

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

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Education

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Market Aid to South America Not to Kansas

U. S. Farmers May Be in Danger of Being "Sold Down the River"

The wheat market remains bad and only a domestic-allotment plan can bring relief until great adjustments can be made, reports Robert Handschlin, Washington representative of the National Farmers Union. War legislation is taking the attention of Congress, he writes, the last defense move with a farm angle being the \$500,000,000 fund for loans to South and Central American businesses or governments, either to finance storage of farm and other raw material surpluses, or to develop new industries leading to greater self-sufficiency in this hemisphere.

Senator Arthur Capper, senior Kansan in the upper Congress, believes farmers in the United States are in grave danger of being "sold down the river" by the Administration's plans to bail out South American agriculture.

It appears to Senator Capper that "every time the Department of Agriculture has moved to improve the situation for American producers of surplus farm and other raw materials, the State Department has moved in just the opposite direction," according to the Senator's WIDW radio address, September 15.

Senator Capper continued as follows:

The United States is almost unique among the major nations of the world. It is an industrial nation, with abundant supplies of most of the raw materials used in manufacturing, and at the same time produces and exports food and fibers and other raw materials.

Trade Between Nations
The natural thing for nations deficient in foodstuffs and raw materials is to exchange their manufactured goods for foodstuffs and raw materials, either directly or through world trade through other nations. Until all nations went nationalistic in the 1930's, all trying to become self-sufficient, this generally could be managed with industrial nations on the whole having the better of the bargain, especially if they carried goods in their own ships.

But right now the world is in hard straits. What President Roosevelt, when he proposed his cartel system, apparently feared was that the South American countries, with their surpluses of foodstuffs and raw materials, would exchange these with Germany and with a German-dominated Europe, thereby coming under German influence politically as well as in trade relations.

What Plan Means
Simmered down, the President's proposal at the time it was made amounted to this:

In order to prevent the surpluses of South American Argentine beef, wheat and corn being exchanged directly for German goods, the United States would form a cartel with the South American Republics, Uncle Sam would put up the money to buy up these South American surpluses; then if Germany or Continental European countries wanted to buy up these surpluses of South American agricultural products, and then trying to dispose of them, the United States through the Export-Import Bank would lend money to the South American Government to do the same thing.

There would be this important difference between the use of the money of the taxpayers of the United States to hold up prices of farm products for South American farmers. In the United States there is coupled an attempt to cut down the production of surpluses. In South America, as long as Uncle Sam furnishes the money to buy up surpluses, the South American farmers naturally, and they would not be criticized for it, would produce more and bigger surpluses. And of course, world prices for farm products would be driven still lower.

It looked to me as if this Export-Import Bank lending money under blanket powers to do whatever seemed best—would result in just another "sale down the river" of the American farmer, perhaps even worse than the trade agreements.

BOOSTS REA PROGRAM

New Secretary of Agriculture Praises Rural Electric Progress.

"Ten years ago only 10 per cent of America's rural homes were electrified," said Claude R. Wickard, new Secretary of Agriculture, at Cassopolis, Mich., September 7. On 9 out of 10 farm homes, the kerosene lamp furnished a flickering inadequate light. That situation was only a short step removed from the light of a fireplace—100 years earlier. Ten years ago American farmers knew all about the "black-out." They had never known anything else.

The ten years have brought changes with the Rural Electrification Administration, he went on. "Today the number of rural homes having electricity has increased from one out of ten to one out of four. Today more than 25 per cent of our farm homes have the conveniences and advantages of electric lights."

"You've had some trouble, with Angina Pectoris," said the medical examiner as he listened carefully with his stethoscope.

"You're partly right," said the applicant sheepishly, "only that isn't her name."

Have Best Program in All Farm Organization History

Farmers Union Members Have National Program of Farm Debt Adjustment Legislation, Income Insurance Measures, and Support to Tenant Purchase Bills

The best legislative program that the Farmers Union or any other farm organization has ever sponsored is the opinion of President John Vesecky of the National Farmers Union program. "It is the only well rounded out program that Congress has had before it for its consideration," he believes.

The national legislative program may be briefly described as follows, dividing it into the three divisions of the debt adjustment legislation, covered by Senate Bill No. 3509; the Income Certificate, or "Income Insurance" commodity bills, the wheat bill being numbered S-2395; and the measures for the aid of the low income farmer, the Farm Tenancy Act as embodied in S-1836 and support of the Farm Security administration.

The provisions of the debt adjustment bill S-3509, are briefly as follows:

1. To adjust, refinance, and scale down farm mortgage debts, both federal and private.
2. To reduce to a maximum of 3 per cent interest rates on Federal land bank and Land Bank Commission loans.
3. To limit the institution of foreclosure proceedings and the taking of deficiency judgments.
4. To further democratize the administration of farm credit and increase the control afforded the family-sized farms by setting up county committees.
5. To place the Farm Credit system on a self-supporting basis and abolish the compulsory purchase requirement on land bank stock.
6. To allow farmers already foreclosed or about to be foreclosed by the Federal Land Bank or Land Bank Commission to stay on their farms.

