



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Co-operation

Education

Organization

VOLUME 32

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National Far. Union Plans Sound Program

John Vesecky Re-elected to Head Organization at Omaha Convention—Adopt Lengthy Platform for Development

The National Farmers Union held its 35th convention in Omaha, Nebraska, November 20, 21 and 22. All officers were re-elected with the exception of one national board member. Tom Cheek, Oklahoma City, president of the Oklahoma state union was named to succeed M. R. Miller, North Kansas City, secretary of the Missouri Farmers Union, who withdrew from the ballot.

Officers are John Vesecky, Salina, president; H. G. Keeney, Omaha, Neb., vice president; and J. M. Graves, Perkins, Okla., secretary; and directors, George A. Nelson, Milltown, Wis.; Morris Erickson, Jamestown, N. Dak.; James G. Patton, Denver, Colo.; Emil Lorik, Arlington, S. Dak.; and Mr. Cheek.

"Seldom, if ever before, has such a broad and yet workable program been presented to any convention as was brought in by the Legislative and Program committee," stated Mr. Vesecky, "and adopted after through discussion by that convention."

"The work from now on is for all of us to do our best to put that program into effect... We must translate the resolutions and the fine speeches and convention enthusiasm into tangible action." The program adopted by the convention follows:

We, representing organized farmers of the United States, banded together as the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America, assembled in our thirty-fifth annual convention at Omaha, Nebraska, November 20, 21 and 22, 1939, submit our program to guide us in the crucial year of 1940, clearly mindful of our grave responsibility in world crisis, where chaos threatens to engulf all civilization, and where no class, nation, or age can escape economic consequences of the turmoil abroad today.

We reaffirm the historic and basic principles of the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America, and justice through maintaining a democratic political system and building a cooperative economic system as the practical expression of the Christian ideal of brotherhood which alone can bring lasting peace and security.

To permit no blackout of our objective to attain parity income for agriculture sufficient to cover production costs, to provide a home free from threat of dispossession and a decent standard of living for ourselves and our families.

To cooperate with other organized groups who genuinely seek to provide economic processes, provide distribution of abundance for all the people, and maintain our civil liberties.

In order to attain these objectives by doing together what we cannot do alone we adopt the following program of educational, cooperative and legislative activities for the coming year.

Education
Believing that Education which assures an understanding of cooperative economics is basic to the development of unity that is needed to effectuate our cooperative and legislative programs, we pledge our organization to continue and expand the work carried on by the Department of Education of the National Union.

We also pledge our organization to continue its policy, through Junior and Adult Education, to build an understanding of the problems facing farmer and industrial workers alike.

Cooperation
Believing that a system of cooperative business, owned by producers and consumers, is the only means by which the potential abundance of this nation may be made available to all its people and by which true democracy may be maintained and safeguarded, we urge that our membership continue to actively encourage and promote the development of cooperative business institutions.

We also urge a continuation of the cooperative conferences which have been held during the past three years.

Legislation
Section I.
Agriculture is not only the basic industry of the nation—it is, under control and ownership of farm families, the only foundation upon which may be built and sustained our declared form of democracy. Therefore we must secure a parity position with other important and essential groups.

Agricultural security is therefore the first required prerequisite for a well-fed, clothed and housed democratic society.

Such legislation must first provide for a revaluation of the farm plan now under mortgage so that the debt principal and service charges may be related to the potential production of the plant and also provide conservation of the farm plant and farm family.

Production insurance and income assurance against drought, insect pests, speculative price changes and other causes beyond the control of the farm operators must be provided as a matter of national policy. We must soon be done with federal programs which rest upon perennial political caprice and which contribute to the continuing increase of the federal deficit.

In keeping with these objectives we urge passage of the following national legislation:

1. The Farmers Union Debt Adjustment Plan embodied in S. B. 2549 and Section 21 of S. B. 2864 pending before the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives.
2. A Farm Tenancy Act as embodied in S. B. 1936.
3. The Farmers Union Dairy Bill, H. R. 6500.
4. The Farmers Union Cotton Income Certificate Plan embodied in S. B. 2434.
5. The Farmers Union Wheat Income Certificate Plan embodied in S. B. 2395.
6. Similar legislation for flax, rye, barley, rice and other commodities.

Pending the enactment into law of

NOTICE
to Local Secretaries
The Referendum Ballot which has been published in the Kansas Union Farmer should be clipped from the paper, filled out, and returned to your State Secretary.

No blanks of this form are being sent out by letter.
All ballots should be mailed to the State Office before January 1, 1940.

premiums for which Congress has already made legislative provision.

Section III

We also reaffirm our position relative to the following:

1. Protection of the family-sized farm shall be a constant and primary policy and aim in the formulation, amendment and administration of all farm legislation.

2. Administrative personnel of federal farm programs should be farmers democratically elected insofar as legally possible; all other administrative personnel should be persons who understand, participate in and are sympathetic to farm organizations and the cooperative movement.

3. Adequate and effective legislation which will make possible the rapid development of the cooperative movement, and which will protect cooperatives in their infancy from large established enterprises.

4. Protection of the domestic market for American agriculture.

5. Permanent adjustment of interest rates on the Federal indebtedness of agriculture to those rates enjoyed by private industry.

6. Levying taxes on the basis of ability to pay. Continued ability to pay must be based on net income, and we are unalterably opposed to any system of taxation not based upon this principle. Since a sales tax has historically been the method used to exort revenues from those least able to pay, we reiterate our continued and consistent opposition to that tax.

7. Refinancing of farmers' indebtedness at low interest—amortized repayment plan—funds provided by Government issue of currency.

8. Restoration to Congress of the power to coin and regulate the value of money.

9. Abolition of the practices under which tax-exempt Government bonds are issued.

10. Conservation of all natural resources.

11. Opposition to regulation of truck and water transportation rates and tend to increase transportation costs.

We also oppose repeal of section four (4) of the Interstate Commerce Act and intend to deal sympathetically with those farm people of the country, who through drought, insect pests, low prices and other causes have been reduced to abject poverty.

Labor
The Farmers Union is distinguished among farm organizations, for its friendly attitude towards organized labor.

We reaffirm our historic position, expressing a continued desire to cooperate with our brethren in the mills, mines and factories.

We emphatically condemn those individuals and organizations who seek to foster intolerance, strife, and misunderstanding between farmers and organized laborers.

Peace
We submit that war is a natural attribute of an economic system based upon the profit motive. The seeds of hatred, intolerance, and international conflict take root and flourish in a world where frenzied economic rivalry creates the tragic contrast of growing poverty for the masses and overwhelming abundance for a few.

The brotherhood of man cannot be achieved in an environment distinguished by economic contrasts.

We believe that a secure and lasting peace can be achieved only through the establishment of an economic system based upon the principles of cooperation. We reaffirm our historic position that the cooperative movement offers a practical pattern for the creation of a world-wide system of cooperation.

We stand unalterably opposed to the appropriation of huge sums of money for armaments made at the expense of appropriations which are necessary in the solution of our domestic problems both rural and urban.

We refuse to become engulfed, through the propaganda and a defeatist psychology, in the tide of hatred, intolerance and war, out of which nothing can be secured except more intolerance, more war, and the probable destruction of our freedom to continue building a just society.

Signed,
Tom W. Cheek, Chair,
Harvey R. Solberg, Sec.

MINORITY REPORT
By Paul Moore, of Iowa,
Rejected.
Whereas there has been some misunderstanding concerning the political position of the Farmers Union (Continued on Page Four)

To Legislative Resolutions at Nat'l Convention

Delegates to Omaha Consider Many Important Farm Problems

1. Be It Resolved that we go on record in favor of the sound democratic position that failure to pay various forms of poll taxes and property taxes be not used as a basis to disfranchise any citizen of any state.

2. Be It Resolved that we go on record recommending that our state organization sponsor and actively support legislation in their respective states providing homestead exemption and a graduated land tax.

3. Be It Resolved that we go on record urging and recommending that the proposed National Health Act be amended so that it may aid and assist in financing the constructing and equipping, and in operating, cooperative hospitals and health centers which shall be organized and managed by non-profit groups and operated on a non-profit basis.

4. Be It Resolved that we reaffirm our position favoring legislation that protects the public, including the producer, against shoddy and substitutes in manufactured wool products.

5. Be It Resolved that we go on record favoring legislation having for its purpose the conduct of surveys and studies and the dissemination of information to farmers relative to marketing and purchasing of farm products.

6. Be It Resolved that we go on record requesting Congress to extend the federal farm moratorium act. And that agriculture be included by amendment in Section 77-B of the Bankruptcy Act.

