

KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation

VOLUME 37

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1944

NUMBER 11

Radio Commentator Fulton Lewis Jr. Attacks Co-ops

J Creamery Co-op Completes Inspiring Year of Gain, Growth

In his yearly report to the nearly 300 shareholders of the Farmers Union Co-op Creameries meeting May 25 at Island, Nebraska, General Manager James C. Nordard called the "very good year" just enjoyed by the creameries "a fitting way to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the Co-operative Movement."

Summarizing, Mr. Norgaard said that the creameries had completed "a good year of earnings or savings . . . of quality improvement . . . of increased volume . . . of increased number of shareholders . . . a good year of co-operative action."

"During 1943," he continued, "we welcomed into our Creameries nearly 3,000 new shareholders by the way of patronage refunds, and this spring another 2,000 new shareholders will be added to the ever growing number of good Co-operatives that patronize the Farmers Union Co-op Creamery Co."

He told them that sales for the past year exceeded 5 1/2 million dollars, that savings were more than \$270,000. The creameries made more than 11 1/2 million pounds of good butter of which 4 million pounds went to the Government.

Saying that "the word quality is as important to the creamery men as Amen is to the teacher," Manager Norgaard urged the shareholders not to let their Quality Improvement Program, urging them to

keep cream cool and clean and market it often.

His report, carried a resume of the situation relative to the rising bank charges for checks. Some banks had required a 1 per cent charge which the Creameries refused to pay. All banks in the Superior area now handle the co-ops' checks at 2 cents per check except the banks at Hastings, which unfairly made a greater charge on cream checks than on other ones. By paying cash to some and by having checks cashed at the State Exchange Store, it is no longer necessary for checks to be cleared thru the Hastings banks.

EXPANSION IN KANSAS?

While discrediting much post-war planning as "just plain baloney" because we can't possibly know now what changes will have been made and consequent new needs arise, Mr. Norgaard did emphatically state, "We can be certain that we will have to provide a creamery close to those Kansas patrons, or give up their cream."

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You Can't Tell The Players Without A Program

Already many readers have sent in to us their dimes for the NEW REPUBLIC supplement in which are tallied graphically the records of the nation's present Congressman and Senators on the major legislative issues of the past year or so. This supplement is to the coming election campaign what a score card is to a ball game. It's the biggest dime's worth of information that ever enlightened a people to act in their own interest. Read it and ACT on it and you'll win the peace, prevent World War III, produce abundance and live securely. That's worth a dime, ain't it?

Carlton Co-op Retires All Notes

In Carlton, Kansas (Dickinson County) the Farmers Union Co-operative Association is in fact the biggest thing in town. The co-op owns a square block which includes a hardware store, a bulk oil station, a 73,000 bushel elevator, two dozen thousand-bushel granaries and a lumber yard with a total net worth of nearly \$25,000.

From a deficit in 1935 of twelve and a half thousand dollars, the co-op under the able management of Albert Jones has in their fiscal year just ended paid all notes and mortgages in full. These notes and mortgages in 1937 amounted to more than 21 thousand dollars.

At the annual meeting of stockholders held recently, the organization voted to set aside \$350 into an educational fund, a part of which will be used for paying members' dues into the Farmers Union.

President of the association is F. R. Van Voorst who has been active in the co-op's history since its inception. Another officer who has served many years in the organization is Lewis Amann, Secretary-Treasurer.

Manager Ab Jones has been held his present position since 1934. His able assistant is Emil Carlson who has been employed since 1937 but is presently waiting a call to the services.

On the Board of Directors are August Carlson, Howard Haney and Bern Ade, all of Carlton, Lyle Eggleston and George Medley of Gypsum, and Fred Bross and Frank Myers of Abilene.

Tsk! Tsk! Senators!

Both Senators from Kansas, Arthur Capper and Clyde Reed, voted FOR an amendment to the Agricultural Appropriations Bill for 1945, which would have deprived Dept. of Agriculture employees of their freedom of speech on matters even remotely political. The amendment, had it not been defeated 42 to 24, would have prevented certain persons from even expressing their view as to the merits and qualifications of any candidate, including such as a school trustee, in any school district, in any State in the United States.

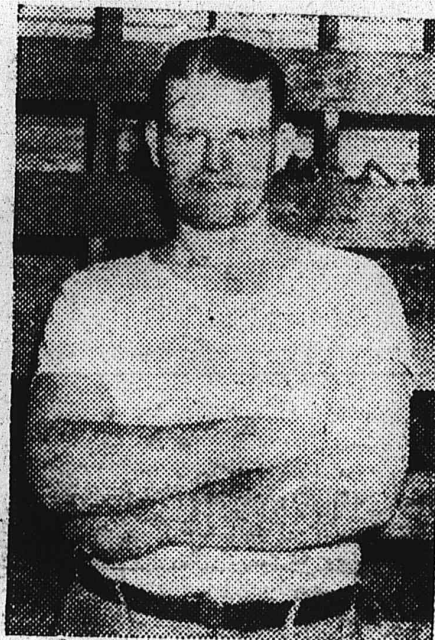
Buy U. S. war bonds—\$375 will buy two depth bombs.

Charming Hired Voice of NAM Has Bag of Tricks To Fool People

Fulton Lewis, Jr. is a plenty smooth operator. His influence among farm people, and even Farmers Union members, is remarkable. But last month, Lewis, in his syndicated column, said a co-operative is a "government subsidized octopus."

Farmers who know how much their co-ops have done for them, in improving the quality of the goods they buy, in performing necessary services such as marketing at a greatly reduced cost and by helping them to help themselves in so many other ways, will not like Mr. Lewis' attack on co-ops. Many will be interested in learning just who Mr. Lewis is, who signs his paycheck and what's he got that gets him across to his several million listeners over the Mutual network.

Carlton Manager



ALBERT JONES

To begin with, Fulton Lewis has a pleasant approach. With other commentators like Boake Carter and Gabriel Heater shouting their opinions over the airwaves like Greek orators claiming to the multitude the special wisdom they've lately received by direct wire from Heaven, Lewis speaks in an even conversational tone, pretending he doesn't know quite what it's all about, but he's just one of the common peepers and he's trying to find out for YOU, dear, dear listener.

Here is just a couple of examples in which Lewis has pretended ignorance. Lewis was doing a series of broadcasts for the National Association of Manufacturers in 1942 when the NAM put on a million dollar propaganda campaign to whitewash big industrialists and big business after several Congressional investigations had proved conclusively that Big Business was sabotaging the

(Continued on page four)

The President's Invasion Day Prayer

Almighty God, Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our republic, our religion, our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity.

Lead them straight and true. Give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness to their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest—the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violence of war.

These are men lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home. Some may not return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, thy heroic servants, into Thy Kingdom.

And for us at home—fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters and brothers of brave men overseas, whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them—help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help in our efforts.

Give us strength, too—strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and material support of our armed forces.

And let our hearts be stout; to wait out the long travail, to bear arrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, Give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment—let out these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Let us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a pure peace—a peace invulnerable to the schemings of un-thy men. And a peace that will let all men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen.

Ellsworth FU Acquires Property



The Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union continues to expand.

Pictured above, at the right, is the white frame building now used by the co-op as a cream and produce station which the Ellsworth organization purchased in May and will raze in order to use the ground as parking space.

Next to this (the two-story brick building to the reader's left) is the garage and service station also purchased by the organization. This will be remodelled and modern equipment installed for the handling of cream, poultry and feed. Work is scheduled to begin the first of next month. In the rear is now a repair shop which will be allowed to remain for the duration in consideration of its essential service. A loading dock will be built on the proposed parking space, providing a side entrance to the poultry department.

Post-war plans, however, are that a locker cooler be

built into the rear of this building. The front of the building will be used as offices.

Next door (farther left) is the Farmers Union Grocery Store. New fronts are planned for both buildings. The meat department at the rear of the grocery store will be operated so as to serve patrons of both the grocery store and the locker department.

The move of expansion was made after a series of organized discussions held the past winter in the Farmers Union Locals. Every phase and possibility of expansion was discussed. Other plans, to be realized after the war, are to enlarge and modernize the oil station owned by the co-op, and managed by Fred Lutz.

