

Southern
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United With

The
National
Co-Operator
and
Farm
Journal

THE
NATIONAL
CO-OPERATOR
AND
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Farmers
Union
Password

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The Plan Texas Presents Of Secrecy And Sliding Scale.

The Conference of Farmers' Union delegates at Memphis on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 7, 8 and 9, did some most important business, but one of the most important things done in Memphis was the adoption by the Texas delegates in a meeting of their own of a resolution that in the future the prices fixed by the National Union on farm products ought to be secret, only those members of the Union entitled to and having the password, to know what this price is. The minimum, according to this plan, would be fixed below which no farm product is to be sold by any Union member, and there would be a sliding scale above the minimum, that may be a small increase, or quite a radical one, according to circumstances, and this scale may go up or down daily, but never below the minimum fixed and the minimum would go up regularly monthly, a fraction, to cover warehouse and insurance expenses.

How does this proposition present itself to you? It looks good to us, because we consider it to be just, reasonable and practicable. In the first place, it is wise and prudent to keep our affairs to ourselves absolutely. Our business is our own, and we must remember that we are a strictly business organization, our sole purpose and aim being to do business, and in business ways. You may take any association, any union, any character or description of organization, whether it be for business purposes, social, educational, charitable, philanthropic or whatsoever it may be for, its own concerns, its affairs pertaining directly to itself, it keeps to itself, discussing them in executive session, that is, behind closed doors, just as we do in our District and County Unions, and in our National Union. Not a soul knew or knows today all the questions considered and discussed at the Memphis Conference, nor all the agreements entered into at that conference, all the plans laid, nor the means deemed best by which to accomplish the various ends or measures set on foot at that conference for the good of the Union. A press committee gave out to the newspapers for publication that all the world might know the outlines of certain propositions that it was well enough for all the world to know, but all things were not told, nor were the details of any proposition given out. This was right, was just to ourselves, and being just to ourselves was not unjust to the balance of the world. When the Standard Oil Company's Directors meet they do not scatter broadcast throughout the universe the proceedings of their meetings. Is there a human being on the face of the earth who knows the Standard Oil Company's price of oil? There is not a member of The Farmers' Union today who can tell. There is not a wholesale or retail merchant who today can tell. A purchaser of a carload of oil may be able to tell what he paid for that carload, but he does not know what his next-door neighbor, in the same line of business, paid for it. When you purchase a can or a gallon of oil from your merchant, do you know what he paid for it when he bought it? Do you know at what price he sells every can or gallon he may sell? Of course you do not. Ought we not to pursue the same business policies and manage our affairs with the same prudence, foresight and exclusiveness that the Standard Oil Company, the most successful and therefore the richest and most powerful business organization the world has ever known, uses, or that our immediate merchants use? It seems to Co-Operator that this is the plain, common-sense, common justice way of attending to our business, that we may the better be able to defend ourselves against our enemies, the class of individuals who have so long preyed upon us and appropriated to themselves, by unhallowed schemes and unscrupulous combinations, our subsistence.

With the minimum prices of our products known only to our members in good standing, those entitled to and possessing the password, a double effect will result. It will make those members who have been slow in keeping their dues paid up, more prompt in this respect, and it will be an incentive to bring into the Union non-union farmers, that class especially who sympathize with our Union movement, and who have been standing by us in holding their cotton for the Union price, and thereby largely increase our members, giving us greater force, strength and power to win in our great struggle for justice, for honesty, for truth, for prosperity, for the betterment and uplifting of all the agricultural classes, thereby bettering and uplifting every class in all our country and making our Nation a grander, stronger, better Nation.

We are a business organization, and those not banded with us in this organization are neither part nor parcel of us, no matter what their calling may be. The farmer outside the Union is no more a part of us, or entitled to any knowledge of our affairs, or participation in our business, than the banker or merchant who is ineligible to membership, for he who is not of us and for us is against us. A house cannot be divided against itself, and the farmer who is not within the Union fold is not entitled to any Union benefits. So much for the secrecy feature of the scheme or proposition.

As to the sliding scale. Who can object to that? Is it feasible, practicable? Is it just and honest? Co-Operator thinks it is all these things. It is the only way to keep the minimum price secret. If there was no sliding scale, the minute Union cotton was sold from a Union warehouse, the world would know what the minimum price was. With the sliding scale the uninformed, that is to say, no one but the Union man with the pass-

word, could know whether it was sold at figures above the minimum or not. That is one advantage of the scale.

Another advantage will be the ability it will afford to avail ourselves of the fluctuations of the market, for the markets for products fluctuate the same as do other markets. The law of supply and demand is imperious and will control. Now do not think that Co-Operator is reversing itself, or changing its position so many times expressed and maintained on this question of the law of supply and demand. Co-Operator has always contended and does so still, that no cotton crop has ever been raised or can be produced on the acreage of land now in cultivation too large to supply the needs of the world for cotton and cotton products. Our idea of supply and demand as above referred to is simply this: It takes nearly a year to produce a cotton crop, and it ought to take somewhere about the same length of time to sell it, but when it is rushed on the market and dumped at any

last awakened and gone to doing business in a practical, sensible, business way.

What is there or can there be of injustice in this plan? Nothing that Co-Operator can conceive of, or even imagine. Is there any business concern in these modern days that lets the market—the trade—fix the price? The Standard Oil Company does not do so. The United States Steel Association does not do so. The great meat packing establishments do not do so. The railroad companies do not do so. But this system would secure our own price. This is certainly just and whatever is just is honest and honorable. It would be within the pale of the law—not by jugglery, or subterfuge, but openly, squarely, fully, unreservedly, and strictly within the pale of the law in its every provision and injunction, mandate and inhibition. That is the kind of trust The Farmers' Union would be. An open and above-board, and just prices for farm products of every character the various soils and climates of these United States will grow, and doing it absolutely without conflict with the law, but in accordance with and in maintenance of the law. Not in restraint of trade, but in the furtherance, development and growth of trade.

Now, would all this under this plan be easily done? Would it take a complicated and extensive system of machinery for the operation of this plan? By no means. We have the system fairly well established already. We now have more than 1,500 warehouses for our cotton in the Southern States and grain growers of the Northwest for some time have had their own warehouses, and we are strengthening our system. We must, this year, in the Southern States, where alone of all the earth the great white staple grows, build warehouses enough by September first, this good year 1908, in each county in each Southern State, to store the Union cotton grown in that country. There may be some counties where the Union membership will not be able to build as many warehouses as they will really need, but they must build just as many in number, and as great in size, toward the requisite number as they possibly can, using every means and making every feasible and practicable effort they can compass, to accomplish their ends.

"Warehouses" is the slogan, the watchword from now on, especially from now until September next, throughout the entire South. Keep building them, and getting them ready for this year's crop. And that is not all. To perfect and carry into full operation and successful accomplishment, our purposes, every Union man must put his cotton in his warehouse and keep it there for the minimum price, whatever that may be for the cotton crop grown this year of 1908, be it a small or a large crop. Of course, there will be some Union "diseress" cotton, but you know the Local Unions in their meetings held on December 7th, last year, adopted resolutions to provide the means for taking care of the "distress" cotton of its members, so to live squarely up to Union principles and to fully protect themselves, each Local must look after this matter and do what it is expected to do—see to it that not one of its members shall be forced to "dump" his cotton for any old price he may be offered. The protection to be given is to help a brother lift any mortgage he may have had to give, or pay any debt he was compelled to create that, being due, may endanger his cotton. With these plans fully carried out what is there to prevent us having cover for our cotton, a safe place for its keeping, and what is to prevent us from holding it, especially when you have pursued the wise policy this year of raising your forage and feed stuffs at home?

The next question is the disposal of the cotton after it has been stored. The Conference at Memphis, in its actions contemplated the establishment of a central warehouse in each State, or perhaps, where conditions may require, a central warehouse for different sections of a State, this being entirely optional with the State Union. This central warehouse is to be in close touch with the interior warehouses, being kept informed as to the number of bales on hand of each grade of cotton, etc. It is not necessary here to attempt to give details as to the management of the central warehouse and its connection or operations in connection with the interior or local warehouses. Those details will be worked out and established by the proper authority in each State, or section of a State, as the case may be.

Now, this warehouse system is one of the most important, indeed, the vital feature of the great work accomplished by the Memphis Conference. It goes without saying that these local warehouses and the central warehouse are Farmers' Union warehouses, built by, owned by and operated by Farmers' Union members, no outsiders owning any stock or having a word to say, yea or nay, in the control or management of any warehouse. And that is not all. THESE WAREHOUSES ARE INTENDED FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE COTTON OF FARMERS' UNION MEMBERS, therefore, the local warehouses must be owned by the members of Local Unions exclusively. This is the idea. We have built and will build warehouses for our own purposes and uses, and as the potential factor, the irresistible power and force in our great plan of self-protection for ourselves AND NOT FOR ANYONE ELSE. Do you see the point? If we are a trust, we are a trust for our own benefit, not for the benefit of other people.



HENRY E. WEBB.

The Plow Boy Orator of the Plains of Texas.

Bro. Webb, for his age, is an old-timer. He was a member of the Agricultural Wheel, The Farmers' Alliance, and is now a prominent and trusted member of The Farmers' Union. He was a delegate to the late National meeting at Memphis, and took a prominent part in its proceedings. He is faithful and true, and the good people of Baylor County make no mistake in making him their delegate to these important meetings. As an orator, he stands right up at the head of the list. He has done much work for the cause in the past and will do even more in the future.

price offered, then the supply (on the market) is greater than the demand (of the market). This is the supply and demand it is intended for the scaling price to be able to avail itself of. When the dumpers overcrowd the market, and prices drop below the minimum figures, Union cotton stays in the warehouses. When the prices go up to the minimum figures, or above, Union cotton is on the market and the result will be, especially after September every year, that in nearly every case Union cotton in the warehouses will fetch more than the minimum price, and what applies to Union cotton will apply to Union grain in Union elevators, and Union truck in Union cold storages. With this system in effect, and it surely ought to be put into effect, all the world will look on with admiration, and with respect for us. The grafter and spoliator would see that the day of his passing has come and that there is no more picking for them in the cotton fields of the South, in the grain fields of the West, in the orchards and vineyards and truck fields—in any agricultural enterprise anywhere in all the land, and he would gnash his teeth and swear, but he will respect us and admire us in his heart, and mind, and congratulate us that we have at

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STRONG, SENSIBLE LETTER.

