

The Kansas Union Farmer

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JOHN TROMBLE Editor and Manager
W. C. LANSDON Associate Editor

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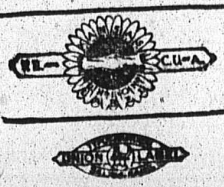
Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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

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

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1925.



FARMERS' LIFE INSURANCE

The Farmers' Union of Iowa is engaged in an enterprise that should result in great benefits not only to its own members but to farmers throughout the whole country. About three years ago the Iowa Farmers' Union Life Insurance was started by a few men who saw the opportunities for service in such an organization. It was a big job but it has been handled in a big way and at this time is one of the most important farmers associations in the United States.

On December 31, 1924, the total amount of life policies amounted to a total of \$3,947,750. New business written last year was approximately \$1,000,000. The company now has resources of more than \$110,000 including surplus of nearly \$30,000. There are more than 2000 policy holders all of whom are members of the Farmers' Union. Every loss has been paid in full. The company is in position to go right on increasing its business and adding to its resources.

There are several fine types of service that can be done by a farmers' mutual life insurance company. In the first place such an agency is able to sell insurance, that is protection for families, for the actual value of the insurance without adding any of the other more costly features that make regular insurance policies so expensive. When a man pays for a policy on his life all he wants and all he needs is protection. He should not be required to share in heavy promotion expenses or in providing fancy salaries for officers. Neither is there any reason for policy holders advancing money in excess of the value of the services they receive to be carried into excessive reserves of little use or value to them.

In the second place a farmer who pays for an insurance policy on his life would like to have the use of the necessary reserves. Under the old line system some billions of surplus largely in excess of insurance needs have been built up and are now controlled by the great financial interests of the eastern states and used for purposes that have nothing whatever to do with the welfare of the people to whom they actually belong. Many millions of Kansas money go east every year as payments for life insurance. None of it comes back to the state except as loans at high rates of interest secured by mortgages on the farms and other property of policy holders in this state.

A well managed farmers life insurance company will speedily accumulate large reserves and invest its resources in the localities from which it gets its business. The west makes plenty of money but turns it over to folks who spend it in the east. It is accumulation rather than earning that gives power. Western farmers will never be able to control their own destiny until they learn to save and control their own accumulations from the profits on their business. Labor is powerful today because its organizations have accumulated enormous financial resources. With more capital than any other industry and with gross earnings greater than those of any other group the farmers of the United States have only to concentrate their potential financial power into reserves controlled by themselves in order to establish their independence, prosperity and preserve the importance of agriculture.

REESTABLISH OUR COOPERATIVES.

During the recent state convention this writer talked with a good many members of the Union from localities where for one reason or another the Union elevator had gone out of business or is in such financial condition that it is likely soon to quit. There seem to be several reasons, causes, or excuses for this situation.

It is unquestionably true that in certain sections of the state too many cooperative elevators were organized during the war period. Wheat was being produced in large quantities all over the state at that time and it seems to have been taken for granted that there would be a continuation of that condition. When prices slumped after the war wheat was abandoned and that business of course was no longer available for the cooperative organizations.

There are other places where the farmers simply appear to have gotten tired of running a

business for themselves even if it was successful and dividend paying. There have been not a few cases where cooperators have sold their elevators for good prices, liquidated their affairs, divided the money and gone out of business with a good deal more cash than they put in. It is not a hard job to sell a successful cooperative elevator property for more cash than they put in. It is not a hard job to sell a successful cooperative elevator property for more than its cost. That is exactly the sort of a deal that the organized grain trade is always ready to make because it kills two birds with one stone—removes an active and successful competitor and at the same time, even though members suffer no loss, gives cooperation a black eye. Then there are elevators that have failed from lack of proper support by their own shareholders, from negligence of the directors or from the dishonesty or incompetency of the managers.

No matter what causes a cooperative elevator to go out of business the result to its members is always the same. Not one of the men who talked this matter over with the editor failed to testify that in such cases the farmers have already begun to pay again for the elevators, that they let go. They are paying in poorer service, in lower prices, in short weights and in undergrading. In fact all the abuses, impositions, extortions, dishonesty and chicanery against which they organized have come back and they are now giving up the money that they saved for themselves while they were cooperators and are being robbed on current sales in addition.

A cooperative elevator is just a little piece of machinery that every farmer needs in his business. It costs him very little, seldom more than the price of a reaper and very seldom as much as an automobile. No one hesitates about the cost of keeping the binder or the car in running order although neither of them ever pays any dividends that can be measured in dollars and cents. When the auto or the reaper wears out the farmer does not pay fares for riding in some other man's car or hire the International Harvester Company to cut his wheat. He buys him a new machine and goes on about his business.

Even if the Local Cooperative Elevator handles no wheat it can do other chores for its members that are well worth while. Through it they can buy their bulky supplies, sell their coarse grains and protect themselves in many ways against exploitation.

