent advisors, that the fertility of the nation is not impaired, that the farmers have been able to overcome all obstacles by a free application of common sense and that the markets of the world are open to them."

It is alright to be optimistic but agriculture in this country has been thrown into low gear and has been running there for five years, with prospects that most of it will never make the grade, without an unloading of some of the unnecessary overhead, taxes, interest and super charges.

What the farmer needs is not advice but price or such compensation for his knowledge and service that his present disadvantage will disappear. If the farmer had the proper respect for himself and his vocation, he would resent all meddling with his affairs.

(Continued on Page 2)

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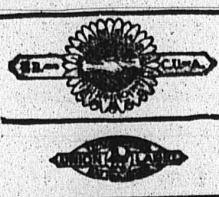
Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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

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

Communications and Questions—Communications are solicited from practical farmers, members of the F. E. & C. U. of A., are at liberty to ask questions on any phase of farm work. Answers will be either published or mailed.

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1925.



WHEAT PROSPECTS AND PRICES.

There are several good reasons why wheat should now be priced higher than at any time during the past four years. In the first place it is an essential food that has always sold far below its intrinsic value. Even at twenty-five cents for a pound loaf bread would be the cheapest food generally consumed by Americans.

In the second place there was a relatively small crop last year and long before threshing begins the alleged surplus of the 1924 harvest will disappear and the world will find its bread basket more nearly empty than is safe. Agriculture should be organized and carried on in such a way that there would always be a year's supply of staple products on hand. The simplest requirements for safety demand that there should be a substantial food reserve in the country at all times. There is no such surplus of wheat nor has there ever been any supply in excess of pre-harvest requirements.

In the third place the crop prospects for the coming harvest are the worst that have been known in a generation. On April 1, the condition of wheat as reported by the Department of Agriculture was 68.7 per cent of normal. Without any further abandonment of winter wheat fields that indicates a harvest of only 474,000,000 bushels. Nothing is known as yet about the spring wheat prospects but it is not unlikely that the yield will be low. In short there is now almost a certainty that the American wheat crop will be at least 200,000,000 bushels below normal. If so, and the proof appears to be conclusive, there will not only be no wheat for export from the 1925 crop but the yield will fall far below the actual requirements for domestic consumption.

Such a condition should mean a minimum price of not less than two dollars a bushel with the possibility of three dollars. If the market responds to the known conditions the low yield may prove a blessing to farmers who should get more money for the small crop in sight than they have ever received during any of the bumper years. It is easily possible for farmers to take advantage of the situation and make money out of it. All that is necessary is for the wheat growers to organize for the control and orderly marketing of their crops.

CONGRESS AND WHEAT MARKETING.

It is certain that the incoming congress must put more teeth in the law governing the operations of the so-called terminal markets for wheat. The price is now artificially low as a result of speculation mostly based on alleged contracts for future delivery. What program likely to be helpful to farmers has any chance in the next congress?

Many things should be done but the first and most urgent matter is the abolition of "short sales." No man should be permitted to sell anything that he does not produce or own. If congress will make it a penitentiary offense for any man to sell short on any market the price of wheat will be stabilized and speculation will be stopped.

Some folks do not believe that congress should abolish short selling but might help matters some by limiting the fluctuations in quotations for any one day. To this writer that proposal looks like rank foolishness. It is worse than price fixing because it would set up arbitrary rules for the measurement of price that would have no relation whatever to value, to market demands or to available supply.

The only perfectly effective way to abolish speculation in grain is for farmers to sell their own crops directly to millers or exporters. To do that no further legislation is needed. All that is required is a little vision, some courage and an effective organization based on a contract that will hold the fainthearted and the cold footed in line.

WHEAT EXPORTS DWINDLING.

There are two reasons why it is hardly necessary to worry over the treatment of some sort of a wheat exporting corporation to take care of the surplus produced in this country. The United

States is increasing in population and decreasing in wheat production so steadily that it is a mere matter of not more than ten years until wheat will be imported into this country or the people will be forced to rely largely on rice and corn for food.

Then there is Canada. No one knows exactly how many acres of wheat land, developed and undeveloped there are in Canada. It is certain that a much larger fertile area suitable for wheat production is available there than in the United States. Already our northern neighbor produces half as much wheat as we grow in this country and having fewer mouths to feed exports twice as much.

Nor should it be overlooked that Canada can undersell the United States because wheat is produced with much lower costs there than here. The land is cheaper, the climate lends itself to the use of the reaper-thresher which reduces expenses very greatly, and most decisive of all, the yields are larger per acre and per man engaged in the business. In 1923 the average harvest per acre in Canada was 20.75 bushels, in the United States 13.47. In this country no exclusive wheat grower can make a decent living by operating less than 500 acres; in Canada there is sufficient income from 160 acres for the support of a fair sized family in comfort and safety.

The export market not being open to Americans for very many years longer it is absolutely necessary to monopolize the home market. Organized wheat producers should be able to control the marketing of their product in this country. They must organize and must control if they are to continue in the business. The domestic market will soon take as much wheat annually as was ever produced in this country in a single year. Instead of worrying over surplus American farmers would better worry a little over better and cheaper methods of production, the maintenance of soil fertility, and the self help marketing agencies necessary to the control and movement of the crops by producers.

ARE UNION MEMBERS IN EARNEST?

The amendment to the State Union By Laws increasing the initiation fee to \$5 appears to have had a cold reception from most locals and from many members. And just why and just what does that attitude indicate? In the first place it seems to prove that the membership of our organization is not yet in real deadly earnest about what we are trying to do. In the second place it proves that they have very little confidence in the ability of the Union to carry out a program that is already so far advanced that it saves and makes for the farmers of Kansas a good many millions of dollars a year. In the third place, and most discouraging of all, it indicates that members have so little confidence in themselves that they cannot believe it possible that their neighbors could ever be persuaded to pay as much as \$5 for the privilege of joining with them.