Carl Kohls is manager of the store; Pete Schwerdtfeger of the cream and produce station. Pat Nash is General Manager of the Ellsworth County Farmers Co-operative Union as well as a director of the Farmers Union Jobbing Ass'n.

719 Board of Trade Building
Kansas City 6, Missouri

H. C. KYLE, Manager



ANYBODY YOU KNOW?

It's just a bent and twisted piece of metal lying in the mud of Italy—that identification tag you see above.

It's also a young life snuffed out like a candle in the wind... then heartbreak.

Yes, it's all these things, but...

It is also a fighting American who stopped a bullet aimed at the heart of America!

How can we lie comfortably in our beds at night with his last scream still circling outward in space, calling upon us to stand fast, to fight, to carry on until the last fascist is driven from the earth?

The conscience of America demands that none of us rest until we have done our utmost to match the sacrifices of those boys who are giving their utmost—their very lives!

If you think you can't afford to buy more Bonds, just consider that that boy in Italy couldn't afford to give his life, either. And his mother couldn't afford to give him... or his father or his sweetheart.

FIND A WAY! BUY MORE THAN BEFORE! The crucial hour is at hand. The greatest Drive for Dollars in all history cannot wait—the Government needs the money urgently—and it needs it *Now!*

When a Victory Volunteer comes to your door during the 5th War Loan, asking you to increase your Bond purchases, remember he is taking time from his work to help bring Victory that much closer.

Don't put him off. Don't make him come back. Be ready! **BUY MORE THAN BEFORE!**

5 REASONS FOR INCREASING YOUR WAR BOND PURCHASES

1. The tempo of this war is hitting its highest point. Government expenditures for war are at the peak. **MORE MONEY IS NEEDED... NOW!**
2. In proportion to WHO HAS THE MOST MONEY, individuals are not buying their share of War Bonds. America must correct this situation.
3. War Bonds provide the farmer and rancher with the financial reserve he *must* have to survive the ordinary ups and downs of farming as a business.
4. Money will be needed urgently at a future date to replace and repair farm equipment, machinery, and buildings. War Bonds will provide it.
5. War Bonds are the safest investment in the world, return a good rate of interest, are easy and convenient to buy... from bank, post office, rural mail carrier or Production Credit Association.

Back the Attack! - BUY MORE THAN BEFORE!



Farmers Union Cooperative Association
Clay Center

Farmers' Union Co-Operative Company
Olathe

Mitchell County Farmers Union Co-Operative Association
Beloit

The Farmers Co-operative Association
Morrill

Farmers Co-operative Elevator Association
Morganville

Farmers Union Co-operative Assn.
La Harpe

Ellsworth County Farmers Cooperative Union
Ellsworth

Farmers Union Cooperative Business Association
Saint Marys

Overbrook-Farmers Union Cooperative Association
Overbrook

The Burns Farmers Cooperative Union
Burns

Farmers Union Service Company
Salina

The Farmers Union Elevator Company
Lindsborg

Farmers Union Co-Operative Ass'n
McPherson

Kansas Farmers Union
Salina

What the Locals Are Doing

"I Will Attend My Local Meetings"

SALINA

Directors Visit Headquarters Local

Although planned for a picnic in one of Salina's parks, the meeting of Headquarters Local was held in the basement recreation room of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Lear last Saturday night, after a late afternoon squall made a picnic inadvisable.

No. 1 item on the covered dish menu was the scrumptious fried chicken prepared by Mrs. Dorothy Dean. Mrs. Dean has a way of cutting the ribs out of that piece (whichever one has ribs) so a fellow thinks he's getting a thigh. Otherwise, it was perfect. The chicken was the treat the local gives itself out of funds raised by sponsoring a dance. Mrs. Lear's dessert of home-made ice cream covered with home-grown strawberries completed the abundant menu.

Two members of the KFU Board of Directors were guests at the meeting. C. L. Hance of Stockton, however, had to leave to catch a bus and missed out on the dinner. Ray Henry of Stafford stayed for the meeting and the evening of recreation which besides Ping Pong included a game of dart-baseball.

When Local President Alfred Rensmeyer invited Mr. Henry to speak to the group, the board director consented but asked that first, Mr. Lear, who had been Dance Chairman, demonstrate dancing. At least a few of the members were surprised when Mr. Lear did one of those Russian dances where the dancer sits on nothing and his feet dance out in front of him.

Nothing definite was decided about giving a farewell to the Bromans who leave soon for Kansas City. Consensus of the local members was that each and all would make many and extended visits to the Bromans as yet undiscovered and feared non-discoverable home-to-be in Kansas City.

BUNKER HILL

Local Prefers FSA To Cooley Bill

Additions to the story of the meeting of Bunkerhill local in Glen Elder held on May 16 and reported in the last issue of the Kansas Union Farmer follows:

Ray Weidenhaft reported on the success of the Farmers Union Hybrid seed corn program in the district in which he is salesman.

Clyde Porter read parts of a letter by Father Gilbert Wolters of Atchison, commenting on and interpreting the Cooley Bill. Discussion favored the Farm Security Administration in preference to the Cooley Bill.

During the meeting, the fact was mentioned that our local was organized in 1910, and three of the charter members attend our meetings regularly. These members, T. W. Neff, Al Neff, and Ed Neifert were requested to stand and accept the recognition of the local.

It was decided that the local send \$5 to the state office for the Expansion Fund. As the meeting closed, Clyde Porter "topped the laugh meter" with a good story.

The refreshment committee Edna Schellinger, Iva Neff, and Bessie Moyer, served a lunch of sandwiches, pie and coffee.

OVERBROOK

Discuss Joint County Union

The meeting of the Cargy Local No. 2136 was called to order by our President, Mr. Murlin Hoover. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary Chester Bryson.

The business of the meeting was taken care of and the meet-

ing was turned over to the state President, Mr. E. K. Dean, who gave us a very good talk and was enjoyed by all present.

He stressed the need of our locals and the good of co-operation. He spoke so much of our County Farmers Union, and the good and advantages we received from one.

If not in our own County, a joint county set-up with Osage County locals. After some discussion and questions asked, it was planned to meet with Osage County as a joint County Union, if it is agreeable with the other locals.

Three new members were admitted into our local. We were very glad to have Mr. Dean meet with us and his address was very interesting to all.

Refreshments of Ice Cream, orange and pineapple sherbet and cookies were served at the close of a good meeting.

There were 55 present.

Bitha Dodder, Reporter.

MCPHERSON

Gifts To E. E. V. At Skating Party

More than 200 persons attended the skating party given June 2 at the Peterson Brother's Rink in McPherson by the Farmers Union Co-op Produce and Co-op Oil Company of that city. Besides furnishing the skates, the co-ops treated all their guests to refreshments.

Just as the party was closing with everyone standing in a circle to sing, Homer Spence, Secretary of the McPherson County Farmers Union, introduced Mrs. Charles Olson. Mrs. Olson served five years as county educational director working closely with Mrs. Esther E. Voerhies, whose recent marriage the assembled then honored.

Esther was presented with money gifts from both the Johnstown and Smoky Hill locals. Like a well-advertised cigarette, the bills had been "packed to go around the world."

ELLSWORTH

Feast on Feed Fed Chickens

Thirty-three families of the employees and directors of the Ellsworth Farmers Co-operative Union gathered in the yard of Fred Lutz, manager of the oil department of the organization, on the night of May 31 to down with relish 35 fried chickens.

The chickens were those used by the Co-op for experimental feeding. Every year several broods are raised and records kept, testing the efficacy of the Ellsworth co-op's own feed against that of name-brand commercial feeds. This year not a chick was lost which was fed with the co-op's feed.

Extraneous factors rendered the experiment with the other feed invalid. Year after year, however, the co-op has found that their own grind is as good a feed as any.

MCPHERSON CO.

Meeting June 5

The McPherson County Farmers Union held its quarterly meeting at North Union Schoolhouse on June 5. Films shown were Cycle of Erosion and also one on Vitamin B. There were musical numbers, also.

Much preparation had been made to have an interesting and thought-provoking meeting by the union's officers, headed by President Niles Gibson.