Editor Co-Operator: I never see a word from Commo Local. I would like to see it in our good old Co-Operator one time anyway. We are getting along very well considering every-thing, and we meet every Saturday night before the first and third Sun-days.

I am bound to say that if it was not for the Co-Operator there would be little Union. I consider it the whole life of the Union. I would not give it for all the other papers that are printed.

I am in favor, too, of The Farmers Union getting their business in shape to keep their business inside of the Union. I don't think it a good idea to publish our business as we have always done. I think when we lay take to put up everything like a fac-plans, we should keep them to our selves. And another thing, I think we should go to work at once to build

our own factories. If we never make a start, we will sure never have them, and we can never be independent until we do get our own factories, not only cotton factories, but all other kinds of factories that are necessary in our business, but of course, we need the cotton factory in the South worst and first. And I also am in favor of cotton bagging and cotton everything else that we can get cotton into. Not that I am so in favor of raising cotton, but the more things we can work out of cotton the better demand there will be for cotton, and therefore a better price. So we need not raise so much to get a little, and then what we make out of cotton we won't have to pay some other outfit a big price for his material.

Now, I don't think when we under-ways done. I think when we lay take to put up everything like a fac-plans, we should keep them to our selves. And another thing, I think we should go to work at once to build

another thing, that I am greatly in favor of is no Farmers Union member to ever put a dollar in a bank, but put it where he can get it when he wants it, and if he don't need it, lend it to his Union brother that does need. Oh, what a foolish thing I do think it is for a man to take his money that himself, wife and little children have worked so hard for, and hand it over to some one else to live high on and send his children to school and dress fine and visit about, taking big trips and having everything that heart can wish, and the poor woman and children that made that money at home in the field working hard to make more for the grafter's family when that gives out. And the poor old simple man, too, but it doesn't matter for him. He ought to starve awhile at least.

As to the non-union men; they are a mystery to me, for they all seem to love their children just as well as we do, but they seem to be blind, or else they just haven't got energy enough to spit off themselves. Of course some of them are not caring a straw about the children's welfare hereafter. It is just that almighty dollar right now, though, I am glad to see so many of them holding their cotton. There are a good many in our part of the country holding their cotton. Some of them are holding at home and some have stored with us in the warehouse. We have a Union warehouse and a Union gin. We have 1,000 bales of cotton in the warehouse and a big lot stacked up by it. Now, if we just only had a cotton factory, I think we would be healed, and I think the people could all put in and build one a great deal cheaper than they can send their cotton out of the state. Now, I want to hear from all of the other brothers on this proposition and hope we can all come together on it, and get such a movement on foot in time to get it ready to work up the 1908 crop.

Well, if all of the women and men, too, were just like that good sister, Mrs. Essie Graham, we would sure come through all right. I surely do love to read such letters as she wrote and other sisters, too. I am so glad to see so many of the good sisters writing. This writer is a sister, too, but while I don't claim all of this letter myself, I endorse it all.

Wishing the Co-Operator much success I remain a true Union woman,

J. TATE.
Eliasville, Tex.

THE BLUE SISTER.

Editor Co-Operator: I have just finished reading our first copy of your noble paper and my zeal has been increased two hundred fold, yet I was a firm Unionist before, and I want to say amen to every word of Mrs. Bertha Jackson's letter and also to Lewis H. Jones.

Sisters, let us be up and doing "while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work." We can help in this great fight for right if we try, so lets put on the whole armor and stand by our husbands' sides in this struggle and show which side we are on at every opportunity by being present at every meeting possible and not shirking a duty that is put on us.

We have a real live Local at Winn's Point, of forty-two members enrolled and we take in new members every meeting. We meet twice a month, once in a public meeting and once in executive.

The ball is rolling in old Erath. We have some as strong and noble men as there are anywhere and I believe the farmers all begin to realize that the Union is a noble organization and has come to stay.

There are only eight lady members in our Local, but we have others talking of joining.

MRS. J. W. WINN.
Bluffdale, Tex.

FROM OKLAHOMA.

Editor National Co-Operator: I will try to write you a few lines to let you, and the brotherhood at large, know that we are in the fight up here, for the Union and its just demands.

In the first place I wish to state that I believe the present financial flurry has been the best thing that ever could have happened for Unionism. It has taught us several very important lessons, one among all the balance—self reliance. This is a lesson the farmer has long needed to learn. It has taught the farmer the need of better organization, which results in education. On these principles to depend the salvation of the farming and laboring classes.

The Union in this part of Oklahoma is on the up-build generally. It is no trouble to get a bunch of farmers together to hear Unionism preached. They all want to know more about it, and it don't take much of a Union preacher to make converts to the cause either. All one has to do is to tell them what The Farmers Union stands for, and they tumble

to the racket, and you know the result.

Now, I wish to make a few suggestions to the brotherhood at large. Keep the business of your meetings strictly to yourselves. I think there has been too much publicity through this present fight for our good as a class.

Again I would suggest that all other cotton raisers prepare storage for seed cotton, and do not have your cotton ginned until you get ready to put it on the market, and thus head off those abominable gin reports.

The difference in sample and turn-out will fully justify the farmer in preparing storages.

So in conclusion, brethren, let the slogan be, "down with the exchanges, down with the government estimates, down with the ginners' reports (?) and then, and not until then, will we have our own way and say about the cotton market.

Cottonwood Local has resolved to build a warehouse for her next year's cotton crop. So let the good work go on, till victory is written on the brow of labor.

Yours for the Union,
LEN W. DAVIS,
Rural Letter Carrier,
Wilmoth, Okla.

FROM FAR-AWAY KENTUCKY.

Editor Co-Operator: Some kind friend has sent me a couple of copies of The Co-Operator for which I thank him very much. I am very much interested in the Union's battle with the trusts.

Here in Kentucky, we have no cotton but tobacco is our staple. We have fought the American Tobacco trust to a finish and we have won the victory. In 1903 they bought our tobacco for \$3.00 per hundred, now, by reason of our Dark Tobacco Association we are getting \$10.00 and \$12.00 per hundred. All by reason of the producers standing solidly together.

The Farmers Union is organizing here. I joined the Union a few days ago. We will not organize on tobacco, but we are going to organize on every other product.

We are getting up stock among the farmers to build elevators to store our wheat and we will build warehouses to put up our corn, and will sell direct to our Southern people. We feel that the producers are entitled to the middle-man's profits.

Our people are just beginning to see how they have had the wool pulled over their eyes. The Dark Tobacco Association has taught them a lesson that they will not forget very soon.

The Union in far-off Kentucky sends their greeting to her Southern brethren and say stand solid for your rights. You will get them in the end.

W. S. ROACH.
Barlow, Ky.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.

To The Co-Operator: Our Local, County Line, while weak in numbers is strong in faith.

Ours is not a cotton country. Our Local only produced twenty-two bales this fall as we cut our acreage one-half from 1906 and we have sold but four bales as yet and we have several non-union men holding some fifteen or twenty bales.

I raise no cotton, myself, but am doing all I can to encourage and help those who have to hold. Some of our members say if they don't get 15 cents for what cotton they have by planting time, they won't plant any next year.

Yours for success,
E. S. MILLER,
Hartley, Ark.

THE FARMERS' LESSON.

The Missouri World, published at Chillicothe, Missouri, in a recent issue prints the following able editorial, so pertinent, so true and so applicable to the real conditions, hopes, aims and intentions of the farming classes today that we reproduce it:

"Farmers will not submit to hard times again. They worked a quarter of a century without reward for their labor. They finally made a mighty protest of the ballot box, and gave Wall Street the scare of its life. Then followed an easing up of the times, and the farmers have done well for ten years. They ceased political ac-

tivity and let the ship of state drift. Their idea has been to "let well enough alone." But listen! They will never again submit to the slave lives they led so long, at least not in this generation. They are too well educated in the science of government for that.

"They investigated great questions affecting the weal and woe of the people. In their Grange, in their Farmers' Alliance, in the Wheel, and more recently in their Farmers' Union and their Cotton Growers' Association, they learned the power of money monopoly and transportation monopoly to plunder them.

"They know what the National banking system is. They know the mighty power given the few by making money redeemable in the gold of the Rothschilds.

"Millions of them believe in Government legal tender paper—money issued direct to the people without the intervention of banking corporations, redeemable in dues to the Government, all the redemption that is needed to make the money worth one hundred cents on the dollar at all times. In fact, a vast number of farmers know what kind of laws are necessary to protect them from the ravages of the money power.

"Wall Street must end this panic in a way that will leave the farmer his good prices, or the music will begin. 'Good-bye, Old Farm, Good-bye,' will again ring out from one end of the nation to the other.

On the 11th of December, 1907, our community had the misfortune of losing one of its best and most respectable citizens, Bro. Duddy Jones Gregory, a loyal member of Adams Local Union.

He left a widow and eight children to mourn his loss and many friends. Bro. Gregory was a man who was always first at hand in every move to better the common welfare of his country and especially in lending a helping hand to a needy person.

He will be greatly missed by our community and long remembered by those who knew him best.

H. LAAS,
Brookshire, Tex.

SISTER MARY E. VICKERY.

The Farmers' Union of Slocum has been made sad by the death of our sister, Mary E. Vickery, whom God in His infinite wisdom called to His heavenly home on August 11, 1907.

She has served as a loving wife and Christian mother. She leaves a husband and six children and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

Resolved, That Slocum Local Union has lost a kind and faithful member, one who was always ready to hold out a helping hand to the poor and administer to the sick.

We extend to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of sad bereavement.

MRS. DOCIA DAY,
Slocum, Tex. For Committee.

HOW THEY USE MONEY.

