

The Kansas Union Farmer

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

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

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

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1925.



SOME QUESTIONS FOR DEBATE.

No resolutions should be adopted without discussion. Action not based on knowledge is often worse than doing nothing at all. A lot of farmers are against the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution. Suppose you debate this question.

Resolved, that the legislature of Kansas should ratify the proposed constitutional amendment designed to authorize congress to legislate in the interest of childhood.

Then here is another that might be argued somewhat extensively although it is fairly judgmental.

Resolved, that any legislation that protects and safeguards the youth of the republic should be supported by all good citizens and true patriots because a service to childhood is a service to society, our country and our free institutions.

There is still time for those members who attended the State Convention last year to redeem their pledges by each of them getting a new member for the organization.

THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION.

Concerning the quarrel between Governor Davis and Chancellor Lindsey that marked and, in a measure, marred the closing days of the administration of the former governor there are many honest differences of opinion. There are also many opinions that have no better foundation than mere partisan bias and prejudice. Probably there is much that is right on each side of the controversy. It is equally certain that each side was wrong about some things.

Thoughtful men know that the real fault, if fault there is, lies neither with Governor Davis nor Dr. Lindsey. The system of administering three separate types of state institutions dealing with matters as little related as education, charity and the punishment of crime through a single board is wrong. The wonder is not that results are bad but that they are not worse.

Members of the Union are asked to read the long article with suggested changes in the law which the writer has prepared for our paper. The legislature should do something about this matter. If our recommendations are sound they should be used.

JOBGING ASSOCIATION SERVICE.

The Farmers Union Jobging Association continues to find new ways to serve its members and the farming interests of Kansas. Few people of this state yet appreciate the enormous value of this agency that was created by the farmers to assist them in securing a fair deal and that is maintained by the loyalty and confidence of men who know that the winning of a single battle is only the first victory of a war certain to be long.

Not a year goes by that the Association does not return many fold its capital in savings to its members and to other farmers throughout Kansas. It has developed the agencies that finally realize the purposes of those legislators who defied privilege, money and prejudice and established the prison twine plant with the peoples funds and dared to use the resources of the state in defense of simple justice and fair treatment for the wheat growers. Without the Association there is no way to distribute the out-put of the prison twine factory except through the agencies that are maintained by monopoly. A million dollars a year is a small estimate of the value of the Jobging Association service renders Kansas by controlling the price of binder twine.

Now comes the Association and offers further assistance to its members and patrons. Kansas farmers spend millions of dollars a year for seeds. There is no other purchase made for the average farm that is more important. Pure seed with high percentage germination makes money for farms. Inferior seed only a part of which grows wastes not only the purchase price but precious opportunities to secure good crops and profitable prices.

The Association has entered into a contract with one of the biggest and strongest seed houses in the country that will enable the farmers of Kansas to buy seeds and seed of all kinds in quan-

titles large or small at prices that save money and of a quality that will make money. Every member of the Union who expects to sow a new grass crop or to purchase seed of any sort this spring should ask the Jobging Association for advice and prices.

ENEMIES OF SOCIALISM.

The Farmers Union is no more an advocate of socialism than it is of the program and principles of any other political party. This writer is not a socialist and often confesses that he has never been able to understand just what it is that socialists would do if they had authority. This paper has no more right or inclination to support socialism than it has to advocate republicanism or defend democracy.

Notwithstanding the best efforts of all who are responsible for cooperative programs and literature to avoid all political entanglements of every sort the Farmers Union, its workers, its purposes, and its institutions are daily denounced as socialist. They are socialist only in the sense that they are all working for social justice as the only possible guaranty of liberty.

Like many other movements that have flourished in the past the best friends of socialism are its enemies. The best argument that can be advanced in favor of socialism is a simple enumeration of the enemies that it has made.

POLITICAL CAMPAIGN EXPENSES.

A good many millions of dollars were spent by various political committees during the recent presidential campaign. In previous campaigns the expenses have been even heavier. All the money used to carry elections, except inconsiderable amounts cajoled from individuals or hijacked from office holders, is contributed by men and interests who will want favors from the government after the tumult and the shouting are over.

Every dollar used in political campaigns is either wasted or worse than wasted. It is said that nearly ten millions of dollars was raised and used by the National Republican campaign committee in 1920; the expenses of the same committee in 1924 approximated four millions of dollars. Both Harding and Coolidge would have been elected if no single dollar had been spent in their behalf. Perhaps the money was not used to corrupt voters. That is a pastime seldom indulged in now-a-days. But if such huge contributions made no votes it cannot be said that they created no obligations. The Harding administration was called on to pay its debts and the same call will be made on the Coolidge administration.

