



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-Operation



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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MITCHELL, S. B., MARCH 15-16

The specific reason for calling the National Board to meet in South Dakota was that it might meet in joint session with the South Dakota State Board to discuss the status of the agreement made between the National Union and the Producers Alliance with reference to the method of admitting Alliance members to membership in the Farmers Union. We deem the call for the meeting at that particular time to have been most fortunate. Not only were the National and State Boards privileged to have a very satisfactory joint session, but in addition the National officers had an opportunity of conferring with quite a large delegation of prominent lay members of South Dakota. These leaders of the organization in their several sections of the state had met to discuss with their state board plans and policies affecting the work of the Union in the state, and to make inquiry of the National Officials concerning a number of matters about which they possessed little if any accurate information.

The National Officials appreciated very sensibly the earnest desire of these members to meet in friendly discussion and to get to the bottom of actual facts concerning, especially, the Northwest Committee and our activities in the Northwest. The discussion was carried on for the most part by the question and answer method. Several of the members present had prepared a series of pertinent questions which were put to the National Officials in a straightforward manner. The questions were answered in a manner just as straightforward.

These questions and answers developed that considerable apprehension has prevailed among the members of South Dakota as to the origin of the Northwest Committee, its powers, duties, and responsibilities, and as to whether it had an authority in South Dakota. The National Officials were careful to set forth in a very clear way the following facts concerning the Northwest Committee:

1. That it was created by the National Board of Directors at the request of the National Secretary to assist him in carrying on the organizing work in the Northwest.
2. Its territory was limited to North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.
3. It has no authority to organize in South Dakota or any other organized state.
4. Since North Dakota now has a State Union, the committee is limited to Minnesota and Wisconsin.
5. It has no original jurisdiction anywhere. It performs such duties as may be assigned to it by the National Board and is responsible to the National Board for its every act.

Farmers Union Terminal Association

South Dakota members are very jealous, and properly so, of the fair name of the parent organization. They are ambitious that activities carrying the label Farmers Union shall be strictly co-operative and under the control of the membership. Questions propounded by South Dakota members concerning our grain selling agency in the Northwest, indicated that considerable fear existed that this was not a co-operative institution owned and controlled by Farmers Union members. The conference was fortunate to have present Mr. M. W. Thatcher, Manager of the Farmers Union Terminal Association, and the man who initiated its organization. He graciously complied with the request of the audience to explain the organization and operation of the Terminal and answered questions carefully. Questions and answers developed the following fundamental facts concerning the Terminal Association.

1. The Farmers Union Terminal Association is chartered by the State of Minnesota under its laws governing Co-Operative Institutions.
2. There are two kinds of stock issued, common and preferred.
3. Preferred stock receives interest on the investment, but does not participate in profits nor does it vote.
4. Preferred stock may be retired at any time the company is financially able to do so thus leaving ownership in the hands of holders of common stock.
5. Common stock is the voting stock.
6. No proxy voting is allowed. Stockholders must attend meetings in order to vote.
7. No one permitted to own stock of either kind unless he is a bonafide member of the Farmers Union.
8. Patronage dividends to be pro-rated to members only.
9. Farmers Union members patronizing the Terminal may have pro-rate set aside to their credits until a share of stock is paid for.
10. No elevators nor associations may own stock. Individual members of the Farmers Union only.
11. Each common stockholder has one vote regardless of amount owned.

Thus it will be seen that the Terminal is as nearly pure co-operative as is possible to make it under our laws.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Thatcher stated that he had been invited to make some address

es in South Dakota but that he would not do so unless it was perfectly agreeable with the officials and members in South Dakota to do so. President Thatcher and others assured Mr. Thatcher that he would be welcomed in the state.

Mr. Thatcher, upon behalf of the Terminal Association, presented the National Secretary and Mr. E. H. Sauber, Secretary of the South Dakota Union copies of the auditors report, thus establishing a precedent among our activities which caused the National Board to adopt a resolution which will appear later.

This splendid meeting was but another proof that when a group of men viewing matters from different angles get together in friendly confab, many misunderstandings disappear.

Resolutions and Motions Adopted by the National Board in Session Friday Morning, March 16

Agreement With the Producers Alliance

Having ascertained that the officials of South Dakota were not furnished the list of Alliance members in their territory as agreed upon, and the further fact that in spite of this handicap they have until just recently admitted Alliance members into the Farmers Union with the Initiative fee waived, the Board of Directors hereby declare the agreement with the Alliance is completed, and South Dakota officials will deal with Alliance members as they see proper.

The Capper-Hope Bill

Until the dream of controlled selling shall have become an established fact, the chief hope for securing values in the live stock market depends upon our ability to function as co-operatives in the animal markets. Packers or direct buying coupled with privately owned or controlled yards has a tendency to destroy open competitive markets. The Kansas Farmers Union alive to the menace of this scheme to change marketing methods has caused to be introduced in Congress with each succeeding session for the past three years, a bill to eliminate the practice of maintaining private yards by the packers.

We are much gratified that many of our members have taken the initiative to introduce the issue as indicated by the groups which met in Winner, South Dakota, recently, and expressed themselves so forcibly upon this subject. The National Officials of the Farmers Union pledge to these good people and to all other active supporters of this measure, the continuance of our efforts to have the Capper-Hope bill enacted into law by the present session of congress, and furthermore that every effort possible will be made to enlist the active help of other farm organizations.

Organizing Work in Minnesota

Inasmuch as we have in the state of Minnesota quite a number of local Union whose membership has been loyal in support of our Live Stock agencies and other activities and who deserve every consideration at our hands, we therefore request the Northwest Committee to push with vigor the organizing work in that state during the next few months in order that a State Union may be set up at the earliest moment full requirements can be met.

Reports from Inter-State Activities

It has been the custom to consider it a matter of course that the parent of Educational Organization was in duty bound to recommend to the membership that they patronize Farmers Union activities. Promoters of activities take it for granted that the educational organization is to use every effort to promote the venture and make it a success. It more frequently happens than otherwise, that no adequate information is furnished by these activities to the parent organization so that an intelligent analysis may be made and properly set forth to the membership. Voluntarily submitting for our consideration the auditor's report of the Farmers Union Terminal Association, by its manager is commendable and worthy of emulation. We, therefore, urge all of our inter-state business associations to file with the National Secretary their financial reports as they are periodically compiled so that the membership may be advised at any time as to receipts, disbursements, and standing generally of such institutions. We might also suggest that intra-state activities should keep the educational Union of their respective states so advised.

Report of the Committee on Radio

C. C. Talbot was unable to attend the Chicago conference and asked C. N. Rogers to substitute for him. Brothers Huff and Rogers presented an exhaustive analysis of the Radio situation as it appears, outlining specifically the things to be determined in a survey of the field with the view of ascertaining whether a contract for radio activity were advisable and if so with whom.

The Board agreed to the findings of the committee and at its suggestion the number composing the committee was increased to five. (Continued on page 4)

:: Neighborhood Notes ::

JOBING ASSOCIATION KEEPS UP FAST PACE, SHOWS GAIN OF 100% OVER LAST YEAR

The Farmers Union Jobing Association handled 282 cars of grain on consignment during the month of February, 133 cars a year ago; an increase of over 100 per cent. We also handled 19 cars of merchandise and show a net profit of a little over \$2,000.00 for the month.

O what a wonderful organization this would be if the Kansas Union organizations in the state of Kansas would get behind their own organizations 100 per cent. We could handle twice the volume we are handling now at the same expense and triple it with just a little more additional expense. I know any manager of a Farmers Union Elevator hates to see one of his good stockholders drive by and sell his grain to an old line competitor, because perhaps he thinks he might get a half cent more. So do we hate to see a car of wheat setting over on our competitor's table from one of our good Farmers Union Elevators.

Yours very truly,

H. E. Witham, Secretary.
Editors: Note More and more we are coming to see that only co-operation will make co-operation succeed. If you are one of those whose business made the 100 per cent gain over last year, accept congratulations. If not it is your turn now.

PRODUCE POOL LOCAL

NOTICE—Produce Pool Local members. The Erie Produce Pool Local meets on the first Monday night of each month. All members are expected to be present. Chas. Norris, President.

CARMEL 1056

Miltonvale, Kansas.
Our local is supposed to meet on the first and third Mondays of every month. We had a special Farmers Union meeting on March 14th and had Mr. Chas. Simpson and Mr. E. L. Bullard as speakers. We had a good crowd and every one enjoyed their talk. We are planning a Farmers Union picnic in the near future. After the meeting, the Farmers Union ladies served lunch after the meeting.

ALLEN COUNTY

The first quarterly meeting of the Allen County Farmers Union was held in the Cozy Theatre at LaHarpe, Kansas, Saturday afternoon at 1:30 March 17th.

Due to the change of the meeting place from Moran to LaHarpe at the last minute, and also the bad roads, not a very large crowd was out. Those who had parts in the program were unable to attend and therefore the program was very short. We are hoping for better weather next time.

After the business session the audience sang "America" with Mrs. H. O. Barnes at the piano. Maurice Gray of Silverleaf Local pleaded the emergency of a piano and Mr. W. Last of Fairview Local gave a talk on "Truth."

A contest for membership, stock and produce contracts was planned and will be carried out by the several locals of this county. The contest will begin on March 17th and end the 1st day of September.

Mrs. Will Simpson, County Secretary.

GOVE COUNTY MEETING

Hackberry, Kans., Mar. 15, 1928
Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas.
Dear Editor:—

While a gentle rain was falling, Gove County Union held its first quarterly meeting at Quinter March 14th. The attendance was not large but of good quality. D. C. Francis and his force of three fieldmen who were working around Quinter were present and each made a good talk. Tom Turman made a talk on the Wheat Pool after some discussion the following resolution was adopted. Whereas, the Farmers Union of Gove County has resulted in its closing, and

Whereas we believe this Bank is necessary in order to realize the greatest possible results in our Co-operative Marketing program, Be it resolved that we extend our sympathy to the Board of Directors of our Bank and further resolve to give our moral and financial support to the solving of the present difficulties in which our Bank is involved.

Harry Lines, J. F. Blickenstaff, Charles Williams, Committee.

It was decided to have another meeting at the earliest convenient time with Mr. Francis and his men in pictures present. A short program and basket dinner will be arranged for. The meeting adjourned, it was raining in earnest now and we pushed up hill and skidded down our way home.

Henry Springer.

