



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-Operation



VOLUME XXIV

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FARMERS UNION GOING FORWARD HERE IN KANSAS

Interest in Farmers Union Affairs and in Organization Work Leads Writer to Expect Improvements

FOR THE PROGRAM

County Meetings Show Interest in Increase and that Kansas Farmers Realize Need of Organization

The Farmers Union of Kansas is going forward. The fact is brought out forcibly at the many county meetings which are being held at this time over the state. The writer has had the opportunity to attend some of these meetings and has studied reports of other meetings which he has not attended. The one thing which has caused the writer to hold the opinion that the organization is going forward is the interest in Farmers Union affairs which is being manifested at the meetings. When the members feel and show the proper interest, there is nothing which can hold them back.

Some of the meetings have been none too well attended, but it is to be remembered that roads have been bad, and that many who would have attended the various meetings could not get there.

One thing that is very striking in the annual meetings is the fact that the membership is well versed in the present problems which are confronting the Farmers Union as an organization, and which are confronting the farmers as a class. Invariably, the question of the income tax comes up, and as nearly as this writer can tell, the farmers who attend these meetings are solidly for the income tax. They realize, and express themselves as realizing, the fact that they need the Farmers Union as an educational unit to put such measures squarely before the people.

Virtually without exception, the members who are attending these annual meetings of the Farmers Union in respective communities, receive both the Kansas Farmers Union program and the National Farmers Union program, as outlined in the resolutions adopted at the Beloit and Des Moines conventions. They show a determination to go ahead and fight out the Farmers Union fight as outlined in the adopted programs.

The need of organization among farmers is being realized more acutely than ever before. The fact that money is scarce is recognized everywhere as a condition that has to be surmounted; but along with the scarcity of money seems to exist the realization that money always will be scarce if the farmers do not affect a workable organization by which they can fight for their rights, and for that reason, members are showing a willingness and a desire to pay their dues and thus keep the organization intact and effective.

Just this last week the secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union attended meetings in Woodson and Greenwood counties. Although roads were especially bad, these meetings were attended by fairly large groups of interested Farmers Union members, who have the best interests of the farmers and of the Farmers Union organization at heart. These meetings and many more like them prove that the farmers have not lost sight of the value of getting together to talk over common problems, and to enjoy social contact one with the other.

Outstanding in these meetings is

STATE SPEAKER ON WIBW

The Farmers Union hour on WIBW, Capper Publications radio station at Copeake, on Friday evening, December 18, will be under the direction of the state office of the Farmers Union of Kansas. A speaker from the state office will have a message for the friends of the Farmers Union, and all are urged to tune in. The program begins at 7:30 p. m.

KINNEY TALKED ON WIBW

An interesting and forceful address was broadcast last Friday evening over WIBW by A. M. Kinney, former secretary-treasurer of the Kansas Farmers Union. Mr. Kinney, now in the employ of the Farmers National Grain Corporation, spoke chiefly of the operations of the Farmers National and of its influence relative to wheat producers. The Kansas Union Farmer hopes to have a complete report on the talk for next week's issue.

IT IS TIME TO "JINE 'EM"

The Portland-Oregonian (in the course of an editorial which quotes Senator McNary as saying the recent hearing had determined the usefulness of the Marketing Act, suggests a "way out" for the producers. It says:

"The chief source of attack on the Farm Board is a good reason for continuing it, for it is the trades which would be most effected by a farmer-controlled marketing. Dealers and commission men are the middlemen, many of whose services would be dispensed with by cooperative marketing, but the field is too broad and too varied to deprive them of their occupation. Many of them are fitted by experience to become managers of cooperative. There is a place for others at terminal markets, where it is necessary to assemble products of several cooperatives. . . . The long established and extensive organizations that export wheat and other staple products might well fit into the cooperative scheme, if some should be crowded out, that is no more than has happened to many trades in the evolution of business."

And the Oregonian might have added, that among the first steps taken in organizing the present national cooperative grain marketing machine, was the acquiring outright, with its business and personnel, of one of the leading grain marketing firms, doing business in both this and foreign countries.

A live stock shipping association, which practices shipping to the farmers' own firm, the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., is a valuable asset to any community. If you have no shipping association in your community, get busy and talk it up with your neighbors, then write G. W. Hobbs, manager, Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., 410 Live Stock Exchange Building, and he will see that you get a shipping association started.—The Co-Operator.

Approximately 41,000 bushels of alfalfa seed were harvested in the state this year as compared with 97,300 bushels in 1930 and 134,000 bushels in 1929.

The fact that the farmers realize that nothing can be accomplished by merely talking things over, and howling about hard times. The farmers of this state want action and results, and they realize this can be accomplished only through organization. That puts the need of organization in the foreground, and unless this writer is badly fed, the Kansas farmers are coming to recognize this need in no uncertain way, and meet it by working definitely for more complete and effective organization through the Farmers Union.

REMIIND HOUSE AND SENATE OF UNION PROGRAM

Letter Sent to All Members of House and Senate by National Farmers Union President, John Simpson

CITES UNEMPLOYMENT

Asks Congress to Set Unemployed to Work, and to See that Farmers Get Cost of Production

In a letter "To the Membership," the national president of the Farmers Union, John A. Simpson, calls attention to a letter which he has sent to each member of the House and Senate. The letter was dated December 3. President Simpson suggests that each member of the Farmers Union carefully study this letter, which is printed below, and that each member send a letter, along similar lines, to his or her Senators and Congressman. Since the national convention was held at Des Moines, President Simpson has spent nearly all his time at Washington. He reports that our Farmers Union program is being well received. His letter, as it was sent to the members of the House and Senate, was as follows:

"I am sure you will realize that deplorable conditions prevail throughout the length and breadth of our country and I am just as certain that you are deeply concerned in finding a remedy or remedies. There are a few things absolutely fundamental and that must be kept in mind by those endeavoring to discover a solution. Among these fundamentals are:

1. There can be no prosperity so long as a large percentage of the laborers of the country are unemployed. It is a conservative estimate that 30,000,000 men, women and children of

the laboring class are at this moment without a purchasing power even equal to the necessities of life. The organization I represent believes that it is the duty of Congress to see that every laboring man out of employment has an opportunity to make a living for himself and family.

2. There are 30,000,000 men, women and children out on the farms of the United States selling their products on an average of less than half the cost of production. They are selling the two great money crops, wheat and cotton, at less than one-third the cost of production. It is fundamental that there will be no prosperity in this country so long as 30,000,000 on the farms have no purchasing power whatever. The organization I represent believes it is the duty of this government to see that farmers get the cost of production for that part of their crops the home folks use. We believe it is unfair for citizens of this country to eat the farmers' bread and butter at less than it costs the farmer to produce it.

3. The organization I represent believes Congress should restore to itself the authority granted it by the Constitution, of issuing and regulating the value of money. Under the National Bank Act and the Federal Reserve Act, this power has been transferred to a handful of bankers. Under their supervision, every need for money is furnished, on a basis of paying interest to these bankers. It is a crime to have this thing continue. In the year 1931, the interest debt of the nation is greater than the gross receipts of all agricultural products. The total interest and tax debt is more than the total new wealth created in 1931.