7. Be It Resolved that we favor the establishment of a permanent office for the National Farmers Union at the earliest possible date.

8. Be It Resolved that after the Section 77-B of the Bankruptcy Act has been amended, the said act be voted to each crop in each county, the county committee be permitted to allot such acres to the various producers or such acreage, the said producer for such crop, the said county committee to take into consideration the past history of the producer for growing the crops applied for, the adaptability of the soil to particular crops, the family needs of the producer, and the farm tool equipment of the producer.

9. Be It Resolved that we recommend to the principle that cost of production of agriculture be determined by the cost of production of the family-sized farm, and that we again state our opposition to any program of scarcity.

Recognizing that Juniors' work has grown and expanded in many states, that continued development and progress are dependent upon national coordination of state activities, that there has been developed a uniform pattern for Juniors' work, between the U. S. A. and Argentina as discussed between the Secretary and Senator Capper, in which Secretary Hull takes the position that he is convinced that the trade-agreements program has been highly beneficial to our farmers and the nation as a whole and continues by saying "I am confident that the proposed trade agreement with Argentina, which is a part of the program, will not be injurious to our farmers, but on the contrary, will be helpful both to our agriculture and to the economic well-being of the nation as a whole."

A Great Reciprocal System
With none of these ideas do we find Senator Capper in agreement, because as our Senator maintains, "I understand him, that while we do not want to see an exchange of goods, our exports would not be agricultural products, but, to the contrary, industrial products in exchange for which we would be obliged to accept agricultural products in exchange of which we do now produce to surplus and for which our acres are now lying idle, with our own production of agricultural products might be made available for imports of agricultural products from Argentina in exchange for industrial goods."

Our Secretary of State, Mr. Hull, in the course of his recent visit to the position as taken by Senator Capper refers to the enactment of the Hawley-Smoot tariff act in 1930 when the farmers were promised a period of great prosperity, the slogan "the American market for the American farmer."

(Continued on Page Four)

The President's Message

By J. P. Fengel

Our National Farmers Union Convention for 1939 is now history and to my way of thinking was a really progressive convention, with hardly a word of criticism.

1. Re-commit the Farmers Union to the principles that "Cost of Production or Parity—whichever is the greater—be paid for farm products domestically consumed, using the basis as used by business and industry in arriving at cost of producing their products; that consideration be given to the family-sized farm as the ideal business unit, and opposing any program of scarcity. The American market for the American farmer at an American price level.

2. Homestead exemptions, to protect the family-sized farm and discontinue ownership and operation of vast estates at the expense of the well-being of our people and finally the nation, with amendments to the National Health Act, permitting Cooperative Hospitals and Cooperative Health centers.

Compares to Grange Program
We are very glad to know that the National Grange outlined as its objectives, practically the same program, as opposed to imports of foreign farm products which are injurious to American agriculture and which help to reduce its purchasing power, terminating Reciprocal Trade agreements which are injurious to agriculture, and opposed to crop control.

It is also gratifying to note the economic policy of the National Grange includes: Economy and efficiency in all branches of Government, with taxation based upon ability to pay benefits received.

Development of better farm markets by encouraging sound cooperative marketing; Removing unnecessary trade barriers between states; opposing discriminatory and punitive taxation on any form of distribution; research to find new crops and new uses for farm products; maintain the family-sized farm as the standard of American agriculture and discourage the operation of large farms, also to promote a more satisfactory rural life, fostering the American spirit of self-help in solving our problems.

So we with the National Grange do have practically everything in common and should be able to work together as a unit in the accomplishment of our very important objectives.

In regard to the Reciprocal Trade agreements now in contemplation by the Secretary of State, Hull, between the U. S. A. and Argentina as discussed between the Secretary and Senator Capper, in which Secretary Hull takes the position that he is convinced that the trade-agreements program has been highly beneficial to our farmers and the nation as a whole and continues by saying "I am confident that the proposed trade agreement with Argentina, which is a part of the program, will not be injurious to our farmers, but on the contrary, will be helpful both to our agriculture and to the economic well-being of the nation as a whole."

The law in regard to this matter reads as follows: Sec. 1403. Receipts for Employees: "(a) Requirement: Every employer shall furnish to each of his employees a written statement or statement, in a form suitable for retention by the employee, showing the wages paid by him to the employee after December 31, 1939.

"Each statement shall cover a calendar year, or two, three or four calendar quarters, either or not within the same calendar year, and shall show the name of the employee, the period covered by the statement, the total amount of wages paid within such period, and the amount of the tax imposed by section 1400 with respect to such wages.

Each statement shall be furnished to the employee not later than the last day of the second calendar year following the period covered by the statement, except that, if the employee leaves the employ of the employer, the final statement shall be furnished on the day on which the last payment of wages is made to the employee.

The employer may, at his option, furnish such statement to any employee at the time of each payment of wages to the employee during any calendar quarter, in lieu of a statement covering such quarter; and, in such case, the statement may show the date of payment of the wages, in lieu of the period covered by the statement."

To Topeka Office
On December 4, Miss Virginia Esslinger began her new work at Topeka as secretary to George Bicknell, plant manager of the Farmers Union Terminal Elevator, and the new Farmers Union Feed Mill, Miss Esslinger came from Kansas City, where she had been employed in the office of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association for about two years. She was the guest of the girls in the Kansas City office of the Association at a luncheon on Friday, December 1.

Mrs. J. C. Gregory Dies
The many friends of J. C. Gregory, general manager of the Osborne County Farmers Union Business Association, will feel sympathy for the family in the death of Mrs. J. C. Gregory who died Monday night, November 27, after a period of illness.

A group of school children was being taken through a telephone central office in Philadelphia recently. "And now," said the guide, "we're going to the operating room." A boy in the crowd looked up, blanched, and, with definite finality, shouted: "Not me, Boss!"—and he flew with the wind.

PORK ON SURPLUS LIST

Secretary Wallace Believes Action Will Open Big New Market

John Vesecky, president of the National Farmers Union, received the following telegram from Secretary of Agriculture Wallace last week:

Effective October first, pork lard was up on our list of surplus commodities available under the Stamp plan. During October, 10 per cent of the Blue Surplus stamps had been used for this commodity.

We are today designating pork meats of all cuts, fresh, including chilled or frozen pickled, salted, cured, or smoked. But not cooked or packed in metal or glass containers as commodities for which Blue Surplus stamps may be used. This will become effective December 15.

Also we are today announcing that bids will be let promptly for direct purchase of lard and certain cuts of pork for distribution through state departments of public welfare to families receiving public assistance.

Because of the new market for pork products which this action will create and because of its significance for farmers in the Corn Belt, I thought you might want to have the information at the same time we are releasing it from the Department of Agriculture.

H. A. Wallace,
Sec. of Agriculture.

A list follows of the areas in which the stamp plan is either now in operation or will be in operation shortly:

Rochester, New York; Dayton, Ohio; Seattle and King County, Washington; Birmingham, Alabama; Des Moines, Iowa; Shawnee and Potawatomi County, Oklahoma; Springfield, Illinois; Allentown, Pennsylvania; Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Salt Lake City, Utah; Madison, Wisconsin; Minneapolis, Minnesota; St. Paul and Ramsey County, Minnesota; Providence, Rhode Island; Bismark and Burleigh County, North Dakota; Mandan and Morton County, North Dakota; Denver, Colorado; Sioux Falls and Minnehaha County, South Dakota; Wichita Falls and Wichita County, Texas.

TEACHERS PLAN TOUR

Vocational Instructors Will Be Jobbing Association's Guests

Vocational teachers from schools in Kansas and Missouri within 125 mile radius of Kansas City will be the guests of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association and other local cooperatives, December 16.

Starting from the Jobbing Association's offices at 945 a. m. the party will visit the trading floor of the Board of Trade, then go to the visit the Jobbing Association's warehouse, and the plants of the Midwest Wool Marketing Association, Consumers Cooperative Association, Milk Producers Marketing Company, and Missouri Seed Growers Cooperative Association.

Following the tour will be a luncheon at which short addresses will be delivered by Ralph Sawyer, president of the Wichita cooperative, and D. M. Hardy, president of the St. Louis bank for cooperatives.

MUST GIVE RECEIPTS

Employees Required to Give Social Security Receipts After December 31

Employees must be furnished with receipts for Social Security payments, and managers of Farmers Union cooperative associations should begin the practice of issuing such in 1940, advises T. B. Dunn, secretary-manager of the Farmers Union Auditing Association, Salina.

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Recommendations
We, the Torchbearer Committee make the following recommendations to the National Junior Council.

