



THE KANSAS UNION FARMER

Organization

Education

Co-Operation



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NUMBER 12

SUCCESSFUL MEETING

EVIDENCE OF MUCH INTEREST SHOWN AT ANNUAL MEET

Big Auditorium Filled to Capacity and Hundreds Turned Away at Peak of Attendance

CLAY CENTER IN 1932

Following is Running Account with No Attempt to Go into Detailed Description of Addresses

The 1931 annual state convention of the Kansas division of the Farmers Union, held at Beloit, Kansas, is now history. The entire convention was marked with enthusiasm such as has not been seen at many state conventions. An evidence of the interest in this convention was the size of the crowds which attended, and the number of people who took part in the discussions throughout the convention. The attendance at the convention was the largest for many years. The attendance Wednesday night was estimated at nearly three thousand.

Many delegates and visitors commented on the fact that the program was well balanced. While the array of speakers included some of the best oratorical talent in the United States, as well as some of the most brilliant thinkers who have attacked the farm problem, yet the convention was not turned into a series of lectures. Much time was given to serious consideration of the problems by the delegates themselves.

The weather was somewhat chilly for that part of the convention, but that fact apparently did not prevent any one from attending. The people in Beloit were most hospitable, prices for food and lodging were reasonable, and every one was made to feel comfortable and at home.

The meetings of the Managerial Association, which occupied the first day of the Beloit gathering, Tuesday, and the first day of the convention proper, which was Wednesday, were held in the pavilion at the city park grounds. A fire which resulted when a gasoline stove exploded about noon on Wednesday, caused a slight delay in the proceedings, but the place was soon put in order and the program continued. The efficiency of the Beloit fire department was effectively demonstrated in this incident. The efficiency of the building or grounds also was demonstrated in the promptness with which they made the building ready for the program to continue. The fire occurred at an hour when virtually every one was out of the building, eating lunch.

Because of the cool weather, the convention was moved Thursday morning to the Methodist church, which is amply large to handle the crowds comfortably. All remaining features of the program took place in the church building.

The Avenue Hotel served as headquarters during the convention. The management of the hotel received many compliments for the manner in which the crowds were handled. Virtually the entire hotel was placed at the disposal of the convention guests.

Free transportation was given all convention delegates and visitors by Beloit citizens, who were glad to have the out of town people where ever they wished to go. The Beloit newspapers showed a spirit of cooperation throughout the convention, and during the time when the convention was being prepared for. The entertainment features provided by the Beloit committees were of a most acceptable type, and were thoroughly enjoyed.

Every minute of the program was marked by keen interest on the part of the delegates and visitors. Although some of the sessions were necessarily lengthy, the audiences remained to hear the last word of each address or each discussion.

MANAGERIAL MEETING

The first session was called to order on Tuesday at one o'clock by E. Thow, president of the Kansas Farmers Union Managerial Association. Ted Belden of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association is secretary of the organization, and he read the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Thow addressed the meeting briefly, pointing out the advantages of marketing cooperatively. He stressed the importance of active and loyal managers. Cal Ward, Kansas Farmers Union president, was called on for a talk, but he announced that he would be represented by C. C. Talbott, president of the North Dakota Farmers Union.

ident of the North Dakota Farmers Union, H. E. Witham, manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, who was to have appeared on the program during the afternoon, announced that he, too, wanted to yield his time to Mr. Talbott. Mr. Ward introduced Mr. Talbott, who delivered a most forceful message. An account of Mr. Talbott's address will appear elsewhere. Mr. A. W. Seamans, manager of the Farmers Union Cooperative Creamery Association, spoke briefly. A round table discussion was conducted by Cliff Miller, of Brewster, Kansas. Doyle Gus talked on the accomplishments of the Union Oil Company.

In the evening of the first day, Congressman James C. Strong of Blue Rapids, delivered the principal address. Mr. Strong touched on various subjects, among them being the program of the National Farmers Union. He declared the islands are of no value to the United States, and that some day they may lead this country into war because of expansion of other powers near by them. He spoke about the tariff question, and defended the present tariff laws. He stated that it is an agricultural tariff, and defied any one to name an article on which the tariff is too high. He also defended and lauded the Farm Marketing Act. Mr. Strong, prominent member of the Council for the "Prevention of War," from Washington, D. C., followed Mr. Strong with a forceful talk on cooperation. Mr. Taylor has long been identified with the Farmers Union program.

The first meeting of the convention proper was called to order Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock by President Ward. The Beloit High School band, a splendid musical organization, furnished music before the meeting started. Invocation was by Rev. L. R. Honderick, of the Beloit M. E. church. Address by Attorney R. L. Mammitt and by L. F. Brewer, president of the Beloit Chamber of Commerce. The response was given by F. M. Giltner, of Winfield, Kansas. Appointment of committee by the president came next. The memorial services for leaders who have departed since the last annual meeting was next on the program. This part of the program will be reported elsewhere in this paper.

At 11 p. m. the convention was extended fraternal greetings by leaders in other farm cooperative organizations.

REPORTS HEARD

Next followed the reading and adoption of the auditor's report. The report was prepared and read by T. B. Dunn, head of the Farmers Union Auditing Association, with headquarters at Salina. Mr. Dunn explained the report in simple language to the delegates. He pointed out the fact that although the showing does not seem as favorable as at this time last year, yet considering the fact that many sources of income last year were not available this year, and considering the fact that all the farmers have been severely hurt by the existing depression and low prices, the report showed a really healthy condition of the Kansas Farmers Union. The report was unanimously adopted.