Editor Co-Operator: I will tell you what I believe they are doing with the money the Government is furnishing the New York banks. I believe they take the interest from that money for campaign funds and I think they start a panic for an excuse to get more money from the Government.

They ought to be forced to either pay interest to the Government or return the money to where it belongs. You see the game?

Yours truly,
P. E. DAHLSTEDT,
El Campo, Tex.

PRES. B. D. HARRY.

On the 28th of November, 1907, our hearts were made sad by the death of our beloved brother, B. D. Harry, President of Primrose Local Union; but we can only bow our heads in humble submission to the will of God who doeth all things well.

Resolved, That our Local has lost a beloved brother, a member in whose integrity we had implicit confidence.

W. G. WALLACE,
Vice-President,
Morrill, Tex.

PRACTICE ECONOMY.

Editor Co-Operator: What we need is more practical education. We should keep a correct record of what it costs to produce an article. Then we would know whether we were gaining anything or not. Most of us go to work in the spring to make a crop and never make any record of what it costs us, consequently we do not know whether we have made or lost on the crop. The same thing applies to stock and poultry raising. Some of us will raise a hog or a flock of chickens and never keep any account of the expense, and a great many times we have lost instead of

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gaining. I think we should keep a correct account of our expenses during the coming year.

Another thing, I think we sisters should be as saving in the kitchen as possible. It has been said that a woman could throw out faster with a spoon than a man could put in with a spade, and I have seen some kitchens where it looked like it was a fact. I don't mean for us to be stingy, but saving. Cook enough, but don't throw anything away. What you have left over that you can't use for the table put in the glass bottle for the pie.

Yours for the farmer,
MRS. DORA CLINGAN,
Pritchard, La.

Whereas, On the 14th day of April, 1907, God in His infinite wisdom called from the stage of action our neighbor, friend and brother, John Kane.

Resolved, That Comer Local Union has lost a true member, this community one of its best citizens, his family a true husband and father.

W. R. RUSSELL,
For Committee,
MOLLIE GREEN,
Secretary,
Harper, Tex.

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285 Main St., Dallas, Texas

"Uncle Johney" Calls For The Question And Moves That The Debate Be Closed.

All of you must of necessity have of the five things mentioned in our proposition of last week; it was for absolutely insuring the 15-cent minimum for stated amount of COTTON. Just take one thing, SOCKS. I buy socks for which I pay 25 cents a pair, and they are not fit to wear over two washings without mending, and what is true of socks and stockings is equally true of these other things. You know it is not the fault of your cotton that you are raising, for it is just as good as it ever was. So that besides saving something on this order, we propose that these things shall be just as good as the pure new cotton will make them.

These orders will require about 10 pounds each of raw cotton. There are at least 1,000,000 members of the Union that will be glad to place their orders for these things, and who can go out and easily, under these conditions, each secure three others to do the same, making three million of these orders, requiring about

We propose that you subscribe one bale (not more than five) of the cotton that you are holding at 15-cents to the stock of co-operative manufacturing for which you receive 15 cents per pound in its stock depositing WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS, with your State Headquarters, for same, to be turned over to the manufacturing company upon order of our directors who have been appointed from the members of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union. That you, every man and woman of you who are loyal to the cause (it's yours) raise these orders, consisting of one fine dress shirt, two good working shirts, two pairs of most excellent pants, one-half dozen pairs of socks and two suits of underwear, all made from this very cotton so subscribed, not being a single speck of waste used in them, all freight paid to the address of the Locals making up the order (no orders delivered singly), and all for the sum of NINE DOLLARS. Also send these orders to your State Headquarters, together with one-third of the amount in advance. Then if there should not be enough cotton subscribed with which to fill these orders, we will buy, at 15 cents per pound, the amount necessary, first from the members who have subscribed one or more bales, to be paid for when these orders are delivered.

I make the statement to you, that after making the contracts for the manufacture of these goods and these garments, having the Farmers' Union label on them, that is an emblem of purity, of justice, of the Golden Rule, that stands for a fair labor exchange, and THAT IS FOR 15-CENT COTTON. And that besides the cotton subscribed there will be left a profit of not less than one dollar and a half on each of these orders—this profit to give of these orders, also in stock of the Co-operative Manufacturing Co., creating a sum with which to start the manufacture of these necessities right at the source of the raw materials, by ourselves, for ourselves.

If it is important for us to own a sewing machine in our homes (and it is), with which to sew pieces of cloth together, make garments—how much more important to own the machines that take the fibers and spin the yarn; that take it and weave it into those cloths or knit it into garments. But these machines have grown too big to be owned in the home or individually, so they must be co-operatively owned, and in the factory. And here is the plan to have your own patronage earn for you this ownership, that you have so gratuitously handed over to the other fellows, and whose greed for profits has been so insatiate that he has not been satisfied with manufacturing your necessities and selling them to you at a fair profit, but has gambled in your cotton before the holes open—yes, even before the seeds are sprouted.

So I move you that the debate close; that we proceed to vote upon the question.

How are you going to vote, brother? Are you going to vote for the other fellow, as you have been doing—to keep on paying him toll? Or are you going for once to cast your vote for yourself and for "Molly and the babies?"

You may not understand what brought on this panic, but you understand this plan to be business, and that it is your business. No use to say you can't to this. YOU HAVE THE COTTON, YOU HAVE THE PATRONAGE; YOU YOURSELVES ARE THE PATRONS. You have got to have the clothes contained in this combination order. You subscribe this cotton. YOU make up these orders, and concentrate them as proposed, and our Company will make you the owners of the machines that have been making you squirm to pay their owners TOLL.

NOW, VOTE!

JOHNEY H. BEARRUP, President.
RIO GRANDE WOOLEN MILLS COMPANY,
(Co-Operative),
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

SEEDS
We give Universal Premium Coupons with all orders
BLUE RIBBON COLLECTION
Comprises 15 Earliest Radishes, 12 Prize-Winning Beets, 10 Superior Lettuces, 14 Magnificent Tomatoes, 11 Luscious Melons and 10 Gorgeous Beautiful Flowers—in all 17 best varieties of Vegetables and Flower Seeds. We want to please or your money refunded.
BUSINESS BUILDER
SEND 10 CENTS
to help pay postage and packing, and receive this remarkable and instructive Seed Book, mailed together with our new, valuable, beautiful and instructive Seed Book.
Don't Wait. Write To-Day.
GREAT NORTHERN SEED COMPANY
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

GOOD SEEDS
THE BEST EVER GROWN
Prices lowest of all. Postage paid.
A lot of extra packages given free with every order of seeds I fill. Send name and address for my FREE catalog. Over 700 engravings of vegetables and flowers.
R. H. SHUMWAY, Rockford, Illinois

GOOD SEED BRINGS GOOD CROPS
Our Seeds are not only Tested so that we know they will grow, but they are True to Name. Northern grown and big yielders. Everything for field and garden. A big 74-page catalog No. 13 tells all about our seeds.
TESTED SEEDS
how to spray fruit-trees also our line of Spray Pumps, Poultry Supplies, Special Bordeaux Mixtures, Disinfectants, Arsenate of Lime. It is sent free. Write for it to-day.
MISSOURI VALLEY SEED CO.,
110 So. 4th St., St. Joseph, Mo.

TREES THAT GROW
Apples, Peaches, Plums, etc., have been tested and found to be the best quality. We have good bearers, grafted stock, etc. We have also a fine line of seedlings. Concord, etc. We have also a fine line of Fruit Trees. We have also a fine line of Fruit Trees. We have also a fine line of Fruit Trees.
GELMAN NURSERY, Inc.
Box 72, Beatrice, Neb.

TREES AT LOW PRICES
Trusted to name. Free from disease. 25 Grafted Apple-trees for \$1.00. 25 Budded Peach-trees for \$1.00. 40 Concord Grapes for \$1.00. 25c due bill and catalog free. Fairbury Nurseries. Box 4, Fairbury, Nebraska

BEST VARIETIES BEARS PECAN NURSERIES
A BEAR PROP. PALATKA, ILL.

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A SCHOOL WITH A REPUTATION.
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Fill in and mail to Tyler Commercial College, Tyler, Texas, and receive their large 162 page catalog. If interested in Bookkeeping, Telegraphy, Shorthand and Typewriting; 1500 students. Positions secured.
Name.....
Address.....

Notice To The FARMERS UNION
For three years we have handled considerable cotton from the farmers on our plan, which has pleased them well. We have made a success, and as your Union has asked you to hold for 15c, you should send your cotton to us for storage, protection and sale.
While others have found themselves unable to advance the farmers in these tight money times, we, owing to our capital and credit, can and will assist the farmers by advancing \$30.00 per bale against good cotton and assisting them to hold for a minimum price.
Write for particulars and shipping instructions to the
MERCHANTS & PLANTERS COMPRESS AND WAREHOUSE COMPANY
Galveston, Texas

King's Cotton
The "Little Giant"
in Earliness and Productiveness
The "Genuine King" Seed, direct from the originator's hands in North Carolina, produced double as much as other kinds, as the testimony given below proves. Now Let Us Show You What it will do For You.
The "Genuine King" Doubled the Yield.
Get our booklet of proven facts and latest Testimonials. Consider what only 25 per cent. increase will mean for you—100 bales instead of 8, or 14 cts. instead of 11 cts.; and ALL this EXTRA MONEY is PROFIT.
Write for Application Blanks and Full Particulars.
Address, **T. J. KING CO., Richmond, Va.**

AN ARKANSAS WORKER.
Story of His Efforts in the Union Cause With an Able Disquisition On Economics.

Editor Co-Operator: As I am enclosing a list of subscribers to the great exponent of 'The Farmers' Union' principles, yea the live wire that is destined to be the greatest factor in opposing the unjust system that has robbed the toilers of their just earnings for the last forty years, I will give something of my work.
On the 16th I began a campaign in Nevada County, making two lectures a day for eight days. I find in Nevada County hundreds of true, loyal Union men. I organized Pleasant Hill, a thing I never fail to do when I get the ear of the people.
I was appointed Organizer and lecturer for the seventh and fifth districts, composed of sixteen counties, as follows: Chicot, Ashley, Brady, Drew, Desha, Lincoln, Cleveland, Jefferson, Grant, Clark, Dallas, Calhoun, Ousechita, Union, Nevada and Columbia.