WASHINGTON COUNTY MEETING

The first quarterly meeting of the Washington County Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union was held in the Odd Fellow hall at Barnes, Kans., March 5th, 1928. At the forenoon session the new county officers were installed. Tom McCulley acted as installing officer,

the retiring president being absent. Meeting adjourned till 1 o'clock p. m. At 1:30 President Wesche called the house to order. He made a short address, on the importance of farm organization, calling our attention to the downfall of the Ancient Monarchy Government that failed to recognize the importance of a prosperous agricultural community. Voting by proxy was discussed, resulting in the following resolution which was passed by a large majority. "All proxies shall be voted by the county delegate or a resident of the county where the proxies originated." At the meeting of the Kansas City Live Stock Commission Co. one man held 415 proxies.

The county delegate made detail report on state-wide business association at Kansas City, Mo., held the first week in February. Fred Stutzman, H. Hines made a short talk on the new cheese factory at Washington, Kansas. The Commercial Club of Washington helping the farmers finance the proposition till they can take it over themselves. The plant is installed in the Farmers Union building on the southeast corner of the square. The writer stopped on the way home from Barnes and saw them take their first run of about 350 lbs of cheese from the press. Mr. John Martin of Social Dale Park talked on the moral condition of young people after they drift to the cities and recommended that we have a matron from the police department of Topeka or Kansas City give a talk on the moral in the cities. All bills were allowed. The meeting adjourned, to meet at Social Dale Park May 24th, 1928.

W. E. Stewart, Publicity Agent.

ACKNOWLEDGING HIS APPRECIATION

In retiring from the county secretary-treasurership I take this opportunity of acknowledging my appreciation of the many courtesies extended to me in the past eight years as county secretary-treasurer and hope that you can continue the same to my successor, F. W. Leiman, again thanking you for all the kindness, I am

As ever,
Joel Strahm.

FARMINGDALE 1047

We are having plenty of moisture. Rained all day yesterday. Had 4 or 5 inches of snow last night. Puts the wheat on the condition.

Yours truly,
Almena, Kansas.

NEMAH COUNTY

Dear Editor: Well, your old correspondent is still on the map. We are having real fine weather here in Nemaha county. Oats seeding is about over with. Winter wheat is looking good. Sweet clover and alfalfa is just starting to come through. Live stock is doing fine. And the Nemaha County Farmers Union held their first quarterly meeting, Oenida, Kansas, on Saturday, March 17th, p. m. The attendance was the best we had for a long time, but while we had a good attendance there were still a few who were too busy with the field work and were perhaps thinking that sometime they would get a considerable amount of grain and make the price. Of course to have more money with less labor would throw these fellows out of balance and hurt them. However, these kind-hearted Union members don't want anybody hurt. No, not even the great farms produce gamblers. There were at this meeting 9 locals out of the 15 locals represented with attendance of 70 people. The one encouraging feature about this meeting was that over half of the audience were ladies and it is to be hoped that these women will make good use of their rolling pins till the men have their eyes propped open, so they can see for themselves what direct buying means. Which was a subject thoroughly explained by Mr. O. C. St. Joseph, Mo. Mr. C. S. Seible of Des Moines, Iowa, now living at Wichita, Kansas, gave a very able talk on Farmers Insurance at farmers' cost. Both of these timely subjects were well taken. Aside of the speaking our local organizer, Mrs. Alice G. Williams, put on an exceptionally well balanced program of music, singing and recitations. Your correspondent did not learn where the next meeting is to be held. However, there was some talk of having a county picnic sometime this coming summer and your correspondent is already smacking his lips in anticipation of the good feast.

Yours truly,
Joel Strahm, Correspondent.

MARSHALL COUNTY MEETING

The first quarterly meeting of the Marshall County Farmers Union held at Marysville Tuesday, March 6, was a very successful and profitable meeting, although much regret was expressed on account of Mr. E. L. Bullard failing to be with the group. The meeting was well organized, Mrs. Alice G. Williams, put on a splendid dinner the meeting was called to order by Pres. Watters at 1:30. After a few opening remarks and reading the minutes of the previous meeting, our new officers were duly installed by Bro. John Frost. The credential committee reported 13 locals present with 84 delegates answering roll call, and almost 100 visiting members. The executive committee

report on our membership drive reported 132 new members secured since Dec. 20 with Antioch Local winning first prize of \$15.00 with fifty new members. Herkimer second, Blue Valley, 3, Blanchville fourth, Hopewell fifth, Fairmount sixth and Midway seventh. It was voted to put on another drive for the next three months with the same rules governing, and the same number and amounts of prizes being offered. On motion the president appointed a committee of 16 to meet and help make plans and arrangements for our coming state convention. The following resolution was presented by Richard Hawkins and unanimously adopted.

We reaffirm our faith in the principle of the equalization fee for farm justice. We ask from the government only such assistance as is necessary to make us to use the tariff in our home market, as other producers do; less than this is not fair to us and more than this is not fair to others. Any law which takes from the federal treasury the millions of dollars necessary to give us a protective price for our surplus is giving us a subsidy, and will inevitably cause increased over-production, make enemies of all producers not so favored, eventually bring about its own repeal, and at least jeopardize, if not destroy, the legislation to which we are rightfully entitled. By grasping too much we may lose all. We do not favor a compromise for the purpose of smoothing the pathway in the coming election. If the problem must be decided at the polls better do it now rather than wait another four years. Too much time has been lost already.

Our president then appointed Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cassidy and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kelly a committee on hall and dinner for our next meeting in Beattie. A set of bylaws for the purpose of organizing a protective association among our members was read, and motion copies were ordered printed and sent to our different locals for their consideration before our next meeting. No further business, our meeting adjourned to meet in Beattie the first Tuesday in June.

Richard H. Mackey, Secretary.

ENTERTAINED

The first quarterly meeting of McPherson County Farmers Union of the year 1928 was held in I. O. O. F. hall at Canton, Kansas, on Monday evening, March 5th under the auspices of Cottonwood Local No. 1955. Seven locals of the county were represented. There was an attendance of close to one hundred twenty-five. The following program was given:

Reading,Clara Brucker
Music,Geis School Orchestra
Musical,Rue Keefe
Reading,Pitts Orchestra
Refreshments of sandwiches, pie and coffee were served the ladies of Cottonwood Local. After lunch treats were passed around. Cigars for the gentlemen. Hershey bars to the women and children. Everyone present expressed themselves as having had a very enjoyable time.

LOCAL 260

Bethany Center Local 260 held a meeting March 20 and several members paid up their back dues. The next meeting will be held April 2.

There will at that time be a supper and a program and a big crowd is expected.

All old officers will serve for the coming year. Officers, President, Frank Fink, Downs, President, G. Herman Gray, Osborne, Sec'y.

PERHAPS THERE WOULD BE FEWER SUCCESSES AMONG FARMERS WITHOUT HIGH TARIFF

Every farmer who sticks to business makes a go of it and a fair profit. Most of the failures purchase motor cars on installment before their crops are harvested. They go riding instead of working. Laziness, shiftlessness and improvidence go with failure.—T. F. Hopkins, testifying in grain rate hearing before interstate commerce commission.

No other line of chatter about the farm problem annoys us as quickly as this. Yet it has a considerable appeal to many folks who just will not be convinced there is such a problem.

Mr. Hopkins is a wheat farmer and has 2,000 acres. Evidently he knows little about conditions surrounding the average corn and oats farmer of Iowa and South Dakota.

We resent the implication that such distress as there may be among them is due to laziness, shiftlessness and improvidence. As published of a small-town paper for ten years, we came into intimate contact with them and know this is not true.

Farmers are honest, industrious and thrifty in just about the same proportion as applies to laboring men, business men and citizens generally.

It is not true that every farmer who sticks to business makes a fair profit. Conditions under which farmers have had to operate the past several years have made profitable farming difficult. The successful farmer has been the exception, where as he ought to be the rule.

The man who makes good on the farm ought not to be such an unusual man as to warrant being pointed out among his neighbors.

Incidentally, the farmer has right to drive an automobile. It is just about time that wisecracks like Mr. Hopkins quit setting off the farmers in a class by themselves with the implication that they ought to be satisfied with more humble sort of living than folks who live in cities.—Sioux City Journal.

LET US UNDERSTAND THE McNARY-HAUGEN BILL

(By Frank D. Tomson.)

It is doubtful if there has been before congress in many years a measure of such importance so little understood by the public as the McNary-Haugen bill. Because of this general lack of understanding, I present herewith a brief analysis of the main features and operation of the bill. The measure passed the last congress, but was vetoed by the president, and is now before congress with the prospect of passage by an increased majority. It has been changed to remove many of the features objected to by the president.

The bill as now drawn can be applied by the board to any staple farm crop which has a surplus, but let us consider wheat as an illustration. Liverpool makes the wheat price—the world wheat price. Normally we export from the United States 200 million bushels, approximately one-fourth of our crop. The remaining three-fourths go into home consumption. The unfortunate fact is that under the present situation the price of our entire crop is determined by the 200 million bushels we export.

Under the operating plan of the McNary-Haugen bill, the surplus would be kept out of the home market, so that all wheat entering into commerce, that is the wheat that is delivered at the elevators or mills or on board cars, would be sold at the Liverpool or world price plus our existing tariff of 42c per bushel. The tariff really has slight effect at the present time because we are exporters. We do not import wheat except in insignificant quantities. Under the provisions of the bill the federal farm board would be created that would have direct supervision of the marketing and storage contracts that provide for handling and disposing of the surplus wheat or other crop dealt with. This board would be provided with a revolving fund advanced by the government, of say 250 million dollars, which would be used for the purchase of the exportable surplus.

Suppose, for example, the price at the elevator based upon the Liverpool price is \$1.00 per bushel. The farmer or will receive under the operation of the McNary-Haugen bill provision \$1.42 per bushel; that is, \$1.00 plus the tariff, minus 12c per bushel, the equalization fee, which the federal farm board uses to pay all marketing and storage costs. The farmer then receives a check from the elevator for \$1.30 per bushel and the transaction is closed. There is no come-back—no later adjustment. It is a closed incident. This added 30c on Nebraska's 78 million bushel wheat crop, would total \$23,400,000.

The operation of the McNary-Haugen bill is not price fixing—it is making the tariff effective. It adds for the benefit of the United States wheat growers, the tariff, 42c per bushel, less the equalization fee of 12c to the current price, whatever that may be. It does not in any way effect the prevailing world price. It does not in any way change the price in any other country. The equalization fee does not represent a gift from the government—it is not a subsidy—it is paid by the wheat producers.