The main feature of the Income Insurance bills are the protection of the average or family size farm against the whole historic production of such farm as domestic allotment status, the reduction in the amount of the certificates being made on production above 10,000 bushels per farm in wheat, and 2,500 pounds per farm in cotton. This provision, in the opinion of its backers, will make it more profitable for insurance companies and other large land owners to put families on the farms than it will be to try to farm all the land with hired labor.

Toward Secure Income
The Wheat Certificate bill, S-2395, was introduced in the Senate of the United States, May 10, 1939, by Senator Wheeler. The bill is to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, for the purpose of regulating interstate and foreign commerce in wheat, providing for the orderly marketing of wheat at fair prices to producers and consumers.

The wheat certificate bill follows: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: That section 301 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, is amended by inserting at the end of subsection (b) thereof the following new subdivision:

"(17) The wheat-certificate allotment for any marketing year shall be the yearly average quantity of wheat, wherever produced, that was consumed in the United States in any manner, except as feed on the farm on which grown or as seed, during the ten marketing years immediately preceding the marketing year in which such allotment is determined, adjusted for current trends in consumption, plus a normal year's exports."

Sec. 2. Title III of such act, as amended, is amended by inserting after part III thereof the following new part: "Part III—Wheat Allotment Certificates"

"Sec. 340. (a) Not later than May 1 of each year the Secretary shall determine and proclaim the wheat-certificate allotment for the next succeeding marketing year and as soon as practicable thereafter shall issue wheat-certificate allotment so determined.

"Certificates issued pursuant to this subsection shall be made redeemable for sale by the Secretary to all the persons required under the provisions of this section to furnish such certificates. The price of such certificates shall be determined in accordance with subsection (c) of this section. Such certificates shall be valid to cover only sales made during the marketing year for which such certificates are issued, and after such certificates shall be canceled by the Secretary and shall not be resold. Any unused certificates in the hands of purchasers shall be redeemed at any time by the Secretary at the price paid for such certificates.

Quotas to Farms Only With Production Over 10,000 Bushels
(b) As soon as practicable after the issuance of such certificates, the Secretary shall allocate the total amount of the wheat-certificate allotment among farmers on the basis of the normal production of the wheat-acreage allotment for each such farm for the

crop to be harvested in the current calendar year. Provided, however, That no allocation shall be made to farms of the amount of the allotment determined for the marketing year beginning July 1, 1939.

"A farm's allocation shall be divided among landowners, tenants, and sharecroppers of the farm in the same proportion that landowners, tenants, and sharecroppers are entitled to share in the proceeds of the wheat crop with respect to which the allocation is made. Provided, however, That reduction shall be made from any person's share of the allocation to any farm in accordance with the following scale of reductions. That portion of Percentage reduction share which exceeds such as is included with portion in the following intervals:

10,000 to 12,000 bushels 10
12,000 to 14,000 bushels 20
14,000 to 16,000 bushels 30
16,000 to 18,000 bushels 40
All over 18,000 bushels 50

Prepare for the Blitzkrieg



APPOINTMENTS TO Convention Committees

Local, county and business associations are requested to send to the State Office, Salina, the names of persons who are eligible and whom they would suggest to serve on different convention committees. Please forward these names at your early convenience.

It is also requested that any individual or group having resolutions, recommendations or any matters wished brought to the attention of different committees, to send these to the State Office in Salina, so they can be referred to the proper committees.

HONOR TO THATCHER

Farmers Union Leader Receives Appointment to Central Co-op Bank

M. W. Thatcher, chairman of the National Farmers Union Legislative Committee and general manager of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association, St. Paul, Minn., and Dr. O. O. Wolf, president of the Kansas Farm Bureau, were appointed last week to the board of directors of the Central Bank for Cooperatives, Washington, D. C.

The appointments were made September 12 by Governor A. G. Black of the Farm Credit Administration. The Central Bank for Cooperatives is under FCA, its board of directors, with S. D. Salders as chairman, consists of seven men. The term of the directors is three years. A director receives no salary, only a per diem and expenses, the Secretary shall appoint an advisory committee consisting of three representative wheat growers, one representative consumer, and one representative of the Federal Government. It shall be the duty of such committee to recommend to the Secretary (Please Turn to Page Three)

The Central Bank for Cooperatives makes loans to the big cooperatives, where the figures run up into the millions. Its purpose is to help the farmer finance his marketing of wheat, dairy products, livestock, wool, fruit, etc.

OFFICIAL CALL FOR THE STATE CONVENTION For the State Convention

By the Authority vested in me, I hereby issue the call for the thirty-fifth convention of the Farmers Union Educational and Cooperative Union of America, Kansas Division. Such meeting will be held in Parsons, Kansas, in October 30, 31 and November 1, 1940.

The Farmers Union Managerial Association will hold its meeting on Tuesday, October 29.

J. P. FENGEL, State President.

BASIS OF REPRESENTATION

1. One delegate for each local Union in good standing up to twenty members in the State Organization. A local must have at least five members to be in good standing. Local Unions of larger membership entitled to additional delegates, an additional delegate for each additional twenty members (over the original 20) or major fraction thereof.

2. One delegate for each county Union in good standing, with five or more active Locals in the county.

3. One delegate for each local, county or district cooperative Farmers Union Business Association; and in the case of County Farmers Union Cooperatives made up of several units, each unit is entitled to a delegate. Providing, such association has 51 per cent of its stockholders as paid up members of the Kansas Farmers Union.