The democrats spend less money than the republicans and get even less to show for their cash. Cox would have been beaten if his committee had collected TEN MILLION DOLLARS for campaign purposes. Davis would have been defeated just as decisively if his committee had been able to raise a fund of five millions. Why waste so much money every four years? No votes are changed. No good is accomplished. Evil always results and always will result from such use of money by any party in the interest of any candidate.

Why not try the experiment of letting the folks vote as they deem please without being pestered to death by campaign oratory and literature?

CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT.

Quite a number of Farmers Union Locals and County Unions have adopted resolutions asking the legislature not to ratify the proposed constitutional amendment. It is just possible that farmers are once again being used to keep the fingers of privilege from being scorched.

Massachusetts, dominated by faculty owners whose fortunes have been coined from the innocent blood of poor and defenseless childhood, has refused to adopt the amendment. North Carolina, controlled by mill owners, has taken the same action. Pennsylvania, a state in which thousands of children deprived of all opportunity for education, toil in or about the coal mines is reported to be against the amendment. Why are the farmers of Kansas cooperating with the textile mill owners of Massachusetts, the cotton spinners of the Carolinas, the coal operators of Pennsylvania and the sweat shop slave drivers of New York in opposition to a proposal to protect childhood from the heartless cupidity and greed of men who put a greater value on money than they do on human life and happiness?

Perhaps the farmers are being misled in this matter. The proposed amendment merely clothes congress with authority to legislate for the protection of children. Such laws are necessary. There is no thought that there will ever be any interference with child labor on the farms. It is the children of the mills, mines and factories that must be shielded from the conscienceless forces that spare neither youth nor age in campaigns for money.

Mind now, this paper does not criticize the good members of the Union who have resolved against the Child Labor Amendment. It only suggests that before any further resolutions are adopted it may be as well to find out who is paying for the propaganda that results in such resolutions.

THE EDITORS NOMINATIONS.

Perhaps many readers of the Kansas Union Farmer are tired of discussions and suggestions of greatness. Doubtless there are many things of more importance, especially to the farmers of Kansas. After all, however, the voting on the ten greatest men of all time is a sort of intelligence and culture test. Having received these hundreds of lists the editor believes that he knows more about the folks that read the paper and is better able to write for their instruction and entertainment. In order that we may all be on equal terms the editor now submits his own list which follows:

Moses, the greatest law-giver of all times; Aristotle, the father of philosophy and science; Hannibal, the greatest soldier of all the ages and the only general who ever fought for fourteen years

on foreign soil without receiving supplies or reinforcements from home; Homer, the father of Poetry; De Vinci, the greatest of all artists; Shakespeare, the greatest writer of all time; Franklin, whose discoveries prepared the way for most modern inventions and who was great in more fields of human activity than any other man that ever lived; Plato whose principles of government lie at the basis of the institutions of all modern free nations; and Abraham Lincoln who emancipated four million slaves and the whole nation from the barbarism of bondage.

RAILROADS AND TAXATION.

The railroads of Kansas base their rates for service on a property valuation of about \$900,000,000. Last year they paid taxes on an assessed valuation of less than \$400,000,000. This year the tax commission has increased the assessment of such property nearly \$200,000,000 but even then is asking the roads to pay taxes on a valuation which is around \$800,000,000 less than the amount that they maintain should be their rate making value.

It should not be a matter of surprise that farmers generally have no sympathy with the railroads in their attempts to secure relief from the higher taxes that they have been called on to pay. Railroads in Kansas are exceedingly prosperous. Although there is much doubt that their actual value is anywhere near \$900,000,000 they are to earn much more than six per cent on that amount last year. There are several Kansas roads whose net earnings are regularly at the rate of ten per cent or more on the valuations fixed by themselves.

The situation of the farmers is strikingly different. Propaganda to the contrary notwithstanding agriculture is not prosperous in Kansas. Farms are not assessed with any relation to their earning capacity. Farmers have no accountants in their service who are able to juggle values and incomes to justify lower taxes. They pay whatever the state demands. They cannot understand why the railroads should not be taxed on the same basis that fixes farm rates.

The law of the land requires that the Interstate Commerce Commission shall establish and maintain rates that will give the roads a return of about six percent on their actual property value. The most radical agitator for better farm conditions has never demanded that prices for farm products shall be fixed and maintained at levels that will permit farm operators to earn six per cent on their property investment. The man who demands that government shall fix and maintain railroad rates is regarded as an eminently sound and conservative economist. The man who ventures to suggest that the prices of farm products should be fixed by the government is denounced as a wild eyed socialist and suffers from the suspicion that he is a traitor in league with Bolshevism or the devil.

The railroads have had no trouble in establishing their claim that low rates are confiscatory. Low prices of farm products have confiscated billions of dollars of agricultural wealth during the past five years. Uncle Reuben cannot see the justice of such a situation. His land taxes are paid on arbitrary assessments that have little relation either to producing or market value. He is called a fool and a traitor when he asks for the same treatment by the government that has made the railroads the best income producing property in the country.