There are more than fifty thousand farmers in Kansas who pay annually from ten to fifty dollars dues for the privilege of continuing in good standing in societies to which they paid all the way from \$15 to \$500 in initiation fees. None of these organizations are helpful in business; none of them offer any security for better living conditions in the future. Yet a vast sum running into millions of dollars a year is paid for initiations and membership dues by farmers in organizations that except for life insurance features which are paid for in addition, render no benefits whatever except certain social privileges.

The Union will make much greater progress and do much more good when its members, all of them, know and take pride in its program. When every man who belongs wears a button or a badge of any sort and boasts of his membership. It is not likely to take very deep root in the hearts of the people or exercise very much influence over business and public affairs as long as its own members do not consider the privilege of membership worth any more than \$2.00.

LOCAL AND STATE DUES.

Some of our secretaries have been complaining that there is nothing left for the Local after state and county dues are paid. Dues are collected for the purpose of maintaining and strengthening the organization. That work must necessarily be done by the State Union. There are some folks who believe that Union Locals would get along all right without any county or state organization. They are mistaken. Without the State Union there are not a dozen locals in Kansas that would live two years. Without the National, State, County and Local Unions there are not ten cooperative enterprises in Kansas that would be cooperative at the end of five years.

The Local Union is the only unit of our organization that is not limited as to its collections from its members. The only requirement is that it must remit one dollar and forty-five cents a year for the work of the County Union, the State Union, and to pay the expenses of the publication of this paper. A Local Union has complete authority to fix the dues paid by its members. It can make them just equal to the charges required to be remitted or it can make them five, ten or fifty dollars a year if it sees fit to do so. No matter how much it required annually from members by their own locals the amount to be remitted for general organization expenses remains the same.

Kansas has as low initiation fees and dues as any Union state in the organization. There are a lot of things now impossible that the State Union could do if it had a little more money. More money can be secured only by securing more members. If the members now in the organization would turn out and help get twenty thousand members before October there would be nothing further necessary in the way of raising funds. But this thing should be understood: The State and County Unions have no control

over collections. The Local Unions can have all the money they want to tax themselves for. Any Local that has no funds for its own purposes is in that condition in spite of the fact that it has authority to fix the amount of dues its members shall pay for Local purposes.

The trouble with our organization, even yet is that too many of our members keep saying "yours" when they should say "ours."

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK POOLING.

The Canadians are applying some new principles to cooperative livestock marketing. Their plan may be a step forward. Our own houses on the great terminal markets would do well to make a study of the methods now being practiced by the live-stock department of the United Grain Growers, Limited, at St. Boniface, Calgary, Edmonton. It will cost nothing more than a little trouble to find out about the new system and its results. If it is inferior to the plan already in use in this country it need not be considered. If it is better than any thing that we have our own folks should be smart enough to adopt and use it.

All who have studied live-stock marketing know that one of the difficulties in securing prices that represent the real value of a shipment is the mixing of grades in single cars. One lot, especially if it is made up of a small shipping station, is likely to include all sorts of animals from prime baby beef to ancient cows for the cannery. The shrewd buyers of the packers and speculators take advantage of this condition and govern their bids by the number of undesirable animals in the lot. This may be all right for the shipper who has the best critters but as a matter of fact he is likely to be forced to accept prices far below the real values of his stuff.

After several cars of mixed grades are bought by the speculators the animals are separated by classes. Those that are in good condition are put by themselves and so with the other and less desirable stuff. The trader may be forced to take a low price for the canners and culls but even if he sells any of the scrawny stuff below cost, which is not all likely, he gets such an advance over cost for select animals that he comes out away ahead on the whole deal.

The Canadian cooperators do for themselves the very things that we permit the traders to do for us to our very great loss and to their highly satisfactory profits. Every animal in a Canadian cooperation shipment is virtually sold twice. As soon as a car lot is received an estimate is placed on the value of each animal and what may be called the preliminary settlement with the shipper is made on the basis of that classification. Each shipper is credited with the value of his unclassified animals and is paid in the first place only the same prices that he would receive from the regular buyers under the old system.

After the day's shipments are all classified they are then separated by grades and sold to the packers. No good animal is undervalued by reason of being in company with poor one. All the best are penned by themselves and are sold at prices that represent something like their real value. The second quality stuff, the third quality, the old cows and the culls are all segregated and no one loses money because he sends a fine fat young steer to market along side of a skinny old milk cow.

The cooperative sales agency settles with shippers on the basis of the original appraisal. The profits resulting from classification and the separate selling of different grades are pooled and distributed annually to the shippers, each man receiving a cooperative dividend in exact proportion to the number and quality of the animals that he sends to the market. In other words the cooperative agency first buys the stuff from the cooperators and then after classification resells it to packers and feeders at a profit and the gain so obtained is annually distributed among the producer shippers.

The plan appears to have many good points to recommend it but it may not be workable in this country in existing conditions. It seems certain, however, that if it is a good way in Canada it would be as good if not better here. At any rate it is worth some study by the directors of our live-stock cooperative agencies.

PRODUCING MARKETING IN OREGON.

The members of the Pacific Cooperative Poultry Association recently completed the first year of their operations. The marketing contracts provided for a thirty day cancellation period at the end for the first years business. It was believed that such a period would make the work of securing members less difficult and expensive and that one year would be sufficient to prove the merits of cooperative marketing.

As the first or experimental year drew to its close there was a good deal of uneasiness and worry over the probable percentage of withdrawals. It was all borrowed trouble. Not a single producer availed himself of the cancellation privilege and the Association is now well started into its second year of operations with every one of its old members and great numbers of recruits in line. In a recent membership campaign the number of hens signed up was increased almost fifty per cent.