Well, brethren, this is the most unjust and uncalled for panicky condition ever thrust upon a confiding people, but while it is so it is no doubt a blessing in disguise. Many were made to believe we had the greatest monetary system on earth, but thousands of such unsophisticated people are getting their eyes open to the fact that the finance of this otherwise great nation, is in the hands of corporate greed—that in the midst of the most prosperous times the Nation has ever seen a few conspirators locked the wheels of commerce in twenty-four hours.

When this Nation was threatened with being rent in twain and the gold hid out, in this dire state of affairs the President of the United States adopted the only sane financial policy and issued "the currency of the realm," which was good for all debts, both private and public.

When this Government went on the single gold standard—at the behest of British gold, Wall Street being her leechman—if it had not been for economic intervening and opening up the Klondike gold fields we would have been a totally ruined people, and solely in the clutches of the people who have always worked their corner on the gold. Some one is ready to say "that fellow wants to take the Union into politics." No, never!

The South occupies an advantageous ground over any other section of the civilized globe. We furnish the world seven-eighths of its supply of cotton, only 10 per cent of what we produce is manufactured in the United States, leaving 60 per cent for exportation and England takes the biggest amount of this. So all we have to do is to put the South where she will control the finances, not only of this nation, but of the world, is for the farmer, who produces this great world's necessity, to get in control of the price, then we will twist old John Bull's tail and make him unload, together with all others, and Wall Street will be left to the mobs and bats to repent at her leisure.

Yes, The Farmers' Union is a business organization, and by the farmers controlling the price of their cotton they will control the finances, for there is nothing else out of which clothes can be made that can be brought in competition with cotton at 50 cents a pound, and the billions of people must have clothes to hide their nude forms. Besides about 230,

000,000 spindles, if they earn a dividend for their investors, are dependent upon the South for seven-eighths of their supply, if whirl they MUST HAVE OUR COTTON.

Now, brethren, don't tell me you can't hold your cotton. I remember when we did not sell any cotton for four years and even burnt up what she had, at the same time we supported a great army in the field, too, and nobody starved or froze to death either. Don't give any mortgages, stay out of debt, and next fall we will win without a fight. Let every farmer draw his support from the banks that have failed us in this fight. Cotton is what gives the South the commercial standing that she has, but the other fellow has utilized this credit and the farmer, who should have been the beneficiary of the credit thus accruing to society, has only received the crumbs that fell from his master's table.

Fraternally yours,
R. B. SNELL,
Stephens, Ark.

A TRUE UNION GIRL.
Editor Co-Operator: Leonidas Local is doing what we think is right and we must do all we can and stand together.
I think The Farmers' Union is a good thing. It is the greatest thing that ever came to the farmers, and every farmer ought to do all he can to hold his cotton for 15 cents. My father, mother, two sisters and brother are members of The Farmers' Union and two uncles.
MISS LULA SAPP,
Conroe, Tex.

BRO. EDMONDSON'S DATES.
Editor Co-Operator: Inclosed find list giving Bro. Joe Edmondson's appointments. Please publish those this issue of Co-Operator covers.
We had a good County Union at Liberty in Millam County the 2nd and 3rd instant. Bros. Edmondson and Armstrong were both present and lectured.

The Saturday following Bro. Edmondson spoke to a large crowd of willing hearers at Rockdale.
I will send in some subscribers at once.
With best wishes to you and for the success of us all, I am,
JIM CHERRY, JR.,
Union Speaker

Lecturer of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America, will address the farmers at the following places and dates:
Burlington, Friday, Jan. 17.
Jones Prairie, Saturday, Jan. 18.
Marlow Schoolhouse, Monday, Jan. 20.
Minerva, Tuesday, Jan. 21.
Speaking at above places will take place at 7 p. m.
All meetings are public and every one is invited to come out and hear the principles of Unionism discussed. Hear this speaker and join with us in making the Union the farmers' cause.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
F. U. Millam Co.
Rockdale, Tex.

AN EARNEST BROTHER.
He Works for the Union by Helping to Circulate Co-Operator. He Gives His Wise Counsel.
Editor Co-Operator: Enclosed please find club of forty yearly subscribers to The Co-Operator as a New Year's gift. I have wanted to do something for the cause I have loved so dearly. The raising of this club was easily done, as it only took a few words of explanation, then the next would be:
"Yes, I will subscribe."
Some of us up here in Northeast Arkansas are getting in real earnest and are not afraid to demand what is justly ours.

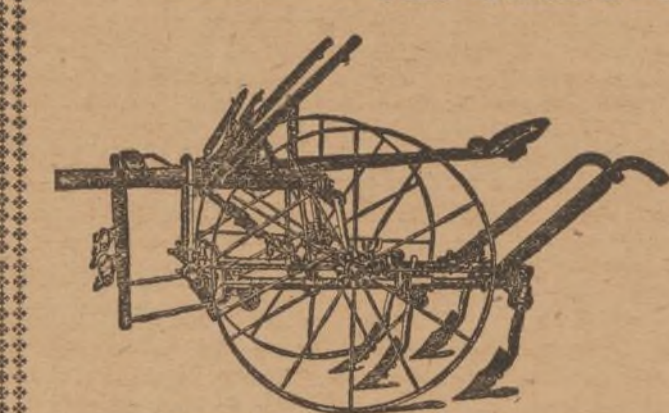
The thing we need most is education. To the close observer a revolution can be seen rolling slowly but steadily onward. Remember, brother, that large bodies move slowly, so don't get weak-kneed and say, "We can't." I know we can and you are only showing cowardice or ignorance when you say we can't.
Go read the story of Joan of Arc and see what that blessed girl did and you will blush with shame and try to hide yourself when you say we can't.

TEXAS SEED BREEDING FARMS.
SHERMAN, TEXAS, makes a business of improving farm seeds. Largest seed growers in the Southwest. Our illustrated booklet on "How to Improve Farm Seeds" is chock full of "Seed Gumptions." Send your name now.
ROCKY FORD SALTLOUPE SEED FOR SALE.
I have several hundred pounds of my own raising of the best kind that is raised in here. Also quite a lot of Burrell's Klondike cucumber seed. They are a fine shipper. A package of each 15c. Get my prices on quantities before buying elsewhere. I am State Secretary for The Farmers' Union in Colorado. H. S. Stovall, Rocky Ford, Colo. 4-1-08

IF YOU KNEW
The merits of the Texas Wonder, you would never suffer from kidney, bladder or rheumatic trouble. \$1 bottle two months treatment, sold by Druggist or by mail. Send for testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis.
UNIONISM ALWAYS.
National Co-Operator: Three cheers for The Co-Operator! The issue of January 1st is a hummer. It hits straight from the shoulder. It hits the grafting gambler some jolts. I know his ribs must be getting sore.
We are still in line down here in Wilson County. We are holding on to our cotton for the fixed price, 15 cents. I think the grafter will soon be converted. The lies he has been telling about the farmer not sticking is hurting him now, but boys, just sit still and watch him make his dying struggle and then we will sing the song of redemption.
Success to Co-Operator and all its readers, and Unionism first, last and all the time.
J. P. MULLINS,
Stockdale, Tex.

Seed Sold On 9 MONTHS' TIME
To prove what it will DO on YOUR LAND
Write for Application Blanks and Full Particulars.
Address, **T. J. KING CO., Richmond, Va.**

Diversification is All Right But Cotton is the Money Crop
And "Standard" Cultivators and Planters are crop getters.



It is a positive fact that the Standard Planters
Whether riders or walkers

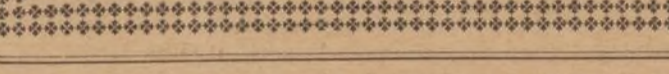
Drop corn more evenly, cover more evenly, and so make a more uniform stand than can be made by any other. Standard Planters make a more uniform distribution of cotton seed, saving labor in chopping time, and make a good stand sure (season permitting).

Remember that every "drop" missed by a planter
Means from one to two ears of corn less at harvest time. Some planters miss 15 to 20 times in a hundred. In more than 100 tests made, The Standard's percentage has never exceeded 5 per cent.

In a test made by dealers, during the last State Fair, of 200 drops in corn—not selected corn, either, there were 152 single grains, 46 of two grain, and 4 misses.

If you did not use a Standard Planter last year, it will be interesting to go into your cotton or corn field and make an estimate of about how much of your land produced nothing.

Below is shown a copy from photograph taken of the Standard Cotton Drop. The line represents about 6 feet of travel. At no time was there a space of more than 15 inches without seed, and no breaking of seed at all.

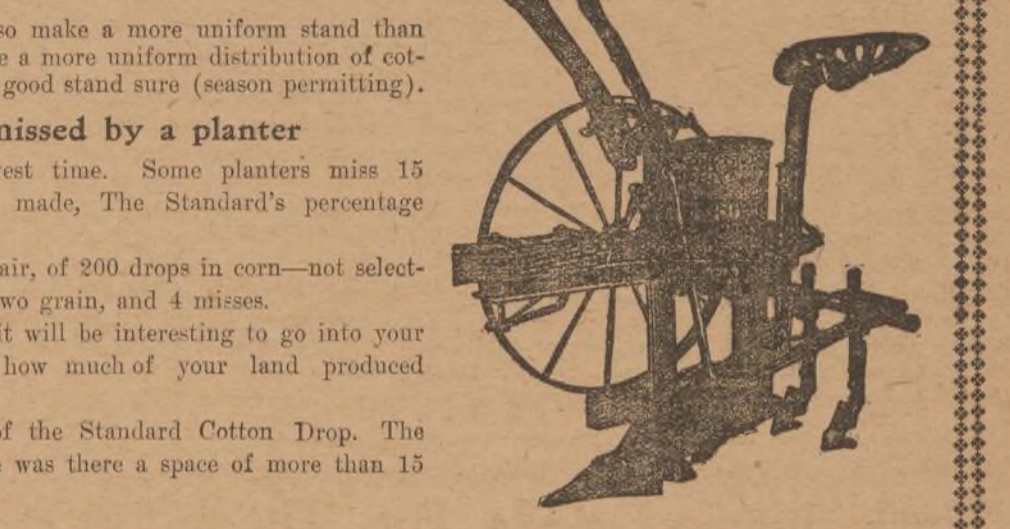


All Standard Cultivator Frames are constructed to secure greatest rigidity with least "trappiness." Greatest strength with least weight. We do not believe 50 or 60 unnecessary pounds put into a cultivator helps the team pull it all day.

