



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation



VOLUME XXIII

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NUMBER 6

VOTE FOR THE GRADUATED INCOME TAX AMENDMENT

Changes in Live Stock Market Discussed

F. U. Livestock Comm. Co. Has Excellent Sales Force and Yard Service

(Continued from last week)

Now, having spoken to you about the market conditions as they prevail on the Kansas City market, I want to mention the men who handle your live stock and who are responsible for the sales and the fills and general handling of your cattle, hogs and sheep.

Beginning in the hog yards, there is Snapper Garrison. Every one who has shipped hogs to the Kansas City market, especially to the Farmers Union, knows or has seen Snapper Garrison. Snapper has another front name, but he is known from one end of the hog trade to the other as Snapper. He has been with the Farmers Union firm a number of years and has had a large part in building up the trade. In fact, the Farmers Union hog department handles more hogs than any other firm on the Kansas City market. This fact is due, largely, to the excellent service that has been and is being rendered by Snapper and his crew. The assistant salesman is a young man whose name is Wilson O'Neal. He has spent a number of years in the service of the Farmers Union in the Kansas City hog yards, and is giving shippers the best of service. He has learned the business from the ground up right in the Farmers Union pens, and knows the shippers' needs and how to handle the hogs. Bill Acuff is the yard man who assists Snapper Garrison in the yards. He, too, has spent a number of years serving the Farmers Union shippers, and is especially well qualified to get the hogs to the scales in the best condition possible. Bennie Hill is another young man who has been with the firm a long time. He assists Wilson O'Neal and is responsible for a great deal of the good service the firm is able to render the customers. Maurice Plentie, a young man who came here from Centralia, Kansas, a few months ago, also assists in yarding the hogs and taking care of them and weighing them. He is developing into a first rate hog man. All these men are cooperators—100 percent—and are working for your firm because they believe in co-operation in the matter of marketing live stock.

Leaving the hog yards, which, by the way, are in Kansas, will cross over into Missouri and south of the

Exchange building to the Farmers Union cattle yards. Bob Lieurance is our steer salesman, and most of you who have not met Bob have heard him. He has been with the firm for a number of years, and has been instrumental in organizing many ship-

(Continued next week)

RETAIL PRICES TOO HIGH

The retail prices of many manufactured commodities that farmers must buy, it is believed, are much higher than present conditions warrant.

When President Hoover urged the heads of the big industries not to reduce wages during the depression, he was not helping the farmer a bit. It means that the prices of manufactured products must continue high during the depression and farmers must pay prosperity prices for what they buy, while they are forced to sell their commodities at depression prices.

The farmers suffered a deflation loss of twenty billion dollars between 1920 and 1925. This it would seem, is far from more than the farmers' share of the general burden of deflation. But now, when the cities are called on to bear their share of deflation, prices and costs are so manipulated artificially that a large part of the deflation loss that belongs to the city is shifted to the shoulders of the already over-burdened farmer through a concocted scheme to force him to pay prices that are unwarranted and grossly unjust.

High wages in the city in time of depression mean continued high costs, and high costs mean continued high prices for manufactured products, and this means shifting a burden that by every principle of right and justice belongs to those in the cities to the shoulders of the farmer, who must carry his own staggering burden and in addition carry the burden of the privileged classes in the city.—Southern Agriculturist, Nashville, Tenn.

CRAWFORD CO. LOCAL TO MEET

The Crawford County Farmers Union No. 25 will hold its third quarterly meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 1:30 P. M. All locals are asked to be present as it is the time to elect delegates to state meeting and other business to attend to. We hope to have the state president, C. A. Ward, with us on that date. Adjoining counties are invited. You are welcome to meet with us and let us know how your county can keep up the interest. Geo. H. Hamm, Pres. G. W. Thompson, Sec.

Kansas Prides Itself on Being the Most Progressive State in the Union, Yet We Are Operating Under an Antiquated Tax System Which Has Been Junked By the Most Progressive States

The income tax is just tax both economically and morally; it places the burden on those who are able to pay. It will lift some of the burden of taxation from the farms and small homes in the cities, and place it on the shoulders of those who at the present time are escaping almost altogether from paying any tax. The man on a salary receives all of the protection of government that any other citizen receives; his children are entitled to all the educational benefits accorded to other children; it is only fair that he should contribute his just share toward the expense of government. We are printing below, an article from the pen of John Frost, which we hope can be placed in the hands of every farmer in Kansas. It is one of the clearest pictures of tax conditions which we have ever seen.

TEN REASONS FOR THE INCOME TAX

Our 70 years of trial of the property tax (or general property tax) has conclusively shown in Kansas, as elsewhere, that it is not an equitable tax. Under the property tax system, the taxpayer's property is assessed, and the tax computed by multiplying the amount of property by the tax rate (or levy). In recent years the income tax system is beginning to supplant the property tax system. Under the income tax system, the taxpayer's net income is assessed, and the tax computed by multiplying the net income by the tax rate (or levy).

The generally accepted principle, agreed to by practically all political economists, upon which taxes should be laid is: TAXES SHOULD BE LEVIED IN PROPORTION TO ABILITY TO PAY. It is also agreed that the amount of net income of a taxpayer, rather than the amount of property of a taxpayer, is the correct measure of the taxpayer's ability to pay taxes. Therefore, instead of assessing a taxpayer's property, and computing his tax upon the amount of his property, we should assess the taxpayer's net income, and compute his tax upon his net income. Here are 10 reasons why the income tax is more equitable than the property tax.