1. We recommend that the Junior Classes be called Farmers Union Junior classes and that this name be adopted as the official name of these groups within the Local, by the National Junior Department.

2. We recommend to the National Junior Council that the Writers' Project be put on a national basis similar to the United States Project, and that the council work out a schedule for an achievement award in this project.

3. We recommend that we maintain the Creed in its present form and urge that we be broadminded in its interpretation.

4. We recommend that our study materials include the base unit of the Cooperative Movement and units on the following be added:

- (1). Conservation of Human and Natural Resources.
- (2). Cooperative Marketing.
- (3). Consumer Credit.
- (4). Peace and Patriotism.

5. Farm ownership, including a study of farm tenancy, migratory workers, sharecroppers, cooperative farming and maintenance of family-sized farms.

6. We recommend that we, the Farmers Union, cooperative as far as possible with and strive toward a better understanding between all other farm, labor and youth organizations.

7. We wish to compliment the National Junior Department on the Program Service and the other splendid publications it maintains.

8. We recommend to the National Junior Council that we adopt as our Torchbearers' project, the selling of subscriptions to the National Union Farmer. We believe that this is a goal, is not enough but that we should also strive, through the establishment of discussion groups to promote better coordination and unity of feeling among the girls in the Kansas City office of the Association at a luncheon on Friday, December 1.

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Junior Delegates Give Statement —Youth Problems

Also Work Out Recommendations for Consideration by National Junior Council

One Torchbearer from each state was placed on the program, either before the convention or at the Junior-Leader Banquet on Monday night. The remaining Torchbearers from each state were used to serve on a committee which would report on the needs of farm youth and the way in which a farm organization might fill those needs. This committee was also asked to prepare recommendations for the National Junior Council upon the program of education for next year.

It was the expressed desire of the National Junior Council that no leader should in any way influence the thinking of the discussion of this group of young people during their deliberations on this program. This committee was composed of Lawrence Longacre, Colorado (Chairman); Carl Larson, North Dakota (Secretary); Fern Albert, South Dakota; Helen Dahl, Montana; Robert Eschendor, Ohio; Albert Schriener, Wisconsin; and Wilfred Sack, Kansas.

We, the Torchbearers' Committee, present the report as a result of the findings in our discussions:

Rural youth, in fact, youth all over America and the world, have a right, we believe, to the things hereinafter set forth:

1. We expect a decent standard of living, including adequate food, clothing and shelter, decent security, both economic and social.

2. Education, both vocational and cultural, sufficient to maintain a well-rounded life.

3. Well balanced recreation.

4. Opportunity for personal achievement.

5. The maintenance of our democratic form of government.

6. Peace and brotherhood of man, and the elimination of racial and class prejudice.

We, the youth in the Farmers Union, realize that the basic factor underlying the problem facing youth today, is the economic system in which we live. We place our firm belief in the Cooperative Movement, together with an education of its philosophy as a solution to our present economic and social conditions. Realizing this is a long time program, we believe that we have to take the following steps to meet our immediate problems.

1. Provide all youth equal opportunities for free public school education with assistance of state and federal government.

2. Endorse a better NYA program for rural assistance, through the establishment of vocational training schools and more rural work projects as well as the necessary increase in NYA appropriations.

3. Extend vocational training in high schools in order that more young people be given opportunity to develop personal abilities and achievements.

4. Loans and other assistance to young farmers, to raise them from the status of day laborers and tenants to owners.

5. Establishment of well-balanced and supervised recreation programs in all communities.

6. Promote and retain our democracy by giving all citizens the right to vote, regardless of status, and safeguard our rights by demanding freedom of speech, press and assembly.

The Torchbearer Committee also endorsed the resolution on peace previously passed by the National Convention.

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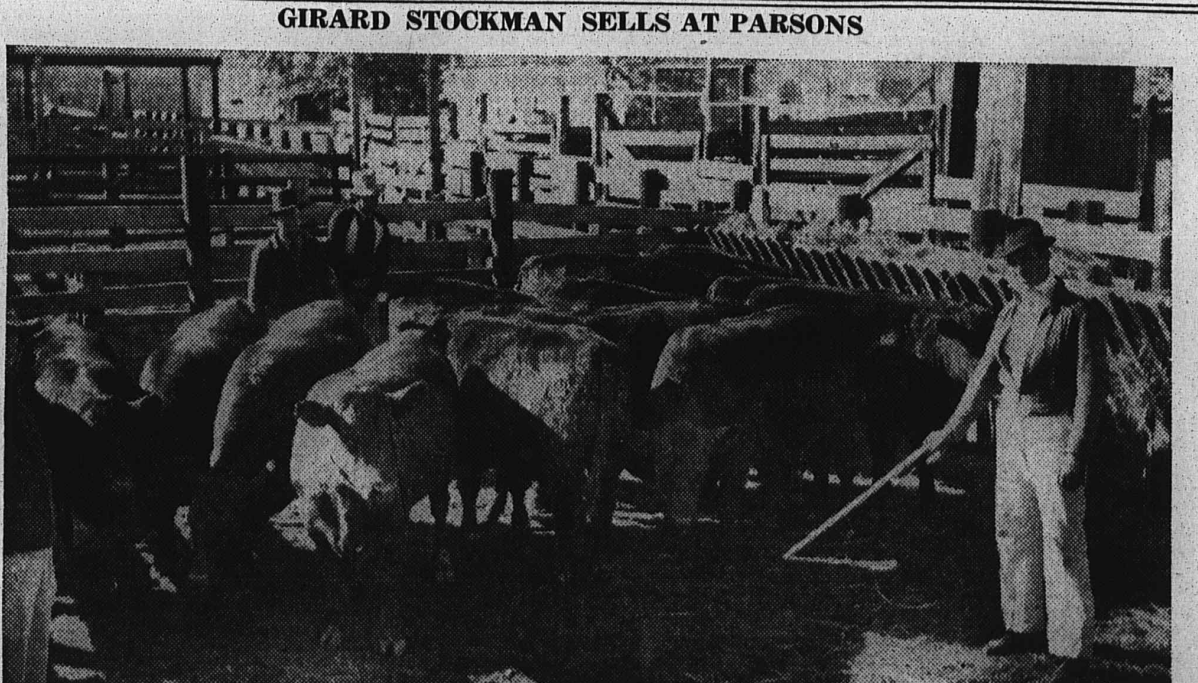
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The above picture shows cattle owned and fed by E. H. Gladson, Girard, which were sold last month through the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Company, Parsons, to Armour & Co. for \$10.25 per hundred weight. The cattle are Yearling Angus Steers. W. L. Acuff is manager of the Parsons house of the Farmers Union Livestock Commission Company.

The men shown in the picture are, left to right, back row: E. H. Gladson and Roy Mitchell, Farmers Union cattle salesman; Front row, C.E. Carey and John Hogan, Armour buyers.



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Junior and Juvenile Department

Juniors from 16 to 21

Juveniles from 6 to 16

Junior Motto: "He Loves His Country
Best Who Strives to Make It Best"

THE TORCH BEARER

The God of High Endeavor gave me a torch to bear,
I lifted it high above me in the dark and murky air;
And straightway with glad hosannas,
The crowd proclaimed its light.
And followed me as I carried my torch
Through the starless night,
Till drunk with peoples' praises, and mad with vanity,
I forgot 'twas the torch they followed.
And I fancied they followed me.
Then slowly my arm grew weary
Upholding the shining load,
And my tired feet went stumbling over the dusty road
And I fell with the torch beneath me.
In a moment the light was out,
When lo! from the throng a stripling
Sprang with a mighty shout,
Caught up the torch as it smoldered, and lifted it high again,
Till flamed by the winds of heaven
It fired the souls of men.
And as I lay in the darkness,
The feet of the trampling crowd
Passed over and far beyond me, its poens proclaimed aloud,
And I learned in the deepening twilight,
The glorious why:
Tis the torch that the people follow
Whoever the bearer be.

Author Unknown.
(Used in the Torchbearer Ceremony at the National Convention)

YOUR LEADER'S MESSAGE

Esther Ekblad

Torchbearers Receive Awards

In an impressive ceremony which was a part of the Junior Program at the National Convention, Omaha, fourteen juniors from seven states received the Torchbearer Award of a gold torch pin given by the National Farmers Union. Also included in the ceremony was the following pledge of loyalty:

"I accept my responsibility as a Torchbearer of the Farmers Union and I pledge myself to bear that torch with clean hands and a courageous heart. I unite with my fellow juniors in a pledge to work unceasingly for the cooperative movement—to practice tolerance and brotherhood—to keep my torch ever one of those which shall light the way to a warless world."