A Safeguard

Immediately the thought comes to mind, if the farmers can get this extra 30c per bushel, there will be an enormous expansion in wheat growing. Here is the answer: The Board instead of sending all of the

200 million bushels into export channels, stores perhaps 50% of it and informs the wheat growers that there is being held that amount in storage. If in the face of this information an enlarged wheat acreage is grown and the crop yield increased to say 900 million bushels, the cost of storing the increased amount would necessitate an increase of the equalization fee several cents per bushel. This coupled with the probability of a somewhat lower world price, resulting from the enlarged crop, would serve as a check upon over-production. The federal farm board being in constant touch with the whole situation, would exert a vast influence and render a vast and constructive service to the industry.

The estimated cost of 12c per bushel for handling the crop used in the illustration is in excess of the actual cost, so far as economists have been able to determine, so that a saving of around 12½c per bushel would go into the revolving fund to pay expenses and create a surplus fund.

It should be understood that under the operation of this measure only such portion of any commodity as—wheat, corn, cotton, hogs—that for example enters commerce affected by its provisions. Any grower may feed his crop or a neighbor may sell to another neighbor at whatever price they may agree upon, but their transactions do not come under the equalization provisions of the bill.

It is not assumed that all farm commodities will be under the operation of the bill immediately or continuously. The provisions of the measure will only be applied when there is a surplus requiring marketing protection or storage. The price in the market place will continue to fluctuate, but the United States producers will have this advantage, that the existing tariff will be added to the fluctuating price, which has long been the case with the output of our large manufacturing concerns, and from this addition a deduction of the equalization fee. An operative period will be applied only when certain definite conditions are found to exist, that there is a surplus, and that the nature of the commodity is such that operations are practical. After the board is convinced of the necessity and feasibility of applying the provisions of the Act to any crop, machinery is then set up and becomes effective but ceases to be applied when it is apparent that its provisions are not needed.

The Cotton Situation

Let us consider the cotton situation. The United States produces approximately 60% of the cotton of the world yet this country has never undertaken to determine the price of cotton. The going price is the world price determined at Liverpool. If, under a favorable season we produce in this country any considerable increase over the normal yield, the price is depressed, unless there exists a proportionate shortage in other countries to fully or more than offset our increase. Consequently our cotton prices fluctuate from around 7c per pound as in 1913 and 1914, to 30 or more cents per pound along in 1918. The high level, it should be understood, was influenced by the war. Yet the fluctuation in peace times spreads too widely. It damages both to the growers and the spinners. That it is unwarranted is clearly shown by the fact that in (Continued on page 4)

FAITH

One of our faith inspiring yells in college, for contests, oratorical debate, or athletic was—

Cheer Leader—Are we weak?

Student Body—No-o-o!

Cheer Leader—Are we strong?

Student Body—Ye-s-s—!!!

C. L.—Then let the Lion Roar.

And they did.

As the Kansas Union membership have here and there in the past two weeks discussed their latest discouragement, me thinks I've heard the challenging cry—Are we discouraged? And the unanimous response was No! Are we Loyal? And the answer a roaring yes!

Another cry heard at the football games was—"Hold that line, hold that line." Every Farmers Union member can hold and help to advance their line, by paying up his dues, past and present.

By signing a produce contract selling his cream, poultry and eggs to our own farmer's owned plant. By reading the Farmers Union paper—and then passing it on to a farmer who doesn't get one of his own. (That's what our local produce manager does.) By attending his local meeting ready to contribute to a roundtable discussion of farm questions and problems.

By voting that 50 cent increase in dues. (The Ladies Auxiliary will tell you how easily it can be met. Just have the wife set aside a couple dozen or so of eggs—and presto the extra dues are paid—That's co-operation.)

We've had our failures and discouragements, past and present, and they'll come again. But each one weathered makes us stronger to meet the next. Each new trial calls for new adjustments, reorganization and increased alertness. But with each and every member alert, active and loyal, the Kansas Farmers' Union will be a greater force than ever with which to reckon.

SARAH SPRAGUE.

The Kansas Union Farmer

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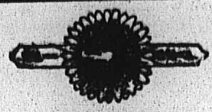
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Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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

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

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



THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1928

A STORY OF A MINE DISASTER

Greed, Negligence, Heroism, Death Crowd Each Other at Illinois Mine

Recently at West Frankfort, Ill., the Peabody Coal Co. mine No. 18 was the scene of an explosion, said to have been due to negligence on the part of the operators. Whether or not they were criminally negligent remains to be seen—or hidden.

During the hours following the explosion white-faced women gathered about the mine, waiting in agony of hope and fear the loads of human freight, living and dead, coming up from below. Dazed, wounded men fell into the arms of waiting loved ones. A few crazed, demented men, strapped to stretchers were borne away. Grief-stricken wives and children gathered about the bodies of the dead.

The explosion took a total of 21 lives and sent a large number to the hospital, where physicians say some cannot survive. The bodies of the dead could not be recovered until 11 hours after the blast. There were 628 at work 800 feet below the surface when the explosion took place. Most of the bodies were burned beyond recognition, necessitating identification by numbers on their lamps.

Stories of iron-nerve heroism among the victims startle imagination. Physicians say Wallace Creameans never can recover. He is among the hopeless hospital patients. He inhaled flames while assisting in rescue work. Harry Christine volunteered to assist in rescuing his comrades when he himself escaped death. Loyalty to his workmates no doubt will cost him his life, for he, too, inhaled smoke and flames until doctors say his case is hopeless.

Carl Jones reached a joint of safety without a scratch. Reaching the hoist, Jones thought of one of his entombed buddies. "I must go back, boys, and get—." Companions did not get the name as the hero dashed back into the gas filled pits. Who did he hope to rescue? No one will ever know; Jones' body was found a charred mass a short distance from where he had left a point of safety to bring his brother Union miner with him to the top. Ballard Creameans defied death after he himself had reached safety to assist his workmates to escape and some of the fortunate ones owe their lives to the iron courage and loyalty of Creameans. When rescuers found him, Creameans had gone out of his mind from inhaling the poison gases. In bringing him to the surface it was necessary to strap him to the stretchers; he was shrieking incoherently and temporarily insane from the torture. If poor Creameans dies his reward in the next world should be a substantial one.

Practically every one of the dead bodies were mutilated and burned beyond identification without the air of their lam pnumbers.

A Congressional Committee is investigating conditions in the coal mining industry. Human life is still the world's cheapest commodity.

ORGANIZED LABOR FAVORS McNARY-HAUGEN PLAN

Statement of Mr. Edgar Wallace, Washington, Representative of the American Federation of Labor, made before the House Agricultural Committee, on February 21, 1928:

"When I appeared here a year and a half ago and on previous occasions, I stated that it was our apprehension that unless the farmers were placed in a position where they could be paying consumers, we the industrial workers, would be thrown out of employment. I pointed out that there was partial unemployment, just a small proportion of our people who were unemployed at that time, and I stated then that, recognizing that this country cannot continue to run with a great portion of our people unable to buy, that we, as workers, were willing, if necessary, to pay a little more for our food products in order that our customers, the farmers, might be placed in a position to employ us in turn.

"I am sorry to say, Mr. Chairman, that what I apprehended a year and a half ago is now a fact, that is, as we are sitting here today 40 per cent of the workers of this country are idle because no man has hired them. I do not mean that 40 per cent are totally unemployed, but between part time employment and total unemployment, out of every ten potential workers, four are idle today and everyday, and this is growing, because, after all, when a man is idle, a working man, an industrial worker, he ceases to remain a paying consumer.

"The people I represent dwell in industrial communities. We feel that the surplus raised

by the farmer is our margin of safety, that there may come a time when weather conditions or because of the farmer's despair, might cause a scarcity of the things that we need. If the farmer's surplus is our margin of safety, I, for one, and the people I represent, are in favor of not permitting that very surplus that we need to be a menace to the farmers, to tear down their economic structure, or to make it so that a good crop to them is really less remunerative than a poor crop.

"We are in favor of the McNary-Haugen Bill. We believe that in that bill is the only comprehensive plan that will safeguard the interests of the farmers and put them on a paying basis. If anyone can show some other way by which the farmers can be safeguarded, except that their surplus shall be safeguarded, why, we would be for that plan. But no such plan has been offered, as appears to us, to be comprehensive enough to safeguard the interests of the country, which demands a surplus, plus the interests of the farmers, which place them upon a paying basis as consuming citizens of the country.

"I am endorsing the McNary Bill because I do not know of anything that has been proposed that will meet the surplus question like it would."

MORE NEW SHIPS FOR THE SCRAP YARD

Congressman McClintick Protests Navy Program.

Is Not Interested in Shipbuilders' Profits
"The members of the Naval Affairs Committee have been told that the five world powers, England, France, Italy, Japan, and the United States, will participate in a disarmament conference during the year 1931. Therefore, no one can deny that unless ships are laid down of a certain type within the next three years an agreement made at this conference would prevent the expenditure of the \$274,000,000 proposed in this bill. The members of the Naval Affairs Committee have been told by the representatives of shipbuilding corporations who testified before the committee that it will take approximately three years to complete a cruiser. Therefore, if this bill becomes a law in its present form, and the conference in 1931 would agree to a reduction of tonnage of cruisers, then the United States would be in the same ridiculous position it found itself in in 1922 when approximately \$300,000,000 were wasted in scrapped new ships.

I further say that in making additions to our Navy the Congress should have in mind the building of the kind of ships that will make our Nation sufficiently efficient to take care of any kind of an emergency. That the Navy being the first line of defense should be composed of warships—suitable for war—rather than a lot of ships that can operate only in protected zones in time of war. If we have a lot of obsolete ships, the men and officers should be taken off the same and assigned to the large number of destroyers which are now tied up to the docks at Philadelphia and San Diego, thereby building up an arm of defense that was found to be the most valuable during the World War. I am in favor of voting every dollar that this Nation needs to provide adequate defense. However, I am not willing to expend \$274,000,000 to stem a depression in the shipbuilding industry and to provide additions to the Navy in the way of personnel and luxurious quarters on a type of ship that can not be used in time of war without the aid of submarines and aircraft."—From recent speech of Cong. J. V. McClintick, of Oklahoma.