The report of Floyd H. Lynn, newly appointed secretary-treasurer, was heard following Mr. Dunn's appearance. Mr. Lynn pointed out the fact that the report covered the activities of the organization during the year previous, and that he felt unqualified to give the report in full. He announced that following his brief remarks, he would yield his time to A. M. Kinney, who but recently resigned from the office. Mr. Lynn's remarks were along the lines of proposed activities for the year to come. Suggestions for possible improvement in the Kansas Farmer were discussed. Mention was made of the fact that dues have been pouring into the office in volume since the distribution of the questionaire a few weeks ago. Mr. Kinney followed with an interesting talk, which was instructive and interesting. He declared that his health was such that he felt unable to properly take care of the duties of the office. He declared his intention, however, of remaining an active member of the Farmers Union as long as he lives. His present connection is with the Farmers National Grain Corporation of Chicago, a department of the Federal Farm Board.

Carl E. Clark of McPherson, chairman of the Finance Committee, (continued on page 4)

C. C. TALBOTT IN VIGOROUS DEFENSE OF MARKETING ACT

North Dakota Farmers Union President "Called" Those Who Attack Marketing Act and Board

MADE THREE TALKS

Substituted for Ward and Witham on Managerial Association Meeting Tuesday Afternoon

While C. C. Talbott, vigorous proponent of cooperation among farmers and president of the North Dakota Farmers Union, as well as the guiding spirit in several other Farmers Union cooperative agricultural activities, was scheduled to be heard but once on the program of the state Farmers Union at Beloit last week, the delegates and visitors were favored by an extra appearance by Mr. Talbott on the program Tuesday afternoon during a session of the Kansas Farmers Union Managerial Association. He also appeared with another unscheduled talk near the close of the convention, when he was called on to describe conditions as they are in the North Dakota Montana drought afflicted area.

In the Tuesday talk, Mr. Talbott was given the time supposed to be used by Henry Witham of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association and by Cal A. Ward, president of the Kansas Farmers Union. Mr. Talbott, in his usual vigorous manner, pointed out the advantages of cooperation as it is carried on by the Farmers Union. He urged more complete organization on the part of the farmers, and told the delegates that the farmers should and could organize to the extent that they would be able, by attaining a bargaining power, to set the price on their products, just as the manufacturer sets the price on his product. He urged the development of cooperation in Kansas to the point where the Farmers Union could, through its own agencies, stand to the matter of handling its own wheat, and other grains more completely than it is possible to do now. He brought out the fact that if the farmers were completely organized, they could process their own grain, and take it all the way from the field to the consumer, instead of taking it only part way and then turning it over to speculators and scoundrels.

In his speech to the convention on Thursday evening, Mr. Talbott referred to those who are seeking to impede the work of the cooperatives, and more particularly those who are trying to obstruct the forward progress of work being done under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act. He had a copy of a circular advertising a book written by J. W. Brinton which centered its attack on C. E. Huff, and which made untrue accusations against the Farm Board relative to handling of grain in elevators of the Northwest. Mr. Talbott came to the Northwest. Mr. Talbott came to

The 1931 convention of the Kansas Farmers Union is now history. Quite naturally we look forward to the coming year. The large crowd in attendance at the convention along with the keen interest relative to our program, including the splendid support I received, is very gratifying to me. It suggests that in the main our program has had merit and that our cooperative vision to go forward in a constructive way taking a broad, comprehensive view of the general economic condition of the country, including agriculture.

I enter into my third year's work as your President. I do so feeling, as never before, a keen sense of responsibility. I accept my position, not to be served but to serve. I court the friendship and support of every member of the Farmers Union in Kansas.

The defense of the former Kansas Farmers Union president, and former president of the national Farmers Union, and ably defended the actions of the Federal Farm Board. He recognized the fact that mistakes might be made, but pointed out the fact that any mistakes made by the Farm Board were not malicious. Any mistakes made are rectified as promptly as possible.

Mr. Talbott's talk will be published more fully in a later issue, after stenographer's notes have been transcribed. He was one of the most popular and most respected speakers at the convention.

HAD TO BE LEFT OUT

Due to limitations of space, many items of interest, and many reports of speeches at the Beloit convention have necessarily been left out. This in later issues of the Kansas Union Farmer.

A FEW KIND WORDS

Re-election of Cal A. Ward as president of the Kansas Farmers Union is an attest of the appreciation of the work he has done for his organization and his battle for the farmer. It comes as welcome news. For agriculture needs not only a fighting leadership, but one that steers it constantly into sound, conservative lines and away from the siren of radicalism that has nothing more than a mirage of flattering prospects to offer. Mr. Ward is a good scrapper, when the time to bat (continued on page 4)

ELECTION RESULTS

President	185
Cal A. Ward	185
A. J. Wempe	50
Vice-President	211
W. P. Lambertson	211
J. V. Boggs (written in)	2
Secretary-Treasurer	195
Floyd H. Lynn	195
Tom Turman	88
Doorkeeper	219
M. V. Gates	219
Chas. Hance (written in)	1
Conductor	160
John Frost	160
Anton Peterson	172
Delegates National Convention (Three highest elected)	
Clifford Miller	167
W. P. Lambertson	144
Tom R. Wells	114
Chas. Margreiter	75
M. L. Beckman	109
C. C. Gerstenberger	48
R. C. Donald	26
Director Fifth District	15
B. E. Winchester (unopposed)	15
Director Fourth District	19
John Fengel	19
Carl E. Clark	14

SCHILL TALKS OF NEED OF FARMERS FOR ORGANIZATION

Address over WIBW Points out Fact that Labor is Organized while Farmers Lack Organization

NEED BUYING POWER

Farmers Do Not Receive Proportion of Consumer's Dollar

In a radio address over WIBW on the evening of Friday, October 23, O. W. Schell of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association at Kansas City, referred to the old proverb, "Experience is the best teacher," and added that in the case of depression we do not seem to have profited by our experiences in the past. He pointed out that after each time of depression we take steps to prevent a recurrence, but that the depressions continue to come along at intervals.