SAVE SEED!

The serious shortage of legume and grass seeds becomes more apparent as the growing season which can cure it de-

velops. Some of these shortages were disastrous. In the East, dairy farmers could find only three-fourths of their requirements of Red Clover. We cut England off with a tenth of her seed demands. Russia got only half of what she asked for—a small fraction of what she needed.

Whereas the country normally carries over 40 percent of a crop as protection against a bad season, this year the carryover is almost nothing and badly distributed. Seed for 1945 pastures is actually limited to the harvest from sod now on the ground.

To harvest seed from existing acreage is the obvious aim of all of us. Failure will mean repleting our food supply where it hurts most—in dairy and livestock products. It will mean sending more convoys of meat to our boys and allies overseas when a shipload of seed might have been sent to produce it abroad.

The crucial stage is now upon us. First cuttings of clover are being or are about to be made. Fodder crops can still be planted to supplement feed supplies. We must plan now to SAVE SEED FOR VICTORY.

Fulton Lewis Smears Co-ops

(Continued from page one)

war effort by maintaining business-as-usual, refusing to convert even 50 percent to war production before Pearl Harbor. The main subsidizers of the NAM—The Aluminum Trust, Standard Oil, the Auto Industry (the big ones) General Electric, Standard Drugs and others having cartel contracts with Hitler's I.G. Farbenindustrie—needed the best man money could buy to win back a measure of favor in the eyes of the Nation. Mr. Lewis, as always, was for sale (especially for that kind of money) and went to work.

But when Lewis was asked about some of the fascist statements of the National Industrial Information Committee (the publicity and propaganda department of NAM which is behind the campaign to push the FREE ENTERPRISE slogan down the gullet of America) Mr. Lewis was aghast with injured innocence. "I have never heard of the subsidiary of the NAM," he said.

NTEA? Never Heard of It This is related because it is a favorite tactic of Mr. Lewis. A month or so ago Lewis phoned from St. Louis to the editor of THE COOPERATIVE CONSUMER in North Kansas City to gather information which he later used in his recent attack on co-ops. When the editor asked him about the National Tax Equality Ass'n, the Big Business organization out to get co-ops' savings taxed as profits, again Mr. Lewis feigned innocence, contending he hadn't heard of the organization. But everything he subsequently wrote sounded suspiciously like the line the NTEA is putting out.

Lewis' attack on co-ops is only as important as is his influence. The arguments against co-ops that he makes are half-truths and downright lies which can be easily answered or proved untrue. Mostly he uses smear tactics, insinuations, and asks leading questions.

His campaign against the OPA has been conducted with similar dishonor. While the maligned OPA leaves much to be desired and should be criticized for its compromises with inflationary forces, Mr. Lewis attempts to picture the agency as dictatorial which if it were more nearly so, it might not have been so ineffectual.

But Lewis, who gets his weekly lug from more than 200 Mutual network stations plus picking up at least a thousand dollars for every speech he makes, has little interest in

Scenes of Lindsborg Memorial Day Picnic



Pictures above were taken at the annual Farmers Union outing and ball game held memorial day at Reuben Patrick's farm southeast of Lindsborg, under the auspices of the Lindsborg Farmers Union Elevator Company. An estimated 400 persons attended. TOP PICTURE: This is the refreshment stand set up under spreading oak. Ice cream, coffee, rolls, candy, pop, and cigars were offered. MIDDLE PICTURE: The ladies like to sit and talk. BOTTOM: This picture from the ball game played between the Smoky Hill and North Side locals is printed to show how the camera which was recently purchased by the Kansas Union Farmer can stop the action of even a pitched ball. The exposure at which the picture was taken was one-thousandth of a second. The batter has swung and missed, as 'tis plain to see.

About the ball game? Neither side won according to our reports. Eight innings were played, each team chalking up five runs. David Train, manager of the co-op elevator, Bill Johnson and Wesley Gabrielson were umpires. Ralph Sjostrom pitched for Smoky Hill, Milton Bengtson for North Side.

On the Smoky Hill nine were Clarence Patrick, catcher, Do Arnold, left field, Harold Anderson, center field, Raynard Johnson, right field, Dean Arnold, short stop, Lee Vern Johnson, first base, Leland Bengtson, second base and Raymond Elmquist, third base.

Players on North Side's team were Vivian Bengtson, c. Marion Sundburg, lf, Juan Bengtson, cf, Raymond Helene, rf, Amc Peterson, ss, Elmer Johnson, 1st b, Donald Brunzell, 2nd b, and Jimmy Brunzell, 3rd b.

holding the line against inflation nor little interest in those persons who depend upon the line being held to feed and clothe themselves and their families adequately.

In keeping with the general pattern of the opponents of co-operatives, Mr. Lewis is also anti-labor. Of course, he says he believes in the principle of co-operation but he ever so innocently inquires if something isn't wrong when a co-op can get big. He has stated, "I heartily disapprove of anti-labor propaganda," yet he never misses reporting fully every minor strike, so that a Lewis fan gets the impression labor in Ameri-

ca is generally on strike. The latest official statistics show less than one-tenth of one percent of labor has participated in any work stoppage. Would not be fair reporting if Mr. Lewis spent 99 and nine-tenths percent of his radio time praising labor for its war contribution? In conclusion Mr. Lewis charming, supported by the NAM in spirit if not in dollars at present, says he's for labor yet smears it continually, opposes co-ops, hates the administration and war-needs agencies. Reminds one of another with just such an attitude—Hitler.

THE JUNIOR PAGE

ESTHER EKBLAD VOORHIES, DIRECTOR, Salina, Kansas

Juniors 16-21

Junior Reserves 8-15

"He Loves His Country Best Who Strives to Make It Best"

A Captain Back from Sicily Said . . .

I went three thousand miles to look at hunger, I might have gone three miles, or three blocks, maybe, From where I was born and grew up—but I didn't go . . .

The distance I went Was across an ocean, into a foreign land Where war had done what war does to the lives of people Who starve with a lot less noise than the shells make

Blasting their homes to splinters . . . I could tell you about a fellow—Bill McClosky— One of the biggest fellows I ever saw, With a fog-horn voice . . .

But I'll always see Bill As I saw him one night feeding a hungry kid: "You take a bite, and I take a bite," he was saying . . .

The kid didn't know the words. She didn't need to.

But I watched her face trying to relearn the fact

Of human kindness . . . I find it hard,

With all I've learned about our American soldiers, To figure the reason we've been so indifferent to hunger

Here at home: hunger around the corner From where we're eating a steak two inches thick.

But when I come home to stay, I'll come home knowing

That one of the ways you can tell who's holding a town—

Whether Nazis are there, or Americans Is whether the people eat: food grabbed or given . . .

Whatever reason there's been for our past indifference,

I'll come home knowing how Americans like to act,

I'll come home knowing what America means to me.

—Bonaro W. Overstreet

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Kansas Reserve Has Winning Opinion

Virginia Pearl, Reserve of St. Marys, shared honors with a Reserve of South Dakota, in prize winning letters on the question of whether or not the age of Juniors should be lowered to fourteen. The call for letters was from the Junior-Reserve Department of the National Union Farmer. Young people in the Farmers Union were decidedly articulate on the subject, and their opinions helped influence the decision of the National Education Council last week.

In case you missed Virginia's letter in the NUF, we are reprinting it for you on this page.

Along The FU Trail

With

Esther E. Voorhies

A meeting of the National F. U. Education Council took place in Denver, Colorado, May 28. This was a session at which the Junior age grouping, the five year course of study for Juniors, and revisions for the Local Leaders Manual were among the things discussed. We had five busy days of Council meeting, including however a day and a half of participation in the National Board meeting. Decisions made will be related to you one by one. Keep in mind the major changes are not effective until 1945.

Inbetween the Council sessions a transcript radio broadcast was prepared. It was 12 minutes discussion by the Council on present activities in Farmers Union education. The National Farmers Union is making a series of transcription plates that are sent out to states requesting them for broadcast on local stations. Making the record was a new and different experience, but the real shock and surprise came when the record was played back for us and we heard our own voices. How strange it is to know how you sound to others.