MILO RENO CONSIDERS THE LOWLY WORM

I confess that, considering what a little cuss the corn borer is, the experts on his life, habits, disposition and morals have got me all mixed up about him. To start with, we were told that for general all-around orneriness his equal would be hard to find. Millions and millions of public funds have been appropriated by government to try to reform him and make him see the error of his way, but whatever his unkindly intentions toward the corn crop, he was certainly a God-send to the politicians. It enabled them to divert attention from economic principles of farm equality and prove to the farmers that they were their real friends. It afforded jobs for scores of experts who do their experting at public expense. Warnings were broadcast that Iowa's corn crop was threatened with complete extinction and that the last state of the Corn Belt would be worse than the first. Recalling the grasshopper plague, I was thinking of fleeing from this wrath to come. But now I pick the Iowa Farm Register of last Wednesday and under the heading "Borer to Help Iowa Farming, Holmes Thinks," I read that Professor C. L. Holmes of Iowa State College is quoted as telling the farmers of Kosuth county at a farm business school that the little borer devil may actually help agriculture in Iowa, if he gets this far in his globe-trotting "by making it necessary for some readjustment in crop growing areas—in other words our old acquaintance "increased crop diversification" traveling under an assumed name. Now doesn't that beat all! Just supposing the experts in other states should succeed in their efforts to kill all the borers off! If they do I expect the next session of the Iowa legislature will be asked for a large sum to import fresh live ones from Europe for Iowa's special benefit—which would be no more foolish than some appropriations asked and cheerfully granted. But what's got me puzzled is whether the borer is really a saint or sinner—a dangerous pest or a blessing in disguise. I guess that it is a case of our paying our money and taking our choice—and we've certainly paid our money.—Iowa Union Farmer.

EDUCATION

We would like to say something practical on the subject of education, and by practical we mean something that can be tried and found successful by members of the Farmers Union and the boys and girls in the Farmers Union homes.

From observation and experience and from the testimony of thousands of men who know, you may accept the statement that reading, discussing and writing will give a man or woman an education. I venture the statement that a boy who graduates next year from the 8th grade in his country school-house and who never goes to school another day in his life will, if he becomes a regular reader of newspapers and magazines and good books, at the end of ten years be a better educated man than the boy who graduates next June from the State University at Norman and for the next ten years does no reading of any kind.

We urge our members to encourage reading in the home, to encourage discussion of what is read in the home, to encourage written analysis of what is read. If such habits are formed in a family every member that participates, in ten years from now will be an educated person.—John A. Simpson, in Oklahoma Union Farmer.

THE FORMER HAS THE SAME KIND OF FRIEND

Congressman LaGuardia, of New York, recently made some embarrassing comments regarding certain so-called 100 per cent Americans who are for the welfare of the people all the way until they are given the acid test, and all of their stuff is not worth a sou for practical purposes in so far as the workers are concerned. Said LaGuardia: "I have been on the picket line and have helped thousands and thousands of people to get a sufficient wage with which to live up to the American standard of living. The trouble is that you are always willing to talk about the American standard of living when you are making a Fourth of July speech, but you resent the idea of putting it into every-day practice."

In the words of Shakespeare, "the devil can cite Scripture for his purpose." And LaGuardia did this well conceived compliment to a number of his political colleagues.—Labor Journal.

WHY WAIT?

Secretary Jardine in discussing the relation of the tariff to agriculture the other day warned his hearers that "the time is approaching when tariff protection will be more important to agriculture than to industry." The moral apparently was that the farmer should stop saying mean things about the tariff and look forward with joy to the day some ten or fifteen years hence when it might really come to be worth something to the producers of wheat and pork.

But when such a statement is made this question will always rise in the minds of the skeptical: If the tariff in the future will be worth more to agriculture than to industry, how do we know there will be any tariff?

Frankly, if the forces that want cheap food in this country and who care little for an American standard of living on the farm are going to have their way the tariff will be maintained now without any concessions to agriculture and it will be taken off when those folks find it profitable to have it taken off. If we can't beat them now in getting tariff protection for agriculture, we can't beat them ten years from now when they want to go over to a low tariff basis. We might as well have the fight now and find out where we stand.—Wallace's Farmer.

PARADOX

The rabble cried: "Away with him and all his kind; Deliver unto us Barabbas." Thus the blind Forever mock and crucify the ones who see; The ones who propagate their blindness, then they free!

John Luke Hoff.

One-third of the farmers of Oregon are engaged in co-operative marketing, which amounts to \$50,000,000 annually. Most of the states have co-operative purchasing associations, and the annual business done ranges from \$100,000 in Arizona to \$6,000,000 in Iowa.

A PUZZLE POEM

By Chas. L. Stengle
Editor National Farm News, Washington, D. C.
Note—The puzzle part is to guess who is the candidate for President who wants the Equalization Fee taken out of the McNary-Haugen Bill. Listen, my friends, and you shall hear
In language plain and accents clear,
Just what is doing on Capitol Hill,
And how they're handling the farmers' bill.

Two weeks ago to be exact,
I think I state the actual fact,
The enemies of farm relief,
Set out to give the farmers grief.

By propaganda and by talk,
They tried fair play once more to balk,
And then set out with ghoulish glee,
To kill the equalization fee.

Their chosen plan was to destroy,
By devious means, which they employ,
The heart of what the farmers ask,
So they made that their joyful task.

With what success their work was done,
At public hearings soon was shown,
When congressmen, long known as friends,
Began to show peculiar trends.

Said one, "I won't support a bill,
That Calvin Coolidge sure will kill;
Take Haugen's plan without the fee,
And I will surely vote with thee."

The lips of other congressmen,
Began to utter O. K. then,
And soon the number was so large,
My judgment may be weak indeed.

That politics seemed well in charge,
But with my soul I am agreed,
That I can almost guess the cause,
Without once making any pause.

A candidate for President,
Through friends; to Congress, must have sent,
A message that this should be done,
To make him have an easier run.

For well he knew in Illinois,
There stood a man for whom the "boys"
Who follow plow, had long since said,
This government should next year head.

A gesture, then, for farm relief,
To make my story very brief,
Would take the farm from this campaign,
And make big business' sailing plain.

Unless I know not what I say,
You'll find on next Election Day,
The farmers are prepared to show,
That they can give blow for blow.
Reprinted from Farmers Union Herald.

REFLECTIONS

SUCH MONKEY BUSINESS

The Snob—The Fitz-Smythes come of very old stock.
The Cynic—Yes. Their family tree goes back to the time when they lived in it.

NOW YOU KNOW WHICH IS THE CHIMPANZEE

(Sioux City Journal)
* * * Joe Mendi, 3-year-old chimpanzee, who is a headliner on the current bill at the New Orpheum theater. * * * The picture shows Joe standing in front of officials of the New Orpheum theater.

BUT THE CEMENT TRUST NEEDS MONEY

Iowa is getting into a most regrettable muddle and economic error in its road policy. Counties voting bonds upon the state, legislators going into a special session of the legislature hogtied by propagandists, and the governor going full speed in reverse.—Eagle Grove (Iowa) Eagle.

THE KANSAS POPULATION

Reports indicate that during the past year Kansas increased in population three-fourths of one per cent. Fifty-seven of the 105 counties show declines in population. 48 show gains. The heavy losses are in purely agricultural areas, and the principal gains are in the counties having large cities. In other words our large towns are larger and our farm population smaller.

BUT DO THE BANKERS STAY IN LONG ENOUGH TO LEARN HOW?

Someone has written us a letter protesting against the language used in the January issue advertising of the North Dakota twine plant. The ad read "A Farmer's Institution." The writer says that the ad should have read—"A Banker's Institution," since there are more bankers at the state plant making twine than farmers.—Farmers Union Herald.

AND HOW!

"Why is it that a red-haired woman always marries a very meek man?"
"She doesn't. He just gets that way."

"Instead of a battle and war of arms, the future will see a battle of economics, in which international co-operative organizations will combat international monopoly."—Huston Thompson, Chairman Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D. C.

WINTER GULLS

The water and ice have fought all night,
And now in sullen grapple lie
Defeated. But above them, glad
with light,
The young gulls fly.

They fly, morning under their wings.
They glance
Through the grey mists like prayer.
A psalm of wings spurning chill circumstance.
They write on air.

Bennett Weaver.

SUCH THINGS HAPPEN IN CONGRESS

Sen. Wagner of New York has called for an investigation of unemployment so that legislation may be framed to meet it. Members of the G. O. P. in Congress, claim that this part of a Democratic scheme to queer the prosperity claims of the Republicans.

The Power Trust Lobby, claiming to represent an investment of \$17,000,000,000, killed the proposed Walsh investigation of gas and electric utility financing, by a vote of 46 to 31.

I'LL BET THE FARMER DIDN'T BET MUCH OF HIS MONEY. HE WAS BUSY PRODUCING IT

"I'll bet a dollar" is a common phrase. Yet \$2,106,318.80 went that way on Alberta tracks during 1927. That is the record of the pari-mutuel system, and does not include the little bit on the side so much relished by the little fellow. As a democracy we gain by the addition of \$105,315.94 to the revenues

of the Province, but as this was the first year of operation of this tax, there is nothing in the figures to indicate whether we are getting "better" or "badder."—United Farmers of Alberta.

WARNING

(Harriet Foster Chandler, in New York Times)
Oh, never tell heart secrets to the leaves!
List' how they whisper 'mong themselves—oh, fear
To trust them with a thought you'd not impart
To any casual list'ner, idling near!
Leaves are so shallow, frivolous and gay!

Heart, take your ache and secret to the trees
That stand with arms uplifted, stark and drear;
Mute griefs have stilled the whisperings of these!

DEALING WITH CRIMINALS

The corruption of government by men of wealth, in furtherance of their schemes, is strikingly revealed by the Teapot Dome scandal. Some of the persons involved are in Europe on vacation. One of them defied the courts and the investigating committee and was heartily congratulated by many business men. Sinclair has suffered no loss of prestige or standing, nor has his business suffered.

But Judge Kavanagh, of Chicago, finds that crime on the part of the common herd is not being restrained and he strongly recommends public lashing as a cure. It would not work so well, probably, on "Upperworld" lords.

The learned judge declares:
"No underworld lord can retain the respect of his followers after he has wined under the pain of a whipping; no juvenile culprit can strut before his gang after an official spanking; the cat-o-nine-tails is feared more by the moron and racketeer than a jail sentence," he writes.

THE HILLTOP

From here the lovely valley sleeps,
From here the winding river seems
A thread of elfin light that creeps
To island shores of magic dreams.
Here one tall pine in darkness
spreads

Its branches like appealing hands;
And here unconscious beauty treads
To view her far, outstretching
lands.

Against the sky one somber form
Shows in the light—and it is man,
Hilltopped in colors rich and warm—
Most glorious figure of the plan;
For man against the sky must be,
And man upon the hilltop glowing
To show the age what all must see
To have that high, exalted know-
ing.

Only on hilltops visions rare
Are vastness shown, and wide domain;
Only on hilltops sweeps the air
That drinks the shadows of the plain.

Here are the valleys in their scope
Seen with the truer sight that reaches
Unto the farther bounds of hope
To learn what spiritual knowledge teaches.

—B. B. in the Baltimore Sun.

