



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER



Co-operation

Education

Organization

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Nat'l President Writes Message Travel and Leg.

Compares Farming in Kansas to
That in Other States—
North to Michigan

I will first report on some of the meetings that I have attended during July.

On July 1 I talked to a class of Country school teachers at the Kansas Wesleyan University, in Salina, Kansas. Rex Troutman, secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union, and I were asked by Professor Don Calhoun to visit the class which is a part of the summer school at the University. Mr. Calhoun wanted me to tell the teachers something about the history of farm organizations in general, and of the Farmers Union in particular. It was a very pleasant and profitable hour that we spent with the school marm, and I believe that when next winter, they take their work in our Kansas country schools, they will be able and willing to do their bit towards spreading the Farmers Union gospel among their pupils and the parents.

Tells of Out-State Crops

July 21—I took an afternoon train for Hermansville, Michigan, where I was to address a Farmers picnic on July 23rd. I stayed all night with my son Al in Kansas City, and then took the Rock Island Rocket, a fast streamlined daylight train for St. Paul, Minnesota. Starting north from Kansas City through northern Missouri and across Iowa, the continuous procession of waving green corn fields became almost monotonous. I could not help but compare it with the withered and drought damaged fields which I had seen along the way from Salina to Kansas City. Iowa farmers can truly sing this year, their state song, "The Land Where the TALL Corn Grows." The crops in southern Minnesota from the Iowa river to St. Paul did not look quite so good as did the Iowa crops but still the oats, wheat and other grains that were just being cut, did look as if they would make a fair crop. I did not get to see the crops going east from St. Paul to Hermansville, Michigan, because that part of the trip was made during the night.

I arrived in Hermansville a little after six in the morning. A short time after I arrived at the station, Brother Omar Haelterman drove up with his Rolls Royce, and took me to his farm for breakfast. After breakfast I looked over the farm with Mr. Haelterman and his two sons and nephew, who help Brother Haelterman solve the farm labor problem. About ten o'clock we drove to the park at Waukegan, just a few miles from Brother Haelterman's farm, where the picnic was to be held.

This being my first visit to the North Peninsula of Michigan, I found much of interest to me, and much that was new. This part of Michigan was up to a comparatively recent time just one large lumber camp, with most of the people depending on the lumber industry for a living. Because of the reckless method of deforestation, practiced here as in other forest regions of our country, gradually the apparently inexhaustible supply of native timber was cut down to such an extent that now in most sections, the lumber industry furnishes employment for only three or four months a year, and that to an ever decreasing number of people.

The iron mines that used to furnish employment to thousands of men furnish little or no employment, because the deep shaft mines of this part of Michigan cannot compete with the machine mining in the pit mines of Minnesota.

New to Farming

This demoralizing employment gradually forced the people to try to supplement their slim earnings by farming. Farming here is not such a simple matter as it is in some parts of Kansas. The land must first be cleared of the old tree stumps and second growth slash and brush, besides many large glacial boulders. A man who has cleared thirty or forty acres has something to brag about. Because of the small acreage cleared and the long winters, many of the farmers find it necessary to supplement their earnings from the farm and in the forests with WPA labor.

This is the first community found where a large percentage of the farmers were much affected by the recent change in method of WPA employment. The average employment is 130 hours per month with no increase in monthly income. Either the farmers in northern Michigan will have to give up their WPA jobs, or their farms, and alone, neither the farmer nor the WPA job will take care of the needs of these good hardworking farm families. Something will have to be done to remedy this situation in Michigan and wherever else it may exist. The Northern peninsula of Michigan is a beautiful country, with rolling hills of glacial origin, and groves and small forests of both evergreen and deciduous trees interspersed with silvery lakes, but I fear that hunger, want and fear of dispossession can be just as heart-breaking when surrounded by beautiful scenery, as they are to the farmers on the broad windswept plains of my native Kansas.