It may be truthfully said that one of the first things to be considered when selecting a cultivator is the question of simplicity. An implement of many useless parts is not simple and is not durable; and if not durable, it is expensive and therefore undesirable.

Examine closely the cut. Each part has a distinctive and necessary part to perform; there is not one useless piece.

To determine which is the best, set down in your mind that which you know you don't want in a cultivator—and likewise that what you do want, then you can easily determine which is the best for you.



Emerson Mfg. Co.,
Dallas, Texas.

You might say, "I can't," but when it comes to us, everybody knows we can.
If you get up anything that you think is for the good of the Order and get knocked down, don't give up, but come again and again.

Some men in the Union will oppose everything offered that will change the old way of doing business—rather the old way of letting a parasite do business for us.

Boys, we must do or our posterity are doomed to be hevers of wood and stone, and we will have to live on their lives.

I think our next special effort should be to teach ourselves what Unionism and co-operation means. Get ourselves to know that it means a rest for the tired back once in a while; a chance to educate our boys and girls that they may make better citizens; a chance for the mother to stay indoors and rock her babe in the cradle instead of taking an old quilt and putting Johnnie or Bessie on it at the end of the cotton rows to fret and fight gnats while mama helps to make a living. I may be saying too much, but did any of you readers ever see a mother who had to do that to help make a living for her family? I have, but if you have not I will hush and wish that I had not told it.
Boys, let's get right down to business and obey the commands of those we have chosen to be our principal leaders. Remember that the success of an army depends on its obedience to the commands of its commander-in-chief.
Yours for better times.
T. L. WATSON,
Paragould, Ark.

JUST READ THIS.
A Woman's Graphic Picture of the Man Who is Content to Work His Wife and Buy on Credit.
Editor Co-Operator: I have just finished reading your editorials in the New Year number. It was just grand on mortgages. I agree with you, let's quit the credit business altogether, live at home and board in the kitchen; raise all the chickens we can and (if we can't get a better price, let's low down Price), won't we have fried chicken?
I don't think it a disgrace for women to work in the field, but think it a burning shame that they have to.

It makes one tired to hear a man say, "I am doing well enough. I got 10 cents for my cotton." Then he will spit and put his hands in his pockets (not a cent in them) and say: "My wife and kids can raise 10 cent cotton and I have a good credit, so we will make a living." It is a pity he did not have a snout like a razor-back hog so he could root for a living. He thinks if he can get one shoulder of meat and a chew of navy in his head the merchant will pat him on his back and say, "Johnny, what will you have? We will sell it to you." At last he will buy, go home and brag to his neighbors of his popularity in town. Wait till fall when his wife and children pick his cotton and he puts it in a warehouse. The merchant will say, "Take out that cotton." He will look like a whipped cur and will take it out. I know this to be true, so it is better to starve a little and then have plenty than to always be a slave. The old master always fed, clothed and paid the doctor's bill for his black slaves, but the mortgage and credit master don't give his white slaves a thing but thunder for not having more to give him. Before I will give a mortgage or buy on credit I will eat parched corn, drink branch water and wear cotton checks. Then what I make I can hold till judgment day or get what I want for my produce.

So hold your cotton till we get 15 cents and then we will put the big pot in the little one and stew the dish rag. Hold out faithfully. We will get 15 cents. The darkest hour is just before dawn. The cloud will raise and then won't the sun shine bright!
Never beat a retreat, but forward march to the front ranks.
Yours to fight till we win.
MRS. EVA BEWLEY,
Moody, Tex.

SCALE OF PRICES RECOMMENDED.
Editor Co-Operator. At the regular meeting January the 4th of Round Grove Local, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:
Having failed to reach an agreement with the spinners of the world last year, it is earnestly desired by the members of this Local that our officers, State and National, at an early date, try to enter into an agreement with said spinners to buy our cotton at a fixed schedule price, according to yield.
For instance, a 14,000,000 bale crop at 10 cents; a 10,000,000 bale crop at 14 cents; a 11,000,000 bale crop at 13 cents; a 12,000,000 bale crop at 12 cents; a 13,000,000 bale crop at 11 cents, according to government statistics. This scale to be adjusted each month according to the government report.
Resolved, That we spread this resolution on the minutes of our book, and instruct the secretary to send a copy of this to Co-Operator.
O. HOPPE,
Osage, Tex. Secretary.

NO STRINGS TO HIM.
Editor Co-Operator: I have been a reader of your paper for twelve months and think it the best paper that a farmer can read.
Brother Pyle, you do hit the nail on the head when you hop on the greedy grafters.
I am a member of Stackville Local and we are sixty-five strong in members. The most of us are holding our cotton for 15 cents. I am glad to see our brother farmers standing to

the Union as they are now. It may take three or six more months to get the 15 cents, but let's stick if it takes fifteen or twenty more months.

I am glad to see Texas leading the front in this great Union battle. One of our Union members told me the other day that a merchant and a drummer were talking about this money panic and the merchant asked what would we do with the Farmers' Union. The drummer said "Sell him all of the goods you can and bind him up as tight as a—!"

Brothers, let's be Union men and fight to the end.
Yours fraternally,
C. M. MOODY,
Myrtle, Miss.

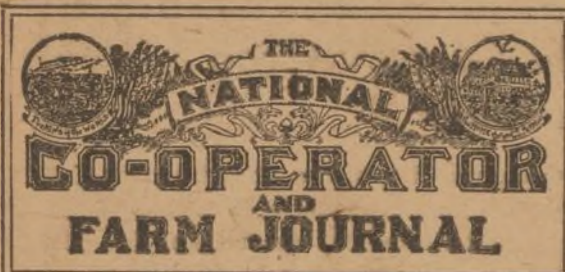
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Direct from Factory to You.
Over 12 years successful use everywhere and an Iron Clad guarantee protect buyers of "Central" phones. Not in the Trust. Makers of reliable goods at correct prices. Write for FREE 60 Page Instruction Book. CENTRAL TELEPHONE & ELECTRIC CO., DEPT. 23, DALLAS, TEX. OR ST. LOUIS, MO.

USE OUR MONEY
Establish a pleasant, profitable and lasting business of your own. Be your own boss. We start you in the profitable business which will make you independent. We are practical men having worked up from the make-over. We are glad to help you. What we did you can do. Free Quilt. Our 24c per book explains everything. Write for it today. Consolidated Portrait Co., 200-197 W. Adams St., Chicago

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will clean them off, and you work the horse same time. Does not blister or remove the hair. Will tell you more if you write. \$2.00 per bottle, delivered, 30c. 40 from
ABSORBINE, JR., for manning, 2500 Locust, Care of Various Vets., Vicksburg, Miss., Ruptured Muscles of Ligaments, Inflamed Glands, Always Pain. Genuine info. only by
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Fort Worth, Texas
DALLAS FORT WORTH

SEEDS
Catalogue and Price list for 1908 now ready. If you want good fresh seed, write for it, it is free.
David Hardie Seed Co.,
Dallas, Texas



Published weekly, every Wednesday, by The Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union Publishing Company, Rooms 11, 12 and 27, Gaston Building, Lamar and Commerce Streets, Dallas, Texas.

O. P. PYLE
President and Editor.

GEORGE B. LATHAM
General Manager.

Terms of subscription, one dollar a year, in advance. Entered as second-class matter November 13, 1906, at the postoffice at Dallas, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Advertising rates will be furnished on application.



The Home is the hope of the Nation. When every family owns a home free from mortgage, then indeed we have a prosperous country. To own a home is a duty every man owes himself, his family and his country.



FARM PRODUCTS PRICES.

Established for 1907 and 1908 by the National Farmers' Union.

This schedule of prices was agreed upon at the National Convention of the Farmers' Union held at Little Rock, September 3, 1907, and all members are expected to maintain them during the year 1907-1908. The key to success in this organization is Controlled Marketing. Don't dump your crop on the market the month you harvest it. Help to make these prices standard by refusing to sell for less. Organize and stay organized:

Cotton, middling, per lb.	15
Wheat, No. N. red, per bu.	100
Corn, No. 2, per bu.	35
Cotton seed, per ton	20 00

Do not sell for less.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Take a look at the label on your paper and see when your time expires. Your paper will stop when your time expires. This is best for you and for us. Renew before your time is out. You can not afford to miss an issue. To keep fully posted on the workings of this great National organization, you must read The Co-Operator. Be sure to renew in time.

Warehouses is the word now. Build them everywhere.

You want to work on your non-union friends now with vigor and enlarge the Locals.

Shun mortgages. Raise your own living. Build Warehouses. We will win then sure.

Your wife can raise eggs and poultry and butter to buy the sugar and coffee and such things and you can raise the rest.

Plant hogs. Plant hominy. Plant potatoes—plant everything you can raise to eat for yourself and your livestock and be independent of the world.

Remember, there should be not less than 1500 warehouses in Texas by the first day of September next. They ought to average 1500 bales each.

What is the matter with doubling the number of Locals and doubling the membership of each Local this year? Wouldn't that be glorious? People can do anything when they try.

It is not long now until picnics will be ripe, and then is your time to do good Union work. Let the Locals give picnics and have their non-union neighbors and friends as guests and get them into the ranks that way.

"Diversify, diversify, or we perish." Webster said educate instead of diversify, but in this instance they mean nearly the same thing. We must raise our own living at home that we may be able to stand fast and hold our cotton.