DRIVING MULES TO TOWN

What ails the blooming farmer,
Who comes with tales of grief,
Who tells of various kinds of ills
And calls for "Farm Relief?"
Then up spoke one named Bailey
Of Federal Bank renown,
"I'll tell," said he, "what caused the ills

That curse this rural clown."
"It's plain to me," said Bailey,
"That men who till the soil
Must learn that they can only win
By hard and honest toil."
"It's plain to me," said Bailey,
"That farmers do not now
Perambulate as once they did
Behind a walking plow.

They have spring seats upon their tools
And comfortably they go
Ariding up and down their fields,
Meandering to and fro.
And worse than that, we must agree,
These wasteful rural fools,
They take a car and ride to town
Instead of driving mules.

THE DRY GOODS BOX

ANCIENT HISTORY AND MODERN PRINCIPLES

Union Farmer.

Comes now J. A. Wills bragging of his 40 years experience in raising hogs. Then he called attention to Ephraim of old—that sold his freedom for a mess of meat!—This is an awful break. He should have stated "Esau." Ephraim did actually cause some trouble when their boys abused a woman until she died, and her master cut her up in twelve pieces, and sent one piece to each of the twelve tribes, as an evidence of the frightful condition existing among them. A few weeks ago the Union Farmer had an article where a name "England," was called an "adjective" when it should have called it a "noun." These breaks are called attention to because it shows the condition of the minds of the writers. They are guessing, when they should know what they are talking about. A few years ago I heard J. A. Simpson, President of Oklahoma Farmers Union, speak in Salina. He said I am not sure that we are proceeding along right lines. It attracted my attention because it agreed with my views. Now every body agrees that the farmers are suffering from the tariff. That is the protective principle, which works a wrong among the farmers.

Still when we are trying to right a wrong, it is again on the line of protection. That is right a wrong on the line of wrong. That is protection. Every high school is now discussing the Haugen-McNary bill. All the affirmatives agree that that bill is built on the protective line. My views are to correct all political evils on the finance line. But I seem to be alone. Charles Ferm.

PROPOSES TO HANDLE UNION FARMER ON INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION BASIS ONLY

Riley, Kans., March 22, 1928.

Dear Sir:—
We would suggest that the paper be left to each member to decide for himself. Let those that want the paper subscribe for it.

Hilma Carlson,
Sec'y-Treas. Grandview Local 1214.

CONSOLIDATION A GOOD THING

Lindsborg, Kans., March 22, 1928
Union Farmer.

I notice in the last papers that a move is made to unify into one body all the different form realizations, in the Central West. This looks to be the right kind of a move in co-op-

I recommend the farming class
To cut expenses down
Should foot it down the furrows,
And drive their mules to town.
Leave auto cars to bootleg kings
And heads of Federal Banks.
Get out behind the plow and drag
And exercise their shanks.
We'd hear no more of "farm distress"
If farmers only would
Cut out these hifalutin' ways
And live as peasants should.
Remove spring seats from off their plows

And other farming tools,
Go fact it down the corn rows,
And drive to town with mules.
—C. H. Perrine in Farmers Union Herald.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN PRODUCER AND CONSUMER

In November, 1922, Mr. G. A. Koger, farmer from the state of Idaho, came to Chicago with a carload of Idaho Alfalfa honey belonging to himself and neighbors. The big spread between the price paid to the producers and the price that the consumers had to pay was so great that the ordinary consumer could not afford to buy honey.

To attempt a specific solution of this marketing problem, a committee composed of prominent labor men and organized farmers was formed under the name of the Farmer-Labor Exchange. It was decided to go directly to organized labor. Organized labor responded splendidly. The result has been that seven carloads of this honey have been sold to the consumers in Chicago at a price that was a living wage to the farmers and a price that the consumers could afford to pay.

Publicity on Honey Deal

This was so remarkable a record that a story about the handling of this Idaho honey was sent out by the All-American Co-operative News Service of Cleveland, Ohio, to the farmer and labor press of the country. As a result of this publicity, the Exchange was requested to extend its service to many other farm organizations.

Several carloads of butter have been handled for the Kansas Farmers' Union Co-operative Creamery. This is one of the first centralized co-operative creameries in America. Plans are afoot to market the butter in Farmers' Union label cartons to the consumers of Chicago in the same manner as in the marketing of the "Jim Hill" union label brand of apples.

DO WE NEED PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES

The methods used in securing delegates to the coming national conventions seem to be awakening a demand for primary elections to cover this important field. Widespread criticism has followed the Wichita convention. The following, from the Norton Champion, states something of the sentiment prevailing.

"Senator Curtis held his state Republican convention in Wichita the other week and named the following delegates at large to the national convention slated for Kansas City this summer:

"Senator Arthur Capper, Congressman Homer Hoch and J. G. Strong, Gov. Ben S. Faulken, W. A. White, J. Stewart and W. S. Fitzpatrick.

Jack Harrison says "a strong feeling exists against the selection of W. S. Fitzpatrick. He is president of the Prairie Oil & Gas company and is the man that testified under oath before a committee of the United States Senate that he went to Canada to meet J. E. O'Neill, a former president of the Prairie Oil & Gas company, and who fled from this country rather than testify in the Hil inquiry now in progress in Washington. Fitzpatrick received from O'Neill \$800,000 in United States bonds to be restored to his company and carried them back to this country in an ordinary traveling bag. The selection of Fitzpatrick was a real let-down, an outrage, but the sentiment of the convention seemed to be that the wishes of Senator Curtis should be observed in the naming of delegates at large."

For instance coffee is selling as high as 60 cents a pound, fifty cents a pound is about the lowest price in our ordinary grocery stores, except the A. P. in their line stores are selling coffee 3 pounds for a dollar. Green coffee, on the New York market seldom exceeds 8 cents a pound. Coffee has become a staple article in trade and used by every family in the country. Our Farmers Union is organized for the purpose of lowering the cost of all things that we buy, and to get good prices for things that we sell. The cost of 8 cents a pound for green coffee to 60 cents a pound before it reaches the farmer's coffee pot is quite a margin. That now goes into the trader's pockets as profit. If now a consolidation of all farm organizations can be effected, then Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma less than one organization can be joined together as one body, buy a place in Kansas City, Missouri. Then buy the green berry, roast it and distribute the coffee at a great deal lower price than we now have to pay. A saving of over 100 per cent can easily be made by buying it in the New York market. Possibly more by buying the green coffee direct by contract from the coffee producer direct.

Charles Ferm.

Ladies' Auxiliary

NOTICE

ALL LADIES AUXILIARY DUES SHOULD BE SENT DIRECT TO THE STATE SECRETARY, MRS. MAY INGLE, MICHIGAN VALLEY, KANSAS.

THE AUXILIARY DUES ARE \$1.00 YOU KEEP 30c IN YOUR LOCAL SEND 70c TO THE STATE SECRETARY. THEN 20c OF THIS IS SENT BACK TO YOUR COUNTY ORGANIZATION IF YOU HAVE ONE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE THE STATE WILL KEEP IT IN THE TREASURY UNTIL YOU DO ORGANIZE, THEN YOU ARE ENTITLED TO ALL THE COUNTY DUES FROM DATE OF ORGANIZATION.

Junior Cooperators

MEMBERSHIP LIST

ADDIE HARDIN—Kincaid.
JULIA POWELL—Ida.
HELEN HOLCOM—Baldwin.
LORETTA SIMECKA—Delia.
NAOMI KITCHEN—Lyndon.
HELEN CENTLIVRE—Mont Ida.
KEITH CENTLIVRE—Mont Ida.
PETE CENTLIVRE—Mont Ida.
CLINTON DONALD—Kincaid.
HOWARD DONALD—Kincaid.
GEORGIA GRACE CAFFMAN—Madison.

HELLEN BARTZ—Rush Center.
MILDRED NELSON—Ottawa.

JUNIOR CO-OPERATORS

We now have our name. Perhaps some will be sorry that we chose it. But you know that we must abide by the decision of the majority. And above all things we must learn to be good losers. All the names were good, and I think this one will do nicely. We have other things to do now. There were some names added to the list of members this week.

I would like to hear from all who will write on the subject of "What I Have Planned to Do This Spring to Make Money."

A Name for Your Editor

We have one name submitted. It is a good one, but I am sure that many more have ideas that they would like to see in print. So send in your letters. You may suggest a name, at the bottom of the letter that is suggested above.

Names

Aunt Patience.

JUNIOR CO-OPERATIVES

Have we been laying down on the job? I will admit that I have, and honest confession is good for the soul. I will try to do better if you will. We have not had a letter for

FAMILY MUSIC FEATURED IN NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK

With the slogan, "More Music At Home—Sing, play and be happy," a feature will be made of family music-making in the National Music Week on May 6-12. In the larger towns a "Home Night" during the Music Week is being suggested for general observance. In the rural sections the plan may be adjusted to the local conditions by making much of the Music Week observance consist of informal musical occasions in the various homes. The objective behind these proposals is indicated by a pamphlet entitled "Home Night in National Music Week," which has the sub-title, "And Music Night in the Home Every Week." This pamphlet is to be obtained without charge from the National Music Week Committee, 45 West 45th St., New York City. The purpose of these home programs and of the entire Music Week movement is that to a greater extent every week may be Music Week throughout the country.

Among the activities suggested for Music Week in the home are group singing, family instrumental ensembles, the learning of new instruments, the inviting of neighbors to listening hours over the radio, the interchange of records for special phonograph programs, musical games, simplified music memory contests, the toy symphony



ORGANDIE APRON NO. 5353

For the bridge luncheon when one has dinner guests, the hostess who does her own serving, may add to her appearance when wearing one of these adorable organdie aprons. No longer do we need to suggest the housemaid in the practical white apron when we serve our friends, as so many of us do nowadays. We herewith present apron No. 5353 of yellow organdie with the flowers in shades of blue organ die upon it. The petals of the flowers are of double thickness. An ivory lace edged one-half inch in width is suggested as an effective finish with ties of pale blue ribbon. A detailed working chart showing the exact color scheme to entirely finish the apron is furnished. The price of this apron postpaid to any address is 65 cents.

For 25 cents additional we will send our book The Art of Embroidery consisting of 10 complete lessons with 70 illustrations showing all the principal stitches.—Kansas Union Farmer, Box 48, Salina, Kansas.

a long time. If we do not suggest things that interest you, make some suggestions yourself. Our president, Mr. Huff, has prepared a fine story about Dolls, that should interest every girl, even after she is "Great Big." I am going to ask you to read this story, write us a letter for publication telling us what you think of the story, and giving your idea of the lesson that it teaches. Also I would like to hear a story of your own about a "Doll." There is no girl who has not had an experience with a doll. I am sure there would be interesting reading in stories of this kind.