Why should the goose be fed with sauce that is not fit for the gander?

WATERWAYS AND CROOKED WAYS

What is called an authorization bill providing for a five year program for the improvement of rivers and harbors is now pending in congress. It outlines a program that provides for some water way improvement in every part of the country. If passed it will not require the appropriation of any enormous amount of money for any one year but it will officially announce and define the policy of congress.

Kansas senators and representatives are all friendly to constructive, sensible and honest legislation for water ways but there are two items in this bill that smell very strongly of pork barrel agreements arrived at by political horse trading. The measure provides \$11,000,000 for the improvement of the harbor of Los Angeles and \$11,000,000 for the improvement of the navigation of the Hudson river between Albany and New York. Is it merely a coincidence that these two projects each requiring exactly the same amount of money are included in the same bill and must either be accepted or rejected at the same time? Representatives from the middle west can hardly be blamed for hesitating to support a measure that deals so generously with New York and Los Angeles and so grudgingly provides only the most meager appropriations for the Missouri and the Mississippi. Also it is just possible that an alliance between the representatives of the east and the west for the purpose of defeating any aid by this country for the deep water project from Chicago to the Atlantic through the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence river has been made. Who can blame a Kansas congressman for being just a little suspicious of such a measure?

"SCAB" OR "MISTER."

Not so very long ago this writer heard a fairly well known and very intelligent man say the worst thing about farmers that he had ever heard up to that time. In discussing organization that dear brother said that one of the big differences between the farmer and the craftsman is that the organized working man call his fellow worker who goes it alone a scab but the Union farmer calls his unorganized fellow farmer "Mister."

No cooperative enterprise established by the Farmers Union of Kansas ever failed because it followed the advice and adopted the suggestions of the parent organization.

COMMENT ON WORLD'S NEWS FOR WEEK

Santa Fe Railway Earnings

For the year just ended were sufficient to pay all fixed charges including bond interest, and dividends on preferred stock and leave a balance equal to fifteen per cent or more on the common stock. Prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors there was a good deal of speculation as to what might be done with the surplus which with the additional earned last year now amounts to about thirty-five per cent of the common stock.

A Farmer With a Plaster

On his farm equal to one-half its value would always know what to do with surplus earnings equal to one-third the value of his property. He could reduce his mortgage and correspondingly his interest payments. That would give a much sounder business position, would reduce the fixed charges against his income, and the subsequent years would leave him with considerably larger net earnings to be used for the improvement of his property and for the comfort and joy of his family.

All private individuals regard the payment of their debts and mortgages not only as a duty but as good business practice. Railroads never pay their mortgages the great bulk of which are the basis for bonds running from fifty to as long as 999 years. To reduce such funded debts would increase net earnings for subsequent years but might result in loss of arguments to support the right to charge high rates for freight and passenger service.

Santa Fe Finances Indicate

Great prosperity for that corporation. For more than a quarter of a century it has been making money. The road is well managed and well operated. No system in the country gives finer service to its patrons. In all these things the people of Kansas take some justifiable pride. The Santa Fe is a Kansas institution which prospers from the prosperity of this state.

It is true, however, that a great many Kansas farmers have begun to wonder when the road will begin to pay its debts and so reduce its fixed charges as a first step towards lowering its rates for services. Figures are not at hand at this moment but it is approximately correct to say that the distribution of a \$200,000,000 stock dividend at this time would increase the dividend requirements \$12,000,000 a year, that is the road would try to expect its patrons to pay at least that much more each year for services rendered.

On the other hand if the same amount were applied to the retirement of bonds the road would save \$9,000,000 a year which could be allowed to accumulate as a surplus against bonds still outstanding or could be distributed to shareholders as extra dividends without taking an additional cent from patrons. Either plan benefits the stockholders, the first at the expense of the public and the second at no expense to any one.

Railroads Not Only Make

No provision for retiring their bonds but constantly sell new issues of that particular sort of paper. The result is that the fixed debts dependent on production for interest mounts to new high and ever higher figures from day to day and from year to year. If to the railroad bonds the outstanding and new bonds of the government, the several states and all the municipalities large and small are added and that sum increased by the amount of outstanding industrial bonds the sum total is so staggering that it is incomprehensible to the human intellect.

From the best sources of information accessible it is certain that we must conclude that the entire outstanding bonded and mortgage debt owed by municipalities within the boundaries of the United States cannot be less than \$150,000,000,000. The annual interest on that debt, at which must be paid from yearly additions to wealth is not less than \$6,000,000,000. This is a tremendous burden but is only a part of the fixed charges against industry and business. Taxes for other purposes than bond interest amount to about the same sum.