The great Edison, in an interview published in The New York Times, December 6, 1921, deplored the fact that every time the government through constructing a highway or other public improvement added to the wealth of the nation, was compelled by the bankers to at the same time add to the debt of the nation. He said, "Why should those who never

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PEDDLER GIVES HIS GOODS TO DROUTH RELIEF

Wants Farmers Union to See that Stockings Get to Place They Will Do Most Good

BUREAU UNIT, TOO

Kansas Secretary Receives Reports from North Dakota and Montana Recipients of Contributions

The Farmers Union spirit of brotherhood is contagious. Or perhaps it is inherent in all of us, and under the leadership of the Farmers Union it is coming to the surface. At any rate, individuals outside the Farmers Union and other organizations, are falling in line with the Farmers Union in the matter of contributing clothing and food to the drouth-stricken brother and sisters in North Dakota and Montana.

In several issues of the Kansas Union Farmer have been reports of contributions of clothing which have been received at the state office of the Kansas Farmers Union, to be forwarded to the Farmers Union committee in charge of the distribution. In addition to that received at the state office, many contributions have gone direct to Jamestown, North Dakota, and have been so reported.

Now the Union Farmer can report a collection of socks and children's stockings which were contributed by an old peddler, who heard, through a Farmers Union member, the story of suffering and need in the Northwest. This peddler, in giving his contribution, illustrates the fact that we are all brothers under the skin. Brotherhood appeals to us all, and the Far-

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HERINGTON FARMERS MET WITH BUSINESS LEADERS

Main Address of Evening by President of Kansas Farmers Union. Former Secretary Kinney Also Spoke

"The most remarkable and most successful community meeting we ever heard of," is the way Herington Sun characterizes the meeting held there Monday night, December 7, when the farmers of the community entertained the business men at the Herington Odd Fellows hall.

At the invitation of the farmers of the community, C. A. Ward, president of the Kansas Farmers Union, addressed the meeting as the principal speaker. Mr. Ward refused two other invitations to speak, in order to be with the Herington group of farmers. He congratulated the people of the neighborhood on the spirit that caused them to turn out nearly three hundred strong to the meeting. He said that such meetings should be held all over the state. He stressed cooperation, not only between farmers and business men, but between the farmers themselves.

Mr. Ward spoke very strongly in defense of the Farm Board, and said while they had undoubtedly made mistakes, it was a step in the right direction, that is, legislation for agriculture. Forty per cent of the buying power is wrapped up in agriculture, and to have any degree of prosperity, agriculture must be helped first. Eighty per cent of the wealth of the nation is controlled by four per cent of the population. He was of the opinion that a more equal distribution must be obtained to have better times. Mr. Ward's talk was enjoyed by all and he received a fine round of applause at the close.

A. M. Kinney of the National Co-operative Grain Marketing Association explained the workings of that body. He was formerly state secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union.

The Herington Sun, in reporting the meeting, goes on to say:

The meeting brought home the idea that the problems of the farmer and the business men were mutual and it will go a long way toward improving the relations between them. There was a cheerfulness of spirit evident that can't be matched anywhere. And if anyone didn't have a good time we haven't heard of it.

The committee in charge of the entertainment was W. R. Sangwin, A. E. Johnson, Wallace Hills, B. F. Pierce and Loren Elliott. A great share of the glory should go to the women who were responsible for the excellent meal of creamed chicken, potato salad, roasted hot rolls, pickles, all kinds of pie and coffee. They are Mrs. W. R. Sangwin, Mrs. A. E. Johnson, Mrs. B. F. Pierce, Mrs. J. S. McCully, Mrs. Ray Dix, Mrs. John Ollhoff, Mrs. Albert Kohls, Mrs. Martin Dombroski, Mrs. B. A. Ramsey, Mrs. Loren Elliott, Mrs. C. Veerhusen, Mrs. George Biehler, Mrs. E. Domann.

Howard and Charles Andrews of Delvan and Eldon and Darrell Baker provided music with their guitar, violin and harmonica. Darrell Baker sang several numbers.

W. R. Sangwin called the meeting to order and introduced Rev. Rogers, who congratulated the farmers on their fine meeting. He made a nice talk and was warmly applauded.

County farm agents, Jones of Dickinson and McCormick of Morris, were introduced, McCormick making a few remarks.

The average yield of potatoes in the state this year is estimated at 32 bushels per acre, the lowest on record except for 1894. Some commercial growers in the northeastern counties, however, report yields of 75 to 100 bushels or more per acre.

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KANSAS LEADING IN COOPERATION SAYS SPEAKER

C. A. Ward, in Talk over WIBW, Dwells on Relationship of Kansas Agriculture to World Conditions

WANT EVEN CHANCE

Farmers Must Control Surplus with Idea of Controlling Prices. Appeal for More Complete Organization

The fact that Kansas is the banner state in the Union in many respects was brought out in a radio address by C. A. Ward, president of the Kansas Farmers Union, who spoke Friday evening, December 11 over WIBW, Topeka, during the time previously announced for G. E. Creitz of the Farmers Union Royalty Co. Mr. Ward pointed out the fact that Kansas is leading her sister states in the matter of cooperation among her agricultural organizations. He mentioned the sincere attempt on the part of each of the major farm organization groups to further the interests of Kansas agriculture.

The present condition of Agriculture as a class was discussed at some length by Mr. Ward. He reminded the radio audience that Agriculture is bankrupt in effect, and that the Kansas farmers have it in their power, through organized effort, to correct present conditions to a large extent.

The prevailing ruinously low prices of farm commodities was brought out, together with the fact that these commodities are being produced at a great loss to the producer. Mr. Ward declared that the Farmers Union program is designed to correct this condition, but called attention to the fact that we need emergency measures which will relieve the situation to the extent that farmers can go ahead and continue to produce, with assurance of receiving cost of production. The general action of the Farmers Union calls for a long time program of improvement, and is sound in every respect. But the Farmers Union recognizes the need for emergency legislation which will give the farmers the advantage of the tariff of their commodities. Mr. Ward at this point mentioned the President's message to Congress, and appealed to his listeners to get behind the Farmers Union in its fight for beneficial emergency legislation.

Later in his talk, the president of the Kansas Farmers Union dwelt on the fact that present economic conditions of the country generally have placed the people in a frame of mind in which they will not pay a great deal of attention to partisan politics, but are demanding action that will result in relief of the situation. He mentioned the fact that the present Congress is confronted by unique conditions, such as have not been faced by that body in former sessions. The House is under the leadership control of Democrats while the Senate leadership is Republican. Irrespective of party complexion of leadership, the people of the country are demanding action.

Mr. Ward pointed to the world condition of instability, and to the fact that conditions as they are in the United States bear a certain relationship to world conditions. The United States cannot go on and be independent of the rest of the world. As a country, we must recognize certain international relationships, which involve problems of international commerce, payment of war debts and reparations and problems of world

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ALL THE WORLD LOVES A LOVER



It may be true that "all the world loves a lover" but this one in the picture couldn't climb up to the window to get his lady fair if he didn't have a good strong ladder. The romance which we see depicted here would end disastrously if any of the rungs in the ladder should break. That mustn't happen, for we want the elopement to be successful. We want the Farmers Union to get the Beneficial Farm Legislation. If the membership doesn't hold up, a nasty fall will result. Perhaps old Papa Big Interests will be running out in the yard with his shot gun—if the membership

doesn't hold up—and spoil the Farmers Union's chances of getting the legislation to which it is entitled.