There are scores of unanswerable arguments in favor of maintaining a cooperative association of some sort in every agricultural community in Kansas. Concerns that have lost their own. Elevators that have failed or are in a failing condition must be restored to solvency and put where they can render real service to their shareholders. Manager De Voss and the boards of directors of the State Union and the Jobbing Association have worked out a plan that will succeed if it is accepted. Local boards of directors and managers should write either to Union or Jobbing Association headquarters if they need information or assistance.

NOT LICKED YET.

Farmers are too apt to mistake good luck in a preliminary skirmish for victory in the war. If agriculture is to be established as a prosperous industry the work must be done by an organized army of farmers enlisted for the entire duration of the war. Soldiers of cooperation can take few furloughs and must be satisfied never to be mustered out.

The enemy that has been exploiting agriculture for generations may have suffered some slight reverses but is not yet whipped. Organized farmers must realize that instead of the battle having been won, the real fighting has only just begun.

WHEAT POOL RESULTS.

Four-fifths of the members of the Kansas Cooperative Wheat Marketing Associations are certain to be mightily well pleased with the results of this year's operations. Without the organization they would have been forced to sell their grain from the machine at about ninety cents a bushel. The Kansas Department of Agriculture has announced that the average farm price of Kansas wheat for the 1924 crop will not be more than \$1.05 less a bushel. Four-fifths of the farmers got less than the average. The poolers, regardless of the date of delivery will get around \$1.35 to \$1.40 cents a bushel or about forty cents above the average price for the year.

One-fifth or thereabouts of the poolers will always believe that they lost money by being in the Association. They did not deliver their grain until the price was high and they will always believe that if they had been free to sell when they pleased they would have held for the high dollar. Perhaps one in ten, financially able to do so, would have held on but not more than that. The most of the men who are going to be sore about the pool settlement would have sold directly from the threshers.

Had all the wheat growers in Kansas been in the pool the gain to the state for 1924 would have been around \$50,000,000. The small number who did pool will clear nearly a million dollars and most of them are satisfied with the results. Before the next harvest starts to the market the pool should get enough new members to control volume of markets and in some measure prices paid.

BETTER FIELD SEEDS.

The legislature is making another attempt to enact a workable pure seed law for this state. It may or may not succeed. Whether it does or does not will make mighty little difference to members of the Farmers Union who will take the steps necessary to secure their field seeds for spring planting and sowing through the Farmers Union Jobbing Association.

The Association has a contract with one of the

oldest and most reliable seed houses in the United States. It is in position to guarantee quality and germination. Pure bred seeds mean better crops and larger profits. Seeds free from weeds reduce labor and prevent soil infection with weeds that years of work are required to eradicate. Seeds that grow mean good stands and big crops. The Jobbing Association exists to serve Kansas farmers. It can help every man in the state who will give it a chance. If you are in need of field seeds give your own organization a chance to serve you.

BOOST YOUR BUSINESS.

When Scholfield, manager of the Trego County Cooperative Association went home from the State Convention of the Farmers Union he made an official report to his County Union and also had some pieces put in the paper telling the folks some of the things that had been done during that eventful week in Salina. That WaKeeny manager believes in publicity. He gets the news of the Union into the county papers and he patronizes the advertising columns of the local press.

A cooperative institution should do well without advertising but sometimes it does not. The members all take their home papers. Week after week they see the advertisements of the merchants and other business men who are competing for the farmers' business. Not once a year, in many places, is the name of the cooperative even mentioned. This makes a few farmers angry but result is still more of them forgetting that they have a business of their own.

In most cases the local papers are not to blame. Editors are human and the editors' babies must have shoes. It is not strange that they print more news about their advertisers than they do about the cooperative competitors of those same advertisers whose monthly payments for space buy printers' ink and good white paper. Every local cooperative enterprise can mightily well afford to follow the lead of Trego County and spend a little money each week for advertising space in the local papers. It will pay in more ways than one. Also it will make friends of those few Kansas editors who need the money with which to pay their bills.

REDUCING PULLMAN FARES.

During the war congress or the Interstate Commerce Commission or whoever had the say in such matters permitted the Pullman Company to advance sleeping car rates fifty per cent of the pre-war charges but the advance did not go to the Pullman people. It was paid to the railway companies. After the war was over some one suggested that there should be a reduction down to the old rate.

For several months, or perhaps years, the Interstate Commerce Commission investigated the matter of Pullman sur-charges in its usual deliberate and thorough-going fashion. Meantime folks who travel on paying the high rate and the money to the amount of about \$37,000,000 kept on flowing into the treasuries of the railway companies. Finally the Commission decided not to interfere with the rate and as the reason for that odd determination declared that the roads need the money. No one was much surprised and only the comparatively few who travel in Pullmans were interested. The Commission was merely running true to form. Its business is to see that the railways earn enough money to pay five and three-fourths per cent on their investment.

Enter another factor in the situation. The United States senate, with the exception of Magnus Johnson and one or two rough brawn sons of toil and the ~~bill is made up~~ exclusively of men who ride in Pullmans when they travel. If they journey at night they use the sleeping cars and if they ride for only short trips in the day time they ride in parlor cars. Always they seek for comfort and for separation and segregation from the common run of folks who sweat for a living and ride in day coaches when they travel.

