



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-Operation



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ADDRESS OF MR. CLYDE REED AT ANNUAL PICNIC OF WABAUNSEE AND POTTAWATOMIE COUNTIES AT ST. MARYS, AUGUST 23

Summary of address of Clyde M. Reed of Parsons, former chairman of the Kansas Public Utilities Commission to the Pottawatomie-Wabaunsee County Farmers Union at the annual picnic at St. Marys, August 23rd. Mr. Reed also represents the General Farm Organization in the Kansas Grain Freight Rate Investigation now under way by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Mr. Reed said in part:

Excessive freight rates are only one of the factors that have contributed to the present crisis in American agriculture. Freight rates are important and there is a difference annually between the rates asked for by the Kansas railroads and the rates asked for by the Kansas farmers. It is inconceivable that in view of the existing depression in agriculture freight rates upon grain should be increased and I am confident that the request of the railroads will be denied and that the present rates will be reduced instead of increased.

The present agriculture problem is so tremendous that it is difficult to grasp it. As a result the full effect of it is little understood even by the farmers themselves. The individual farmer knows that he has not been getting along well for the past six or seven years but somehow he has had the feeling that maybe it was a condition peculiar to himself as an individual. The average town and city resident has been disposed to blame the farmer for spending too much money and for doing too much grumbling. Whatever justification may be found in individual cases for any of these views the fact remains that the problem of the relation of agriculture to other business is not individual or local or state but is national and arises principally from the displacement of the prices for agricultural

Year	Value of Farmer's Dollar	Value of Total Farm Production (Including Livestock)	Purchasing Power (Index 1914=100)
1914	99.4	\$2,297,713	322,200,000
1915	94.0	\$2,843,467	316,300,000
1916	85.2	\$3,188,477	316,300,000
Average for Three Years	92.8	\$2,776,552	318,100,000
1921	61.4	\$3,643,218	215,600,000
1922	63.4	\$3,121,242	226,500,000
1923	61.2	\$3,297,774	235,400,000
1924	60.6	\$3,472,510	240,000,000
1925	59.3	\$3,012,556	248,300,000
1926	59.8	\$4,174,869	280,800,000
Average for Six Years	60.8	\$3,482,972	251,700,000
Increase 1914-1926	\$50,835,585	\$1,885,259	Decrease -25.4%
Percent of increase 1921-1926 over 1914-1916	13.8%	13.8%	Decrease -25.4%

It will be observed that the number of dollars received by Kansas agriculture increased an average of \$50,835,585 as compared with the last three years, but the war had last three years, because of the income of Kansas agriculture considered as a whole has decreased an average of \$55,800,000 with compared with the purchasing power of a similar income in 1914-16. In other words, Kansas agriculture is short in the last six years five hundred fourteen million eight hundred thousand dollars of the normal purchasing power which it had before the war.

This situation is not peculiar to Kansas. As a matter of fact Kansas has come thus far through the crisis in better shape than the other agricultural states. While the bank deposits of the United States from 1920 to 1926 increased eleven billion dollars or 29.7 per cent, the bank deposits of Kansas decreased thirty-six million dollars or about 8 per cent. But the bank deposits in the same period in the other agricultural states decreased nine per cent. The decrease in bank deposits during this period ranged as high as 31 per cent. Kansas has had more bank failures in the last six years than the previous sixty years of its history but at that time had fewer bank failures than it has had since. Kansas has had more bank failures than other agricultural states such as Oklahoma, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota.

Those who criticize the Kansas farmer for telling the truth about his situation are either not familiar with the facts and are willfully misrepresenting or are for their own selfish purposes the policy followed by the Kansas farm organizations in this freight rate case. The Hock-Smith Resolution passed by both houses of Congress is a mandate to apply "to those products of agriculture affected by the existing depression the lowest possible lawful freight rates." To gain for the agricultural interests of Kansas and other states the benefit of this application first, to prove the depression in agriculture. That has been done. Second, to analyze the cost of railroad operation and determine what is "the lowest lawful rate." That also has been done by the Kansas farm organizations in behalf of the agriculture of Kansas. Agriculture not only of Kansas but of the nation cannot continue to

Neighborhood Notes

COWLEY COUNTY

Just a line from southern Kansas to let the world know that the F. U. members around here think our new President C. E. Huff is a regular fellow.

Personally I had heard Mr. Huff say a few words at different meetings. But never thought much about him until he came to Kellogg a short time ago to talk to our Cowley County Union, and every one present was simply carried away with the great fellow who he gave to us.

Those who heard him said he sure has his heart in our work. I have heard many co-operative talks but he explained it from a different angle than others.

And then I liked the attitude he had towards the "Master Farmer Contest" which is in progress all over the state. It seemed as if he must be personally acquainted with some of the candidates and I wish he would print his views in the paper so that those who were not at Kellogg could read about it.

One of our neighbors is a candidate and used to be a F. U. worker and I am enclosing a clipping from the Wichita Eagle on the "Rail Rate Case," is a witness for the railroads.

The candidate is not a F. U. member now, however, but I think he should win the contest don't you?

DeMott's Testimony a Boomerang
"Fred De Mott of near Arkansas City was the first witness for the railroads, and his direct testimony was fairly encouraging to them. He said he had a farm worth about \$35,000 and comprising 480 acres. He calculated that his income was about \$1,500 to \$2,000 yearly. Then he opened up in cross-examination.

"Have you included any salary for yourself either for labor or management?" the farm counsel asked.

"No," said De Mott.

"Have you received any oil royalty money?" he asked.

"Yes, about \$1 an acre once in a while," the witness answered. He said this had brought him in \$324 in 1924 and some in other years.

Under further questioning De Mott admitted that 1924 was the only year he had paid income tax recently. He had taken off for equipment, but allowed nothing for depreciation of the soil.

Finally De Mott admitted that he "hadn't made much money during the past few years," and explained by saying that his son, a man 33 years old, had been farming it for two-thirds of the money and that he worked when he felt like it, or about 50 per cent of the time. Answering Reed in regard to wages and depreciation, in addition to these other points, De Mott practically admitted that he had made nothing like a fair return on his valuable farm.

Reed said he was through, and relaxed a little to smile triumphantly at the railroad counsel. He had admitted that he expected a hard afternoon, but De Mott's boomerang testimony had come easily.

I also wish to thank our County President, F. M. Giltner (Gilt) as he is affectionally called by all for securing Mr. Huff to speak to us at that time. As we became a hard afternoon and now more than ever we are behind him and believe he is big enough to care for any difficulties that may arise.

Getting back to Giltner, we couldn't keep house down here without him. He is a wonderful man and has one of the best county organizations in the state. He always thinks of the little things that make the meetings, entertainments and picnics such a success.

We are now making plans for our annual picnic which will be held in September. Milo Reno will be the principal speaker and a good program is assured.

Hope this misses the waste basket. Yours truly, S. I.

ANDERSON COUNTY UNION NOTES

The Anderson County Union held its regular county convention, Saturday, August 6th, at the home of the VanSickles near Centennial, an all-day meeting with basket dinner at noon.

We always have good eats but this time the folks seemed to out do themselves and the table was a feast of good things. One lady remarked that this was one reason that folks thought the farmers were not in such bad shape as they could spread a table such as that one, most very much for all to help themselves, well folks this is our big day, the first Saturday in each month, and we put our best foot forward, and try to advertise to the world that we are organized and that we mean business, we try to love, feast if you please, where we try to demonstrate that we are each for one and all for each.

This is the first time a county meeting was ever held in a private home in a happy diversion and a wonderful success.

We are almost afraid to report this meeting, for fear that we omit some of the very good numbers as we do not take notes and the miscellaneous program was so good, a mixed in with the speaking, however as near as we can remember the program ran as follows: Meeting called to order by chairman, Mr. Wes Griffith, song, one of the new ones to the tune of America, then Centennial put on a short snappy program consisting of instrumental music, readings, and songs by couple of young ladies who responded to encores, then the children put on a number that surely set folks thinking. It was a sort of chant, and depicted what the children intended to do when they grew up by being taught co-operation while young. Folks during the war worried it to death almost, now we have the word co-operation, and it is being applied to things war and sundry without regard to the true meaning of the word, to often where the farmers are pooling their stuff and selling to one firm it is simply a huge joke, not on the guy they sell the products to, but on themselves for in many cases they are just making money for the company, which many times is owned by a corporation, one of the definitions of co-operation is, the association of a number of persons for their common benefit, but too often it is for the benefit of one at the expense of many. We must learn true co-operation from the false.

We read an article not long since where a very good county agent advised the folks to go into the dairy business, when the county had gotten into dairying for good and strong this former county agent started a condenser, co-operation, yes for the former county agent. And we are not finding fault with county agents either, but we could not help but wonder if this county agent was sharing his profits with his customers, that is co-operating in the true sense of the word, that condenser may be owned by the farmers and they may be receiving patronage dividends, but the paper didn't say anything about it, so naturally we supposed that it was a one man affair, with the farmers co-operating as usual, turning over their products to old line companies.

Well we got away from the county meeting, when Centennial had a shed the program, Amiot gave a few numbers, one little girl did the Charleston and another gave a reading, then the folks called for Mrs. D. W. Neil, who responded with a good reading.

The chairman asked for the Auxiliary and short talk, and announces the next county meeting will be with Mrs. D. W. Neil, August 2th, an all day meeting with covered dish lunch at noon, the men are invited to this meeting and every Union member, there will be a speaker we cannot say definitely as to who the speaker will be at this time, but some one pleasing to all, there will be some business to take up at this meeting.

The address for the afternoon was made by State Secretary Brasted, and well received, most of the Union folks have heard Mr. Brasted and he always has something worth while to say, but last Saturday he gave the best speech that we have ever heard him make and this was the sort of all the folks that we heard comment on it. Mr. Brasted said facts, he hews straight from the shoulder, and he doesn't care where the chips light. He showed conclusively beyond the shadow of a doubt, the message of a big saving to every one who carries insurance in any form by reducing the rate also to any one who has grain to sell, where there is a Farmers Union organization and the margin between reduced several terms of the bushel, also where there is a produce station it has been beneficial in holding up the price of cream and eggs in that territory. If anybody doubts this statement, give us the opportunity to show you. We realize that what is lacking in putting across a real co-operative program among the farmers is the lack of information. An educational program where co-operation in its true sense is taught should be in the curriculum of every public school. Inculcating farming children to the fact that the farmer is not to be ashamed of their calling, agricultural should be dignified, and children should be taught that their very life depends on the products of the farm. Often times children and grown folks for that matter do not stop to think that the farm is the starting point instead of the grocery store.

