



ADDRESS OF STAT

Mr. Z. H. Lawter, Secretary of the Farmers Union in the State of Oklahoma, Addressed the Convention Which Was Held at Arkansas City, in October. He Gave a Short History of the Organization in That State, From the Beginning Up to the Present Time

Z. H. Lawter, Secretary,
Oklahoma State Farmers Union.

I am certainly glad of this opportunity to be here in the Kansas Farmers Union convention. Mr. John Simpson and I had some trouble in putting over the Farmers Union in Oklahoma.

In 1917 when I took charge of the Secretary's office and Mr. Simpson the Presidency of the Farmers Union in Oklahoma, we had 5 small locals with 241 paid up members and no business activities. Nothing to show for our efforts, an indictment to get them into the Farmers Union.

In 1922 we organized the Sales Department. In 1923 we shipped 243 cars of products. In 1924 we sold 549 cars amounting to \$49,000.00.

In 1925 we sold 1,036 cars amounting to \$75,000.00. We sold 2,234,000 pounds of twine.

In January 1922 we organized the Farmers Union Mutual Property Insurance Company. We had 284 policy holders carrying less than one-four million dollars insurance. Now we have \$7,000,000.00 insurance in force with 5,200 policyholders. We have policy holders in 62 of the 77 counties of Oklahoma. The average cost is \$4.80 per thousand in the Farmers Union and the average cost is from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per thousand in the old line companies.

We do not have the grain business like you folks do. We do not buy wheat. Just flour, feed, coal, cabbage, potatoes, apples, etc. It is our ambition to eliminate the unnecessary toll between the producer and consumer.

When I moved from the farm to the city, I did not realize the unnecessary toll between the producer and consumer. I received letters from Colorado asking how they could market their potatoes to our members. They were not getting enough to pay them to sack the potatoes and put them in cars for market. Now, the potato speculator buys the potatoes and he gets 20c per hundred pounds.

for that. Then, another man up in Denver gets 10c per hundred. Then comes a brokerage company in Oklahoma, whether the potatoes are sold through them or not gets 10c more per hundred. In all, 60c per hundred is paid in toll on potatoes from Colorado to Oklahoma. The broker gets 50c per hundred freight on those potatoes. That means it costs \$1.29 to get 100 pounds of potatoes from Colorado to Oklahoma. Now, counting a small price to the grocer, and for his sacks I could see why it was we were compelled to pay \$2.65 in Oklahoma for potatoes. It is no question in Oklahoma how to eliminate some of these unnecessary tolls. We buy our potatoes as much as possible through the Farmers Union Co-op or the cooperative Shipping Associations in Colorado, Nebraska, Minnesota, and other

states. We buy our apples from the Farmers Union Co-operative Associations. That is just one commodity. We bought last year, products from our Farmers Union members in one section of the state and shipped them to another part of the state where we had had a drouth and they did not raise these products.

You might wonder how we get our commissions to operate and how we were to pay back our dividends. We go to the mine, and say we will want 500,000 or 600 cars of coal that year to supply systematic burning, this fall, will destroy almost 100 per cent of them.

"The old chinich bugs protect themselves over winter by hiding under weeds, trash, dead grass and around the townships. They come out in the spring, usually in late June or early July. They usually hide along the fences, roads, sloughs and in waste patches. Next spring, as soon as the weather is settled and warm, the old female bugs will come out, each carrying 500 eggs, each, largely on the wheat and oats. Thus it will be seen that for each female bug killed this fall or winter there will be from 150,000 to 300,000 of first-brood bugs in the wheat next spring. The second brood of second-brood bugs in the corn or other crops next summer.

"Numerous demonstrations, where bug-infested areas have been thoroughly burned in the fall or early winter, show that the best control of the bugs is in the following year. For best results, the burning should be done before Christmas, as the bugs not destroyed by fire will die from winter exposure. The burning should be done when the grass is dry, and when there is very little or no wind. To be sure of killing a large percentage of the bugs, it is usually best to back-fire, so as to burn slowly against the wind. While the individual townships are working on their own, the best results will come through cooperation, where entire townships unite in one big campaign."