It is plain, therefore, that each year the people of the United States must create about \$12,000,000,000 of new wealth with which to pay bond holders their interest and meet the constantly mounting expenses of government before they have anything for themselves with which to buy shoes for the babies and meet their other living expenses.

Just how long will the camel's back hold up under this always growing burden?

Editors Are Useful Folks

Who render great services to their fellowmen. Still there is no evidence that the legislature of Kansas and the congress of the United States in establishing and maintaining the Kansas State Agricultural College intended that institution to be a training school for newspaper men.

Last week a news story printed throughout the country told all about the great number of fine editors that were educated at Manhattan. No story

glorifying the accomplishments of farmers educated at that school has ever been printed so far as this writer knows. All of which may lead to the query whether the Kansas State Agricultural College exists to educate farmers or editors.

Perhaps, however, it is just as well. A school should serve the greatest need of those who support it. There are undoubtedly many more good farmers than there are good editors in the state.

Wheat

Prices Still Rise With the advance of stocks and bonds. One optimistic Kansas editor estimates that not more than one third of the 1924 Kansas wheat crop was sold by growers while the price was still around a dollar a bushel and that, therefore, two thirds of the wheat farmers have benefited by the high prices. Dates and prices are not at hand as this is written but it is more likely that nearly two-thirds of the crop was sold before the price went much above a dollar a bushel.

The great majority of Kansas wheat growers needed money so badly that they sold their grain from the machine regardless of price. The only men that have benefited from the high prices are the speculators who were able to accumulate and store large volumes of cheap wheat, the cooperators who were organized to make the speculators' profits for themselves and these few already well to do fellows who had the cash or credit that enabled them to hold their crops for better markets.

Ford

Is Busting Out Again with his attacks on cooperative marketing. He still believes that the whole movement is controlled by Jews and that in its entirety it is a conspiracy to turn the handling of American farm crops over to international bankers the most of whom are thrifty and competent Hebrew gentlemen.

Ford may be wrong. If so it is not the first time that he has been out on a limb. Still it is not likely that the folks who believe themselves libeled by the Dearborn Independent will be able to recover any damages if they go to law.

Expert Testimony

In law suits sometimes develops strange situations. In a tax case heard the other day in an eastern city it was necessary to establish the value of certain mining properties in order to properly compute the invested capital of a tax payer for a given year.

Both the government and the taxpayer relied on the expert evidence of mining engineers. One engineer gave it as his opinion that the property was worth \$2,000,000. The other engineer was equally positive that on that particular date that same property was worth a trifle over \$600,000. Both men are graduates of technical schools of great reputation and each of them has practiced the profession of mining engineering, one for twenty years and the other for at least forty years.

Either litigant in a law suit can prove his case by an expert witness if he can keep the other fellow from also summoning experts.

England Has Agreed

That the expenses of the American Army of Occupation which lived on the Rhine for a number of years shall be paid out of the reparations exacted from Germany. The United States probably has a claim to that money rather than any other debt owed it in Europe. The occupation of Germany and the expenses of the armies of occupation were provided for in the Treaty of Versailles.

The United States never agreed to that treaty and therefore should never have had an army on the Rhine. Or if it was necessary to join with the allies in the German occupation pending the ratification of the treaty our army should have been withdrawn when the senate defeated the treaty.

France

Has Backed Up Again on the debts that she owes to England and the United States. Certainly she cannot well pay the one and repudiate the other. As long as she maintains a million men in her army she cannot pay either and in the long run must repudiate both.

Even if France refuses to pay her debts to the United States and England there is no certainty that she will not bill both for rent of the battle fields that were used by English and American soldiers during the war. One of the unexpected results of the great conflict is that the whole world is getting to be much better acquainted with the French.

Farmers

Need Some Relief From the hard conditions under which they carry on their business. The president recognizes this situation and has appointed a commission of experts to make recommendations. That committee is not in session in Washington and may develop some practical and workable plan but at this moment the prospect that it will do is not very bright.

citizens who have been wronged in any way by the railroads. Each of least four members of the committee will be solved if the president happens to have the good sense to appoint him Secretary of Agriculture.

Joking? Nothing like it. Of course the four who have their lighting rods up for the secretaryship have not openly offered that particular solution for the farmers problem. The other four propositions were actually proposed and discussed and are now a part of the records of the commission. When great leaders are so short of ideas why should mere laymen be censured for failure to solve the difficulties of agriculture?

Compers Worked for Labor

For forty years, lived carefully, spent little and left less than \$30,000 to be divided among his heirs. There is a curious story in circulation in Washington that the German government offered him several millions of dollars if he would use his position in the encouragement of strikes during the Great War. In declining to commit such an act of treason he declared that he derived all his income from the wages paid him by his fellow laboring men and that he never would get any money from any other source.