4. One delegate for each state-wide business or marketing organization affiliated with the Kansas Farmers Union.

5. One delegate for each of the Ladies' Auxiliary, and the Managerial Association.

Instructions to Delegates
A delegate must be a member in good standing on the records of the Secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union to participate in the annual convention. He must present his Farmers Union membership card before being permitted to participate in the convention.

Each delegate must have the credentials of the organization, he or she, claims to represent, and these credentials must be issued in the order and manner prescribed by the 1935 Constitution and By-laws.

All delegates' Credentials MUST be filed with the State Farmers Union office, Box 296, Salina, Kansas, or filed with the Credentials Committee at the annual state convention.

No credentials will be accepted by the Credentials committee after 6:00 p. m., Thursday, October 31, 1940.

Complying with the provisions of the Constitution and By-laws, the thirty-fifth annual convention of the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America, Kansas Division, will convene in Convention Hall in Parsons, Kansas, on Wednesday, October 30, 1940, at 10:00 a. m.

The meeting will continue in session until all business pertinent to the organization and the interest of the membership, coming before the delegates for consideration, has been transacted.

PLAN TRANSPORTATION

Group Rates to Denver F. U. Convention are Available

Some interest has been indicated toward chartering a bus or forming a party for a train coach by members of the Kansas Farmers Union for the trip to the Convention of the National Farmers Union, Denver, Colo., November 18 to 20. A round-trip rate of less than \$10 can be secured from Salina. The 1941 National Convention can be brought to Kansas if Farmers Union people of Kansas want it, reports John Vesecky, national president.

The 1940 convention will be streamlined into the conference type, giving non-delegates real opportunity for active participation in the convention. Monday and Tuesday mornings, November 18 and 19, the convention will meet as a whole. But in the afternoons the convention will separate itself into four conference divisions: Education, Legislation, Education and Organization.

This program will not limit the activity of a delegate, as he may go from one conference to another, but he must be present at each, in which he is especially interested and responsible. Generally everyone will be permitted to choose that conference which may best suit his interests. Each conference will have specialized leadership and talent.

State conventions of the Colorado Farmers Union have followed the conference plan for the last three years; the Wisconsin Farmers Union last year, and the conventions have been very successful, it is reported.

The final day, Wednesday, November 20, will be given to business reports from the different Conference groups; resolutions and a platform will be adopted; and officers will be elected.

MILK IS PURE AND SAFE

No Infantile Paralysis Has Ever Been Traced To Milk
Topek, Kansas—Entirely too often when baffling epidemics appear, as in the present outbreak of polio, the blame is undeservedly placed upon milk. Defending Kansas' milk supply as second to none in purity and wholesomeness, H. E. Dodge, State Dairy Commissioner, stated:

"Kansas milk is not only one of the best foods but one of the safest, although probably one of the most maligned."

"According to the best Kansas authorities and contrary to recent propaganda, no case of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) has ever been traced to either raw or pasteurized milk consumed in this state."

"Consumers of good Kansas milk can drink their quart of milk daily with no more misgiving than they might have in eating any other common food or drinking their daily allowance of water."

"Kansas milk is safe and our citizens have no cause to worry about it."

Young Lindsborg Man Dies
Henry Lindsborg, for the last 16 years bookkeeper and assistant manager of the Farmers Union elevator, Lindsborg, died September 9 after a heart attack. The attack came during the noon hour; he had worked at the elevator through the forenoon. Death came at 2:15 p. m. He was 38 years of age; he leaves the widow and three children.

Funeral services were held at the Train Brothers Funeral Home and the Bethany Lutheran church Wednesday, September 11. Dr. Ernest F. Philad, president of Bethany College, delivered the funeral sermon.

The Sudan is the chief source of the world's supply of gum arabic.

F. U. Interest Is High to Attend State Convention

Real Cooperation Will Be Necessary to Work Out Harmonious Organization Program—Dora B. Haines To Be a Special Convention Speaker

The 1940 State Convention of the Kansas Farmers Union is near, Wednesday through Friday, October 30 to November 1, at Parsons, Kansas. Throughout the state, interest is high among Farmers Union members as they plan the selection of their delegates; and discuss a program for 1941 of the Kansas Farmers Union.

The state Farmers Union Managerial Association will hold its annual fall meeting the day prior to the Convention, Tuesday, October 29.

Mrs. Dora B. Haines, writer and educator who for the past two years has been a staff member at the All-State Farmers Union Camp, will be featured on the evening program, Thursday, October 31, which is in charge of the Junior department. Mrs. Haines is a noted speaker; she and her husband, now dead, once published a newspaper column, "Searchlight on Congress," which brought their names into special prominence. She is now employed by the Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D. C.

Other special speakers in the program will include Governor Payne Ratner, Senator Clyde Reed, L. S. Herron, editor of the Nebraska Union Farmer, and Z. H. Lawter, secretary of the Oklahoma Farmers Union.

Members in local communities are taking more interest in affairs of the Farmers Union and the department of a platform and resolutions than they are in special Convention attractions.

M. L. Beckman, president of the largest county organization, Clay county's, is expected to be in attendance, talking for a set-price cost-of-production program. Following the teachings of the Oklahoma leader and former president of the National Farmers Union, John Simpson.