1. The income tax is a complete tax covering every form of property that the property tax includes, and in addition, the income tax covers the income of that large number of persons and corporations now escaping taxation by reason of not having any property, at least no visible property, but who do have substantial incomes.

2. The ability of the taxpayer to pay taxes does not begin until his net income becomes larger than his necessary expenses for food, clothing, shelter, transportation, education, and health. Our Kansas property tax gives practically no exemption, as the \$200 property exemption at 6% would cut only \$12 from an income assessment. But the income tax provides an exemption sufficient to represent a reasonable minimum allowance for living expenses, and would amount to an exemption from taxation of \$500 to \$1000 income.

3. The property tax makes no deductions for mortgages or debts on property, but unjustly forces the taxpayer to pay taxes on property that he does not own. The income tax very justly allows deductions of all interest payments on mortgages and business debts.

4. Under the property tax, intangible property (money, notes, stocks, bonds, etc.) has very largely escaped taxation on the ground of over assessment as compared to tangible property. But under the income tax, the income from money, notes, stocks, bonds, and other intangibles is assessed and taxed on the same equal basis as the income from tangible property. The income tax is the solution of the troublesome problem of the taxation of intangibles.

5. Under the property tax the mortgaged hovel of the poor toiling washer woman is brutally taxed at the same rate as the palace of the rich and idle millionaire. But under the income tax, earned income from toil and service (wages and salaries and all income up to, say, \$5000) is usually given a lower tax rate than is given to capital income from money invested. The particular feature of the proposed Constitutional Amendment is that it would authorize an income tax to be graduated, so that the rate of levy would be low on small incomes only slightly above need, and progressively increased on larger and swollen incomes far removed from poverty.

6. The property tax is unjust because it levies upon unprofitable property the same tax as on profitable property. An unprofitable \$10,000 farm pays the same tax to the county and the state as does a profitable \$10,000 garage. A vacant or partially vacant \$5,000 store building pays the same tax as an occupied \$5,000 store building that is yielding a big profit to the owner. But the income tax levies taxes in proportion to income, that is, in proportion to profits. The unprofitable \$10,000 farm, having a much smaller income, would not pay nearly as much income taxes as the profitable \$10,000 garage. The vacant store building would have little income, and would pay little income tax compared to the occupied and profitable store building. The income tax is in proportion to profits, that is, it is in proportion to ability to pay—the correct principle of taxation.

7. The property tax is the same in adversity as in prosperity. The property tax on a farm is the same whether the crop is good or poor, or the market high or low. The property tax on livestock is the same whether the livestock lives or dies, or prices turn up or down. The property tax upon a store and stock of goods is the same whether business is good or whether hard times brings the storekeeper to bankruptcy. But the income tax, levied at the close of the year, and upon the profits of the year, corrects this glaring injustice of the property tax, and levies taxes in proportion to ability to pay.

8. The property tax cannot be levied in proportion to ability to pay, for the property valuation is assessed and the tax levied at the beginning of the tax year, before it can be known whether it is to be a year of prosperity or adversity. But the income tax is levied at the close of the year, after profits have been determined, and taxes can be laid in proportion to the ability of the taxpayers to bear them. And the assessment under the property tax, being made for one day of the year only, March 1st, cannot register fairly and honestly all the property that should be taxed for the whole year. But the income tax covers the total income for the whole year, and fairly and completely measures ability to pay. Assessment under the property tax by some thousands of assessors, each trying to keep his district from over valuation, and each assessment a guess on a mythical and questionable valuation, results in innumerable inequalities in conflict with ability to pay. Assessment of property, at best, is a guess at value, but assessment of income is a verification of actual receipts that can be established by proofs.

9. The income tax system of our Federal Government has been wonderfully successful. The United States has completely abandoned the property tax, and now raises over 2 billion dollars per year by an income tax. The income tax has proven satisfactory, and its repeal is unthinkable. Beginning in 1911 with Wisconsin, 18 states have now enacted income tax laws.

10. Guitteau's "Government and Politics," text book in our Kansas High Schools, in discussing taxes, says: "The defects of the general property tax are so serious that this form of tax has been severely condemned by all students of finance, and by most administrative officials. Prof. Seligman (Columbia University) declares that, 'The general property tax as actually administered is beyond all peradventure the worst tax known in the civilized world.' The income tax is one of the most just forms of tax, since it conforms more nearly to the ideal that taxes should be proportioned to the ability of the taxpayer; and income is conceded to be the best single indication of taxpaying ability. Moreover the income tax cannot be easily shifted, but is generally borne by the persons on whom it is assessed. It is also an elastic form of tax, and can be readily adapted to revenue needs. It has proven very successful in other countries."

Increasing tax delinquencies by the hundreds under the property tax, make it clear that this unjust tax system requires taxes when there is no income to pay taxes, and the tax money must be taken from capital, or rather borrowed again and again until bankruptcy threatens. Why endure this outworn and outrageous property tax longer, when the equitable and scientifically correct income tax requires taxes from all only in proportion to ability to pay.

VOTE FOR THE GRADUATED INCOME TAX AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

PRESIDENT WARD TO SPEAK AT SALINA C. OF C. MEETING

C. A. Ward, President of the Farmers Union of Kansas, will address a meeting Wednesday night, September 24, which will be held in the vicinity of Concordia. A. M. Kinney Secretary, will also speak at this meeting.

Thursday, September 25, Mr. Ward will be a Salina Chamber of Commerce guest and speaker at their noon luncheon at Rorabaugh's Tea Room. His subject will be "Community Achievements" and he will discuss the relation between business and agriculture.

