



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-operation

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Bok Peace Plan Goes to Referendum Vote of People

Advocates Immediate Entrance of U. S. Into World Court and Full Co-operation with Member Countries of League of Nations.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—Beginning today the American people will have their first opportunity to vote directly on the question whether the United States should co-operate in effecting world peace through the agencies of the existing league of nations and world court.

Throughout the nation a poll will begin on plan No. 1469, announced as the winner of the Edward W. Bok \$100,000 prize for the best possible plan to maintain international peace.

The winning plan was selected from 22,165 plans submitted to an eminent jury headed by Elihu Root.

The name of the author will not be made public until after a referendum which starts throughout the nation today and ends early next month. He already has received \$50,000 and will be given an additional \$50,000 if the plan receives public approval in the referendum.

The plan proposed immediate entry of the United States into the permanent international court of justice and full co-operation of this country with the league of nations under certain conditions.

The United States would not become a member of the league at the present but apparently would enter the world association eventually.

The Bok peace plan in detail follows:

The complete manuscript of Plan No. 1469 Providing for Co-operation between the United States and other nations to achieve and preserve the peace of the world is given below, including the author's reasoning:

Plan Number 1469

There is Not Room for More Than One Organization to Promote International Cooperation

Five-sixths of all nations, including about four-fifths of mankind, have already created a world-organization, the purpose of which is "to promote international cooperation and to achieve international peace and security."

Those nations cannot and will not abandon this system which has now been actively operating for three and a half years. If leading members of the United States Government ever had serious hopes that another association of nations could be formed, such hopes were dispelled during the Washington Conference by plain intimations from other Powers that there is not room for more than one organization like the League of Nations.

The States outside the organized world are not of such a character that the United States could hope to cooperate with them for the purpose named.

Therefore, the only possible path to cooperation in which the United States can take an increasing share is that which leads toward some form of agreement with the world as now organized, called the League of Nations.

By sheer force of social international gravitation such cooperation becomes inevitable.

The United States Has Already Gone Far in Cooperation With the League of Nations

The United States Government theoretically maintaining a policy of isolation, has actually gone far, since March 4, 1921, toward "co-operation with other nations to achieve and preserve the peace of the world."

The most familiar part of the story is the work of the Washington Conference, wherein President Harding's Administration made a beginning of naval disarmament, opened to China a prospect of rehabilitation and joined with Great Britain, Japan and France to make the Pacific Ocean worthy of its name.

Later came the recommendation that the United States should adhere to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Not long after that action President Harding wrote to Bishop Gailor:

"I do not believe any man can confront the responsibility of a President of the United States and yet adhere to the idea that it is possible for our country to maintain an attitude of isolation and aloofness in the world."

But since the proposed admission to the Permanent Court would bring this country into close contact at one time and point with the League of Nations, and since such action is strenuously opposed for exactly that reason, it is pertinent to inquire not only how much cooperation with the League and its organs has been proposed during the life of the present Administration, but also how much has been actually begun.

Officially or Unofficially the United States is Represented on Many League Commissions

The United States Government has accredited its representatives to sit as members "in an unofficial and consulting capacity" upon four of the most important social welfare commissions of the League, viz: Health, Opium, Traffic in Women and Children, and Anthrax (Industrial Hygiene). A full member of the International Hydro-

Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas

Do you approve the winning plan in substance? Yes ☐ No ☐

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graphic Bureau, an organ of the League. Our Government was represented by an "unofficial observer" in the Brussels Conference (Finance and Economic Commission) in 1920. It sent Hon. Stephen G. Porter and Bishop Brent to represent it at the meeting of the Opium Commission last May.

Our Public Health Service has taken part in the Serological Commission of the Epidemics Commission and has helped in the experimental work for the standardization of serums.

Our Government collaborates with the League Health Organization through the International Office of Public Health at Paris, and with the Agriculture Committee of the League Labor Organization through the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome.

In February, 1923, Secretary Hughes and President Harding formally recommended that the Senate approve our admission to the Permanent Court under four conditions or reservations, one of which was that the United States should officially participate in the election of judges by the Assembly and Council of the League, sitting as electoral colleges for that purpose.

Unofficial cooperation from the United States with the work of the League includes membership in five of the social welfare commissions or committees of the League, in one on economic reconstruction, and in one (Aaland Islands) which averted a war. American women serve as expert assessors upon the Opium and Traffic in Women Commissions.

Two philanthropic agencies in the United States have between them pledged more than \$400,000 to support either the work of the Epidemics Commission or the League inquiry into conditions of the traffic in women and children. How Can Increasing Cooperation Between the United States and the Organized World be Secured?

The United States being already so far committed to united councils with League-agencies for the common social welfare, all of which have some bearing upon the preservation of world peace, the question before us may take this form: How can increasing cooperation between the United States and the organized world for the promotion of peace and security be assured, in forms acceptable to the people of the United States and hopefully practicable?

The United States Can Extend Its Present Cooperation With the League's Social Welfare Activities

Without any change in its present policy, already described, the United States Government could, first, show its willingness to co-

operate similarly with the other humane and reconstructive agencies that Government had already sent delegates with advisory powers. It could as properly accept invitations to accredit members with like powers to each one of the other welfare commissions. It has already received invitations from two of the latter.

It is, secondly, immediately practicable to extend the same kind of cooperation, whenever asked to do it, so as to include participation in the work of the commissions and technical committees of the Labor Organization. The record shows that such cooperation is already begun.

The single common purpose of all these committees is the collection and study of information, on which may be based subsequent recommendations for national legislation.

All conventions and resolutions, recommended by the first three congresses of the International Labor Organization, have already been laid before the Senate of the United States and, without objection, referred to the appropriate committee. No different procedure would have been followed if the United States were a member of the Labor Organization of the League.

An Immediate Step Is Adherence to the Permanent Court

A third immediately practicable step is the Senate's approval of the proposal that the United States adhere to the Permanent Court of International Justice for the reasons and under the conditions stated by Secretary Hughes and President Harding in February, 1923.

These three suggestions for increasing cooperation with the family of nations are in harmony with policies already adopted by our Government, and in the last case with a policy so old and well recognized that it may now be called traditional.

They do not involve a question of membership in the League of Nations as now constituted, but it cannot be denied that they lead to the threshold of that question. Any further step toward cooperation must confront the problem of direct relations between the United States and the Assembly and Council of fifty-four nations in the League.

In Actual Operation the League Employs No Force

The practical experience of the League during its first three and a half years of life has not only wrought out, in a group of precedents, the beginnings of what might be called the constitutional law of the League, but it has also shifted the emphasis in activities of the League and its constituent organizations from the enforcement of the Covenant.

At its birth the Covenant of the League bore, vaguely in Article X and more clearly in Article XVI, the impression of a general agreement to enforce and coerce. Both of those Articles suggest the action of a world-state which never existed and does not now exist.

How far the present League is actually removed from functioning as such a State is sufficiently exhibited in its dealings with Lithuania and Poland over Vilna and their common boundary, and with Greece and Italy over Corfu.

Experience in the last three years has demonstrated probably insuperable difficulties in the way of fulfilling in all parts of the world the large promise of Article X in respect to either its letter or its spirit. No one now expects the League Council to try to summon armies and fleets, since it utterly failed to obtain even an international police force for the Vilna district.

Each Assembly of the League has witnessed vigorous efforts to interpret and modify Article X. In the Fourth Assembly an attempt to adopt an interpretation of that Article in essential agreement with the Senatorial reservation on the same subject in 1920 was blocked only by a small group of weak States like Persia and Panama, which evidently attributed to Article X a protective power that it possesses only on paper.