Of course I can see all the boys turn up their noses right now at the idea of writing a letter about a "doll." So I have prepared something for them that I hope they will like. Oh yes, the girls can do this too, if they like. I have five questions, the answers of which can be found in this paper. Write a letter answering the questions. If this is your first letter you will be forever after a member of the Department. Also if your answers are correct you will be given five credits.

There will be similar things for you to do in each issue of the paper and after you have earned one hundred credits we will present you with a Farmers Union Button.

Questions

Give names and addresses of five state officers of the Farmers Union. What does the Kansas Union Farmer charge for Classified Advertising?

What was the top price paid for veal on March 22, 1928 in Kansas City?

In what county are the most 100% locals up to date?

In whose advertisement is found the phrase, "You can make money,"

DOLLS AND WORLD FRIENDSHIP

Wherever there are little girls there are dolls, the wide world around. The little girls are not all alike. Some of them are white, with rosy cheeks. Some are yellow, with almond-shaped eyes. Some are brown, some copper-hued, some black. And the dolls are not alike, either. They are usually a great deal like the little girls who are to own them, though.

But though little girls and dolls differ, one thing is everywhere the same: the whole world over—little girls love dolls, their very own dolls, no matter what the dolls look like.

And so when there was ill feeling in Japan against America because of the law excluding Japanese people from our country, a man (wasn't that funny—a grown up man) thought about little girls and their love of dolls. So he asked that little girl in Japan a gift of dolls. Of course we would! And we did. Not one, or two, or three, nor hundreds only, but nearly thirteen thousand dolls! And the dolls are not alike, either. They are usually a great deal like the little girls who are to own them, though.

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And so when there was ill feeling in Japan against America because of the law excluding Japanese people from our country, a man (wasn't that funny—a grown up man) thought about little girls and their love of dolls. So he asked that little girl in Japan a gift of dolls. Of course we would! And we did. Not one, or two, or three, nor hundreds only, but nearly thirteen thousand dolls! And the dolls are not alike, either. They are usually a great deal like the little girls who are to own them, though.

But though little girls and dolls differ, one thing is everywhere the same: the whole world over—little girls love dolls, their very own dolls, no matter what the dolls look like.

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5923 Girls' Dress

Cut in 4 Sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. A 10 year size requires 2 yards of 36 inch material to make. Cut in 3 Sizes: 16, 18 and 20 years. An 18 year size requires 3 1/2 yard of 39 inch material together with 3/4 yard of contrasting material. Price 15c.

6084 Misses' Dress
Cut in 3 Sizes: 16, 18 and 20 years. An 18 year size requires 3 1/2 yard of 39 inch material together with 3/4 yard of contrasting material. The width of the Dress at the lower edge with plait extended is 2 yards. Price 15c.

FASHION BOOK NOTICE

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

Pattern Dept., Kansas Union Farmer, Salina, Kansas. Box 48.

to these beautiful guests and carried them to Washington. They were warmly welcomed at the Nation's capital, and felt perfectly at home when they were taken to the home of Baron Matsudaira, the Japanese Ambassador. They went to the National Theatre, where a great reception was given them. The footlights of the stage were turned on them, bringing out all the beauty and richness of their exquisite kimonos.

Little Miss Matsudaira, daughter of the Ambassador, dressed in the costume of her country, presented these Ambassadors of Goodwill to the children of America, and little Jane Davis, daughter of the Secretary of Labor, received them and thanked the millions of Japanese children who sent them the Doll Ambassadors because they felt that he would have 58 fellow-ambassadors to assist him.

"These dolls," he said, "are silent; they do not talk, but sometimes silence is more eloquent than speech. Then one often feels with emotion, one often loses speech. So these dolls silently tell you of the friendly feeling which the children of Japan have for the children of America."

Mrs. Henry W. Peabody in answering the Ambassador said: "A hundred years from now, when wars have ceased and nations live together as friends and brothers, our children and grandchildren will look back to this day when the children of two nations sealed a bond of friendship through the gifts which have come to us from your little children."

The Secretary of Labor, Mr. Davis, said: "Where Lindbergh inspires with his boldness, these dolls are kindly, touching, and filled with good humor as well as goodwill."

Dr. Tigert, the United States Commissioner of Education, spoke of the long history of culture and love of beauty that Japan has.

After a quick journey on to New York the dolls and their envoys were received at City Hall by Mayor Walker. The Mayor was happy, he said, "at this expression of the goodwill that ought to prevail all over the world."

He said that this gesture was conclusive that the Japanese were actually treating the children in the feeling of friendship and that the pennies of the Japanese children that sent over the dolls would make a friendship that was bound to endure.

A luncheon reception was given to Mr. Sekiya and the dolls at the Aldine Club, New York, on January 5, which was attended by the members of the American Committee on World Friendship among Children. Among those present was the Japanese Acting Consul General at New York, Mr. Uchiyama, who spoke in glowing terms of what this friendship project had meant in cementing closer relationships between the two countries.

On the afternoon of the same day a distinguished tea was given to American and Japanese guests at the home of Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, wife of the former Ambassador to the Court of St. James.

Addressing the Japan Society the same evening on the occasion of its annual meeting, Ambassador Matsudaira referred to the exchange of the doll messengers as an illustration of the type of friendly contacts which ought to be cultivated in every area of the common interests of the two countries.

One of the charming accompaniments of the "doll project" has been a poem of welcome by Robert Underwood Johnson, entitled "Friends Across the Sea."

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

"Friends Across the Sea,"

KANSAS UNION FARMER WEEKLY EXCHANGE

If members of the Union have anything to Sell or Exchange, they should advertise it in this department. Rate: 3 cents a word per issue. Count words in heading, as "For Sale," or "Wanted to Buy," and each initial or figure in the address. Compound words count as two words. CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER—TRY THIS DEPARTMENT—IT WILL PAY YOU.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FARMS

WANT to hear from owner having farm for sale, give particulars, no lowest price. John J. Black, Box 56, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

MISCELLANEOUS

MILLER LUGGAGE CARRIER
Made of heavy cotton duck, folds into small space when not in use. Large carrying capacity. A very efficient carrier. Sent for trial. Add. XYZ care Kansas Union Farmer.

POSITION WANTED

WANTED—Position as manager of "Farmers Union Store." Ten years experience as manager. Handle any store, large or small. References from former employers. A rustic fond of hard work. Reasonable salary expected. Ready on short notice. Add. XYZ care Kansas Union Farmer.

POULTRY

DARK R. C. Rhode Island Red Chick, \$12-100. Eggs \$5-100, postpaid. Mrs. V. V. Bird, Stockton, Kansas.

MASTER BREED CHICKS From World's Largest Poultry Breeding Organization. Accredited breed for poultry. 200 eggs and up yearly. 14 varieties. Utility Chicks low as 5c. Live delivery. Catalog Free. Missouri Poultry Farms, Box 72, Columbia, Mo.

SEEDS, PLANTS, ETC. FOR SALE

SEED CORN—Golden Beauty, Central Kansas grown. Germination 98%. \$2 bushel. Emil W. Podlons, Wilson, Kans.

ALPINE \$6.00; Clover \$4.00; Sudan \$2.00; Millet \$1.50; canes \$1.00. Stocks free. If you have any canes or Millet to sell send samples any quantity. Meier Grain Co., Salina, Kansas.

Frost Proof Cabbage and Onion Plants. Open field grown, strong, well rooted from treated seeds. Cabbage fifty to bundle, moss to roots, labeled with variety named. Jersey Wakefield, Charleston Wakefield, Succession Copenhagen, Early and Late, \$1.00; 500, \$1.25; 1,000, \$2.00; 2,000, \$3.50. Express Collect crate twenty-five for \$12.50. Write for free Seed and Plant Catalog. UNION PLANT COMPANY, TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS.

The dolls are now in Lord and Taylor's great department store in New York. Soon they will begin to go out through the country and we hope that somewhere, at sometime, all readers will see these beautiful, friendly guests who have come to stay in America.

And in this happy way our friendly greetings to the children of Japan have come back to us. Back and forth in the years to come will the love and understanding go, for it is true indeed that "our hearts are as their hearts."—Adopted from Jennette W. Emrich.

IS PEASANTRY IMPOSSIBLE?

A magazine published at St. Paul, "The Farmer's Wife," declares peasantry cannot become a fact in American farm homes. The writer has been on the job of selecting "Master Farm Homemakers." She has found a wonderful spirit of homemaking, even with shortage of income. But her optimism is founded upon her contact with selected homes, and her definition of peasantry must be vague. Is not peasantry the patient acceptance of an unjust situation, and the willingness simply to make the best of it? Peasants are usually good people, and living hard, living simply, making the most of the few joys and privileges that come to them. A spirit of resentment against injustice never burns (or not for long) in their hearts. Freedom, justice, equality, are only words to them.

We know the farm home quite as well, we know the writer of the article. We have as great an admiration as she can have for the great souls who make America's farm homes. But continued economic injustice will drive these people out of rural homes, or they will accept the condition and make the best of it. The article says:

"These Master Farm Homemakers are not elaborate; many are very simple. Usually there has not been a great deal of money available for the home plant. But the home quality that is the essence of good homemaking. They give evidence of thought, of study and of the upward and outward look. They are the homes of women who have gotten the vision that, although so much of their lives is made up of common every day things, their work as a whole is a big thing. It is really the most important job in our nation today; one of them expressed it:—'The building of the true Christian American home.'"

Honesty is not only the best policy but the only policy in dealing with public services.

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CLERKS' BIGGEST PROFIT IN HIGH PRICED TOOTH PASTE

That is why most dealers push Pepsodent. (By a well-known druggist)

The larger your unit of sale, the greater the dealer's profit. You make more money by selling a tube of Pepsodent than you do by pushing a toothpaste that sells for half that price.

Millions of sales are made on Pepsodent every year. The profits it brings to dealers we believe are greater than that of any other dentifrice.

Far more money is spent to advertise Pepsodent by approximately three times than for any other toothpaste.

Now with Pepsodent's new independent dealer policy it has become the leader in 9 out of every 10 independent stores. It brings in general trade at a profit, and that is something few leaders do.—Advertisement.

Plan before you build. It is easier to change the plans than the half-built structure. Plans for farm homes, barns, cisterns, and sewage disposal may be obtained from the Agricultural Engineering department.