After the address by Mr. Brasted, Centennial gave two more much appreciated numbers. A song by Mr. VanSickles, "Be as Happy As You Can," and a reading by Mr. Nickle. "Where Are My Winter Apples?" This closed the program and the next county meeting will be held at the Bennett Grove at the Club House, a joint meeting the third, Friday Saturday, September 3th. We are going to try to get Mr. Huff to this meeting, every one plan to come and have a rousing time, whether you are a Union member or not you will be welcome.

The Springfield Farmers supper August 14th had fine time, because the school house was being repaired and the supper was held at the Sunbeam school house. W. D. Neil is president of this local, Frank White, secretary.

We knew we were going to forget some of that program last Saturday, the County Secretary made a short talk and sang a song. Mr. Glasgow is a good singer and we always enjoy hearing him. We thank you, County Correspondent.

DID PRESIDENT HUFF'S SPEECH BEAR FRUIT?

In his speech in Lone Elm on July 4th, Mr. Huff spoke of the necessity of "Educating the rising generation in the principals of the Farmers Union."

COMMENT AND REFLECTIONS OF JESSE W. GREENLEAF IN REGARDS TO THE RECENT FREIGHT RATE HEARING AT WICHITA, KANSAS

Are freight rates on grain too high or too low? The railroad representatives say the rates are too low and should be raised. The farmers and stockmen say the rates are already too high and should be reduced.

"What in your judgment should be done in regard to grain rates," Mr. Mercer? The question was asked by an expert for the Interstate Commerce Commission. The occasion was the hearing held by the Commission at Wichita which closed last week. The President of the Live Stock Association, Honorable Burns, was also in attendance at the hearing and took the witness stand to present evidence showing why the rates should be reduced. The hearing lasted over four weeks. A previous hearing had been held, where testimony bearing upon the same case was given, at Dallas in May. In September a hearing will be held in Minneapolis at which further testimony will be presented and later a hearing is scheduled for Chicago. This case is of vast importance to the grain shippers of Kansas because the entire grain rate structure of Kansas and the neighboring states is under consideration.

In addition to Mr. Burns and Mr. Mercer of the Live Stock Association, Mr. Huff and Mr. Brasted, President and Secretary of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union, representing over a thousand executive members in Kansas, were at the counsel table to add their advice and each gave important testimony on the witness stand. The same was true of Caldwell Davis, Master of the Grange. Mr. Davis had some important testimony to give in the morning in the opera hall. A big free dinner in the basement of the Methodist church. Program in the Opera hall beginning at 1:30, consisting of singing, instrumental music, readings, address by C. E. Cox, M. O. Glessner and round table discussions. All members and their families are urged to come and enjoy the day together and to take part in the program to make it a real success. The committee will be looking for you, so don't disappoint them.

INDIANAPOLIS NO. 1677

Farmers Union of Indianapolis Local No. 1677 met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Burns, Friday night, August 12th. After speaking by Mr. T. A. Reider of Paola, Mr. H. B. Whitaker of Colony, the meeting adjourned and refreshments of cake and ice cream was served to the following members and their families: Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Verrier, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Fields, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Everett, Mr. and Mrs. Will Wiseman and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Fields, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Fields and family, Mrs. Osee Hunt and family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dancaester and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ike Reber, Mr. Frank Goetz and son Harry, Mr. Clayton Plester, and Mrs. M. T. A. Reider of Paola and Mr. H. B. Whitaker of Colony.

Mrs. Della Burns, Sec.

GOVE COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING

Gove county will hold its quarterly meeting in Grainfield, Sept. 1st, with an all-day affair, business meeting in the morning in the opera hall. A big free dinner in the basement of the Methodist church. Program in the Opera hall beginning at 1:30, consisting of singing, instrumental music, readings, address by C. E. Cox, M. O. Glessner and round table discussions. All members and their families are urged to come and enjoy the day together and to take part in the program to make it a real success. The committee will be looking for you, so don't disappoint them.

Elba Brandenburg.

FRANKLIN COUNTY LOCAL

Franklin County Farmers Union No. 72 will meet in regular session, Thursday, p. m. Sept. 1st in K. of P. Hall at 2 o'clock. We hope to have Mr. Bullard present to outline the work and talk over plans for the state meeting to be held in Ottawa in October.

All delegates are requested to be present. Mr. Thayer will announce the different committees he has selected to work with Mr. Bullard and the Chamber of Commerce of Ottawa to make this state meeting one of the best. So please come prepared to work for best of the Union.

County Secretary.

Mr. Frank Bongartz, of Ellis, Kan., has just received his dividend check from the Farmers Union Creamery, check No. 455, for the very best sum of \$56.18. Hundreds of dividend checks have gone out, but this is the largest one of which we have heard. Congratulations.

The editors car is rather heavy, and in some way the gumbo road got caught in the rear wheels just east of Blue Rapids the other day. The car managed to crawl into the farm yard at the home of W. E. Bigham, who succeeded in getting hold of end of the thing and unrolled the entire miles of highway right there. With fine generosity the editor made him a present of it. If the authorities do not compel Mr. Bigham to drag it back and stretch it out where it is, he intends to cut it up and lay it over a thin hillside on the east 40.

Mr. Bigham is a loyal Farmer-Union member, and a Good Samaritan.

About 70 people, mostly stockholders, attended the annual meeting of their association at Centennial, Tuesday, Aug. 16. Manager C. E. McKibben read the (Kansas Farmers Union) auditors report for the year. The elevator had fared rather badly during the last half of the year, so that its net profits were very small. But the total net profit for the year was over \$4,500. This association has a capitalization of about the same. Their only liabilities are to their own members. The dividend checks were all written, with statements attached showing the member's patronage and the rate of return by commodities.

Two directors were elected, Mr. Rodney Edwards, who lives on a farm in Reno county and is president of the Tax-Payers League of Kansas and a member of the Executive Committee of the Kansas Live Stock Association; E. L. Barvier, of Groutwood county; William P. Lamberton of Brown county; Harry Hartshorn of Ford county, vice president of the Farmers' Co-operative Commission Company of Kansas. In addition to these and other men who live on their farms and are outstanding men in

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their communities were economists from the Agricultural Department of the Kansas State Agricultural College, bankers, merchants, and others familiar with the condition of agriculture in Kansas. In this connection I might add that Governor John A. Edwards, of Oklahoma, Economists from the Agricultural College of Oklahoma and others were on the stand testifying in behalf of the farmers in Oklahoma.

An exhibit introduced as evidence in a recent freight rate hearing before the I. C. C. showed the following earnings of the principal railroads serving Kansas. The property investment shown was of January 1, 1926, and the rate of return upon that investment was for the year 1926.

Santa Fe	7.26%
Rock Island	7.21%
Union Pacific	8.57%
M. & T.	7.39%
Frisco	9.00%
Kan. City Southern	7.56%

Testimony was introduced from many sources to prove that agriculture is not yielding an adequate return. One very significant exhibit was a recent report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture which said in part, "An analysis of receipts and expenditures for the agricultural industries as a whole indicates that for 1926-27 there was a considerable decline in net income available for all capital employed and for paying farmers for managing the industry of about 20% compared with preceding years."

"These earnings report a decline in the average income for farm and non-farm families for 1926-27. The report shows that the average income for farm families for 1926-27 was \$853 in 1926-27. If a 4 1/2% interest rate is allowed for the net capital investment, there is a decline in the reward for the farm operators' labor (including families' labor) and management to \$627 for the year." I might add here that all products, food and fuel consumed on the farm is included in the net capital investment. Quoting further, "If the farm operator and his family are allowed a wage equivalent to that of hired labor, these returns represent returns earned on the farmers' own investment including rewards for management of 2.7%."

The report further on shows that the percentages earned by all corporations on their total capital investment appear to have been at least 12 1/2% in both 1925 and 1926.

The lower farm income of 1926-27 was accompanied by a further reduction in the current value of all capital invested in agricultural production. Land values declined about 5% between March, 1926, and March 1927. The rates earned both on the lower values of all capital invested in agriculture and on the lower net capital investment were materially reduced during the past year. Rates for other industries did not decline during the calendar year 1926.

These higher returns of corporations have been earned on increasing capital investment, while the returns from agricultural production have declined on declining values of agricultural capital. Between January, 1921, and January, 1927, agricultural capital declined from \$73,000,000,000 to \$58,000,000,000, a total reduction of \$15,000,000,000, while the current value of corporate wealth increased since July, 1921, from \$99,000,000,000 to \$134,000,000,000 or \$35,000,000,000. Expressed as a reward for the average farm operator, income from farm production available for capital, labor and management amounted to \$922 in 1925-26 and \$853 in 1926-27 or practically the same as for the year 1924-25. If interest be allowed on the farm operator's investment at the rate of 4 1/2%, the average reward per farm family for labor and management declined from \$690 in 1925-26 to \$627 in 1926-27.

Mr. Reed presented one very significant bit of information that was furnished to him by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C. It gave the share of agriculture in the total "Current Income" of the United States by years from 1909 to 1925.

In 1909 agriculture's share of the total income of the United States was 20.6%. Until 1909 inclusive, agriculture's share was in no year less than 20.2% and was as high as 23.6 per cent. In 1921 it was at its lowest square in two, dropping to 10.7% and no year since that time has it been that high. In short, almost one third of the people of the United States are worse off than one tenth of the national income.

How long can that situation continue and our great nation remain in a healthy condition?

Just to show that he is a real optimist, Mr. Reed presented figures showing that while the average Kansas farmer was worse off in other agricultural states.