Such States, in possible fear of unfriendly neighbors, must decide whether the preservation of a form of words in the Covenant is more vital to their peace and security, and to the peace and security of the world than the presence of the United States at the council table of the family of nations.

As to Article XVI, the Council of the League created a Blockade Commission which worked for two years to determine how the "economic weapon" of the League could be efficiently used and uniformly applied. The Commission failed to discover any obligatory procedure that weaker Powers would dare to accept. It was finally agreed that each State must decide for itself whether a breach of the Covenant has been committed.

The Second Assembly adopted a radical amended form of Article XVI from which was removed all reference to the possibility of employing military force, and in which the abandonment of uniform obligation was directly provided for.

The British Government has since proposed to weaken the

form of requirement, still further. Articles X and XVI, in their original forms, have therefore been practically condemned by the principal organs of the League and are today reduced to something like innocuous desuetude.

The only kind of compulsion which nations can freely engage to apply to each other in the name of Peace is that which arises from conference, from full publicity, and from the power of public opinion.

(*Fifty-seven States, including Germany, are members of the International Labor Organization of the League. There are about sixty-five independent States in the world.)

The Leadership of the United States in New World Is Obviously Recognized by the League

Another significant development in the constitutional practice of the League is the unwillingness of the League Council to intervene in any American controversy, even though all states in the New World except three are members of the League.

This refusal became evident in the Panama-Costa Rica dispute in 1921 and in the quarrel between Chile, Peru and Bolivia, a quarrel which impelled the last two States to absent themselves from the Third Assembly, wherein a Chilean was chosen to preside.

Obviously the League intends to recognize the leadership of the United States in the New World precisely. This is nothing less than the observance of an unwritten law limiting the powers and duties of the League Council defined in Article XI of the Covenant, to questions that seem to threaten the peace of the Old World. When the United States is willing to bring the two halves of the world together for friendly consideration of common dangers, duties and needs, it will be possible to secure, if it is desired, closer cooperation between the League organizations and the Pan-American Union, already a potential regional league.

It is conceivable that the family of nations may eventually clearly define certain powers and duties of relatively local significance which may be developed upon local associations or unions. But the world of business and finance is already unified. The worlds of scientific knowledge and humane effort are nearly so. Isolation of any kind is increasingly impossible.

Organization, already centralized, is no more likely to return to disconnected effort than the United States is likely to revert to the Calhoun theory of States Rights and Secession.

In Actual Operation, if Not in Original Conception the League Realizes the Principle and the Hopes of the Hague

The operation of the League has therefore evolved a Council widely different from the body imagined by the makers of the Covenant. It can employ no force but that of persuasion and moral influence.

Its only actual powers are to confer and advise, to create commissions, to exercise inquisitive, conciliative and arbitral functions, and to elect judges of the Permanent Court.

In other words, the force of circumstances is gradually moving the League into position upon the foundations so well laid by the world's leaders between 1899 and 1907 in the great international councils of that period. The Assemblies of the League and the Congresses of the International Labor Organizations are successors to the Hague Conferences.

The Permanent Court has at least begun to realize the highest hope and purpose of the Second League Conference.

The Secretariat and the Labor Office have become Continuation Committees for the administrative work of the organized world, such as the Hague Conference-lacked resources to create but would have rejected to see.

The Council, resolving loose and large theories into clean-cut and modest practice, has been gradually reconciling the League as an organized world, with the ideals of international "interdependence," temporarily obscured since 1914 by the shadows of the Great War.

No one can deny that the organs of the League have brought to the service of the forces behind those ideals an efficiency, scope and variety of appeal that in 1914 would have seemed incredible.

It is common knowledge that public opinion and official policy in the United States have for a long time, without distinction of party, been favorable to international conferences for the common welfare, and to the establishment of conciliative, arbitral and judicial means for settling international disputes.

There is no reason to believe that the judgment and policy have been changed. Along these same lines the League is now plainly crystallizing, as has been shown, and at the touch of the United States the process can be expedited.

In no other way can the organized world, from which the United States cannot be economically and spiritually separated, be the pow-

er of public opinion to the new machinery, devised for the pacific settlement of controversies between nations and standing always ready for use.

The United States Should Participate in the League's Work Under Stated Conditions

I. The United States accepts should be authorized to propose co-operation with the League and participation in the work of its Assembly and Council under the following conditions and reservations:

1. The United States accepts the League of Nations as an instrument of mutual counsel but it will assume no obligation to interfere with political questions of policy or internal administration of any foreign state.

The United States Will Maintain the Monroe Doctrine

In uniting its efforts with those of other States for the preservation of peace and the promotion of the common welfare, the United States does not abandon its traditional attitude concerning American independence of the Old World and does not consent to submit its long established policy concerning questions regarded by it as purely American to the recommendation or decision of other Powers.

The United States Proposes That Moral Judgment and Public Opinion Be Substituted for Force

II. The United States will assume no obligations under Article X, in its present form in the Covenant, unless in any particular case Congress has authorized such action.

The United States will assume no obligations under Article XVI, in its present form in the Covenant, or in its amended form as now proposed, unless in any particular case Congress has authorized such action.

The United States proposes that Articles X and XVI be either dropped altogether or so amended and changed as to eliminate any suggestion of a general agreement to use coercion for obtaining conformity to the pledges of the Covenant.

The United States Will Assume No Obligations Under the Versailles Treaty Except as Congress Approves

III. The United States will accept no responsibility and assume no obligation in connection with duties, imposed upon the League by the peace treaties, unless in any particular case Congress has authorized such action.

The United States Proposes That Membership Be Opened to Any Self-governing State

IV. The United States proposes that Article I of the Covenant be construed and applied, or, if necessary, re-drafted, so that admission to the League shall be assured any self-governing State that receives the favorable vote of two-thirds of the Assembly.

The Continuing Development of International Law Must Be Provided For

V. As a further condition of its participation in the work and councils of the League, the United States asks that the Assembly and Council consent—or obtain authority—to begin collaboration for the revision and development of international law, employing, for this purpose, the aid of a commission of jurists.

This Commission would be directed to formulate new existing rules of the law of nations, to reconcile divergent opinions, to consider points hitherto inadequately provided for but vital to the maintenance of international justice, and in general to define the social rights and duties of States. The recommendation of the Commission would be presented from time to time, in proper form for consideration, to the Assembly as to a recommending if not a lawmaking body.

Among these conditions, Numbers I and II have already been discussed. Number III is a logical consequence of the refusal of the United States Senate to ratify the treaty of Versailles, and of the settled policy of the United States which is characterized in the first reservation. Concerning Numbers IV and V this may be said:

Anything less than a world-conference, especially when Great Powers are excluded, must incur, in proportion to the exclusions, the suspicion of being an alliance, rather than a family of nations. The United States can render service in emphasizing this lesson, learned in the Hague Conference, and in thus helping to reconstitute the family of nations as it really is. Such a conference or assembly must obviously bear the chief responsibility for the development of new parts of the law of nations, devised to fit changed and changing conditions, to extend the sway of justice, and to help in preserving peace and security.

The man on the farm who doesn't want to be bothered with cows to milk is seldom bothered worrying over what to do with all his money.

The best hens in the turkey flock should be kept as breeders.

The son often has to set the example before the old man who is "set in his way" will believe there is any way better than the old way.