Kansas Torchbearers were Ruth Carlson, McPherson county, and Wilfred Sack, Nemaha county. Other states which had Torchbearer representatives were Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Junior Leader Conferences

At the Castle Hotel, Omaha, beginning at 10:00 a. m. Monday morning, November 20, the State Leaders, Torchbearers, Juniors, and other visiting Juniors and Leaders met for a conference under the leadership of Mrs. Gladys T. Edwards, National Junior Leader. On the calendar for discussion were problems in the mechanics of Junior education, the Writers' and Minute-men Projects, attitudes toward the present form of the Farmers Union Creed, possibly projects for Torchbearers, and our position toward outside agencies, such as present day peace movements.

The first conference continued until late noon and then adjourned until 8:00 a. m. Tuesday morning. Two-hour sessions were held both Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and still many topics were left untouched. It is the thought of many that Juniors and Leaders need to get to the convention city a couple of days early in order to have sufficient time for the necessary conferences.

Many of the important topics discussed are summarized in the report of the Torchbearer committee which will be published.

A Dinner—A Program

The convention afforded for Junior enjoyment a Get-Acquainted dinner and party on Monday evening. A very impressive dinner program was presented on the theme, "Hail Our Union," the title of a favorite Junior song. Ruth Carlson, one of our own Torchbearers, took part in the program, speaking on "We Who Are Tomorrow's Union," a phrase of the song. Folk dancing and the showing of the All-State Camp Movie was a part of the evening entertainment.

A streetcar chartered by the Nebraska Farmers Union took Juniors to the modern Farmers Union Exchange Building, the home of the Nebraska F. U. state offices, a wholesale supply house, and a general merchandise store. Many also visited Father Flanagan's Boytown, which is just a few miles from Omaha.

The highlight of Junior convention activities was the Junior Program presented before the convention delegation on Tuesday evening, November 21. The manner in which young people from many states in the short space of one day could cooperate and prepare a program that included folk dancing in costume and a panel discussion on "Forces Threatening Democracy" prompted comments from many observers.

The Torchbearer Committee

Outstanding was the work of a committee of Torchbearer Juniors who met at odd moments during the convention days and prepared a number of recommendations on Junior work. These Juniors with Lawrence Longacre of Colorado as chairman functioned entirely on their own with no assistance from adult leaders. The recommendations pertained to present day problems of farm youth and also to argumentative mechanics in the framework of the Junior educational program. The entire group of recommendations will be printed for your study. Wilfred Sack was the Kansas Torchbearer who served on the committee.

Torchbearers Go Home

The Juniors in the Torchbearer Ceremony with one accord resolved "to bear that torch"; they in that way expressed determination to hold high the flame of better understanding and cooperative endeavor among our rural people. The Juniors themselves decided to all unite on two special projects during the ensuing year—the soliciting of subscriptions to the National Union Farmer, and the promoting of local discussion groups.

We ask, does it pay to make youth a part of the Farmers Union?

Torchbearer Juniors Report

We arrived in Omaha Sunday evening at 6:00 where we joined the rest of the Kansas delegation and had supper together.

On Monday morning at 10:00 we had our first Junior and Leader Conference. There we made acquaintance with leaders and Juniors from other states. That morning we discussed the mechanics of the Junior program, the discussion under the leadership of Mary Jo Uphoff.

On Tuesday the Junior and Leader Committee met at 8:00 a. m. This morning we discussed Junior projects and the Farmers Union Creed. This group met again Wednesday morning at 8:00 to discuss Torchbearer projects. At this meeting we recommended to keep our same National Junior Leader and the same National Junior Council.

Tuesday evening the Juniors put on the program. A Minuteman, Irene Staffin, from North Dakota gave an excellent 4-minute speech on "Farm Youth Needs a Farm Organization." Mary Jo Uphoff, the State Leader from Wisconsin, gave a report of the conference on Problems of Farm Youth which was held in Washington, D. C. in April. One of the highlights of our Junior Program was a

"FORCES THREATENING DEMOCRACY"



This was the subject discussed at the National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, November 20-23, 1939 by the following members: (Left to right): Neva Bitney, Wisconsin; Roy Lof, South Dakota; Peggy Dallet, Louisiana; A. Drummond Jones, Discussion Leader of Washington, D. C.; Esther Ekblad, Kansas; Orval Grigsby, Montana; and Mary Moore, Colorado.

sending me to the National Convention.

Ruth Carlson,
No. 8 Local, McPherson
County.

Sunday noon we found ourselves on our way to the 35th National Farmers Union Convention which convened at Omaha, Nebraska, November 20-23. Our two hour trip from Seneca, proved uneventful except for chasing a man up a telephone pole in Nebraska City. That was a little incident which occurred when we lost the highway we were to travel.

Upon our arrival at Omaha we got settled in our hotel, where reservations were made for our group. When we were all settled we spent our time renewing old acquaintances and making new. We had the pleasure of meeting such people as John Vescky, National President, Mrs. Edwards, National Junior Leader, the State Leaders of Nebraska, Montana, North and South Dakota, Colorado, Oklahoma and of our own state of Kansas. All these names are familiar to Farmers Union people I am sure.

After a good night's rest we were ready for whatever the convention would hold for us. Mrs. Mildred Stoltz, secretary of the National Junior Council, gave us our various assignments. It was a pleasure of mine to serve on the Torchbearer committee along with Lawrence Longacre of Colorado, Helen Dahl of Montana, Carl Larson of North Dakota, Robert Eschedor of Ohio, Fern Albert of South Dakota, and Albert Schriener of Wisconsin. The duty of this committee was to list the problems facing our young people today and to draw up recommendations as to what should be done about them. Another duty of this committee was to take questions brought up at the Junior-Leader meetings, discuss them and make recommendations as to solving them. These recommendations were sent to the National Junior Council, so at present we do not know just how they came through so I will not go into detail.

On Monday evening was the Junior Dinner. Some eighty leaders, Juniors and others were present at a most enjoyable dinner prepared by the YWCA at Omaha. Mr. Henry Negley, Junior Leader of the host state, acted as toastmaster. The dinner started with the song "Hail Our Union." Miss Evelyn Adams, Nebraska, spoke on the topic, "Our Hearts, Our Youth, Our Might." The subject "We Who Are Tomorrow's Union" was the theme for a talk by our own Torchbearer, Ruth Carlson. The next talk was given by a Torchbearer from Ohio on the subject, "Moving Forward, With Our Faces Toward the Goal." The subject of the talk was "The Torchbearer's Role in the Future." It was a talk which was loved by a talk "United Effort Marks Achievement." Paul Erickson, Junior Leader of South Dakota. We were then privileged to hear from our National leader, Mrs. Gladys T. Edwards. She spoke on the theme "Forever Onward." Everyone joined in the singing of "Follow the Gleam," after which Elinor Barritt gave a short reading "On Leaving Youth." The dinner ended with a song, "Juniors Stand Together."

Following the dinner the rest of the evening was spent in a get-acquainted party which included folk dancing and which ended with the showing of the All-State Camp Movie was under the direction of Mary Jo Uphoff and Norma Osmon, and they should be complimented for the fine party. I am sure everyone had a very enjoyable time.

As Ruth Carlson is reporting on other interesting parts of the convention, I will not interfere but I would like to thank the Juniors of Kansas for the privilege they voted me at Wakeeney. I hope I represented you the way in which you so richly deserve. May I urge you all to attend the National Convention next year, whether a Torchbearer or not.

Kansas is moving toward the top of the list of states but let's work to put it at the top. It can be done. Here's wishing you all success in your respective county and local organizations.

Wilfred Sack,
Rock Local, Nemaha
County.

At Your Service

Farmers Union Cooperative
Educational Service
Gladys Tabott Edwards
Director

"Education—A debt due from the present for future generations."

"Small Beginnings Make Great Endings"

The picture with this column shows the first bridge which crosses the Mississippi River. It will be seen that a couple reaches from one side to the other of the bridge, and that the river which flows under it is a tiny stream. Yet this same river, as it nears the Gulf of Mexico becomes one of the largest in the world. Its broad valley is the very foundation of the civilization of the country. This rippling stream, flowing out of the placid Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota becomes a giant power throughout the land, gathering to it other rivers and streams until it drains half the continent of North America and affects the lives of millions of people. So it is with the Farmers Union. From its very beginning in a Texas school house, it has reached into nearly every state in the Union and has become a great power for good in the nation. So it is with the Junior program of the Farmers Union. From a dream in the minds of a few people, it has grown until it is a significant force in the lives of the youth

"BECOMES A GIANT POWER"



of the United States, reaching out into other countries of the world. Don't be discouraged if your work seems small. It can grow into a force beyond your fondest dreams. It can join with other work like it as other rivers join the Mississippi to become a mighty power in the world.