Compers was a Jew of English birth. He was naturalized as a citizen of the United States and his last words were "God bless America and American institutions. Notwithstanding his alien birth and blood he came nearer than many native born sons of the republic to the 100 per cent American ideal.

Women Governors

Now administer the affairs of two states. All men know that Texas and Wyoming will have clean and competent government during the coming two years. Within ten years there will be a dozen women governors and at least a hundred women in the senate and house of representatives at Washington. The ladies may not do all they expect or that the people hope from them but one thing is dead certain: they can not do any worse than the men have been doing in this country for a hundred and fifty years. Kansas has led the country in most forward movements but is a lagging a little in the matter of recognizing the right of women to hold public office and the splendid public service that may be secured by putting them there.

Russian Grand Duchess.

And the titular empress of Russia was in Washington last week. She was welcomed by high society. Fetes begeth aristocrats of her country and festivals in the interest of the poor were held and many dollars were collected for the relief of poverty, not the poverty of those who often suffer from famine but the poverty of the nobility who no longer have any jobs or incomes in their own country.

A prince, a duchess, an earl, or a count attracts very little notice in Europe but no sooner does a dispossessed aristocrat with a handle to his name light on these shores than a crowd begins to gather in his name. He is not a noble but a man made up of millions of Americans struggling with each other for the privilege of entertaining the pedigreed visitors.

In some way or other we have managed to preserve at least the forms of democracy in this country but it is not easy to see how it has been done.

Calles, The New President

Of Mexico has had a career that indicates that he is very much of a man. Once upon a time he was chief of 20,000,000 people. He secured his place on his merits. He has neither won battles nor assassinated rivals. His fellow citizens voted him the job that he now holds.

For the first time in this country Mexico appears to be assured of a period of peace and prosperity.

Norris Of Nebraska

More than any other man is responsible for the failure of Congress to adopt the Ford Plan for the development of the water power project at Muscle Shoals. He showed that Ford was modestly asking for a donation worth around \$15,000,000,000 and so blocked the inner's modest demands.

Another proposition almost equally valuable to private interests is now pending in congress and Senator Norris is against it. The Nebraska statesman believes that the people should operate their own water power plants and has the courage to stand out against all efforts to give priceless water power sites to private interests.

The Senate

Has Refused to Overturn the president's veto of the postal wage increase bill. Every taxpayer agrees with Mr. Coolidge that the time has come to save money. Still and all it is a little tough that we must save in this instance at the expense of the poorest paid, the most dangerous service employees and that the postal service which is maintained for the public good.

The president has made it plain that he sympathizes with the cause of the postal service employees and that he is of and will approve any reasonable increase whenever it comes to him with provisions for additional revenues out of which it can be paid. Like every other sound business man in the country the president refuses to spend money that is not in the treasury or provided for from taxes yet to be collected.

Department of Practical Co-Operation

UNION MEETING NOTICES

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

CRAWFORD COUNTY.

The regular meeting of the Crawford County Farmers Union will be held on the last Tuesday of each month throughout the year in Union Hall over Crawford County State Bank, Girard, Kans.

H. S. Woods, President,
G. W. Thompson, Secy.

SILVERDALE LOCAL NO. 2051.

Silverdale Local No. 2051 meets every second and fourth Wednesday in the month at the Silverdale School House.

J. F. LEWIS, Sec.

NEWBERRY LOCAL NO. 1922.

Newberry Local No. 1922 meets regularly, the first and third Monday nights of each month. The members make the union what it is. You help make it a success in your part and attending these meetings.

R. J. Muckenthaler,
Secy-Treas.

UNION LOCAL NO. 7919.

Regular meetings on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, at 7:30 p. m.

Geo. Speed, Pres.
Alice Kendall, Sec.

CARLTON LOCAL NO. 1911.

Regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

J. Humberger, Pres.
R. J. Logan, Sec.

CLEVELAND LOCAL NO. 364.

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

George J. Schoenhof, Sec.

PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL

Pleasant Valley Local Union No. 1309 meets every first and third Wednesday evening of each month.

E. J. Kinsinger, Pres.
W. T. Flinn, Sec-Treas.

NEOSHO COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

The regular quarterly meetings of the Neosho County Farmers Union will be held in the I. O. O. F. hall in Erie, Kansas on the second Saturday of the following months: March, June, September and December.

E. G. Clark, Pres.
J. O. Foust, Sec.

GIRARD LOCAL NO. 494.

Girard Local No. 494 meets in Union Hall over the Crawford County State Bank in Girard, Kansas on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p. m.

W. D. McCluskey, Pres.
Roy W. Holland, Sec.

LIVINGSTON LOCAL NO. 1984.

Livingston Local No. 1984 meets regularly on the first and third Friday nights of each month at Livingston School House. A short program is prepared for each night.

Clyde B. Wells, Sec.

BROGAN LOCAL NO. 226.