An exhibit had been presented earlier in the hearing showing that while the bank deposits of the United States as a whole had increased since 1920, the bank deposits of Kansas had shrunk \$36,000,000 or (Continued on Page 4)

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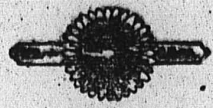
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Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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

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

Communications and Questions—Communications 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.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1927

STICKING TO THE ISSUE

Probably the hardest job on earth is staying with the job in hand until it is finished. Not only farmers, but other folks as well, find it much easier to start than to keep going. The farmer is not the only "quarter horse," though he often places in that class. But our worst trouble is not that we quit running, but that we run back and forth; not that we quit fighting, but that we pick a new opponent before the first one takes the count; not that we lose interest but that we transfer it too easily. For instance: Practically all farm papers, outside of the publications of farm organizations, needed a new "issue" to maintain subscribers interest. Auto and truck and highway extended the field over that thieving night operator, and made some very good "hauls" possible. Farm thefts increased. Poultry and hogs and grain were the favorite articles for stealing. These might be marketed in towns 30 or 40 miles distant, and apprehension of these criminals was difficult. No doubt, by the rewards offered and the publicity given, much has been done by these papers to stop the thefts and secure conviction of the gentlemen involved. And the publishers are to be commended for what they have done. The misfortune is that not a few farmers have entered the chase after the fellow who snatched someone's handkerchief, and have forgotten about the one who stole half their crops. It is alright to run down the thief who steals a dozen chickens, but we must not forget about the one who exacts a tribute of millions annually from poultry marketing. The one who steals a can of cream ought to be sent to jail, but if the Farmers Union Creamery in its first year, and with only a small group of stations, could return approximately \$50,000 to its patrons, it would seem certain that someone has been doing right well on the farmers cream, and that such a situation must be corrected if the farmer is to go on producing. The man who steals a hog merits his fate when it equals on him, but hogs are \$2.00 per hundred lower, at least, than they would be now if open, competitive markets handled all hogs. The problem of the "private" yards and direct country buying is still with us. This saving to the packers has cost the Kansas farmer more in the last year than the value of all the hogs stolen in the whole U. S. in a generation. The savings made by Farmers Union Live Stock firms and returned to members is a hundred times greater than the value of all hogs stolen. A hard fight has been waged for farm relief by favorable federal legislation—the same means now and for many years employed by financial, industrial and commercial groups for their benefits. The next session of congress should see the fight won. But the most strenuous effort will be made to center attention elsewhere. And the more vital the alleged issue seems to be the better it will serve its purpose. The vice president of a Kansas bank sees in flood relief the very thing needed. The press tells of his hope in the matter. It appears that the "relief" is to be more from farm legislation than from floods. Woodring is 90 percent wrong, so far as farm interests are concerned, but he is 100 per cent right about the possibility of side tracking us.

Agitation for flood control legislation by the next congress will do much to distract the attention from a relief legislation, it is pointed out by H. H. Woodring, vice president of the First National bank of Neodesha, in a letter to Governor Paulen urging the calling of a state wide convention to consider how the state can co-operate with the federal government in a flood control program.

Woodring was a delegate to the recent flood prevention conference in Chicago, and wrote a lengthy report to the governor. Governor Paulen made the letter public yesterday, and said he is giving serious consideration to calling the flood prevention conference this fall.

Get People Ready for Cost

The flood control program will call for large appropriations, Woodring points out in his letter, and it would be a good idea for the public to have its attention called to this from time to time, so that the shock won't be too great when the appropriations are made.

"I am convinced the federal government will do the job, and the 27 states of the valley are determined to have favorable legislation and results," Woodring writes the governor.

Sees Farm Relief as Dead Issue

"It also occurs to me that with flood control foremost congress and with a chance to do something constructive and favorable to agriculture, the farm relief will be a dead issue so far as the McNary-Haugen bill and numerous other panaceas which have price-fixing as

their fundamental cure-all are concerned. To me it is an opportunity for the entire nation to support and insure agriculture a chance to help itself.

"I do not believe that Kansas can afford to sit idly by without a program of its own. It is highly advisable and desirable that you immediately issue a call for a state aid flood control and water conservation congress. Such a conference is the next logical step in Kansas."

With another rain in Kansas will all agree on the flood control proposal. And we all want the small thief caught. But the smaller issue must not obscure the larger. Let's stick to our job until we win.

Topeka, Kansas, August 6, 1927.

Mr. C. E. Huff,
President, Farmers' Union,
Salina, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Huff:

I notice you have been taking part in the Wichita rate hearing. I think it is exceedingly important that we put up the strongest possible opposition to the demand of the railroads for an increase. I enclose you copy of the letter which I have filed with Commissioner Meyer. I had a nice letter from him, acknowledging receipt of my statement and thanking me for it. I am doing my best; personally and through my papers, to head off the railroad program. In fact, I am insisting that there should be a reduction rather than an increase.

I am leaving this evening for a vacation in the East. When I return I will be glad to talk with you about this if you should happen to be in Topeka. Let me know whenever I can help.

Cordially yours,

Arthur Capper.

Following are extracts from Senator Capper's letter to Commissioner Balthasar H. Meyer, who is conducting the rate hearing:

Either the railroads are not now earning a reasonable return or they are insincere in their requests for higher rates.

As to return—The six leading railroads in Kansas and the Southwest grain territory earned 6.48 per cent on their property investment in 1925, and 6.81 per cent in 1926.

Kansas farms, according to the U. S. department of agriculture, earned 2.8 per cent in 1922; dropped to 1.7 per cent in 1923; went to 3.4 per cent in 1924; up to 4 per cent in 1925; slipped back to 3.5 per cent in 1926.

The railroads ask that farm earnings be hammered down some more so that railroad earnings may be increased to new high levels. Santa Fe stock is selling at \$185½; in 1921 it sold at \$76 to \$94.

Rock Island stock is selling at \$114; in 1921 it sold at from \$16 to \$45.75.

Missouri Pacific is selling at \$61.12; in 1921 it was quoted at from \$16 to \$23.50.

In the same period Kansas farm values have declined 22.3 per cent; Oklahoma land values 23 per cent; the average for the country shows a decline of 25.3 per cent.

"No doubt some farmers can be found who are making money, or who believe they are, but I believe they are the exception, and that most such cases will show unusual conditions that do not apply throughout.

"The returns from agricultural production have been earned on declining values of agricultural capital. Between January, 1926, and January, 1927, agricultural capital declined from \$59,712,000,000 to \$58,255,000,000, a reduction of \$1,457,000,000.

"Compared with earnings for the preceding year, the return for the labor of the farmer and his family declined nearly 10 per cent, wages paid to hired hands increased 2 per cent, while the earnings of factory employees were as high in 1926-27 as in 1925-26. Compared with their respective earnings in 1919-20, the average farm family earned 30 per cent less, the hired (farm) laborer 14 per cent less, and the employed factory worker one per cent more."

In further consideration of the farmer's ability to pay higher grain rates it is only fair to consider the cost of higher rates in relation to his grain profits. It is estimated the increases in grain freight rates proposed by the roads will amount to something like 10 million dollars for Kansas in a normal year. The average annual value of all grains produced in Kansas for the five years from 1921 to 1925 inclusive, was approximately 217 million dollars. It is admitted by many authorities that the Kansas grain farmer's profits are seldom more than 5 per cent and often not greater than 3 per cent of the value of his crop.

Takes Profits From Farms

With a profit as high as 5 per cent the return on an average crop of all Kansas grain, valued at 217 million dollars, would be \$10,850,000. To take 10 million dollars of this profit for additional freight charges would leave only \$850,000 profit for the entire Kansas grain crop. In a year when the profit fell as low as 3 per cent, the grain farmers of the state would face an actual loss of approximately 3½ million dollars. This loss would be taken from agriculture, which is now admittedly earning less than the roads, and be turned to the profits of a few railroads which are now earning approximately as much as, and in many cases more than, the 6 per cent considered by your commission as a fair return upon their investments.

In face of the present economic conditions of agriculture in Kansas and the grain section of the Southwest, and the roads serving these sections, I believe, in justice to all, the freight rates on grain should be lowered.

NEVER TROUBLE TROUBLE

I used to hear a saying,
That had a deal of pith;
It gave a cheerful spirit
To face existence with,
Especially when matters
Seemed doomed to go askew
'Twas never trouble trouble,
Till trouble troubles you.

Not woes at hand, those coming
Are the hardest to resist;
We hear them stalk like giants,
We see them through a mist.
But big things in the brewing
Are small things in the brew;
So never trouble trouble
Till trouble troubles you.

Just look at things through glasses
That show the evidence;
One lens of them is courage;
The other common sense.
They'll make it clear, misgivings
Are just a bugaboo;
No more you'll trouble trouble
Till trouble troubles you.

—St. Clair Adams.

GLIMPSES OF CO-OPERATION

TWO CO-OPS ADOPT PROVISIONAL POOLS

New Members Attracted by Plan; Stability and Permanence of Co-ops Proven

Two more co-operatives were added last month to the list of pools which are adopting the provisional pooling plan with the announcement that the Arkansas Cotton Growers' Co-operative association will operate under the new system this season and the Dark Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association will put the plan into effect at the expiration of its present contract.

Although the provisional pooling plan is said to offer no unusual advantages to the true co-operator, it apparently is effective in swelling pool membership. It brings into the co-op many farmers whose inbred prejudices cause them to hesitate at the idea of a seasonal pool; and co-op leaders therefore believe that it will be the means of gradually educating many outsiders as to the value of co-operation.

The apparent advantage of the plan to outsiders is that they can become pool members, and at the same time dictate when their crop is to be sold. They secure the advantage of pool bargaining power—but until they become "sold" on pool operations, they do not share in the average seasonal price. The plan also overrides the objections of many farmers who claim they "cannot wait for their money."

Choice of Five Pools

Under the plan adopted by the Arkansas cotton pool, the member has his choice of five procedures when he delivers his cotton to the association. He may put his crop in the seasonal pool and take the seasonal price, as is customary and usually most profitable. Or he may put his cotton in the October, December or February pools. These latter pools will return to him the average price secured up to the middle of October, December or February, as the case may be. His other choice is to put his crop in the "optional pool" and decide later when he wants his returns.

The provisional pooling plan contemplated by the Dark Tobacco pool provides that the grower may either put his crop in the seasonal pool or auction off his tobacco in the old-line fashion from the association floors. The Burley Tobacco pool tried the auction system last season, and it is significant that although the Burley farmers got less for their crop than any year since the pool started, the pool members got more by auctioning through their pool than the outsiders got by auctioning in the public warehouses.

INTEREST ON CAPITAL STOCK OF CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

For the guidance of Co-operative Organizations, we are publishing these decisions made by the Board of Tax Appeals relative to this matter.

Board of Tax Appeals Decisions Relative to Interest on Dividends on Capital Stock of Co-operative Associations.