Enemies of Commodity Marketing Put Out "Poisoned Bait"

William Hirth, Publisher of the Missouri Farmer Answers Their Arguments in a Very Able Manner in Current Issue of That Publication.

Continued from last week

Farmers: "What do you mean by calling the M. F. A. an 'outfit'?" Isn't it made up of farmers from top to bottom and don't we control it? Therefore doesn't it mean that we farmers are setting up a marketing machine of our own in the place of the one you fellows have compelled us to use from time out of mind? Ought we farmers not to have as much faith in ourselves as we have had all these years in you fellows?"

Grain dealer: "Yes, but what do you farmers know about marketing? This is a business within itself—it is one thing to raise grain, livestock and produce but an entirely different thing to sell and distribute it all over the country."

Farmers: "Oh that's old stuff. When we opened up our Produce Exchange here a couple of years ago, you fellows told us the same thing—you said we'd be out of business in a matter of 60 days. But we are still running and paying 8 per cent on our capital stock—and do you mean to tell me that we haven't forced you to sell flour and feed a blamed sight cheaper than you did before we opened up and also that the local produce dealers are not bidding up a lot higher on eggs, poultry and cream?"

Grain dealer: "Well, we'll not argue about that."

Farmers: "But tell me isn't it the truth—do you mean to contend for one minute that the Produce Exchange has not put money into the pockets of the farmers of this community in both buying and selling? Answer that question!"

Grain dealer: "Oh I don't want to get into an argument on that with you but—"

Farmers: "Of course you don't because you know very well that I am right and that I can prove it. You know that before we opened our Exchange you charged 50c per cwt. more for bran and shorts than you have since then."

Grain dealer: "Alright then for argument's sake let's admit that you have gotten along pretty well with your Exchange—but what are you going to do with your stuff when it gets to central markets? Where do you expect to find men who can handle it there?"

Farmers: "Why, we've already got them. When the M. F. A. first started the Farmers' Live Stock Commission Company at the National Stockyards, the commission men said just what you fellows said when we opened our Exchange—they said we were a bunch of Rubes and that we wouldn't last 60 days and in order to make their prophecy good they organized an iron clad boycott against us. And for a while we had tough sledding. But today we are doing as much business as a half dozen of the largest old line firms put together—and could we have built up such a business if we hadn't gotten the full market price for the farmer?"

Here recently we have had some heavy shrinkage because they couldn't get to the scales quick enough with a part of our increasing volume—and our Company got the first 'kicks' it has received since the boycott. And then our leaders got busy and said, 'Either give us enough facilities to operate advantageously and to stop our shrinkage, or we will fight.' And then the powers that be did the square thing—and very shortly now the big machine at the National Stockyards will be running just as smoothly as it did before and there will be an end of the house work of a million dollars' worth of shrinkage now—first, before from time to time we expect to run into difficulties and, second, to let you know that we can take care of ourselves when we do. At East St. Louis, Kansas City, and St. Joseph, our Patronage Unit will refund to our shippers—will amount to close to a quarter of a million dollars—quite a nice melon to cut, don't you think?"

Grain dealer: "Yes, from what I can learn the farm organizations are beginning to cut a figure at the Stockyards—but, after all, you do admit that you had tough sailing against the boycott in the beginning and that you couldn't get to the scales as rapidly as you should have done during recent weeks?"

Farmers: "Lord yes, of course I admit it—but farmers be willing to pay the price? Didn't our forefathers do that against the Redcoats of King George? Can we expect those who have so long made their living off the farmer to give up without a fight? When you offer our members a sack of flour for a nickel less per bushel, don't you always tell them that it's 'just as good' as the M. F. A. flour? Isn't every middleman trying to soap the track for us?"

Grain dealer: "Well, what about the central grain and produce markets?"

Farmers: "Why, we already own and control our own grain firm on the Merchants Exchange in St. Louis and it is manned by experienced grain men just as our Livestock Commission Companies are manned by the most experienced salesmen at the Stockyards. We simply pay the price

that such men are worth—and we get them. As to produce, during the last two years we have shipped more carloads of eggs and poultry to Chicago, New York and other central markets than was handled either by Armour & Company or Swift & Company. The trouble with a lot of you fellows is, you don't know the size of the M. F. A. or what it has already accomplished. You are so all-fired busy scattering your 'Poisoned Bait' that you don't stop to consider the size of our machine. The fact of the business is that we already have in successful operation a machine that, with a little enlarging, can easily handle all the grain, livestock, poultry and dairy products produced in Missouri."

Grain dealer: "Suppose that some of these men who are operating your big commission companies steal a lot of money?"

Farmers: "Alright, suppose they do—the last mother's son of them is bonded all the way from \$10,000 up to \$50,000, depending upon the amount of money that passes through their hands. What gets my goat is, that you fellows seem to think that we farmers can't do things that other human beings do—and yet more than half the railroad presidents, bankers and members of Congress are erstwhile farmer boys and a pile of them never saw the inside of a College or University."

Grain dealer: "But we are getting away from the point—my contention is that nobody but a fool would tie himself for five years and forego the chance of getting a better price for his stuff through other channels."

Farmers: "No, we are not getting away from the point at all—I started out by saying that the farmer don't know anything about marketing, that we are just a bunch of dumb bolls who ought to stay at home and slop the pigs and let you fellows attend to this for us, just like you've been doing ever since Heck was a pup. You don't say so in so many words—but that is what you mean. And to put it to the test, if you don't want us to sign up under the Contract, then what is it you would advise us to do?"

Grain dealer: "Well, I think you farmers ought to diversify more—for instance, during the last year or so you've been producing too much wheat and pork and not enough corn. Corn is a good price."

Farmers: "That 'diversifying' stuff gets on my nerves. Have you forgotten that only a year or so back the price of corn was below the cost of production? Didn't nearly every farm paper in the Country advise farmers to reduce the corn acreage? And now suppose we cut down hog production and increase corn production—then what will you fellows do? And in this case, won't the corn market collapse just as the hog market has? Again, how on Earth can farmers tell just how much corn to plant or wheat to sow—for do not climatic conditions have everything to do with the yield? And even so cannot a bad farrowing season and disease tremendously reduce the hog crop? You say we have produced too many hogs and maybe we have—and yet if this is true, why with little or no export demand, is the Country consuming them almost as fast as they go through the Packing houses? I don't think it is an overproduction of hogs so much as that your present marketing system is compelling us to accept the World price level on them—and as a result we are being forced to feed those who ride in limousines in the big cities and bricklayers, plasterers, plumbers, etc., who receive from \$14 to \$16 for 8 hours work of 6½c hogs. I'll admit that we farmers ought to fight against surplus production until World price levels become higher—but as long as we are unorganized and as long as every poor olea bit-devil of us tries to get one year and another year the next year in effort to keep the wolf from the door, how can we ever expect to do team work? How can we hope to adjust production as near as this is humanly possible, until some great central farmer controlled power directs the production of grain and livestock, as the California Fruit Growers' Exchange has directed the growing of oranges during recent years?"

Grain dealer: "I am glad you mentioned the Orange growers—just because those fellows made a success of the Contract, what right have you to suppose that grain and livestock farmers can?"

Farmers: "Because the underlying principle is exactly the same—because the control of the marketing of any crop carries with it the power to control the price of that crop, then how do you explain the successful operation of the Contract for the big Dairyman's League in New York? And what about the Burley Tobacco Growers' Ass'n., which during the last two years has enabled the hill bills of Kentucky, and Tennessee to make the Tobacco Trust fork over \$75,000,000 more than it would have done otherwise?"