Thursday evening Mr. Ward and Mr. Kinney will appear on the program at a Farmers Union meeting at Lebanon, in Smith County. The meeting will be held at the Community Hall and will be called to order at 8:30 p. m.

Saturday afternoon Mr. Ward will be the principal speaker on the program of the Nemaha County Farmers Union meeting, at Bern. This meeting will begin at two o'clock.

Among other engagements, Mr. Ward very reluctantly was forced to refuse the request of Mr. E. G. Tharp, President, Farmers Co-operative Commission Company, to speak at the Old Settlers' Annual Home-Coming and Barbecue, at Protection, because of the two other speaking engagements which he had for that day.

MANAGER F. U. AUDITING ASSN' RETURNS FROM VACATION

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Dunn and Miss Maude Dunn reached Salina Tuesday night. They have been for two months in Scotland, where they visited their old home and renewed old acquaintances.

Mr. Dunn will be the principal speaker on this week's Farmers Union Hour program, which will be broadcast over station WIBW, Topeka, Friday night, September 26th.

FARM FIRE LOSS HIGH

The estimated annual loss from fires on farms is approximately \$100,000,000 worth of property and 3,500 lives. The annual fire loss in rural nonfarm territory, cities and towns of less than 2,500 population, exceeds \$160,000,000.

Plain Facts for All Farmers

By Charles S. Barrett

I am just back from a trip into every section of the country, north, south, east and west. I have met with farmers everywhere. Never, in all the years of my experience, have I heard more talk of hard times. I have encountered more discouraged farmers than ever before. These conditions are bringing them, more and more, to understand that it is up to them to do something to bring about relief. Whatever hope they have had for some quick turn outside of themselves to change these hard times has so far met with such little realization, they are getting to understand thoroughly that the responsibility for solution rests with them.

I am no calamity howler. I never have sounded a danger when there was not a danger to sound. If any man in America has had opportunity to know and understand the farm problem, my years of service have been missed if I did not know right here and now what is ahead and I would be false to the best interests of the country as well as the farmers who have done so much for me in the years gone by, if I did not speak out plainly now.

Not only are farmers generally discouraged but they are being more seriously misjudged now than they have ever been. The world thinks that there was \$500,000,000, turned over to them and that as a result of this they ought to be in good shape. As long as we live, there will be the charge that we looted Uncle Sam's treasury to the tune of \$500,000,000, and it did us no good. The absurdity of it is the tragedy of it. The small part of this money that may get to an actual farmer will only get there by the hard route of absolute and safe security. The help that comes from it will always have to be measured by the amount of damage that may occur.

Hear me—you farmers who have homes and want to keep them and lives. The annual fire loss in rural nonfarm territory, cities and towns of less than 2,500 population, exceeds \$160,000,000.

(continued on page 2)

Notice to Members

CALL FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KANSAS DIVISION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT McPHERSON, KANSAS, OCTOBER 28, 29, 30, 31, 1930.

The Kansas Division of the National Farmers Union will convene at Parsons on October 28, 1930 at 10:00 a. m.

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union will hold a meeting on Monday evening, October 27, 1930 at 8:00 p. m.

The Farmers Union Managerial Association will hold its meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 1930 at 1:00 p. m.

Tuesday evening will be a general get-together meeting.

Wednesday morning, October 29, 1930 at 10:00 a. m., the Farmers Union will convene in annual session and with a few intermissions will continue in session until all the business necessary to come before the meeting is transacted.

Thursday morning the Convention will proceed to nominate its officers and two directors. One director from each of the Fourth and Fifth Districts.

Friday morning will be election of officers.

Delegates to the Farmers Union annual meeting are requested to have their credentials in the hands of Secretary Kinney five days before the date of the annual meeting.

BASIS OF REPRESENTATION

1. One delegate for each local union in good standing in the State Union, October 25, 1930.

2. One delegate for each county district union in good standing as above. A county and district union to be in good standing must have five or more local unions in good standing in the state union October 25, 1930.

3. One delegate for each county or district cooperative Business Association and in case of county Farmers Union Co-operative Associations, each unit of such association is entitled to a delegate. All delegates must have credentials of the organization they claim to represent.

A delegate must be a member in good standing of the organization he is elected to represent at the Annual Meeting.

DELEGATES ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR CREDENTIALS TO A. M. KINNEY, STATE SECRETARY, SALINA, KANSAS, AT LEAST FIVE (5) DAYS BEFORE THE DATE SET FOR THE OPENING OF THE ANNUAL MEETING.

C. A. WARD, President.
A. M. KINNEY, Secretary.

NOTE: If the delegates will kindly mail in their credentials then we can list them and thereby assist the credentials committee and make the work much less for them than it will be if the delegates bring in their credentials to the meeting.

DELEGATES' CREDENTIALS

The Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America

This is to Certify that Farmers..... (Delegate)

P. O. Address.....

..... (Alternate) who are members

P. O. Address.....

in good standing of..... Union No.....