Junior Reserve Unit II

The teaching outline on this Unit of Study can be obtained from this office or from your State Office. The lessons are published in the National Union Farmer. Subscribe for this paper—25c per year until January 1. Send subscriptions to your State Office or to F. U. Education Service, Jamestown North Dakota.

Cooperative Institutes

Montana Farmers Union Cooperative Institute opens January 8 for a four weeks' term. North Dakota's opens on January 29 for a four weeks' term. Great Falls, Montana and Jamestown, N. D., are the places chosen. A county officers' school will be held of these schools. This is Montana's for one week in conjunction with each term. From the State Office, a set of Public Affairs' Pamphlets for their county library.

Montana County Achievement Records

Montana Counties have asked for an achievement record in which they may be graded much as the Junior members are graded. This record is being set up now. Counties which make the record designated will receive from the State Office, a set of Public Affairs' Pamphlets for their county library.

North Dakota Goes in for Discussion Groups

With the weekly radio program as a leader, and the North Dakota Union Farmer carrying a column of questions and helps, North Dakota is encouraging local discussions of the program which they adopted at their recent state convention, and of the National program adopted in Omaha. Believing that a good program doesn't help much unless everybody knows about it and is working for it, the State officials are giving it all the help and publicity possible.

Give a Book for Christmas

The Education Service has many fine books which would make excellent Christmas gifts. We will wrap them in Christmas paper and mail them to any address you wish. Get your order in early. Write for book list.

Some of the books that make fine gifts are:

You Have Seen Their Faces—Pictorial 75c
Cowling \$1.00
The Lord Helps Those—Fowler \$1.00
Hunger Fighters—deKruif \$1.50
Why Keep Them Alive—deKruif \$1.50
Fresh Furrow—Jenkins 50c

Educational Alternatives

For the past five or six years college enrollment throughout the United States has been increasing. The increase is a result of the economic trend that is interrupted by the onset of the depression ten years ago. It is probable that upward trend will continue for a long time. The effects of the depression have been a consequent decline in the number of pupils in the elementary schools are more than offset by the fact that a steadily increasing proportion of high school graduates go on to college. This imposes added burdens upon collegiate institutions.

Larger enrollments in the colleges are not being accompanied by corresponding increases in college revenues. But these sources of income are declining. Fees paid by students never equal college operation and maintenance costs. They often are less than 50 per cent of these costs. Normally the difference is made up from private benefactions and income from endowment in the endowed colleges and from state and municipal appropriations in the tax-supported institutions. But these sources of income are drying up. Private benefactions, endowment income, and public appropriations are declining, at least relatively. There is little, if any, prospect that this trend will be reversed within the next five or ten years. Thus the colleges are asked to do more while they are enabled financially to do less.

To an increasing extent the colleges are being forced to choose one or more of the following alternatives: (1) Require students to pay a substantially increased proportion of the costs of college operation and maintenance; (2) limit student enrollment in accordance with institutional financial resources; (3) suffer a significant decline in the quality and effectiveness of educational service.

Jefferson proposed that elementary schooling be made easily available to every child, but that those who had access to secondary and higher schooling be selected by a series of rigid competitive processes so that a relatively small number of highly selected and extraordinarily able and earnest individuals would win the privilege of going to college. It is possible that within a generation or two financial difficulties will force us to adopt a procedure approximating Jefferson's democratic ideal.—The Kansas Industrialist.

A brick worker on top of a high building carelessly dropped a brick which landed on the head of his Negro helper below. "You-all better be careful up dere," the helper shouted up. "You done made me bite mah tongue."

There is one truck to revery seven families in the U. S.

Finish Sessions of F. U. School in Ellsworth Co.

Discuss Ways of Promoting Better Programs for F. U. Locals

The last in a series of three county schools was held in Ellsworth county, November 15, 16, 17 and 18. Prompted through discussions of Junior education program planning, and organization methods, the loyal group of Ellsworth Farmers Union members who attended the meetings, are now seriously considering ways and means of creating new life in local meetings. The Farmers Union as a family organization, and the possibility of group participation in programs and discussions, took on new meaning. A questionnaire on Junior Education formed the basis of discussion on Wednesday evening, November 15, at the Community Hall south of Ellsworth. Leading in attendance that first evening were young people of all ages, Juniors, Junior Reserves and Juveniles. Now with a leadoff in understanding the purposes and mechanics of Junior education, these young people are becoming active in the Farmers Union work of their community.

All the sessions of the school from Thursday evening on were held at the Farmers Union Hall in Ellsworth. The discussion of Thursday evening centered on a questionnaire, "Am I an Informed Member?" Friday night the highlight was the showing of the All-State Camp Movie made at the Farmers Union All-State Camp held in the Black Hills of South Dakota last August. Since the Farmers Union does not own a movie projector, we were able to present the film through the courtesy of Dr. Alfred O'Donnell of Ellsworth, who besides showing the picture, showed three reels of pictures he had taken on a visit to Ireland a year ago. Preceding the pictures a discussion on Program Planning was conducted by Miss Frieda Maclizer. Long term planning and group participation especially through discussions of current issues was emphasized.

Each evening while refreshments were being prepared, folk games were introduced and were given enthusiastic reception.

Rex Troutman, state secretary, lead a discussion Saturday, following a basket dinner served at noon. He gave an introductory talk, explaining the responsibility of the local member toward developing Farmers Union purposes and a general program. Following this he opened a general discussion of various farm problems for consideration by those present. Development of cooperative marketing into new fields seemed of special interest.

Miss Esther Ekblad, state Junior Leader, was in charge of the school, and was assisted by Miss Freida Maclizer of Workers' Education, Salina. Miss Roberta Webb, Ellsworth, took charge of local arrangements.—E. E.

NEW ALL-SEASON DEMAND AIDS TURKEY MARKETING

The idea of eating turkey on festive occasions other than Thanksgiving and Christmas has spread so in the last few years that marketing specialists of the Department of Agriculture are looking forward to this year's record breaking turkey crop with less dismay than they otherwise would. Turkey as a feature of many meals, and as the little extra touch added to many forms of hospitality, has worked a considerable change in the turkey storage situation.

In 1936 a heavy supply of turkeys caused a break in prices disastrous for growers. This year the reports from growers indicate that they plan to market about 22 per cent more turkeys than the ample supply of last year. Marketing will be a problem, but B. H. Bennett, of the Agriculture Marketing Service, finds some consolation in the storage situation. "Unquestionably, as in 1936, a large part of the 1939 crop will go into storage," says Bennett. "But there will be this difference. This year the storage will be planned in advance rather than a store of what cannot be sold at Thanksgiving and Christmas. During the last few years there has been such a tremendous improvement in the packing and freezing of turkeys that frozen turkeys are now in good demand, both by home and hotel and restaurant trade, during the season when young turkeys are not available except in limited quantities."

KANSAS HEALTH

The Much Too Common Cold

The common cold is suitably named—it is far too "common." It causes more loss of time from work and school than any other one disease. And yet, most of us go about our daily routine, regardless of the fact that we are sneezing and coughing, exposing everyone with whom we come in contact to a generous supply of our cold germs. We also tolerate the presence of other persons who are doing the same thing. Many mothers send children suffering with colds to school, exposing other youngsters and the teachers.

Making the cold so common is not only a stupid practice, but also a dangerous one, as common cold may result in such serious complications as bronchitis, pleurisy, pneumonia, rheumatism and chronic heart disease. Head colds may cause painful earache, mastoiditis, or result in inflammation of the sinus cavities.

We are all familiar with the symptoms of a common cold, and we are smart enough to know when we are taking cold—but unfortunately, few of us are wise enough to try to check the malady immediately, or thoughtful enough to protect the members of our family and other associates from our germs.

The state board of health offers the following suggestions as general treatment for a common cold: take a hot bath and go to bed; stay in bed until the fever has gone or as long as you feel miserable; drink plenty of water and fruit juices; eat moderately of simple foods, avoiding rich or sweet foods; take a gentle laxative, avoiding so-called "cold cures" many of which are harmful; using only medicine prescribed by your family physician; sleep in a well ventilated room, avoiding drafts and chilling of the body surfaces. If you do not improve quickly with this simple, home treatment, call your physician and follow his instructions implicitly. Use every precaution to guard infants and elderly persons from colds—they are easy victims of pneumonia.