Michigan has a fine sturdy bunch of farm folks. Wherever they have had an opportunity to hear the true Farmers Union gospel of self-help and cooperation, they are fast building up their organization and through it their power to help themselves. At the picnic were many from as far as 50 to 75 miles away. Some from a locality about 75 miles north, where there is no Farmers Union were trying to get the Farmers Union officers of the Waukegan and Hermansville and neighboring locals to come into their country and help them organize the farmers into their Farmers Union.

Discusses National Legislation

There is not much to write about legislation this time. Congress is at present arguing over the President's Lending Bill. At this writing the Senate has passed it by a vote of 74 to 16. The original amount of \$2,800,000,000 to \$1,640,000,000. The House has not yet voted so fast with the shears but it also has cut off enough to reduce

Farmers Union Junior Camp Registration

Name	Age	Town	F. U. Local	No.
Lawrence Griebel	18	Stockton	Mt. Vernon	Local No. 489
Wm. Bond	16	St. Marys	Sandy Hook	Local No. 1867
Lillian De Doffer	17	St. Marys	Sandy Hook	Local No. 1867
Doris Schwerdtfeger	17	Ellsworth	Walnut Grove	Local No. 973
Billie Nienke	19	Ellsworth	Walnut Grove	Local No. 973
Roberta Webb	15	Quinter	Quinter	Local No. 973
Doris Phelps	22	Quinter	Quinter	Local No. 1095
Cecil Higgins	16	Quinter	Quinter	Local No. 1095
Velva Higgins	16	Quinter	Quinter	Local No. 1095
Marie Starkey	23	Quinter	Quinter	Local No. 1095
Venita Inloes	24	Quinter	Quinter	Local No. 1095
Stella Grieshaber	24	St. Marys	Pleasant View	Local No. 1943
Ruth Swanson	24	McPherson R. No. 4	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Ida Mae Olson	24	McPherson R. No. 4	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Mrs. Charley Olson	24	McPherson R. No. 4	Redman	Local No. 749
Zora Zimmerman	19	Belle Plaine	Redman	Local No. 1624
Maxine Zimmerman	20	St. Marys	Turkey Creek	Local No. 1624
Oliver Ames	14	Home	Midway	Local No. 857
Glady's Keller	17	Home	Midway	Local No. 857
Myra Keller	17	Marquette	No. 8	Local No. 671
Ruth Carlson	17	Marquette	No. 8	Local No. 671
Margaret Carlson	17	Marquette	No. 8	Local No. 671
Mary Margaret	16	Marquette	No. 8	Local No. 671
Robert Larson	14	Marquette	No. 8	Local No. 671
Junior Larson	14	Marquette	No. 8	Local No. 671
Cecil Swisher	16	Marquette	Obendorf	Local No. 671
Mrs. F. B. Root	14	Seneca, Ks.	Obendorf	Local No. 1275
Marjorie Kern	14	Seneca, Ks.	Obendorf	Local No. 1275
Charles Peterson	20	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Betty Peterson	18	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Joan Schafer	18	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Keith Peterson	17	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Billy Rhodes	16	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Grace Peterson	16	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Bernard Schafer	18	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Inez Swanson	16	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Clara Olson	18	McPherson	Johnstown	Local No. 749
Victor Larson	20	McPherson	Ellsworth	Local No. 749
Kenneth Stroede	14	Ellsworth	Ellsworth	Local No. 2099
Faye Hysell	14	Ellsworth	Templin	Local No. 2099
Henry Hysell	14	Ellsworth	Templin	Local No. 2099
Irma Kietzman	18	Alta Vista	Headquarters	Local No. 1891
Bobbie Dulaney	15	Salina, Ks.	Girard	Local No. 2133
Oliver Hanshaw	16	Pittsburg	Girard	Local No. 494
Hubby Kwon	16	Girard, R. No. 1	Girard	Local No. 494
Wallace O'Farrell	22	Girard, R. No. 4	Girard	Local No. 494
Elsie Clausen	24	Girard, R. No. 1	Liberty	Local No. 494
Thelma Hanshaw	19	Zenith	Liberty	Local No. 1988
Jean Henry	16	Stafford	Liberty	Local No. 1988
Marie Riley	19	Stafford	Liberty	Local No. 1988
F. M. Riggs	19	Stafford	Liberty	Local No. 1988
Donald Minnis	22	Stafford	Kellogg	Local No. 1890
Leah Schmidt	17	Winfield, R. No. 4	Kellogg	Local No. 1890
Millard Kittleson	18	Winfield, R. No. 4	Kellogg	Local No. 1890
Leonard Groene	18	Winfield, R. No. 4	Kellogg	Local No. 1890
Mrs. Merle Tribbey	22	Winfield, R. No. 4	Kaw Valley	Local No. 1890
Marie Haase	18	Maple Hill	Scandia	Local No. 1935
William Clark	16	McPherson	Scandia	Local No. 1152
Max Brown	14	Dwight (Alta Vista)	Mors Springs	Local No. 862
Emory Train	21	Lindsborg	Smoky Hill	Local No. 1081
Kenneth Franz	18	Lindsborg	North Side	Local No. 1081
Carroll Rosander	18	Lindsborg	North Side	Local No. 1081
Gilbert Bengtson	19	Lindsborg	North Side	Local No. 1081
Kenneth Franz	20	Lindsborg	North Side	Local No. 1081
Mark Warren	16	Walnut	McCune	Local No. 1739
Eugene King	16	McCune	McCune	Local No. 1739
Vincent Oman	19	Waukegan	Waukegan	Local No. 929
Helen Sack	17	Seneca	Rock	Local No. 929
Albert Rilling	20	Seneca	Rock	Local No. 929
Leona Reist	17	Seneca	Rock	Local No. 929
Eleanor Clark	15	McPherson	Scandia	Local No. 1935