Of course most of the senators can very well afford to pay the sur-charge imposed by the railways on Pullman fares but it is a well known fact that "them as has wants to keep" and so the senate has passed a bill forbidding the extra fare. The House of Representatives will probably agree and so the decree of the Interstate Commerce Commission will be vetoed by congress and the railroads must look around for some other plum tree to shake for fruit worth nearly forty millions of dollars. They will find it and will be allowed to get it because they need the money.

A lot of the customers of this paper are wondering what all this has to do with farmers who do most of their travelling in tin lizzies. Nothing much except that it is fairly typical of the way things go in this country which of course is the finest land in all the world but sometimes permits things that look queer. The point is that as the railroads need the money, as the commission says, and as they cannot bet it from Pullman passengers who cannot afford it they will be forced to take it off someone who cannot afford it. Very soon we shall be told that regular fares, that is the rates paid by people who ride in the day coaches, are so low that they are confiscatory and must be raised if the bankruptcy of the whole transportation industry is averted.

Another significant thing may also be noticed more or less judiciously in this connection. For several years the stock raisers, the fruit growers, the grain producers and the general farmers of this country have been on their knees to congress and the Interstate Commerce Commission begging for rates low enough to prevent the confiscation of their crops and herds. They have failed to get any reductions and will keep on falling even though they pray holes in the knees of their breeches and cry their eyes out. Apparently the only way for farmers to get any satisfaction out of the situation is to keep on riding in flivvers with stages of their journey so arranged that they can use camp grounds in the night time.

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

Congress Was Torn In Two

Over the recommendations of the president's Agricultural Commission and especially as to the advisability of passing the bill to create a Federal Cooperative Commission. On the one side was all the power of the administration devoted for days to that single purpose. Nor should any one speak lightly of that power.

The president is the center and chief of the executive branch of the government. Every great office to the number of hundreds, that is not filled by election is within the gift of the executive. Tens of thousands of minor appointments are made by the high officers selected by the president. A political party coming into power relies on the presidential patronage to reward its workers. In power, it relies with equal confidence on the office holders of the executive branch of the government to strengthen itself against the ever present danger of failure of popular support and final defeat at the polls in a future general election.

It is a long, long time from the fourth of March 1925 to the fourth of March 1929 and during all that time Calvin Coolidge will be in the White House clothed with power of life or death over the political fortunes, not only of the executive branch of the government, but, in no small measure, of congress. Senators and congressmen who cannot get postoffices, public buildings, and federal jobs for considerable numbers of their constituents are not likely to remain long in public life. They can get few of these highly essential perquisites unless they stand in well with the White House and certainly they cannot hope for much consideration from the president if they vote against the measures that he advocates.

So it happened that quite a few members of each house of congress who disliked the Copper-Haugen bill voted for it for reasons more closely connected with their own personal fortunes than their best private judgment as to its relation to the public welfare. As this is written the result is in doubt but the measure is likely to pass.

Farmers Divided Very Radically

On the merits of the Cooperative Marketing Bill prepared by the president's conference, Presidents Bradford, Barrett and Labor of the Bureau, Union and Grange were members of the Conference. They are the elected heads of the only three agricultural societies that are even approximately national in their membership and activities. They joined in the report and supported the measure, with all their influence. If any men in this country have the right to speak for organized farmers that responsibility rests on Bradford, Barrett and Taylor.

On the other hand the representatives of the commodity marketing associations opposed the bill. Judge Bingham, Governor Lowden, Mr. Sapiro, Mr. Petet and many other leaders in the field of cooperative marketing appeared in Washington, protesting against the proposed Commission and used all their influence to defeat the measure. The position taken by these men is that cooperative marketing is already self established as a national policy and needs nothing else in this world so much as to be let alone with entire freedom to work out its own salvation.

Through the headquarters of the National Council of Commodity Marketing Associations, recently transferred from Chicago to Washington, a very strong sentiment against the Copper-Haugen bill was worked up among the managers and directors of commodity associations all over the country. As usual in such campaigns, an effort was made to influence congress with a shower of letters. Ordinarily so many letters from home would have decided the matter of a senator but in this case there was the president of the United States on the other side to be reckoned with. In such untoward and embarrassing circumstances what is a poor harassed federal law-maker to do?

Regulation Or Supervision

By a governmental agency is the bugaboo that frightened the cooperatives into such determined opposition to the conference proposals as they embodied in the Copper-Haugen Bill. It is true that the proposed supervision is of a very mild type and also that it cannot be applied to any marketing association against its will. There is no thought that the government is to climb the ladder of a resisting and struggling cooperative, hold its nose and administer the castor oil of federal regulation. The provision for registration is purely voluntary for the associations and there can be no regulation without prior registration.

As first framed the bill appeared to provide for some sort of alliance

or federation among cooperatives and old line dealers on the terminal markets. That was objectionable to every one and will not be in the measure if it is passed. Also there was a good deal of alarm over the provision that registered cooperative marketing associations might have their accounts and business audited not more than twice a year by agents of the Federal Commission. This looked like unwarrantable intrusion by the government into private business. As a matter of fact it was not proposed to do any more for or to the cooperatives than government has long been doing for national banks and railroads.