"How to Fight a Fire" by Phone

Fire-fighting by telephone saved a farmer's barn from being destroyed one recent Sunday.

The farmer, who lives on the Brookville road out of Indianapolis, Ind., discovered that his haystack was on fire. Fearing that it would ignite a nearby barn, he telephoned the Indianapolis fire department for help. Arthur Leonard, fire department signal attendant at Indianapolis, realized that by the time their apparatus could reach the scene, the whole barn might be destroyed. Accordingly, he gave the excited farmer explicit directions over the telephone as to what to do.

"Now listen. Just do as I tell you," said Leonard. "Place a ladder on the side of the barn away from the fire and carry buckets of water to the top. Then pour them over the side of the roof slanting towards the fire. That will wet the barn and prevent it from catching fire."

Later the farmer telephoned again that, as a result of the suggestions given by the veteran fire fighter, the blaze was out and his barn was saved.

HOW TO WASH COTTON VELVET

"You can keep your cleaning bills for cotton velvet down to a minimum if you learn how to wash them, advises the Consumers' Council Division of the A. A. A."

"First make a thick suds of mild soap in lukewarm water. Then dip the velvet in and out of the soapy water until you think it's clean. Don't rub or squeeze the material. Repeat the process with new suds if the jacket is very dirty, and rinse the garment in lukewarm water, being sure to change the water often until all soap has disappeared."

Don't wring the velvet dry; lay it between bath towels until most of the water is absorbed in the towels. Then shake out the jacket, holding the inside of the fabric to prevent mashing the nap. Hang the garment on a wooden hanger where there is a good circulation of air, and when it is almost dry, brush the cloth in the natural direction of the threads with a medium stiff brush.

It is best not to iron the velvet but to hang it over a steaming kettle or in a shower bath filled with steam. Another way to steam the garment is to wrap a moist cloth over a hot iron, and press the fabric over the steam. If you are lucky enough to own a steam iron, lay the velvet side down on the ironing board, and pass the iron over the fabric, holding it close to the cloth, but not on it."

Before Or After?

Dietician—"For your case I shall prescribe lettuce leaves without oil, and a glass of orange juice."

Mrs. Overweight—"Ah, do I take them before or after meals?"

Tommy: "Mother, let me go to the Zoo to see the monkeys."

Mother: "What for? Imagine wanting to go and see the monkeys when your Aunt Betsy is here."

Value of a Nail
"When this hammer falls, what does that tell us? Come, Tommy, surely you know?"
"Nails come out of the wall, miss."

"Do you realize, Mary that you've left finger prints on all the silverware?"
"Well, ma'am, it proves I haven't got a guilty conscience."

Fine Program at 1st Jr. Banquet—McPherson, Ks.

Neil Dulaney Makes Inspiring Talk on Important Things in Life

A county Farmers Union Junior Banquet, the first for Kansas, was held at the Community Hall, McPherson, Friday evening, December 1. The attendance numbering well over a hundred included the Juniors, Junior Reserves and Juveniles of four McPherson County locals, Junior and Juvenile Leaders, local and county Farmers Union officers and state Farmers Union officials.

Toastmaster Niles Gibson, a Junior of the Scandia Local, ably guided the Banquet program. Neil Dulaney of the Farmers Union Life Insurance Company, Salina, reminded the young people of important things of life in giving the address of the evening. The program was as follows:

Invocation—Mrs. Chibberley Johnson, Asst. Pastor, Bethany Lutheran Church, Lindsborg.

Group singing—"We're Here for Fun," and "Men of the Soil."

Talk—"Hail Our Union," by Ruth Carlson, 1339 Kansas Torchbearer.

Song—Charles and Marion Sundberg, Northside Local Juniors.

Vocal Trio—Johnston Junior Reserves, Bonnie Peterson, Ruth Swanson, and Ida Mae Olson.

Reading—Donald Wade, Scandia Local Junior.

Address—Neil Dulaney.

Hawaiian Guitars Duet—Richard Spence and Donald Wade, Scandia Juniors.

Essay—"The Cooperative Movement," Clara Olson, Johnston Junior.

Piano Duet—Dorothy and Thelma Sandberg, Northside Local, Lindsborg.

Introduction of visitors, among whom were John P. Fengel, State President, and Mrs. Fengel, Rex T. Colman, State Secretary, and Mrs. Troutman, and Miss Esther Ekblad, State Junior Leader.

Group singing—"Juniors Stand Together."

Hearty flowers were added to the tables with flowers, favors and programs in the Junior colors of blue and gold. As a fitting close to an evening of fellowship, a number of familiar folk games were played under the direction of Miss Ekblad.

Mrs. Charlie Olson, county Junior Leader, was in charge of the banquet. She was assisted by Local Leaders, and the willing hands of many Juniors. The banquet was financed with funds earned by the Juniors and with funds donated by F. U. Cooperative Associations of Lindsborg, McPherson, Marquette and Hilton, the F. U. livestock Commission of Wichita, and the F. U. Jobbing Association, Kansas City.

The banquet was one which will be long remembered, and was a contributing brick in the building of unity among the Farmers Union members of McPherson county.

CHINA OFFER A MARKET FOR

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN THE UNITED STATES
Agricultural conditions in the United States and China are compared in a recent issue of Foreign Agriculture, the publication of the United States Department of Agriculture devoted to a review of foreign farm policy, production, and trade. The entire issue is devoted to China, for in agriculture China and the United States complement each other in many respects.

"China," says the report, "frequently provides a market for such commodities as raw cotton, leaf tobacco, wheat, wheat flour, and fresh fruits, of which the United States has an exportable surplus. Chinese surplus agricultural products desired in the United States are primarily tung oil, hides and skins, bristles, carpet wool, tea and silk. Agricultural imports from China may increase without adversely affecting American agriculture."

China's buying power, the report points out, is strengthened by United States importation of her products.

But a summary of the situation in China, after more than 2 years of war, shows that agriculture is at a low level, especially where the Shing Government is no longer in control. Political chaos in these areas has broken down the marketing of farm products. Flour and cotton mills and other industries using farm products are only partially operating. Coastal cities are having difficulty in obtaining needed farm products from the interior.

The United States is in a position to furnish many of these needs, but China cannot long continue to import without also exporting. However, when hostilities cease, China should again assume her place in international agricultural trade, for she has demonstrated her ability to produce an agricultural surplus and her desire to exchange these for the farm and industrial products of other countries.

Busy All Day

A person has to be a good contentment to get along these days. First of all, he's got to keep his back to the wall and his ear to the ground. He's expected to put his shoulder to the wheel, his nose to the grindstone, keep a level head and both feet on the earth. And at the same time look for the silver lining with his head in the clouds.

Delivery of milk on a house-to-house basis was begun in the Middle Ages. Cows were driven to each domicile and delivery was made on the spot.

1939 TORCHBEARERS



(Left to right-seated): Neva Bitney, Wisconsin; Roy Lof, South Dakota; Fern Albert; South Dakota; Lawrence Longacre and Eleanor Burritt, Colorado; Orval Grigsby and Albert Schriener, Wisconsin; Wilfred Sack and Ruth Carlson, Kansas; Carl Larson and Irene Staffin, North Dakota; and Mearl Maidment and Robert Eschedor, Ohio.

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION PLANS SOUND PROGRAM

(Continued from page 1)

ties of the National Farmers Union therefore we hereby reiterate our stand for the principles laying down in the purposes of the National Constitution of the Farmers Union and that we are for no legislation as a remedy for Agriculture that does not embody average cost of production for farm products figured on the same basis as other business and industry; therefore we are against the present Agricultural Administration set up and we believe that any stand contrary to these policies is not in harmony with the true principles of this organization.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Cooperative Committee
We reaffirm our faith in cooperation as a dependable method of gaining farm relief. The strength and greatness of the Farmers Union lives on its cooperative program.

We established cooperatives because there was an economic need. The farmers of local communities must realize this need and have confidence in one another and work together before a cooperative can be successful and give a maximum amount of service to its patrons. Any member to be a good cooperater, must be fully aware of the economic need of a cooperative to serve patrons in the marketing and purchasing of our farm supplies. A loyal member will not cease to patronize his own cooperative because he knows it belongs to him and his neighbors, operating for service to all. And each member has the responsibility in electing good directors and let his ideas be known through them. They also have the responsibility of hiring cooperative minded managers.

The most successful manager is a good cooperater. He markets and purchases cooperatively. He has a wonderful opportunity to sell the cooperative principles and program to the people in his local community. When competitors try to out do him, he can use the cooperative principles and program to point out why his own membership should continue to support their own cooperative.