the amount still in the bill to about \$1,960,000,000. While there are many items in the bill that would be very helpful to the country and to the farmers, still I have not thought it wise for the National Farmers Union to go in and fight for the bill at the present time.

I do not want Congress and the Administration to think that we farmers believe that all our ills can be cured by loans. I do not believe that we can either borrow or tax our selves into permanent prosperity. Lending us money is good so far as it helps the interest burdens, and helps tide our farmers over until Congress takes our condition seriously and puts through a real permanent farm rehabilitation and security program, such as the National Farmers Union is presently pushing forward. We need immediately plenty of funds and a true understanding of the situation of the Farmers Union in all districts for the Farmers Union Administration, so that the lower one-third of the farm population may be really rehabilitated.

Then we need not lend but the refinancing and adjusting of the present indebtedness of our farmers on a basis in line with the farmers ability to pay, and then legislation along the lines of the bills now introduced in Congress at the request of the Farmers Union which will assure our farmers party income.

I am convinced that we farmers should not permit ourselves to believe that we can attain permanent security through legislation alone. If security is to become permanently even fairly prosperous and still be permitted to live and operate as free American citizens, we must build our economic strength by building our own cooperatives. As voters, even if we are united, which we are not, we always will represent only about one-fourth of our population, too small a percentage to hold permanently any favorable income in increasing legislation we may get passed.

As producers we control at first hand practically all the food and fiber consumed in this country, while as consumers we are also, because of our dual condition as producers and consumers, very powerful. If we begin to realize our power of patronage and our power as producers of wealth, if we unify and amplify that power through the organization and support of cooperatives, then we will have built the foundation for permanent farm prosperity, and shall have made a great contribution to our national political liberty and economic security.