The United States and Canada will soon be joined by the Vehicular Peace Bridge commemorating 100 years of peace between the two great English speaking nations. It will span the Niagara river.

ply our co-operative institutions. We eliminate the selling expense on that coal. After we have paid our operating expenses, whatever is made goes back to the consumer that furnished the business. \$13,020.00 has been paid back in dividends the last three years. The members have invested about \$12,000.00. That makes us give them a nice present of \$1,020 for that time.

We also have a nice wave of household business. Our sales are increasing every month. The Farmers Union in Oklahoma is coming along, we think, in fine shape. We are in thrifty and growing condition. We have had the pleasure of attending the annual meetings in the southern sections of Oklahoma, the south meetings in the northeastern part of the state and these organizations are very active. Why are they? We are forced to it. Conditions are such now that it is no longer optional to cooperate and organize. Everything worth while is being done collectively. Organized groups are running our government. We will build up a big strong fighting organization in the near future. We are going to get justice and if we have an organization, no difference what political party is in power, we can get what we want. We hear politicians speak and then tell us so many things, but they only respect us to the point that we are

The big interests are going in and saying, give us what we want, the farmer is satisfied. They do not want anything more.

We have been too selfish. We cannot be selfish and be a good co-operator. Selfishness is the biggest enemy of man kind. We try to measure ourselves by never do other creatures but that will come do. We must get bigger than ourselves. Outgrow yourself. Forget selfishness. There is no one to blame for the conditions you are in except yourselves. Go to the mirror and look at your

We have been keeping the old line people in luxury too long. Before we had the Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company, the farmer gave to the fellow in town, who is an enemy of ours, all their business. They have been so afraid to write the insurance in town. They will get down to a par with us then. They will not be up in the skies. Let's take out our insurance in our own insurance company. We have the money to run it. Let's let the town people run it for us. Let's not let them do that any longer.

We certainly appreciate very much the opportunity of being with you. We want to invite you all to come down to Oklahoma to our state convention which meets on Tuesday, August 10. I thank you.

On being asked the question of the dues they pay in Oklahoma and if they have a state paper, Mr. Lawte spoke further:

We collect \$2.00 dues from our members. \$1.15 the local secretary send to the state office out of which we pay the national dues of 25c and 50c for the paper. 20c of the \$2.00 is sent by the local secretary to the county, and 65c stays with the local organization. Mr. Simpson runs our paper and 50c a member is paid him. He gets the balance out of advertising.

FARMERS UNION PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION IN CLAY COUNTY
The Farmers Union of Clay County are organizing a Protective Association to protect themselves from the lawlessness in Clay County. The following is an article they have agreed to:

\$300.00 Reward!

Forty-five members of the Farmers Union of Hays local and adjoining locals have subscribed to a fund which will be used as a reward to the person or persons responsible for the arrest and conviction of any party or parties guilty of stealing chickens or any other property belonging to these members. \$200.00 is the reward for the arrest and conviction of the reward for \$300.00. This money is on deposit at the Union State Bank of Clay Center. A list of the names of the members and any other information may be obtained from the undersigned committee.

Chas. Marshall
M. L. Beckman.

Editor's Note. It seems that this might be a good thing for the Farmers Union to adopt to protect themselves against thievery and lawlessness. If they so desire they could make it a county organization or a statewide organization, which ever they saw fit.

Lawlessness is getting so rampant over the country, it seems people have to devise some plan by which people can protect themselves against those parties.

John Tromble, Pres.

Plenty of water and salt are necessary in all feeding practices.

The Kansas Union Farmer

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JOHN TROMBLE.....Editor and Manager
W. C. LANSDON.....Associate Editor

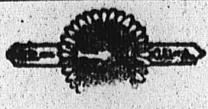
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Notice to Secretaries and Members of Farmers Union of Kansas. We want all the news about the Locals and what you are doing. Send in the news and thereby help to make your official organ a success.