This should remind every farmer in Kansas of the fact that a lot depends on his payment of dues for 1932. Perhaps more depends on the average man than he realizes. Certainly there is no chance of getting any kind of beneficial legislation if we do not go after it in an organized way. No attention ever has been paid to requests from individual farmers, in a legislative way. It will always be that way. No organization can go forward and do any good without support. The

Farmers Union is something for you to use. It is as important to you individually as any implement you might have on your place. It spells the difference between unorganized individuals engaged in farming and taking whatever the speculators in their products want to give them, and organized agriculture exerting a real influence in the economic plan of things in this country. Your dues, therefore, represent a necessary investment—and a small investment in the light of what they mean to you in the long run.

Strengthen those rungs! It's up to you.

Uncle Andy Recognized

Readers of "Uncle Andy Says" column which appears regularly in the Kansas Union Farmer, will be interested to read the following report which reached this office recently:

A Scotch immigrant boy, who at the age of 17, joined the Farmers Union, in Marshall county, Kansas, was, on Monday, December 7, at the age of 82, lauded throughout the nation as the foremost farmer of the Sunflower state.

Andrew Shearer, who has lived continuously in the Frankfort community since he landed there 65 years ago, and who doesn't do anything else but farm, was the man to whom has come national attention because of his selection as one of the three men on whom the American Farm Bureau Federation tonight conferred its annual award "For Distinguished Service to Organized Agriculture."

Frank O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois and nationally known champion of agriculture's best interests, and E. V. Titus, Glen Cove, N. Y., also an octogenarian and unostentatious director of the New York State Farm Bureau's transportation service department, were the other two men on whom the Farm Bureau honor was conferred along with Mr. Shearer. The award was announced at the federation's Thirteenth Annual National Convention, in session here.

The basis of the award, according to the rules prescribed by Federation authorities, is "unselfish successful service in the interest of organized agriculture. It must be service beyond the ordinary duties and responsibilities of the worker, and, it must be performed from an altruistic desire to advance the well-being of farm people. The award is symbolized by a daintily designed gold medal and a parchment certificate to accompany it.

The award to Mr. Shearer has been a lifetime devoted to up-building the efficiency of agriculture. Gov-

ernor Harry H. Woodring, Senator Arthur Capper, President F. D. Roosevelt of the Kansas State College at Manhattan, prominent journalists, and a host of Mr. Shearer's friends and neighbors in the humbler walks of life, joined in the endorsement of his nomination for the award. The selection was determined by a committee composed of three farm magazine editors, C. V. Gregory, of Prairie Farmer; D. Harper of the National Live Stock Producer; and E. P. Taylor of American Farming, appointed by national Farm Bureau officials.

The citation accompanying the award reviews at length Mr. Shearer's long career of service to his fellow farmers. It recalls that, always years ahead of his times in his thinking, Mr. Shearer has often had to face derision and even violence, through which he has come triumphant, to see his solid, sane and sound reasoning vindicated again and again.

Back in the time when the Populists were upsetting things in Kansas, he began fighting the battles of the farmers, and he carried them on since then as community leader, as member of the state legislature, on political platforms and in the farm organizations.

Mr. Shearer, early recognized the need for organization of agriculture to make the fight effective. In 1878 he headed the Grange movement in Marshall county and was one of the leaders in the Farmers Alliance movement both in the county and the state. He has also been an active member of the Farmers Union. It is significant that although the Distinguished Service Award is a Farm Bureau affair, C. C. Cogswell, Pretty Prairie, Kansas, master of the Kansas State Grange, and C. A. Ward, Salina, Kansas, president of the Kansas Farmers Union, joined with Ralph Snyder, of Manhattan, president of the Kansas State Farm Bureau, and

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Paragraphs from Washington

(By W. P. LAMBERTSON)
(Editor's Note: The first installment of current "Paragraphs from Washington" appear in this issue of the Kansas Union Farmer. These paragraphs are written each week by W. P. Lambertson, congressman and vice president of the Kansas Farmers Union. During the last two sessions of Congress Mr. Lambertson has written these paragraphs, and they have been printed in four-fifths of the newspapers in Mr. Lambertson's district. He received many requests from people in his district to continue the paragraphs for this session of Congress, and his many friends and readers will be glad to know that the paragraphs will be forthcoming. These paragraphs are wholly of Mr. Lambertson's own composition, from personal touches.)

We drove 500 miles the first day to Pennsylvania, Ind., 400 the second day to Pennsylvania, W. Va., 300 the last day into Washington. The hills, beginning in Ohio, slow up driving.

We have taken an apartment on the very edge of Rock Creek Park, four miles northwest of the Capitol, in the heart of Washington. This park makes a wonderful place for our children to play. Their school is near by. Before, we have lived on Capitol Hill.

The day we moved in we were visited by a lady representative of the business interests of the community, who welcomed us with a shower of flowers, groceries and other little things. To say the least, the thoughtfulness warmed our hearts.

The Republican conference was interesting because Tilson and Snell, who, in the previous two years had fought on the same side, were bitterly fighting each other. The six Republicans from Kansas who had stayed out of the February conference attended this one, and the one who at-

tended the former, was absent from this one.

We have spent three afternoons in conference discussing new rules. The one big change which will undoubtedly be agreed to, permits 145 members to force a committee to report a bill. Before, it took 218.

Last night I walked home from the House Office Building. As I strolled down Pennsylvania Avenue, I saw more dingy shacks, more dirty, greasy people, than I have ever seen on a prominent avenue in any other city. This historic parade ground is the worst of Washington but it is soon to be changed to the sites of new Government buildings.

There is a national W. C. T. U. banquet at the Mayflower tonight. Mrs. Mitchner charged on the eight Kansas congressmen in conference, saying that she wanted to see privately the two who had not accepted her invitation. Guyer has agreed with me that we will wear Kansas clothes.

The new Akron floated over the city for hours today making radio tests.

Every one of the 219 Democrats was at the opening session. If they continue that healthy through the winter, the Hoover program will be "Garnered" in.

The new Speaker brings hope of a real democracy to the House. He took the oath wearing a brown suit and blue shirt and his whiskers were more than a day old.

Sen. J. Ham Lewis will add color to the western group in the Senate. His pink whiskers, red hair, varied colored dress and ultra gracious manners easily make him the peacock of the Upper Body.

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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.

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SALINA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1931

NEW CREAMERY PLANT PROGRESS

Another cooperative bud is opening into full bloom down at Colony, Kansas. The people down there always have been good Farmers Union folks, and it is fitting that Anderson county should be selected as a location for a new branch plant of the Farmers Union Cooperative Creamery Association.

A report from A. W. Seamans, manager of the Association, says the walls of the new plant are nearly completed, and that work is moving along smoothly. The people of the community are cooperating in every way possible and it is hoped that not many weeks will pass before the new plant is producing butter, and handling the products of the cooperatively minded Farmers Union folks and their neighbors in that section of the state.

The new plant will be a step in cooperative development in Kansas, and it will be in a community which has been marked for many years by a willingness of the citizens and farmers to cooperate. Anderson county has long been a stronghold of the Farmers Union.