At McPherson

Friday evening, June 2, McPherson county had one of those very gay skating parties. Over 200 members of all ages

were there. Besides joy in the wonderful time everyone had, it was an evening this writer will remember for a long time. Just before singing Viva La Compagnie in the good night ceremony, a big box was presented to me with words of wedding congratulations. Such excitement. I opened the box and after pulling out dozens of crumpled newspapers I thought surely it was a joke, but it wasn't. I finally found prettily wrapped packages with gifts of money from the locals. Thanks McPherson readers, your gifts will go into the post-war fund labeled "Voorhies Home."

Up Base Support Price on Soybeans

Base support price on soybeans to all growers has been set at \$2.04 per bushel net on all green and yellow soybeans grading U. S. No. 2 with 14% moisture content, delivered by growers to a county elevator, processing plant or warehouse. Last year's base support price was \$1.80 per bushel. Premiums and discounts will be about the same as last season. Loans at support price will be available to growers on same terms as last year. The Commodity Credit Corporation will buy beans from county elevators at 5 cents over the support price and from terminal dealers and jobbers at 6½ cents over the

Junior Age Change

The average age of young people in Farmers Union Locals varies with every community, and rigid rulings as to the ages of those taking part in Reserve or Junior classes have never been enforced, but for unity and coherence such things as achievement records and awards must adhere to age limits. Reserves during the time they were the 13, 14 and 15 year olds often thought themselves the in-betweens, with Juveniles and Juniors on either side getting most of the attention. The possibility of a grade and high school division has been brought into discussions, but the National by-laws state that the voting age of young people in the Farmers Union is 16. That ruling cannot or should not be changed by the drop of a hat.

The first step toward better age grouping was made some months ago, when the name of Juvenile was dropped, and all F. U. youth 8 through 15 were given the title of Reserve. Now at the National Education Council meeting held in Denver, May 27 to 31, it was decided that Farmers Union young people shall become Juniors at 14 or when they enter high school. The top age will still be 21. Also the voting age of Juniors in the Local remains at 16, but upon entering high school or becoming 14 a young person may take part in Junior work and earn Junior awards.

Please note, this change is not effective until 1945 cards are issued or until new units of study for 1945 are begun.

Bird Study Reference

We have for sale now a splendid guide of land birds east of the Rockies. The book is pocket size, and even though pictures are small the coloring of the birds is very accurate. The book sells for \$1.25. Any leader or young person interested in bird study will be thrilled with the book. We highly recommend it.

Camps Are Under Way

Before you read this the first county camp of the season will be history. Boys and girls in Ellsworth county opened the camp trail June 6th, and Clay county Reserves will follow them on June 13th.

Camp days will be a combination of work and play. Study units that have been started during the winter will be carried on, and discussions in simple lessons of group leadership will be held. Besides exciting ball games and other outdoor sports, the recreation program will teach new games and songs. Camps are fun in capital letters.

Clay County Camp June 13

Ellsworth Holding Forth at Liberty School House-Now

The Clay county camp will open Tuesday afternoon, June 13, 4:00 p. m., at the Wiberg schoolhouse northwest of Clay Center. On the evening of June 15 all parents of campers and other Farmers Union folks are invited to take part in a basket supper. That hour of fellowship and a program by the boys and girls will close the camp.

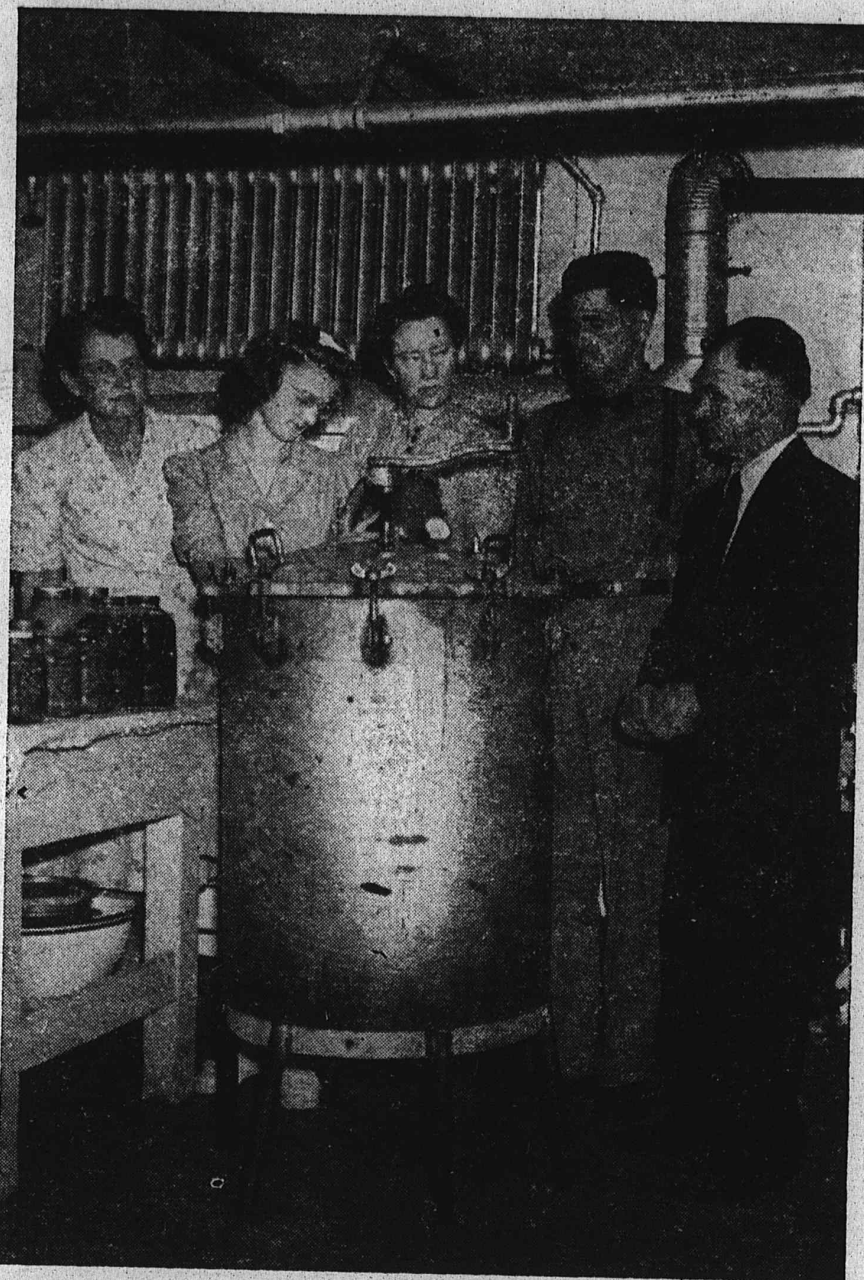
As this paper goes to press the Ellsworth camp is in session at the Liberty schoolhouse near Blackwolf. Summer Farmers Union camps are a special privilege of recreation for our boys and girls, and are training schools for the membership of a few years hence.

REPAIR EQUIPMENT TO BE FREER

Seeing a fast-increasing need for rebuilding and reconditioning farm tractors, automotive vehicles and other engines, WPB has relaxed restrictions on the manufacture of many types of automotive maintenance equipment.

OPA has authorized special gasoline rations for rebuilding trucks and moving trucks to or done.

Save 120 Gallons of School-Grown Corn



Part of the "rescue crew" at Dickinson County High School, Chapman, who labored through a 24-hour shift to save 120 gallons of corn that had been placed in the community freezer locker plant. When fire completely destroyed the grocery store in the rear of which the freezer unit was located on the night of September 9, the corn, raised in the school garden and intended for use in the school lunch program was canned in the 56-quart steam retort shown here. It was necessary to act quickly before the corn thawed out. From left to right: Mrs. Hazel Miller, manager of the Dickinson County High School lunch; Miss Jane Engle, student in Dickinson High and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abner E. Engle, Miss Avis Hall, home demonstration agent for Dickinson County; C. O. Kauffman, custodian of Dickinson High, and Mrs. Engle, supervisor of vocational agriculture.