This set-price program for agriculture, cost-of-production and parity is looked upon as unwelcome by present National Farmers Union officials. They acknowledge that the set-price system for farm products is fine for speech-making and electioneering, but just doesn't work out toward a practical farm legislative program. They reflect with favor of the McNary-Haugen bill of the 20's. They look to the future with the Income Certificate or Income Insurance farm commodity bills.

John Vesecky, president of the National Farmers Union, will attend the Convention and welcome the opportunity to explain the national program of the organization.

Victor Hawkinson, president of the Riley county Farmers Union, will likely press for greater action by the state organization toward correcting the money system of the nation; the series of articles by the Kansas Union Farmer by William C. Gehlke, Snolan, will probably come in for discussion.

McPherson county with its large membership is reported to be more interested in attracting the 1941 convention into its county than to direct the program of the organization. David Train, president of the county organization and manager of the Lindsborg Farmers Union business set-up, is preparing a strong brief for Lindsborg.

At a meeting of the Ellsworth county Farmers Union, September 10, P. J. Nash, president of the Farmers Union Managerial Association and general manager of the Ellsworth Farmers Union business organization, was suggested by the county organization to the State President for a place on the Resolutions Committee at the State convention. At their early October meeting, the Ellsworth county organization plans to discuss the legislative program of the Farmers Union, and how it meets, or does not, their satisfaction.

oting strength will be felt to a greater degree by the larger Locals this year after the adoption of the amendment from last year's convention giving one vote to Locals "in good standing on the books of the State Union," meaning all members; and such "shall be entitled to one delegate for all Locals up to twenty members and one delegate for each additional twenty members or major fraction thereof."

GAIN AT ST. JOE
Members May Expect Dividends from Live Stock Sales
The Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company, South St. Joseph, Mo., has been a busy organization, reports Paul Steele, manager.

"Our August profit was \$2,291.77, which is equivalent to a patronage refund for the month of 39.69 percent," he writes. "For the year to date we have now amassed a total of \$10,117.57 in profits in the commission business for a yearly patronage refund to date of 27.59 percent. Our profit over the same period in 1939 is \$8,275.28, which equals a percentage gain of 20.77 percentage points. Our per car savings for the year to date is \$4.37."

"The serum business is going along very satisfactorily and we have a yearly profit now of \$419.59, which is equivalent to a patronage refund of 20.31 percent."

"Our loans outstanding as of August 31, 1940, was \$111,074.90. The loans have increased considerably since that time."

When we report to you on the September business, we believe we will again be able to tell you about making a profit. We had an abundance of rain in our territory and now need weather to dry up and harden our good corn crop."

The last census of northern Ireland, in 1937, showed 656,000 females and 623,000 males.

Study Relation Oil Wells and Water Shortage

President Fengel Asks Series of Startling "Do You Know" Water Supply Questions

Literature on the relationship of oil well drilling and the agricultural supply of water is being distributed this week at the Farmers Union booth at the Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, J. P. Fengel, president of the state Farmers Union, has received encouragement from a number of farmers throughout the state who have experienced water pollution or shortage and have reason to believe such has been caused by oil well drilling.

Legislation is needed in Kansas on this subject for the protection of Kansas farms from aridity and, also, from contamination by petroleum infiltration into farming soil, he believes.

President Fengel is the author of the following "Do You Know" questions:

DO YOU KNOW—
That rainfall has nothing to do with the well water shortage in Kansas. Water wells are most dry in wettest areas?

That in 1939 the percentage of water wells went dry in the following counties: Greenwood, Elk, Chautauque—75 per cent; Wilson, 60 per cent; Cherokee, 50 per cent; Osage, 92 per cent; Shawnee and Neosho 1,500 wells each?

That the rainfall in this area was above normal in 1938, yet in these counties water wells kept going dry?

That this water shortage did not exist in these counties before 1934?

That in 1934 oil companies started pumping down the fresh water into the oil wells to help force out the oil? (Pressure Disposal Process.)

That in 1934 oil companies started pumping down the fresh water into the oil wells to help force out the oil? (Pressure Disposal Process.)

That in spite of the 1939 drought oil companies in Chautauque county used more than 11,000,875 petroleum barrels of fresh water?

That there is more fresh water than any town in Chautauque county used during the year 1939?

That in 1939 76 per cent of the farmers in Chautauque county went without drinking water, and from twelve to fifteen miles for stock water?

That in 1939 the oil companies of Elk county used 1,834,500 petroleum barrels of fresh water?

That in 1939 75 per cent of the Elk county farmers hauled water from one to ten miles.

That in Greenwood county farmers hauled water from one to fifteen miles?

That in 1939 the same condition existed in Wilson and Allen counties?

That in 1939 the oil companies used a total of 32,140,650 petroleum barrels of fresh water, and got it free?

That in 1939 these farmers paid as high as 25 cents per load of water, hauling it from one to twenty miles and paid for the haulage?

That lack of rainfall is not the reason for water wells in Eastern Kansas going dry?

That in 1939, the dry year, rainfall in eastern Kansas was only 25 per cent below normal yet water wells were from 50 per cent to 92 per cent dry?

That in 1938, a wet year, rainfall in Eastern Kansas was 3 to 5 per cent above normal—water wells were 35 per cent dry—wells never dry before?