GET NOTICES IN EARLY

Those who send in notices of meetings and other matter for publication are reminded that the forms close Monday of the week of publication of any issue. Recently the Kansas Union Farmer has received notices of county meetings which reached this office too late to be published before the dates for which the meetings were advertised. Some notices have reached the paper as late as Tuesday when they were meant for publication for that particular week. Of course, the forms were closed, and the papers were being printed.

It is a good plan to have such notices reach this office as early as Saturday preceding the date of issue. Usually the notices come in earlier than that, thus eliminating any chance of being too late.

We want to be able to print all regular notices and other important matter received, and we feel we are not out of line in asking for the cooperation of those who send the matter in.

GAMBLING AND PRODUCING

Not long ago we heard a man attacking the Agricultural Marketing Act and other farm legislation. Investigation showed he had been playing the market. He was bragging about making several hundred dollars gambling in wheat. Those who gamble in what the farmers produce do not favor farm legislation which will take away their opportunity to play their little game of chance—at the farmers' expense.

THE INSURANCE CORNER

By W. J. Spencer, President-Manager

With Christmas just a little over a week away, no doubt most of you are making plans for the holiday season and are looking forward to the one day of the year when everyone should be happy. Everyone in the Home Office joins me in wishing you a joyful Christmas.

There is one thing we are going to ask of you however, and that is that you will try to exercise as much precaution as possible in lighting your Christmas trees, and in building those huge log fires that everyone loves. Every year during this season, you can scarcely pick up a newspaper without reading of a fire which has occurred through faulty lighting of a tree, or through a chimney catching on fire, and we hope that this year will be entirely free of such accidents for our people.

The office force is very busy just now trying to get the records for the year 1931 ready for the financial statement, and the 1932 calendars sent out, and in speaking of the coming year, we hope that it will be very bright and prosperous for all of us. If we could have just one wish this Christmas, we would wish that 1932 would bring Better Times for our farmer friends, for therein lies the key to prosperity for everyone.

The President's Column

By CAL. A. WARD

ALL EYES TURN TOWARD WASHINGTON

Almost every group and class of society, including farm organizations, have been looking forward and patiently waiting to see what, if anything, Congress would do at its present session.

Over a period of the last 18 months the depression has ceased to confine itself mainly to agricultural interests, but the malady has gone forth until it has reached every phase of business and industry including the strongest financial interests and enterprises of the whole nation. The result of all this is that confidence, especially on the part of those who are in a position to control and do control the major part of the wealth of the country, have been tremendously shaken or destroyed.

Relative to agriculture and farm organizations, it is well to remember that this industry through its leadership, has for a considerable length of time realized that some emergency measures are needed and must be had in order to prevent a total collapse of agriculture, thus striking at the very heart of the complete financial structure of our government and nation. The Farmers Union offers and backs a program which, if accepted and followed, will and does tend to relieve the situation as we now have it. But, it is to be observed that it is impossible to cause the farmers of the country to see the need of organizing and getting together quick enough to meet that which in reality is an EMERGENCY.

Our program is a long time one and as any other great movement, cannot be accomplished soon enough to meet the emergency which is causing thousands of our farmers to lose their homes and millions of men and women to lose their jobs.

Now, we are looking to Washington for EMERGENCY measures in legislation, to bring us out of this chaotic condition. This Nation is the richest nation in the world. Its natural resources have only been touched and are almost inexhaustible. Our resources for production cannot be surpassed by any nation, and new wealth can be made available almost at will; yet we are down and out. The financial distress of the nation reacts unfavorably even as it applies itself to the social life of our people.

I have just read President Hoover's message to Congress. In the main, I think it is a masterpiece, and if properly applied should turn the tide. The President stresses especially the fact that we must give a lot of attention to a system of finance and credits. He probably places emphasis where it belongs when he says "we do not require more money or working capital. We need what we have to work." Confidence on the part of those individuals and interests who have hoarded wealth, will release wealth, capital and credit which will find itself into channels that will stimulate and regulate production and business to a point where COST OF PRODUCTION may be arrived at. Also, that the unemployed may go back to work at a wage which will permit them the necessities and conveniences of this modern age.

The President states credit is the very basis of our economic life and that we must put some steel beams in the foundation of our credit structure. This statement infers that our credit system is in danger of a total collapse. I have always been of the opinion, as the President puts it, that credit is indispensable. But, credit only serves to help business and industry, including agriculture, when these industries are placed on a basis and in a position where we can get cost of production for our commodities, whether they be manufactured goods or raw materials produced on our farms.

The whole readjustment program undertaken by the Government through Congress should pass such legislation that will tend to EQUALIZE, for inequality is at the heart of our present ills. Inequality has contributed to the hoarding of wealth and to the breaking down of confidence.

President Hoover recommends an emergency reconstruction corporation to function for two years and extending credit to industry, agriculture and finance with legislation to release volumes of deposits in closed banks. Also, he recommends the broadening of rediscount eligibility provisions for the Federal Reserve system. In this connection it might well be said that our agricultural interests are suffering at the present time because of the failure of the Federal Reserve system properly functioning. This has greatly handicapped the live stock industry. Thousands of meat producers have become bankrupt and others are on the verge of it. This industry should have more liberal credit at this time instead of forcing liquidation of live stock loans which, at the present time, is in process. We need a readjustment of the whole Federal Reserve system which will work out through the Federal Farm Loan and Intermediate Credit Banks, including our private banking interests. Money must be brought from its hiding places and be allowed to be used in such basic industries as agriculture. It is up to the present Congress to readjust this system so it will save American agriculture from a complete collapse.

In his message, the President refers to temporary increases in taxation in order to meet a Federal deficit in operation of Government, running into several billions of dollars. Along with that he urges wholesale economies in the administration of Government and Governmental Departments.

Of course, we should back the President in his urge of economy. Congress must give the program of taxation immediate consideration and action; so must our different states. The graduated income principle in taxation is sound and the higher incomes must be taxed to a point that will tend to spread the wealth of the country into multitudes of channels which touch and reach every business of our people.

Will the farm organizations be on the job through their leadership at the present session of Congress in Washington? Press reports last week carried the statement of the fact that the three Major Farm Organizations are attempting to work and pull together for beneficial legislation at this time. We members of the Farmers Union are proud of our organization. Its set up, purpose and accomplishments are fundamental and outstanding. This statement does not discredit other farm organizations. We minimize the effectiveness of all when we fail to cooperate and the individual farmer and producer suffers because of it. In Union there is strength and when once the farmers of the country, through their organizations learn to cooperate we are then in a stronger position to demand our rights and, among other things, secure such state and national legislation that will give agriculture a square deal and again place it on its feet. Washington is challenged to give to the American people emergency legislation at this time.

A Dream

I dreamed the other night that I had died;
And safely crossing Jordan's stormy tide,
I reached a place at last beside the gate,
Where Peter passes on each mortal's fate.

I stood aside, beset by fear and dread,
And watched the throng of pilgrims widely spread,
Hastening on from Jordan's stormy shore,
All eager to be first to reach the door.

Royalty was there in pomp and rank;
Plutocrats who marched with splurge and swank
Crowding humble pilgrims from the path;
Nor heeded Peter's fast increasing wrath.