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, NOVEMBER 11, 1926

ABOLISH YEARLY MARKET DAY

There are far too many American farmers who go to market only once a year. The biggest cash crops produced in this country are cotton, wheat, corn and tobacco. If the farmer who grows either of these great staples fails in a single year he has two years during which he has nothing to sell unless he has supplemented his regular production with poultry, dairy, garden, livestock or orchard products. The cotton and tobacco planters and the corn and wheat growers literally go to market only once a year.

Only the most fruitful and fortunate seasons recurring many times in succession combined with good prices, high grade managerial ability and the capacity for infinite forbearance in spending can make farming profitable and secure in a one crop region. On the other hand the farmer who sells something every time he goes to town is on a regular pay roll and is to a great extent insured against the crop failures that are so calamitous to the man who has all his eggs in one basket.

It is true, of course, that not every farm is fitted for diversified production. It is also true that the market for poultry and dairy products may be overcrowded. Still it is certain that even the wheat farmer in the semi-arid west or the cotton grower of the far south can make his place self supporting. Nor does there appear to be any great danger of over supplying the market for farm produce that can be sold every day in the year.

Only a balanced and a self sustaining agriculture can be permanently prosperous. Only diversified production at least to the extent that every farmer can board his family at home is safe or likely to be successful for the average producer. All the year round production and marketing abolishes unemployment on the farm, increases security and develops financial independence.

The sixty-second annual convention of the National Wool Growers' Association will be held at Butte, Montana, January 20-22, 1927. A program which will be both instructive and entertaining is being planned. The Montana Wool Growers' Association will hold its annual meeting at the same place the 19th, immediately preceding the National meeting.

CO-OPERATIVES SERVE NON-MEMBERS AS WELL AS MEMBERS

About 85 per cent of the farmer's associations reporting to the United States Department of Agriculture for 1925 were serving "patrons" in addition to their own members. The percentage varied for the different sections of the country, for the different states, and for the commodity groups. In the West North Central States 92 per cent of the associations were serving others than their own members; in the East North Central group, including Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio, 87 per cent handled business for non-members as well as members; in the New England States, 69 per cent; in the three Pacific Coast States 66 per cent; and in the South Atlantic States, from Delaware to Florida, 54 per cent.

For some of the leading co-operative states, the percentages of associations serving non-members in 1925 were as follows: North Dakota, 97; Kansas, 96; Nebraska, 96; Ohio, 95; Minnesota, 94; Missouri, 93; Wisconsin, 89; Michigan, 86; New York, 83; and California, 41.

The percentages for some of the commodity groups were: Grain, 98; dairy products, 92; livestock, 66; fruits and vegetables 59.

Many of the associations operating grain elevators, creameries, cheese factories, and livestock associations, have been organized with the intention of serving anyone in the community who wishes to patronize the organization. In many cases no distinction is made between "patrons" and legal members; all are on an equal footing as to financial benefits. In other societies the legal members receive what amounts to interest on their investments, in addition to the benefits which all receive.

The large-scale cotton, tobacco and wheat grower's associations formed during the last six years, as well as some of the larger fruit and vegetable associations, aim to serve only those who have signed "marketing agreements" or contracts for the delivery of their crops to the association. In return for an assured volume of business the associations concentrate upon supplying marketing service to members only.

Of 5,300 associations reporting for 1925, 4,600 serving both members and non-members reported a total of 638,202 members, while 696 serving only non-members reported a total membership of 792,550. —Agricultural Co-Operative.

CORPORATION AND RAILWAY DIVIDENDS

The Christmas stockings of the shareholders of the railways and industrial corporations will be fairly well filled this year. The end of the third quarter discloses figures that indicate that this has been the most prosperous business year in the whole history of the republic. The following statement concerning dividends and interest is singularly interesting to those who clip coupons and receive dividend checks and is not without its importance to the balance of us who are trying so hard to pay expenses out of receipts without dipping into capital:

Dividends and interest payments this month will reach a record total of about \$330,900,000, which is about \$21,000,000 in excess of November, 1925. Stockholders will receive approximately \$78,600,000, which is \$5,600,000 in excess of 1925, due largely to extra dividends. These estimates are based on 235 railroad, street railway, industrial and public utility corporations.