Mr. Schell went on to say that two groups, which he designated as The Farmer and Labor, have suffered most from the present state of affairs. These two groups, he said, are the only ones who are not organized. The farmer is generally unorganized and helpless, to a certain extent, while the laborer is highly organized. However, the two groups have a great deal in common, and must depend on each other for subsistence. Mr. Schell continued: "Labor must look to agriculture for its food and since labor is the great food consuming mass of people, the farmer must look to labor as consumer of his product. Each should be in a position to take the lead in legislation in our state. We can and do command the respect of our lawmakers and executives at Topeka. The National Farmers Union should get

Ward Accepts Responsibility

May we, throughout the oncoming year, demonstrate the real spirit of cooperation? We will face our tasks and work out our problems together. My time is your time and I sincerely hope that all of us may even become better acquainted than we are now. I have only the most kindly regard for those who may not agree with me on issues in connection with our program. Partiality and discrimination have no place in our organization.

The resolutions passed at Beloit afford the foundation for much cooperation. The Farmers Union Jobbing Association building. The Farmers Union of Kansas has recognized the need in a position to take the lead in legislation in our state. We can and do command the respect of our lawmakers and executives at Topeka. The National Farmers Union should get

are not to a large degree sympathetic with one another. The farmer naturally has been slightly jealous of labor because of its comparatively high position, and many workers of the farm have gone to the cities to accept jobs at greater remuneration than he leaves the farm because he receives meager returns for long and arduous labor, which circumstance makes the job in the city, with shorter hours and more remuneration attractive to him. Labor naturally has resented this competitive force. Then again the farmer desires to obtain as much for his product as possible, and are slowly organizing for this purpose. Labor also resents this because it believes this would increase its cost of living. The farmer being the seller wishes to increase his returns for his produce. Labor being the buyer wished to purchase its food as cheaply as possible.

"Labor statistics indicate that 88 per cent of the working man's income is spent for food, and certainly he wishes to keep this expenditure as low as possible. The farmer who is not receiving cost of production certainly wants to receive what is justly his. But let there be no misunderstanding about this. It is not the desire of the farmer to increase the cost of food to the consumer. It is only his desire to create and control his own marketing facilities so that more of the profits which are now taken between the producer and the consumer will be returned to him. Labor has misunderstood this desire on the part of the producer. The working man who goes to his market to purchase an item of

operative should make the most of every opportunity offered.

10. We condemn the ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission which makes it impossible to ship tankage and meat scraps in cars with mixed feeds; and the raised rates on tankage and meat scraps. Said ruling causes hardships on our Farmers Union Cooperative Associations by compelling them to carry in stock carloads of both tankage and feeds. We protest such ruling by the Interstate Commerce Commission at this time of low prices, and respectfully urge that the Public Service Commission be asked to use its influence that said ruling be reconsidered and former rates re-established at once.

11. We condemn the practice of short selling in farm products.

12. We commend the team work and cooperation of all farm organizations in all matters pertaining to the welfare of agriculture.

13. We urge the Public Service Commission allow earnings based only on the actual value of railroads, power, light and telephone companies, and other utilities, and that the sale of stock shall be confined to the actual value thereof.

14. Should this country ever again find itself engulfed in a state of war we believe and are firmly convinced that the wealth of the nation should be conscripted, the same as men.

Respectfully submitted.
Ross Palenske,
P. H. Heidecker,
Reuben Peterson
E. A. Crall.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Report Here Does Not Include Those Resolutions Which Were Tabled But Includes Amendments

O. K. MARKETING ACT

Favor Useful Public Works; Urge Income Tax; Condemn Short Selling of Farm Products

Following is a full text of the report of the Resolutions Committee, headed by Ross Palenske, as the report was finally adopted. As the resolutions appear here, they include the amendments added and changes made, and do not show, of course, the resolutions that were tabled or voted down.

We, Your Committee on Resolutions, beg leave to submit the following report:

1. We sincerely thank the local Committee of the Mitchell county Farmers Union for the efficient arrangements made for the entertainment and comfort of our delegates, and thank the Mayor and the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Beloit for the courtesies shown.

2. Since at this time we are missing from our counsel and comradeship four men who labored sincerely for the cause of the Farmers Union, Be it resolved that we express our heartfelt sympathy to the families of H. D. Collins, E. L. Bullard, C. C. Killian and Chas. A. Broom, and further pledge ourselves to carry on the work.

3. We favor an income tax, providing it will go to the general fund for defraying the expenses in place of the general property tax levy, so graduated that the major part will be paid by the larger incomes.

4. We ask our membership to closely study all tax proposals; but in local tax we favor a limit of 1 1/4 per cent on farm property and 2 per cent on city property.

5. We are opposed to the cancellation of war debts owed this Government.

6. We stand for the retention of the gasoline exemption for farm power.

7. We are opposed to any dote system but favor a system of useful public works, both state and national, that will enable our laboring people to support themselves and their families.