Sacred Heart Co-operative Mercantile Association, Docket No. 1451 2 B. T. A. 24 Taxpayer incorporated under the laws of Minnesota, (Chap. 382 Laws of 1919) claimed that certain payments to its stockholders were interest payments rather than dividends. (Decision) "The determination of the Commissioner is approved. Dividends upon capital stock are to be paid only from profits. They are not a charge against the assets of the company and the Board finds no basis for differentiating such dividends from similar payments upon the stock of any other corporation." 1921 Act.

The Farmers Co-operative Association, Docket No. 4296 B. T. A. 61 (Official syllabus) "The fixed payments made by a Kansas co-operative corporation to its stockholders upon the capital stock in accordance with a statute providing for 'fixed dividends' held not deductible as interest. 1918 Act. Appeal of Sacred Heart Co-operative Mercantile Association.

The Trego County Co-operative Association, Docket No. 2137 B. T. A.—(Official syllabus) "Fixed dividends paid by a co-operative corporation are not deductible by the corporation." Decision No. 512 and 1937 held controlling.

For some time past the Farmers Union Auditing Association has received inquiries from all over the country relative to the deduction of interest on Capital Stock as an expense item but could give no definite information to our members as the matter was in the hands of the Board of Tax Appeals for their decision. Now that that decision has been given, we are publishing it for your benefit and advise that in compiling future Income Tax returns that interest on capital stock be not deducted as an expense item.

KANSAS FARMERS' UNION AUDITING ASSOCIATION

Further Increase in Acreage Production Is Limited By Low Price of Products.

While prices of farm products have in recent years gradually sunk lower and lower in their relation to production costs, the yield per acre of the leading American farm crops has shown a generally rising trend, according to a survey recently completed by the Department of Agriculture.

Since 1885, for example, the average yield per acre of corn has increased 18 per cent. For wheat the average yield has increased 17 per cent, while oats and potatoes show an increase per acre of 14 per cent and 39 per cent respectively.

The outstanding increases in yields, states the report, have been in the North Atlantic and the northern South Atlantic states, with somewhat smaller increases in the east North Central states. Similar changes have occurred in many parts of the west North Central states, where pioneer agricultural methods have disappeared.

Wheat yields have increased 5 to 6 bushels per acre in the northeastern parts of the country, but a decrease is shown in Ohio and other states in the Ohio valley for the period 1920-24. Yields in Kansas have remained practically stationary, despite the extension of planting into semi-arid regions. In the spring wheat area there has been no increase in yield per acre.

Department economists predict that further increases in yield per acre are dependent upon farm commodity prices. Rising prices will result in more intensified cultivation; the use of fertilizers and selected seeds. Continued low prices, however, will eliminate the hope of higher yields made possible by improved farming methods.

The Colorado potato pool handled last year 5,269 cars of the state crop. It also handled approximately \$300,000 worth of sacks, seed and twine for members.

REFLECTIONS

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED TO THE RAILROADS

Experts Favor Smaller Profits

A wage reduction would intensify any business decline that may temporarily appear, is the frank statement in the Magazine of Wall Street by "one of the greatest financial experts in the country."

"For reasons of policy, it has been deemed best not to disclose his identity," says this recognized financial publication.

The expert says:

"Since the high level of wages in itself has contributed to our prosperity, there would be danger in tinkering with existing schedules. Unless business should run into a broad decline, it seems better to let wage rates stand where they are and let the corporations take up the difference. That is, from the broader standpoint it would probably be better that profits be smaller for corporations than to subject labor to smaller wages."

"In the first place, our accumulated wealth is so great that we can stand a short period of less profitable business. In the second place, to arbitrarily cut wages when conditions are at present as uncertain would hasten a protracted decline in profits, something that the wage cut would be designed to prevent. Hence, it is important to keep wages where they are and trust to an early improvement in the outlook."

"While temporarily profits may not be so great and while they may decline somewhat further, this is the inevitable reaction from a period of sustained high profits. Every business man expects minor fluctuations in his profits and few important people are really worried as to the outlook."

The decline of agriculture will as surely and as disastrously affect the prosperity of all as would a lowered wage scale. Eventually the carriers will gain by a reduced rate as certainly as general business expects to gain by a favorable wage. Killing the goose to get all the golden eggs at once is not supreme wisdom.

A Part to Play

(Adapted from the Western Producer, Saskatoon.)

He was only a little fellow in a red hat, but he was proud of himself. He realized his importance. That afternoon he had taken part in a great undertaking. Six thousand school children had been gathered up in order to make the word "Canada" out of what the novelists call vibrant youth.

This little fellow had been one of the crowd. He had been part of the letter "N." He didn't know how many boys and girls, all dressed in red, it had taken to make the letter "N," but it took a lot. He was one of them. He had stood there in the sun in his little red hat and the people had cheered like everything. He knew that he was only one of six thousand children, but he also knew that he was just as important as any one of the rest of them.

He knew that the "N" would not have looked just the perfect "N" if it had looked, if it had not been for him there in his little red hat, just where the diagonal stroke meets the two uprights at the bottom. If the "N" had not been perfect, then "Canada" would not have been so perfect, and the whole show would not have been so good, and the people would not have cheered so much, and it wouldn't have been such a great day. He had had a part to play, an important part. He realized his importance. Some people don't do that. They think that just because they are only one amongst thousands of others doing

sort of ordinary jobs, that they don't amount to much. The thing that the organization they belong to can get along just as well if they don't go to meetings, or neglect to pay their dues, or resign, or die. It isn't so. Every member is an important person. He may not think so, but we do. He has a part to play. He has his dues to pay. He has his part in counsel and control and patronage. He is not the whole show, but the whole will be less than its best without him. Play your part. Do it now.

Now We Know What They Mean

The New York Extension Service News reports an explanation of the final item on the club record as made by Editor E. S. Bayard of the Stockman-Farmer. Mr. Bayard says the final item on the sheet which the professor of animal husbandry designed for the boys' club reads thus: "Disposition of animal at end of feeding period." One boy reported "Very quiet and tame but kicks at times," and another boy said "Very violent." Next time the professor will simply ask what was done with the animal at the end of the feeding period and will get the information he wants.

July failed to see any gain in the purchasing power of farm commodities over June, and the general index number remained at 130, according to the Department of Agriculture.

This figure is six points below the price-values recorded a year ago, and reflects a general decline during the past year in the exchange value of farm crops for other articles of merchandise. During the same period farm income has shown a steadily decreasing strength.

Russians Want Horses

Old Dobbin may be on his last legs in this country—but not so in Russia.

Widespread shortage of draft horses for use on Soviet farms has prompted the proposed organization of a special joint stock company with participation of state, co-operative and private capital for the purchase and distribution of work-animals.

The shortage of horses, according to the authorities, is hindering the progress of agriculture.

Testing Rumors

What remedy has a farmers' commission company when a local shipping association manager, ordered by his directors to ship to the farmers' firm, insists on announcing to folks in the territory that he could have got 50 cents a hundred more if he had shipped to a private firm? What recourse has a co-operative sales agency handling the butter of several creameries, in case the local manager makes remarks of the same sort?

Under the laws of most states, it is difficult to get into a local territory and effectively squish statements of this sort, if they are misstatements. Up in Wisconsin, the way seems to be paved for a little more effective action. The state Department of Markets has the authority to conduct hearings to determine whether or not individuals or organizations are interfering with the operation of co-operatives.

A hearing of this sort was held in Wisconsin recently at a point where the manager of a local cheese factory had said that the factory had lost one thousand dollars in 1926 by selling thru the Wisconsin Cheese Federation instead of thru old channels. At the hearings the records of sales were brought out, and it was shown that this statement had no basis in fact. A number of other mis-

statements by the manager regarding the association were brought up and corrected. At this writing, a decision has not been made by the state Department of Markets, but it seems probable that an order to desist will be issued. The best result of the hearing, however, was to straighten out the situation locally and to show to the farmers of the territory that the federation was giving good service and that continued alignment with it was desirable.

There are always rumors floating around about the conduct of co-operatives. It would be a fine thing if these could be pinned down everywhere, as they were at this Wisconsin town. It is not always the folks who complain about the co-operatives who are wrong. Sometimes a co-operative will take the attitude that all criticism is out of place and that no replies need be made. The best way for both the co-operative and its critics is to go into the matter fully, preferably under the supervision of some impartial authority, and dig out the real facts. Such a course of action will keep the officers of the co-operative on their toes to see that affairs are handled as they should be and will also make opponents of the co-operative in the country a good deal more cautious about making criticisms that have no foundation.—Wallace's Farmer.

Three Clippings

With the exception of France, military preparedness is generally on a larger scale throughout the world than in pre-war times, according to a "military preparedness" report presented to the World Federation of Educational associations in session here.

In the United States, it asserts, there has been an increase of 400 per cent since 1912 in the number undergoing military training.

"Military training," says the report, "confronts the youths and young men of the United States today with a scale never before known, and it is rapidly being extended under the encouragement of the war department."

Bishop Blake, who oversees the work of his church in the Mediterranean countries, declares that we have no right to accuse France of excessive military expenditures, since the United States today is spending more money for war preparations than are France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Turkey and Russia combined.

Are we slipping into an age of despotism, benevolent or otherwise? asked Dr. Henry R. Spencer of Ohio State University at the Institute of Politics in Williamsport, Mass.

Reviewing political conditions throughout the world, Dr. Spencer said that in most cases dictatorship is grimly accepted by these people. He blamed public worship of national unity as a fetish.

"Hence order is secured by rigorous repression of dissenting thought, liberalism becomes abhorrent, the clash of classes, castes and churches is avoided by artificial uniformity, and society is strictly regimented," he said.

Dr. Spencer's remedy for present tendencies was rule by persuasion, instead of rule by force and the "acquiescence of the politically supine."

COAL SHIPPED BY WATER

More bituminous coal has been transported to upper lake ports by water so far this year than ever before at any corresponding period, according to an announcement from official railroad sources.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

The State President was planning to Organize a Lecture Bureau. Those members of the Farmers Union who wished to lecture were to volunteer. The list of names was to appear in the paper and those who wished a speaker were free to select from the list.

The Farmers Union was enjoying fine co-operation with Governor Stubbs and Warden Coddling in regard to the Penitentiary Twine. The farmers were realizing a material saving, over the exorbitant prices asked by the combines and trusts.