Grain dealer: "Well, one thing I can't understand is why any farmer will tie himself to a Contract that will compel him to accept whatever

(Continued on page 3)

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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.

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

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION



THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1924.

REAL PURPOSE OF CO-OPERATION.

Wheat marketing through local cooperative elevators, commission houses and boards of trade in terminal centers are so nearly perfect that any attempt to improve them will be costly to the farmer appears to be the position taken by President J. B. Brown of the Farmers Cooperative Grain Dealers Association. If Mr. Brown understands what he thinks he knows about the matter he may not be much more than half wrong in his conclusions. The truth, however, is that Brown knows too many things that are not so, a sort of information that is apt to lead to queer conclusions.

In his circular letter to elevators, recently distributed throughout Kansas, President Brown says that it "has developed that those who sell through the pool receive from five to thirteen cents a bushel less than those who sell through their home elevators." This is not true. Some poolers in some pools have received less than the highest price paid at their elevators during the pooling season. That is because they have received the average price for the year of the grade and type of wheat that they delivered. Now if Mr. Brown intends to state that all wheat growers have an opportunity to sell their grain for the high dollar every year he is either fooling himself or trying to fool some one else.

No matter what price may be obtained finally as the result of pooling, even if it is five dollars a bushel, there will always be some farmer on the outside who has not been willing to do his part of the organization work and take his chances along with his fellow growers who will be lucky enough to sell at the highest point of the market and so get more than the average paid for his grade of wheat. This will be true even after pooling has resulted in profit making prices for wheat. It is not a fact this year that any settlements are being made from five to thirteen cents under the average price paid at elevators.

President Brown says that Farmers Cooperatives are "not advising any one just when he shall sell his grain" and adds that "there are almost as many reasons for an individual to sell his wheat at a given time as there are individuals growing wheat." He further declares that "the Grain Dealers Association shipped almost half its wheat between July and October and that the natural time for the Kansas farmer to sell his wheat is in the months of July, August and September."

The natural time for any grower to sell his staple products is when there is a demand from consumers. It is certain that the consumers of wheat, nor for that matter the millers nor the exporters demand the delivery of a twelve months' supply of wheat during the first three months after harvest or of even a six months' supply. The delivery of so much wheat in such a short time is not in response to natural demand but is the result of compulsion on the farmer to sell his grain as early as possible in order to pay his bills and notes. The wheat farmer does not elect to sell all of or half his wheat in three months. It is a matter of unavoidable necessity which will always exist until he works out a plan that will enable him to meet his obligations and at the same time share in the profits of retaining an interest in his own wheat until higher prices prevail. Mr. Brown is the only man on record who believes that prices cannot be reduced as result of a supply of wheat three times greater than the consumers demand.

It is true, as Mr. Brown declares, that wheat pooling associations must pay the marketing expenses that are a part of the old system. Or it would be better to say that they must pay the same kind of expenses and is not correct to say that they must pay as much. In pooling associations all phases of the marketing movement are carried on without profit to any one except the producers of the grain. The local elevator, the terminal elevator and even the organized grain trade commissions are on a cost basis. Cooperative representatives are operating on Board of Trade houses and charging back to growers only the cost of their services. This is because the wheat sold by cooperatives be-

longs to their members and it is an established principle that a man should not be charged a commission for selling his own stuff on an organized market of which he is a member.

The fundamental error in President Brown's position is that the cooperatives must do business with the same markets and in the same way as the elevators. That may be partly true while the pooling associations are small but already every cooperative sales-manager in the country has discovered and developed outlets for wheat that carry it clear around the boards of trade and the terminal warehouses and deliver it directly to converters and exporters. With half or more of the wheat production under contract the cooperatives will be able to make their own market and sell their wheat to buyers who must come to them to get it. Wheat and all other farm products have always been sold on a buyers' market. This together with the further fact that all the farmers supplies have always been purchased on a sellers' market has ruined agriculture. The advocates of cooperation propose to organize the wheat of this country in such a way that it must reach consumers through a sellers market, a market in which the producer shall have a voice.

It is evident that Mr. Brown considers the local elevator a wheat market. The local elevator system has been very helpful to Kansas wheat growers. It has delivered them from extortions long practiced at country points by old time wheat merchants, but it is not now, never was, nor never can be a market. It is nothing more than a handling or service station through which the grain must pass on its way to the real markets. The poolers admit the good results that have followed the control of these local service stations by the growers and propose to follow their wheat right through their own elevators to the terminals, exchanges, mills and exporters where supply and demand are presumed to meet and there protect themselves by selling their own wheat on conditions determined by themselves in a producers or sellers' market.

ADVERTISING INCOMPETENCY.

Probably the most unique bid for business in the whole history of trade has just been made by several of the smaller live stock commission firms of the Kansas City market. The growth of co-operative marketing has deprived these gentlemen of a good portion of their customers and they need consignments because it takes commissions and plenty of them to support a Kansas City Live Stock commission merchant in the style to which he is accustomed.

Hoping to reclaim some of the customers that they have lost to the cooperative houses these firms are asking for business on the plea that they can make good sales because they have plenty of time to devote to their consignments. Also they insist that the big co-ops are not able to get top prices and render good service because they have more trade than they can handle.

Shippers are not likely to be fooled very much by that particular type of business propaganda. The hard boiled, clear thinking stock men on the ranches and farms are fairly certain to figure that a firm loses its business because it does not render the right sort of service and that the cooperatives are growing because they have made good.

SUCCESS THROUGH DIFFICULTIES.

The Farmers Union Jobbing Association has just finished the best year in its history. Its stock is now just about worth par on a statement that is clean from every sign of suspicion of dead wood. The auditor has not listed good will, patent rights, unabsorbed promotion expenses or any other intangible assets as part of the present worth of the concern. Every item in the statement of resources is worth what it stands for—and its value is in actual dollars and cents.

This is a great change since the Farmers Union State Convention was in session in Wichita just six years ago. At that time the deficit between the value of assets and liabilities was more than the par value of the outstanding shares of stock. The directors reported the condition of the enterprise and asked the membership whether they should wind up the affairs of the concern and let it go into history as another co-operative failure. That was a hard report to make. The directors themselves had their personal credit pledged for enough money to have ruined nearly all of them but were willing to take their medicine and settle up with the creditors.

It was a dark hour in the history of the Association and a critical time for the Union. The spirit of our unconquerable organization was splendidly exemplified in the response made to that report by the loyal members of the Kansas Union. They said that the Association must go on and when the hat was passed for new capital more than three thousand dollars was subscribed for stock that had only a speculative value. From that day the situation improved. Within a year there was such a gain that the directors were able to re-finance the concern and increase its working capital to nearly \$100,000.

The men who put their money and their faith into the Farmers Union Jobbing Association have never asked for any dividends in cash because they did not invest for the purpose of making money but to establish a service institution for the benefit of Kansas agriculture. The Association has paid no cash dividends directly to its shareholders but it has saved the farmers of Kansas many millions of dollars because it has been able to fix the price of essential farm supplies at a reasonable level.

No other business institution in Kansas has made such a recovery from war time depression. Nor is there any other concern in the state that has done as much for the farmers of Kansas.

POOLING/CAMPAIGN/WELL UNDER WAY.

The campaign to secure forty-four million bushels of the 1924 wheat crop is to be well under way before the middle part of January. Headquarters of The Kansas Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association, the name given the new pool organization, have been established in Wichita, at offices of The Kansas Wheat Growers Association.