Cooperatives Marketing Food and Cotton

Are undoubtedly affected by the public interest. The people as a whole are interested from two very important angles. It is necessary to the safety of the republic that agriculture shall be restored to prosperity and placed on an equality with the other major business interests of the country. It is almost equally necessary that the non-agricultural consumers shall have adequate supplies of food and clothing at prices within their means.

Cooperative marketing should serve the public in both of the ways indicated. Existing marketing processes are extremely expensive. The spread between the producer and the consumer represents, in most cases, some three-fourths of the price paid by consumers. Common sense and common justice unite in declaring that such a toll is extortionate and confiscatory to both the parties most deeply interested.

It is self evident that if marketing and distribution costs can be reduced to reasonable proportions an immense saving, available for division on some fair basis between producers and consumers, can be effected. Such is the whole theory and reason for the cooperative marketing movement. It can get nowhere unless its relation to the public interest is recognized and certainly it cannot be established and maintained on the program of increasing costs to consumers without interfering with any of the perquisites and profits now enjoyed by distributing agencies.

Rotten Cooperatives

Organized by dishonest men for the sole purpose of crooking and robbing the credulous are not entirely unknown. Here in the middle west we have had very little of that sort of thing and hypocritical banditry. Other sections of the country have not been so fortunate. It has been only a few years since the farmers and other working folks of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois were robbed of \$28,000,000 by one group of scoundrels.

The wolf who covers his savagery with a sheep's coat, the devil who wears the livery of heaven have long typified dangers from foes disguised as friends. Exploitation in the name of cooperation has done infinite harm to farmers not only in actual and heavy financial losses but by undermining confidence in the program and purposes of the movement. To prevent such robbery would seem to be nothing more than the proper exercise of the police power of the federal government.

Dishonesty Is Not the Only Danger

That threatens cooperative marketing. Inefficiency is far more widespread than personal rascality. Comparatively few cooperatives have been wrecked by crooks as compared with the multitudes of such organizations that have failed as the result of incompetence. A business program as fundamentally sound as the cooperative system should have few failures.

Success depends on adoption of correct fundamental principles and the application of such fundamentals in sound business practice. The underlying laws of cooperation have been fairly well established. It remains only to apply them. It is the hope of true friends of agriculture that the successes can be multiplied and the failures reduced in number and their effect on the movement minimized.

There may be something good in the proposal for government supervision and regulation. The bankers of Civil War times opposed the National Banking Act for the same reason that impels the commodity marketing associations to oppose the Copper-Haugen Bill but it was passed. The most bitter enemy of the National Banks will not now deny that as a whole they maintain a much higher average of solvency and security than is possible for unrelated and private banks.

If congress recognizes cooperative marketing as a national policy it must impose some obligation in the federal government to protect cooperators against scoundrels and fools. Na-

tional recognition without national supervision and regulation would be mighty agreeable to the promoting gentlemen who live well and lay up money for themselves by organizing cooperatives made up of farmers and workers without knowledge of the principles or methods of the system. Honest cooperators, employed or otherwise, have nothing to fear from a proposition designed only to enforce integrity and the practice of safe business programs.

Collins Was Dead When

He was reached by the men who worked night and day for two weeks in the vain hope of saving his life. He was sealed within the tomb that was the scene of his dreadful agonies during the long days of his torture and dissolution. To the average man there was something appropriate in the burial of the dead by the closing of the shut and cave. The country agreed that the right thing had been done and assumed that the incident ended when the mine was closed.

Not so. Now comes the word that a brother of the cave victim had hired himself out to some sort of a show circuit for five hundred dollars a week. He will tell the whole agonizing story all over again four or five times a day for the "entertainment" of vast crowds of theater patrons of small intelligence and less sound sense. The purpose announced is plausible and by many will be regarded as laudable and praiseworthy. The living Collins is not satisfied that his brother shall return to dust in the cave fastness that took the life of the explorer. He proposes to earn enough money to reopen the tomb and give the broken body appropriate burial in consecrated ground.

The state of Kentucky spent \$150,000 in the failure to rescue Collins. Not less than that amount will be required to reopen the cave and rebury the body of the explorer. So for two years or more certain sorts of theater crowds will be regaled by the endless repetition of the story that should have ended with the funeral exercises.

Suspicion of hoax was not lacking during the attempt to rescue Collins. Evidence that the unfortunate man was actually in the cave seemed to be satisfactory to the military court of inquiry but this new venture into vaudeville at \$500 a week is certain to revive doubt as to the good faith of the whole affair. After all who saw Collins in that cave? A newspaper reporter who testified that he talked with the imprisoned victim and a miner who crawled in and inspected the body which he reported was then almost entirely covered with earth. It may be just as well to inquire whether the miner and that reporter have any business connection with the show that is to be put on by the surviving Collins brother.