Interest payments from these 235 corporations will amount to \$252,300,000, which is about \$17,000,000 in excess of 1925. The United States government will disburse about \$65,500,000. Practically all this amount represents the semi-annual interest on the Liberty 4s and Convertible 4 1-2s, payable in November.

As proof of the prosperity of the 235 industrial and other corporations surveyed, it is shown that in 1924 total dividend payments were \$566,370,000; in 1925 \$597,625,000, and for the first ten months of 1926 \$553,025,000. The total for 1926 will reach more than \$600,000,000.

Railroad and traction dividend payments for 1924 were about \$404,000,000, and for 1925 \$408,722,000. Dividend payments by railroads and traction companies for 1926 will be more than \$425,000,000.

Nearly one hundred thousand pounds of butter are being printed daily by the Land O'Lakes, Co-Operative Creameries, Inc., Minneapolis, September 10 was the banner day, when 101,720 pounds were printed in one day.

OVER PLANTING OF COTTON

The following editorial discussion of what Secretary Jardine has to say about the cotton situation lights up at least four matters in which we all have a good deal of interest. It shows the amazing increase in cotton acreage since the prices began to advance shortly after the war to the well informed reader it is a pathetic manifestation of the poverty and helplessness of the common run of cotton farmers; it illustrates the rather superficial view of serious situations that is invariably taken by newspapers representatives of great vested interests; and finally it gives us a slight insight into the mental processes of the Secretary of Agriculture. It is worth reading because it deals with a situation of which we shall hear much more before congress adjourns next March. Thus the Washington Post under the title "Secretary Jardine and the Cotton Situation."

Discussing the condition of the Southern farmer, Secretary Jardine struck at the root of the evil which has brought about existing conditions when he declared recently that "there has been a steady drift to cotton at the sacrifice of diversified crops." The price of cotton will never increase so long as the cotton farmer keeps on increasing his acreage and producing a surplus. In cotton, as in all other commodities, the price is controlled by the law of supply and demand, and where the supply is excessive the price is certain to fall. No legislative enactment can set aside this law.

A glance at crop statistics of the South emphasizes the fact that that region has centered too much on the production of cotton and neglected other profitable crops to the production of which Southern soil is adaptable. In ten important Southern States the acreage of cotton increased from 30,600,000 in 1909 to 33,000,000 in 1919, and 46,000,000 for the present crop year. In the same seventeen years the land planted in corn decreased from 30,000,000 to 24,500,000 acres. The same marked reduction in the production of dairy cattle and hogs was noted. In 1920 14,800,000 hogs were raised in these same states, but last year this total had dropped to 8,900,000.

It is notorious that the South depends upon the North for a number of agricultural products that could be produced more economically in its own territory. The decrease in acreage of corn and in production of livestock is typical of the general tendency of Southern farmers to devote too much attention to cotton. In ordinary seasons this results in overproduction and falling prices. There are large areas in the South where fruits and vegetables could be successfully substituted for cotton, whereas under existing conditions these products are left entirely to other sections which are getting rich from them. Secretary Jardine makes an excellent suggestion to the farmers of the South when he advises them to diversify their crops. With regard to cotton he holds that the true policy is fewer acres of cotton and more cotton to the acre. Southern farming, he holds, can be made safe and profitable by a program of sound production, coupled with adequate marketing practices. These necessarily go together, but the more important at the outset is adoption of a program of "sound production."

Fifty-eight credit unions have been organized among the postal employees of the United States, according to a report from the Assistant Director of Service Relations, of the office of the postmaster general. These credit unions are located in 23 states.

PROFITS SHOULD BE UTILIZED

The following short editorial reprinted from a recent number of the "Farmstead and Stockman" should start a few folks to thinking:

The Canadian wheat board during the war made \$757,000 profit. This amount has been turned over to the provincial governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The Manitoba folks have invested their share in bonds of the Dominion government. The

income, about \$6,000 a year, will be used to promote co-operative marketing of agricultural products. The money will be spent under the direction of the specially-created Manitoba Co-Operative Marketing Board. The wheat marketing commission in the United States made a profit of about \$50,000,000. That money is now in the United States treasury, and no attempt has been made by anybody to use it in any way for the benefit of the farmers to whom it really belongs.—Farmstead, Stock & Home.