F. R. Shanks of Beeville, Texas, is the pool campaign director. Mr. Shanks successfully conducted seven cooperative marketing campaigns before coming to Kansas. He has worked among the tobacco and the cotton growers, particularly the latter, in Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Arkansas and Texas.

Shanks is very optimistic over the prospects of obtaining the prescribed forty-four million bushels, or an estimated one-third of next year's wheat yield, for the pool.

"Too much time has been given us to get the required amount," is the way he feels about the ultimate success of the big undertaking. The forty-four million bushels must be signed up before May 24th, under the plan adopted at conferences between the Wheat Growers Association and Farmers' Union representatives, in Topeka, recently.

Work has been started in perfecting the various district and county organizations to conduct the campaign. A series of meetings, to be held during January, the first of scores of such gatherings, are now being planned by Shanks and members of the Campaign Executive Committee.

Definite announcement as to where and when these initial assemblies will be held will be made within the next few days. This matter is among the things taken up by the executive committee of the new campaign organization here Friday, December 28th.

Budgets for the publicity and general expense of waging the big drive for the pool also were approved at this committee meeting.

The members of the committee to conduct the organization campaign are: Forest Luther of Cimarron, Simon Fishman of Tribune, W. P. Lamberton of Fairview, C. E. Cox of Ashland and Walter H. Chappell of Chanute. Officers of the association committee of fifty members which will cooperate with the executive board, during the coming months, are W. C. Lansdon of Salina, chairman; E. E. Frizell of Larned, vice-chairman, and B. E. Corporon of Wichita, secretary.

The first contracts with wheat growers are expected to be signed up at the committee sessions here Friday. Simon Fishman, who has approximately 30,000 acres sown to wheat this year, has formally announced he will put the entire yield into the pool and he estimates it will be right around 350,000 bushels. Other members of the committee who are extensive wheat growers are expected to sign up also.

GRAIN DEALERS FIGHT POOLS.

If argument in favor of the economic soundness and ultimate success of farmer cooperative marketing were lacking, the attitude of boards of trade and officials of grain dealer associations should supply a convincing argument.

An aggressive campaign is now launched by grain dealer associations against farmer wheat pools and wheat growers' associations. These associations are the immediate target. Evidence, however, is not lacking that the fire on these wheat pools and farmer associations is aimed at even bigger game. While it is no doubt to the advantage of the grain associations to demolish these farmer wheat pools and associations of grain growers, it is to their more lasting advantage to shattering the farmer's faith in the principle of cooperative marketing.

The Weapon Used.

The weapon of the grain dealers' associations is a cheaper price for grain handling than the grain grower pools charge. This is nothing new in tactics. It is a favorite practice of trusts and combinations to demolish independent competition while it is young and before it grows strong and flourishing. Once the competition is out of the way, the combination recoups its losses incurred in the process of smashing competition. It recoups these at the expense of the public. With competition out of the way, nothing disturbs the combination's market and price control.

A circular appeal from E. J. Smiley, secretary of the Kansas Grain Dealers' Association, to Kansas grain dealers, urges their cooperation in this movement to discredit cooperative wheat pools and associations. It urges dealers to unite in a movement to this end, particularly dealers located in areas where farmer associations and market pools are in existence.

Attacks Selling Organizations.

The immediate object of this drive is to discredit the National Grain Marketing Association which now is encouraging the formation of a wheat pool in Kansas for the 1924 crop. The circular urges grain dealers to center their attacks on this organization and to try to convince farmers that the National Grain Marketing Association is doomed in advance to failure, and to clinch the argument against wheat pools and selling associations by offering grain handling service at a price a bit under that of the pools. This is to dissatisfy the farmer and to induce him to break pooling contracts.

The circular stresses these contracts. In so doing it reveals the bug under the chip. It shows that the purpose back of this campaign is not its avowed purpose of saving the farmer money in his marketing, but to discredit and destroy farmer marketing associations. The circular so makes a savage attack on Senator Arthur Capen who made over 100 speeches last summer to farm organizations urging growers to organize cooperative associations.—Kansas Farmer.

Peace Grows More Necessary.

To the safety of civilization with each passing month. Some one has just won a prize of \$100,000 for the best peace plan submitted to the so-called Bok Committee by an American citizen. Such meager abstracts of the prize winning production as have been published are not so very promising. It seems to be a suggestion that this country enter the League of Nations by first becoming a party to the World Court.

The League of Nations has never had a fair trial because this country has never been a member. It would be just as sensible to undertake to operate a four wheeled automobile with only three wheels as it is for the League of Nations to attempt to function effectively without the co-operation and membership of the United States. Perhaps there are curable defects in the League plan but it must not be forgotten that it is the only plan for international peace that has ever been tried and that its weakness is not due to its own defects but to the fact that our country has never joined with the other forty-four nations that are members.

Men should not deceive themselves in this matter. Unless the nations of the world unite to abolish war and perpetuate peace civilization is doomed every where except in America and is seriously threatened in this country.

Militarism Is the Biggest Obstacle

In the way of international and universal peace. Every nation that maintains a military system whether large or small does its part in keeping alive the spirit of conquest. France is the most conspicuous offender in this respect but even the United States is not without guilt. The military establishment of our country is stronger today than it ever was before in time of peace. The navy is bigger by far than national security requires.

We have right now all the frame work for a huge standing army and are training many thousands of our young men for military life. It is argued that all this preparation, the subdivision of the country into army corps areas, the maintenance of hundreds of a great standing army in hundreds of country towns throughout the country are all essential to national security. It is argued that our commerce is to be assured.

If these things are true we might as well abandon all hope of an era of peace and good will among men. The military tradition is being fostered in this country as well as in France and scores of other debt burdened nations. Peace will never be assured until the peace loving and peace desiring people who make up the great majority of the citizenry of every country take the matter into their own hands and by popular action abolish militarism.

Humanity Should Abandon Force

And agree to live under the sanctions of laws that for thousands of years have been developing to govern the actions of men and regulate individual and national relationships. The world, that is the same and law ruling men and women of the world, can get along without the protection of national armies. Armed forces should be tolerated only for police duty.

For some centuries to come it may be necessary to protect international commerce against the depredations of pirates although it is doubtful if there is a single armed pirate ship afloat today. That work requires no battleships, submarines, poison gas or armored cruisers. The existence of a single armed ship of more than 1000 tons burden with guns of greater than three inch caliber is an insult to the intelligence of the people of this age. The only navy necessary is for the prevention of smuggling, for protection against thieves and for remote possibility of suppressing piracy. The Revenue Cutter Service maintained by the United States Treasury Department is strong enough to deal with every emergency for which our great navy is maintained.

The United States, as a nation needs no army. The peace can be preserved and life and property can be protected by a few score rangers or constabulary under the direction of each of the states.

All a pack of foolishness say the army and navy boosters—the militarists. Perhaps so but neither this nor any other country can secure peace by teaching war.

Morals Are in a Sad State

Trouthout this entire land if Mrs. Van Winkle, the head policewoman of Washington, is to be taken seriously, not only is the present situation discouraging but we are growing worse instead of better. This saddened feeling is thoroughly shared by the hardened and the outlook for the future. Mrs. Van Winkle places most of the blame on her own sex. She declares that the men are being chased by the pursuers but are being chased in vain and are being pursued by great hordes of pursuing females. She is extremely harsh in her criticisms of her own sex. She may be right about it but after all a man pursued always gets a chance to get away if he really cares to escape. Most of the victims of the wicked and designing females so vigorously denounced by Mrs. Van Winkle know right from wrong, and if they so desire can outrun any and all temptation. The men who are good sports must reject the alibi presented to them in Mrs. Van Winkles charge.