They crowded to the gate midst quarrels and strife;
And Peter, glancing at the Book of Life,
Waved them aside into that broad highroad
That downward leads to sinners' last abode.

And then St. Peter turned to that vast throng,
Which down on Earth had suffered grievous wrong,
The submerged third, the poor and the oppressed,
And passed them through the portals of the blest.

Although I longed to move in with the rest,
I dared not put my fortune to the test;
And then I awakened with a frightened scream,
And realized it was a tortured dream.

—A. M. Kinney.

TAX RELIEF DEPARTMENT

By JOHN FROST, Blue Rapids, Kansas

No. 13

MEASURING TAXES CORRECTLY

It is almost undisputed that the correct principle upon which taxes should be levied is the ability of the taxpayers to pay. With that principle established we next come to the proposition of finding a yardstick, or measure, by which the amount of each citizen's taxes may be justly determined.

At first thought it was concluded that each citizen should pay taxes in proportion to the amount of his property, and this plan, or the property tax plan, has long been in use. But it gradually began to dawn on our economists that the amount of the property of a citizen was a poor measure of his ability to pay taxes. Prof. Ely, renowned economist of Wisconsin University, states this fact in his Outline of Economics, Pg. 722, as follows: "Property taxes pay little attention to the ability of the owner of the property. They fall upon property as such whether it is free or encumbered by debt; they must be paid by the unsuccessful as well as the successful; in lean years as well as fat years." In addition to the above violations of the ability to pay principle of taxation, the property tax system has been so perverted by exemptions to the influential and well to do, and corresponding penalties to the common people, that ability to dodge taxes, rather than ability to pay taxes, has become the dominant principle of our property tax system.

It requires but three clear thoughts to see that it is net income rather than the value of property that measures ability to pay taxes.

1. Ability to pay taxes depends upon and is measured by prosperity.
2. But net income, or net profit, is the measure of prosperity.
3. Hence ABILITY TO PAY TAXES IS MEASURED BY NET INCOME.

The old method of assessing a citizen's visible property, and levying the tax on that property assessment is wrong, and must be discarded. We must adopt the new method of assessing a citizen's net income, and levying the tax on that net income, in order to charge to each taxpayer his taxes in proportion to his ability to pay.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

ROCK CREEK LOCAL MEETING

Rock Creek Local 2149 was held Dec. 4 at Valley View-Mud Creek club house seven miles southwest of Ottawa on K-33.

One new member joined our ranks and several paid their dues. A good business meeting was held and delegates to the county meeting were elected.

A good program was furnished by the entertainment committee, in charge of Memory Kochenover, chairman.

Two playlets were put on by Mud Creek Community Club members; musical numbers by Edward and James Fredericks; reading by Floyd Kochenover; song by Julia Kissinger; musical numbers by Mr. and Mrs. Will O'Neal, and songs by Ray Beeson.

Refreshments of fruit salad, cake and coffee were served to about 75 persons and the evening was rounded out with dancing.

At this meeting we voted to hold a dance the night of Jan. 1, 1932, and all Farmers Union members and their friends are invited.

H. A. Kissinger, Sec.

HERE'S ANOTHER VIEW

Olathe, Kans., Dec. 6, 1931.
Mr. Floyd H. Lynn,
Salina, Kans.

I noticed in a recent issue of the Kansas Union Farmer a suggestion relating to the collection of dues. The method was, to collect the dues through an agency for the distribution of checks for cream or milk. This would doubtless get the dues, but what about the influence upon the member? Does not this savor of doubt in the honesty of the member?

I have been a member of the bricklayers union at different times in my life. Of course, at times some were slow about paying their dues. Suggestions for some more or less forceful method of collection were made, but always as promptly voted down. Also, I have several times read of the trouble occasioned in Mevans Union because of the collection of dues through the operator's office by withholding the amount of the dues out of the miner's pay check and then handing it over to the treasurer of the union. Personally, I should not like to see any such method adopted. I have had sufficient experience with humanity to feel that any method favoring of force is but paying too dear for the whistle. You get your money at the expense of destroying his interest in the union.

Every organization should be so organized and managed, that it would readily approve itself to its members; and a few kindly words from fellow members and a little patience will likely do the rest. I have often heard it said: A little patience, perseverance and sweet oil will accomplish a great deal. Let us try all other ways first. With best wishes for our Union, and yourself, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Chas. A. Stevens.

RILEY CO. MEETING REPORT

Kansas Farmers Union,
Salina, Kansas.
Dear Brother Lynn:
I will write you a few lines from Riley County.

Our county organization held its annual meeting at Oak Grove school house on the 6th day of December. Our president, John Graham, called the meeting to order at 11:30 a. m. and appointed the different committees. Then we adjourned to the basement where the ladies had the tables set and covered with the best of the land in the line of foods, to which we did justice without mercy.

Meeting was again called to order at 1:30 p. m. The program committee gave a short program of song, music and declamations, the last number being a talk by E. J. Davies on the economic situation and our staggering tax load. He told us in unvarnished language that to diminish the tax load we must begin in our home yard by reducing school and township expenses.

Next the credentials committee reported. Six locals represented with some 30 delegates, which together with other members made a nice house full.

Then we had election of officers with the result that the whole crew was re-elected.

Our secretary brought up the question of aid to the drought stricken farmers of Dakota and Montana, with the result that the Riley county union sent \$50.00 from its treasury to the relief committee. Then our conductor, Emmet Williams, proposed that we pass the hat in the room which was done with the result that eight dollars and some cents was collected at that time for the same cause.

Our next meeting will be held at the Ashland school house the first Saturday in March. Brother Emmet Williams was elected to represent the stockholders of Riley county at the meetings in Kansas City of the Jobbing Association, the Farmers Union Livestock Commission company and the Farmers Union Produce Association.

Yours, eternally,
John L. Larson.
Randolph, Kansas.

RILEY CO. FARMERS UNION ADOPTS TIMELY RESOLUTIONS

Under date of December 5, Mr. Gust Larson, county secretary of Riley County Farmers Union, sends the Kansas Union Farmer the following report from the resolutions committee:

The following resolutions were adopted by the Riley County Farmers Union No. 45 in quarterly session today:

1. We heartily thank the ladies of the Oak Grove Local for the excellent dinner served for the kindness and courtesies shown us.

2. We are cheerfully in accord with the program of the National Farmers Union in regard to legislation and national economy.

3. We demand that our members of Congress oppose and measure to cancel the debts owed this government by European nations.
4. Be it resolved: That no candidate for Congress or the state legislative bodies who does not promise to endeavor to diminish the salaries of all public officials, state or national, shall receive the support of members of the Farmers Union in the political campaign in 1932.

REPORTER GIVES FACTS OF BROWN COUNTY MEETING

The Brown Co. Farmers Union annual meeting held at Parish House, Hiawatha, Dec. 8, opened with no frost on the shucks and with the ground a little firmer.