This is only a part of the story and a part of the truth about this particular enterprise. The Grain Corporation operating during the war made net profits of a little more than \$58,000,000. Sad to say that money, every dollar taken not from the income but from the capital of the wheat growers, is not in the treasury of the United States. An unconfirmed rumor is that it was all loaned, shortly after the close of the war to certain near eastern countries which are unable to pay either the principal or interest.

Then there is the War Finance Corporation which operated for the service of agriculture for several years after the close of the war and is reported to have earned profits of something like \$200,000,000, every dollar of which was coined from needs of the farmers. Where is that money? Where are the profits of the intermediate credit banks? It is time for an accounting.

Here are funds that in the aggregate must be nearly \$400,000,000 that were taken from the farmers of this country in exchange for services that doubtless were valuable that are practically unaccounted for. The only just and sensible thing to do with this money is to make it the capital for a farmers' finance union strong enough to do all the things that are necessary to the financing of agricultural prosperity.

Reserves amounting to \$61,465 were reported by the Tennessee Cotton Growers' Association, Memphis, on September 10, 1926. These reserves have been accumulated by a small deduction from the proceeds of cotton sales for three seasons.

THE COTTON EMERGENCY

Every one agrees that something should be done about cotton but no one has yet made any helpful suggestion. Before we go too far with this problem it might be as well to learn just who it is that we are asked to help. The cotton planters never had very much interest in the crop. True they planted, tended and picked it but in a vast majority of cases they lived on credit extended to them by the long time merchant with the express understanding that their cotton was either to be marketed by the merchant or turned directly over to him as fast as it could be ginned and baled. The banks and the long time merchants already own a great percentage of this year's cotton that has not already found its way into the warehouses of the spinners.

It is as clear as day that any successful movement to stabilize or increase the price of cotton that has already been grown, picked and ginned would help the growers but little. They never had a title to very much of the crop and the equity that they owned has now passed into other hands. A movement to raise the price of cotton now is for the relief of the speculators rather than of the farmers but that does not mean that in this crisis which threatens the prosperity of the whole nothing should be done. It only means that so far as this year is concerned any relief attempted should be for this emergency only.

The real issue is whether with the present distress weathered we shall continue to produce and market in the same old way, a way that has made the farmer and his family the bond servants of the cotton exchanges and of the replacing long time merchants and money lenders who have all found their opportunities in the necessities and the helplessness of the producers. It is now so plain that a blind man can read the signs that agriculture can never be rehabilitated until some method is worked out that will at one and the same time apply to the relegation of production and to orderly marketing.

Every year there is a low price disaster that affects and impoverishes a large section of the country. Last year it was corn. The year before it was wheat. This year cotton and apples are worthless for lack of a market. In each case and in every year the causes are the same, too much production and too little knowledge of the agencies and means essential to the control of crop movements when a surplus is produced.

ARE THE RADICALS PASSING?

A Philadelphia paper recently used a column and a half of more or less valuable space for printing a sort of valedictory or obituary of that phase of western thought in politics and government that is particularly obnoxious to the east. The occasion was the invasion of Pennsylvania by a republican senator who went about over the state advising the electorate of that enlightened commonwealth of Bucktails to vote for the democratic nominee for United States senator.

Deploping the necessity for tolerating such obstreperous political swine this eastern expositor of the machine system of running politics and dominating the government said:

Every generation has its Weavers and Simpsons, its Bryans and Pettigrews, its La Follettes and Brookharts. They are indigenous in the American political soil and they have precious little to do with liberalism, but they are all true brothers of that other Kansan, Mary Ellen Lease, who advised her state to "raise more hell and less corn."

Of course that is one to look at such matters and such men. Still and all the republic owes a good deal to the men past and present who have dared to differ from the views of those in authority. The world would be a sorry place if non-conformity had always been squelched by regularity. Let us hope that every generation will continue to produce plenty of statesmen and thinkers of the type that gives our millionaire publishers so much concern.