K. U. Co-op Houses Save Students Money

\$25 to \$30 Average Monthly Living Cost At 3 Campus Co-ops

Despite the wartime drop in enrollment three student co-ops are still operating at the University of Kansas. These co-ops, Harman and the Kaw Kettes for women and John Moore for men, provide living quarters for independent students at only a small increase over the costs of previous years. The monthly co-op housebills, which cover room, board, and miscellaneous expenses, range from twenty-five to thirty dollars, which compares very favorably with ordinary room and board costs around forty dollars a month and fraternity and sorority housebills of from forty to sixty dollars a month. The co-ops expect to have at least one house each for men and women open this summer for the accommodation of any students who plan to attend the summer session.

The co-ops are owned, organized, and democratically operated by the student residents themselves, and are intended to provide homes for the students during their college careers. Members of the houses decide upon their officers and the policies of the house through the rule of "one member — one vote." To help reduce expenses each member works one hour a day on an assigned job such as cooking meals, waiting tables, washing dishes, cleaning house, and keeping books. Such jobs are scheduled not to conflict with classes or other work.

The campus co-ops sponsor social activities through parties, picnics, and dinners, to which guests and friends of the members are often invited. The co-ops purchase their gro-

ceries from the Lawrence Consumers Co-operative, and rent their houses from a corporation, the University of Kansas Student Housing Association, which was organized by students and interested faculty members for the purpose of renting and purchasing houses for the member co-ops.

Inquiries regarding co-operative houses should be addressed to Miss Mildred Whitted, Student Co-op Coordinator, 1537½ Tennessee, or when at K. U., consult Mr. Harry O'Kane, room 121, Frank Strong Hall.

British Farmers And Farm Workers Unite, Urge Public Ownership of Land

LONDON, (ALN) — The biennial conference of the National Union of Agricultural Workers, held in Blackpool this week, made history by recommending that joint committees be set up between the NUAW and the National Union of Farmers for united action on post-war agricultural policy.

Declaring that "a long term land food policy is urgently required in the interests of agriculture and public health," the conference resolved:

"Any sound agricultural policy must include as essential: national ownership of land, regulation of imports, elimination of wasteful distribution costs, guaranteed prices to efficient farmers, adequate wages for workers, better rural housing, more social life and wider facilities for education, entertainment and recreation."

DOUBLE HARVEST!
War Bond money will plant Hitler 6 feet under now and buy seed for new crops later!

Patton Protests Lobbies' Attack On Price Control

Washington, June 2—James G. Patton, President of the National Farmers Union, today sent the following letter to Senator Robert F. Wagner, Chairman of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee.

"On behalf of 400,000 farmers I want to voice a sense of deep indignation and outrage at the bold raids against price control which powerful business lobbies are attempting. Will you please make our position clear in the course of committee and Congressional debate on this vital war issue?"

"The Senate Banking Committee has approved an amendment to the Price Control Act sponsored by the cotton textile lobby which would further raise cotton mill profits already 900 per cent of the 1935-39 average. It would increase cotton textile and cotton clothing prices to the public by an estimated \$450,000,000 a year. I condemn this proposal when I testified before the House Banking Committee several weeks ago. I said then and I say now that this proposal, which is dressed up in the false guise of doing something for the cotton farmer, does not mean that he, in common with city consumers, will pay 10 per cent more on the cotton textiles and clothing he buys.

"The way to bring cotton prices to parity and do something for the cotton farmer is to peg cotton at parity. As the National Farmers Union has been urging more than a year, WFA should write war food production agreements with cotton growers and with all other farmers producing vital war fibers and foods, setting firm prices and amounts and assuring the growers of a stable ratio between prices paid for farm products and the cost of production essentials, including credit, feed, seed, fertilizer, machinery, labor and storage.

"War food production agreements are needed throughout agriculture to make the best use of human and material resources so that scarce items such as seed, fertilizer, livestock feed and labor will not be squandered, so that the nation will get farm products in the kind and quantity needed for the war and postwar periods and so that farmers will not be left holding the bag after assemblers, processors and distributors have taken their cuts.

FARMERS LOSE ON A GAMBLE

"The longer the war continues the more obvious the necessity for introducing such businesslike methods into our food and fiber production, assembly, and distribution problems. Although there is at the moment a 'bare shelf' policy of trying to come out as even as possible at the end of the war, with scant provision for the postwar relief and rehabilitation needs of our allies and the liberated nations, it is to be hoped that before long a policy of stockpiling to make good on our war pledges will be adopted. When this is done, such policies as war food production agreements will become an even more obvious necessity. We cannot continue much longer with 'seven-come-eleven' methods of getting needed farm products by the irresponsible and discredited device of announcing goals and promising support prices and then, as in cases of eggs, hogs, and other commodities not living up to them, with the results that producing farmers have been short changed out of the returns they were led by their government to expect.

If, in line with such a program, cotton is pegged at parity there need be no rise in cotton textile and cotton clothing prices to the consumer. The mills have in the past paid parity prices for cotton while earning phenomenal profits under existing OPA ceilings.

"Cotton textile mills are today showing a return of 33 per-

cent on their net worth. If the grab that they have sponsored is enacted into law, they will earn 15 times their peace-time profits and 60 percent of their net worth. A law with such a provision would not be a law to enforce price control, it would be a law to enforce profiteering on a gigantic scale. Other industry groups would demand and secure the same right to profiteer as the textile industry. The dam would be out, inflation would be upon us.

"In the House Committee votes are being solicited to kill the present authority of the OPA to regulate business practices so as to prevent evasion of price control. If this proposal is ratified by the Congress, price ceilings on most articles will become meaningless, a hoax on consumers, including farmers, since the processor, the manufacturer and the distributor will be given a sacred right to thumb their noses at the OPA by manipulating their business practices. Chiselers will be given a free field; OPA enforcement will have its feet nailed to the floor.

LANDLORDS WIN

"The Senate Banking Committee also has yielded to the landlord lobby by eliminating the word 'generally' from rent control provisions setting 'generally fair and equitable' rent ceilings. This would have the effect of requiring the OPA to set rent ceilings at the level which would give a good profit to the most inefficient and highest cost landlord in a district.

"The working farmers of this country, who have patriotically done their full share for the war effort by increasing production despite all the hardships of war and whose sons and brothers are risking and giving their lives on all the battlefronts, are scandalized by the spectacle of Congressional Committees yielding to one profiteering lobby after another before consenting to extend the price control statute. This is no way to fight a war either on the battlefield or on the home front.

"Sincerely yours,
James G. Patton, President,
National Farmers Union."

Your Dollar

Crooked Eyeglasses

Stay away from those advertising eyeglass merchants who offer you a \$1 eye examination or a pair of glasses at a "bargain" price. Thus warns Consumers Union in an article in its May issue on "How to Buy Eyeglasses." If you go to such an optician you will almost certainly be sold glasses whether you need them or not. And the salesman will make every effort to get you to buy a more expensive pair than those which have been advertised. If you insist on buying at the advertised price, the chances are you'll get "spite glasses"—purposely incorrect prescriptions, with poor, badly fitted frames. A typical firm in Washington broadcasts a \$9.75 bargain offer, but actually gets \$30 or more. The same glasses would cost less at any ethical optician's.

There are a few opticians who sell low priced glasses of good quality. Such an optician


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Auditing Association

Grain Checks, Scale Tickets, Approved by Farmers Union Stationery,

Office Equipment Printing


CONSOLIDATED
printing and stationery co.
SALINA, KANSAS

is likely to be associated with a health plan or fraternal organization. But if any optician advertises a low price and then tells you the glasses sold at that price are no good, walk out.

Men's Shorts

Last year, half the shorts CU tested cost under 75c. This year, less than one-third could be bought below that price. Many manufacturers have dropped their 25c and 35c lines, while others have received OPA permission to raise prices.

On top of this, quality has gone down so that the 75c pair of shorts you buy this year may not be as good as those for which you paid 50c the year before. Most of the stronger fabrics used for shorts are scarce. "Print cloth", a lower grade cotton fabric, is used as a substitute for broadcloth. And most shorts are skimped in one or more directions, which means they'll be less comfortable than well cut shorts, and will wear out faster.