The method of carrying out this provision shall be in conformity with provisions as stated in the adopted platform of the National Farmers Union at their convention in 1930.

8. We urge immediate and drastic reductions be made in military appropriations, and that the United States use every effort to bring about universal reduction of all war machinery.

9. Since we believe that the Agricultural Marketing Act offers an opportunity for cooperatives to advance their interests, we believe every co-

operator should make the most of every opportunity offered.

At the present time indications are that maybe the tide has turned. With wheat and other farm commodities seeking higher price levels prospects look brighter. The fight the organized farmers are putting up is bound to have its influence and with better times approaching, the Farmers Union of Kansas should go forward in a more substantial way. Your state officials rededicate themselves to their tasks. We are conscientiously and religiously sold to our program. Let's pull together and work together that agriculture may be stabilized and the American farmer may be saved.

Cal. A. Ward.

Much favorable comment was heard relative to the music furnished by the girls of the State Industrial School for girls, located at Beloit. Many of the ladies of the Farmers Union visited the school, and they reported that they were much impressed with the cleanliness and general appearance of the place.

One man who was heard several times during the various discussions, and who had not been particularly mentioned here in part, Mr. Boggs is (continued on page 4)

JOBGING ASSOCIATION IN CHARGE WIBW PROGRAM

The regular Farmers Union hour on WIBW, Capponer's Radio station at Topeka, will be under the direction of H. E. Witham, manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association. The program begins at 7:30 p. m., Friday November 6.

10. We ask the Legislature for a Presidential Primary law, giving to the voters the right to express their preferences for nominees for President.

11. We favor the revision of the truck and bus law to make its provisions apply only to the regular commercial carriers.

12. We are unalterably opposed to the sales tax and will not accept it in lieu of the income tax for the sales tax levies taxes upon the consumption of the poor, while the income tax levies taxes upon the wealth of the rich.

13. We approve the Woodring constitutional amendment limiting the total property taxes for all purposes to 1 1/4 per cent of the assessed valuation in the country and to 2 per cent in cities, and appeal to voters to ratify the same.

14. We ask the Legislature for a Presidential Primary law, giving to the voters the right to express their preferences for nominees for President.

Robert H. Hanson,
F. M. Giltner,
John Frost,
James W. Anderson,
Myer Miles.

COMMITTEES PERSONNEL

The personnel of the various committees at the annual convention of the Farmers Union held at Beloit last week were as follows:

Credential and Election Committee: Carl E. Clark, McPherson, chairman; Carl Witham, Kansas City, and W. R. Detmer, Parsons. W. F. O'Neal of Kansas City was selected to assist in the election work.

Resolutions Committee: Ross Palenske, Alma, chairman; P. H. Heidecker, Paola; W. E. Roesch, Quinter; H. H. Goetsch, Brewster; Alva Stryker, Blue Rapids, and Reuben Peterson, McPherson.

Legislation Committee: Robert H. Hanson, Jamestown, chairman; Myer Miles, Jewell; John Frost, Blue Rapids; F. M. Giltner, Winfield and James W. Anderson, Lone Star.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee: Clifford Miller, Brewster, chairman; O. C. Servis, Winfield; W. F. Wesche, Washington county; M. L. Beckman, Clay Center, and W. E. Broderson, Lyndon.

Grievance Committee: C. B. Thowe, Alma, chairman; A. Ehowalter, Colby; George Peet, Madison; B. E. Winchester, Stafford, and Charley Margreiter, Glen Elder.

Observations On High Lights Of State Convention

Being Just a Few of the Things that Came to the Attention of the Writer

One man much in evidence was A. M. "Mike" Kinney, who was secretary-treasurer until his resignation a few weeks ago. Mike is a mighty popular Farmers Union man, and there is no doubt but that he will remain interested in Farmers Union work as long as he retains his faculties. He said at one time during the convention, "I'm always going to pay my dues even if I have to stop smoking cigarettes." He is now connected with the Farmers National Grain Corporation, and will continue to work in Kansas. His home is now at Huron, Kansas—and he'll be glad to hear from any of his old friends.

George Hobbs and Floyd Lynn, who sang a duet without piano accompaniment at the Memorial service, have not had any offers from the Chicago Metropolitan Opera company. However, they say they may be induced to sing again if given instrumental assistance, and if allowed to get their breath before being called to the stage.

The people of the Farmers Union feel kindly toward the Methodist church people of Beloit, for allowing the convention the use of the church buildings. It is a fine building and handled the crowds well.

T. E. Dunn, jovial Scotchman and head of the Farmers Union Auditing Association, was much in evidence at the convention. He is a man to whom all the leaders go for counsel, for they have confidence in his sound judgment.

C. H. Hyde, vice-president of the Oklahoma Farmers Union, was at the convention—with his pipe. He is familiar with the farmer's fight for lower freight rates, and is a leader in the fight.

The banquet given in the banquet room of the Avenue Hotel on Wednesday evening, in honor of Governor H. H. Woodring and Hon. W. F. Schilling, was sponsored by the Beloit post of the American Legion. It was attended by as many as could find places at the tables, and was a most enjoyable affair.

The Farmers Union organization in Kansas does not hold a more enthusiastic member than J. V. Boggs of Mitchell county. His vigorous "amens" could be heard throughout the convention.