Shacks Mansions and the Farmers Union

Most farmers dwell in houses that are so far from modern that they can hardly be called more than shacks. These men toil and sweat through the long summer days and sting in the cold of winter growing and caring for crops and stock. The wives toil and the children toil and even the farm dog must "eat bread in the sweat of his brow" and they all live in shacks.

Most of the railroad owners live in mansions—none of them live in shacks.

They do not loathe that of signing their name and spending their time. They drink the best of wine have the finest of music and art, ride in palace cars, eat and surf and revel in ease. Their wives do not toil, their children have no play and opportunity in the world, and their dog dies of indigestion in want of proper exercise. And none of them live in shacks.

The farmer produces a bushel of corn. He gets six-bits for it. The consumer pays \$1.40 for it. The mansion dwellers take the difference. The gardener raises an onion. He gets a dollar for it in New York. The consumer pays ten dollars for it in New York. The mansion dweller takes the difference—the gardener lives in his shack.

The Farmers Union is a band of shack dwellers who want to keep this difference in their own pockets. They love to build mansions, but not for some other man, his wife and his dog. They mean to get their products together and sell direct to the consumer—let the mansion dweller perform some useful service if he wants to live in his mansion. When the consumer pays one dollar for a farm product the Union Farmer wants the dollar, not forty-five cents of it as he now takes.

If this is the way you feel join the Union, and move out of your shack into your mansion.

April 12. A. F. Turner. Formoso.

The Farmers Exchange

When wheat was selling for 80c per bushel and flour for \$1.45 per sack, every merchant in this town knows that the consumer was being robbed. The farmer was to blame for the high cost of living and the business interests were growing fat at the expense of the producer and the consumer. Mr. Merchant did not ship in flour and reduce the price then. Do you suppose he would do that now?

Well, the little no-account farmer store did it. Although wheat is over a dollar per bushel, we are selling flour at 10c per sack less than when wheat was eighty cents per bushel. Members of this store get it a little cheaper. Why? Because they furnished the money that made it possible to buy the car load of flour.

It is said that 99 per cent of farm boys who attended High School never return to the farm. And that fifty per cent of the farm High School girls do. This accounts for: out of 2,000 farmers tributary to Caldwell only 200 have the intelligence to see the necessity of co-operating. It also accounts for so many farm women, taking shares in the store.

It also accounts for the women selling eggs and poultry to this store as they know it pays expenses and keep the poor thing alive.

J. U. Shade.

The Country Woman

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU SELL
Not what you sell; but what you gain
Is what means most, and it should
be plain;
The man who dumps surely can't de-
serve
To have much money in cash re-
serve.

Not what you grow; but what you
pool
Is the final test of the farming
rule.
If you can't keep farming without
fair pay,
Your only chance is the co-op way!

TO SAVE HOME GROWN PRO- DUCTS, CAN THEM.

Do not let your home grown prod-
ucts go to waste!

Canning and preserving home
grown products provides economical
food for winter use. Not only deli-
cacies such as jellies, conserves, and
pickles, but such actual necessities
as green vegetables can be saved by
canning.

Extension specialists at South Da-
kota State College offer the follow-
ing helpful hints and suggestions:

1. Can only the best products; you
want high quality rather than large
quantities.
2. Select medium rather than large
sized vegetables for better flavor and
tenderness.

3. Wash and clean all products
well.

4. Use good soft water if avail-
able; hard water sometimes causes
mineral spots to appear in the vege-
table packs and often turns products
dark.

5. All jars should be cleaned well
but not necessarily sterilized. Ex-
amine jars for cracks or nicks around
the tops.

6. To prevent breakage of jars
while processing set them in a pan
of hot water while packing or hold
over steam until partly heated be-
fore lowering into water bath.

7. Cloudiness in liquids of can-
ned vegetables is caused by over-
cooking and often by water impuri-
ties. This is not necessarily a dan-
ger sign.

8. To prevent beets from losing
their color blanch them without
breaking the skin. Then peel.

9. One tablespoon of salt to a
gallon of water will prevent the dark
color which comes to peeled vege-
tables while standing.

10. Canning powders are neither
necessary nor safe.

11. Oven canning is successful.
Place jars in pans of water in oven.
Processing time same as for water
bath. Flavor of food is excellent. Be
careful of too high temperature; it
may spoil the rubbers.

KEEP CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

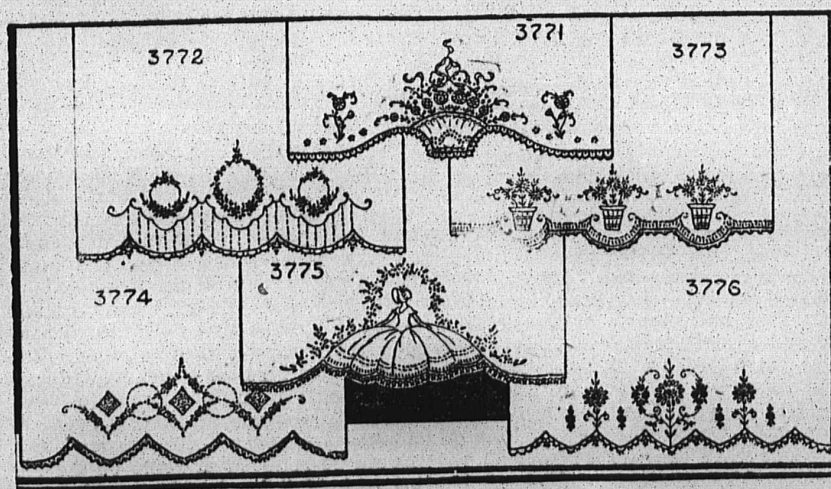
The wastefulness of child labor,
even where it is under public regula-
tion, is shown by recent reports gath-
ered by the Woman's Home Com-
panion in Pittsburgh. There are else-
where boys and girls between the
ages of 14 and 16 who go to work by
obtaining employment certificates.
The records show that three-fourths
of them leave school forever at 14.
Nearly half of them have not got be-
yond the sixth grade in grammar
school.

Almost all of them get into "rou-
tine or blind-alley jobs" which do not
prepare them for any specific adult
work, the astute magazine observer
finds. They keep changing from one
job to another and they lose so much
time between jobs that they are idle
from 30 to 45 per cent of the time.
Thus the state argument that it is
often better to quit school and "get
an early start in the life" falls to the
ground.

With few exceptions, these boys
and girls do not get started. They
simply flounder around.
"Send your sons and daughters
back to school this fall," is the ob-
server's verdict. "And keep up the
long fight for child labor legislation
that will prevent heedless parents
and employers from depriving their
boys and girls of the education that
this country offers free to its fu-
ture citizens."

Progressive education is tending in
the direction of making school tasks
so fascinating that they are no longer
tasks, but projects which the chil-
dren are eager to carry through to
completion.

The United States is using up its
timber supply four times as fast as
the supply is being replaced through
growth.



NEWEST DESIGNS IN PILLOW
CASES AND SCARFS NOS.
3771-72-73-74-75-76.

These six especially attractive de-
signs in pillow cases and scarfs
stamped on very finest quality white
linen finish material will be the most
popular. Design 3771 is most effec-
tive finished in shades of lavender
and yellow flowers with shaded green
stems and leaves with baskets of yellow
flowers. No. 3772 in two shades of blue
with yellow and white flowered cen-
ters. No. 3773 is beautiful in shades
of lavender, yellow and green. No.
3774 is done in an unusual combina-
tion of orange, lavender and green
shades. No. 3775 is a lovely design

AMERICA'S MELTING POT

Along the Board Walk the parade
goes. In it are daughters of Mary
and Martha, and the sons of the rich
and poor, just as these extremes in
human beings have existed down
through all the ages. Those who
have come out of America's melting
pot all look pretty good, on foot, in
rolling chairs, bathing suits, knickers,
and short skirts—the long skirts of
yesterday are gone. The conglomer-
ation of citizens is constantly going
up and down, and back and forth in
Atlantic City's show in which indus-
try is on parade, a la grande!

FLOOD CONTROL SITUATION

For almost a century the Missis-
sippi and its tributaries have been
overflowing at intervals making liv-
ing conditions perilous and farming in
the rich river land sections ex-
tremely hazardous. The recent floods
of Mississippi have caused na-
tion-wide concern and has been ter-
med by many of our leading men in
public life, the greatest peace time
disaster and as destructive as war.

The president, the secretary of
commerce, the secretary of war and
others say it must never happen
again. I am sure that the govern-
ment will do everything that the best
modern engineering methods along
with the experience gained by this
recent disaster would indicate to be
necessary to prevent such a flood.
And with this information will for-
mulate a system of protection that
will do credit to the nation.

Our government never does any-
thing by halves, and if the govern-
ment undertakes to prevent the floods
along the Mississippi we can rest as-
sured that it will to the extent of
controlling the tributaries as the Mis-
sissippi river must be controlled from
the tributaries, for it would be impos-
sible to control the flood water after
it was once collected in the main chan-
nel of the river. Many of our lead-
ing citizens have recently given their
opinions on the subject of controlling
the flood waters of the great Missis-
sippi.

Mr. Hoover outlines his idea on
flood control in an article written
for the North American Newspaper
Alliance under the title of "A Way
to Conquer River." In which he says:
"I am equally certain the cost of the
problem will be only a small part of
the flood losses, plus the wealth that
can be created by adequate control; and
I am convinced that financially the
major responsibility belongs to the
nation."

Such construction takes years and
costs a fortune. A sound program will
be found surprisingly small to other
items of government and the values
to be attained.

This flood has been the greatest
disaster of peace times in our history.

It is unthinkable, and engineering
science is capable of its remedy. It is
a question of cost, and the cost will
be a small part of the losses.

Nor are the losses born entirely by
the people living under the levees.
Our economic system is so interlock-
ed that the loss of even a million dol-
lars in any one spot reflects over an
enormous area. In consequence of
this disaster we will spend 30 million
dollars on relief in one form or an-
other. And that is a small part.

The manufacturers of New England
and Ohio, the orange growers of
California, the wheat growers of Da-
kota will sell less goods in the flood
area this year than last.

Every worker, every farmer, ev-
ery investor in the whole United
States will bear some part of the
shock, most of them perhaps in so
small an amount that they will not
know it, but it is there nevertheless.
What we need for stable employment
and stable agriculture is freedom
from such economic shocks.