The only difficulty in the way of liberalizing marketing contracts by inserting a thirty day cancellation clause operative at the end of each operating year is in the matter of financing. Unquestionably the long time contracts have prevented many ardent believers in the virtues of cooperative marketing from entering the movement but on the other hand it is equally certain that it has enabled the system to finance itself and prove its merits through an experience of convincing length and adequate results.

Speaking about questions. Will some member of the Union tell an inquiring student of natural history what young rattlesnakes eat while they live in the prairie dog holes that are their first homes?

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

Germany Has Finally

Chosen a successor to President Ebert. The run off election last Sunday resulted in the election of Field Marshall Von Hindenburg by a majority of almost a million votes. After making several statements about the German elections that may have been somewhat misleading this writer is now glad to inform his customers that the final election was held last Sunday and that there is no longer any doubt about who will be the president of the German republic for the next seven years if the new chief of state should live that long. Von Hindenburg is now 78 years old. The term for which he has just been chosen is for seven years. During the Great War Von Hindenburg first attracted world wide attention by his victory over the Russians in the battle of Tannenberg. At that time the whole of eastern Germany was about to fall into the hands of the Russian invaders. After that battle Russia was never again a factor in the allied strength.

The repulse of the Germans in the west by the armies of Hindenburg to the French front but by that time the world was organized to withstand the German advance and no more victories of any importance were won by the armies of the Kaiser.

German Interest in Politics

Was conclusively demonstrated in the voting last Monday. There are about 38,000,000 voters in the republic and something like 32,000,000 went to the polls and discharged their duties as citizens. That poll compares very favorably, for Germany with the usual participation of citizens in general elections in this country.

Last fall only a trifle more than fifty per cent of the voters of the United States went to the polls after an experience of nearly a hundred and fifty years with popular elections and at the conclusion of a campaign in which unusual efforts had been made to get the voters to vote. In the first general election ever held in Germany at least eighty per cent of the voters took part and there is therefore no reason to doubt that the new president is the choice of the German people. He was a candidate on the National-Conservative ticket. His nearest competitor was the leader of the liberal and socialistic groups.

Politics Has Never Interested

Von Hindenburg. He became a candidate against his own personal inclinations because he was persuaded that he could render a great service to his country. He made few campaign speeches and subjected himself to very few interviews for publication in the newspapers. Nevertheless the conservative elements rallied to the support of the old general because they have faith in his honesty, patriotism and courage.

It is an interesting experiment that has been tried many times. Many men still live assisted in the election of General Grant to the presidency in 1868 not because they had any belief in his qualifications for high administrative office but because they faith in his honesty, patriotism and courage. Their faith was justified in every act of the general administration but their hope that he would develop into an able administrator was not justified. It is very likely that the Germans will have the same experience with Von Hindenburg.

Issues Did Not Trouble

Von Hindenburg very much. It is doubtful if he knows what all the hubbub of politics in Germany and throughout the world is about. It is certain that he is too old to learn very much about the problems of civil administration. He has his feet firmly on the ground and one particular, however, he wants the German people to get together and stand together in the great work of reconstruction and rehabilitation.

In one of his very few public addresses during the campaign Von Hindenburg declared in favor of national unity and expressed the hope that if elected to the presidency he might as the last and closing act of his career have the privilege of bringing the warring factions of German citizens into a closer union for the advancement of the welfare of the Fatherland.

Letters From President J. W. Batchelor of S.D.

(Continued from page 1)

all attempts to discredit his organization, all efforts to curry favor for the county agent or the Chamber of Commerce Bureau, all slams at the farmer in the general press or efforts to influence price against his interests. We now have sufficient farm organization in S. Dak. If we will just get up on our hind feet and tell it to them right from the shoulder. More members have paid dues for the year 1925, than paid during the 12 months of last year and there are indications that we are going to double our membership, then we can do more.

In the building of an organization, both constructive and destructive forces are ever at work and this is as it should be, but the constructive should exceed the destructive. I am billed for Redfield, S. D. May 2nd at 1 P. M. Co. Convention.

Fraternally yours,
J. W. Batchelor.

Business Is Reviving

Again if the newspaper stories are reliable. This may be true but the cut-price sales now being advertised in almost every city paper indicates that spring trade is still in need of a pulmotor. The method of suggestion may be good for what ails human beings but it has little effect on the sales of merchandise.

The commercial world may as well realize that there can be no general revival of prosperity until agriculture is able at least to pay its own way. When the merchants are unable to sell to farmers at any price they must look for a market for their wares among folks who are not likely to have any income while crops are being sold below the cost of production.

If the business world would get over the idea that business depression can be made to respond to hypnotism better time would soon appear.

Arms Manufacturers

Are worried lest the coming peace conference abolish the trade in pistols. Why not? Can any human being give any reasonable excuse for toting a gun? It may be necessary sometimes to own and even to use a pistol but the truth is that ownership of a "gun" is much more likely to result in trouble than is the lack of a weapon.

One of the most effective ways to abolish war and insure peace is to take all private profits out of war. If all deadly weapons, gases and tools used in warfare were manufactured only by the government and sold to no one there would be few more armaments in the history of the well-known human race. Too many people make money out of war.

Next to making the military age sixty years instead of eighteen the best possible war preventive would be the complete abolition of the traffic in arms and war materials.

Kaiser

Wilhelm was Overjoyed By the news that Von Hindenburg had been elected president of the German republic. Doubtless the former emperor believes that the first step has been taken towards the restoration of himself or some of his sons to the imperial throne. He may be right at that. It is just possible that the Germans who voted for Von Hindenburg have given up as hopeless the hope of about the state of self-government.