Be sure and read our front page article. It will tell you the plan the Texas delegation agreed to unanimously in a meeting it held at Memphis. Study this proposition and see what you think about it. Discuss it in your Locals and write to Co-Operator your views on it. It will be presented to the National Union at its annual meeting this year and it will be pressed by its advocates. If it is adopted by having studied and discussed it, you will be the better able to carry it into effect.

TAYLOR OF TEXAS.

There were many notable speeches made at the great Memphis meeting, but the most remarkable one we heard was made by Tom Taylor of Coleman County, Texas. Tom is a great believer in co-operation all along the line, and through his influence and by his work a Farmers' Co-operative bank has been formed at Coleman, and has done remarkably well since the very day of its organization.

Tom believes in owning the banks and the other machines, and Tom is right.

His speech created a sensation and brought forth most favorable comment.

The Co-Operator would suggest that all who are interested in this matter write to him at Gouldbusk, Texas. He will take pleasure in telling you of his institution.

WAS VOTED DOWN.

Some very dangerous political matters were voted down in the late Memphis meeting. There are, and we suppose, there always will be, a few in the organization who expect all the good we are to accomplish to come through political channels. But it was shown at Memphis in many times the largest National meeting we have ever held that this class, though granted to be honest, are in a hopeless majority. But in their rugged honesty lies the danger. They will not lose a day from now till our next annual meeting spreading their doctrine and will bring it up and try to have it passed. It is not that The Co-Operator editor does not agree with most of the doctrine, for he does. It is simply and solely because The Farmers' Union is an industrial organization, believing firmly in business evolution and not a political organization. Now let all go to work with a courage renewed that the organization shall always remain an industrial and in no wise a political one. Let us be more determined than ever to form a class organization, a farmers' protective trust, if you please. The other Unions have formed a protective trust for themselves, and we must not stay behind the procession. We must go and do likewise.

OFFICIAL GRADES.

President Roosevelt in his recent message to Congress recommended that a law be enacted fixing the grades of grain, these official grades to rule in every grain market in this country, and of course to govern in all courts in suits growing out of dealings in grain. The idea is an excellent one, because every grain exchange and grain dealers' association has been fixing grades to suit itself, and always in its own interest, to the farmer's detriment.

Why would not such a law fixing cotton grades also, be a good one? Congressman Burleson from Texas has this bill pending in Congress. It provides that the Agricultural Department shall appoint a commission of experts to fix the grades of cotton, and that these grades shall govern in all exchanges and in all cotton sales. Let us hope that this bill may become a law, and furthermore, let us all do something to help this bill through Congress and to get the grain measure enacted also. If the Western and Southern Congressmen will unite on these two bills, they can defeat the opposition that will come from the spinners and their allies, against the cotton bill, and the grain exchanges and grain dealers' associations everywhere. These people are all opposed to any gradings of grain or cotton they do not establish themselves, because it is through grade manipulations that they do a vast deal of their swindling.

A CARD.

"To the Membership of The Farmers Union of Louisiana:

"We take this method of saying to the membership at large, that we, as your state officers have at no time lined up with either of the present candidates for Governor; neither do we intend to. Our mission is to look after the interest of The Farmers' State Union of Louisiana, which we are doing to the best of our ability. We also warn our boys against the political traps being set by politicians, and not to be too hasty in lining up with any political factions of this State. Remember by-gone days, but as American citizens, on election day go to the polls and vote your own convictions.

Respectfully,
"J. E. BELLARD,
"President."

"I. N. McCOLLISTER, Chmn. Executive Com.
Our Louisiana brethren are correct, as they generally are. It was the pleasure of The Co-Operator editor to organize the Louisiana State Union, now nearly three years ago. As an organization, they have lived in peace and prosperity ever since. They have believed all along that they were able to take care of themselves without any gratuitous advice from anybody, especially the advice of the politicians. The above clipping appeared in the Union Banner of January 8th. This splendid paper is published by J. W. Boyett, Jr., the worthy Secretary-Treasurer of the Louisiana State Union. In this issue Bro. Bayett also comes out strongly

against any of our officials using their influence, as such, for political purposes. Good for the officials of the Louisiana State Union, the Union Banner, and Secretary Boyett!

POLITICAL PIE HUNTERS.

Union City (Ga.) Union News.

"The political pie hunters are to be found in every State, every county and every militia district, some running for bailiff, some for Congress, some for the United States Senate, and some for the President of the United States, and many others trying to fix themselves preparatory to the announcement.

"The members of The Farmers' Union need to watch as they have never watched before in their lives. If you are not careful, my brother, some political schemer who is a personal friend of yours will be trying to get you to use your influence for his political advancement. This you should not do. Remember that your friend may be some other Union man's enemy. You cannot in any way use your individual influence with the organization for anybody's political advancement, without making yourself indelible to membership in The Farmers' Union.

"We also want to call your attention to the fact that old scheming politicians will put up their heads in every State, and when they fail to use the officials of The Farmers' Union for their own advancement, they will then begin to look for some means or methods by which said officials can be criticized, realizing that if they (the politicians) can succeed in destroying the confidence of the membership in their leaders, that the power and influence of the organization for non-partisan alignment will be very greatly weakened, and that perhaps by so weakening them and destroying their confidence that they (the politicians) will be able to carry at least a part of the organization with them.

"Brethren, you should be careful. Do not allow yourselves to be used for the political advancement of any man, neither believe the political lies told by any man, though he may be a man you have always considered to be a farmer's friend. For verily it often happens that everything looks alike to the old scheming politician, and he has no more scruples for doing the right thing than he has for doing the wrong. Hear every man make his speech, listen to what he says, go into the "private counsel of your own closet," there weigh well what he has said and consider it in connection with his past actions. If in your honest judgment you believe him to be the best man to fill the position of any man running, and that he will serve you and the people better than any other man, then vote for him, but even then do not try in the slightest way to use The Farmers' Union for his political advancement. You may work for him as a citizen, but not as a member of The Farmers' Union."

The above is taken from the Union News, published by our good friend, R. F. Duckworth, president of the Georgia State Union, and at one time National President. We are glad the boys in the other States have the same fears that The Co-Operator has. We know that if this organization is wrecked it will be by the scheming politicians, both in and out of it. There is danger, much danger, along this line now, and if our people are not careful, it will not be long till we will be in serious trouble. Already, some of our trusted officials in different States have fallen by the wayside, the waters of oblivion rolling over their heads forever, because they used their influence for candidates for office. The Co-Operator wants to warn those who are now engaged in it and who may be thinking of engaging in it; the membership will not stand for it. They will drive you back to the jungles from whence you came. They have determined, they have sworn that this organization shall not perish from the earth because of the scheming politician both inside and outside of it.

A REVELATION.

Mr. Charles M. Harger, in an article in the American Review of Reviews Magazine, on the subject, "The West's Financial Revelation," says: "In the vaults of the Western banks are securities based on the things people must eat and use, on the contents of cold storage buildings and of warehouses that will soon be needed. As these goods are purchased they will be paid for, and the banks will get their money. Bright skies and commercial activity should first come where such conditions exist. So long as the sun shines and the rain falls on the fertile acres of the West, financial distress cannot long continue. A large portion of the past season's produce is yet in the bin or remains unharvested in the field. It is not such a crop as that of 1906, but with the higher prices prevailing in October it was estimated to be worth more money. The farmers, looking at this and considering the newly planted wheat which is going into winter in excellent condition throughout the Southwest, are unable to find cause for pessimism. It is perhaps not a bad thing for the West to have been awakened out of its sectional self-sufficiency and to have it brought home sharply that this nation is one in business

and finance, as it is in political organization. When normal conditions are restored, there ought to be accepted a broader and more helpful sympathy between East and West, a realization that will have a strong influence in the safer adjustment of mutual interests. The West has had a striking object lesson in national finance, sharing its revelation with the East, which perhaps underestimated its dependence on the nation's granary. Both should gain an experience not to be forgotten."

Mr. Harger writes too lucidly and smoothly in this article to presume that he does not know what he is talking about. He evidently knows very well and it is equally evident that he is not writing what he knows. He is writing in the interest of the East. He is throwing himself into the breach, pen in hand, to defend the Eastern financiers, the bankers, stock jobbers and other buccaners who precipitated the panic in October of last year that is but just beginning to loosen its tentacles. Mr. Leslie Shaw, ex-Secretary of the United States Treasury, and now at the head of one of the New York financial swindling concerns, told Wall Street that the West had lost confidence in the East and at last saw the financiers, trust magnates and promoters of that section in their true light, to be the real grasping grafters they are and would never trust them again.

Just as Mr. Frederick Upham Adams is now in Texas writing a serial fake seeking to hoodwink the people of Texas into believing Mr. H. Clay Pierce is a saint and a martyr and his Waters-Pierce Oil Company the real, genuine thing, the only oil company on earth that is not greasy and that does not bribe people, nor even loan them money save from purely philanthropic purposes, so Mr. Harger is evidently aiming to write back the Eastern money sharks into the good graces of the West. He will probably try his hand on the South next, but we can tell him now he will have his labor for his pains. It will be "love's labor lost." He can, however, earn his salary, as Mr. Frederick Upham Adams is doing.

Co-Operator is aware that the farmers of the West are in good financial shape, thanks to their own shrewd management in the construction of their own elevators, the pricing of their own products and the selling of them for those prices. The South, however, has not fared so well. We have had a harder row to hoe and more enemies, better equipped and organized, than our brothers of the West, consequently we are not having such easy sailing.

Mr. Harger is undoubtedly right if he believes he can make the West or the South believe "that this Nation is one in business and in finance as it is in political organization." Both the West and South know better, for we know that it is exclusively East "in business and finance," and the West and the South, that is to say the great Northwest and the great Southwest intend to see to it that the Nation does become "one in business and finance," and that the Nation itself shall attend to its business and its finances and not a few greedy, grafting financiers of Wall Street, as has so long been the case to the robbery of the entire public and the enrichment of these few pirates, Mr. Harger is seeking to bolster up.