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COMMITTEE IN A REPORT ON LEGISLATION

Stabilize Inflated Dollar to 1926 Level; Amend Road Laws; Oppose Sales Tax; Endorse Income Tax

EMPLOY IDLE LABOR

Committee Touched on Gas Tax and Approved Woodring Amendment Limiting Property Taxes

Some of the strongest and most definite resolutions ever adopted by a state convention of the Kansas Farmers Union were adopted at the Beloit convention just closed. They are set forth here for the information of the readers:

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT

1. The outstanding problem of agriculture is recovery from the greatest depression in our history. Over a million farmers have lost their homes. We demand the immediate enactment into law of the National Farmers Union Farm Relief plan substantially as follows:

A great program of construction of useful improvements to give employment to idle labor and stagnant industry and furnish a market for farm products—this construction program to be financed by United States legal tender money until properly is restored.

The present dishonest inflated dollar must be stabilized down to 1926 price levels so that debts may be paid in the same kind of dollars in which they were contracted.

protected behind a tariff wall that gives a reasonable minimum price for farmers' products, agriculture must limit by national law its sale and production to American demand, so that profitable prices may be maintained, as wheat prices are now maintained in Germany, France and Italy at about \$1.80.

2. We ask that the law relating to the County Unit system of roads, and also the law relating to the Benefit district roads, be amended so that same shall be initiated only by a majority vote of the people in counties effected.

3. We demand an inheritance tax that will limit the inheritance of any one individual to one million dollars, and that that amount of the estate above that allowed to the heirs revert to the United States.

4. We ask that a text book on cooperative marketing be authorized by the Legislature, and taught in the elementary schools and in the High Schools of Kansas.

5. We favor an oleomargarine and butter substitute licence law similar to such law in Montana.

6. We favor an anti-discrimination price law in Kansas, without jokers.

7. We recommend that all school taxes derived from Public Utilities which are allotted to common schools shall be divided equally among the districts of the state, regardless of number of pupils or valuation.

8. We favor the repeal of the many special tax exemptions on property, except on churches, cemeteries and property held strictly for benevolent purposes and without profit.

9. We heartily endorse the income tax amendment submitted by the last legislature, and appeal to voters to ratify the same. We believe with the National Farmers Union that the substitution of an income tax system for the property tax system is the real solution of our tax problems, and will bring real relief to real estate. We instruct our President or whom he may appoint, to cooperate with other farm organizations in a campaign to secure the adoption of the income tax amendment.

10. We favor the building of all roads from the motor vehicle and gas tax, and that the property tax for road building purposes be eliminated.

11. We favor the revision of the truck and bus law to make its provisions apply only to the regular commercial carriers.

12. We are unalterably opposed to the sales tax and will not accept it in lieu of the income tax for the sales tax levies taxes upon the consumption of the poor, while the income tax levies taxes upon the wealth of the rich.

13. We approve the Woodring constitutional amendment limiting the total property taxes for all purposes to 1 1/4 per cent of the assessed valuation in the country and to 2 per cent in cities, and appeal to voters to ratify the same.

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Leader Writes to Leader

A letter from Mr. E. G. Tharp, president of the Farmers Cooperative Commission Co., Hutchinson, Kansas, to his old friend, A. M. Kinney, is published here in part. The readers of the Kansas Union Farmer will read it with interest. The letter was addressed to "Dear Friend Mike," and contained the following:

"I read with no surprise, but with much regret, your resignation. I say with no surprise because I know you were going too strong for a man of your age. Too many long drives at night and working on your paper every spare moment, even Sundays, would break down a young man."

"It seems when a man who takes the farm problem seriously, he is sure to forget himself and do more than

he can stand up under because it is plain to see, when you get on the inside, the opportunity in store for far more through organization, and their pitiful plight without."

"During the many years I have been associated with you in the cooperative work, while

SUCCESSFUL MEETING

(continued from page 1)
man of the executive board, gave his report following Mr. Kinner's talk. His report was interestingly given and well received.

CAL WARD TALKS

Next to talk was state president Cal A. Ward. Mr. Ward gave a very clear outline of the program being carried on by the Kansas division of the Farmers Union. He urged cooperation all the way through, and spoke of the apparent interest displayed by the cooperators throughout the state, and expressed his pleasure occasioned by the great attendance at the convention. He affirmed the endorsement of the Federal Farm Marketing Act. The text of Mr. Ward's talk will be printed in part, in an early issue of this paper.

SIMPSON IN TALK

John A. Simpson, national president of the Farmers Union, talked at 3 p. m., and delivered a most interesting address. Mr. Simpson, who now lives at Oklahoma City, and who has been a leader in the Oklahoma Farmers Union, grew to manhood on a farm near Beloit, Kansas, and taught school in the Beloit high school as a young man. Some of his remarks related to memories brought back by his visit to his old home. Mr. Simpson's speech resolved itself into answers to these questions: "What is the matter? What is the cause? What is the remedy?" He pointed out conditions of unemployment, concentration of wealth, lack of money to purchase necessities, ruinously low prices for farm products, wide margins between prices of raw products and finished products, and starving people with a surplus of wheat and other food products in the United States. He mentioned the fact that 80 per cent of the wealth of the United States is in the hands of 4 per cent of the people. He declared in effect that Wall Street and other interests control the value of the dollar, and that control has passed from the hands of Congress where it rightfully belongs. He advocated a "wall" which would protect the farmer.

G. E. Creitz, state manager of the Farmers Union Royalty Company, and Rex Lear, state manager of the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company were scheduled to speak Wednesday afternoon, but due to the delay caused by the fire which occurred at noon, their talks were held over until Thursday morning.

ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR

The Wednesday evening session, which was featured by addresses by Governor H. H. Woodring, and W. F. Schilling, dairy member of the Farm Board, had the peak attendance of the convention. The large auditorium was crowded to capacity, and hundreds were turned away. Estimates place the crowd at 3,000 or more.

Governor Woodring presented a masterful address. He recognized the agitation for lower taxes, and declared it was the thing to do. However, he believes there is a right way and a wrong way to do it. He pointed out the fact that the present administration at Topeka has cut expenditures nearly \$1,500,000. He said he understands he is in immediate danger of impeachment. Then he went ahead to say that no doubt if he should cut the levy to \$3,000,000 the people probably would want to hang him. This brought a hearty laugh from the crowd.

"Talk of a bill to reduce salaries of senators and congressmen and other national officers as a means of lowering taxes paid by Kansas farmers is sounding brass—mere words uttered only for the purpose of arousing the plaudits of unthinking auditors." Governor Woodring said return of prosperity to Kansas would not be hastened by denunciation and destructive criticism but that it would be hastened "by those leaders who keep both feet on the ground and are mindful of the experiences of the past, look to the future with confidence, preparing for the better day which surely will come."

He reiterated his belief "permanent prosperity" would not return to the majority and to the farmers of the state until agriculture is restored "to its former position."

DEFENDS FARM BOARD

W. F. Schilling, dairy member of the federal farm board, followed the Governor on the platform. Mr. Schilling's talk was more or less informal, and he injected a great deal of humor in his remarks as he spoke of driving his arguments home. He asserted the Governor, although a Democrat, made a good Republican speech. His talk was somewhat in the nature of a reply to critics of the Farm Board. He answered the demand that the government be taken over by business by saying that such a plan would suit the farmers if it were taken out for everybody alike. He pointed out that every bushel of wheat sold in this country from the middle of August to June 5, last, brought to the farmer at least 25 cents per bushel more than it could have sold for in the world market. This was a benefit of more than \$100,000,000 to those who sold wheat in that period. He said the post-war depression was brought about by a disturbance of the balance between production and consumption during the World War, and stated that the past two years have been difficult ones in which to demonstrate the effectiveness of the farm marketing act.

ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Thursday morning was taken up partially by the report of state-wide business organizations of the Farmers Union. T. B. Dunn reported on the activities of the Farmers Union Auditing Association. George W. Hobbs, manager of the Farmers Union Live Stock Commission Co., told what his organization has done, and pointed out the fact that the live stock firm is in excellent financial condition, and doing a good volume of business. He introduced L. J. Alkire, manager of the Wichita branch of the firm, who made timely and interesting remarks.

Harry E. Witham, manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Association, spoke on the accomplishments of his organization, and brought out the fact that the Jobbing Association is functioning on an extremely sound basis. G. E. Creitz, state manager of the Farmers Union Royalty Co., spoke briefly, and yielded his time to the

discussion of "other important matters. Rex Lear, state manager of the Farmers Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., delivered an impressive address pointing out the advantages of carrying Farmers' insurance at farmers' cost. He was not trying to sell insurance, but he did sell the idea of insurance carrying their own life insurance company.

OFFICERS NOMINATED

Next came the nomination of officers. This was attended to without delay. The nominees are listed on the first page of this issue, together with the results of the election which came Friday morning.

A discussion of the affairs and accomplishments of the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance companies was conducted by W. J. Spencer, president of the organization. With reference to property insurance, Mr. Spencer pointed out the idea of the savings available by farmers who insure in their own company.

On Thursday afternoon, A. W. Seaman, manager of the Farmers Union Cooperative Creamery and Produce Association, conducted a discussion of the activities of the creamery and its interests. Mr. E. F. Schiefelbusch of Oswatimie, president of the creamery board, together with George Larson of Superior, Nebraska, took part in the discussion. C. H. Gustafson, of Nebraska, representative of the creamery regional cooperative organization, was introduced.

Howard Cowden, President of the Union Oil Co., talked interestingly of the developments of that cooperative development brought out many facts which impressed the delegates with the importance of that phase of cooperative effort.

LADIES AUXILIARY

The convention was turned over to the Ladies' Auxiliary at the beginning of the afternoon session on Thursday. Mrs. Della Guffey is president of the organization. Mrs. Campbell read an interesting paper dealing with affairs of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Alma Cornwell talked interestingly on accomplishments of the W. F. P. A., an organization allied with the Auxiliary in Osborne county.

H. G. Keeney, president of the Nebraska Farmers Union, delivered a striking address on Thursday, after the meeting had been transferred to the Methodist church. He appealed for cooperation among farmers, and pointed out the fact that all must keep their feet on the ground, and go forward in the fight.

RESOLUTIONS

The reports of the committee on resolutions were offered in part by the committee chairman, Ross Palenske, Thursday afternoon. Considerable discussion accompanied the adoption of the resolutions. Some were tabled. The final report of the committee, and report of the legislative committee, were read on Friday. These resolutions appeared elsewhere in this issue.

C. C. Talbot addressed the convention in the evening. A brief summary of his address is printed in this issue. Following Mr. Talbot, Congressman W. P. Lambertson introduced the talk on relative lines, attacking the provisions of the present tariff, and attacked certain policies of the Federal Farm Board. Mr. Lambertson is vice-president of the Kansas Farmers Union.

CLAY CENTER IN 1932

Election of officers occupied a large part of the program on Friday morning. Matters of unfinished business were taken up. The place of the next annual convention was determined after a spirited debate between representatives from Lawrence and Clay Center, both of which cities were bidding for the 1932 convention. Salina was also mentioned. The vote was decidedly in favor of Clay Center. Installation of officers followed.