Cabinet For the First Full

Of President Coolidge appears to be pretty well settled at this time. Mellon will remain at the head of the treasury. Weeks will continue as Secretary of War. Hoover has consented to stay with the administration as Secretary of Commerce. John J. Davis is satisfied and fairly satisfactory as Secretary of Labor and will keep his job. Dr. Works and Mr. New will continue in the Interior and Post Office Departments at least for some time.

President W. W. Jardine and Frank B. Kellogg, formerly senator from Minnesota and more recently ambassador to England, have been confirmed as secretaries of Agriculture and State respectively and will take office on March 4. Charles Beecher Warren has been nominated for attorney General but the senate is yet unconfirmed. There is a hard fight against Warren but if he is defeated for confirmation it will be the first time that anything of the sort ever happened in the history of the republic.

Expressing any opinion as to the qualifications of Warren this writer prefigures that the fight on him will fall and that he will be confirmed. Wilbur, Secretary of the Navy, will stick to the job for some time, probably until another vacancy occurs. He is a supreme court bench owner. He is a Supreme Court of California when he was appointed to his present position. Although Wilbur graduated from the Naval Academy he never served in the navy and is much more a lawyer than a sailor.

The president will begin his new administration with a cabinet that will contain only five men—Weeks, Works, Mellon and Davis. President Harding four years ago, and four of Davis—now hold the places to which they first appointed. President Harding appointed New postmaster general when he transferred Weeks to the Interior. All the others have been personally picked by President Coolidge.

Creameries that there is nothing left to organize. This Association, it was revealed, had done a \$1,000,000 business this year in handling machinery and supplies alone to its members on January 1st as a cooperative dividend. Through insistent educative work for quality products, Minnesota cooperatives have made a premium price on milk now, while the market is at 92 per cent, produced by a better, an unusually high standard.

These progressive cooperators even own their own paper, theergus Falls Weekly Farm Press, which serves the cooperatives of all of Ottertail county. "We need a press of our own to defend our enterprises when these reach dimensions that become menacing to big business," the cooperative editor told his audience.

MINNESOTA BOASTS PREMIER CO-OPERATIVE COMMUNITY

Introducing you to Rothsay, Minn., America's premier cooperative community. There are nearly a million chances against one that you have not the good fortune to live at Rothsay. In the famed Minnesota lakes region, but the inspiration which comes from its success in making cooperation a vital factor in nearly every branch of business will spur other American communities on to similar achievements.

Rothsay and the surrounding countryside crowded into the town's big hall the other day just to prove, as the chairman said, that "we are all members of one big cooperative family." In the program which lasted from morning till evening, every branch of Rothsay's cooperative movement was reviewed. How the Creamery Co-op had been the main-gained by the Minnesota Cooperative

stay of the farmers in the past few years; how the Co-op store had beaten the profit out of prices and saved the community thousands of dollars; how the Co-op, Shipping and live stock had obtained higher prices received; and what enormous quantities of grain had been handled through the Co-op. Elevator this year; these successes were all reviewed by the various managers entrusted with the various cooperatives. And still the story of cooperation in this Minnesota village was not all told, for every household could report some helpful service it had received from these coop. enterprises.

Every branch of cooperation in Minnesota has leaped ahead in the past few years, except in the dairy line, and that is already so well on movement was reviewed. How the Creamery Co-op had been the main-gained by the Minnesota Cooperative

Department of Practical Co-Operation

UNION MEETING NOTICES
Notices of Farmers' Union meetings will be printed under this head without charge. Secretaries should send in their copy at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.
Herynk Local 1427 meets every first and third Tuesday evening of every month.
Come out and boost. Don't stay at home and kick.
Harry Eden, Secy.

SILVERDALE LOCAL NO. 2051.
Silverdale Local No. 2051 meets every second and fourth Wednesday in the month at the Silverdale School House.
J. F. Lewis, Sec.

NEWBERRY LOCAL NO. 1922.
Newberry Local No. 1922 meets regularly, the first and third Monday nights of each month. The members make the union what it is. You help make it a success in every way by doing more than your part and attending these meetings.
R. J. Muckenthaler, Sec'y-Treas.

ELLIOTT LOCAL NO. 1232.
Elliott Local No. 1232 meets the last Friday in each month. We would like to see all members present and bring all the new members you can.
Mrs. Ernest Branch, Sec.

ROCK CREEK LOCAL NO. 1810.
Rock Creek Local No. 1810 meets the first and third Friday evening in each month at Rock Creek School house 3 miles east of Wellsville. All union members welcome.
A. L. Robinson, Pres.
S. J. Lohr, Sec'y.

COLUMBIA UNION NO. 1233.
Columbia Union No. 1233 meets the second and fourth Friday nights of each month. Visiting members welcome.
A. Wray, Pres.
Lee Bonar, Sec.

COUNCIL CORNERS.
LOCAL 1783.
Regular meetings held on the first and third Monday nights of each month. A local that is good enough to accept you into membership is good enough to boost for. Attend the meetings.
Jas. Albertson, Pres.
Ethel Roberts, Sec.