The 12 miles that the reporter drove to the meeting showed many farmers in the corn fields. By noon it looked like rain. The attendance was small, 23. After the noon lunch T. J. Sands talked on taxes. He thinks that for a few years we will have 50c wheat, 30 and 40c corn, 4 and 5c hogs, which cannot support health officers and far magents. Taxes that take most of the farm income amount to robbery. He said he was a little pessimistic about the future. Raymond L. Stover upheld the Farm Bureau. He said: "There is plenty of room for both organizations in every county. The Union stresses marketing and the Bureau stresses education." He gave records showing where good farm agents were placed the production increased in dollars many times over the cost of the Bureau. He invited the Union members to visit the office and get better acquainted.

Geo. Irving talked Mutual insurance by and for the farmers. Keep the money at home, helping the neighbors instead of eastern corporations. Spend money for insurance rather than the Bureau.

Ora Hamlin reported on the state convention at Beloit. It was one of the best reports we have ever had. He said the most of it was in the Kansas Union Farmer of Nov. 5 and 12. Mrs. Arnold Moser spoke of the good the women could do by attending the meetings.

Will C. Hinton thinks that more vocational agriculture could be taught in the schools and have less 4-H clubs. He believes income tax is helping New York farmers. Our taxes will have to be lowered or prices raised to save our homes. Currency issued on the conglomerate value of some 400 things might take the place of gold. He likes the McNary, Haugen bill that penalizes overproduction, and thinks protection of oil would take many men out of the soup-line.

At the election T. J. Sands was made President, Ora Hamlin vice president and alternate; Charles A. Babbitt, reporter and delegate to the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. All other officers were re-elected. Babbitt wants people to tell him their troubles which the Board might ease.

STOP SHORT SELLING

C. A. Ward, Pres.,
Farmers Union,
Salina, Kansas.
Dear Friend:
I see by the papers that the grain trade has had a probe of the Federal Farm Board. I guess they think that they have us licked. Why not have a probe of the grain trade? I think we would find that they have been selling short ever since the board was started. I don't think that wheat will ever be over 50c as long as they let them sell short. I would like to see you ask the farm as an organized body to ask congress to pass a law to stop short selling. Then I think wheat could start up, without them short selling and depressing the (continued on page 4)

The Farmers Exchange

Where Farmers Buy and Sell

RATES FOR ADVERTISING IN THIS CLASSIFIED SECTION EACH INSERTION PER WORD 3c

Terms cash in advance and where check accompanies order for four or more insertions the rate will be 2½c per word per insertion.

Number of words	1	2	3	4	5
10	30	60	90	1.00	1.25
11	33	66	99	1.10	1.38
12	36	72	1.08	1.20	1.50
13	39	78	1.17	1.30	1.63
14	42	84	1.26	1.40	1.75
15	45	90	1.35	1.50	1.88
16	48	96	1.44	1.60	2.00
17	51	1.02	1.53	1.70	2.13
18	54	1.08	1.62	1.80	2.25
19	57	1.14	1.71	1.90	2.38
20	60	1.20	1.80	2.00	2.50
25	75	1.50	2.25	2.50	3.13
30	90	1.80	2.70	3.00	3.75

PEDIGREED O. I. C. Pigs, Gilt, Petersen & Sons, Osage City, Kansas.

YOUR AD in this paper would be read by over 50,000 Kansas farmers and farmers' wives.

Reader's Order for Classified Advertising

KANSAS FARMERS UNION,
Farmers Union Building, Salina, Kansas.

Gentlemen:

Please start my ad containing.....words, to run.....times in your paper. I enclose a remittance of \$.....to cover cost of these insertions.

Name

Address

Here is the ad:.....

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PAGE FOUR

UNCLE ANDY RECOGNIZED

(continued from page 1)

the other Farm Bureau folks in endorsing Mr. Shearer's nomination.

Mr. Shearer's initial effort on behalf of the Farm Bureau was a movement to organize Marshall county in a concentrated drive to check the revenue of hog cholera back in 1915. He succeeded in launching the Marshall County Farm Bureau and then enlarging its activities. In 1919, he was very instrumental in organizing the Kansas State Farm Bureau. Since then, with the exception of one year he has been continuously either vice-president or a member of the organization's executive board. In 1928, his associates recognized this service by making him an honorary member of the executive board of the Kansas Farm Bureau for life.

Sponsors of his nomination claim that Mr. Shearer was first to advocate the equalization fee for control of crop surpluses. Later, he has been frequently making the tedious trip to Chicago to participate as a member, in the discussions of the American Farm Bureau Federation's Committee appointed to evolve a plan for stabilization of the dollar. The plan is expected to be approved by the Farm Bureau delegates to the convention here before adjournment on Wednesday, and then proposed legislation embodying this plan will be introduced into Congress. Leaders say the legislation will bear distinctly the marks of Mr. Shearer's workmanship.

For years Mr. Shearer has contributed a column—"Uncle Andy says"—to the Kansas edition of the Bureau Farmers, and the Kansas Union Farmer and which has been widely printed, often by editors of other farm organization papers. In this writing and in other contributions to various papers and to official state publications, he has displayed a sound philosophy and fearless expression of his ideas, that have inspired farm leaders everywhere to vigorous action.

His associates say that his chief claim to distinction is in creating new ideas, framing them into understandable language and initiating needed reform movements.

He is described as first determining the facts to his own satisfaction, then forming his conclusions, then converting them to his plans and sending them out equipped with arguments that win. "He always attracts the best leadership," says one endorser of his nomination, "and they, of course, deserve credit for what is actually effected. The world is so badly afflicted with th egotistical 'I did it' sort of leadership that this characteristic of Mr. Shearer is unique and very well worth the highest award we can give him."

In his work, his friends say, he is usually about a quarter of a century ahead of his time. They cite his advocacy of the equalization fee before the McNary-Haugen measure years before that bill was whipped into shape. They say, also, he knows more about the problems of agricultural finance than most of our statesmen. Especially do they say that he has been particularly effective in helping to establish in Kansas the conception of the county Farm Bureau as essentially an educational agency; that it should seek to contribute to the improvement of agriculture through improving the farmer-member's understanding of the facts and forces with which farm people must deal.

PARAGRAPHS from WASHINGTON

(continued from page 1)

Minority takes on a new meaning when it is brought home. The address is noticeable among the leaders on the Republican side, with the new adjustment. It is a good deal like leaving the affirmative for the negative.

We are proud of Sen. Capper that he has stood out against the reelection of Moses. We won't let New England get away with any more of that stuff, I hope.

I heard four men in the House this week start their speeches, "This is the time to lay aside partisan politics and do something for the farmer and the unemployed." But in a few minutes they were lambasting the side across the center aisle. None of the speeches here are inspired as political answers. What a pity and disgrace!

Sen. Logan of Kentucky is large and wears his hair long. He resembles what I used to think as a boy a Senator should look like. He is a past grand sire of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the I. O. O. F.

I was a little amazed today to hear one of my colleagues, a conservative Republican from Massachusetts, say, "I wish we had let Germany take Paris." The general ingratitude of France, the most prosperous country of Europe, and her demand for a moratorium due to Germany's prompts this expression.

PEDDLER GIVES HIS GOODS TO DROUGHT RELIEF

(continued from page 1)

mers Union has a great responsibility in acting as a means of distribution for contributions meant for our brothers in the unfortunate territory. This is especially true when folks not in our organization begin looking to us to help them come to relief of humanity. We welcome this responsibility. The same shipment of clothing that included the peddler's contribution, was sent in by a unit of the Farm Bureau of Sheridan county, Kansas. We, as an organization, welcome this cooperation on the part of a brother farm organization, realizing that our responsibility is further increased.