"When the Books are Closed" is the title of an article appearing in the Federation Guide for October which describes how the integrity of the accounting records of the Wisconsin Cheese Producers' Federation, Plymouth, Wis., are protected by a complete auditing service.

Comment On World's News For Week

Smith Was Elected Governor

Of New York by a majority of about 400,000. It was his fifth race and fourth victory. No other man in the country has such a hold on the voters of any one state. The returns indicate that all the New York democrats believe in and support Smith and that he has the confidence of a considerable number of republicans.

There are many reasons for the conviction of Al Smith. In the first place it might as well be conceded even by those who do not support him that his popularity is not accidental. An accident just happens and then is all over. Like lightning it seldom strikes again in the same place. Smith grows in the confidence and respect of the people of New York because he is an honest man, a fine administrator and a plain, straight spoken citizen, who never leaves anyone in doubt about where he stands and what he hopes to do.

In the campaign just ended he conducted himself with dignity, courage and fine self restraint in the face of an opposition that stooped to fake issues and make his general appeal to prejudice and party.

Ritchie Was Re-elected

Governor of Maryland by a majority of nearly 100,000. He was a candidate for a third term in a state where elections are forced apart. Like Smith he was forced to fight a fake issue and also like Smith he met the situation with a fine spirit that won him many votes from the opposition. It is now pretty nearly certain that the voters of at least two states can not be fooled by fake issues based on trumped up charges that carry their own refutation.

Ritchie and Smith are the only two outstanding figures of the Madison Square democratic convention of 1924 who still undiminished in fame and popularity. Davis has returned to his practice of corporation law. McAdoo has faded out and his figure now looms but dimly on the distant political horizon. Underwood has retired from public life and will spend the remainder of his days in ease at his beautiful home in Virginia. The minor lights of that not far distant day have been pretty well snuffed out by the events of the past two years.

Undoubtedly Smith and Ritchie will be contenders for the democratic presidential nomination in 1928.

Democracy Will Have Plenty

Of presidential material to offer to the next convention. If Smith and Ritchie kick each other off as Smith and McAdoo did at Madison Square Garden there are left a large number of high grade men. Senators Glass of Virginia and Reed of Missouri are both of presidential stature. Walsh of Massachusetts with the prestige of his victory over Senator Butler and Walsh of Montana are sure to have much support.

Governor Denney of Ohio has just been elected for a third term. The country knows very little about him but there must be something about a democrat who can carry three elections in a strong republican state like Ohio. Doubtless the Buckeyes will present him for promotion to the presidency and he may be a hard nut to crack.

One thing is certain the democratic presidential nomination will go to a man if it does enough intelligent seeking. Yes, I say intelligent.

Prophecy Sometimes Turns Out:

All right. A week or two ago this column predicted the election of democratic senators in place of the republican incumbents in Arizona, Oklahoma, Kentucky and Maryland. They have been elected. We also said

something about possible democratic victories in about a dozen other states. As we write this our guess seems to have gone wrong except in New York and Massachusetts.

If all the states still in doubt finally wing into the republican column the Grand Old Party will still have a majority in the United States senate. But it will be a very peculiar sort of majority since it will include La Follette and Blaine of Wisconsin, Franier and Nye of North Dakota, Norris and Howell of Nebraska, Brookheart of Iowa, all of whom are certainly right irregular. There are Norwich and McAdams of South Dakota, Borah of Idaho and Johnson of California who are just slightly irregular.

Looks like there might be interesting doings in the senate after the fourth of next March especially when Smith of Illinois and Vare of Pennsylvania offer to qualify.

Chicago Is Rapidly Being

Rebuilt in all the down town sections. The best modern business houses and hotels are now being constructed of steel and concrete. Physically they should stand for a thousand years. Actually they become hopelessly out of date in about 30 years. The architects do the best they can but none of them is able to foresee and anticipate the progress that will be made in the art of building within ten or even five years.

Probably a city like Chicago is a most pitiful spectacle in the world. Its people live in a constant fog saturated with the fumes of burned gasoline. Two great open sewers separate it into several distinct sections and poison any air that may be left untainted by gasoline. Trees are legendary, flowers mythical, fresh air the materials of which fables are made. Sunshine is something unknown.