CRESCO LOCAL NO. 377.
Cresco Local No. 377 Selden, Kan., meets every first and third Thursday in the evening at 8 p. m. of each month. Come out and boost and all you can to make it a one hundred percent Farmers' Union.
Adam Sulzman, Pres.
John Wolf, Sec.

NOTICE!
HURON, Kans. — The High Prairie Local No. 1588 meets on the first and third Wednesday nights in each month. Let's start the New Year right by paying up our dues at once. All visiting members welcome. W. R. Fuhrman, Sec.-Treas., H. G. Buttrick, Pres.

BUCKEYE LOCAL NO. 1031.
Buckeye Local No. 1031 has changed their meeting night. It will meet every first and third Wednesday evening of each month, beginning the first Wednesday in January 1925.
J. J. Maska, Secy-Treas.

WASSAR LOCAL NO. 1779.
Regular Union meetings held the first and third Tuesday in every month. All members are urged to attend and help make it a success.
Herman A. Wigger, Sec'y-Treas.

NEW BASIL LOCAL 1787.
Local meeting second Monday of every month. Come out let us see if you are alive. Visitors welcome.
J. P. Baker, Pres.
Henry Hoffman, Sec.
Elmo, Kans.

RURAL REST LOCAL 2133.
Rural Rest Local 2133, Salina, Kas., meets the first and third Saturday evenings of each month. At the first meeting of the month eats are served. The other meeting is a program meeting.
Any Farmers Union members in Salina over Saturday night will be welcome at these meetings. Call at the State Secretary's office and learn the meeting place.

UNION VALLEY LOCAL 1679.
We meet every two weeks on Tuesday. All Farmer Unions members welcome.
Owen Hunsberger, Pres.
L. M. Wagner, Sec.

LOST SPRINGS LOCAL 385.
Regular meetings every 2nd Saturday of each month.
A. J. Pospisil, Pres.

PONTANA LOCAL 1789.
Meet the first and third Friday nights regularly.
All members should be present.
W. A. Booz, Sec.-Treas.
W. H. Slyter, Pres.

UNION LOCAL NO. 273.
Regular meetings on second and fourth Thursday each month.
Charles Crossard, Sec.

LIBERTY LOCAL, SAFFORD CO.
Liberty Local No. 1988, Safford Co., have for their regular meeting the first and third Fridays of each month. A standing invitation to meet with us is extended to all visiting members.
Ray Henry, Pres.
Lawrence Wright, Sec.-Treas.

NEW HOPE 2020.
In Stafford county meets every first and third Thursday of the month.
Pres. S. E. Voach,
Sec. Fred Hahn.

UNION 2019.
Union Local No. 2019 in Stafford county meets the second and fourth Friday of each month.
Pres. A. L. Francis,
Sec. E. F. Lutz.

BROGAN 226.
Brogan Local No. 226 at St. Paul in Neosho County meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Visitors are always welcome.
L. L. Venneman.

SPRING CREEK LOCAL.
Spring Creek Local No. 1174 meets the first and third Wednesday nights of each month at Merchant school house. We urge that all members be present.
S. O. Watson, Pres.
Nell Lobinger, Sec.

COLLINS NO. 636.
The meetings of Collins Union Local No. 636 are held on the fourth Wednesday evening of each month.
A. E. Nyatt, Pres.
Winifred Crispin, Sec.

CARLTON LOCAL NO. 1311.
Regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.
J. Humberger, Pres.
R. J. Logan, Sec.

CLEVELAND LOCAL NO. 364.
Cleveland Local No. 364, Neosho County, will hold their regular meetings on the third Tuesday of every month. Come out and boost. Don't stay home and kick.
George J. Schoenhofner, Sec.

PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL.
Pleasant Valley Local Union No. 1309 meets every first and third Wednesday evening of each month.
E. Kissinger, Pres.
W. T. Plinn, Sec.-Treas.

DISTRICT 44—NO. 2135.
Dist. 44 Local No. 2135 organized October 23, 1924 has thirty-seven dues paying members and twenty lady members. Everything coming fine. Meets every second and fourth Thursday night each month. Lunch and radio program next meeting, Feb. 12, 1925. All Union members cordially invited.
C. F. Bray, Sec.-Treas.
G. V. Fraser, Pres.

RIVERSIDE LOCAL NO. 2025.
Riverside Local No. 2025 holds its regular meetings the second Wednesday night of each month in the American Legion hall.
Our first meeting of the New Year with our new officers was a decided success. After the business of the meeting had been transacted.
M. O. Glessner, our state lecturer, was present and gave us a very interesting talk, followed by refreshments and a social good time.
Mrs. Frank McClelland, Secy.

GIRARD LOCAL NO. 494.
Girard Local No. 494 meets in Union Hall over the Crawford County State Bank in Girard, Kansas on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p. m.
W. D. McClaskey, Pres.
Roy W. Holland, Sec.

LIVINGSTON LOCAL NO. 1984.
Livingston Local No. 1984 meets regularly on the first and third Friday nights of each month at Livingston School House. A short program is prepared for each night.
Clyde B. Wells, Sec.