Brogan Local No. 226 meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Visitors are always welcome.

George Baumgartner, Sec.

PRETTY CREEK LOCAL 1652.

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

H. C. Mathies, Sec-Treas.

FONTANA LOCAL 1789.

Meet the first and third Friday nights regularly.

All members should be present.
W. A. Booz, Sec-Treas.
W. H. Syster, Pres.

UNION LOCAL NO. 273.

Regular meetings on second and fourth Thursday each month.

Charles Crossard, Sec.

UNION VALLEY LOCAL 1679.

We meet every two weeks on Tuesday. All Farmer Unions members welcome.

Owen Hunsperger, Pres.
I. M. Wagner, Sec.

LOST SPRINGS LOCAL 385.

Regular meetings every 2nd Saturday of each month.

A. J. Pospisil, Pres.

RURAL REST LOCAL 2133.

Rural Rest Local 2133, Salina, Kas. meets the first and third Saturday evenings of each month. At the first meeting of the month eats are served. The other meeting is a program meeting.

Any Farmers Union members in Salina over Saturday night will be welcome at these meetings. Call at the State Secretary's office and learn the meeting place.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

Havynk Local 1427 meets every first and third Tuesday evening of every month.

Come out and boost. Don't stay at home and kick.

VASSAR LOCAL NO. 1779.

Regular Union meetings held the first and third Tuesday in every month. All members are urged to

attend and help make it a success.

Herman A. Wigger,
Secy-Treas.

NEW BASIL LOCAL 1787.

Local meeting second Monday of every month. Come out let us see if you are alive. Visitors welcome.

J. P. Baler, Pres.
Henry Hoffman, Sec.
Elmo, Kans.

CRESCO LOCAL NO. 377.

Creco Local No. 377 Selden, Kan. meets every first and third Thursday in the evening at 8 p. m. of each month. Come out and boost and help all you can to make it a one hundred percent Farmers Union.

Adam Sulzman, Pres.
John Wolf, Sec.

NOTICE!

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

BUCKEYE LOCAL NO. 1031.

Buckeye Local No. 1031 has changed their meeting night. It will meet every first and third Wednesday evening of each month, beginning the first Wednesday in January 1925.

J. J. Maska, Secy-Treas.

COUNCIL CORNERS.

LOCAL 1783. Regular meetings held on the first and third Monday nights of each month. A local that is good enough to accept you into membership is good enough to boost for. Attend the meetings.

Jas. Albertson, Pres.
Ethel Roberts, Sec.

ELLIOTT LOCAL NO. 1232.

Elliott Local No. 1232 meets the last Friday in each month. We would like to see all members present and bring all the new members you can.

Mrs. Ernest Branch, Sec.

ROCK CREEK LOCAL NO. 1810.

Rock Creek Local No. 1810 meets the first and third Friday evening in each month at Rock Creek School house 3 miles east of Wellsville. All union members welcome.

A. L. Robinson, Pres.
S. J. Lohr, Secy.

COLUMBIA UNION NO. 1233.

Columbia Union No. 1233 meets the second and fourth Friday nights of each month. Visiting members welcome.

A. Wray, Pres.
Lee Bonar, Sec.

LINN COUNTY MEETING.

The first County meeting of the year will be held in Blue Mound on Saturday, Jan. 31st. A good program is being prepared and the following new officers will be installed.

President—H. B. Cox, Goodrich.

Vice-Pres.—R. A. Cline, LaCygne. Sec.—Monroe Martin, LaCygne. Sec.—Cowan Bearly, Goodrich.

D. K. Paul, Neilsen, LaCygne.

Executive Committee—J. J. Baker, Blue Mound, H. A. Cady, Parker; Ray Teagarden, LaCygne.

Organizer—W. E. Hawkins, Blue Mound.

All Locals are requested to be represented at this meeting.

L. H. Fish, Co. Sec.

WALKER LOCAL.

The meeting of Walker Local No. 1473, long deferred on account of the weather, was held Jan. 9th, with almost every member in attendance.

The usual business session was followed by the election of officers for the ensuing year. The time of meeting was changed from Monday to Friday evening on account of the weather.

Three new members were received. Receipts in dues for the evening, \$42.00, almost 100 per cent of members paid. Popcorn balls were served during the social hour to the evident enjoyment of all present. Meeting adjourned to meet Jan. 23, weather permitting.

Mrs. Marshall.

MT. PLEASANT LOCAL NO. 956.

The Mt. Pleasant Local No. 956 installed a new officers at its regular meeting Tuesday evening, Jan. 6.

The officers installed were:

Pres.—Mrs. Bertha Foley. Vice-Pres.—L. O. Mustoe. Sec-Treas.—Mr. Grace Mustoe. Conductor—Mr. Ernest Wolf. Doorkeeper—Leslie Mathes.