FREE WILL OFFERING

Upon the suggestion of Tom Wells, of Elmdale, Kansas, a collection was taken for the benefit of the drought sufferers in North Dakota and Montana. Although much of the crowd had left, the collection amounted to \$137.28. Representatives of certain communities announced that they were authorized to say that other contributions were forthcoming. In this connection, it is noted here that any additional cash contributions may be forwarded to the office of the state secretary-treasurer.

SCHELL TELLS OF NEED OF FARMERS FOR ORGANIZATION

(continued from page 1)
food, and is compelled to pay what he thinks to be an unfair price believes that the lion's share of the purchase price goes to the producer. He would be surprised to learn that such is not the case. He would be more greatly surprised if he were told just how little of the consumer's dollar the farmer gets. Let us take for instance a staple article of the working man's menu, namely, eggs. In Kansas last year the producer was receiving on an average of 18 cents for his eggs. These eggs are taken to a grading plant where they are graded according to size and quality. The cost of this operation plus the cost of transportation to the market brings the cost of these eggs to an average of 25 cents. If these eggs had been shipped so as to have arrived in New York last Tuesday, they would have sold to car lot buyers for an average of 25 cents, leaving the shipper a small profit after all costs have been deducted. These eggs for which the producer received 18 cents per dozen were selling to the consumer for from 43 cents to 48 cents per dozen. There is then a margin of 25 cents to 30 cents per dozen between the producer and the consumer. The farmer believes this is unfair and it is this condition in our present marketing system which he wishes to correct. The farmer justly feels that if eggs are selling to the consumer for as much as 45 cents per dozen, that he is entitled to a greater share than he is getting.

"The change in the cost of living of the American working man's family between December, 1925, and June, 1931, according to labor statistics, show that the cost of food to them has decreased 23 1/2 per cent. However, the prices received by the producer for his food stuffs have decreased in a much greater proportion. We find

that this low price which the farmer receives for his produce is not reflected in the price paid by the consumer.

"One reason manufactured goods have not dropped in price so much as food is because the manufacturer has better control over his production. Organization is also largely responsible. At frequent intervals manufacturers of kindred commodities meet for the purpose of analyzing the markets and discussion of production. If it appears that there is an over production of their produce, immediate steps for curtailment are taken. The farmer is in no such position. Being for the most part unorganized, he stumbles along year after year, hoping that conditions will be such that he will receive a fair return for his labor. If nature is generous he will have a bountiful crop and a surplus results. Being unorganized this surplus is permitted to flow on the market and bring down the price of the whole crop to its level. Farm organization could be developed to a point where such surpluses could be controlled.

Labor for the most part, particularly skilled labor, is well organized and is to be congratulated upon its achievements. It is generally conceded that organization of labor has been instrumental in gaining for it a truly American standard of living.

"This country cannot be prosperous unless it has a reasonably prosperous farm population. Thirty million people are in some way or other dependent upon agriculture for support. Forty per cent of the buying power of the country is represented by agriculture. When we realize that this buying power has been practically eliminated we do not wonder that this nation and all other nations of the world are in this depression.

"We are not going to see any miracles performed in restoration of this buying power to agriculture. Confidence by the other people of the country must be restored. The buying power of the rest of the world must be exercised in order to stimulate commerce. This will be a slow and disheartening process, but it may be alleviated by the interest which the farmer himself may take in helping to solve this problem. For many years farming has been looked upon as a neighbor. Merchants and industrialists have known for a long time that they cannot do business successfully as individuals, but must associate themselves together for the good of their business. Agriculture must work as a group if it is to take as an independent business, but the place of equality with other industries."

OBSERVATIONS ON HIGH LIGHTS OF STATE CONVENTION

(continued from page 1)
active in conventions until this year, Kansas.

Harry Witham, manager of the Farmers Union Jobbing Assn., felt very much at home at the convention. Beloit was the scene of his early ventures into cooperative marketing under the banner of the Farmers Union.

The convention owes much of its success to George Dean, manager of the Farmers Union stores in Mitchell county. Mr. Dean had charge of the grounds, and handled the various situations like the veteran he is.

John Frost was on hand wherever taxes were discussed. He is a recognized authority on the subject.

A FEW KIND WORDS

(continued from page 1)
he arrives, but he knows that agriculture must be kept on its feet. It will prove economically sound. Farming is one of the greatest businesses in the world. From the standpoint of human essentials it is the greatest. It is important in that not only does the welfare of the farmer depend on the property of agriculture, but all lines are built upon it and reflect it. Here, especially, the upturn of economical conditions goes hand in hand with the brightening prospects of agriculture. And an organization that is devoted to the welfare of the farmer, and his betterment, requires an able, courageous leader of sound views. The convention recognized that in the election of Mr. Ward. And it is encouraging to note they recognized such a high type of citizen and worker in the election of Floyd H. Lynn to the secretaryship, also an important office.—Salina Journal.

SHIPPS TELLS OF THE FARMERS UNION CONVENTION

Dear Cooperators:
Back from a most wonderful State Convention, where I met many, many old friends from the four corners of the state; and made, I hope, many new ones. Those who were not there were most unfortunate. Much of interest to all was brought out, and the battery of speakers, each with a sound, constructive bit of cooperative advice, was wonderful.

I did not agree with all said by some, much less by others, however, each furnished enough variety to keep down monotony and cause one to go back for more. Some were sparring for popularity, while others were more interested in Agriculture and its problems than in themselves.