To Bison Celebration

Friday, July 28, I spoke to a large gathering of my old neighbors and friends in Bison, Kansas. Bison is only four miles north of my farm so while I was there I took time to visit my renter and look over the crops with him. It was so dry in that part of Kansas that all crops were a failure, except those on irrigated land. During the last eight years, many farmers who live along the larger creeks and the rivers in West-

tern Kansas have resorted to irrigation in order to assure themselves at least some feed for their live stock. My renter is so irrigating about 15 acres of 20 acres. The part irrigated looks fine, but the rest has small chance to make a crop. I was not invited to speak at the Bison community celebration as President of the Farmers Union. I was invited as a pioneer citizen of Rush county and the community. Nevertheless I did get over to my fine audience of farm and city folks, the necessity of revamping our system of economics, and how the Farmers Union proposes to help the farmers to get their fair share of the national income and to lighten the load of debt that now oppresses them.

The coming week I will teach cooperation in the Kansas Junior camp, in addition to my regular office work. The week of August 13 I expect to make some meetings in Nebraska and take part in the regular quarterly meeting of the National Board.

In reading the state Union papers I am very encouraged to note the renewed activity in all the Union states. On every hand there are either membership drives in progress or being planned for the fall months. The members are there on the farms. There are hundreds of thousands of our American farmers that are ready to join with their fellow farmers in the Farmers Union, all they are waiting for is a personal invitation.

Do not be discouraged because members do not voluntarily come in to the Union. It is nearly two thousand years since the dawn of the Christian era. Practically all civilized nations claim to be Christian nations, and still thousands, yea millions, although they believe in Christianity, are not affiliated with any of the present day religions. Let us each for himself, and all for us collectively, resolve that we will ask at least one farmer each month to join the Farmers Union. The Union is ours, and therefore it is the job of each of us to do our best to bring in as many good farmer members as we can. Let us get the job done. Yes, let's see, it's our job, let's get it now and do it.

Receives Wrist Watch

When Miss Pauline Cowger was in Kansas City recently attending the National Convention of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, she was the recipient of a gold wrist watch. The gift was an expression of sincere appreciation on the part of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Farmers Union Livestock Commission Co., and the Farmers Union Auditing Association for her loyal service to the Kansas Farmers Union for many years.

Miss Cowger is president of the Kansas Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and played an important part in making the recent National Convention so successful.

The President's Message

By J. P. Fengel
State President

It seems to me as though our farmers should have seen the first hand information as to the present status of our Reciprocal Trade agreements and since we hear so much about our retaining our export markets, I had assembled a lot of data in this connection for publication at this time.

After this information had been assembled and most of it redrafted, I find the information practically verbatim from Dr. M. F. Dickinson's "Arkansas Union Farmer," under the date line of July 15.

While you are reading and comparing the situation as you find it here, let us ask the question as to why do we have these reciprocal treaties anyway? In what way does an export market benefit the American farmer? Why do we reduce the production of wheat-cotton and corn and import these same staple crops from other countries while we are producing to surplus? Does either of these treaties have the effect of raising the domestic prices for a single product of the farm? If not why not? Since we have lost our export market, because of the self-sufficiency of these "Have not nations" why not forget the export market and apply our own intelligent program that will solve the farmers' trouble in his home market, which after all is the best market in the world, with greater possibilities than any other world market, if our farmers received their share of National income—an American market and an American price.

Dr. Dickinson is President of the Arkansas Farmers Union and his very able article follows to whom I am so deeply indebted.

More Reciprocal Trade Agreements Seem to Mean More Agri. Imports

The More Reciprocal Agreements We Have the More the Farmers of America Suffer. Competing Agricultural Imports Increased During the First Three Months of This Year Over Last

That our readers may know what our Trade Agreements are doing to the farmers of America we are printing the following comparative figures on various agricultural imports for the first three months of this year and the same period last year. They all have increased except manufactured cotton. Practically all these imports come from the British Empire and are dated after the recent negotiations respecting trade agreements.

(continued on page 4)

Over 70 Juniors Attend F.U. Camp

Managers Will Visit Eureka Park Friday—Campers Have Big Week's Program

This is the week of the Farmers Union Junior and Leadership Camp, Eureka Park, four miles west of Manhattan. It is a big camp, with registration before Camp opening of over 70, considering its serious purpose and program. For pencils will be active, and notebooks will fill with study outlines of the classes running through the morning hours each day throughout the week.