A letter from Mrs. O. L. Organ, of Grainfield, Kansas, tells the story as the readers would like to hear it. Mrs. Organ is a Farmers Union member. We are printing that letter here:

Dec. 12, 1931

Floyd H. Lynn, Secretary:

I am sending you a box of clothing to be used in your drought relief work. I am president of the Midway unit of the Farm Bureau of Sheridan county. I got most of this collection of clothing by asking each member (of which we have fifteen) to bring one or two

garments to club on a certain day. They all responded heartily and as a result I have this box of clothing and almost enough for another one this size.

The sex and children's stockings of which there are around 36 pairs, are the remains in an old peddler's grip. I told him of the preparation and purpose of this box of clothing. So he gave me the stockings and I matched them up as best I could, thinking they would answer the purpose and be better than none at all anyway.

Will try and get this other box sent soon.

Sincerely,

Mrs. O. L. Organ,

Grainfield, Kansas

Other contributions received for the suffering people in the Northwest include a package from Leslie Bottrill, Parker, Kansas; two packages brought to the office by Carl Frantz of Lindshorse, Kansas; two packages received by express from W. H. Reynolds, manager of the Farmers Union creamery unit at Conway Springs, Kansas; five packages of clothing from Mrs. John Baxter, president of the Optimistic Club of Holton, Kansas, and a large box of clothing and canned goods from the good Farmers Union people of the Centralia, Kansas, community.

The office of the secretary of the Kansas Farmers Union is receiving reports from those to whom the goods have gone in North Dakota and Montana. These reports are sent first to the North Dakota secretary, who, in turn, sends them on to Kansas.

Blanks are furnished for the convenience of those making the reports. Across one of the blanks is written: "The members that received this clothing wish to send their appreciation and thanks to those who donated this clothing." Another notation on the same blank says: "Also the poor relief committee, composed of Elko Palaniuk, Wm. Buckman and E. J. Fuerstenan, to needy members. There will be no attempt to publish all these reports, but they will be kept on file in the Kansas office of the secretary at Salina. This one was mentioned in order that the members can get an idea of how the business is being handled.

REMIIND HOUSE AND SENATE OF UNION PROGRAM

(continued from page 1)

turn a shovel full of dirt or furnish a pound of material for some public improvement receive more in the form of interest than those who do all the work and furnish all the material?"

It is fundamental that every time any division of government issues bonds, real estate is immediately depreciated in value. Public indebtedness from school districts up to Federal government has reached the place where many farms that produce sixty bushels of corn to the acre are not worth one-fourth what they were twenty years ago. The Farmers Union protests against the issuing of bonds for any purpose whatever by any division of government.

4. Farmers must be refinanced at a less rate of interest than they are now paying. We favor the Frazier bill which as we understand will provide for refinancing farm loans at 1 1/2 per cent payment on principal each year. We feel that if this government can afford to loan money to Italy at 1 1/2 per cent interest, it can afford to loan to the farmers of this nation at 1 1/2 per cent interest.

5. Congress is the only power on earth that can remedy this situation. The burden is on Congress and our organization believes that Congress is going to do the things necessary to save agriculture and the nation. We believe that agriculture is vital to the nation and must be saved. We know farmers will not organize to the extent that they can do this thing themselves. We know that tariffs are of little value to unorganized groups. For these reasons, we expect Congress to set the unemployed to work, pay them with non interest bearing full legal tender currency and let the farmers get cost of production for that part of their products used in this country. Anything less is not a remedy.

Yours truly,

JOHN A. SIMPSON,

President.

KANSAS LEADING IN COOPERATION SAYS SPEAKER

(continued from page 1)

peace. Mr. Ward is decidedly in favor of collecting war debts which foreign countries owe the United States, but the speaker thought that a possibility exists whereby a moratorium, if strictly a moratorium and not a cancellation of debts—might allow the indebted countries to place themselves in a better position to pay, and at the same time stimulate our commercial relationship with these countries.

Referring particularly to the agricultural condition of the country, the speaker pointed out the fact that thirty millions of people reside on the farms in the United States. These people deserve and demand a square deal, and must have equal benefits with people of other classes or groups. They represent a most important part of the population of the country and it is to be considered whenever beneficial class legislation of any kind is proposed.

"We must squarely face the question of unemployment, and the wheels of industry must begin to revolve," declared Mr. Ward. He called attention to the fact that some 7,000,000 people are idle in this country, and declared that this condition is one that cannot be side-stepped or ignored. The Farmers Union program takes this matter into account, and recommends measures which are designed to relieve the unemployment situation. If American agriculture, representing some forty per cent of the buying power of the country, were placed in a position whereby its buying power could be restored, then the wheels of industry could move again, and unemployment would be eliminated.

MORE ON DIRECT BUYING OF HOGS BY PACKERS

Last week in these columns was an article setting forth the demoralizing effects on hog prices resulting from direct buying. Last week's article was submitted by George H. Hobbs, manager of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., at Kansas City, and had been prepared by Mr. Hobbs and Joe Montgomery, head of the Farmers Live Stock Marketing Association. This week, we are in receipt of an article which appeared in a recent issue of the Kansas City Drivers Telegram. This article was clipped and sent to the Kansas Union Farmer by J. D. Stosz of Beattie, Kansas. It is headed, "Fulfillment of a Prediction."

Accompanying the article is a box, which says: "For fifty years, public hog markets set the price for the country. Today, the hogs bought in the country set the price for the public markets."

"Four or five year ago," says the article in the Telegram, "when direct buying of hogs began to assume proportions large enough to affect the market, prices on the public markets of the United States, Drivers Telegram predicted that the custom, if permitted to grow, eventually would wreck the producers of hogs."

When the prediction was made in 1927 one hog in three packed in the United States was bought direct with a yearly average cost of \$20.10 per hog on the Kansas City market. Today, with more than 40 hogs out of 100 packed in the United States arriving at the packing house direct, a hog on the Kansas City market is worth around \$8 per head.

With five-year decrease in price of 61 per cent and a five-year increase in direct buying from 27 to about 41 per cent in the country as a whole, Drivers Telegram feels that its prediction of ruin through direct buying has been fulfilled. The paper laments the fact that the hogs are wrecked when they get \$6 or \$7 for a hog in the country and \$8 on the market.

Believing that most farmers who are selling direct are not aware that their new method of marketing hogs is conducive to the demoralization of prices and their own consequent ruin, Drivers Telegram will submit herewith some data that never before was published.

In the year 1930 there were slaughtered under federal inspection 44,266,000 hogs, of which 17,768,000 were direct, or 40 per cent of the total. Those figures apply to all the hogs killed in every packing house doing interstate business.

Every hog market in the United States follows the Chicago market. Western and southern markets follow, more or less, the Kansas City hog market.

Chicago packing in 1930 was 6,647,613 head, Kansas City packing 2,334,564, a total of 8,982,177 head.

Chicago's direct hogs were 52.3 per cent, and Kansas City's 59.8 per cent of the local packing. Together the two cities had 54.3 per cent direct hogs.