Dr. Jacob G. Lipman in discussing
soil life in science recently said:
"Science has advanced agriculture
from an occupation that in the past
has had to choose between moving
on to new and unexplored fields and
staying home to starve."

"We must consider the soil solution
now alone in its local relations, but
as a part of a great mass of fresh
water moving to the sea. We must
consider the cubic miles of sediment
deposited at the outlets of great riv-
ers as a toll on the land and as a tax
on those who till it."

"We are the technical advisers to
the nations who are trustees of pre-
cious raw materials. These must be
used wisely and conveyed effectively
that human kind may travel with the
least pain and sorrow on its road of
destiny."

when finished in blue and pink flow-
ers with the Colonial dress in light
and darker shades of yellow. No.
3776 has shades of pink, yellow and
grey, an unusual and attractive com-
bination.

The pillow cases come in sizes 42
in. and 45 in. Price of these are as
follows: 42 in., \$1.45 per pair;
45 in., \$1.50 per pair.

Scarfs to match any of the pillow
cases can be obtained in the same
material in size 18 by 45 in.; price
of scarfs, 65 cents each.

A detailed working chart showing
the exact color scheme of each of
the items referred to, is furnished.
KANSAS UNION FARMER
Box 48
Salina, Kansas



5471 Child's Panty Dress
Cut in 4 Sizes: 2, 4, 6 and 8
years. A 6 year size requires 2 1/2
yards of figured material and 1/4
yard of plain 36 inches wide, if
made as illustrated in the large
view. If made with long sleeves
2 1/2 yards of the figured material
is required. Price 16c.

5898 Misses' Dress
Cut in 3 Sizes: 10, 12 and 14
years. A 12 year size requires
3 1/2 yards of 40 inch material
together with 1/4 yard of con-
trasting material 36 inches
wide. The width of the dress
at the lower edge with plaits
extended is 2 1/2 yards. Price 16c.

FASHION BOOK NOTICE

Send 12c in silver or stamps for our
UP-TO-DATE FALL & WINTER
1927-1928 BOOK OF FASHION,
showing color plates, and containing
500 designs of Ladies', Misses' and
Children's Patterns, a CONCISE and
COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON
DRESSMAKING, ALSO SOME
POINTS FOR THE NEEDLE (illus-
trating 30 of the various simple
stitches) all valuable hints to the
home dressmaker.

Pattern Dept., Kansas Union Farm-
er, Salina, Kansas, Box 48.

President Coolidge in addressing a
session of First International Con-
ference of Soil Sciences recently said:
The fundamental importance of the
soil as a national and international
asset becomes at once apparent when
we reflect upon the extent to which
all mankind is dependent upon it, di-
rectly or indirectly, for food, cloth-
ing, and shelter. Long after our
mines have ceased to give up their
treasures the soil must continue to
produce the food necessary for the
increasing populations of the world.

Being a young nation, the United
States has not, as yet, been forced
to conserve its great natural resource
as have some of the older countries
where pressure of population on food
supply has necessitated the consid-
eration of means for conserving the fer-
tility of the soil and at the same
time increasing the yield per acre.

In the past, with our abundance
of fertile acres, we have been able
greatly to augment our total produc-
tion through increased acreage and
the use of improved machinery. With
practically all our fertile land now
under cultivation, except for irriga-
tion and reclamation, further increases
in total production must come from
increased acre yields instead of from
increased acres.

Secretary of War Dwight F. Davis
in a recent speech pledged quick ac-
tion on floods and said:

"The Mississippi river can and must
be controlled. The nation whose en-
gineers built the Panama Canal despite
seemingly insuperable obstacles has
solved the complex and difficult prob-
lem of flood control. How this is to
be done will be one of the major prob-
lems before the next congress. We
have never had complete control pro-
ject completely carried out. The pres-
ent project was but partially complet-
ed when this greatest and most dis-
astrous flood in our history irresist-
ibly poured down the valley. Although
this project took into consideration
all previous records of high water,
the present flood has broken all those
records. It is vitally important,
therefore, that all the information
regarding the present flood be stud-
ied thoroughly before a new project
is adopted."

Maj. General Edgar Jadwin, chief
of the United States army engineers,
recently characterized the Mississippi
flood as a challenge to this nation
and said:

"This flood has shown that protec-
tion must be furnished for water
floods that existing works were ex-
pected to meet, even had they been
completed. Levees necessary for the
protection of the endangered area not
now under government supervision
must be brought thereunder," he as-
serted, adding, "the problem is a na-
tional one, and the laws should be so
modified that the government shall
have authority to locate the works
where sound engineering dictates they
be built, whether the flood control
consists of larger levees, or spill-
ways and reservoirs, or a combina-
tion."

No matter what method or means
the government decides to employ in
handling this the greatest question
before the American people today,
whether it be dikes, levees, additional
channels, reservoirs, spillways or a
combination of these and others, we
can rest assured that whenever con-
gress decides that flood control of the
Mississippi river is a national ques-
tion and the nation's job, we will have
flood protection that protects.

And if congress can only under-
stand and agree that some remedy
must be immediately had, and will
make an appropriation in a sufficient
amount to do the work our engineers
will find a way.

We all agree that it is unwise to
permit such a disaster and then pour
out our money in rebuilding after the
destruction. It is much sanner to pre-
vent that than to relieve and to re-
build. Everyone who knows anything

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE
If members of the Union have anything to Sell or Exchange, they
should advertise it in this department. Rate: 3 cents a word per is-
sue. Count words in heading, as "For Sale," or "Wanted to Buy,"
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NEWS OF THE RECENT RATE HEARING AT WICHITA

WEALTHY RANCH OWNER RE- LATES TENANT'S STORY

Farming Rapidly is Losing Ground as Business Investment, Pratt Banker and Land Operator Testifies to Commission

TENANCY IS BECOMING THREAT

Small Landowner Will Be Forced to Rent as Capital Becomes Smaller—Fields Tells of Lowered Living Conditions

(By CLIFF STRATTON)
(Staff Correspondent.)

Wichita, Kan., July 25.—(Special)—George W. Lomon, president of the First National bank of Pratt, owner of three other banks and owner of 20,000 acres of land in Pratt and adjoining southwestern Kansas counties, told Commissioner Balthaser Meyer of the Interstate Commerce commission here today why he has quit operating his numerous farms himself, and now lets the entire acreage out to tenants.

"Farming doesn't pay," sums up his entire story.

Now Lomon isn't a town banker who went into the farming business late in life to show the farmers how to do it, or for his health, or to give himself something to do. Most mon indulges in no speeches about standards of living or what the farmer is entitled to, or his place in the economic or social structure of the nation. Lomon has been farming as long as he has been banking—41 years in and near Pratt.

Lomon is a good business man, he knows whether he is losing or making money. Since 1920 the farming business has showed up consistently on the wrong side of the ledger in Lomon's profit and loss account.

Business Doesn't Pay
"Farming doesn't pay," was Lomon's conclusion, and Lomon isn't farming any more. He is leaving his 20,000 acres to tenants, and testified that in this fashion he will get about four per cent return on his investment.

"What do the tenants make?" asked Clyde M. Reed, representing the farm organizations before Commissioner Meyer in the hearing on the application of the railroads to hike grain rates in Kansas some 10 or 12 million dollars a year.

Tenants Owe Money.
"The tenants owe me money," said Lomon. "Eighty per cent of them will have to borrow more money from me to finance planting and handling next year's crop. They are going into debt a little deeper every year."

Up until 1920—since the late "Eighties"—Lomon explained, he made money farming and increased his holdings steadily. Farming was profitable, and Lomon hired a foreman to operate his farms. When the experience of six years showed him that not his methods, but the business of farming itself, did not pay, then Lomon quit farming and passed the burden to his tenants.

Owners No Better Off
"The small landowner," continued Lomon, "is no better off than the tenants. Under present conditions, he soon will become a tenant." Under further examination Lomon explained that as tenants reached their financial limits, they would be replaced by small landowners who had reached their limits as farmers. These in turn would pass thru the tenant stage.

"Then what happens?" asked Reed.

Next Move Uncertain
Lomon wasn't quite clear as to the next step. That is not really a business question. But he evened things out. "I don't know," he said, "but I think it is not a business question, but a question of business, not lack of intelligent farming that is the matter with farming. Farming just doesn't pay."

"Is there a financial depression?" insisted Reed.
"There is and has been since 1920," said Lomon, "the expenses of operation, taxes, costs of machinery, freight charges make the return on the investment negligible."

Big Question Left Out.
The railroad attorneys asked a number of questions of Lomon, but did not ask him if an increase in grain rates of around 40 per cent would have a tendency to make farming pay.

The Kansas farm organizations today kept up their hammering on the fact that agriculture already is carrying more charges "than the traffic will bear," in preparation for a demand for decreased freight rates. Under the Hock-Smith resolution the Interstate Commerce commission must consider the reasonableness of the rate as affecting agriculture, as well as the assurance of a reasonable return on the railroads' investment.

Lassiter Is a Witness
Miles Lassiter, president of the federal farm loan bank at Wichita, and John Fields, vice president of the institution, were among the farm witnesses today.

Lassiter's evidence was very similar to that of Lomon. Neither was spectacular, but both testified in cold blooded business fashion that "farming doesn't pay." There has been a growing suspicion that this might be the case, ever since it began to be understood that what the farmer produces today he exchanges for about 80 cents of a 130-cent dollar, compared to 100 cents on a 100-cent dollar back in 1913.

Fields Widely Known
Fields, former editor of the Oklahoma Farmer and for 40 years recognized as an authority on farm economics, drew a running fire of attack and questions from the railroad attorneys and, from Commissioner Meyer and Examiner Arthur J. Mackley of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Fields was qualified by Reed as a banker, a farm editor of wide experience, and an economist familiar with farm conditions in Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

The decade preceding and including 1919, Fields said, was a period of stability. Farming paid. Good

farmers made money and added to their holdings. Since 1919 the farmer has found himself in serious circumstances. Then followed testimony from a little different angle, but very similar to that of Lomon and Lassiter.

Farm Capital Decreasing.
Farm capital is decreasing, not increasing, Fields said. Agriculture as an industry can't keep expenditures within earned income without lowering decidedly the standard of living. Farmers are adjusting themselves, Fields said, rather sadly. "They have grinded their teeth and no longer expect to maintain a scale of living equal to that of other people they meet and have dealings with."