BROGAN LOCAL NO. 226.
Brogan Local No. 226 meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Visitors are always welcome.
George Baumgartner, Sec.

Pretty Creek Local 1652.
Pretty Creek Local No. 1652 meets every first and third Wednesday of each month at the Hinerville School house. Come out. Don't stay home and kick.
H. C. Mathies, Sec.-Treas.

WOODBINE LOCAL NO. 1980.
Woodbine Local No. 1980 meets the first Tuesday of each month at 8 o'clock.
Every Union man or farmer welcome.
Richard Kind will speak on the annual Union Convention held at Salina Tuesday evening, March 3rd, at the regular meeting.
Yours,
B. H. Oesterreich.

BURNHAM LOCAL NO. 405.
Burnham Local No. 405, Minneapolis, Kan., meets the first and third Thursday eve. at 8 p. m. of each month in the Burnham School House, 3 1/2 miles east of Minneapolis. Except in winter months, meetings are held every Thursday eve. alternately between the school house and the home of some brother.
Brothers, boost your Local.
O. J. Lambertson, Sec.-Treas.
W. J. Gibbs, Pres.

CRAWFORD COUNTY.
The regular meeting of the Crawford County Farmers Union will be held on the last Tuesday of each month throughout the year in Union Hall over Crawford County State Bank, Girard, Kans.
H. S. Woods, President,
G. W. Thompson, Secy.

WABAUNSEE COUNTY.
Wabaunsee county Union will meet at Alta Vista Feb. 14 at 1:30. Work of Co. Produce Pool.
Joe J. Richmond, Co. Sec.

REPUBLIC COUNTY.
The first quarterly meeting of the Republic County Farmers Union will be held at Courtland, Kans., Wednesday, March 4 at 10 o'clock sharp. Lunch will be served at noon. A state speaker will address the meeting. Come and bring your delegates.
C. W. Hanzlick, County Sec.
G. R. Bundy, County Pres.

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

WASHINGTON COUNTY.
Washington County Farmers' Union meets at Washington, Kansas, Saturday, March 7, 1925. State Lecturer Glessner will be there. Please send your delegate to this convention as it is important.
J. T. Poland, Co. Sec.-Treas.

CHASE COUNTY.
Chase County Farmers Union will hold its second quarterly meeting in the Clement Union Hall at 10:00 o'clock, Saturday, April 4th.
M. W. Green, Co. Sec.

ELLIS COUNTY.
The Ellis County Union will hold its first quarterly meeting on Saturday, March 14th at Hays, at one P. M. prompt. All locals are requested to send full delegation.
Jos. P. Rupp, Co. Pres.

NOTICE NEOSHO COUNTY.
Neosho County F. E. C. U. of A. will meet on the following dates to transact all business: The second Saturday in March, June, September and December and, at any special meeting called by the President or Executive Com.
Pres. Sanford Miller,
Sec.-Treas. J. O. Foust.

BROWN COUNTY.
Brown Co. Farmers Union No. 42 will hold a meeting in Parish House in Hiawatha Tuesday, Mar. 10th at 10 o'clock. Banquet at noon, 50 cents per plate for Union members and their families, good program.
Wm. Hinton, Pres.
Clytie Royer, Secy.

HERKIMER NO. 1002.
The Herkimer local No. 1002 meets the second and fourth Wednesday nights of each month. We urge all members to come to the meetings.
Martin Raemer, Pres.
Karl Rohde, Secy.

ODESSA LOCAL NO. 1571.
Odessa Local No. 1571, Winfield, Kansas, holds its regular meetings every other Tuesday night at seven-thirty. Next regular meeting will be March 10. Visiting members always welcome.
Frank Snow, President,
R. A. Reynolds, Secretary.

MIAMI COUNTY.

The Miami County Farmers Union No. 59 will hold its first quarterly meeting at Paola March 21st at 10:30 in the City Hall. Installation of officers and other business of importance will be transacted. Be sure to send your delegates as our Union depends on the loyalty of you Locals.
W. Slyter, Pres.
W. J. Prescott, Sec.

STONE LOCAL NO. 792.
The men members of Stone Local No. 792 held a rabbit hunt Feb. 7. They chose up sides, Mr. Hadley and Mr. Burgess being the captains. The losing side furnishing a supper. Mr. Hadley's side won.
They held the supper Feb. 21, serving oyster soup, sandwiches, coffee, cake and fruit salad. 101 were present. An enjoyable time was had by all.
Fern Smees, County Sec.
Zurich, Kansas.