In one matter Mrs. Van Winkle has

diminished.

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

sound sense and truth on her side. She believes that the decadence in morals is due entirely to the relaxation of discipline in the home. She advises mothers who are troubled with gad about girls try a little actual, corporal punishment on their wandering female willies.

Using the gad on gad-about might be a good thing.

Doctors Are Getting so Scarce

That it pays to take almost any sort of chance to get the privilege of ministering to the ailing. Time was when any intelligent young fellow with a common school education could qualify for the practice of medicine by taking a couple of five months' lecture courses in two different years. All very different now.

The boy who wants to heal the sick must go through high school, college and medical school taking a full four year course in each institution. Starting in at fourteen he can become a doctor of medicine at twenty-six if he has no bad luck and does not care for two years practice as an interne in a hospital before actually beginning the work of his profession.

Doctoring the sick has become the most tightly closed shop in the whole lot of organized trades and professions. None but the rich or those who feel an unquenchable impulse to minister to their fellow men in sickness and the privilege of opening an office for the practice of the healing art. Result is that the country is short of doctors.

There are scores of places right here in Kansas where the people are without a physician unless they send twenty or thirty miles away and pay from ten to thirty dollars a visit. About the only sort of relief in sight is for the legislature to authorize the creation of Benefit Medical Districts with authority to vote taxes to pay a doctor to act in the capacity of official physician for the whole neighborhood.

Doctoring Has Become So Profitable And doctors so scarce that it is not strange that bogus diploma mills set up for the purpose of supplying the credentials required for the practice of medicine without imposing any unnecessary reading of books or dissection of cadavers—are quite numerous, busy and prosperous. A Kansas City newspaper is making a specialty of exposing doctors practicing with forged or counterfeited papers and has run several such gentlemen out of business.

The latest victim of the altruistic zeal of the Kansas City conservators of public health and morals is a young and handsome cream tester who had obtained a diploma to practice medicine by investing a little spare change and a few, a very few spare moments in reading. After "graduation" this youth was employed by the state of Kansas as a physician at one of the public hospitals for the insane.

Suspicion being aroused the young "doctor" confessed that he had never gone to high school or college and that he had attended medical school only one year. He "resigned" and departed.

Unless you are a graduate and have all the wisdom and skill that come with experience it would be well to call in a veterinary when members of the family are off their feed. The state is mighty careful about licensing men to practice on farm and domestic animals.

Ford Is Still Famous

And rich even though he has betrayed the cause of progress and declared in favor of reaction and privilege. That is we gather from comments on his recent declaration for Coolidge and safe government that he is that sort of a man and has done such things. Hiram Johnson whose own fidelity to the progressivism has been challenged a good many times here lately leads all the rest in telling the world just how little he thinks of the Detroit timer who has finally decided that he is a reactionary republican and does not want to be president as long as the country is able to secure the services of a man as safe as the present tenant of the White House.

Johnson really goes to quite unreasonable lengths in his denunciation of Ford and virtually charges that Muscle Shoals is the nigger in the woodpile. Howling Hiram came mighty close to charging that Ford has made a deal with Coolidge and that in return for being a republican and a supporter of safe government by Coolidge and safe government that he is that sort of a man and has done such things. Hiram Johnson whose own fidelity to the progressivism has been challenged a good many times here lately leads all the rest in telling the world just how little he thinks of the Detroit timer who has finally decided that he is a reactionary republican and does not want to be president as long as the country is able to secure the services of a man as safe as the present tenant of the White House.

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Traffic Regulations for Automobiles

Do not as yet assure the safety of the walking public. When a mortal on foot undertakes to cross a street where it intersects with another highway he must look four different ways at the same time unless he is in a hurry to become an immortal. It is comparatively easy to dodge the cars that are coming straight along the street that he is crossing but at the same time he must look backwards for the fellow that is turning the corner from the cross street and a way down to the right and over the other side for the car that is turning from the cross street into the one along which he is walking.

All this is too much to ask of the ordinary plain citizen on foot even for the purpose of saving his life and so many look to the right and left and forget all about searching straight along the street and so are killed. It is a question of time until pedestrians will be allowed to cross streets only in the middle of the block where safety can be assured without the use of four pairs of eyes.

Contests To Increase Circulation

Of country newspapers with prizes ranging all the way from a pure bred pullet to a Ford car are not unusual but are never very profitable to the concerns that carry them on. That a city newspaper should borrow this peculiarly small town idea and undertake to build its circulation by giving away automobiles indicates one of two things—the paper is on its last legs financially or it is being managed by one who has much to learn about their business.

If such a paper fails to secure the needed circulation it is left with a fine hang over in the way of bills for the automobiles and wages for the contest managers. If it gets a lot of new subscriptions, many of them paid for ten or forty years, in advance it must pay a great part of the cash income for the prizes and the contest expenses and then hire two or three expert advertising men to sell space enough to pay for the extra white paper that must be bought during the period that the contest subscriptions run.

The wise newspaper man, either in city or country, knows that a subscription contest is an expensive game whether it loses or wins.

Wheat

Coming from Canada markets and into American markets and mills threatens the ruin of our farmers. The import duty on bread grains must be raised and the provisions for milling in bond and for a drawback on export flour made from imported wheat must be repealed.

Senators and congressmen interested in this matter figure that it will be no trouble to get the increased duty but that there will be a hard fight over the repeal of the drawback and milling in bond provisions. Naturally, the average congressman does not give the farmer credit for as much sense as God gives to geese as Washington believes that wheat-growers can be bamboozled into political quiescence by a tariff in name only that is entirely nullified by other provisions written into the same law for the benefit of the millers.

After all it is not at all strange that the politicians who at Washington should regard the farmers as a pack of fools—the farmers elected those politicians to congress.

Taxation Is Under Consideration

In congress. Not methods of raising more taxes nor in the least analysis of providing for such reduction in the total volume of federal income are being considered. The real purpose appears to be the redistribution or adjustment of the tax burden in such a way that it will not interfere with what Secretary Mellon and other gentlemen of his type and school call business.

The tax adjusters have no thought of farming or any other individual enterprise when they speak of business. What they are thinking of is the United States Steel Corporation, the railroads, the great manufacturers and all those highly organized and greatly capitalized undertakings that make profits mounting into millions one of which they care to divide with Uncle Sam or any of the ordinary run of the nephews and nieces of that benign old gentleman.

The argument for the proposed tax readjustments is that the existing rates prevent large numbers of otherwise sensible citizens from investing their spare change in any new enterprises, preferring rather to tie it up in low interest bearing but tax free securities of which there is a supply that never seems to grow less.

LOCAL NO. 1679 ELECTS OFFICERS.

Union Valley Local No. 1679 met in regular session December 27. All old officers being re-elected. Moved that Vernie Maur be our delegate and Louis Nilson alternate to State Meeting.

Moved that beginning January 8th, 1924 be our regular meeting night and every two weeks thereafter. So don't forget Tuesday, January 8th is regular meeting night. Be sure and attend the next meeting as there will be initiations and some important unfinished business to attend to and be sure and bring your 1924 dues. Ira Wagner, Sec. Owen Hunsberger, Pres.

Superiority of sweet clover pasture over native pasture was demonstrated on thousands of Kansas farms last season.

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.

To Local Secretaries And The Membership In General

We have the State Constitution for 1922, containing the Amendments as adopted, ready for distribution at 5c per copy.