That it is not necessary to use fresh water to repressure disposal process?

That the oil companies use water instead of gas in this process because water is cheaper than gas—water is free?

That the salt water of deep Kansas oil wells is artesian?

That unless the abandoned oil well is securely plugged from the bottom the salt water will rise in the hole and pollute the fresh water strata?

That Kansas had no adequate law for plugging oil wells until 1937?

That oil wells abandoned before 1935 are still throwing their artesian salt water into the fresh water strata and streams?

That the only natural source of replenishing the fresh water supply of eastern and southeastern Kansas is rain fall?

That rainfall can not replenish the fresh water supply fast enough for the oil companies to use fresh water in this way, and leave any for the farmer?

That in western Kansas where the water comes underground from the Rocky Mountains, oil wells are already polluting irrigation wells?

That by writing the State Corporation Commission, Conservation Division, oil companies can get permission to use all the water they want—free?

That there is a legal penalty if the oil companies use more water than their permit calls for?

U. S. Wheat May Go To Japan
The 1940 Japanese wheat crop, officially estimated at 61,308,000 bushels, is expected to be revised downward according to a radio gram from the United States, and some importation of wheat is possible as a result of reduced rice supplies.

Although prospects for sales of U. S. wheat were reported to be promising, at competitive prices with Australian, foreign-exchange restrictions will continue to limit the quantity of wheat imported.

EVIDENCE
Downstairs neighbor: "You play the piano too loud."
Upstairs: "Can you prove it?"
Downstairs neighbor: "Yes, here's your loud pedal. You pushed it right through the ceiling."

Hog and Chick
Surplus—Short
Supply of Wool

Canadian and British Trade
Relationship Is Studied
By U. S. Experts

Canada is now not only able to meet her own and British needs for bacon and poultry products, but may even have a surplus, less serious war damage to British stocks makes it necessary to obtain additional supplies from the nearest source, says an article in this week's Foreign Crops and Markets. The information is based upon the final report of conference held recently in Ottawa under the auspices of the Canadian Agricultural Supplies Board. It appears, however, that if British demands for dairy products should be greatly increased, Canadian supplies—especially of butter—probably would be inadequate. Increased cheese production already has been recommended.

The present agreement with the British Food Ministry, which ends October 31, calls for 5,600,000 pounds a week of bacon and other cuts. This, plus domestic requirements, means a slaughter of about 93,000 to 98,000 hogs weekly. It is believed that 130,000 to 150,000 hogs will be marketed weekly in the last 3 months of this year. A pork surplus should result, unless British demands are increased.

It is expected that total export requirements will be known in advance of fall breeding, so that farmers can adjust production to supplies, says a report to the United States Department of Agriculture's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Where surplus gains are produced, farmers probably will prefer to market these as pork, even though hog prices may be lower than at present, but in high cost feed areas pork production probably will be reduced.

Hog numbers on Canadian farms in June this year were 27 percent above June 1939; the number of pigs saved last fall was a third greater than in the fall of 1938; the 1940 spring crop was 30 percent greater than in 1939, and the number of sows bred for 1940 fall farrowing was 27 percent greater than in 1939.

Canada has a blanket order for supplying the United Kingdom with cheese. The original agreement called for nearly 80 million pounds for the season ending November 30 of this year, but the British Food Ministry has since indicated it would take all the cheese Canada could produce. Canada recently forbade cheese exports to other countries except under license.

Suggestions for increasing cheese production are: feeding cows when pastures are short, extending the factory season, and feeding low-priced grain to increase milk production.

Evaporated milk production in Canada increased 28 percent in the first 5 months of 1940 over the same period for 1939. Great Britain is reported as having taken 14,400,000 pounds so far this year and has been offered an additional 5,000,000 pounds for 1940. Canada has been sending large supplies of eggs to the United Kingdom, since Continental supplies were cut off. It is estimated these supplies will reach 350,000 or 400,000 cases (30 dozen to the case) in 1940, but that 500,000 cases could have been shipped without danger to domestic supplies.

SCRAMBLE FOR PROFITS

Congressmen Assail Industrialists on Their "Paytriotism"

Vigorously assailing what he termed "paytriotism," Congressman John Coffee of Washington said of monopoly industrialists, "They are demanding their pound of flesh in advance before accepting billions of dollars in defense orders." Coffee declared that these are the "loudest proclaimers" in favor of conscripting youth at \$21 a month while they demand "higher and higher profits for themselves."

On frequent occasions charges have been made on the floor of Congress that attempts are being made to turn the national defense program into a raid on the federal treasury. The following concessions are those which have al-

ready been wrung from the government or which have been agreed to by administrative officers pending confirmation by Congress:

1. Competitive bidding on defense orders has been eliminated.
2. Anti-trust prosecutions are being quashed.
3. Vinson-Trammel Act limiting profits on defense orders to 8-12 percent over and above cost is to be repealed; Congress has not yet acted.
4. Amortization of new plants is to be allowed in 5 years or less instead of 15 to 20 years as at present; Congress has not yet acted.

Though the defense program is still largely on paper, the Department of Justice has already been assigned the task of investigating the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation on the charge of profiteering. The government claims that the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation had submitted inflated cost figures with the result that it stood to make a net profit of more than \$25,000,000 on a contract of approximately \$93,000,000.