CU tested 27 brands of men's shorts for measurements, construction and fabric quality. The best buys found were Fruit of the Loom white cotton at 39c and Leeds Deluxe white broadcloth at 50c. Other good quality shorts were Pilgrim Nobility Cat. No. 5165, \$1 plus postage (Sears Roebuck); Mansco white broadcloth, \$1 and BVD printed broadcloth, 75c.

Men's Undershirts

Prices of men's undershirts have not gone up recently, and

quality remains the same as last year, CU found in tests of 50 brands. It still pays, however, to look carefully before you buy.

One common cause of trouble is the label. Some labels are stitched down on both long edges, without allowing for the "give" in a ribbed shirt. Then, when the shirt is stretched in use, it tends to tear at the label. When you buy shirts, look for a label sewed along the top to the shirt binding, with the bottom edge left loose.

Plain knit or narrow rib shirts are apt to wear longer than a wider rib. But the wider rib is more elastic and therefore may be more comfortable. CU examined 50 brands for strength, size and construction. It found big differences in quality, even among brands made by the same manufacturer.

Adhesive Bandages

Don't buy bandages impregnated with mercurochrome or sulfathiazole, CU advises. The mercurochrome is useless and the sulfathiazole may cause development of sensitivity to the sulfa drugs so that they can't be used at some later time when they are really needed. Plain sterile bandages, individually wrapped so that they will stay sterile, are best. Such bandages will not introduce new germs into the wound, nor will they kill germs which may be already there. Before putting on the bandage, therefore, wash the wound.

Consumers Union tested 11

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

E. K. Dean, Salina, Kansas,

Editor

Published the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Salina, Kansas by THE KANSAS BRANCH of the FARMERS EDUCATIONAL & COOPERATIVE UNION 218 Journal Building, Salina, Kansas. Entered as Second Class Matter August 24, 1912 at Salina, Kansas, Under Act of March 12, 1872.

Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1003, Act of October 3, 1917 Authorized July 30, 1918.

KANSAS FARMERS UNION—Salina, Kansas, 218 Journal Building.

brands of adhesive bandages for ability to stay put, tendency to ravel, and resistance to dirt. The following were found acceptable: **Macy's, Band-Aid, Plain, Quick-Strips and Firstaid Quick-Bands.**

Resolution of Sympathy

WHEREAS it has pleased Almighty God in His Infinite Wisdom to remove from our midst Brother R. D. Samuelson.

THEREFORE be it resolved that we the members of Olsburg Local 1254 extend our sincere Sympathy to his sorrowing family and friends.

F. C. Nelson, Secretary-Treasurer.

Letter to John

March 1, 1944

"Last Sunday Dad and I rode through the meadows down along the river to look over our steers. There hasn't been much snow this winter and we haven't had any bad storms. That's a good thing because we couldn't get much cotton cake last fall, but we had plenty of hay. The steers have come through in good shape. About the time you read this letter there will be lots of work to do. Dad says that, without you here to help, I will have to take on a man's work this year. That's all right with me. You're doing a lot tougher job, I guess."

From a farm boy's letter to his big soldier brother

An American ranch boy in Europe knows the words of this letter from home by heart. He feels good inside because it tells him the folks back home are doing their best to help him — by getting all the extra work done — even though he isn't there to lend a hand.

The production of beef and other meat is a mighty important war job. Meat keeps John and all the other American fighting men fit for the hardships of battle. Meat provides proteins and vitamins for home-front workers who are keyed to peak production of the things John needs.

Swift & Company is proud to share with livestock growers in the production, preparation, and delivery of meat. With plants and marketing facilities throughout the country, nation-wide meat packers help distribute meat efficiently and effectively.

And we have diversified our business through the development of many by-products and related products which fit naturally

into our business. This is important, for it means that none of the livestock grower's war effort is lost.

Farmers will confirm that there is never a year when all types of farming pay, never a year when all lose. So it is with us. When some departments make money, others show a loss. But through diversification, new markets for new products are developed, and improved outlets provided for the grower's cash crops.

SWIFT & COMPANY

Chicago 9, Illinois

Although Swift & Company processes over 6½ billion pounds of livestock and other farm products a year, net profits from ALL sources average but a fraction of a penny a pound.

Please feel free to ask us for the use of the following films:

"A Nation's Meat"
"Cows and Chickens, U.S.A."
"Livestock and Meat"

LET'S ALL BACK THE ATTACK—BUY ANOTHER WAR BOND!

LIVESTOCK MARKET NEWS

by the FARMERS UNION LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVE, KANSAS CITY

and
FARMERS UNION LIVE STOCK COMMISSION, SOUTH ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Market Letter

Farmers Union Livestock Commission
South St. Joseph, Mo.

Bulk of good to choice slaughter steers are selling about steady, with spots weaker on some of the medium to good kinds. Good to choice steers are selling \$14.75@16, with medium to good \$13.25@14.50, some plainer kinds \$12.50@13. Some choice steers sold from \$16.25@16.50, \$16.50 being top here this week.

Yearlings are steady to strong, best heifers and mixed yearlings \$16.50, bulk of good and choice kinds \$15@15.75, medium to good mostly \$12.50@14.50, common kinds \$10.50@11.50. Cows are about steady, bulk of common and good beef cows \$9.50@12.50, a few good cows up to \$13.25. Bulls are about steady, beef bulls mostly \$12@13, with an odd head at \$13.25, a few good bolognas \$11@11.50, bulk of common and mediums \$9@10.50.

There was a light supply of stockers and feeders, the market steady.

Veal calves are steady, top \$14, bulk \$12.50@13.50, common and mediums \$10.50@12, culls \$8@10; heavy calves steady to strong with a few choice heavies \$14, bulk \$12@13.50, common and medium \$11@12, culls \$8.50@10.50.

Hog market rather slow, support weights steady, under 180 lbs., 20@35c lower, over 270 lbs. unevenly steady to 15c off. Sows are steady to 10c lower; stags generally 25c lower. Top and bulk good and choice 180-270 lbs., \$13.50; 280@350 lbs., \$11@11.50; few 150-170 lbs., \$10@11.50, bulk sows \$10@10.25, top \$10.25 for under 360 lb. weights; stags largely \$9.50@10.50, heavy weights down to \$8.50 or below.

There is not much demand in the sheep market, only that hot weather is having some effect on the lambs. Fresh clipped ewes are bringing around \$6.50; most of the spring lambs \$15@75.50, with outs around \$12.50; old woolled lambs are selling \$11@15; hard to get any woolled lambs that are fat.

Cows Easier To Milk Than Farmers

At a recent conference of Industry and Agriculture, held at the University of Illinois in Urbana, Ill., out of seven speakers on the program only one was a real farmer. The report of the conference featured a picture of Warren W. Shoemaker, Vice-president of Armour and Co., milking a cow, the caption over the picture told that Mr. Shoemaker has not lost his boyhood ability to milk a cow. It should be no wonder that Mr. Shoemaker still can milk a cow, since Armour and company and its brothers of the Big Four have been milking both the producers of livestock and the consumers of meat, for these many years. It should be easier to milk a cow than a farmer, but maybe not, maybe not.

Form Harvest Brigade Corps of Combines

The Massey Harris Harvester Co., started a move this spring to send a "progressive harvest brigade" into the grain fields of the central great plains states so as to help save the grain through greater use of available combines. The first of an expected total of 500 self propelled combines were moved into Texas on flat cars in April to begin the crusade, by helping harvest Texas' bumper flax crop. The combines have been delivered to threshing contractors in the south and will sweep north, with the ripening of small grain, through Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas. Harvesting is practicing out on each side to neighboring states where ever combines harvesting is practical. Each of the combines is capable of harvesting and threshing 50 acres per day, are operated by one man, and move at 8 miles per hour while on the road.

Duggan Heads FCA

Ivy Duggan of Georgia who has served as deputy governor of the Farm Credit Administration since last December was this week nominated governor of the agency by President Roosevelt to succeed Dr. A. G. Black who resigned last March.

FU Creamery Annual Meet

(Continued from page one)

Of course, these patrons should be the ones who should decide if they want to have a Farmers Union Co-op Creamery. We should sound out the sentiment of these patrons and shareholders first, and you as shareholders should indicate if you wish to expand into Kansas or western Nebraska where the problem is similar.