State..... were elected as delegates to the Twenty-

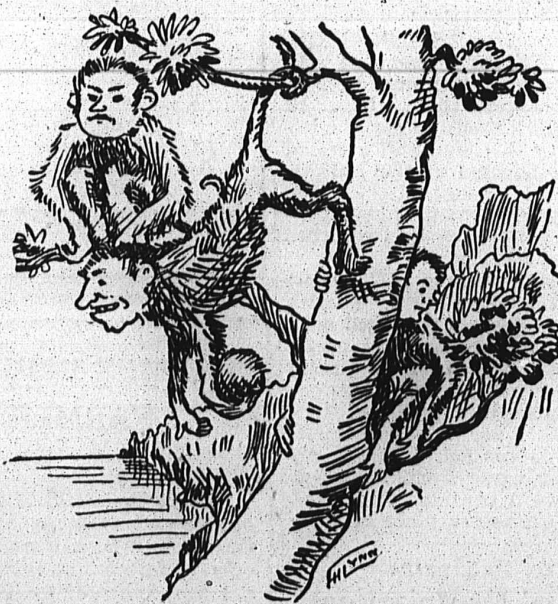
Fifth Annual Meeting of the Farmers' Union which meets at Parsons, Kansas, on October 29, 1930.

..... Secretary

..... President

MONKEY FOOD AND MONKEY BUSINESS

By A. M. Kinney



Down where it's summer all year around,
Where coconuts and monkeys abound,
There is an island in the sea
Where monkeys always have been free
To gather coconuts to eat;
For coconuts were bread and meat
For monkeys for a million years;
Or so we're told by learned seers.

They also tell us we can trace
The uplift of the human race
Up from the time long past, when we
Hung by our tails in some tall tree.
And so upon this island are
Some monkeys who are smarter far
Than other monkeys; you know, in fact,
Almost like financiers they act.

A few of these smart monkeys one day,
While other monkeys engaged in play,
Gathered round the festive board
And while their happy spirits soared,
Decided on the wiser plan
Adopted by their cousin, Man—
That every common monkey should work
With not a one allowed to shirk.

And so these monkeys wrote out some laws,
As they said, for the common cause;
Designed to fool the common herd:
And though some "demagogues" were heard
To say, their freedom would be lost,
The bunch seemed willing to be bossed;
For they were handed out the bunk
Which had fooled man, why not the monkey.
(To be Continued)

THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

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A. M. Kinney, Editor and Manager
Mary Riley, Assistant Editor
Subscription Price, Per Year, \$1.00

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.

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FARMERS UNION MANAGERS ASSOCIATION
C. B. Thowe, President
T. C. Belden, Secretary

SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1930

FOR STATE INCOME TAX

In the editorial column of the Times last week, a discussion of the amendment providing for a graduated income tax was started. The writer at once admitted that certain classes of people should pay income tax. We presume by that meant, all those who have a net annual income over a certain exemption. That being the case the Times has gone on record in favor of an income tax.

Last week's article raised several questions which will be taken up briefly. "Will the payment of income tax be confined to those classes, leaving out all people who are now taxed as much as they should be?" If all persons having a net income exceeding a certain amount, are required to pay income tax on the excess income, the amount raised in that way will reduce the amount to be raised in other ways. This answers the second question as to added tax. Under no consideration is the income tax to be an added tax. It is to relieve the present burden of taxation on real estate and personal property.

The answer to the third question will be no different than it is now. We will have to depend upon the good judgment of those who are in position to spend the taxpayers' money. This is a matter very much misunderstood. In other words, the people are themselves responsible for the major portion of taxes. When people want good schools, good roads and other public improvements, someone must foot the bill. A state income tax should not mean merely added taxes.

The cost of collection is not so great as the cost of collection of our other taxes. This has been proved by states that have an income tax law. The cost of collecting the Federal income tax in Kansas last year was only 1.17 per cent. Our constitution is seventy years old. Everyone knows conditions have changed. As long as we do not have a constitutional convention, we should adopt important amendments.

We will always have tax dodgers. People who do not pay as much taxes as they should. Under our present system there are men who are not paying the taxes they should; and they cannot be classed as tax dodgers, because our Kansas laws do not require them to pay. Income tax would catch those persons who are making good net incomes; and they would be better citizens, if required to pay their share of the cost of government.

It is generally conceded that income tax is a fair tax. It is based on ability to pay. If one has a good income he can afford to pay. If he has no income there would be no income tax. How different from our present system. The taxes are just as heavy in a year when our crops fail, and we have to go to the bank and borrow money before we can make payment. Let us vote for the income tax amendment.

—THOS. E. LARSON.

FOR FARM MERGER

Legge Says Wheat Grower Will Be Forced To Consolidate Or Quit Business
Mr. Legge, in a speech before the Mortgage Bankers at Detroit September 18 says the only hope for the small farmer is to consolidate his farms. This is a very thinly disguised prediction that corporation farming will be the only solution for the wheat raisers of this country.

This paper has been criticized rather severely by some of the farm leaders because we have attempted to criticize some of the Farm Board policies.

We believe if the intention of the Agricultural Marketing Act was carried out we would have had some real benefits for the wheat raisers of this country. In the opening paragraph in the Declaration of Purpose, Congress says "it is the intention of this Act to bring agriculture back to a parity with other industries." We do not believe this meant that the small farmer should be deprived of his right to a fair living.

It is the small farmers, the small home owners, who are the foundation of this Government.

If, as Mr. Legge says, that the only hope of the wheat raiser is Corporation farming, then it means that the hundreds of thousands of small farmers of this country will have to give way to large corporations and they will only be hired men. It means the small towns of the country, where these co-operatives are established, will go the way of the small farmer.

We do not believe Mr. Legge is speaking for the administration. At least, we hope he is not. We believe that the farm organizations of this country will never accept this statement of Mr. Legge's.