John Vesceky, national president of the Farmers Union, will teach classes in Cooperatives, having as his assistant, Tom Hall, director of information and membership relations of Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Kansas City. Miss Frances Rosander, Lindsborg, '39 graduate of Bethany College, and a last year's Kansas Junior representative at the National Farmers Union convention at Madison, will teach "Social Studies." Miss Esth-er Ekblad, Leonardville, state junior leader of the Kansas Farmers Union, will have classes in "Leadership and Leadership Methods."

McPherson County Plans Big Picnic Thurs. August 10

Will Meet Promptly With Dinner
at Noon—Farmers Union
Juniors Active

The McPherson Farmers Union will have its County Picnic Thursday, August 10, at Weeping Willow Lake, or sometimes called Hermon Johnson's pond, five miles south, two west and one-fourth north of Lindsborg, or eight north, two west, and one-fourth north of McPherson.

The dinner menu for each family is meat, vegetable, dessert, bread, butter, cream and sugar. Coffee will be served free.

The time for serving is 12:00 noon SHARP! The admission to the grounds is ten cents a car.

A stand will be open in the afternoon where cigars, ice cream, gum, pop, and other items may be obtained. The Farmers Union Juniors of McPherson county will be in charge of this stand, reports Mrs. Charlie Olson, county Junior Leader.

RELEASE MINERAL TITLE

G. E. Creitz Issues Statement Relative to Graham County Case

A recent decision of the District Court of Graham county upheld Section 60-3454 of the Kansas Statutes, reports G. E. Creitz, secretary-manager of the Farmers Union Royalty Company, Salina. This Section provides that when interests of several tenants in common have been sold on execution, the undivided portion of any or either of them may be redeemed separately, says Mr. Creitz.

"This case was brought in connection with the foreclosure of the mortgage on some lands one-half of the minerals in which had been pooled in the Kansas Farmers Union Royalty Company," Mr. Creitz explains.

"In this instance the values of the various interests held by the several parties failing to reach an agreement as to the amount each should contribute to the amount necessary to pay the foreclosure, the amount required in excess of the value held by him, he is not compelled to redeem his separate interest, but may decline to exercise his right of redemption, which carries with it interest in the property, may be, cease."

Judge Skinner is Fair

"Judge Skinner was eminently fair in basing the contributions in this instance on present-day values," Mr. Creitz said, "and in fixing the portion of the judgment each should pay. Upon receiving his judgment, it then became the duty of the board of directors of the Kansas Farmers Union Royalty Company to decide whether or not its interest justified the expenditure of the amount required to redeem it."

Four separate sessions on cooperative grain marketing are listed on the Institute program, which comprises some 50 general meetings and group conferences in which more than 100 speakers and leaders will participate.

Opening the grain conferences on Monday, August 7, economic problems influencing grain cooperatives will be analyzed. From the consumption trends in soybeans, to the effect of changing transportation practices upon farmers' grainmarketing cooperatives, other topics of interest to grain men will be taken up in turn.

Industry cooperation in producing and marketing grain, a topic reflecting one of the major themes of the Institute this year—inter-group cooperation between industrial and agricultural groups—will include the discussion of trends in wheat consumption and means employed to increase it. This subject is listed for study on the Tuesday grain program, along with another topic of practical interest to growers: "Improving Our Grain Supply."

Side Line Businesses

Recognizing the importance of side-line activities to cooperative farming (continued on page 2)

EXTEND 1939 FILING

Returns for Capital Stock Tax Payable Before August 31

Capital Stock Tax returns for 1939 are due and tax is payable on or before July 31, 1939. However, W. H. Burke, collector, has announced that the time for filing these returns has been extended by Treasury decision 49114, approved July 14, to August 31 for corporations having a principal place of business within the continental United States and to September 29, 1939, for all other corporations. This tax applies generally to cooperative businesses.