Officials of the War and Navy Department testified before the Senate subcommittee on appropriation on the charge of profiteering. They refused to go ahead with the building of a new mill until such concessions were made. According to the Wall Street Journal of August 14, the U. S. Steel Corp. reported net profits for the six month period ending June 30, 1940 of \$36,315,000 as compared with \$1,970,311 for the same period last year.

The chairman of the U. S. Steel Corporation, Mr. Irving S. Olds, declared, "There should be a much shorter period for amortization. For that reason we have delayed buying equipment needed for the heavy armor plate program until the tax amortization question is settled."

Although the steel companies are insisting upon higher profits, a survey of the net profits made by the leading companies shows their rates of profit are not as high as last year. The fifteen leading steel companies reported net profits for the first six months of 1940 amounting to \$89,642,445, as compared with \$20,282,194 for the same period last year.

Net Profits Reported by 15 Leading Steel Companies for 6-Month Period

Allegheny	1,974,719	334,322
Indiana	1,278,457	278,738
Bethlehem	2,198,457	623,186
National	7,013,817	4,385,424
U. S. Steel	36,315,000	1,970,311
Continental	332,795	332,307
Republic	1,862,788	1,862,788
Jones, Laughlin	3,276,256	847,812
Sharon	6,449,453	1,083,311
Youngstown	2,423,212	546,193
U. S. Steel	2,423,212	546,193
Pittsburgh	379,407	609,745
Granite City	201,600	35,045
Xerox	362,143	251,414

TRAVELOGUE

(Continued from page 2)

The entertainment of the evening was furnished by the Gentry county Farmers Union folks of which there probably were 50 in attendance. There was a varied program of singing, tap dancing, musical numbers, quartettes and trios.

So, we Kansans attending the Missouri State Convention and be shown that the Missouri Farmers Union does have a lot of wonderful talent too and that they not only work for the development of the Farmers Union program, but they also develop leadership among their young folks.

We all enjoyed every minute of the convention and the evening's entertainment, which was truly excellent in every detail.

This being my first visit to the Missouri Farmers Union, it was enjoyed and appreciated very much.

I also enjoyed meeting Mr. E. G. Otten and Mr. L. E. Flechter of the Robinson-Highland, Kansas neighborhood, both of which are good Kansas Farmers Union folks and patrons of our Livestock house at St. Joe.

The Kansas State Fair at Hutchinson from the 15th to the 21st, and if any of our folks are attending, be sure and look us up in the Agricultural Building where we have our booth again this year.

We shall be looking for you and anxious to see you.

Good Word for Britain

"We are waging a bitter war against the madmen of Munich and the racketeers of Rome . . . Indeed, we are fighting desperately against the biggest enemy of Co-operation and Democracy, whether in the Old or in the New World . . . We shall win victoriously—with the help of America . . . So please speak a good word for us among your American cooperative friends." Thus writes Dr. John Thomas, principal of the Co-

Germany Adopts Expansion Plan
of Systematic Soil Analysis

Under a recent Government decree directed toward expanding the Nation's agricultural production to maximum levels by rationalized application of fertilizer, German farmers are required, upon request, to submit to the competent soil analysis authorities, samples of their farm soil for analysis, according to a report received in the office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

In general, ordinary crop farmers with a minimum of 5 hectares (12.5 acres), the garden farmers with a minimum area of 1 hectare (2.5 acres), of cultivated soil, will be called upon to supply soil specimens. One or more samples may be required, according to the needs for testing of the particular soil, as ascertained by the authorities.

Farmers will be charged a fee of 0.50 mark (20 cents) for each soil test, but total fees may not exceed 1.00 mark per hectare (16 cents per acre). Insufficient revenue from the fees for covering the total cost of the soil-testing program will be compensated from Government funds.

The soil tests will be carried on throughout Germany upon a comprehensive scale and are expected to yield scientific data regard-

ing the precise fertilizer requirements of agricultural lands so that commercial fertilizer will be applied in exactly the required amounts, the report states. The tests will be carried out by some 70 Government agricultural experimental stations situated throughout Germany. Each experimental station at the beginning of the campaign will conduct some 25,000 tests annually, and the number of tests will be increased to 100,000 per station annually later on, when the testing campaign becomes well established.

The soil-testing program is considered an important factor in Germany's wartime economy in enabling the expansion of the Nation's agricultural production to maximum proportions and thus lessening the effects of the Allied blockade upon the Nation's food supply, the report points out.

For conducting the soil tests, advanced methods have been developed based upon the use of photo-electric cells and principles of spectral analysis. By means of this advanced method, the soil tests can be conducted rapidly and inexpensively by ordinary workers, dispensing with the former need for tedious methods of chemical analysis by scientifically trained personnel, it is concluded.

Discuss Rise of
Stock Auctions
and Weaknesses

From U. S. Live Stock News of August

The late P. T. Barnum has been credited with the idea that the auction is a sucker born every minute. Barnum made a fortune with a circus that thrived largely on its owner's knowledge of psychology.

But, master showman that he was, Barnum appears to have been a novice alongside the men who conceived and operate many of the modern livestock auctions. In fairness, let it be said that not all auctions or sale rings are what they are reputed to be.