If the Farm Board, under this Agricultural Marketing Act is powerless to change conditions of agriculture then it is time for the farm organizations to get together and go down to Congress and again demand that we be given legislation which will enable us to do these things which Mr. Legge was supposed to do.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

C. A. WARD

Creamery Opening at Wakekeny

Tuesday, September 16 will be remembered as a red letter day in the history of the Kansas Farmers Union. Probably two thousand or more on that day attended the opening of the new Farmers Union Co-operative Creamery plant at Wakekeny.

Much credit is due the Creamery Board and Management in regard to this wonderful achievement. One, to be impressed with the magnitude of the creamery itself and its possibilities, should visit the plant and observe carefully. The building itself is a magnificent one and the equipment and machinery are of the latest types and models and only such equipment is used that will tend to reduce the saving of labor to a minimum.

Folks were there from all over the state. The day with its program is one to be remembered for a long time. This Creamery plant stands as a monument to the western section of the state. It is self evidence of the constructive work they have been doing for many years in Kansas in behalf of the co-operative movement.

The program proper was held in the High School auditorium and several splendid addresses were given. In addition to our own speakers Dr. W. E. Grimes represented the Agricultural College, Mr. Stitts was a representative from the Federal Farm Board, and several representatives from the Union Pacific Railroad were on the program.

Farmers Union State Convention, Des Moines, Iowa

From this meeting I caught a night train to attend the Farmers Union State Convention at Des Moines, arriving there the next morning in time to be present at the firing of the opening guns. I arrived at the Hotel and was met by Charley Barrett who for 22 years was National President of the Farmers Union. In company with Mr. Barrett was Col. Arthur Little, a wealthy publisher of New York City who is one of the four honorary members of the National Farmers Union. After exchanging greetings for a brief period we proceeded to go to the President Theater some six blocks distant from the Hotel where the sessions of the convention were to be held.

I was very much elated and agreeably surprised by the first impression gained on coming into this great convention. The streets and side walks were a moving mass of enthusiastic farm supporters who were wending their way into the auditorium of the theater. The Iowa Farmers Union Band was on the platform playing many of the famous patriotic airs in addition to the good old melodies always enjoyed by all.

I have not time nor space in these columns to go into this convention in detail but to say the least, it was one of the most enthusiastic conventions of some 3,000 or 4,000 people that I ever attended.

Milo Reno has long been recognized as to his view on any public issue. Mr. Reno delivered his annual address on Wednesday afternoon which was a masterpiece in many respects and was enthusiastically received by the great audience.

Kansas was especially favored in being given the best hour of the day, 8:30 in the evening, and I had the pleasure of addressing this large audience. Other state leaders and speakers on the program were Ex-national President Chas. S. Barrett, Col. Arthur Little, of New York City; D. D. Collins of Minnesota; E. L. Harrison, President of the Kentucky Union; National Secretary James J. O'Shea, and E. E. Kennedy, Secretary of the Illinois Farmers Union.

May I suggest in a word of closing that our Kansas membership show our loyalty and appreciation for our program in attending our own state convention in McPherson October 28-31 in mass numbers.

Chairman Legge Again Urges Mass Farming
At this time I am constrained to say a few words on a subject that I have been constantly preaching since becoming President of our state organization, namely, the perils of corporation farming.

My thoughts at this time have been prompted because of certain statements made by Chairman Legge at Detroit a few days ago. Mr. Legge was speaking before the Mortgage Bankers of that city discussing the agricultural problems. Among other things he urged the Bankers to use their influence in bringing about the merging of small farms asserting that wheat growers raising less than 300 acres were "hopelessly handicapped" by high production costs. Of course we know that larger acre units would tend to reduce production costs, but thousands of farmers in times past have made a little money raising less than 300 acres and we want and expect some solution to the farm problem other than the merging of the small farms, thus breaking down the backbone of independent civilization.

A statement of this kind is universally resented by the hundreds of thousands of our common wealth, especially the small home owner and farmers of the country who, for all these generations have been a contributing factor to the security of this great nation.

One has only to look back and study the history of some of the older groups of civilization to see the perils which may be brought directly upon us as individuals and as a nation by adopting any such theory as a National Policy.

I have been a Republican for some years. I voted for Herbert Hoover. I have on my desk this morning a quotation taken from his speech of acceptance which reads as follows: "Farming is and must continue to be an individual business. No solution requiring large and merged farms and mechanized production can fit into our ideals for farming."

And, then for Mr. Legge to come forth with the idea that the solution to the farm problem is mass farming and large units is most assuredly preposterous. Any one who gives this subject thought will know that something is wrong somewhere. I charge my own party with failure to carry out the party pledge as referred to above. President Hoover was certainly right in making the statement as quoted. Inasmuch as the Farm Board has its existence by appointment of the President, it would occur to me that there should be a reckoning day and that accounts should be checked.

The Kansas Farmers Union has believed that even though the Agricultural Marketing Act was not all we had hoped for, yet out of it would come some permanent relief to the farmers as we have them, large and small, of this country. It seems to me that the members of the Farm Board are constantly advancing some unworkable theory that further retards any good that we might hope to receive.

False Propaganda

Under the caption "Kansas Corn Good" which appeared in the Topeka State Journal last week the following comments are made: "Chamber of Commerce official finds little drought damage." By this article it would seem that George W. Catt, Agricultural Commissioner of the Chamber of Commerce has made a survey with reference to the seriousness of the present drought.

He sent questionnaires to 14 Kansas farm agents to determine the condition of the crop and the reply from 9 of them was that the corn crop was reported good.