The streets are crowded with motor driven cars. The sidewalks are packed with thousands rushing about where the hell they are going. Thieves as he is wait for the unwary, gunmen made victims of good and bad alike. Bootleggers drive imported cars and honest men walk. If there ever was a hell on earth it is a city like Chicago. How such a city can survive the wrath of the same God who destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah is a mystery that no one not in the divine confidence may hope to solve.

Shinestead Of Minnesota

May be the most important man in the United States senate after the fourth of next March. It now appears that the republicans will have 48 senators, the democrats 47, and then there will be Shinestead. If he lives up with the republicans and if none of the senators kick over the traces the G. O. P. can organize the senate. If he lives up with the democrats there will be a tie vote whenever all members are present and standing hitches and the deciding vote will then be cast for the republicans by the vice-president.

It is quite safe to predict that Shinestead will throw in with the republicans, not as a regular of course but as an insurgent of the milder type. He is young and naturally would like to stay in public life. His only hope of re-election is to capture the republican nomination in the primary election after the manner of La Follette, Brookheart and Norris. He was a republican once and if he can do so without sacrifice he will return to that party.

No matter which way Shinestead goes the democrats lose which is as it should be. The administration should have majorities in both houses. If the minority is strong enough to kill unwise or reactionary legislation the cause of good government is served.

TAKEN FROM THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Thursday Morning, October 21, 1926

"Packers Appeal Consent Decree"

"Decision on case expected to have wide effect on all Anti-trust proceedings" from the Wall Street Journal, Washington Bureau.

Washington—Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia now has under consideration a case which will have far reaching effects on anti-trust proceedings both past and future. The suit was brought by the Chicago meat packers against the government and its object is to have vacated the consent decree entered against the packers in 1920, when Mitchell Palmer was attorney general.

There are several ways the court can rule. It may decide the case on its merits for or against the packers or it can rule that it has no jurisdiction, as the government contends. Whatever the decision, the case probably will go to the Supreme Court for final determination.

In 1917 the Federal Trade Commission began an investigation of the meat packers as result of which it reported that the packers enjoyed a monopoly in certain food lines and were violating the Sherman and Clayton acts. Congressional investigations supplemented the Federal Trade inquiry. The Department of Justice started grand jury proceedings. At that stage the 1920 consent decree was entered in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The packers voluntarily consented to the entry of a decree enjoining them from owning any capital stock interest in public stockyards, terminal railroads or meat newspapers, from operating cold storage warehouses or retail meat markets and from handling the so-called "unrelated lines" consisting of wholesale groceries and canned goods. But a clause was included specifying that the decree should not be considered as an admission that the packers had, in fact, violated any law of the United States.

In November, 1924, the packers again came into Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and asked to have the decree vacated, pointing to the cause freeing them of law

violations. They also maintained that decree was beyond the jurisdiction of the court which imposed it. Their petition was denied and appeal was taken to the Court of Appeals, where it was argued by Charles Evans Hughes for the packers.

The packers contended that the court had no jurisdiction to render the decree because it enjoins them from engaging in activities which are lawful as well as those which might be unlawful, and in that respect it is legislation by the judicial branch of the government. They contended that the court had no proof or admission of anti-trust violation, but that these were specifically denied in the consent decree, which the government agreed to. Also the packers argued that the attorney general was without authority to consent to the decree because he had no power to enter into an agreement with corporations to bar them from doing business which would be lawful. In support of this latter argument, the packers cited testimony of former Attorney General Palmer before a congressional committee in which he admitted that the decree went beyond the law.

The government contends that the packers' disclaimer of law violations in the consent decree referred to the fact that the packers had no intention against future violations; that the decree was not beyond the law, but that its provisions were such as might have been entered had the defendants chosen to go to trial. Having consented to a decree without trial, the packers cannot complain, the government says.