The Northwest and the Southwest create this Nation's genuine prosperity and swell its cash balance in the export and import ledger and they intend to share in the prosperity they create, and hereafter see to it that the Nation itself is itself and not the puppet of a little junta of Wall Street cormorants. It will take a little time to round up all the thieves and to cleanse the Wall Street stable of its corruption and muck, but the lines are being laid and the work will be done, and well done. Prison walls are yawning for more than one "captain of finance."

IS THE FARMERS UNION A TRUST?

Mr. Theodore Price, the American agent of the European spinners, employed specially to work down the price of cotton and to defeat The Farmers' Union in its demands for 15 cents for middling cotton, says the Union is a trust. Mr. Price, in one of his letters to merchants and bankers and others in the South charged boldly that the Union was a trust in restraint of trade.

Let's see about this thing a little. When we read history and go back a couple or three or more centuries and interest ourselves with the records of events of those days we find that with the dawning of our latter day civilization and enlightenment came the organization of guilds, class orders of various trades workmen in England, and we also know that Great Britain is full of farmers' organizations and all her colonies have followed in the wake of the mother country in these orders of the agricultural classes. We see that in this country every town and city has its various trades unions, every class of artisans having formed themselves together in compact organization and these different class orders having, as integrals formed State federations, the several State federations amalgamating into a great National federation.

Not only have the different trades or artisan classes come together in solid mass, but we see also the many different commercial classes coming together in organized bodies—the Grocers' Association, the Hardware Men's Association, the Dry-

goods Merchants' Association—in fact, all along the line of the multitude of business undertakings. Looking further, we see also that the bankers have their District, State and National associations.

Every calling in life has for years had its organization, even the lawyers, doctors, school teachers and preachers. All have been brought into existence for the mutual protection, benefit and betterment of its members pecuniarily, educationally, socially, morally. And at last the farmers, that class upon whose efforts and prosperity all the others are absolutely dependent, have come together in The Farmers' Union. They have come together for the same reasons the others come together. Each one of the others will tell you that an imperious necessity, the law of self-preservation impelled its membership to come together, like cattle on the plains, herd in masses in a northern, or as the pioneer settlers clustered beneath the shadowing walls of forts or block houses for safety from savage hordes.

Is the Standard Oil Company a trust? Mr. John D. Rockefeller and his associates, with saddened countenances and sobs in their voices, reply that "We have brought the price of oil down from \$1.00 per gallon to 10 cents, so that the poorest man in all the land may have a light in his humble home." Is the United States Steel Association a trust? Mr. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Schwab and the doubly married Mr. Corey answer "that the iron and steel trade is the barometer of the Nation's commercial prosperity and just to look at the stupendous volume of the country's trade." And so it goes on down the line and up the line and sideways on either side. Everyone gives a negative assurance. Some of the reputed ablest financiers of this country, with some of the learned judges on the bench, State and Federal, and many of the noted political economists, college and university presidents, and not a few of the distinguished gentlemen who pose as statesmen, all declare that trusts and combines are needful, absolutely requisite, for the growth, advancement, development and commercial, industrial and financial welfare of the country.

So, if these great combinations of smaller corporate bodies into aggregate corporations, above mentioned are not trusts, how can The Farmers' Union be a trust? But the question arises right here, "suppose it is a trust what are you going to do about it?" As American citizens we have come together, we, the farmers of this country, 2,000,000 strong, and growing every day, into an organization known as The Farmers' Union for the purpose of mutual protection, to establish and maintain self-protection, to establish and maintain the right to fix the price of the products of our fields, our cotton, grain, meat stuffs, fruits, vegetables—everything that the agricultural lands of this country produce, no matter what it may, planted, cultivated, raised and gathered by our brain and our toil for ourselves and we are going to do it, trust or no trust. If we are a trust, we glory in it, and intend to continue to be a trust. We, the farmer of the East and the West and the North and the South from center to circumference of this country, are its mainstay, the very life, the very prosperity, the very defense, safety and salvation of this Nation. It is our Nation. We have made it what it is and we are going to continue to make it better and grander every day, and the more so, the better, the more readily by reason of our organization. We, the farmers of these United States, propose to build greater than any other interest. The trust and combines and syndicates and financial concerns shall be subservient to us and acknowledge their dependence upon us. If we do not want to raise cotton a given year we will not raise any. If the grain supply must be regulated we will regulate it. We have not started out to do anything arbitrarily, we shall not be unjust to any man or to any interest, we shall not practice nor countenance extortion nor usury, having malice for none but good will for all. We want only justice for ourselves which we intend to have, and securing it for ourselves shall do justice to everyone else.

We are a close corporation. We are simply and strictly a business organization proceeding in accordance with honest, legitimate business principles. While the feelings of brotherly love and the soul of the Golden Rule live in our hearts and fill our whole beings, we are doing and will do nothing from mere sentiment, but from the cold, naked standpoint of business.

We are doing nothing, contemplating nothing, as an organization nor individually, in restraint of trade, but on the contrary, for the expansion of trade, for the enlivenment and upbuilding of trade not alone in our own respective lines, but in all lines, for our class uplifting and betterment, for the advancement of education and the diffusion of learning among ourselves, especially our children and everywhere. For the greater wealth, glory, power and prestige of our Nation for a true and genuine prosperity and not a bubble, wind and water inflated, mythical prosperity, based on nothing, emanating from nothing, characterized only by fraud, corruption, bribery, perjury, injustice, theft and highway robbery.

Look at us. See the grandeur of our proportions. Behold the courage of our hearts and souls speaking through our faces. Yes, if you please to so believe, we are a trust, a fearless, determined trust, and what are you going to do about it?

Home Circle Department

BROTHER AND SISTER.

The love of a sister for a brother stands apart from every other love in the world, if but for this cause—that it is the only affection which can truly survive and withstand the administration of home truths.

The most tender of parents are well aware that such must be sparingly administered indeed, if they are to retain the love and the confidence of their offspring; whilst if not nature, at least civilization forbids a child to communicate his opinion of their merits or demerits to the authors of his being.

The most romantically attached husbands and wives know that, if the mirror of truth be held up too often to the weaknesses of human nature, the illusion on which all romance is primarily based must vanish. The lover dare not blame his mistress overmuch, lest love should be drowned in resentment; nor must the friend treat his friend's feelings roughly lest he lose his friendship.

But the brother may say what he will to his sister; may deride her absurdities, scatter her prejudices; and if she loves him, she but clings the closer.

The relationship, at its best, is the perfection of human comradeship; with all life's earliest memories to sanctify it, and every hope and ambition for the future to lend it an interest which can only increase with years.

A MOTHER'S INFLUENCE.

"Yes, I know it's God, but mothers help a lot!"

The little boy who said this (in answer to somebody's statement that it is God who makes people good) had that right idea of a mother's influence. It is one of the blessed arrangements in God's plan that he lets the mothers help.

There are mothers who hinder. That seems a hard thing to say, but it is true. They usually do it by trying to help too much, and too obviously. It is a very little while that babies ought to go in leading strings. Or, at least, the strings ought to be so fine as to be almost invisible. Early in the game of life the little people ought to be allowed to find their own places in the playground, to begin to fight their own battles, to bear their falls and bruises and to learn from them.

BELIEVES IN CO-OPERATOR.

Words of Commendation That Fill Us With Gratitude Because We Feel They are Just.

Editor Co-Operator. I visited Valley Creek Local Saturday, Dec. 28th, and under the head, "Good and Welfare of the Order," spoke for The Co-Operator and its able editor and the absolute necessity of each member taking the paper and reading it, and abiding by the doctrines as expounded therein. I found that each member of this Local had made a total failure of farming this year and money is therefore scarce, but four of the brethren subscribed and I had them turn the money over to our secretary to be forwarded to you.

I have had a great deal of experience in newspaper work from editor of a 2x4 county weekly up or down, as you may choose to call it, to canvasser, and my opinion is that The Co-Operator should keep men in the field everywhere to urge the value of such literature upon our membership. We must have information from first hands, straight; so that our members may speak with no uncertain sound. The National Co-Operator, just as it is edited weekly, is as essential to the life and perpetuity of The Farmers Union in the South as bread is to the sustenance of the physical man.

"We must educate, we must educate, or we must perish" has lost none of its significance, nor place nor power to build men up and maintain that decorum and unity are necessary to success since the day the great Webster uttered it. It is a truth now just as potent as it was a hundred or a thousand years ago. We need line upon line and precept upon precept, here a little and there a little, and all the

Did you ever see a little fellow try to help his father carry a big basket of apples from the orchard? How proud he is to strain and tug! He was told that he might help, but he wants to do the whole. Gradually he spreads his little fingers over the handle, and very likely gets in front of the basket, then comes disaster. He moves it a foot or two then pitches over and the apples all go rolling.

This is a parable of the way some people try to help God in his plan of bringing children up to noble manhood and womanhood. They want to do it all. Not one woman in a hundred can realize that God is bringing up her children. All he is permitting her to do is to help. When she nags them constantly, worries continually because they outgrow the kilts and baby-dresses of goodness, tries to be too intimate a providence in their daily lives, she has begun to hinder. Give the boys and girls a long rope. Keep one end in your own hand, to be sure, but always give them a sense of freedom. Nothing so makes for growing manliness and womanliness.

There are beautiful ways of helping, and the children soon come to look to you for these, if you are not too officious with offers and out-reachings. Teach them to use all their little wisdom in the settlement of daily problems; they will soon come to the end of their small store, and ask you to help.

"I never say 'I would' or 'I wouldn't' to my children," says one wise mother, "until they come and ask me, and then I don't if I can help it. I try to help them to use their own judgment."

"Why didn't you knock on the window or something, so's to remind me, mother?" said a boy half reproachfully, one day when he had forgotten some errand and gone off skating.

"You saw me going."

"I won't be either memory or conscience for you, my boy," was her serene answer. The boy was silent, but afterward he did not so easily forget.