The great of all obstacles in the way of a successful democratic government is the all but impossible job of getting citizens to take any interest in their own problems. The average man is such an individualist that he wants always to be alone. The problems of government are so unimportant to him, relatively, that he will not spare the time from farming, stock gambling, building, card playing, pool playing, golf and fishing to give a little effort and thought to his country.

Not the merits of the Kaiser, the pass to which business has fallen on the efforts of Von Hindenburg will restore royalty to the German throne. The only danger to democracy and the only hope for monarchy lie in the mental laziness of the rank and file of the German people. They are so busy that they want government to carry on for them by men who have nothing else on their minds and as in other countries they care little whether or their big boss and guardian is called a king or a president so long as they are not troubled with problems and duties that compel thought. The one thing that the average human refuses to do except under compulsion is to think a little for himself.

Catfish

Have Never Been Extremely popular for table use in Kansas. Too many people know the dietary habits of the critter. Still it must be admitted that Bill White is a little severe in his criticism of the well-known bullhead. Like human beings catfish are divided into all sorts of tribes. It would be right unfair for a visitor from Mars to judge us all by a single specimen of variety of man accidentally thrown his way.

Although Old Bill may not know it, there are catfish that are game fish and catfish that are better than the best trout or bass for the table. Probably the streams of eastern and southern Kansas are ruined not only for the purring-horned pout but for all other sorts of fish whether they are game or otherwise. Not so, however, with the rivers, creeks and ponds of the western and southwest.

ANOTHER WORD SHORT.

With a half million more or less words in the English language, the dictionary is still two or three words short. There are still some ideas which it takes two or three words to express, where one word would come in much more handy.

Two examples come to mind: We say a man is starving—but we have no corresponding word to indicate a man who is suffering from want of water. We say he is thirsty or "dry," but those words correspond in degree with "hungry." They do not indicate the degree of want that is indicated by the word "starving."

There is another word, however, that the English language needs more than a word to indicate very dry. Let us illustrate.

A man who is disloyal to his country is called a traitor.

A man who is disloyal to his family is a deserter.

A man who is disloyal to his labor organization is a scab.

A man who is disloyal to his church is a heretic.

But there is no word to describe the man who is disloyal to his farmer's organization. He's just plain foolish.

ern parts of the state. If the channel cat is introduced into proper streams and safeguarded for a few years Kansas folks will find that they have a fish that it is fun to catch and a joy to eat.

Women And Farmers

Voted in large numbers for Von Hindenburg and that sets folks to speculating again about what voters have in their minds when they go to the polls. In this case no one can give an answer that has much sense in it. The women of Germany suffered more from the war than any one else. They saw their grown-up sons used for cannon fodder and their children starved and stunted from lack of food and yet, at their very first opportunity, voted for the man who more than any one else in the whole world typifies the very spirit of war and of all men is most likely to favor and provoke more fighting.

Perhaps there is a little more excuse for the farmers who in the first place are naturally conservative and in Germany have not yet become accustomed to the heavy duty of thinking for themselves. In the second place agriculture suffered relatively small losses from the war. Germany was forced to rely on home-grown food for four years and the farmers got high prices for their products and paid off all their debts with inflated and depreciated money.

The only certainty about a popular election is that no one man foresees how the people will vote or why.

Pinchot Had Quarreled

With the Pennsylvania party bosses ever since long before he became a candidate for governor. The machine got some little satisfaction out of defeating the governor for a place on the delegation to the national republican convention but they have lost every other contest that they have waged with him.

Now the politicians are worried over the senatorial situation. The bosses have two candidates—Vare, the machine leader, and Pepper, the present incumbent. This might not be such a bad situation if it were not for the fact that the governor proposes to take advantage of the party division and offer himself as a candidate. The politicians now know Pinchot's ability as an organizer of anti-machine forces and his none too hopeful about the result. To make matters more exasperating the regulars have in Senator Pepper about the best man who has represented the Keystone State in the United States Senate since the Civil war.

Merger Of Railway Lines

Required by the Esch-Cummins Act and now being planned by many great transportation lines is certain to be a disturbing element in business and political field for a good many years to come. Every one who has given any thought to the matter realizes that the merger plan is about the only way to adjust freight and passenger tariffs equitably short of government ownership.

It would seem that the business interests that fear government ownership so much would unite in the support of the merger plans. Such a union, however, seems quite impossible. The cities where mergers are proposed are all in favor of the plan, but distant sections of the country but are fearful of its effect at home. Kansas City, for example, is not at all worried over the Nickel Plate combination but is scared stiff over the proposal to merge the Katy, the Wabash, Kansas City Southern and the Lackawanna into one great system reaching from the Rio Grande to New York. Such combinations may easily convert several very important terminals into relatively insignificant stations.

Kansas City makes much money out of its advantages as the terminus of the railroads involved in the merger plans and sees that money lost if she should become a simple station on a coast to coast system. Was it "Old Man Means" in the Hoosier Schoolmaster who often said that "We are all selfish accordin' to my tell?"

Mellon Has Joined

The economy club. Your old Uncle Andy has only a few hundred millions of dollars between himself and poverty and realizes how necessary it is for him to amass some sort of a competence before he reaches the retiring age.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Look out for further changes in the Coolidge cabinet. The big metropolitan newspapers, which, when they get off on a wrong track can run a mile in record time, are all assuming that the cabinet as now composed is settled for good. The truth is the President is giving more attention than ever to the canvassing of the qualifications of new cabinet possibilities. It is characteristic of Mr. Coolidge that the element of time and tide is ignored when he has set his mind to any end. He is out for a cabinet which in all its membership shall be understanding and able, a cabinet which is willing to look on the problems of the nation from the viewpoint of the citizen and, though it will take time, it can be said without fear of contradiction that within six months, there will be changes and the placing of new men in certain places. The illness of John W. Weeks, the secretary of war in connection with the placing of his family that he take a rest, will open the way for the picking of a new secretary, which all agree is most regrettable, but there will be other changes based on the conclusion that the new times call for new men.