When managers and directors understand local leadership, they can build up local supporters who will keep boasting for their own cooperatives which will help to bring greater success and has advantage over the competitors because the patrons will share in the benefits.

We must realize that the cooperatives which are organized on the Rochdale principles serve its members at cost. We recommend that it shall be the duty of the state organization to see that all cooperatives are properly financed, and that business shall be done on the cash basis, capital to receive a minimum rate of interest, each member one vote and only one.

We recommend that a greater part of the savings be plowed back and used for the building of larger cooperatives and entering new fields, such as processing and manufacturing, the surplus savings be distributed to the members in proportion to their patronage.

In view of a recent development in the transportation system we recommend to the state and national organizations that they assist in organizing cooperative trucking associations.

Our state organizations should help to assist the local cooperatives, first by preparing articles of incorporation and by-laws, which comply with the cooperative laws, in assisting the establishing auditing departments, in hiring auditing departments, in hiring auditors who are thoroughly familiar with the cooperative successes and weaknesses of some local cooperative. The state organization should also take steps in federating and coordinating the various local cooperatives, calling cooperative conferences.

We favor that the National Farmers Union shall continue to hold cooperative conferences of the various states, which will help build greater unity and power and promote education in the cooperative field.

We urge that the various Farmers Union Cooperative enterprises adopt a uniform color scheme.

Since it has been established as fact that organized consumers in the cities are necessary to farm cooperatives, that we actively assist the building of consumers cooperatives in cities wherever enough interest is shown.

Signed,
Chris Milus, Nebr.
(Chairman).
Homer Terpening, Kan.
S. H. Hendickson, Ok.
John Skage, S. Dakota
Andy Smith, Okla.
Claude Lyons, Wis.

Report of Committee On Constitution and By-Laws

We, Your Committee on Constitution and By-Laws beg leave to make the following report, viz:

That Article 1, Section 1 (Page 12) of the By-Laws be amended to read as follows:
"He shall receive for his service a salary, the amount of which shall be determined and authorized by the Board of Directors, not less than \$3,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00 per year, payable monthly and all traveling expenses when called away from home."

Also, that Article 1, Section 3 (page 12) of the By-Laws be amended to read as follows:

"He shall receive for his services a salary, the amount of which shall be determined and authorized by the Board of Directors, not less than \$2,000 nor more than \$3,000 per year, transportation and an allowance not to exceed \$5.00 per day for expenses when called from home."

Also, that Article 3, Section 1 (line 2, Page 15) of the By-Laws be amended by striking out the words "twenty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "thirty." (Amended, "to take effect on 1941 dues.")

Also, that Article 15 of the By-Laws be amended by adding the following:

"Wherever voting for National purposes, including the signing of petitions by the membership, the Constitution and By-Laws shall be continued to mean dues paying members."

We further recommend that a committee be appointed by our National President to make a study and further revision of the Constitution and

By-laws, and make a report at the next National Convention.

Signed,
Roy Brazell, S. Dakota.
Chas. C. Few, Ohio.
Fred J. Hagg, Nebr.
H. D. Rolph, Montana.
Fred Millard, California.
Ed Reger, Oklahoma.

Report of Committee on Publicity

We have been able to get together in a meeting only five members of this committee. This is not to the discredit of the members of the committee, but rather to their credit. They are all busy in this convention with their duties as editors, publicists and educators. Exactly the same condition existed in the convention at Madison last year.

The members of the committee who succeeded in getting together, agreed that doing a better job of mass education through our papers and other publications is not a matter of resolutions, but of ideas and methods. In the dinner meeting of the five members of the committee who got together, a very valuable exchange of ideas occurred.

This leads us to suggest that in as much as our editors and publicists are too busy at conventions to hold an adequate conference they meet for such a conference sometime between conventions, perhaps in connection with a cooperative conference.

E. Herron, Nebr.
(Chairman).

TO LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS AT NAT'L. CONVENTION

(continued from page 1)
We, therefore, set forth our position for peace as follows:

1. We urge our government to be neutral in action and spirit during war in other parts of the world, and we oppose extension of government or private credit to any nations or corporations engaged in war or war trade.

2. We favor government monopoly of all armament and munition plants.

3. We pledge our unwavering support to the Bill of Rights and uphold the right of individuals to follow the dictates of their conscience on the question of compulsory military service except in case of invasion of our country.

4. We oppose, as an organization, our country's entrance into any war to be fought on foreign soil.

5. We urge our incoming national officers to take the necessary steps to mobilize peace sentiment. We further ask that our national officers take the lead in approaching representatives of other farm organizations, cooperatives, and labor organizations to find a common ground which all of these groups can support and which is aimed to keep the United States out of war.

6. We urge the President to join with other neutrals in calling belligerents to the council table and act as mediators in bringing about a settlement on just terms of the present conflict.

Copies of this resolution shall be sent by the Secretary to The President of the United States, all Cabinet Members, and to the Chairmen of the Senate and House Foreign Affairs Committees.

Submitted by:
Z. H. Lawter, Oklahoma.
Paul Erickson, South Dakota.
Claude Lyons, Wisconsin.
Vester Burkett, Alabama.
Simeon P. Martin, Michigan.

RESOLUTION IN REGARD TO DIES COMMITTEE

We believe that any organization which is built and functioning democratically has no need to fear investigation, but we deplore the tactics used by the Dies Committee and the color of the publicity given to it by the national press.

We reaffirm our opposition to all gambling in foodstuffs. We therefore ask for the abolishing of the Board of Trade as we are convinced that it is not in the best interest to agriculture.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page one)

farmer" and draws a picture of the disaster that followed in the wake and then makes the comparisons as to the beneficial advantages following the enactment of the Trade Agreements Act with the resultant increase in returns to farmers from the sale of crops, livestock and livestock products with comparisons for the periods before and after the enactment of the Trade Agreements Act, all of which does look good on paper and theoretically from his view point no doubt is plausible from the standpoint of industry, but he has either neglected or failed absolutely as I see it to produce a single bit of evidence or data to encourage the American farmer to accept the theory of reciprocal treaties with other nations, whereby we are called upon to reduce our own production of agricultural commodities, so as to make room for the imports of the same commodities we produce from Argentina or any other country for that matter, in exchange for industrial goods, also produced to surplus and protected behind tariff walls, that are not reduced to meet the emergency needs of our own farmers or citizens in general, while tariff provisions are reduced on the products of our farms that they might enter into our domestic channels in direct competition with every farm and farmer in this country and by implementing the Reciprocal Trade Agreements, subsidizing our exports of agricultural products in our present fashion just for the sake of maintaining our export quotas and continue to carry on trade relations with all other nations, without regard to whether or not our transactions show a profit or a loss to our American farmer could not be justified now or at any other time.

Let us as farmers ask ourselves and those in our authority this question: Does our export market now or has it ever operated in such a way as to raise the domestic price of the products of our farm? If so, when?

Does not agricultural products entering world channels in export have the effect of reducing the price levels in this country to the price levels of all other nations, in which the standard of living is not the equal of ours in America?

How can Reciprocal Trade Agreements with other nations, whose living standards are not ours and where production costs, capital investments, taxes, wages are beneath our standards, be of assistance to us in main-

tain a living standard as high as ours?

I have sold as high as 40 cars of spring potatoes in one season. My largest single sale was a \$15,000 order for potatoes. I filled the order

Referendum Ballot

The following amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the Kansas Farmers Union were approved by the delegates at the State Convention in Wakeeney, Kansas, October 27, 1939, and are hereby submitted to the membership for their approval or rejection.

These amendments should be voted on immediately, by the local unions, and members forwarded to Rex Troutman, State Secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union, Salina, not later than December 27, 1939.

The total number of votes FOR, and the total number of votes AGAINST each amendment must be recorded in the squares at the right of each amendment.

Amendment No. 1

Page 6, Division B, Article 1, Section 2

Line 1: Following the word local, insert, "In good standing on the books of the State Union shall be entitled to one delegate for all Locals up to twenty members and one delegate for each additional twenty members or major fraction thereof. And each."

Votes

For

No

Amendment No. 2

Page 34, Division C, Article 4, Section 1

The dues per adult member shall be \$2.75 per year, payable annually in advance; provided, however, that the minor male members of the Union are exempt from paying state and county dues when there are one or more dues paying members in the family to which they belong, but where there are no adult members in the family must pay the regular (state) dues that all adult male members are required to pay.

Votes

For

No

Also amend by striking out the following sentences: All other minor male members are required to pay only the National Dues (25c per year). The entire 25c must be sent to the State Secretary-Treasurer who in turn will remit the entire amount to the National Secretary-Treasurer.