Delegates to County Meeting—Messrs. L. O. Mustoe, Lee Greenwood, W. G. Dobbie, C. G. Minshall, Frank Thompson, David Foley, Ernest Wolf and Leslie Mathes.

David Foley was elected to represent the local Union at the State meeting.

Not having enough money in the treasury to pay our delegates' expenses to Salina it was decided to have a rabbit hunt the following day. The ladies furnished a lunch of sandwiches and doughnuts and coffee.

One hundred seventy-one (171) rabbits were killed for which we received the bounty of five cents per pair of ears. W. G. Dobbie also gave us five cents per rabbit to feed his hogs for meat. We have very interesting regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Mr. Grace Mustoe, Sec. & Treas.

MT. Pleasant Union No. 956, Norton, Kan.

CENTROPOLIS FARMERS UNION

The Centropolis Farmers Union Co-operative Merc. Ass'n held their eighth annual all-day meeting Jan. 10, 1925 at Centropolis school house and closed another successful year. Walter Sands and R. T. Costigan were elected directors for a term of three years.

R. E. TERRY, Ggr.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved: We believe in one hundred per cent farmer unionism, local, state and national, the farmers union bars none on account of creed or place of birth, and any member of the association who discriminates against a brother member on account of his religious belief or place of birth is a traitor to the farmers union.

Resolved, that a text book, to teach cooperative marketing be introduced in the rural schools of Kansas.

Resolved, we are opposed to any increase of bureaucratic power at Washington, and are opposed to a federal department of education with a cabinet officer and one hundred million dollars appropriation.

Resolved, that any stockholder in this company, who gives the bulk of his business to our nearest competitor is not a desirable member.

Resolved, we demand that Congress cease its present policy of federal aid to states. We endorse President Coolidge in his budget message, when he said, "Efficiency of state government is impaired as they relinquish and turn over to the federal government responsibilities which are rightfully their's."

Resolved, that our union store should be 100 percent farmer owned and buy all supplies from the farmers union Jobbing Association.

Resolved, that this association send a delegate to the state convention and call a meeting and hear his report.

Resolved, that we tender a vote of thanks to the officers and employees of the store for their faithful service.

J. H. Sassaman, H. E. Simmons, M. S. Steward, Resolution committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

DEC. 31st, 1924.

Capital Stock \$8,650.00
Surplus 693.00
Interest on Stock 692.00
Rebates 263.00

Resources. \$10,368.00

Real Estate and Fixtures \$2,075.25
Inventory 6,153.50
Job Ass'n. Stock 100.00
Farmers Union Bank Stock 200.00
Cash 834.25
Triumph Truck 1,000.00

Committed business Mar. 17, 1917 on \$840 capital and have made a net profit of \$16,100, since that time handling groceries, cream, eggs and poultry. Total business for 1924 \$57,046.99.

R. T. COSTIGAN, Pres.

ODESSA LOCAL 1571.

Regular local meeting was held Tuesday night, January 13, called to order by its President Frank Snow. The house was crowded with members and many questions of interest to the Union were discussed.

A petition to the township board was brought before the meeting by Geo. A. Beach. The petition requests the board to call a special election to vote money for the purpose of building a Community Hall for Pleasant Valley Township. The proposition was heartily approved by the members of the local.

The meeting went on record as favoring a two cent road tax on gasoline.

The work of The Farmers Union Wheat Marketing Association and its final settlement was explained by U. S. Alexander in an interesting and instructive manner.

An appropriate poem about "Croak" was read by Mrs. E. L. Whitson, and musical selections pleasingly rendered by Miss Beulah Beach, Mr. Overstreet and Harold Cochran.

The last but not least enjoyable feature of the meeting was an oyster supper served by the refreshment committee. After it had been done it ample justice the meeting adjourned to meet on the next regular meeting night, January 27.

R. A. Reynolds, Secy.

Winfield, Kansas.

FARMERS UNION GRAIN.

LIVE STOCK AND MER-

CANTILE ASSN., FAULT, KANS.

Total amount of wheat handled from 1924 Jan. 1st to Jan. 1st 1925.

Old Crop 52,682 bu.

New Crop 119,127 bu.

Total 171,809 bu.

Gross profit on wheat \$5,688.95

This is 8 1/2 cents.

Charging all expense to wheat our net profit on wheat is \$979.79. This is profit of a little over 1/2c.

Total expense of year is \$470,916 or two and one half cents. If we charged all expense to all other commodities than wheat we will have to take \$117,246 from wheat leaving all the rest for profit on wheat which would be \$4,516.49 making our profit on wheat two and six-tenths cents per bu. Do you consider this a big profit.

Gross profits analyzed.

Wheat \$5,688.95

Corn 224.15

Oats 296.51

Coal, 7 cars 91.25

Merchandise 728.47

Options 2196.28

Total 9,225.65

Expense 4,709.16

Net Profit \$4,516.49

During the year we sold \$199,841.75 worth of commodities.