Twenty-two Kansas Cream Stations are patrons of the co-operative creameries. Attending the annual meeting were representatives from the Farmers Union Association at Quinter, Kansas. They were President Stark, Director Wolfe, and Manager Sandy Armstrong. The Quinter Ass'n operates the largest Farmers Union Station in Kansas, shipping over 180,000 pounds of butterfat to the Creamery at Superior last year.

Concerning the law passed by Congress requiring co-ops to file information reports on their income, Norgaard warned, "This, I believe, is merely a step toward making Co-ops pay income tax. Should that prove true, we have three courses we can follow.

"First, we can operate as we do now and pay a large part of our earnings in tax. "Second, we can force the cream prices high and keep our earnings down so we won't have any tax or little tax to pay. It will mean that our patrons will get more for their cream

when sold and less dividend; but it may also lead to a cream war that may cause us to lose money. At any rate, your earnings report will be much lower. The question is then, will we be able to convince new patrons that we are the ones responsible for the higher cream prices that will surely result from this policy. Our increase in number of shareholders will decline because it will take longer to earn a share.

"Third, we can adopt a withholding policy of non-shareholders—say of one or two cents per pound until they own a share. I believe that will be both a safe and sound policy and still increase our shareholders."

Norgaard completed his report with a tribute to the many cream station operators, directors and managers, as well as to state educational officers in both Nebraska and Kansas for their help.

He reported that 1 percent of the Nebraska earnings had been set aside to be used as an educational fund.

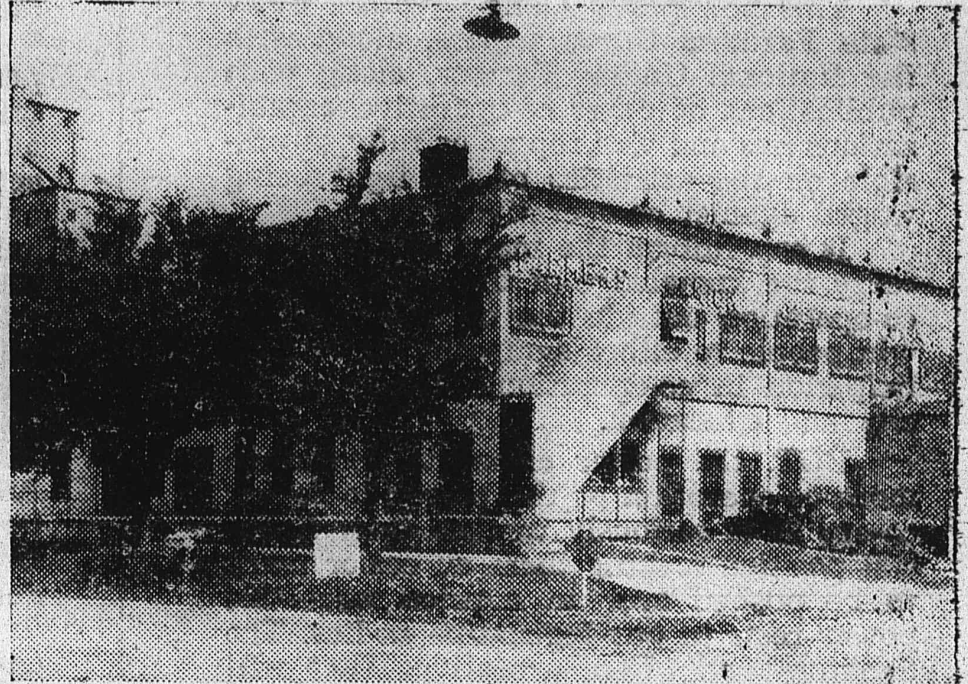
BUILD FARMER UNION

"It is felt," he said, "that we should help to build the Farmers Union and the Farmers Union in turn to help to build co-operatives. While our membership is a little higher in the state, it is still far from what it should be. But I am sure our shareholders want to do all they can to promote the Farmers Union."

The delegates unanimously re-elected Chris Holm, Aurora, Carl Bauer, Hildreth and Henry Sommerhaider, secretary-treasurer, Guide Rock, as directors. Other directors whose terms did not terminate this year are A. F. Gericke, president; Henry Pedersen, vice president; L. R. Huelle, Anton Steinberg, Mads Madsen and Henry Hansmire.

Speakers included Nebraska Farmers Union President Chris Milius, Nebraska Union Farmer Editor L. S. Herron and reports by the four managers of the Creameries at Aurora,

Farmers Union Creamery at Superior, Neb.

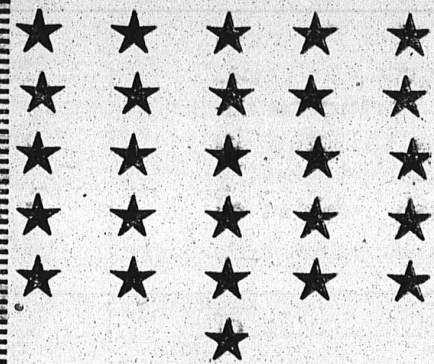


Fairbury, Fremont and Superior of our creameries only members of the FARMERS UNION are eligible to own stock.

The Nebraska Farmers Union Co-op Creameries manufacture nearly 15 percent of Nebraska's butter and are operated strictly in accordance with co-operative principles, which are: One vote for each shareholder regardless of number of shares owned. Earnings distributed on basis of patronage. Limited interest paid on share capital. To keep FARMERS in absolute control

Some of the co-ops slogans are, "What we own we owe to ourselves. Financially the strongest Farmers Union activity and it pays to belong to the Farmers Union."

Assets of the organization total nearly a million and a half dollars all of which belongs to the more than 13,000 shareholders.



Test Your Cows,

Keep The Best

Sell Your Culls,

Feed The Rest

Each of these 26 stars represents one employee of the Farmers Union Creameries in the Armed Forces of the Government.

Farmers Union Co-operative Creameries

Superior — Fairbury

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Prices are high and markets fast moving. It is to your benefit to have an experienced man help you make your selections.

Our order buyers know cattle and markets—and will work for your best interest at all times.—Come in or send us your order.

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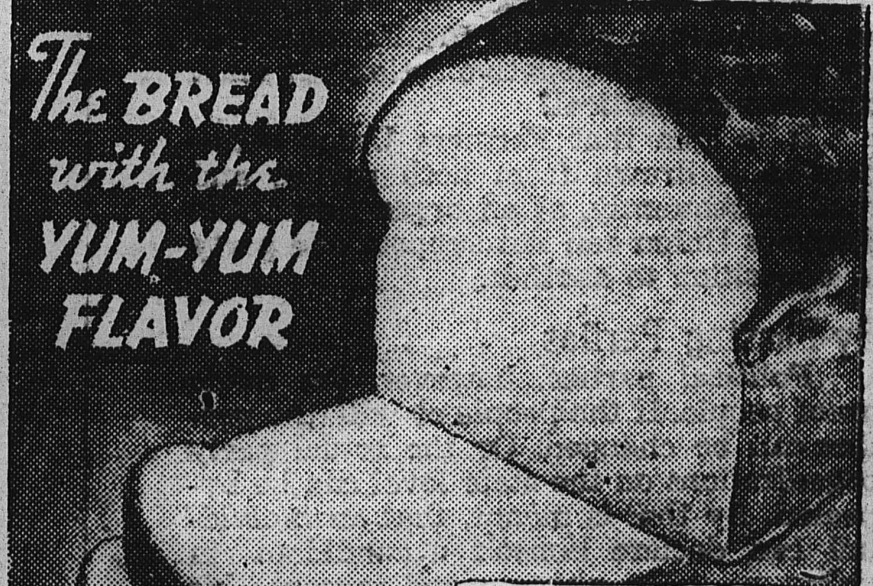
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Political Action

The following article is NOT, absolutely, positively, categorically, unequivocally and definitely NOT the opinion of the Kansas Farmers Union. It is personal opinion of the assistant editor. The right to print a personal opinion here is derived from the fact that it is the policy of this paper to print the opinions of any and all Farmers Union members. My dues are paid.