EAGLE STAR 928.
As it has been a long time since you have heard from Eagle Star Local No. 928 perhaps you would like assurance that it is still alive, and it surely is for we have been making a steady growth in membership and now is more active than for some time. Feb. 17 we served a weenie supper to the members and their families and a few invited guests. The schoolhouse seemed full, with an equal number of young folks at play outside but they all managed to get inside to be served. We enjoyed all the weenies we wanted with buns, pickles, fruit salad, cake and coffee. The young folks had games outside while the older folks visited.
Between 80 and 90 were present and all enjoyed the evening. We have a few more applicants for membership to be admitted soon.
A. Andrews

LIBERTY LOCAL NO. 1988.
Stafford County.
Liberty Local met Monday night, Feb. 23 instead of Friday night 20th. There were about 45 members present. The meeting was opened by singing several old songs by the entire crowd after which a special number was given by Darwin Minnis. The business meeting was then held. A quantity of flour and coffee were disposed of. Talks were given by several men on whether or not to put in an oil station for the benefit of the Union members, after which a spelling contest was held, everybody taking part and in which Mrs. J. L. Sims was winner, having spelled the entire crowd down. Meeting then adjourned to meet on regular meeting night, March 6th. A discussion on the community house will be held at this time. Also lunch will be served.
Reporter.

BUCKEYE 2074.
A real enthusiastic meeting took place when Buckeye Local met in regular session Wednesday night, Feb. 18, with a large attendance. The meeting was called to order by the president J. J. Baker. The opening song was sung. As this was an open meeting there was no business transacted. The president called on different ones to give short talks. After which the entertainment committee took charge and rendered a very good program. After that was completed the refreshment committee took charge and furnished everyone with plenty of sandwiches, pie and coffee.
Our Local meets every other Wednesday night. Sixty-five members and children were present.
Union members come out and enjoy the evenings with us.
F. C. Gerstenberger, Secy-Treas.
Blue Mound, Kans.

CARGY 2136.
Cargy Local No. 2136 was organized on the 11th day of Dec. 1924 at Cargy school house with 30 members, 25 of which are paid up for 1925. We hope to soon be on the Honor Roll.
On the 19th of December a rabbit hunt was held; 700 were killed. We ate our dinner at F. M. Hartman's. The proceeds going for a supper which was held at the school house on the 16th of January.
On our meeting of Feb. 6, Mr. Simpson of the Insurance Co. was with us and gave us a talk which was much enjoyed.
On February 20, Mr. Whitacker, one of the organizers of the Produce Association was with us. Also Mr. Bullard, one of the directors.
We meet regularly on the first and third Friday nights of each month.
Fred Steele, Secretary.

TEMPLETON LOCAL NO. 1891.
Templeton Local No. 1891 desiring to increase their membership gave a Vienna social and program on Friday evening, Feb. 20th, which was one of the best social events held in this neck of the woods for a long time.
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Johnson and Mr. M. O. Wright gave a splendid musical program including several comic songs which were a treat for the extra large crowd that had gathered and believe me they are some singers. At the close of their program Brother O. A. Wahl gave a very interesting and instructive talk which was well received. He talked along co-operative lines telling what the Farmers Union had done and what it intended to do in the future.
Just before the cats were served consisting of Vienna sandwiches, pie, cake, pickles and coffee. Twenty-six new members, including fifteen lady members had signed up to join our Local to help further the cause of

cooperation. Installation of the new members will take place March 6th, and we are hoping that all members will be present. A ladies auxiliary will also be formed at this meeting. Regular meetings on the first and third Fridays of each month.
Visiting members welcome.
H. E. Kitzmann,
Sec'y-Treas.

NOTICE OF JEWELL COUNTY MEETING.

The regular quarterly meeting for Jewell county Farmers Union No. 26 will be held in Mankato on Thursday, Mar. 12th. Installation of officers and other business of importance. Every local in the county should be represented.
Truly yours,
G. M. SHOOK,
County Sec.

FALUN F. U. ENTERTAINS.

On the 23rd of February we were invited out to Falun. They have a big local out there and are doing a fine business. The Farmers Union local consists of 62 families. Some of the members put on a program for the enjoyment of the members and families.
It is very interesting to look at a house full of people, old and young composed of only 62 families with a few visitors. We didn't count the people but there must have been all of 400.
The program consisted of a fine orchestra, I presume 20 pieces. Their music was fine. The male quartet did themselves justice. All of the readers were of the best talent. They had a report of the delegate to the state convention and he left a good impression with this members on all of the state activities.
After the program they served a very nice lap supper, served by the men. Mr. R. E. Terry, the manager, handled the program in excellent shape and in making good with the business at Falun. He shows a profit of over \$5,000.00 for the year 1924.
We had a very enjoyable evening and thanks for the invitation to be with you at your meeting.
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Simpson.

MOON HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

Many persons, judging from numerous inquiries received at the Kansas State Agricultural college, are still of the opinion that moon signs may govern the success of various crops, especially such crops as potatoes and other underground plants. Experiment stations all over the country have investigated the matter thoroughly and found that there is no moon influence that will in any way materially change crop results.

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PRICE LIST OF LOCAL SUPPLIES

Application cards	20 for 5c	Farmers' Union Song Leaflets, per dozen	10c
Credentia blank	10 for 5c	Business Manuals, now used instead of Ritual, each	5c
Dimit blanks	15 for 10c	Farmers' Union Song Books published by Jobbing Assn. 20c published by Hackney	25c
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Constitutions	5c		
Local Sec'y's Receipt Books 25c			
Secretary's Minute Books	50c		
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