If this survey is meant to cover the existing average condition of the corn crop in Kansas, it most assuredly is an untruth. Either the County agent's source of information was not authentic or else it is an attempt on the part of some one to hold up an abnormal situation that does not exist.

I happen to be a member of the Kansas Drought Committee and we have met two or three times in Topeka. I have traveled over most every section of Kansas in the last few months and I say now, as I have said many times, that it is my judgment that there will not be one-fourth of a corn crop in this state. In plainer language, I do not think the corn crop in Kansas will average more than 10 bushels per acre.

I am not in any way attempting to put my judgment in advance of authorized agents who are supposed to furnish us with this information but the farmers of Kansas are becoming disgusted with information that is given out from time to time on these various subjects that is altogether and wholly misleading if not untruthful.

It is to be hoped that the Chamber of Commerce, the Extension Department of our College and all other groups who are putting out information will attempt to secure the facts before giving any such publicity.

PLAIN FACTS FOR ALL FARMERS

(continued from page 1)

farm life shall fall into the realm of history. That hope rests in the farmers being able to express their will and desires in an effective way. Such expression can come only in one way—through general organization with numerous membership.

Every foot of ground we have ever gained for farm life in business and politics has come through general

farm organizations. A general farm organization is absolutely necessary. There must be some medium or agency to stand up and fight fearlessly the battles of the farmer. As an individual, his voice can not be heard above his limited circle. As a member of an organization, he has the strength and prestige of vast numbers thinking like him and endowed with power to have this thinking crystallized into action.

Who built our farmers elevators?

Who organized our livestock agencies? What made laws possible permitting farmers to co-operate in buying and selling free from the restrictions of the anti-trust regulations?

What gave us every God blessed law that has meant for betterment of our business or social life? Absolutely without any possibility of doubt, the general farm organizations of this country were responsible. They were the voice of the farmer expressed in terms of power and influence.

We never would have had any effective institutions nor made any real progress in co-operation had there not been the organizations to spread the gospel, encourage action and urge farmers into doing things to help themselves.

Every so often, some Moses or other comes along with a bright idea and a great plan. The commodity pools are a fine example. The promoters had no room for the farm organizations in the field. They were for business in a business way. They rushed over the land. They grew with startling rapidity. And in due course of time two things happened. First, farm organizations were crippled badly everywhere and in many places they were killed. Second, the program fell flat, failed and left discouragement and distrust everywhere.

But where organizations were established strong enough, not all the farmers were swept off their feet. They stuck by their own enterprises and these remained in the future as a tribute to the sense and loyalty of the souls who knew and understood the necessity of the protecting force to the farm and support for their business enterprises.

Criticism, belittle all you want to the general farm organization, but it is the thing that has saved the farmers time and again and it is the thing that stands between them and disaster. This great program that is being undertaken under the law both promises and threatens. It promises, providing the courage and spirit of farm organizations can be preserved and built into the program. It can only go as far and as fast as the farmers of America accept. The education necessary for that acceptance and the loyalty necessary can only be gained when the spirit of the farm mind is incorporated into the effort.

The man who has done the best service to himself, his country and his industry, is the man who has been in an organization, sustained its strength and, through it, has molded policy dealing with things concerning his industry. The sorriest critic I know of anywhere or at any time, is the backslider in a farm organization who, knowing full well that it is the hope of salvation and yet lets the enterprise be weakened by his slackness or falling interest. The man in a farm community who is justly entitled to sound criticism and is unworthy to stand among his neighbors as a leader or an influence is the farmer who holds himself aloof from an organization and will thus not throw his influence into the only channel through which he can hope to do anything for himself or those around him.

I am leaving now for New York and from there to the West. I will have something to tell you next week.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

FRANKLIN CO. UNION NO. 72

Our County Union met with the Loyal Local at the Spring Creek schoolhouse Wednesday evening Sept. 10th. Although the rain kept quite a number from coming we had a good crowd and a nice time. We were disappointed in not having our speaker with us but rushed a little more program and I am sure we all enjoyed the following numbers.

Mr. Zerbe's orchestra was minus some of the regulars but it gave us good music just the same.

Miss Virginia Heckman sang a welcome song, "Good Evening Dear Farmers." Perhaps Miss Virginia will be a real "farmerette" when she is grown. A dance, impersonating the life of a butterfly, was nicely given by Miss Virginia Thayer.

Rev. Orville Hatcher was with us and read "Katharina Visits the City" and we all enjoyed it so much. He came back and gave, "Rube's Family," and that was as good as the first number. Would you like to have Rev. and Mrs. Hatcher meet with us again.

Frank J. Thayer told us about a small boy's troubles, but trust times will be better as he grows older. Miss Ellen Brady gave "Willie, the Angelic Child," and we were sure when she done so well with that one she knew some more so she gave, "Dad Says So, Anyhow." Now we are hoping "Dad Says No" for awhile.

Harry Morgan gave his "maiden speech" that is, he made up most of it; told what a responsibility it was to chaperon Albert Carpenter at the State Convention. Perhaps if the truth was known they both need watching.

Elsie Thayer gave: "Man's Relation to a Mosquito," and I am sure he never could have said all those words so fast if he had not gotten warmed up putting on the mud chains on the way to the meeting. He eased us off with the "Effects of Green Peaches."

Pres. C. E. Pingree was a little stiff from riding so far trying to find the meeting place that we thought a little old dancing would help him, so he danced for us.

Mr. T. G. Ramsey, manager of the Cooperative Oil Co., gave a short talk regarding the progress of the business and he felt that a filling station would be a benefit to the business.