This newspaper along with other state Farmers Union papers, along with the National Union Farmer, along with publications of other co-operative organizations has and will report as fully as possible on the activities of the fight being waged against co-operatives.

It can inform the membership. It can carry the knowledge of the advantages of co-operation outside the organization and win people to either sympathy for or participation in co-operation, through publicity and education.

BUT, the power either to encourage more co-operation or the power to so tax co-ops as to seriously weaken their financial position making them an easier mark to be pushed over in a price war—this power rests in our legislative bodies. The Senators and Representatives that will this year be elected to Congress in Washington and to the Legislature at Topeka are the men and women who will decide what the future of co-operation in America shall be. They alone have the POWER.

It is one of the major phases of the Farmers Union program to influence legislation. But how great can our legislative influence be if Farmers Union members first allow business interests to elect their choice of men to office and then maintain powerful lobbies that no people's organization could hope to match in point of funds expended and favors granted?

This means simply that the Farmers Union and other people's groups must buck the powerful lobbies in trying to influence legislators who were selected in the first place for their service and loyalty to the powers behind the lush lobbies of Big Business.

Holds Power

Thus the POWER is in the hands of our legislators, but is used in accordance with the pressure on these legislators.

When our representative bodies are in session and people's organizations ask the legislators to support or defeat definite bills, the implication is that if the legislators continually vote opposite to the recommendations of the organization, then that organization and its members, remembering the position taken by their representatives will at the next election vote for another candidate who promises to uphold a position more nearly that of the organization.

Isn't it then contradictory to say that an organization such as the Farmers Union approves of legislative action but must remain non-political?

It is true that Farmers Union membership is drawn from both parties and that consequently, as an organization, the Farmers Union can not support one party in opposition to another.

By-Passing Parties

Political parties, however, are made up of people. If the people so will, the parties can be changed. Or the actual party organizations on the state level can be bypassed. By that is meant, that an individual can declare himself a candidate in either party he chooses and present his own platform. He can be a Democratic candidate, oppose Roosevelt's national policies and approve his international ones or vice versa or subscribe to any other combination he desires. The same, of course, is true of a candidate who has declared himself a candidate on the Republican ticket. This is a matter of using the mechanism of political parties without being bound by the organization's policies.

Over the nation, the division between Republicans and Democrats becomes daily more arbitrary and false. The real distinction in politics today is that between liberals and reactionaries, between human rights and property rights, between international cooperation and isolationism, between abundance and scar-

city, between security and want, between democracy and fascism.

The coming campaign will be the great water-shed in American life.

The leaders in both political parties in Kansas are in varying degrees on the side of reaction, property rights, isolationism, scarcity, want and fascism.

There is no leader in Kansas politics who is a bulwark against fascism. Some, like Lambertson, differ with Hitler's ideas on only minor and incidental details.

If men like Lambertson write the peace and direct the post-war world, America will become the haven and hope of all the world's fascists. There will be a reaction on the political front, there might be a negotiated peace, there will be a period of chaotic prosperity like in the twenties coincident with an expanding imperialism. But when this period ends and a lull sets in, in at most fifteen or twenty years, American reaction will turn into fascism in preparation for a war of the hemispheres between, on one side, the Americas, both North and South, the latter by that time virtually a colony of the United States, against Russia and the democracies who have found they can live in peace with her, and that may include all Europe, India and parts of China. Much of China will remain in the control of American Fascists, who will have struck a bargain with Japan in about 1946, to keep a springboard from which to attack Russia.

This war of the worlds will be fought with a totality that will make the present war appear in comparison like a gentlemen's duel. Men and machines will scrape the very depths of the earth of every ounce of ore, every drop of oil to be spent in the destruction of the enemy. There will be no victory, only the reduction of the human race to animal level and the earth will hang in eternity as a grinning deathshroud warning other planets that Man is a fatal disease.

Fantasy? Would not the figures of our present war production have been labeled fantastic ten years ago? Was there not a wide-spread belief following the last war that there could never be another?

"Have To Fight Russia"

Already, it is too often heard that "we'll have to fight Russia after this is over." Will a democratic America be willing to fight against the Bolshevik bogey? No, Fascism will have to be well entrenched in a generation of young Americans who have no memory of democracy, before the United States can be led in war against our present Ally. And there are men who would erase that memory.

Lambertson stated last fall in Topeka that one of the worst things he could think of was that the war should end with a victorious Russia. Lambertson has voted against every legislative measure that would help establish a peaceful world. He has voted against everything that would make the war easier on the home front. He has voted again and again against small farmers, labor, the general public. He only says he is against Nazi Germany.

Of course, every man in public office has occasion from time to time to do his constituents a favor. Too often people have remembered a specific service some Senator or Congressman has made them and believe this is a reason for continuing to support him. Any and every public official will from time to time do you as an individual a favor. Chances are liberals will do individual favors more often because they obviously are more interested in the problems, big and small, of people.

While the other Kansas Congressmen (Scrivner excluded) and Senators are not such prime examples of elected representatives serving selfish minority interests and flouting the interests of the majority of working (factory or field) people, they are guilty of living in a past world.

They lack an understanding of or a desire for an abundant, peaceful, secure America in the same kind of World. They are just not big enough men to face the issues of the day. They're typical old-line politicians never taking the initiative in improving the world, giving in to liberalism only as it is politically necessary to continue themselves in office.

When one condemns the whole slate as has just been done, it might with pertinence be asked, "But where would you look for men who do understand the business of the world, who do desire a good secure life for all, and who could, appraising the political field realistically, be elected?"

Eisenhower for Senator

First, there is an abundance of political man power. Why not Milton Eisenhower for Senator? He's youthful, that's important because he will have to live in the kind of world he helps make, he's educated, he's realistic, he has perspective, a serious concern for the problems of people, and he's got a name that's political dynamite. In politics, he would be fighting fascism on the home front just as much as his brother is in France, and with the field so peculiarly devoid of anti-fascists who know what it is all about, he has the same obligation to fight fascism in the most direct and effective way possible for him to do so.

There was a quotation from an editorial by Max Lerner in these columns several weeks ago which said:

"There can be great liberal leadership in the presidency only if there is strength and organization at the grass roots. In every community in the country, the laborer, the farmer, the professional, and the liberal business groups must gather their strength together—must form civic councils for action, rivet their purpose firmly into the structure of the nation. They will have several political tasks. To elect a liberal president this year is only one. Even more important is the task of transforming their congress from the high council of counter-revolution into a body representative of the people's will. Thus only can they fight the forces which will bring an ice-age sweeping over American life."

And we urged, "There is your call to action. This is the battle of home-front fighters for democracy. Soaring words must not end in the warmth they kindle in a noble emotion. They must be realized in action. Farmers Union members are of the grass-roots, they must take their place in a total people's movement, talking, working, organizing, participating in the democratic processes of selecting and electing liberal progressive men into every public office throughout the land."

At noon June 20, books close for the filing of legislative candidates. If you want an enduring peace. If you believe in abundance. If you hope for security. If you seek to protect your co-op. Then make sure that in your district there is a candidate or candidates registered in either or both political parties for state representative, state senator, US Congressman and US Senator who will publicly commit himself to a state and federal policy of encouragement of co-operative enterprises. (All Kansas Congressmen and Senators voted to have co-ops file income tax informational reports, the first step in busting them).

Action Is Answer

Start calling neighbors now. Get in touch with local political leaders. Don't promise them anything, get them to promise you. A people's movement should and need not grab the coat tail of any political party. Get people informed of what they can do in a democracy and both political parties will fight for a hold on the coat tails of the people's movement.

Judge candidates on national issues in accordance with their support of the second bill of Rights. Urge that these be made a part of the Constitution just as the first Bill of Rights is. This is the historical role of our generation.

Pearl Harbor is to the Second Bill of Rights as Valley Forge was to the first Bill of Rights.

Boost candidates who believe in principals of International co-operation, carrying on in the spirit of the Atlantic Charter, the Moscow Conference, and the Tehran Agreement.

It's now or never. Kansas is not the whole front but if it is a weak link, the whole chain of the people's historic march toward freedom, democracy, peace and security can be broken.

It must not be. It's up to YOU.
Mark Nichols.