Votes

For

No

Amendment No. 3

Page 34, Division C, Article 4, Section 1

Following the word pay, line eleven, insert, "All group membership dues must be paid in full to the local Secretary-Treasurer."

Votes

For

No

The above is a true and correct return of the vote of

Local, Number, in, County Kansas, on the proposed amendments of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Kansas Farmers Union.

Seal

Local President

Local Secretary

McPherson F. U. Enjoys Big Meet

Much Interest Is Aroused by Junior Activity Reports

The annual business meeting of the McPherson county Farmers Union was held at the American Legion Hall, McPherson, Monday, December 4. The meeting opened in the morning with reports of State and National Conventions given by Ruth Carlson, Torchbearer Junior, and by Mrs. Charlie Olson, Mrs. Olson also gave her annual report as county Junior Leader. Interest and actual work in Junior education has had a decided increase in the county during the past year. A year ago there was only one active Junior class; now there are four. The county sent 27 Juniors and 2 Leaders to the Farmers Union Camp in August; held a county Junior picnic, and December 1 held the first county Junior Banquet of the state.

Lunch was served at noon by the county Farmers Union. Musical entertainment was furnished during the noon hour by the Crazy Ridge Cowboys.

The afternoon meeting opened with a greeting from the State Junior Leader, Miss Esther Ekblad. David Train gave a report of the State Convention at Wakeeney and the election of county officers was held. David Train, manager of the Lindsborg F. U. Co-operative Association was reelected president. Julius Gibson Jr., vice-president, Homer Spert, secretary, replacing Reuben E. Peterson who had faithfully served the organization in the position for thirteen years. Mrs. Charlie Olson was reelected Junior Leader. Eddy Bengtson of Lindsborg was elected delegate to the State Board of Agriculture meeting which is held in Topeka in January.

There was much discussion on the further development of Junior work. A progressive step was taken in authorizing the county president to appoint a Junior Advisory Committee of five members to counsel and work with the County Junior Leader.

The speaker of the day was Dr. Ernest Philblad, president of Bethany College, Lindsborg. Dr. Philblad vividly described his first hand observations of Sweden's cooperative movement, having traveled in that country a few years ago.—E. E.

WHY BE FAILURES?

(Continued from Page Two)

Co-op. Both did well but for good reasons after three years we consolidated and the work was retained as business manager.

Almost everything produced in this section was pooled with the manager. All that could be shipped in car lots either straight or mixed cars was sold that way. Less than car lots was trucked to market, shipped by local express, or sold on the home market. They also pooled their wants such as fertilizer, feed, field and garden seed and farm implements. These were handled much the same as the produce. One season I bought six cars of fertilizer, two cars seed potatoes and several cars of feed.

I have sold as high as 40 cars of spring potatoes in one season. My largest single sale was a \$15,000 order for potatoes. I filled the order

without a complaint from grower or purchaser.

Now, let us go back to the beginning of this. When we started selling potatoes one merchant was shipping potatoes, paying 50c per bushel. Our first car netted \$2.60 per cwt.

This merchant was president of the Benton Chamber of Commerce. He and the Chamber of Commerce tried many schemes to get the potatoes out, but failed, till the company in St. Louis, to whom I sold most of our products sent a crooked man down to buy for them.

He started by offering me 15c per sack in addition to what the Union was paying me if I would let him set the price. He also assured me I could still pay the farmers more than the merchant would pay.

He then went to the merchant and made some kind of a deal so that the merchant offered 10 per cent more than I could get in any market.

Every grower I could contact I urged to take his potatoes to the merchant till he got satisfaction. When he would come down to where I could do something for them. He held prices up to the top throughout the season. My old company buying, buying potatoes. The next year there was a bumper crop. He started at 50c per cwt. I could get the grower \$1.00 per cwt. F. O. B. cars, but on a few farmers would bring to me.

He loaded out five cars in a week and I only one. Yet, I was paying double what he paid less 8c per sack. That killed not only our co-op, but every local in the county.

I pleaded with the members to get another manager and continue but it was no use. Somehow the seed of suspicion was sown to the extent they would rather deal with a man they knew would skin them than to risk one of their own number.

I am writing this to let you know some of the causes of failure of co-ops. There is now a movement on foot to establish cooperatives of several kinds. They are all good, and should meet with success. No matter what is started there will be opposition. Be forewarned, we should be forearmed. All kinds of tricks and schemes will be used by the opposition. We should also remember that if our co-op dies, conditions will be worse than before our co-op started.—Arkansas Union Farmer.

THE CLOAK ROOM

There were two Turkey Days in '39, but possibly by Executive Order there will be only one national convention in '40.

Don't be deceived, the President's economy budget will be followed with half a hundred supplemental estimates before the Fourth of July.

A fly in the ointment weighs 43,000 lbs. contains 25,000 rivets, 5 miles of wire, 4 engines of 1000 horse power each. We have 22 now.

Norman Davis says the French could

pierce the Siegfried line, but it would cost 750 thousand soldiers; the reverse is also true, thus the stalemate.

One clause in the old Neutrality law permitted the President, when danger arose and Congress not in session, to declare an emergency and increase the armed forces.

The purported national emergency arose on September 8, and the call for the special session was issued the same week—Congress convening September 21—yet in Hitler style the increases had already been ordered.

For all intents and purposes we are preparing for war—the only wars are over there. Our allies need us and will have our help soon though soldiers may not be sent until after election.

We just finished hearings on the 271-million Army-Navy—first deficiency bill necessitated by Executive Order to enforce Neutrality. Think this over. State Senator Mike Hinds in '15 ridiculed an expenditure to preserve Pawnee Rock.

The Kiwanis pep parade in Topeka Friday was a lousy howling success. Headlines today say Seamen are threatening a Walkout. That would be worth seeing.

Phil Zimmerman beat Cong. Dies to it by ten years, but the Texan gets the copyright.

With Joe Martin coming for Kansas Day, Mr. President of the Club, we'll have the Gale but no Moss. We traveled 200 miles on Santa Fe Streamliner while listening to Kan-

Mo. football. It was my most stretched-out game.

A uniformed blonde stewardess acted as ticket collector for Conduct-on on B. and O. This is bringing the air service down to earth. Watch out buses.

Clyde Reed spoke of wild spending on the Ver digris. He must have recalled the proposed Quoddy in Maine and the Florida Canal.

Woodring "flew back to beat the stork." Most expectant fathers would default in such a race, but not our Harry. If it's a boy we go to war.

The proposed special tax for national defense if passed will not be directed solely at the profiteers but the present generation as a whole. We predict it will wind up by being more borrowed money.

Under the mask of national defense we are entering militarism.

Wichita has a good chance for the next air laboratory.

The newest boom is for a munition factory along the Missouri River.

The talked-of Kansas Navy may yet become a reality. It might draw rain.

Football now gives way to other sports, but it's the best of all. It exercises millions of people.

Gladys, the beautiful receptionist, says she sees Secretary Wallace keeps talking about the Chicago milk shed, but all the farmers she knows milk their cows in the nicest barns.—Advertising Age.

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Below is a Price List of Local Supplies, printed for the convenience of all Local and County Secretaries in the Kansas Farmers Union.

Cash Must Accompany Order
This is necessary to save expense in postage and mailing.
Application Cards, 20 for 5c
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F. U. Song Leaflet, dozen 10c
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Book of Puns, (Kinney) 25c
Above, lots of 10 or more 20c
Above, lots of 100, each 15c
Militant Voice of Agriculture (John Simpson) each 75c

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See Your

Local Secretary

Early, That You

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You planted your wheat yourself.
You harvested or combined it yourself.
Will you also market it yourself?

Many thousands of bushels of Kansas wheat are stored either on farms, in local elevators, or in terminal elevators. Much of it is on government loans, and if prices advance sufficiently, it will be sold. Will you do this through the marketing organizations you have built for that purpose, or will you hire outsiders to do it for you?

Kansas Farmers Union producers can make, or save, many thousands of dollars if they complete this final operation for themselves. Certain handling charges are made for selling this stored grain. Do you want these charges to build up profits for someone else or savings for yourself? You must make the choice.

Join with hundreds of other producers who market their grain themselves through local and terminal cooperative marketing organizations and you help build savings similar to those made by your Farmers Union Jobbing Association in the past two years—\$96,782 in 1937, and \$118,382 in 1938. These savings made possible the declaration of a 1 cent a bushel patronage dividend in 1937 and 3/4 of a cent a bushel in 1938. Patronizing cooperatives is one way where unselfish action results in greater personal gains. It is the best way to

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