Department of Practical Co-Operation

MEETING NOTICES.

It has been necessary for us to change the form of the meeting notices, making them uniform and set in six point type, in order to conserve space. We are glad to do this and hope to see the notice of every active local in the state in this space in the near future.

BETHLEHEM LOCAL NO. 1900.
Meets First and Third Friday, Roy E. Olson, Sec.

BELLEVUE LOCAL NO. 2042.
First and Third Thursday, John T. Anderson, Sec.

BROGAN LOCAL NO. 228.
Second and Fourth Thursday, L. L. Vennema, Sec.

BURNHAM LOCAL NO. 405.
First and Third Thursday, O. J. Lamberton, Sec.

BUCKEYE LOCAL NO. 1031.
First and Third Wednesday, J. J. Alaska, Sec.

CARGY LOCAL NO. 2136.
Meets First and Third Friday, Fred Steel, Sec.

COLUMBIA LOCAL NO. 1233.
Second and Fourth Friday, Lee Bonar, Sec.

COUNCIL CORNERS LOCAL NO. 1783.
First and Third Monday, Ethel Roberts, Sec.

CRESCO LOCAL NO. 337.
First and Third Thursday, John Wolf, Sec.

CLEVELAND LOCAL NO. 304.
Third Tuesday, Geo. J. Schoenhof, Sec.

CARLTON LOCAL NO. 1911.
Second and Fourth Wednesday, R. J. Logan, Sec.

COLLINS LOCAL NO. 629.
Fourth Wednesday, Winifred Crispin, Sec.

BATTLE CREEK LOCAL NO. 122.
Meets each Tuesday at 8 p. m. I. E. Sewell, Sec.

CRESCENT GROVE LOCAL NO. 1917.
Meets First and Third Tuesday, Mabel Sayles, Sec.

DIST. 57 LOCAL NO. 1232.
Last Friday in Each Month, Mrs. Ernest Brauch, Sec.

EAST CREEK LOCAL NO. 1460.
First Tuesday of each month, Philip Steudel, Sec.

ELBOW LOCAL NO. 1780.
Meets the second Friday of each month, M. Joy Hammett, Sec.

ELLSWORTH LOCAL NO. 2009.
First and Third Thursday, Brad Hooper, Sec.

FREMONT LOCAL NO. 2014.
First Friday in Each Month, A. W. Eisenmenger, Sec.

FONTANA LOCAL NO. 1789.
First and Third Friday, W. H. Syster, Sec.

GRACE HILL LOCAL NO. 1212.
First and Third Friday, Homer Alkire, Sec.

GRAND VIEW LOCAL NO. 1214.
Meets every other Friday evening, L. D. Buss, Sec.

GIRARD LOCAL NO. 404.
Second and Fourth Tuesday, Roy W. Holland, Sec.

HERVYNK LOCAL NO. 1427.
Second and Third Tuesday, Henry Eden, Sec.

HERKIMER LOCAL NO. 1002.
Second and Fourth Wednesday, Karl Rohde, Sec.

HEADLIGHT LOCAL NO. 378.
Meets First and Third Wednesday, Ross Claar, Sec.

HIGH PRAIRIE LOCAL NO. 1588.
First and Third Wednesday, W. R. Fuhrman, Sec.

I. X. L. LOCAL NO. 1490.
Second and Fourth Tuesday, C. O. Taulbee, Sec.

KORBER LOCAL NO. 914.
Meets First and Third Tuesday, F. A. Korber, Sec.

LABON CREEK LOCAL NO. 479.
Meets Second and Fourth Wednesday, F. E. Hoy, Sec.

LENA VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1538.
Meets the First and Third Tuesday of each month, H. F. Horton, Sec.

LIVINGSTON LOCAL NO. 1904.
First and Third Friday, Clyde B. Wells, Sec.

LOST SPRINGS LOCAL NO. 385.
Second Saturday of each month, H. D. Bevans, Sec.

LIBERTY LOCAL NO. 1088.
First and Third Friday, R. Lawrence Wright, Sec.

LILLY CREEK NO. 2138.
Meets the First and Third Friday, Florence Koppes, Sec.

MT. ZION LOCAL NO. 2072.
Meets every two weeks on Tuesday, Maude Carnes, Sec.

MARINE LOCAL NO. 645.
First and Third Friday, Albert Spoonman, Sec.

MOSS SPRINGS LOCAL NO. 1901.
First Tuesday of each month, Clarence C. Brown, Sec.

NEW BASIL LOCAL NO. 1787.
Second Monday of each month, Henry Hoffmann, Sec.

NEWBERRY LOCAL NO. 1922.
First and Third Monday, R. J. Muckenthaler, Sec.

NEW HOPE LOCAL NO. 2020.
First and Third Thursday, Fred Hahn, Sec.

ODESSA LOCAL NO. 1571.
Every other Tuesday night, R. A. Reynolds, Sec.

PRAIRIE BELL LOCAL NO. 1305.
Meets Second Thursday of every month, E. B. Warner, Sec.

PRAIRIE VIEW LOCAL NO. 2105.
First Tuesday of Each Month, J. H. Scott, Sec.

PLEASANT HOME LOCAL NO. 2053.
Meets First and Third Monday, Minnie Carlick, Sec.

PLEASANT HOME LOCAL NO. 2065.
First and Third Friday, Minnie Carlick, Sec.

PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1300.
First and Third Wednesday, W. T. Flinn, Sec.