Showing the possible effects of a decision in the case is the following quoted from the government's brief: "More than half of all the decrees which have been obtained by the United States in the enforcement of the anti-trust laws have been consent decrees. The government cannot afford to jeopardize these decrees, or limit its freedom in accepting such decrees when offered in the future, by assenting to any proposition that they may be brought before the courts years after their entry to defend the merits on which they were entered as such merits might upon trial have appeared at the time. By

Women Are Making Headway

In congress. The three ladies who are members of the present house of representatives have all been re-elected and a fourth woman, Mrs. Langley of the Kentucky mountains country, has been chosen to sit in the next house. Of these women members Mrs. Norton of New Jersey alone appears to have been nominated and elected on her merits as a politician and leader of men. Mrs. Royer of Massachusetts and Mrs. Kohn of California succeeded their husbands but their service has been so acceptable to the voters of their districts that they have now been re-elected on their own merits.

Mrs. Langley succeeds her husband who just now is sojourning in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta where he was sent after conviction for violation of the liquor laws. The people of the Langley district have scant respect for liquor laws. They elected Langley once before after he had been convicted and they have now elected Mrs. Langley.

Women governors have not done so well. Ma Ferguson lost her place in the Texas primary election and the voters of Wyoming appear to have made up their minds that it is better to have a man in the saddle in the cowboy state. Mrs. Ross has been a good governor and it is a pity that her state has not given her another term on her own merits.

Mrs. McPherson Must Stand Trial

For alleged conspiracy to obstruct the processes of justice. The more we learn about the McPherson case the more we wonder. In the evangelist just a foolish lovesick woman who was willing to sacrifice a foremost place in her city and country for a few days with a very ordinary sort of a man? Is she a plain fool who falls to recognize the power of truth and the strength of the long arm of justice? Or is she the victim of an elaborate, venomous and determined conspiracy?

The court holds that there is so much evidence against Mrs. McPherson that she must be tried. She has already spent five weeks in the court room and within sixty days must defend herself in the superior court in real trial. She has had her day in court and will have several more. Newspaper readers are so fed up on this case that there is a general feeling that the judge should hear it in chambers and exclude reporters from the public. We all know plenty about it now and there is little hope that we can ever learn just how much we know is not so.

South Dakota Elected a Democratic

Governor. At this writing no one outside the state is able to explain or understand the defeat of Carl Gunderson who is a square man, a farmer and a co-operator. Apparently he had all the necessary qualifications for the governorship of an agricultural state.

Gunderson was very active in the wheat pooling movement. It may be that he made so many enemies among the grain speculators and others who live by exploiting wheat and wheat growers that the powers that rule the markets thought it necessary to make an example of him. Such influence contributed very materially to the breaking of Jonathan Davis who is also a farmer, a co-operator and a believer in co-operative marketing.

It is a hard job for a farmer to stay in public life or hold public office unless he plans the game according to the rules made by the big boys.

MILLION DOLLAR EARNINGS DISINGENUOUS LONDON CO-OP.

New co-operative records are broken with the publication of the report of the big London Co-operative Society, showing earnings of \$1,016,740 for the past year, of which \$912,288 has been returned to patrons in co-operative dividend checks, and the balance put in the society's rapidly growing surplus.

The report also shows that since 1923 co-operators in London have increased by 65,000 while co-op sales have advanced from \$13,000,000 to \$22,450,000, and the share capital has received additional support to the extent of \$4,000,000.

British co-operation developed first in the industrial Midlands, and London was long considered backward in the movement. But this reputation no longer exists, for in recent years London co-operators have made tremendous progress. The London Co-operative Society alone has nearly doubled in membership and business in the last few years. The half-yearly report of the society shows an increase of sales of about \$2,177,300 over the Membership is now 177,930, having corresponding period of last year increased by 12,735 in the half-year and by 36,107 in the last twelve months. A development program of 25 additional branches is announced, which will put London in the front rank of the world-wide co-operative movement.

The sparrow population of New York City is constantly dwindling while the pigeons are on the increase establishing themselves in many well known points of interest.

America, to meet her ever increasing needs for bromine for industrial use, will in the near future gather it from the open sea. Germany was our chief source of supply before the war.