Many fine resolutions and matters of legislation enough variety to keep down monotony and cause one to go back for more. Some were sparring for popularity, while others were more interested in Agriculture and its problems than in themselves.

I only wish we had more of the type of C. C. Talbot and H. G. Keeney, men unselfishly spending their health in order that agriculture may be placed on a parity with other industries.

Last, but not east, I mention Mr. Schilling, who has spent 25 years working for cooperative marketing machinery for the farmers of America.

These are not idle statements—they are facts. Let's back up our State organization, our state-wide activities, in a way never before attempted.

I am invited to appear in many sections of the state to help. I want to thank each of you for these invitations. However, these are matters in the hands of the state board and the membership over the state. I will, however, be in Minneapolis, Ottawa county, at a meeting which I understand will be November 6th. This is on invitation of Mr. Sewell and Mr. Rice. I hope to meet all my Ottawa friends there.

Clay sure did a wonderful job winning the 1932 convention over Douglas county, whose people were real cooperators and sportsmen.

Say, friends, there just ain't no rotten spots in real cooperators and Kansas has many of 'em.

Yours for more cooperation,
J. E. SHIPPS.

GIVE WATER BUT NO FEED

"TO HOGS BEFORE KILLING"
Slaughtering of the hog for home butchering should not occur immediately after he has been selected, says Forrest U. Penn, professor of animal husbandry at South Dakota State college.

A better plan, he says, is to pick the animal the day before butchering and have it penned up away from the rest of the herd where it can be caught easily and cared for properly.

No feed should be given all the fresh, clean water they care to drink. Animals slaughtered when full of feed do not bleed out as well because the blood is charged with food nutrients. This results in a reddish, streaked carcass with distended veins showing through the skin. Such a carcass does not keep well.

When animals are kept off feed it is much easier to handle the carcass, to dress and in removing the internal organs. Allowing free access to water keeps the tissues and blood flushed so that more thorough bleeding results.

One should avoid exciting the animal. Only a very small amount of chasing, scaring, and tussling with a fat hog will warm up its tissues and they become filled with waste products

resulting in what is known as an over-heated animal. The carcass from an over-heated animal is likely to be red, fiery, and unattractive. The flesh turns to a pale color and rapidly becomes soft, sour, and putrid. It cannot be cured to advantage either.

Even if a hog becomes only a bit excited and tired, it should be allowed to rest and cool before it is slaughtered. An excited or tired animal bleeds poorly.

AMERICAN ROYAL FEATURES INCLUDE LIVE STOCK PARADES

Kansas City—Pompous pageantry staged with live animals representing every specie of four-footed creature common to American agriculture, will form one of the many spectacular features of the American Royal Live Stock and Horse Show during the week of November 14-21, this year. Daily and nightly parades, varying in composition and class interest, are scheduled as a part of the program for the week.

The first of the processions will be staged on the opening Saturday when youth, both human and animal, will dominate. It will be a parade of prize winners by boys and girls of 4-H Clubs and students of vocational agriculture. The management has arranged to fill the amphitheatre with school children of Kansas City and vicinity in honor of the visiting boys and girls from farms throughout the country. The day's entertainment program also will be juvenile in character and appeal.

Every evening just preceding the classic horse show the crowds will see a million dollars' worth of live stock on the hoof assembled in the arena at one time. Each will be a ribbon winner. The display will be composed largely of cattle and draft horses of all leading breeds.

On Monday evening during the horse show all visiting 4-H boys and girls will march en masse in the arena. These bringing animals for exhibition will lead them. The vocational Agricultural students and Future Farmers of America will assemble in the arena on Tuesday evening for an elaborate ceremony at which the "Star Farmer" of America will be announced. He will receive \$1,000 in cash and other honors.

FEWER CHICKENS RAISED THIS YEAR

A reduction in the number of chickens on farms, due chiefly to last year's drought and subsequent low prices for chickens and eggs, is reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The bureau estimates that on January 1, 1931, there were 459,402,000 chickens on farms, compared with 470,463,000 on January 1, 1930, and that there has been a reduction of about 10 per cent in the number of chickens raised this year compared with last. Hens and pullets of laying age in farm flocks on September 1, 1931, showed a decrease of 3.4 per cent from September 1, 1930.

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Low Railroad Rates to the AMERICAN ROYAL LIVE STOCK & HORSE SHOW KANSAS CITY November 14-21, 1931

Kansas City's Largest Most Popular

Hotel Baltimore CHOICE ROOMS \$2.00 to \$3.50

It's the most convenient too. Close to everything down town, good rooms, good food, good service, and a friendly atmosphere.

SAMPLE ROOMS Commercial travelers can save too, more large well lighted sample rooms than all other Kansas City hotels combined—now \$5.50 to \$6.00.

Write or Wire for Reservations Hotel Baltimore KANSAS CITY, MO.

merchandising of grain. Through the participation in the program of the National, all of the Regionals have been able to find a broader market outlet for the grain of their grower members.

The Farm Board has assisted with the educational agencies of Kansas in familiarizing growers of the market situation and danger in over production. It has also co-operated in connection with the studies of local elevator operation and management. These studies have shown that the co-operative organizations so studied are in good sound, financial condition, and they are doing a good business in an efficient manner.

As little as three-hundredths to eight-hundredths of an ounce of coal dust per cubic foot of air will cause mine explosions.

The ordinary lightning flash is one-half mile long, although some have been observed which were five miles long.

\$5000.00 IN CASH PRIZES See Your Druggist.

Stop Suffering

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