It is evident that when Chicago and Kansas City packing plants began any day's business in the year 1930 they already had in their pens more than half of the day's needs.

This should be ample explanation for the fact that shippers and order buyers often have no packer competition in the hog market in the early morning. Can the local packers afford to sit out of the market while the outsiders are purchasing the good hogs? Yes, they have gotten their good hogs direct, and so after the higher priced hogs on the market have been sold, packers take what they desire of the remainder.

The Telegram is informed that the price paid by country buyers is based on the packer's top in the market. If that is true, the best hogs sell in the country on the basis of the market's packer's top—whether for good or medium hogs.

So, when you want to know what is supplementing the economic depression in the demoralization of hog prices, don't forget that of all the hogs packed in prices during Chicago only 47.7 per cent are bought on the Chicago market, and of all the hogs packed in Kansas City only 40.2 per cent are bought after the demands of other buyers have been met, and that by timing the arrivals of direct hogs into the packing houses it may be possible for one or more of these packers to remain out of the market entirely on days of heavy supplies on the markets. And finally, don't forget that these 47.7 per cent of Chicago and Kansas City packing set the price for the 44,266,000 hogs packed in the United States.

Hoarding of wealth in the hands of a few financial giants, thought by the Farmers Union president. This wealth must be thrown into channels of credit, through readjusted methods of taxation, and by means of improved banking methods—especially with reference to the Federal Reserve System—in such a manner that agriculture will have an even chance with other industries. He mentioned the possibility of the issuance of new money, and the possibility of releasing the wealth already in the United States, as represented by money already supposed to be in circulation, in such a way that it will get into general circulation.

"We must control our products," said the speaker, "and get an American price for them." He also declared we must preserve the American standard of living. He pointed out the necessity of controlling the surplus production in such a way that the matter of prices for products will not get out of hand.

National prosperity will follow agricultural prosperity, was a declaration of the speaker. Without prosperity being enjoyed by those who produce the necessities of life throughout the nation, prosperity cannot be enjoyed by any of the other classes.

At the close of his address, Mr. Ward made a strong appeal to the farmers of Kansas to organize more completely. He appealed for more membership in the Farmers Union and pledged the support of the organization for all measures which will work toward the betterment of Agriculture as a whole and as a class.

Why shouldn't prices be demoralized, and why shouldn't producers who are selling direct realize that they have brought this nightmare on themselves?

The Telegram does not care to argue whether a load of hogs sold in the country to the packer brings less or more than if sold on the market. A few dollars more or less saved or lost is an incident, is inconsequential compared to \$20 for a hog when direct buying began and \$8 for the same hog today.

THE LETTER OPENER

The Kansas Union Farmer receives a large number of letters on various topics, and they evidently are usually meant for publication. However, to publish all of them would sometimes require about all the space in the paper; so in this column the editor hopes to provide space for the ideas contained in the various communications, without comment and without specific editorial endorsement. When possible, of course, the letters will be printed in full in other columns.

OFFSET PROPAGANDA

The Kansas Union Farmer is again favored with a letter from Frank Roth of Tekamah, Nebraska. Mr. Roth comments on a letter written by the editor of this paper to his old associate, George Hobbs, manager of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., and which was published in the Co-Operator. (Thanks, Mr. Roth.) Mr. Roth also says: "If there is anything I really delight to read about, it is the great advance being made by the Farmers Union." Take the national convention at Des Moines; the Charles Day of Allen, Kansas, was one of the speakers. He had a message bearing on taxes and organization that was well received. Another speaker was state Farmers Union secretary, Floyd H. Lynn, who stressed the need of organization in Agriculture and who pleaded for prompt payment of dues in order that the Kansas organization will be in a position to go ahead and do effective work.

Further details of the meeting will be published later.

WOODSON COUNTY ELECTS

The regular meeting of the Woodson County Farmers Union was held Thursday, December 10, at the Piqua hall, Piqua, Kansas. Matters of general interest were discussed, and the annual election of officers was held. A basket dinner was enjoyed by all present, and a short program was given. The new officers chosen for 1932 are:

Price List of Local Supplies

Application cards.....	20 for 5c	per dozen	10c
Credential blanks.....	10 for 5c	Secretary's Minute Books.....	50c
Demit blanks.....	15 for 10c	Business Manuals, new used	
Local Sec'y Receipt Book.....	5c	instead of Retail, each.....	5c
Farmers Union Buttons.....	25c	Farmers' Union Watch Fobs.....	50c
Farmers Union Song Leaflets,		Ladies Auxiliary Pins.....	50c

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issue nontaxable interest bearing bonds and trade them to this small group to get back this non-interest-bearing currency that was given them? Giving the pie to Andy, while Bob, Buck and Billie get the beans?"

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

(continued from page 2)

price. They make millions out of it by so doing and also help kill the Farm Board.

I am sure glad that we have a Farmers Union. I hope that our million will match the old line grain trade some day.

Will close, wishing you great success. May God speed your work.

Yours truly,

Jno. Ricord.

ANDERSON COUNTY MEETING

The Anderson County Farmers Union will hold their regular meeting at Helda on Saturday, Dec. 19. It will be an all day meeting with basket dinner at 12 o'clock. Every one try to be on time. There will be election of officers and everyone should try to bring a number for the program. A full attendance is desired. All are welcome.

C. A. Watkinson,

Co. President.

REELECT GREENWOOD OFFICERS

At the regular meeting and annual election of Greenwood County Farmers Union, held Friday, December 11, at Madison, Kansas, all the officers were reelected. H. L. Soule, president, presided at the meeting.

A basket dinner at the noon hour was a feature of the meeting. Mr. Charles Day of Allen, Kansas, was one of the speakers. He had a message bearing on taxes and organization that was well received. Another speaker was state Farmers Union secretary, Floyd H. Lynn, who stressed the need of organization in Agriculture and who pleaded for prompt payment of dues in order that the Kansas organization will be in a position to go ahead and do effective work.

Further details of the meeting will be published later.

WOODSON COUNTY ELECTS

The regular meeting of the Woodson County Farmers Union was held Thursday, December 10, at the Piqua hall, Piqua, Kansas. Matters of general interest were discussed, and the annual election of officers was held. A basket dinner was enjoyed by all present, and a short program was given. The new officers chosen for 1932 are:

Price List of Local Supplies

Application cards.....	20 for 5c	per dozen	10c
Credential blanks.....	10 for 5c	Secretary's Minute Books.....	50c
Demit blanks.....	15 for 10c	Business Manuals, new used	
Local Sec'y Receipt Book.....	5c	instead of Retail, each.....	5c
Farmers Union Buttons.....	25c	Farmers' Union Watch Fobs.....	50c
Farmers Union Song Leaflets,		Ladies Auxiliary Pins.....	50c

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Stock Yards

James Heffern, Plumb Creek, president; Henry Burkle, Toronto, Vice president; Wenzel Habiger, Piqua, secretary-treasurer; Frank Lampe, Piqua, doorkeeper; H. L. Lasley, Yates Center, conductor. The next meeting will be held at Yates Center, and the time will be announced later.

R. A. Wright of Neosho Falls, retiring president, gave the members present a good report of the state convention held at Beloit. Mr. Wright and J. E. George, also of Neosho Falls, represented the county at the annual convention.

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