CURED HIS RUPTURE

I was badly ruptured while lifting a trunk several years ago. Doctors said my only hope of cure was an operation. Trusses did me no good. Finally I got hold of something that quickly and completely cured me. Years have passed and the rupture has never returned, although I am doing hard work as a carpenter. There was no operation, no lost time, no trouble. I have nothing to show but will give full information about how you may find a complete cure without operation. If you write to me, Eugene M. Fulton, Cabernet, 1544, Marcellus Avenue, Manhattan, N. Y. Better cut out this notice and show it to any other who are ruptured—you may save a life or at least stop the misery of rupture and the worry and danger of an operation.

PILES
Cured without Surgery
DR. O. A. JOHNSON
1324 MAIN ST. KANSAS CITY, MO.
68 PAGE BOOK—FREE

DISTEMPER COUGHS, COLDS, Whooping Cough, and all other Coughs. FRAZIER'S DISTEMPER REMEDY is guaranteed or money back. Two doses a day. Bottle free. At Druggists, or prepaid for 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. FRAZIER MEDICAL CO., 24 S. Clark St., CHICAGO, ILL.

LETTER HEADS
\$6 PER THOUSAND
ENVELOPES
\$5 PER THOUSAND
High Class Job Printing at Low Prices
THE GENERAL PRINTING CO.
Farmers Union Bldg., Salina, Kansas

PURPOSE

It is more evident than ever before that people of common business and social interests are associating themselves together for furthering their common purpose. This is co-operation.

Support your own creamery.

Farmers Union Co-operative Creamery

Kansas City, Mo.

FARMERS' UNION JOBBING ASSOCIATION

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HOME OFFICE—DES MOINES, IOWA

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IOWA AIDS FARM BILL FIGHT

Legislature Appropriates \$5,000 in Interest of the Measure

(By the Associated Press)

DES MOINES, March 14.—An appropriation of \$5,000 to aid the agricultural committee of twenty-two in its campaign for the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill, was approved today by the Iowa legislature before adjournment of the extraordinary session which passed a bill to submit to the people a proposal to issue 100 million dollars in state bonds for primary road improvement.—Kansas City Star.

ONLY ACTUAL FARMERS MAY BORROW

Only farmers who make farming their business may obtain loans on their lands from The Federal Land Bank of Wichita.

The Federal Farm Loan Act says, "No such loan shall be made to any person who is not at the time,

EVILS OF DIRECT MARKETING

Address Delivered at Wichita, Kansas, by M. W. Borders

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I consider it a very great honor and I assure you that it is a genuine pleasure to speak to the membership of your splendid organization.

I regret exceedingly that Congressman Hoch is not here. I want to say to you, as you already know, that Congressman Hoch, Congressman Hope and Senator Capper have proven their friendship for the livestock men and in Congress they are a great credit to the great State of Kansas.

At the outset I want to say to you that I am in sympathy with the farmer and the farmer's problems. I have known every hardship of the farm that any man in this audience has known. I was born and raised on a farm and while very young I worked on the farm in the summer and in a coal mine in the winter. There is the farmer's hand (holding up right hand) and have come through the school of hard knocks and I know the farm and I think I know first hand something about this question on which I am to speak this afternoon. For the last twenty-four years I have owned at least six farms in southern Illinois, and as a result, I know something about the farm problem and the marketing of live meat animals. You men in Kansas will know nothing about the farm problem until you have operated a farm in southern Illinois.

I also represented Morris & Company for more than twenty years, but I have always stood on this question of private marketing while I have been a fact checker to adjust this question around the conference table to that effect. There has been no sudden change with me on this question.

Not Opposed to Packing Industry I consider, gentlemen, that the question of direct marketing is the gravest question that has ever confronted the livestock producers of this country. It would be unworthy of me, placed upon this program to discuss this question, if I did not discuss it strictly on its merits, free from any abuse or bitterness or personality. If any gentleman here is expecting to hear a radical speech, he will be disappointed. I am not a radical. I want to discuss this question in such a way that when I have finished no man here, even if he differs with me, will have a perfect right to differ with me—I will say at the conclusion that I presented this question unfairly. That is my desire. There is nothing in abuse; nothing in personality. This is a question, gentlemen, of men above men—it is a question of principle and should be discussed strictly on its merits.

I am in complete sympathy with Captain Dan Casement when he said there should be no difference between the packer and the producer. I have advocated that all of my life. I advocate it now. The packer buys your animals. The packer finds a market for the finished product. But co-operation means that the packer and the producer, on both sides, Co-operation does not mean fairness on one side alone. It means that both sides should sit down around the conference table and in a fair way solve these economic questions in the interest of all concerned.

I want in this discussion to be fair to the packers. I want to be fair to those who hold an opinion contrary to mine. I do not know it all. Any man who claims that he knows it all is a common fool.

But while we want to be fair, there is so much involved and the consequences are so great, that we must be plain and frank. We have no other alternative. We will discuss this question with as much kindness as the situation will permit.

Individual Farmer is Disadvantaged As Bargainer

You men are dealing with a perishable product. The livestock producers of this country are many. They are scattered and disorganized. They are even split, unfortunately, in their own ranks. The men who buy your animals are few. They are strong, concentrated, and at all times they have the benefit of the best advice that money can obtain. They know all of the world conditions surrounding the market. Consequently, I will lay down as the first fundamental proposition, that the livestock producers of this country are entitled to an honest market, and when I say "an honest market," I mean a market that is governed by the law of supply and demand solely, without artificial or unnatural restraint of any kind or description.

Sidestepping The Question

I was very glad to hear Captain Casement say in his address, here today, that this great organization of yours should take the initiative to have conferences and work out problems out in a friendly and constructive way with the packers. I subscribe to that proposition 100%, and in that connection I want to compliment this organization most warmly for making, in a constructive and aboriginal manner, that identical move last July on this question that I am discussing. At your meeting in Kansas City last July, this organization appointed an outstanding committee of representative men from eight different states, some of the members being suggested by the Secretary of Agriculture, for the purpose of meeting the packers in conference, where all such questions should be settled, without litigation, without legislation, and in fairness to all concerned. I say "fairness" because I want the packer treated fairly. He buys your animals, and finds a market for the finished product. This committee was national in its character, because this problem is national in its character. It is not a local question. It is one that is striking at the very existence of your industry.

Now, what was the result? This conference developed four significant facts: first, the packers did not defend private buying on its merits; second, they stated that they would be glad to get out of it, which is an admission that it is inherently unsound; third, they never offered a single constructive suggestion to solve the question; fourth, they refused to adopt any of the constructive and friendly suggestions made by the committee. These four facts are strikingly significant and are worthy of your most serious consideration, and are conclusive as to why the big packers have adopted this private system of marketing for their own selfish interest.

Now, that is the record. That is history. That record is to the great credit of your great organization. You gave the packers, in a big and plain way, in conference, with Dr. Mohler, representing the Secretary of Agriculture, an opportunity to sit down as brothers in a friendly way, discuss this question on its merits and settle it in fairness to all concerned. With the result that not a single constructive suggestion came from the packers. No packer will deny that statement.

Have Packers Thrown Down The Gauntlet

What does it mean, gentlemen? It means that the big packers are determined, feeling that they have the power, to go through with this proposition of direct marketing and install it generally in this country, although, admittedly, it is economically unsound. It is a dollar-a-day question. If that were not their intention, then why did they not come forward in conference with some fair solution, especially when Dr. Mohler stated squarely that the desire of the Committee, representing the Government and the livestock producers, was to meet the packers half way and to get their feet on common ground. In the light of this indisputable record, no one can ever say that the packers were not given a fair chance to adjust this question around the conference table in the best interest of all concerned and of the country at large.

Now, I want to say this, that if this fight is carried on to a finish, as the packers seem to want, and if somebody does get hurt, the packers will be to blame. They had their opportunity and spurned it. They will be responsible for what follows.

Now, gentlemen, you have asked me to discuss the question "Evils of Direct Marketing." Let us see, now, just what is involved in this subject. I want to make it very clear that I am not opposed to, and we are not fighting, honest, legitimate buying in the country. No law in the land can prevent me, or any packer, from going to the farm, or to the ranch, and buying animals. There is no law, that I am aware of, that can prevent you as a farmer, ordinarily, from selling your animals where you want, and to whom you want. But the moment that sale, in any form or under any condition, is intended, or has the effect, on the part of the buyer, of controlling, or manipulating, prices, or obstructing or dislocating interstate commerce, or obstructing interstate commerce, or manipulating or controlling prices.

A Question of Public Interest

Why, think of it, gentlemen! Before there was a Kansas Live Stock Association, or even the state of Kansas, before there were any livestock producers in this great country of ours, old England had a law that the one who went out to the farm and bought necessities of life for the purpose of forestalling the market, that is, holding food back from the market so as to control, or manipulate, prices, was guilty of a crime, and was liable to imprisonment in the penitentiary. England did not permit the manipulation of food prices under any pretext or excuse. The question we are discussing involves food. Why should markets involving food be private instead of public? The suggestion is in itself an admission of guilty intent, and especially when there is no law governing the purchase of live meat animals by the packers.

They have the benefit of the best advice that money can obtain. They know all of the world conditions surrounding the market. Consequently, I will lay down as the first fundamental proposition, that the livestock producers of this country are entitled to an honest market, and when I say "an honest market," I mean a market that is governed by the law of supply and demand solely, without artificial or unnatural restraint of any kind or description.

Now, let us see what this direct buying is that is complained of. It is the general public buying what it is. My definition and description probably will be nothing new to you, but, as I understand it, it is this: Armour will take one railroad or section; Swift another, and so on with the other packers. Having divided the producing territory, one packer will go into a shipping center, or a territory, or five shippers. He picks out one of these shippers and arranges in the future for him to buy and ship solely to that packer, and then he becomes a packer "selected shipper." The next step is for the "selected shipper" to bid up the prices temporarily and eliminate competition. When that is done, he sits there, monarch of all he surveys—a "selected shipper" for a certain packer. This is the practice that I object to.

Now, then, competition eliminated, the modus operandi of his business is this: He will buy the animals, supposedly paying the market price at the nearest open, public, competitive market on the day of purchase. The animals are then graded by this "selected shipper" and the ships the cutouts, the runts, the boards and the poorer grades, to the public, competitive market, and the others he ships to the "private" yards of the packer that he is working for. Now, you can see at a glance, gentlemen, that by picking out the selected stuff and shipping it to the "private" yards of the packer, and shipping the poorer grades to the public market, that it necessarily has the effect of depressing prices on the public market. This,

necessarily, has two effects: first, the poorer grades shipped to the public yards make a lower price for the better grades shipped to the packer directly; and, second, the receipts of the hogs direct by the packer will tend to satisfy the requirements of the packer and thus make him an indifferent bidder on the public yards, and thus lower prices throughout the United States. Stop for one minute and get the full force and effect of this transaction in lowering price levels throughout the country. While the "selected" shipper may get the top price, that price, through his manipulation, is lower than it should be.