During the year we handled over \$211,000.

We bought from the outsider over 40,000 bu. of wheat. This year we bought wheat from 162 different persons.

Since July 1st this last year we have shipped 95 cars wheat.

R. E. TERRY, Ggr.

LONG STAR FARMERS UNION PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

To the Editor of The Kansas Union Farmer.

LONG STAR, Kans., Jan. 11.

The subscribers of the Farmer's Union Produce Ass'n. met Friday evening with Brothers Whiticar and Hatfield to perfect the organization at this place. The following officers were elected:

President, James W. Anderson

Secy, P. C. Bond.

Committee member, C. B. Sanders.

The Long Star unit is starting with a membership of twenty-one.

With the interest shown it seems as though the number of stockholders can be doubled as soon as the twenty-one faithful believers in cooperation start the ball rolling and demonstrate that cooperative marketing has come to stay.

With the best wishes to the future success of all Farmers' Union enterprises.

Elmora I. Anderson,
Cor. Secy.

CRESCO LOCAL NO. 377.

On account of bad roads the story night Cresco Local No. 377 never met till last Thursday night, Jan. 8 to elect officers for the coming year 1925:

President—Adam Sulzman.

Vice Pres—Zed and Zedrow.

Sec-Treas—John Wolf.

Conductor—Albert Hase.

Doorkeeper—Tom Knopp.

Delegate to the Convention—Leonard Zedrow.

We were to have an initiation, but on account of bad roads the candidates could not be present. Our debate was put off till our next meeting. Question: Resolved, that the Farmer Union buys Stockholders Wheat Only.

Let's all be there to hear the debate. Visitors are welcome.

John Wolf, Secy-Treas.

MERCER LOCAL.

Mercer Local F. U. No. 1462 held its regular meeting on Dec. 10, a good sized crowd was present at this time and our annual election of officers was held at this time. Officers elected for 1925 were as follows:

President—Clare Seyfer.

Vice Pres.—John Templar.

Conductor—C. B. Seyfer.

Sec-Treas—W. M. Schmitt.

Doorkeeper—Mrs. Lottie Templar.

Delegate to State Convention—Clare Seyfer.

After this a short discussion was held. Also delicious refreshments served by the committee. Our regular meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month.

Visitors are welcome at all meetings.

Local Reporter.

WHAT A BARGE LINE DOES

Hall-Baker Proves Practicability of Water Route to Gulf

Saving of \$25,000 Is Made in Shipping of 1 1/2 Million Bushels of Wheat Down Mississippi River.

The Hall-Baker Grain Company of Kansas City, one of the largest grain exporting firms in the country, is convinced from its experience in moving wheat that the waterway system is not only practical but the most economical means of transportation to the Gulf.

This firm exported 1 1/2 million bushels of hard winter wheat from this territory in October. The shipment was to St. Louis by rail, where it was placed in barges and floated from that point by way of the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico and then to European markets. The saving over rail transportation was 2 cents a bushel, or \$25,000.

Shippments will be continued in as large a volume the remainder of the season. Shippments will leave the grain cars at Cairo, Ill., instead of St. Louis as soon as ice stops navigation from the latter point, which usually occurs this month.

The Goltra barge line, which moved this wheat, now has fifteen barges in service, which will be increased to twenty-one in the near future.

Shippments of grain on the Mississippi River Service Line, which is controlled by the government, come under special rates, which are 20 per cent less than the all-rail rate. If the Missouri River were navigable from Kansas City, Leavenworth, Atchison and St. Joseph there probably would be a saving of 6 cents a bushel under the rail rate.

"It is most assured that civic organizations and farmers in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska should now come to the front and work together in bringing to the attention of congress a most important need of this great agricultural territory—river navigation, a prominent Kansas City grain man said.

"Grain cars could be released during the harvest rush and could make from five to ten times the number of trips to the fields."

New Elevators Would Be Built. "As soon as river improvement would be started elevators would go upon the river front immediately. They would be a necessity. No elevators on the Mississippi River now new elevators will be constructed unless they have the advantage of a direct connection with the water front."

"The Missouri Pacific railroad spent more than 2 million dollars on its new elevator on the river front in St. Louis."

"Some of the largest industrial concerns in America are devoting much effort to the establishment and increasing of barge service. One manufacturer now is making preparations to use a barge service on the Mississippi River on all northbound shippments. The directors of this concern have appropriated 2 million dollars for the furtherance of their project and barges will be built entirely, even if it is necessary to construct new

ones. Estimates by this firm of the saving in transportation run into an enormous figure.

"This territory again would be benefited by being able to obtain many necessities at a great saving, as the barges would bring back from the South products for both the farm and city."