There are a few whose owners are honestly trying to operate on sound business principles and have set up regulations and supervision akin to that of the terminal markets. But these are the exception. Unfortunately they, the innocent, suffer equally for the sins of the far more numerous auctioneers, sale rings and sale barns that are operated unscrupulously as nothing more than a far-reaching speculative scheme.

Hot seat of the present-day auction craze are the Corn Belt and some western states. Sale rings and sale barns are everywhere. The fact that many of those who patronize them know full well the chances they take in so doing, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio alone have 1800 of these so-called markets. Not even Barnum could explain why farmers and stockmen have taken not only the bait, but the hook, line and sinker that the auctions dangle before them.

Most frequently, the theory of the auction's rise is the social aspect. They bring people together to chat and visit, as well as to buy or sell. And those who attend like to be in the excitement of the auction ring.

Another theory, prevalent among the enthusiastic but misguided or unthinking local business men, is that the auctions help business in general.

If it is socialability that the auction addict craves, he pays a high price for it. There are many cheap or opportunistic for neighborhood. If it's excitement he seeks, he would be advised to buy a ticket to the city and take in a prizefight or other amusement. For the losses that some stockmen have taken through their local auctions, they could have taken a whole family on a trip, had some real fun, and still have been money ahead. Experiences such as that related by L. Eschenheimer, of Lorado, Mo., elsewhere in this issue, of the News are not uncommon.

As for the idea that the auctions make for better local business, the angle that the business men themselves overlook is that the auction scourge has helped depress the general level of livestock prices, resulting in a smaller gross income for stockmen who have less money to spend, because of that, than they otherwise would spend on necessities or luxuries.

Of all shortcomings charged to auction rings, the most general and yet the easiest to correct, are lack of sanitation and unfair—often outright deceptive—practices.

Stockmen should realize several things: First, that many auctions are operated by men who all their lives have been speculators or promoters of a sort. Often their beginning dates back to a period of low prices, when their originators saw what they considered as opportunity to clean up. Had there been no 1933 or 1934, many auctions would never have been started. Many are going begging now that prices have come back at least part way.

They Wind Up At Big Markets

Second, much of the buying done at auctions is done by speculators who in turn re-sell the stock at other auctions or at a terminal market. Speculators are the big markets, especially on a Monday. Agencies reporting prices on those markets are sometimes taken to task by these small-time speculators for reporting livestock quotations "too high," even though these quotations represent terminal market quotations as closely as the speculators do.

Finally, the farmer or stockman, who purchases feeding or breeding stock at local auctions should realize the risks involved. Again reference is made to Mr. Eschenheimer's experience. State livestock sanitary authorities are unanimous in declaring that their troubles have grown by leaps and bounds because of disease spread through the growth of the auction ring menace. The average local auction is the easiest place in the world to sell diseased or barren livestock that would be high to the

purchaser if he got it for nothing. However, the greatest harm that auctions have done and are doing to farmers and stockmen everywhere, and at the same time the hardest to picture understanding, lies in the extent to which hundreds of them, operating at nearly every crossroads, have de-centralized and broken down the livestock marketing structure. They have done this at a time when there has been the greatest concentration in history of buying by packers. At a time when stockmen should be availing themselves of the centralized, concentrated and expert selling facilities of the terminal markets—to meet the concentrated and expert selling facilities of the terminal markets—to meet the concentrated and highly expert buying methods of the packers on even ground—they instead play directly into the packers' hands by scattering their selling to the four winds.

Time to Study Marketing

Worse still, they turn the important task of selling over to unscrupulous and often unscrupulous agents who have nothing but a purely mercenary interest in them. Not only do they do this, but they pay these agents two or three times the central market charges for the privilege of helping speculators garner a profit.

Stockmen will never get a fair price for their livestock in relation to consumer prices until they quit trying to prove how right Barnum really was. They will never have a real market until they give their market some intelligent study. A move is under way in this direction now among some farm leaders and educators. It is a good move. If carried through to a conclusion, it is safe to predict that many auctions will be shown up for what they are and will either clean house or fall. If they clean house they will be on the same footing with the terminal markets and farmer-stockmen will benefit by clean competition.

NOTE: None of the above must be taken to apply to private sale sales of breeding stock. The individual auction is as much a part of the purebred business as the terminal markets are a part of the common livestock field. Both are old and proven practices and neither has anything in common with the average community auction.)

CCW CO-OPS FORM FINANCE COMPANY

To Help Finance Time Purchases of Appliances, Heavy Goods

Superior, Wis.—The "Central Finance Company," an agency for making cooperative time purchases by their members of appliances, machinery, and other heavy items, is in progress of incorporation by the Central Cooperative Wholesale and affiliated societies.

The articles of incorporation were approved by the Management Committee of the CCW, meeting here September 6, and are now being passed upon by the secretary of state at Madison.

The capital is fixed at \$25,000, to be divided into 250 shares of \$100 each. The CCW has agreed to take 85,000 of the shares, and other co-ops are asked to take the remainder. The company will begin functioning as soon as one-half of the authorized share capital is subscribed and one-fifth is paid in.

The company, which will be wholly co-op-owned and controlled, is being incorporated under the general corporations act of Wisconsin.

Other actions by the Management Committee included approval of a further \$10,000 expenditure on an addition to the main feed mill here.