RIVERSIDE LOCAL NO. 2020.
Second Wednesday of each month, Mrs. Frank McClelland, Sec.

ROCK CREEK LOCAL NO. 1810.
First and Third Friday, E. J. Lohr, Sec.

RURAL REST LOCAL NO. 2183.
First and Third Saturday, Pauline Cowger, Sec.

SOLOMON VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1903.
Meets the First and Third Tuesday, M. Schrock, Sec.

SQUARE DIAL LOCAL NO. 923.
Meets the First and Third Thursday, Maggie Stanley, Sec.

SILVERDALE LOCAL NO. 2001.
Second and Fourth Wednesday, J. F. Lewis, Sec.

SPENCE LOCAL NO. 901.
Last Wednesday of each month, John A. Martin, Sec.

SUMMIT LOCAL NO. 850.
Second and Fourth Wednesday, Mrs. E. H. Warner, Sec.

SPRING CREEK LOCAL NO. 1174.
First and Third Wednesday, Nell Lobengler, Sec.

UNION VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1079.
Meets every Fourth Tuesday, J. M. Wagner, Sec.

UNION LOCAL NO. 273.
Second and Fourth Thursday, Chas. Grossardt, Sec.

UNION LOCAL NO. 2010.
Second and Fourth Friday, E. F. Lutz, Sec.

VASSAR LOCAL NO. 1779.
First and Third Thursday, Herman Wigget, Sec.

YODA LOCAL NO. 742.
Every Fourth Friday, J. C. Stradal, Sec.

WALNUT GROVE LOCAL NO. 1308.
Meets First and Third Tuesday, Robert J. Meyer, Sec.

WOODBINE LOCAL NO. 1080.
First Tuesday of Each Month, B. H. Osterlich, Sec.

OTTAWA COUNTY.
The regular monthly meeting of the Ottawa County Farmers' Union will be held in the I. O. O. F. Banquet room at Minneapolis on the first Friday night in each month at 8:00 p. m. All Locals are requested to send a full delegation, and all members are invited to attend. Each Local is requested to furnish one number for a program.

A. W. Watts, President,
Robert Bruce, Secy.-Treas.

CRAWFORD COUNTY.
The regular meeting of the Crawford County Farmers' Union will be held on the last Tuesday of each month throughout the year in Union Hall over Crawford County State Bank, Girard, Kans.

H. S. Woods, President,
G. W. Thompson, Secy.

NOTICE NEOSHO COUNTY.
Neosho County F. E. C. U. of A. will meet on the following dates to transact all business. The second Saturday, March, June, September and December and at any special meeting called by the President or Executive Com.

Pres. Sanford Miller,
Sec.-Treas. J. O. Foust.

CLAY COUNTY.
There will be meeting of Clay County Farmers' Union No. 40 at the Court House, Saturday May 9, 1925, at two o'clock p. m. All Local secretaries should see to it that their Local is represented. This meeting is important.

Phillip Young, Pres.,
Thos. E. Larson, Sec.

COTTONWOOD VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1833.
On April 24th the Cottonwood local No. 1833 held their regular meeting, about 40 members were present, although the roads were muddy and bad. A good program was given by the Purple side, after which everyone was served pie and coffee. Next meeting we will be entertained by the Gold side and every one is looking forward to a big time.

LENA VALLEY LOCAL UNION NO. 1538.
Lena Valley Local Union No. 1538 at its regular meeting on April 21 passed the following resolution:

We the members of Lena Valley Local Union No. 1538 ask that the department of questions and answers be continued in the Kansas Farmers' Union as we consider it can be made interesting and instructive for all.

H. F. Horton, Sec.

DISTRICT 57 LOCAL 1232.
Local 1232 held its monthly meeting, April 24. With a full house present, and other visiting locals present. As we did not have much business to attend to, we had a nice long program and a bountiful supper. We extended a vote of thanks to Sunflower local for its part in the program. The next meeting will be May 22. We will have an ice cream supper. For only the members of Local 1232.

Mrs. E. Brauch, Sec.

PLEASANT HOME LOCAL 2055.
Pleasant Home Local No. 2055 at its regular meeting night Monday April 20 had one of the best meetings on record.

Beside the regular business meeting, which is always full of discussion on topics for the good of the order, we had initiation of 6 new members, and voted on three new members. The previous meeting, we entertained these and their families with a short program consisting of a talk by Jno. Dunlap on his trip to Canada. This talk being very interesting and instructive and two short plays, well rendered by the school teacher and pupils.

After the program all enjoyed the delicious lunch of fruit salad, cake and coffee.

Mr. and Mrs. Ayers of Prairie Home Local were guests of the evening. We always welcome visiting members. Our members are pulling strong the new produce pool now in progress and hope to see all our members signed up when the pool is opened.

John Hodson, Pres.,
Minnie Carrico, Sec.

BLUE VALLEY LOCAL 574.
Barnes, Kansas.
Blue Valley Local No. 574 held a regular session Tuesday evening, April 21st. A fine meeting was held

There were 19 candidates initiated that evening. That makes us a total of 61 members. (32 male and 29 female members). Also had with us several visitors from two neighboring locals, Banner and South Dane. We are always glad at any time to have visitors. Brother Peterson gave a very interesting talk. After the meeting adjourned they served a dainty lunch of ice cream and wafers to nearly 100.

We have been having interesting meetings all along. And a good attendance. We were invited by the South Dane Local to attend the Washington Co. Quarterly meeting to be held at Antone Peterson's grove. A committee was appointed to help assist with the program. It is an all-day meeting with a basket dinner at noon. Sometime ago Brother Glessner was with us and spent a very pleasant evening together. All enjoyed his talk very much. It was very interesting and we were sure delighted to have him with us at that time.

GRACE HILL 1212.
Bellevue, Kans.
April 27, 1925.