The one who suffers most through this practice is the small producer who does not have enough hogs to get the benefit of our load freight rates, and there are thousands upon thousands of them. This big class of producers is at the complete mercy of these "selected shippers."

An Indefensible Arrangement

Now, what is done with the stuff that is shipped to the "private" yards of the big packers? Just think of this gentlemen, the packer sits there behind closed doors, shutting out the Government—no regulation—shutting out all competition. He is even admitted to participate in, or view, the transaction, although it involves food and is impressed with a public interest. There the packer, arbitrarily, fixes the grade, the weight and the price. And yet in this of freedom and equal opportunity, in grand old U. S. A., they call that a market! No wonder the packers will not defend this unique and extraordinary marketing system on its merits. Not a big packer has ever defended this senseless system.

Even Armour, for some of those fellows. They took fifty millions away from me and had me on my way to the cleaners before I knew where I was. He did not blame the big fellows. Armour made mistakes, but he was a builder and a good friend and those big fellows might have cleaned him less thoroughly. The meanest hog leaves an egg or two in the nest to encourage the bird.

Gentlemen, I do not believe that anybody in this world would have had the nerve to try to fasten this iniquitous system upon the livestock producers of this country generally, outside of certain New York bankers, these same "big fellows" who now largely direct the policies for the packing industry. I want to sound a note of warning to the producers of this country, with the livestock industry, but as affecting basic industries generally. After the passage of the McFadden Act, which permits the big New York bankers to own stock of other banks, and, indirectly, of other corporations, they have been busy getting control of the big basic industries of this country and have made great progress in that direction. It will be a sad day for this country when the big banks of New York control, dominate, or direct the policies of the basic industries of this country. What is the result? The bankers have no interest in you, or in your feed lots, or in any other industry, excepting to get their dividends and their control of the business or the people interested in, or dealing with, the business. It will resemble in practice the former land aristocracy of Europe. That is the result of the policy of the big banks of this country. That is the result of the policy of the big banks of this country. That is the result of the policy of the big banks of this country.

Where Do Prices Come From?

The public and the producers of marketing are direct opposites. The public market has public competition and Government regulation; the private market has neither competition nor regulation. Why not discuss this big question openly and honestly, one or the other? Both cannot survive as now conducted by the big packers.

You men know that on the question of the grade, the quality, the class of the animals, the buyer, if free choice, or competition, or Government regulation, can trim you to a finish. Let us look at this for a moment: Last year over one-third of the hogs slaughtered in this country were purchased privately. Suppose the packers have one-third of their requirements acquired through direct shipping on hand when the market opens and you have your hogs on the open market. What happens? Does the presence of these hogs lower the price of the market, gentlemen? A child in Economics could answer that question very quickly. There is but one answer. The packer who has hogs in his yards bought direct will be a slow, steady bidder, to say the least. And yet that is the system that is now sought to be fastened upon the hog producers of this country generally.

I tell you men where the mistake is in this. It is to be private. You have your hogs to sell, you have been told that you can get your cash at your farm; no chance of bruises in shipment, no payments to the middleman, and that you get the top price of the market on the day of sale. That is pretty good to you, doesn't it? Do you stop to think where you will be with that kind of a "rigged" market next year, or two years, or five years later, if you keep that thing up? Will you stop to think of the effect upon the general price levels? I will venture that nine men out of ten, with that proposition coming up to them, never figure about what the central markets are going to continue indefinitely, do they? Gentlemen, let us be honest with each other. At the rate this private buying has grown, how can the public markets survive, if this same growth of private buying continues in the future?

Now, let us see what this direct buying is that is complained of. It is the general public buying what it is. My definition and description probably will be nothing new to you, but, as I understand it, it is this: Armour will take one railroad or section; Swift another, and so on with the other packers. Having divided the producing territory, one packer will go into a shipping center, or a territory, or five shippers. He picks out one of these shippers and arranges in the future for him to buy and ship solely to that packer, and then he becomes a packer "selected shipper." The next step is for the "selected shipper" to bid up the prices temporarily and eliminate competition. When that is done, he sits there, monarch of all he surveys—a "selected shipper" for a certain packer. This is the practice that I object to.

Now, then, competition eliminated, the modus operandi of his business is this: He will buy the animals, supposedly paying the market price at the nearest open, public, competitive market on the day of purchase. The animals are then graded by this "selected shipper" and the ships the cutouts, the runts, the boards and the poorer grades, to the public, competitive market, and the others he ships to the "private" yards of the packer that he is working for. Now, you can see at a glance, gentlemen, that by picking out the selected stuff and shipping it to the "private" yards of the packer, and shipping the poorer grades to the public market, that it necessarily has the effect of depressing prices on the public market. This,

LET US UNDERSTAND THE McNARY-HAUGEN BILL. (Continued from page 1)

five-year cycles there never has been a surplus of cotton. It is admitted that our cotton crop could be sold on the market as the market requires it, the price would be stabilized, not at its highest price, but at a fair level somewhere between the high and the low range, for the benefit of the entire industry. The cotton crop then proceeds with a degree of certainty that is wholly lacking under the present situation, and the spinners who consume the crop could proceed with greater security. This can be done under the McNary-Haugen bill.

The reader may wonder how it is that this protection is demanded by the agricultural interests at this time, when it had not been regarded as so imperative in other years. The answer is that the agricultural industry of our country has been greatly stabilized and advanced if such a policy had been in effect for many years, but that the situation is more urgent now because of the tremendous change that has taken place in finance, industry, transportation and generally, and further because the cumulative effects of legislative enactments of a protective nature relating to these classes which emphasize the disadvantage which agriculture as a whole is working under.

Under the Federal Reserve Banking Act, the Federal Reserve Board in effect fixes the price of money. Under the protective tariff, the United States manufacturers fix the price of their output. Under the Adamson law, the railroad men fix the price of the hours which a laborer shall work, while the Immigration Law prevents the incoming of cheaper labor from foreign countries. Under the Esch-Commins Act, the railroads are permitted to put into effect rates that will enable them to show a net earning of 5 1/2% on their invested capital as appraised by the Interstate Commerce Commission. A prominent and permanent factor in the cost of railroad operation is labor.

As a side light on the basis of these earnings, one of the most expert rate authorities in the Midwest said recently: "The railroad companies have discovered a thousand ways to increase overhead costs and present

situation in fixing this price through their "selected" shipper and in their own "private" yards, with the door locked to the Government and all competition. Gentlemen, it is unbelievable! It is unthinkable that we should have any such marketing system in this country. Concerning what? Our meat food!

There is one remarkable thing about this system of direct marketing and that is the fact that no packer has ever defended it on its merits, and no packer ever will. When they tried the Mistletoe case at Kansas City, Mr. J. Ogden Armour was put on the witness stand, and, under oath, said that the system of direct marketing is economically unsound and should not be installed generally. What does that mean? Follow me, now, J. Ogden Armour, when he gave that testimony, never dreamed that anybody would have the temerity and the nerve to try to force us on this country to a general proposition. He merely wanted the Armour situation sustained in that particular case. That is the significance and the value of the testimony.

It Is Now Banking Business

What happened to Mr. Armour? Something like that happened to him. I will just read what Mr. Arthur Brisbane said: "Men speculate about the size of Armour's estate. They need not. He said to the writer in Chicago not long ago, 'Look out for some of those fellows. They took fifty millions away from me and had me on my way to the cleaners before I knew where I was.' He did not blame the big fellows. Armour made mistakes, but he was a builder and a good friend and those big fellows might have cleaned him less thoroughly. The meanest hog leaves an egg or two in the nest to encourage the bird."

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these costs as arguments justifying increased shipping rates."

We make this brief reference to these developments, not for criticism, but as a recognition of the modern tendency and the adverse effects of unrestrictedness on any industry that is not similarly safeguarded.

The agricultural situation is much more complex, because of the large number of individual units it embraces, the diversity of production and the expensive acreage over which it spreads. Nearly one-third of the population of the United States is actually engaged in tilling the soil, and the activity of approximately one-half of our population is applied directly to crop and livestock production. It is clearly evident that there is no possibility of mutual or voluntary organization, unless there is a government agency through which all of these diversified agricultural interests may function.

The McNary-Haugen bill contains the necessary provisions that will enable the agricultural industry to get started along surplus marketing lines in a way that will both stabilize and safeguard the industry. The much discussed equalization fee will automatically prevent over-expansion. It will act as a governor, a protector, a safeguard. The proposal of the administration and its supporters to appropriate much larger amounts in the form of a subsidy for the agricultural interests have requested under the McNary-Haugen bill, does not meet with the favor of the agricultural leaders partially for the reason that it would encourage inroads on the Treasury not only by organized agricultural interests, but by organized society generally—a most dangerous procedure. Furthermore, farmers feel that if the are permitted to pay their own way, the plan will work; if dependence for funds is on treasury loans, it will not.

One outstanding service which would result from the McNary-Haugen bill is that the farm interests would have in the Federal Farm Credit Board, which had equal representation in Washington, as all of the other organized interests have. There is need of constant attention to the tariff involving adjustment, raising and lowering, as the immediate situation requires. Dependence for funds is on treasury loans, it will not.

As an example, several million bushels of corn come into the United States each month on the average from Argentina. This could be prevented by an increase of the tariff on corn. There was a day when our low grade corn was extensively used in the manufacture of industrial alcohol for commercial use, but of late years this alcohol is made from blackstrap, a by-product of the Cuban sugar refineries. Economists say that if the tariff on blackstrap were raised a few cents it would turn alcohol manufacture again to our low grade corn and raise the corn price generally 15c per bushel. Operators on the Chicago Grain Exchange agree that this would be the result. Nebraska also produces nearly 300 million bushels of corn in 1927. This item of 15c per bushel would total approximately 45 million dollars.

Unfortunately the administration did not see fit to favor the corn producers in either particular, but responds to the request of the United States Steel Corporation to raise the tariff 50c per ton on pig-iron coming in from foreign lands. This in spite of the fact that the Steel Corporation has in recent years made amazing profits almost beyond belief, while on the other hand the agricultural interests have been in a serious depression. It would seem that financial and business interests generally would insist on some such measure as the McNary-Haugen bill be enacted in order to perpetuate the strength of the buying power of American agriculture. The farmers of the United States have long furnished the greatest market for manufactured products of any agricultural region in the world. The extent of its buying power has been so vast as to reach beyond computation. It has been an unparalleled market, expanding since the early colonial days. 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