Based upon available statistics, per capita consumption of butter in the United States is estimated at 7.45 pounds for the five months, January-May, 1939—an increase of 8.4 per cent over the same period last year. Retail butter prices, on the other hand, declined 14 per cent and wholesale prices 17 per cent during the 1939 period.

* Visitors will be welcome at the camp; but are cautioned that visitors will not be allowed to disrupt the camp program. Farmers Union people will enjoy to sit back and to listen and watch

Expect Much Visiting

The Farmers Union Managerial Association will meet at the camp Friday, August 4. It will be more of a visiting day, however, although a short assembly will be held early in the afternoon, according to P. J. Nash, Ellsworth, Managerial Association president. The directors of the Kansas Farmers Union will have a meeting through Thursday, August 3, at the camp.

A special program Wednesday evening, August 2, in honor of Farmers Union "Pioneers" is expected to attract quite a number of visitors. The dinner menu for each family is meat, vegetable, dessert, bread, butter, cream and sugar. Coffee will be served free.

H. E. Witham, manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, Kansas City, will be the speaker Friday evening. Thursday evening special speakers will be W. O. Cole, assistant secretary of the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company, Salina, and G. E. Creitz, secretary-manager of the Farmers Union Royalty Company, Salina. Representatives of Farmers Union Live Stock companies are scheduled to present on Saturday, from St. Joe, Kansas City, Wichita and Parsons.

Campers will visit "The Cavalry School" Fort Riley, Wednesday afternoon. A letter received at the state office from John J. Bohn, Lieutenant Colonel, 9th Cavalry, Executive, gives assurance of an interesting time. The Cavalry School is a military school style as follows:

Plan Tour of Fort Riley

"I wish to inform you that the Commandant, Brigadier General Robert C. Richardson, Jr., has been informed of the request made in your letter of July 25, and that your group will be most welcome to visit this Post on Wednesday afternoon, August 2nd, at about 3:30 o'clock."

"Captain Earl F. Thomas, Chief of the Department of Horsemanship, has been designated to supervise your visit and to provide necessary guides. Upon arrival, please go directly to the office of this department in the West Riding Hall, where you will find provisions made to conduct the party on a tour of the post."

An educational move, "The Plow That Broke the Plains," will be shown on Tuesday evening by Edward H. Mertz, State Supervisor of Workers' Education. This picture is expected to do much in giving background to the discussion in the Social Studies class during the week. Campers will enjoy swimming at the Kansas State College pools, and also enjoy tobs of the college, to Fort Riley as mentioned, and the old Kansas State Capitol.

Handicraft, drama, and sports, softball, deck tennis, darts and such will provide a wealth of amusement about the camp. Campers will learn simple singing games and folk dances which they may wish to introduce in their Junior classes when they return home.

Campers will stimulate the workings of democracy by participating in student government and by sharing work about the camp. Momentary of the camp games is expected to exceed that of last year because of the good number of last year's campers who are returning to the 1939 camp.

NEED STARCH FACTORIES

Lower Grade Potatoes Could Thus Have Good Market

Dean Leland Call, director of the experiment station at Kansas State, believes one of the first items in the program of industrial development which should be undertaken in Kansas is the establishment of one or two starch factories in the Kaw valley, reports the Kansas City Star.

The potatoes grown in the valley have run into disastrous marketing conditions in recent years. The grading and washing is producing Kaw valley potatoes which bring good prices, but this leaves a large amount of second and third grade potatoes and culls which cannot find a market.

A factory or two to use these culls in the making of starch is believed to be the easiest solution of the potato marketing difficulty in the Kaw valley.

National Cotton Week, held May 22-27, brought forth a promotional expenditure of all participants in excess of \$3,000,000, inspiring sales increases of cotton goods ranging up to 75 per cent, a recent report of the Cotton Textile Institute reveals. The Institute estimated that the total would show an average of 20 per cent cotton sales increase.

The 500,000-bushel terminal elevator in Dodge City is filled this summer for the first time since it was built nine years ago.