C. E. Brasted, Secretary.

The regular meeting of the Crawford County Farmers' Union will be held on the last Tuesday of each month throughout the year except when this date falls on a Legal Holiday.

A. C. Brown, Co. Pres.

CRAWFORD COUNTY MEETINGS AT GIRARD KANSAS

Girard Local No. 494 of the Farmers Union meets in Union Hall the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

L. M. Roof, Pres.

Poy W. Holland, Sec.

UNION LOCAL NO. 2019

Blaine O'Connor, Sec.

Regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month, at 7:30 p. m.

J. R. Horton, Pres.

ORDER PRESIDENT BARRETT'S BOOK

We now have a supply of the book "Uncle Reuben's Activities in Washington," on hand and can fill orders direct from this office.

Make remittance of \$2.00 to C. E. Brasted, Salina.

C. E. Brasted, Secretary.

UNION LOCAL NO. 273.

Regular meetings on second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Charles Crossard, Sec.

ALL ABOARD FOR THE STATE MEETING.

Many are looking forward to the week of January 14 (which will soon be here) as a period that may and will mean much to Kansas.

Programs and activities are to be started that will affect every citizen whether they are members of the Union or not. Knowing this to be true it isn't surprising that an unusually large number of visitors and delegates, men and women, expect to attend that they may share in such an epoch making occasion.

I was in Emporia yesterday checking things up with Conductor John Schoel and the Chamber of Commerce to their various committees. Found everything in readiness. Committees on transportation, program and entertainment, decorations, etc., are to cover every need have been appointed and are in action.

We want to urge, as strongly as possible, that every lady member attend who can arrange to do so.

Remember that autos bearing banners will meet all trains at depot and convey free of charge the visitors and delegates to any part of city and will be in service the entire time of the convention.

The Federated clubs have arranged for a special program and good time for the visiting sisters, they're planning this for.

The afternoon of the 17th unless that date interferes with the Union plans; then of course the big thing will be the organizing of the Women's Auxiliary and surely every loyal Union member will be proud to help launch so important a movement.

Let's be the big thing, that no doubt will be the touching of elbows, the exchange of ideas, and forming of happy friendships to be treasured all through life.

Now a word personal to all. I attended the first time in February 1915 and have not missed a state meeting since, part of the time as a delegate and occasionally a visitor, have paid my own expenses two-thirds of the time and every time it has been well worth while.

Have attended one National and several special state meetings and can truly say that anyone who delights in associating with folks with the highest ideals, folks with hearts full of love for all humanity and are sacrificing and toiling to bring His kingdom in, I say if you like to be with that type of folks, you can meet them by the hundreds at a state Farmers Union meeting and Emporia will be full of them.

In looking over the lists of names we wrote down at those meetings of 15, 16, 17, we find with sadness that many have passed on and a few have not attended for several years. Among those early friends are found: Gil Carle, J. J. Griebel, Mrs. Odell, Mike Hickey, W. E. Irvine, J. P. Coleman, N. A. Bessing, H. C. Zeck, R. H. Badger, Geo. Peet, H. D. Collins, J. L. Chaney, Geo. Lindstadt, N. S. Kershner, Ed Ridgely, A. O. Delaney and many others.

It would be fine to meet all these old timers again. Everybody altogether at Emporia, Jan. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Chas. Day, Allen.

BAYARD LOCAL DOING BUSINESS.

Bayard Local is still on the map, shipping Hogs and Cattle and trying to supply the needs of each other. The secretaries have had an unusual run of misfortune. The outgoing secretary T. B. Elley having lost his wife with pneumonia, and the incoming secretary, J. A. Knapp was riding along where a road was slightly sloping and slick with ice when suddenly all four of the horses feet slipped and his body fell on the riders' feet forcing the toes backward and breaking the instep.

Mr. Knapp will be

quite a while if not permanently. He has arranged to go back to his jewelry, Watch and Optical work which he followed for many years in Kansas City before becoming a farmer and says he is going to give the farmers farm prices for his work.

Frank Dozier, pres.

LINN COUNTY MEETING

JANUARY 26.

The Linn Co. Farmers Union will hold their first meeting of the year, in the community room of the M. P. church at Centerville on Saturday, January 26, 1924.

A good program is being arranged. Come out and discuss farmer problems with us.

L. H. Fish, Sec.

OUR FARMERS UNION.

First we represent nothing that isn't just and right.

Second our members are all farmers you know.

And our object is to protect the price for the things we grow.

By joining ourselves in a Union band,

And to help each other the best we can.

For unions are stronger you see! Than just single men would be.

So we have pledged ourselves, by heart and hand,

And by each other we have agreed to stand.

Farmers are going bankrupt, today Because the present prices for farming won't pay.

And for our unions we've got to boost until the prices will justify the farmers to produce.

But we are going to step out and take a stand.

And pool our wheat, all over this land.

And we'll have fair prices, the world you can tell.

Before our wheat on the market we'll sell.

But, it's not only our wheat we've got at stake,

Low prices for everything else, we are forced to take.

This cry of over-production we've heard quite enough,

Don't we know what it's cost to grow our stuff.

Our farmers are wearing faces, of gloom,

When they should be whistling merry tunes.

But we've got to learn to defend ourselves.

And we'll put them middlemen on the shelves.

That's what the farmers' unions are doing today,

Is to try to make farming pay.

The farmers are not all that have dispair.

There's the merchant, and the banker come in for their share.

For on them we've got to depend,

And if we can't pay on time they have to extend.

Yes the farmers are honest we hear them tell,

But their trouble they can't get prices for wheat they sell.

Out of this rut we have got to come, For there's a living in the world for everyone.

And the farmers will win! they're in the right.

When they learn to pull together with all their might.

But we mustn't let this toil and strife, Take all the sunshine from our life.

God created man equal and free, And he might as well in bondage be if the beauties of life he couldn't see.

What if our possessions of life are few,

There's a home in heaven for me, and you.

God has promised it and we know it's true,

And when you balance your books, at night,

Be sure your accounts with God are right.

For when your debt to him comes due Don't ask your note renewed.

But be ever ready with cash in hand, Before your God to stand.

LINCOLN LOCAL.

No. 688 F. E. C. U. of A. regular meeting at Lincoln school house had a large attendance.

O. P. Miller's team won the membership drive. The present officers were all retained for the next term.

John C. Schlutow was elected delegate and B. A. Kackley alternate to state meeting.

New members were Fred Allen, Martin Johnson, Henry Gritten, Joe Erkenbrack, W. W. Tedrow, Frank Nystrom, J. O. Simmons, T. S. Russell, F. B. Shellhase, Louis Haney, E. W. Kauer, Leon Walker, H. K. Weir Fred Grandstedt and wives, A. W. Othberg and Ernest Frankamp.

Secretary was instructed to ask Commissioner C. G. Aspergren to meet with the Local at next regular meeting and give information on county affairs.

After close of Local about 150 enjoyed lunch, hot coffee and a social time.

This Local now has the largest paid up membership it has ever had at this time of the year; Commissioner Aspergren accepted invitation to meet with Lincoln Local at regular meeting Friday evening, January 18, 1924.

WICHITA LIVE STOCK FIRM REPORTS LIVELY BUSINESS

The first ten days of 1924 are convincing evidence that the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission is established as a leading firm on the Wichita market.

In spite of the extreme cold weather now prevalent over the entire Southwest our cattle sales have been very good.

A load of short-fed steers sold for Mr. Herman Janzen, of Elbing, Kansas brought \$7.75.