Right there was where Commissioner Meyer took the examination away from Reed, after A. B. Enock, railroad attorney, had objected to Reed's question that had placed the foregoing statement in the record.

Conditions Lowering
"Is it your judgment," Commissioner Meyer asked Fields, "that the standard of living on the farm is lower than other occupations?"

"That statement is a little too broad," replied Fields. "It is becoming so."

Meyer asked what would be the result.
"If this condition continues over many years," said Fields, "the average life of the farmer will blow up. Meanwhile the intermediate step will be that the farmer must piece out and finally give up the comforts of town people."

"Can you enumerate some of the advantages the farmer has?" questioned Meyer.

Farmers Worse Off
"He has no consolation of apparent independence," Fields admitted. "I understand there were only 8 individuals residences built in New York last year," suggested Meyer. "Haven't you any sympathy for the cliff dwellers of our largest city?"

"The farmer is in really a less desirable position, trying to keep expenditures within earning income."

Examiner Mackley wanted to know if Fields could also qualify as an expert on the common laborer and if the common laborer in the city didn't have as hard a time as the farmer.

Fields Asks Questions
"Do you mean," asked Fields, "that the farmer as a class should be kept to the standard of the common day laborer?"

"I didn't mean that," Mackley explained. "I meant all workers."

"When I can qualify," Fields responded. "The workman in Oklahoma City and in the country, is much better off than before the war. The farmer is becoming steadily worse off. And I don't blame him for feeling he is entitled to some of the things other people have."

"Has the income on the farm, as a whole, kept up with the increase in wages?" queried Reed.
"The prices for products of the farm have dropped 50 per cent. Behind the increase of wages in other industries, responded Fields.

Reed had introduced Saturday a report from the United States department of agriculture stating that the income of the farm family last fiscal year dropped 30 per cent investment in the Standard to quit carrying open accounts for farmers. Bankers will be called on for information as to chattel mortgages on farm goods and property.

FARMER IS SQUEEZED
Reed Says Farmers Are Becoming a Peasant Class

Wichita, Kan., July 25.—(Special)—A depression which, unless something is done to remedy it, will eventually reduce the farmers of Kansas to the status of a peasant class, now has this section in its grip and for seven years it has been squeezing the life out of the prosperity of the state, Clyde M. Reed, conducting the rate fight before the interstate commerce commission here today, addressed before Wichita Rotary today.

A comparison of the relative condition of bank deposits of the nation at large and of Kansas in particular was one of the startling disclosures. He showed that since 1920 U. S. bank deposits have increased from \$27,683,000,000 to \$48,882,000,000, or 29 per cent, while during the same period deposits for Kansas decreased from \$456,000,000 to \$420,000,000. A decrease of eight per cent.

In spite of good crops the Kansas farmer has lost steadily during the past seven years, he said. In 1914 the agricultural income of Kansas was \$376,000,000. Last year it was \$469,000,000. Although the apparent increase of \$93,000,000, Reed said that when the actual buying power of the dollar now and before the war is taken into consideration, it is found the farmers suffered an actual loss of \$94,000,000 a year.

Wichita, Kan., July 24.—Ton-mile earnings of railroads in Kansas for 1926 exceeded ton-mile earnings of railroads in Iowa by nearly 15 per cent. Ton-mile earnings in Kansas exceeded those in Nebraska by nearly eight per cent.

Ton-mile earnings in Kansas exceeded those in North Dakota by nearly 16 per cent.

Ton-mile earnings in Kansas exceeded those in South Dakota by more than six per cent.

Ton-mile earnings in Kansas exceeded ton-mile earnings in Wisconsin by more than 11 per cent.

In the face of these facts, Kansas railroads are proposing to increase the Kansas freight bill on grain products alone between 10 and 12 million dollars a year, and are asking an increase also of seven million dollars a year in class rates.

Economists, Bankers, Merchants, Oil Men and Others to Be Put on Stand by Clyde Reed, Beginning This Week

Wichita, Kan., July 24.—It is a far-flung battle line, this grain rate hear-

ing before Balthaser H. Meyer, interstate commerce commissioner, at the Broadway hotel here.

Seven Kansas farm organizations, plus one four-state organization, the Southwest Co-operative Wheat Marketing association—Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Nebraska—are taking advantage of this rate hearing to read into records the unbalanced economic structure of the United States which makes the farm problem.

Also they are showing why this farm problem is more than a farm problem. It is a problem affecting the entire Mississippi-Missouri valley, farmers, bankers, business men, the auto industry, the corner grocer, the newspapers, the wives, sons, daughters—everyone in this entire belt.

HOCK-SMITH ACT A WEAPON
Also these farm organizations are going to do something that the state public utility and service commissions in the past few years have lacked the vision and the backbone to undertake.

They are going to check to the interstate commerce commission a demand for decreases in rates on farm products, instead of simply remaining on the defensive against increases in rates.

Homer Hoch, congressman from Kansas, has made it possible for the farm organizations to take the offensive in the fight for reasonable freight rates, thru the Hock-Smith resolution, empowering the interstate commerce commission to investigate the entire rate structure, with special reference to rates on farm products.

Has Power to Reduce Rates
Under this act, the interstate commerce commission, if a proper showing is made, has the power not only to reduce rates, but also to order the railroads, but also to order the reductions in rates that the farm organizations will demand before the hearing is completed.

With what looks right now like a well-planned campaign and good liaison among the various groups, Clyde M. Reed, counsel for the farm organizations, is reading into the official records of the I. C. C. the facts that the farm leaders, Sen. Arthur Capper and others familiar with the situation for years, have been telling the public—thus the farmer with his eighty-cent dollar is under a handicap that is slowly but surely shunting him toward the peasant class of Europe, and that certainly he is in no position to stand a further increase in freight rates on grain.

Agricultural Organizations Swing Into Offensive and Demand Not Only No Increase but a Cut in Freight Charges

Powerful Array of Witnesses
The farm organizations are depending upon this time, either. Reed has lined up economists from the department of Agriculture at Washington and State Agricultural College at Manhattan, bankers and elevator men, Standard Oil employees, and others, to testify before the interstate commerce commission. The subpoena has been served on H. A. McConnell, credit man for the Standard Oil company for this territory. McConnell will be called on to tell among other things, why he has been unable to proceed before the interstate commerce commission. The subpoena has been served on H. A. McConnell, credit man for the Standard Oil company for this territory. McConnell will be called on to tell among other things, why he has been unable to proceed before the interstate commerce commission.

Chattel Mortgage New Thing
The chattel mortgage was almost unknown in farm circles a decade ago. Now the banker insists upon it. The reason for the chattel mortgage is expected to throw some light on the farm problem.

In brief, the farm organizations have moved out of the defensive positions where the state commissions have been "high tailed" by smart read attorneys into taking up positions in carefully prepared dugouts, and are taking the offensive.

A flanking movement against the railroads, in view of the fact that the interstate commerce commission is expected to turn the twelve-month-dollar-a-year rate increase into a decrease of ten or fifteen per cent on grain rates, will be accomplished by a larger forward movement to educate Kansas to the fact that unless agriculture is put on a more nearly equal basis with other industries over the nation, Kansas business interests will suffer all along the line.

Hearing to Be Resumed Today
Hearing in the grain rate case will be resumed tomorrow morning before Commissioner Meyer. Oklahoma will complete its testimony in the morning, and then Kansas will go on the stand for four or five days. John P. Green, former editor of the Oklahoma Farmer, now vice president of the Federal Land bank at Wichita, will be one of the banker witnesses.

George W. Lomon, president of the First National bank of Pratt, is expected to go on this afternoon, or Tuesday. Other witnesses for the farm organization include:

C. E. Brasted, secretary of the Kansas Farmers' union; Waldo E. Grimes, head of the agricultural economics department at the Kansas State Agricultural college, and E. M. Green, of the same department; O. J. Sprout, president and manager of the Co-operative Telephone company of Norton; Elmer Sanson, merchant and ranchman, of Quinter; Rodney A. Elward, of Castleton, head of the Tax Payers League; Harry W. Greenleaf, of Ford, vice of the Co-operative Grain Dealers' association; Arnold Burns, Peabody, president of the Kansas Livestock association; J. B. Brown, of Larned, president of the Kansas Co-operative Grain Dealers' association; John Vessely, of Kansas City, president of the Southwest Co-operative Wheat Marketing association; W. C. Epperson, Reno county farmer; H. H. Goetsch, of Brewster, farmer; H. W. Skinner, of Medicine Lodge, farmer and banker; Jesse W. Greenleaf, stockman, of Greensburg; Ernest R. Downie, of Wichita, general manager

of the Kansas Co-operative Wheat Marketing association; C. E. Huff, president of the Kansas Farmers' union; Caldwell Davis, master of the union; Granger, Ralph Snyder, president of the Kansas State Farm bureau; C. C. Cogswell, of Kingman, farmer; Schuyler Jones, of Wichita, shoe merchant; L. L. Wilson, of Wichita, farmer; Lloyd Chandler, of Arkansas City, farmer; John Ellison, county auditor, manager of the Parsons Sun, and W. P. Lambertson, of Fairview, farmer and stockman.

HALF A WORM

One of the best articles of the 1927 crop concerns our president. Most people have heard it, but it will bear repetition for the sake of those who have not. It seems that on one of his fishing-trips, Mr. Coolidge had been meeting with very limited success, while a small boy following in the chief executive's footsteps was having little difficulty in landing a very satisfactory string. On seeking an explanation from the youngster, our president was told, "I use a whole worm."

The boy had the right idea. No self-respecting fish wants to be snared with half a worm. But that is the difference between the sucker who lives in the water and the one that lives on land.

It is the wonderful success achieved by the co-op creameries in the North and the co-op egg and poultry associations of the Northwest, not to mention other co-op successes, a member of our Farmers Union leadership has organized an association to secure for Kansas poultrymen and dairymen the prices farmers elsewhere are getting. A good start has been made, but already human-nature is asserting itself and a good many individual producers, who are sympathetic with the idea, alight, alight, have shut their eyes to the ten to twenty-five cents advance on each pound of fat or dozen of eggs that they may reasonably expect in time, and are throwing their products back into the same old channels for TEMPORARY advance of a cent or two.