Dear Editor:

We have a very active local and would like to have it mentioned in the state news. Grace Hill Local No. 1212 meets the first and third Friday of each month. On the third Friday after the business session a program of music, readings and plays is given and refreshments are served to the members and families, often serving from two to three hundred. J. L. Douglas is president and Homer Alkire, secretary.

Press Correspondent.

POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY.
The first quarterly meeting of the Pottawatomie County Farmers Union was held in the Court house at West-morland on Monday, March 30, 1925.

Our meeting was opened by our President Mr. W. A. O'Neill.

After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting the county officers elected at the last meeting were installed.

While the Committee on Resolutions and Good of the Order were at work Mr. J. Hammit of Elbow Local read a report on the Livestock Meeting held at Kansas City Feb. 5.

Committee on Resolutions.

Whereas it seems to be a custom over the County where the Locals order merchandise to sell at cash and allow non-members to get their merchandise at same price as members therefore we recommend that this practice be stopped and that an extra charge be made where merchandise is sold on orders to non-members.

We also recommend that business associations be more strict in enforcing the clause in their By-laws regarding the allowing of dividends on their purchases to Stockholders who are delinquent on their membership dues.

Whereas there are a large number of members over the County that have been dropped from the State membership;

Therefore we recommend that an effort be made to induce those to come in as new members and in that way be reinstated.

Whereas from reports coming in from Locals over the County the attendance at the Local meetings is very poor, we recommend that the officers of the various Locals keep up the interest in the Local meetings and the interest in the Local meetings be reinstated.

We also recommend that the Local arrangements for Socials, Debates, Programs or other form of entertainment at the Local meetings in order to keep up their attendance.

We recommend that the President arrange for and get a State speaker to go thru the County speaking at the various Locals to live them up.

We endorse the idea of our State speaker Mr. Glessner getting up the History of the Union and its Activities in the State since its Organization, and recommend that our Local and business associations as well as individuals give in their orders for copies of the History so that its publication may be assured.

In view of the fact that we pay whether we use them or not we recommend that the Locals over the county use speakers from the State Agricultural College such as Poultry, Dairying, etc., as these speakers are specialists in their lines.

We do endorse and recommend to our membership the Farmers Union State Bank recently established at Kansas City, Kansas and that the Locals funds be deposited there.

Whereas the non-attendance of members at Local and County meetings is getting to be a serious problem he it therefore resolved that we recommend that the Locals over the County devise some means by which the attendance at those meetings could be stimulated and it is the sense of this committee that this meeting discuss this subject and arrive at and recommend something that would be of value to the Locals.

Whereas the various business associations over the county are paying out rebates to stockholders who are not in good standing in the Locals, thus violating their By-Laws, which state that they must be in good standing in order to participate in said rebates, therefore be instructed and advised to stop this practice and rebate to members in good standing only.

We recommend that each Local have a basket Social once each month to help attract new members and bring their families.

F. E. Nelson, Co. Sec.-Treas.

HIGH PRAIRIE NO. 752.

Some time ago our Local decided it would be beneficial to local other locals in the county. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for such visits and see to it that everyone who wanted to go on these trips would be provided with transportation. So on Tuesday evening, April 21, seven cars loaded with 35 of our people rolled away to visit Pleasant Valley local. Everything was in readiness for us when we arrived. A beautiful school house speaker and room above and basement below electric lighted and all equipped for school purposes and community meetings.

A building modern to the last degree. After a short business session the young folks from our local rendered a short program and talks were made by a few of our members.

At present we were very agreeably surprised about that time when in walked Mr. Francis of the Jobbing Association. His years of experience with the Produce Pools in the Northwestern states makes him a very interesting and instructive speaker.

Mr. Douglas is president and Homer Alkire, secretary.

He reported that the organization committee had found some big problems to solve but that they were making headway.

Nor should we forget the courtesy of the ladies of Pleasant Valley. After the program they served delicious refreshments in the refreshment rooms in the basement. It was an occasion that we all enjoyed and hope to repeat at some future time. We need more of the fraternal spirit in our Union affairs and there is no better way to cultivate this spirit than for Union people from different communities to mingle together in our local meetings.

B. A. Hammond.

THE MEASURE OF A MAN.

Not—
"How did he die?"

But—
"How did he live?"

Not—
"What did he gain?"

But—
"What did he give?"

These are the units
To measure the worth
Of a man, as a man,
Regardless of birth.

Not—
"What was his station?"

But—
"Had he a heart?"

And
"How did he play
His God-given part?"

Was he ever ready
With a word of good cheer,
To bring back a smile,
To banish a tear?"

Not—
"What was his church?"

Nor—
"What was his creed?"

But—
"Had he befriended
Those really in need?"

Not—
"What did the sketch
In the newspaper say?"

But—
"How many were sorry
When he passed away?"

—Kansas City Times.

INDIANAPOLIS 1677.
To the Editor of the Kansas Union Farmer:

I have been reading with interest letters from the various locals through out the state and now for a bit of news from the Indianapolis local No. 1677.

We have been meeting regularly on the first and third Friday of each month since the first of the year, and during this time have admitted four as members into our union, and have the applications of two more which will be voted on at our next meeting. There are others that intend to join, as soon as they can raise the money to pay their dues.

Our local voted unanimously against the first amendment, while the other two were unanimously voted for. Our initiation fee is high enough and I think we can do as well as that. To leave the fee as it now is, is to need of more members, instead of more money and if we can increase our membership we will have more money.

We have two committees, that are of a social nature, a lunch committee, and a lunch committee, at the first meeting of the month the lunch committee entertains by giving a feed, while at the other meeting the entertainment committee entertains with a program, and right here I want to say that these committees are live wires and are always on the job. They are rendering a real service in helping to keep up interest in our local.