During the business session Harry Morgan was elected delegate and Ben Nelson as alternate to the State Convention. He accepted the invitation from the Pomona local to meet with them Wednesday evening, Oct. 1st.

Loyal Local served nice refreshments of ice cream and cake. Trust we can meet with the Loyal Local again some time.

Mrs. Harry Morgan.

MARSHALL COUNTY MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Marshall County Farmers Union held at Marysville, Tuesday, Sept. 9, was not very largely attended, owing to rainy weather and bad roads. The meeting was called to order by Pres. Wempe at 1:30. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The credential committee reported six locals present and 26 delegates answering roll call. Only one member of the resolution committee was present, and the following resolution was adopted and a copy ordered sent to Pres. Ward in Topeka immediately.

The Marshall County Farmers Union offers financial help in campaign to substitute an income tax for the unjust property tax.

Pres. Wempe explained what had been done by our tax committee in this county to date.

The report of our picnic committee showed a nice balance over expenses and a vote of thanks was extended to them and Sholtz Brothers for the use of their grove.

The election of a delegate to our state convention resulted in H. J. Wempe being chosen, and Raymond

and the program is brought into sympathetic touch with the heart and consciousness of the farmers. There is not enough brains nor money in America to make the program successful without this very necessary and important thing.

It threatens in that, up to the present, there has not been the development of that sympathy and confidence on the part of the farmers that must be had and can only be had by encouraging and building his organizations. This program has not aided farm organizations. It has not had the fullest sympathy with the farm organizations. It has not earned, by right of performance, the confidence of the farm organizations. It may prove disastrous to farm organizations. If it should, then the last hope of American farmers for relief has gone.

In view of the seriousness of the situation, please, Mr. Farmer, understand that you have got to rely upon yourself as the last man and the final hope upon which you have to rely in this time of crisis. Put yourself in position to make your will and desires effective. Join up with your organization. Add your voice and strength to the building of power and influence that will direct affairs in keeping with the best interests of your industry, your family, your home.

The man who has done the best service to himself, his country and his industry, is the man who has been in an organization, sustained its strength and, through it, has molded policy dealing with things concerning his industry. The sorriest critic I know of anywhere or at any time, is the backslider in a farm organization who, knowing full well that it is the hope of salvation and yet lets the enterprise be weakened by his slackness or falling interest. The man in a farm community who is justly entitled to sound criticism and is unworthy to stand among his neighbors as a leader or an influence is the farmer who holds himself aloof from an organization and will thus not throw his influence into the only channel through which he can hope to do anything for himself or those around him.

I am leaving now for New York and from there to the West. I will have something to tell you next week.

Sholtz alternate. The following committees were then appointed:

Hall, A. D. Fitch.
Good of the Order, J. C. Chase, Walter Cockerill and John Frost.
Dinner, Mrs. A. D. Fitch, Mrs. R. H. Tirackey and Mrs. J. E. Hibbard.

Resolutions: H. Feldhansen, Neal Swanson and Joseph Holly.
Program, Miss Miller and Ed Hibbard.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Richard H. Mackey, Sec'y.

PROGRAM

September 25, 1930.

A Farmers Union meeting at the basement of the Community Hall, Lebanon, Kansas, at 8:30 o'clock p. m., September 25th. The children will be interested. This is a program for all the family.

There is music and other entertainment. Also an address by President C. A. Ward and Secretary A. M. Kinney.

Ice cream and cake for everyone.

TEST FAVORS WHEAT

AS HOG FEED

Recommendations by some of the states and the United States Department of Agriculture that wheat be used as livestock feed are given additional force by the results of a recent experiment conducted at the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station, in which it was shown that hogs selling at \$11 a hundred pounds returned \$15.50 a bushel for wheat.

Ground wheat, figured at 75 cents a bushel for the whole grain, fed with tankage in self feeders produced pork at a cost of \$5.98 per hundred pounds, while corn (as the current price about September 11) and tankage fed in the same way produced gain at a cost of \$7.65 per hundred pounds. Secretary Hyde has called special attention to this experiment, as wheat must be fed to a considerable extent this winter to take the place of corn.

Farm Board to Destroy Farmers' Organizations?

Beattie, Kans., Sept. 17, 1930.

Dear Editor:
Just a few lines. I am getting like Mr. Hirth of Missouri, President of the Missouri Farming Association, in which he charged that the Federal Farm Board is attempting to destroy farmers' organizations it cannot control. Instead of the farmers criticizing Mr. Hirth for the stand he has taken for us farmers, we should compliment him on his intelligence in discrediting the sugar-coated propaganda of the Board and exposing the methods used by them in the name of relief.

A trip through Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma would convince any one that hundreds of individuals in these states have the same opinion.

THE INSURANCE CORNER

By CHARLES A. BROOM, Secretary

During the past week, we have received a lot of wind loss reports from all over the state. The heaviest losses are near Timken and Rush Center in Rush County. Some of these are total. There are also eight or ten in Gove County. These will probably total from ten to fifteen thousand dollars. We hope that these patrons were carrying sufficient insurance to relieve the strain of these heavy losses, as this is the idea of insurance.

It seems from reports here that old line agents are again busy telling our people that it won't do for them to patronize their own organization as they might be assessed for all they possessed if they did so. Such tommyrot! Just read Section 40-1009 of the Kansas insurance laws: "No person shall ever be liable to this company or to any other person for more than the whole amount of his premium note or deposit." This should be conclusive evidence as to the liability of a policy holder in the Farmers Union Mutual. We ask all who doubt these facts to write the Commissioner of Insurance at Topeka and get his reply as to these statements and be in position to inform these prevaricators of their misstatements.