During this ten days we have handled over forty loads of cattle and eleven loads of hogs.

Seventy-three hogs belonging to Mr. F. W. Webb of Cedarvale brought Kansas City packer top today.

Every day

business, and trucked in hogs are bringing car-lot top prices in most cases and some instances are bringing five and ten cents higher.

We take special pride in this feature of the market as few hogs brought over twenty-five cents below car lot before the Farmers Union began operations on this market.

In an organization like ours it is the individual effort of every member that spells success. It is the responsibility of this effort that inspires and invigorates. It is this responsibility that leads each of us to the better execution of our duties as a member of this Union.

Without this spirit of responsibility the organization may exist and hold together, but it will not be prosperous, it will not thrive and it will not advance.

Cooperation and education are each qualities that make for a successful institution. The Farmers Union is founded on these principles because we have come to know that educational co-operation is of individual benefit, as well as the means of building a strong organization of its members.

Wichita is the opportunity for Kansas and Oklahoma members to market their stock through their firm with less expense. This office is for their convenience and we look forward to their co-operation.

We are always glad to have inquiries from these members and their friends and prompt replies as to market quotations are just a part of our service to them.

Friends and prompt replies as to market quotations are just a part of our service to them.

Under the Contract plan of co-operative marketing it is impossible for middlemen to make so-called rakes-offs.

BIG LEADERS PLAN TRIP TO OKLAHOMA

ENID, Okla., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—Five great men who are nationally known to be leaders in the cooperative marketing movement and agricultural affairs in the United States will talk in Oklahoma late in January in the interest of the Oklahoma Wheat Growers' association, according to John Manley, secretary, who recently held a conference with Herman Steen, chairman of the national wheat growers' advisory committee.

The men who are booked for two talks each in Oklahoma are: Frank O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois, and chairman of the national committee; Aaron Sapiro, nationally known cooperative marketing expert; Carl Williams, president of the American Cotton Growers Exchange; Judge Robert Bingham, leader of the famous tobacco cooperatives of the south; and W. C. Lansdon of Kansas, prominent in agricultural work.

The ten towns in the state in which the men will be announced as soon as definite word is received from the national committee at Chicago.

TIPS FOR TAXPAYERS

No. 2.

Every single person whose net income for the year 1923 was \$1,000 or more or whose gross income was \$5,000 or more, and every married couple (living together) whose net income was \$2,000 or more or whose gross income was \$5,000 or more, must file an income-tax return.

Broadly speaking, gross income is all income received by the taxpayer during the year from salary or wages, business, trade, profession or vocation, dividends in property, interest, rent or dividends, or from the transaction of any business carried on for profit. Net income is gross income, less certain specified deductions for business expenses, bad debts, taxes, etc.

The exemptions are \$1,000 for single persons, \$2,500 for married couples (living together) whose net income for 1923 was \$5,000 or less, and \$2,000 for married couples whose net income was in excess of \$5,000. An additional credit of \$400 is allowed for each person (other than husband or wife) dependent upon the taxpayer for chief support if such person is under 18 years of age or incapable of self-support because physically or mentally defective.

The normal tax is 4 per cent on the first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the exemptions and credits and 8 per cent on the remaining net income.

"CO-OP" MARKETING LAWS WILL STAND

Efforts to Shake Their Constitutionality Will Fail, Professor Says

Efforts to prove that laws permitting cooperative marketing by associations of producers are unconstitutional will be unavailing to defeat these laws in the opinion of Prof. H. W. Ballantyne of the University of Minnesota law school.

Reason why the cooperative marketing laws are good and almost certainly will prevail are set forth by him in the current issue of the Minnesota Law Review, official organ of the Minnesota Bar Association.

"To allow a large number of small individual producers, such as farmers, special devices in the way of selling is merely to recognize economic differences between agriculture and other lines of industry," he points out. "Experience has shown that farmers are unable to control or limit production. Besides, the Capper-Volstead act places a definite check

on combinations when it provides that they shall not 'unduly enhance the price of farm products.' "

An important service which the article renders is to dispel the illusion that the various federal and state acts giving special authorization for cooperative organizations are in the nature of vicious class legislation.

Professor Ballantyne believes it can not be proved that these acts permit harmful combinations in restraint of trade.

The article declares that the exclusive marketing contracts that are coming into common use in Minnesota and other states are likely to be upheld as not being an undue restraint of trade in spite of the fact that earlier court decisions in Iowa and Colorado pointed in the contrary direction. The right to use injunctions to prevent threatened breach of such contracts by sales to outsiders and the remedy of specific performance have also been recognized in a number of cases.

One of the interesting discussions in the article treats of whether or not an exclusive crop contract of the purchase and sale type really does transfer title to the grower's product to the association.

G. C. Henderson in a recent article in the Columbia Law Review has argued that it does not, that in reality the organization is merely holding it in trust for the growers, and that the transfer of title is merely a form of agency to aid the organization in making sales. The Minnesota Professor disagrees with this theory, saying that the proceeds of the sale of the crops actually are corporation assets, which the organization can use in building up reserves, paying off debts, or any other reasonable purpose provided by the by-laws.

FARM HOMES FOR CHILDREN.

As a state we are paroling quite a number of boys and girls, and placing out orphan children from the Home. Farm homes are very desirable. Many of these children are in the institutions because they have no homes. The plan of personal parole supervision, under the Governor's direction and fostering would place these who are fit to put out in personal homes, have them where they could go to the public school if of school age, or if not could work at some occupation, have some play time, and develop into self-respecting and self-supporting men and women.

To make human assets instead of liabilities, tax-payers instead of burdens, is worth while. Under this plan no "repeater" has been taken back in the last six months. Incidentally the saving in money is not light, for about every "repeater" stays in for 2½ years upon his return. He has to earn 200 credits. That costs \$400 per year for each. New York State found that it costs just 15 times as much to keep one in an institution as to keep the same one outside constantly supervised.

We need more homes, and have some very good quality boys to parole out, who have no homes. Two good dairy boys, knowing about handling cows, other farm boys, tailors, shoemakers, etc. Some little chaps are also in this homeless list. Anybody knowing where one could be placed would confer a great favor to

the boy or girl, and do service to the state. Write or see Alfred Docking, Topeka, Kansas, and your inquiry will be answered or directed for reply to the proper officer. Two very good orphan girls, 12 and 14 await good homes.

ALFRED DOCKING, Topeka, Kansas.

FARMERS MUST ORGANIZE

In discussing the farmers' ills recently, no less a personage than the President of the United States said that farmers must organize if they would succeed in securing their just deserts.

The President of perhaps the second largest bank in this country says that the real trouble with the farmers is that they will not get together and stand together. Note he says STAND.

The former President and Chairman of the Board of one of the largest railroad systems of the Nation says that the farmer gets about 35c of the consumer's dollar because of lack of organization.

The country's foremost lawyer

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whose specialty is co-operative laws, frankly says that he sees no hope for agriculture until the farmers are organized as are all other businesses.

No farmer, endowed with simply his native wit, but who knows and appreciates the exact truth of the foregoing paragraphs. What then is the reason farmers do not organize?

We prefer for the farmers themselves to answer the question. Assuredly, they have the answer. We mention the matter at this time for now is the time to join and pay dues for the year.

It is a sad fact that farmers' organizations are languishing in the country—all of them. Farmers, check this tendency now. Organize and this tendency is a stay organized. Organization is a synonym of success.—Southern Planter.

With warm comfortable sleeping quarters it won't take as much fuel to carry the fall pigs through the winter.

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