An investment of \$5,000 had been previously voted and construction of the addition is now going on. It will be a one-story addition, on which an elevator may be erected later.

The committee also voted to purchase two new educational films illustrating co-ops in Sweden, and elected 10 delegates to the Congress of the Cooperative League to be held in Chicago in October. The Women's Cooperative Guild and the Cooperative Youth League were authorized to name each one additional delegate, making a total delegation of 12.

DOUBLE DUTY

The bootmaker so prided himself on the quality of his work that he guaranteed each pair of boots to last six months without repairs.

Imagine his surprise when one day a man returned with a pair of boots that had worn out in three months from the day of purchase.

"What's the matter with them?" asked the bootmaker. "Don't they fit?"

The other shook his head. "Yes," he said, "they fit well enough on me but they're a bit tight for my brother on the night shift."—Tit-Bits.

A widow, whose husband had died some months previously, also died when she came to the pearly gate asked to see her former husband.

"What's his name?" said St. Peter.

"Joe Smith," replied the widow.

"You have to give me some better identification than that," said St. Peter kindly. "How about his last words? We classify new arrivals by their words on earth."

"Well," she replied, "just before he died Joe turned to me and said, 'Mary if you ever kiss another man I'll turn over in my grave.'"

"Oh, sure! I know him," said St. Peter, "we call him 'Whirling Joe' up here!"

Crater Lake, Oregon, with a depth of 2,000 feet, is one of the deepest in the world.

LOCAL AND COUNTY
DELEGATE'S CREDENTIAL
KANSAS DIVISION

Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America

This is to certify that (delegate)

Post Office address Local No.

and (alternate)

are members in good standing of local union

number State of Kansas, and were elected delegates

to the thirty-fifth annual convention of the Kansas Farmers Union which meets

in Parsons, Kansas, October 30, 31 and November 1, 1940.

President

Secretary

BOLIVIA-U. S. ARRANGEMENT
AN OLD PROJECT

At Present Uncle Sam Buys From Orient Although Bolivia Second Largest Producer

WASHINGTON—With world supplies endangered by European as well as Asiatic war, an old project for "all-American" tin, to be produced in Bolivia and smelted in the United States, is again reported under consideration by the two countries.

"Bolivia is the world's second largest producer of this ancient metal, now figuring so prominently in strategic-minerals defense requirements," says a bulletin from the National Geographic society. "Number one in world markets is British Malaya, with the Netherlands East Indies in third place."

U. S. Buys From East

"At present Uncle Sam buys almost no tin directly from Bolivia. In 1938, only 11 out of Bolivia's 25,000 tons of exported tin ore were shipped to the United States because neither Bolivia nor the United States has smelting facilities."

"Nearly three-fourths of Bolivia's tin ore goes to England for refining. Mixed with other and higher-content ore, it is there made into such forms as bars, blocks, grains, scrap and 'pig,' so-called because of the shape of the mold."

"While some of England's output is taken by the United States, the bulk of the tin consumed by this country (some four-fifths of the supply) comes from the east, where much of the raw material is treated in the country of origin. In the western hemisphere, Argentina has the only tin ore shelter of commercial size."

Variety Of Uses

"Tin has a tremendous variety of uses in industry and warfare, as well as in the common everyday needs of life. In alloys it is found in all sorts of products, from refrigerator linings and tin-foil to automobiles, ships and airplanes; from metal beds to toothpaste tubes. Although quantities of the metal are consumed in containers for foodstuffs, oil, gasoline, etc., the tin used in 'tin cans' is but a small part of the total."

Consolidated Printing and Stationery Co. SALINA, KANSAS

Painting
Time

Brisk breezes bring reminders that this is the ideal season for painting—not many bugs—clear, cool days for even drying—wood that is summer dried.

Paint will protect and preserve wood, but the real reason for painting is to make your house, your barn, and your out-buildings "Look Like a Million!" A paint job pays for itself many times in improved appearance.

KFU paints and enamels are skillfully blended from fine quality products, yet sell at moderate prices. Ask for them at your local Farmers Union dealer.

Distributed by
Farmers Union Jobbing
Association

LOCAL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
DELEGATE'S CREDENTIAL

Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America, Kansas Division

This is to certify that (delegate) Post

Office address is a member of

Local No. and (alternate) Post

Office address is a member of

Local No. They are members in good standing in the Kansas Farmers

Union, and will represent The

Business Association, as duly elected delegates to the thirty-fifth annual convention

of the Kansas Farmers Union which meets in Parsons, Kansas, October 30, 31, and

November 1, 1940.

I hereby certify that 51 per cent of the members of the above named cooperative

business association are members of the Kansas Farmers Union.

(SEAL) President

. Secretary

THIS CAN HAPPEN TO YOU!



FIRE can destroy all you own. Fire has no respect for property. Your buildings are never entirely safe from its dangers despite all possible precautions and care. Once started, fire can so easily get out of control.

You can guard against fire by Insurance. Your financial position and security, built through years of toil, can be protected. It is the sane, economical policy to be prepared.

The Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company can cover your property against fire, lightning, tornado, windstorm and hail. The low cost will probably surprise you. See your local Farmers Union agent, or write the home office—

The Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Co.
SALINA, KANSAS