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE

If members of the Union have anything to sell or exchange, they should advertise in this department. Rate: 5 cents a word per issue. If run 4 times 10c per word for the four issues. "Wanted to Buy" and each initial or figure in the heading, as "For Sale," "Wanted to Buy," etc. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—TRY THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

WANTED

WANTED—Hear from owner having good farm for sale. Cash price, particulars. John Black, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

WANTED—Discarded Jewelry. Cash for Dental Gold, antiques, diamonds. Uhler, Sta. B., Brooklyn, N. Y.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—20 choice coon hounds cheap on trial. Kewell Kentucky Kennel, Kevill, Ky. B 22

China Glits, Boar, Sow and Pig—M. Constable, Bennington, Kans.

SCALE BOOKS

RECEIPT BOOKS, CHECK BOOKS, ORDER BOOKS, REMITTANCE BOOKS, ALSO LETTER HEADS, STATEMENTS, ENVELOPES, ETC.

GLOBE IMPRINT, Salina, Kas

and that the artistic touch of the high salaried organizers has fallen flat. The whole program of the Board has been aimed at destroying the individuality of the farmer and legitimate business. Its dream is a huge monopoly that will control the domestic market. It is not concerned with the fact that wheat is selling from 60 cents to 65 cents on the market and going lower every day, and that bread is 10 cents a pound and that the laboring man must pay 80 to 40 cents for a stinky slice of roast beef or pork chops and cattle sell around eight to ten dollars per hundred and hogs from eight to ten dollars.

Just think of it—how in the world do they expect the unemployed to eat at all? Something has got to be done. The board by holding about 60,000,000 bushels of wheat, they have discouraged buying so that the average price of wheat in this country today is selling from 60 to 65 cents per bushel and while this is a dilemma for the Board, so thoroughly have they done the job that even in the face of one of the worst droughts in history, wheat refuses to advance to its value in price while corn which has escaped the tampering hand of price fixing, is making history by selling for 15 to 20 cents higher than wheat. If we had not had this serious drought, wheat would have been selling for two bits a bushel, but on account of the drought in general, farmers are feeding No. 1 seed wheat to their hogs and chickens. There is nothing else to do with it but feed it.

In Capper's Farmer of September 12th, a radio talk by Senator Capper over Columbia chain, "Dangers in Corporation Farming." There is one farm corporation now owning, or controlling 50,000 acres of wheat land in Kansas. He goes on to say he is not an alarmist, but says he has a dread and fear when the day comes when Kansas wheat is industrialized and in control of a few hundred farming corporations.

J. D. Stosz.

WE MANUFACTURE—Farmers Union Standardized Accounting Forms

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Sound Planning Assures Success

You Can Not Lose

in the Kansas Farmers' Union Royalty Company
Because There Is

• NO PROMOTION STOCK

No operating expense
No drilling of wells
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No opportunity to destroy assets by death, fire, fraud or internal dissension among officers
No possibility of credit difficulties
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No salaried officials
No marketing problem
No labor to employ
No chance for designing groups to obtain "voting control."

All combined with an assurance of a steady and constantly increasing annual income out of all proportion to the customary conservative investment.

Decide Now!

INVESTIGATION costs nothing. Fill out the coupon below and mail it to this office. Let us outline our plan to your banker or your lawyer.

The sweeping success of the movement to co-operatively insure farmers of returns from their mineral rights by pooling part of those rights again proves that careful and sound planning is essential to the success of any sort of a business venture. The little group of farmers in Oklahoma who were the first to inaugurate the co-operative pooling of mineral rights for the benefit of themselves and other farmers had a sound model to follow.

That model was the plan used by the American government for the protection of the mineral rights of the Osage Indians. The plan worked successfully for the Osages for more than 25 years before the first farmer co-operative mineral rights pool was started. The soundness of the plan was tested and tried by experience and experiment. It worked. It worked so well that every Osage Indian received from oil and gas lease money bonuses and royalties more than \$100,000.

In using the Osage Indian plan for the protection of their mineral rights the white farmers needed only to modify it to suit the slightly different conditions faced by them as independent landowners. Several improvements on the plan were possible. They were incorporated in the farmer-owned co-operative pool.

The Kansas Farmers' Union Royalty Company is a co-operative mineral rights pool modeled on the Osage Indian plan. It is achieving the success which other like co-operative pools in other states have already achieved. It's not a scheme, it's not a dream—it is a working, live, going business concern, run and managed co-operatively for the benefit of its member owners.

You as a farmer who owns land, and therefore owns mineral rights, should know about this successful and growing co-operative venture. Learn how your dreams of wealth from oil can be realized through the co-operative pooling of part of your mineral rights.

INVESTIGATE — It Costs You Nothing To — INVESTIGATE

No matter how much your royalty is worth BEFORE a well is drilled, you as a cautious farmer should POOL a part of your mineral rights for your own protection. A royalty deed worth \$50,000 on its prospects, even in so-called PROVEN TERRITORY, may be worthless unless a part of it is POOLED. The greater the POOL, the greater your protection. The wider the SPREAD of the pooled acreage the greater your security.

The Kansas Farmers' Union Royalty Company

Farmers' Union Insurance Building

SALINA

KANSAS

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Gentlemen:

Please send me full details of your co-operative royalty pooling plan.

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(Print name and address clearly)