If you must swallow a hook, make 'em use a whole worm for bait.

A. Claude Hopper.

FURNISHING SEED WHEAT TO FARMERS

The need of furnishing a million bushels of seed wheat to farmers in at least 25 counties in western Kansas amounts to an emergency. This is the first time in the history of the W. M. Jardine, secretary of agriculture, by Ernest R. Downie, general manager of the Kansas Co-operative Wheat Marketing Association, Wichita, urging the federal government to lend assistance. A copy of the letter also is being sent to the Kansas delegation in congress, to Governor Ben S. Paulen, to the state secretary of agriculture and to chambers of commerce and other civic organizations in the state.

"This condition," the letter says, "extends into Oklahoma and the Panhandle country in Texas. Farmers in western Kansas, who are in need of this assistance, have not, in most cases, raised much wheat for the past two or three seasons. A few of them raised wheat last year but are without resources this year. They have exhausted their credit with local bankers and merchants and cannot obtain seed without outside help. I know of farmers who have lived in the northwestern Kansas 30 or 40 years who are unable to finance seed wheat this fall, and many of them have their ground practically ready for seeding."

I believe I am safe in saying that the seed wheat situation this year is worse than it has been for many years," Mr. Downie continues. "Some of the agencies which furnished seed wheat in northwestern Kansas last year have sustained heavy losses, and it is not likely that they will be able to furnish such again this year. Furthermore, such agencies usually require the farmer to give a fourth or fifth of his next crop to pay for the seed, and these farmers cannot afford to do that."

The association is making this request not simply for members of our organization but for all farmers who need this assistance. We thought the pool could help provide seed wheat this fall, but after the board of directors had investigated, we found we were unable to do so. The law does not permit directors to use the proceeds of wheat in the pool for any such purpose, and we have no reserve, no capital or other funds that we could use even temporarily."

Governor Paulen, according to the latter, does not believe the matter can be handled within the state, but is willing to do everything he can to assist. Mr. Downie believes all other farm organizations in Kansas will cooperate in the work.

"I want to assure you," the letter closes, "that the need is very urgent and I am hoping some way can be devised whereby the state government will be able to help. If such aid is not forthcoming, I am sure there will be a large number of farmers in western Kansas, who will be unable to sow any wheat this fall. Whatever action is taken must necessarily be taken at once as the time between seed and seeding is very short."

Mr. Downie deplors the fact that the second session of the sixty-ninth congress, after passing a bill to provide seed wheat for the needy farmers in states where repeated crop failures had left them destitute, failed to pass the deficiency appropriation bill which would have provided funds for the seed loan bill. The session adjourned without the bill, which leaves thousands of growers faced with the problem of getting seed or going out of business.

THE WORLD'S LONGEST BRIDGE

Across the waters of Lake Pontchartrain and following the shore to the gates of New Orleans, which are fast bringing to completion the long concrete highway bridges in the world. The structure has two bascule draws and is 14.5 miles in length. For the first time in over two centuries the city will be given an outlet to the north and east for vehicular traffic, and not tourists to Gulf Ports or anywhere along the Old Spanish Trail, can enjoy practically an unbroken stretch between Jacksonville and San Diego. In addition to the new \$62,000,000 is now being spent to give the southern tourist the same type of highways that have contributed so much to the growth of motor touring in the north.

Department of Practical Co-Operation

We are changing the policy of this department, beginning the first of the year. The Meeting Notices that have appeared here to fore were 100% locals for 1926. At this time we are showing only those that are 100% for 1927. All 100% locals for 1927 that wish their meeting notice to be published will receive this service free of charge. Locals that are not paid up in full but want their meeting notice published can have space in this department for One Cent per word per week.

ALLEN COUNTY

LIBERTY LOCAL NO. 2148****
Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. Ray Wilson, Sec.

SILVER LEAF LOCAL NO. 2156****
Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Mrs. M. A. Fender, Sec.

DIAMOND LOCAL NO. 2091****
Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. Mrs. R. C. Parish, Sec.

ALLEN CENTER LOCAL NO. 2165****
Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. Mrs. Jno. Page, Secy.

FAIRVIEW LOCAL NO. 2154****
Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. Mrs. Chas. L. Stewart, Secy.

CHASCO COUNTY

COTTONWOOD VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1200****
Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. L. K. Gray, Sec.

NEUTRAL LOCAL NO. 2108****
Meets the first Tuesday of each month. C. A. Atkinson, Secretary.

OWENSBY LOCAL NO. 2144****
Meets first and third Thursday of each month. Joe Farmer, Sec.

CLAY COUNTY

FOUR MILE LOCAL NO. 1138****
Meets on the first Tuesday of each month. G. W. Tomlinson, Secy.

COFFEY COUNTY

SUNNYSIDE LOCAL NO. 2114****
Meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Mrs. H. B. Lusk, Sec.

CARGY LOCAL NO. 2136****
Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. R. E. Titcher, Sec.

ELLISWORTH COUNTY

ADVANCE LOCAL NO. 1889****
Meets on the first Monday of each month. F. F. Svoboda, Secy.

LIBERTY LOCAL NO. 826****
Meets every first and third Monday of each month. Ed Mog. Secy.

TRIVOLI LOCAL NO. 1001****
Meets the first Monday evening in each month. W. H. Fleming, Secy.

HAYS LOCAL NO. 811****
Meets the first Friday in each month, alternating Pleasant Hill at 7:30 in the evening with Hays Court House at 2:00 in the afternoon. Frank B. Pfeiffer, Secy.

EXCELSIOR LOCAL NO. 605****
Meets the first and third Monday of each month. Joseph L. Weber, Sec.

PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1494****
Meets the first and third Monday of each month. Frank Reimeyer, Sec.

NEAL LOCAL NO. 1819****
Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. J. C. Graves, Sec.

GOVE COUNTY

PARK LOCAL NO. 909****
Meets the last Saturday of each month. Jas. Hein, Secy.

NEWELL COUNTY

PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL NO. 1200****
Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. Wm. T. Plinn, Sec.

SHARON LOCAL NO. 1744****
Meets the last Friday evening of each month. Mrs. H. B. DeVault, Secy.

LYNN COUNTY

BUCKEYE LOCAL NO. 2078****
Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. Roy E. Emmons, Sec.

MARSHALL COUNTY

SUMMIT LOCAL NO. 839****
Meeting second and fourth Wednesday night each month. Nels Samuelson, Sec.

OTTAWA COUNTY

SAND CREEK LOCAL NO. 462****
Meets the second and last Friday of the month. Walter Lott, Sec.

GROVER LOCAL NO. 108****
Meets every other Wednesday night. Anna Bremman, Sec.

RILEY COUNTY

ROCK ISLAND LOCAL NO. 1189****
Meets the first Tuesday evening of the month. Geo. Trumm, Sec.

GRAND VIEW LOCAL NO. 1214****
Meets on Friday night every two weeks. Esther Shorman, Sec.

RUSH COUNTY

SAND CREEK LOCAL NO. 804****
Meets the first and third Friday of each month. A. R. Wilson, Sec.

SMITH COUNTY

Meets at Stuart on the second Monday of each month. H. J. Schwarz, Secy.

STAFFORD COUNTY

UNION LOCAL NO. 2019****
Meets the first and third Friday of each month. J. W. Bateman, Sec.

THEO COUNTY

VODA LOCAL NO. 742****
Meets the fourth Friday in every month. Alfred Renneberger, Sec.-Treas.

WABASH COUNTY

FREEMONT LOCAL NO. 2014****
Meets the first and third Friday of the month. Geo. Eisenberger, Sec.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

HERVING LOCAL NO. 132****
Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. Henry Eden, Sec.

LETTER FROM A SATISFIED POLICY HOLDER

Gove City, Aug. 11, 1927.

Mr. Chas. Simpson,
Dear Friend and Brother:—I will try to write a few lines to you. I am always interested in your write-ups in the paper. I met Fritz Bentley a few days ago he said that you and he had failed to get together on the damage on his barn. I told him that you had treated Dave and me alright and that you had settled with my neighbor Montgomery on his barn a couple of times and gave the very best of satisfaction. And I told him you always tried to do the best thing by everybody. I don't think whether you and Bentley have got together yet or not. We have had the most little storms I have ever seen in one season. Everything around has been damaged more or less by storms. Some times ago we had a storm at our place. I think it was the same storm that hit Bentley's barn was damaged. Our garage went off its foundation, and the big barn doors blew in, and smashed up a little, and last night we had a storm that blew down wheat stacks, and damaged crops a little and even got on dwelling. I got hit by a bolt of lightning, it was knocked off even with the roof of the house and broken brick are scattered over the yard. We will put it back soon as we can. And the first time you are in our county I would like you to call on us and renew our friendship. And if you think we have any damage we will assure you that we won't have any misunderstanding as I know you will do the right thing as always.

Your friend, C. W. Evans.

Dear Editor:—I don't want my letters to get to be a burden to you, so I will leave it to your judgment as to whether you care to publish this or the letter received from one of our policyholders. This man is a self-made man working under many difficulties and hardships. He came from Arkansas and settled in Gove county on the prairie many years ago. He lives 18 miles southwest of Quinter. Owns 2,000 acres of land. Has a large family, much larger than the average, and his sons and daughters-in-law all live on the same county. They are all co-operators. If you could see this happy family and see what they are doing for themselves, you would be more convinced than ever of what co-operation does. Mr. Evans and his family are for the Farmers Union, the Farmers Union Insurance Co. Gove county, and the State of Kansas.

Chas. Simpson, The Field Man.

RILEY COUNTY

The third quarterly meeting of Riley County Farmers Union No. 45 will be held at Grandview school house, Saturday, Sept. 10, 1927, beginning at 10 a. m. Dinner will be served at noon. All Union members are urged to attend.

Gust Larson, Sec.

ANDERSON COUNTY

The Ladies Auxiliary and the Anderson County Farmers' Union will hold a joint picnic at Bennetts club house, September 3rd. President C. E. Huff will endeavor to arrange to be with them at that time.

MIAMI COUNTY FARMERS UNION PICNIC

To be held at Osawatimie, Labor Day, Sept. 5th. Big parade at 11 a. m. and the other at 3:30 p. m. Senator James Reed of Kansas City, Mo. will speak at 2 p. m., any one wishing to hear Sen. Reed must not miss this opportunity for this is one of