Our last meeting which was on the 17th of April was an open meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Harvey H. Verdier and after singing American and short program given by the local, consisting of songs, readings and a musical number. Brother Schiefelbusch of Osage Valley local then gave an excellent talk which was well received at the close of his speech, he presented the fact that we are always glad to have him and his family be with us. Our president then made a few remarks inviting the delinquent members to reinstate and others to join our local. Brothers Joyce, Dancaaster and Verdier then sang a song entitled, "The Farmer Feels Them All!" after which refreshments of sandwiches, pickles and cake were served. It was a most successful meeting, and everyone seemed to be in very good spirits. Now if you do not think this

is too lengthy you may publish it in the next issue of your paper.

Mrs. Louise Verdier, Rte 3,
Secy-Treas.

OF VITAL INTEREST TO THE RURAL COMMUNITY

The pride of the rural community is its high school. Of the nearly 15,000 public high schools in the United States, about 12,000, or approximately 80 per cent, are located in the open country or in places of less than 2,500 population. The average enrollment in these schools is 69 pupils, while the average enrollment in the 3,000 large schools is 590. The average small high school serves in the average large high school the large city high schools have numerous departments embracing some scores of studies, while the small country high school can cover only one or two standard courses. The ambitious rural community is not satisfied with this limitation. It insists upon a "comprehensive" high school which will give to the country boy and girl educational opportunities equal to those enjoyed by their city cousins.

To convert the small high school into a "comprehensive" high school increases enormously the cost per pupil because of the necessity of employing special teachers at high salaries to instruct small classes. In California the minimum cost per pupil in the large high schools having 20 or more teachers is \$194, while it is \$294 in schools having 5 teachers or less. In New York in the high schools having 250 to 300 enrollment the median pupil cost is \$112, while the cost in the small high schools is \$205. In some States the cost per pupil in small high schools is shown to be \$300 to \$400.

How may the rural community organize a comprehensive high school and keep the cost within reasonable limits? The necessity of gathering the facts bearing upon this problem and other high school questions has prompted workers in this field to appeal to the Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, to undertake the organization of the various agencies interested primarily in secondary education for cooperative research using the Bureau of Education as a clearing house. The Commissioner of Education has agreed to undertake the service, the first step being the selection of a general committee. Here are some of the proposed activities of the Bureau of Education in setting up this service.

To assume the duties attached to the office of executive secretary of the committee; to serve as a repository of information in the way of raw data made available through specific studies on forms approved by the committee; theses of graduate students on secondary education topics, and other special research studies made by any of the cooperating organizations independent of the general committee, such information to be distributed by the Bureau of Education in the way agreed upon as authorized by the general committee and the Commissioner of Education; to collect data for research studies authorized by the general committee, through its own personnel to make studies recommended by the committee and approved by the Commissioner of Education; to publish such theses and special studies as are recommended by the committee and approved by the Commissioner of Education; to publish such studies as are recommended by the committee and approved by the Commissioner of Education; to prepare and distribute periodical lists of available data, theses, or special studies under way or completed by member institutions of cooperating organizations.

MAKING GOOD CITIZENS.
In a bulletin recently issued by the Bureau of Education of the Interior Department we read: "The United States is preoccupied with the fact that only half of our eligible voters actually vote even at the presidential elections; five millions of our people over 10 years of age are illiterate; ten millions of our children of school age are not attending school; we spend more for tobacco, cosmetics, and chewing gum than we do for education; half of our young men were found physically unfit for unlimited military service; our wage earners lose wages amounting to over two billion dollars a year because of preventable sickness; in 1870 there were 11 divorces for every 18 marriages; last year there was 1 divorce for every 8 marriages."

These are some of the problems confronting the State. It needs to help more of its people to become good citizens. The fewer the number of ill and privations of life, and the greater the happiness of humanity, the nearer we approach the social ideal. A progressive school is a miniature of society. Not only is its structure much the same but it carries on many of the same activities. It seeks to promote the welfare of the pupils through the best methods in use in society.

What are some of the school tasks confronting 730,000 teachers? The school should give every child an equal opportunity to develop fully his initiative and ability. It should assure to him healthful conditions for mind and body. It should imbue him with the principles of personal honesty and a strong sense of his obligations to his family, his community, and his nation. It should give him the education and training necessary to support himself and to bear his just share in maintaining a community with high American ideals. It should develop his capacity for the wholesome use of leisure time. It should inculcate a broad and understanding patriotism which insures our country's highest good.

CANDLE EGGS BEFORE SHIPMENT.
Egg dealers who are not certain as to the freshness of their eggs should candle them before shipment, says the United States Department of Agriculture, which is planning a close watch over eggs shipped into interstate commerce during the warm

spring and summer months. Under the provisions of the Federal food and drugs act, eggs with yolks stuck to the shell, moldy eggs, black spots, mixed rots, and black rots, are classified as adulterated.

Investigations have shown that it is commercially practicable by candling to eliminate the eggs liable to be graded as adulterated. The dealer who candles his eggs before shipment runs little risk of violating the law or of having his eggs rejected at destination. A number of States have food control measures providing for the candling of eggs before sale.

The United States Department of Agriculture has published a bulletin, Department Bulletin 568, on the best methods and equipment for candling eggs, which will be sent without cost upon application, as long as the supply lasts.

The latest smoke screen concerning an alliance between Russia and Japan has been dissipated by an official announcement that the Tokio Government has no such treaty with the Soviets and that none is in contemplation. This merely confirms the good sense of the Japanese.

Farmers Union Men LISTEN!

We have high class salesmen and employees in each department.

They know values and how to get them.

They are enthusiastic workers, watching your interest all the time.

We have as good facilities as any firm here.