A mother's influence must always be on the side of goodness. Her children must know where to find her. But it should be an influence, not an obvious controlling force. All efforts at character-building are futile which interfere with a child's personality or rob it of self-activity. "Just see how tame it is!" said a child who had caught a fly and pulled off all its legs and wings. It is not in such ways that we are to try to tame the wild, free impulses of childhood.

time more. The Co-Operator has sounded the tocsin of war and is ringing the changes on the exploiter, fraud and allround hypocrite to the queen's taste. Like the "butcher's cleaver which rives the body into parts where all stand confessed," each issue of The Co-Operator is a marvel in its diagnosis of the motives and ulterior of men high up and low down.

It is easy to deceive the average man who has neither the time or means to keep up with the sinister and wicked, hence we need men of wide observation and experience in handling the wary ass, the infernal hypocrite and liar, at any range, and then tell us about it. I read The Co-Operator and also the "big dailies", and they're not alike not at all, sir. Sympathy for the oppressed and hope for the distressed are with The Co-Operator. The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, is the distinguishing mark of The Co-Operator.

I have longed for just such a paper for years to act as the mighty palladium and defense of the people and The Co-Operator does to the dignity of that exalted right with a clear head and a brave heart to do its full duty.

With all his millions drawn from the pores of labor's skin and baptized in the tears of the enslaved orphanage and widowhood, with lust for gold on fire, yea, with all the cohorts of hell to aggr him on the grafter is doomed.

My subject is, "The Co-Operator and Class-Consciousness." If any Local in Rannels County needs a live, moving picture on the above question send me word. It's free.

J. S. GRAVES.
Ballinger, Tex.

Editor Co-Operator: I want to make a suggestion. We, here in the rice belt are all deprived of any material benefit from the Union as far as crops go. As rice men we have not been organized long enough and there are too few Unions among us to derive any benefit as yet from the marketing of our staple, rice. Later on we may supply our brother Union farmers with rice direct from our home mills, but that is not yet.

But we buy corn and oats and wheat feeds and we feel the need of some sort of "Union Directory". A few scattering ads. appear in The Co-Operator, but it seems to us that it would be a great advantage to all of us if every Union that sells supplies of any sort could have its address and a short list of what it sells, in The Co-Operator or somewhere where every other Union could get at it, so that when a Union wants to buy any commodity it could readily know just where to send for it to the best advantage. That is, least distance and least freight. The Co-Operator would multiply its value to us if it could furnish us such a directory if only once a quarter.

We sympathize with our brothers in the cotton fight, though we are not in it, but that is of necessity a fight largely on the enemy's own ground. When we co-operate among ourselves no one can reach us to do us harm. Money crops are a fine thing but home supplies are better. If we could enlarge the "Home" to mean the whole Union, how much more certain would we be of independence.

I realize that it is easy to ask for a directory, perhaps harder to supply it. But if every Union which has anything to sell would pay just a little for just a few words we could have it and we all would be benefited. The suggestion is prompted by our own needs as I said before, and I know that it expresses the needs of other Unions. I know in the rice belt, if the obligation we take to deal with each other according to The Golden Rule is worth anything it seems as though we ought to use it to the fullest extent possible.

Fraternally yours,
CHAS. T. LESLIE,
Orange, Tex.

Editor Co-Operator: I am a member of Mt. Tabor Local Union. We have fifty members.

We are holding a good deal of cotton. Our warehouse is just about full. Though, some are selling.

We need a good lecturer here. Please send us one, as soon as possible, to give us a talk. Brother farmers, what we need is a marketing duce, fill all the local trade and to house and a competent man to attend to it and to market our crop. The balance of it for us.

Brother farmers, we have got to help one another, or we are gone up Salt river. Let's not mortgage our crops to any merchant. I have made up my mind to live without mortgaging. If you can not get along without help, go to your Local and they will help you out. Remember that we all pledged ourselves to help one another and if we do not we ought not to belong to the Union. Now let's hold fast and remember our pledges. Stick close to each other and stick close to our leaders and listen to them in everything.

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FROM THE RICE BELT.
Feel Need of a Directory For the Mutual Exchange of Commodities of Various Sections.

Editor Co-Operator: I want to make a suggestion. We, here in the rice belt are all deprived of any material benefit from the Union as far as crops go. As rice men we have not been organized long enough and there are too few Unions among us to derive any benefit as yet from the marketing of our staple, rice. Later on we may supply our brother Union farmers with rice direct from our home mills, but that is not yet.

But we buy corn and oats and wheat feeds and we feel the need of some sort of "Union Directory". A few scattering ads. appear in The Co-Operator, but it seems to us that it would be a great advantage to all of us if every Union that sells supplies of any sort could have its address and a short list of what it sells, in The Co-Operator or somewhere where every other Union could get at it, so that when a Union wants to buy any commodity it could readily know just where to send for it to the best advantage. That is, least distance and least freight. The Co-Operator would multiply its value to us if it could furnish us such a directory if only once a quarter.

We sympathize with our brothers in the cotton fight, though we are not in it, but that is of necessity a fight largely on the enemy's own ground. When we co-operate among ourselves no one can reach us to do us harm. Money crops are a fine thing but home supplies are better. If we could enlarge the "Home" to mean the whole Union, how much more certain would we be of independence.

I realize that it is easy to ask for a directory, perhaps harder to supply it. But if every Union which has anything to sell would pay just a little for just a few words we could have it and we all would be benefited. The suggestion is prompted by our own needs as I said before, and I know that it expresses the needs of other Unions. I know in the rice belt, if the obligation we take to deal with each other according to The Golden Rule is worth anything it seems as though we ought to use it to the fullest extent possible.

Fraternally yours,
CHAS. T. LESLIE,
Orange, Tex.

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lished at random as some have done in the past. If we have a head let it be our authority for our most considerate action.

Success to The Co-Operator. May it live long and do much good.

O. A. YOUNG,
Hubbard, Tex.

DESPISE MORTGAGES.
Editor Co-Operator: Another Parker County Local is moving along nicely. We have twenty-four members at this place.

We are still holding for 15 cents for our cotton and will do so, and we condemn the mortgage system to the last. We will let the merchants keep their goods. We can live without them.

R. L. DALTON,
President.
J. F. JUDIA,
Secretary.
Garner, Tex.

SOUTH CAROLINA TRUE.
Editor Co-Operator: We are in the old Palmetto State of South Carolina, Anderson County. We have a live Union of seventy-two members, all good farmers, and they all say, Stick and stick they will, as long as there is a bale of cotton sold under fifteen cents.

Brothers, we are in the fight to win and win we must if it takes bread and water to do so. We are having a time. The banks are closed against us. We have one bank at Honea Path that did favor the farmers as much as it could. We are not fighting anybody up to this time. But if this goes on and the farmers are forced to defend themselves, the merchant and cotton gambler and all men, white, red or black, that are now against the farmers, may take warning. We want to be neighborly, but they are doing all in their power to keep us drawers of water and hewers of wood.

But we say this must stop. We have made them rich and they have the big head, and think they are made of better dust than the farmer who feeds and clothes the world and yet gets no thanks for his labor.

Mr. Editor, say to the brothers of Texas that we in South Carolina will have fifteen cents for our cotton or we will not plant any in 1908, and the cotton on hand will bring 20 cents in the fall of 1908. Stick a pin down and see if this is not the fact. But all we have to do is to stand firm, and we will get our price for the cotton.

Mr. Editor, we in South Carolina admire your boldness and pluck. Stick it to the gamblers and cotton spinners. They can't stand the truth nor the light, because their deeds are evil.

E. M. AMBROSE,
Honea Path, S. C.

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Poultry Department

SCORING CHICKENS.

Our present standard was built for specialty judges, and specialty breeders and bears the earmarks of specialty clubs throughout. Every class has a different scale of value in our present standard, the American, Asiatic, Mediterranean, English, Hamburgs, and Polish all having different value to different sections, making the all-around judge much study and work.

For Barred Plymouth Rocks and all American varieties the following is the scale of 100: Symmetry 8, weight 6, condition 4, head 6, comb 8, wattles and earlobes 6, neck 9, back 12, breast 10, body and fluff 6, wings 10, tail 9, legs and toes 6; total 100.

By this scale of value we now have 6 points each for color, for neck, back, and wings, 18 points for color on the three hard sections to get upon the Barred Rocks, and by the previous standards 12 was given to color upon these three sections, so now judges who have themselves posted must cut 1/2 more in these sections and is there any wonder that Barred Rocks and Silver Wyandottes score so low, by our up-to-date judges? We can see much of value in I. K. Felche's decimal score card and far more uniform judging than can be done by the most studious, painstaking judge with our present jumbled-up scales of value.

Articles to set fanciers to studying and posting themselves are valuable to all alike, and we hope more such articles in poultry department will help to enlighten and profit the army of readers. Much of value must come from a study of our present standard to all true fanciers. They must study the breed, their shape and value in different sections to understand a score card after receiving them from our judges.

PIN FEATHERS.

January 6 to 11 was Farmers' Week in Topeka. This was the time of the annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, also of the Kansas Improved Stock Breeders' Association, and the Swine Breeders' Association, and the Kansas State Poultry Association. In connection with the latter the State Poultry show was held during

the whole week at the auditorium. The leading agriculturists and stock breeders were at these meetings and it was indeed a treat for the farmers to meet with them and profit by their instruction and teaching. It will pay any farmer to take a week off and attend these conventions.

While in attendance at a poultry show it is a good plan to be on the lookout for something to improve the quality of your fowls next breeding season. If you have only common barnyard fowls, a pure bred cockerel of most any breed will improve them wonderfully. If you already have pure bred fowls and wish new blood in your flock, there is no chance like the present, and you should take advantage of it. Fanciers will sell stock much cheaper now than in the rush of the breeding season and the chances are against them having any stock for sale when you want it most. Buy at the poultry show where you can see what you are getting and be prepared for an early start in poultry raising in the spring.

The mild weather we have been having is conducive to active egg-laying but nearly everywhere eggs are high priced now and it will be well to stimulate the hens to produce all possible as there will be cold weather in abundance in January and February, and hens naturally fall off in laying in cold weather.

SOME THINGS TO DO.

The man who will find a cure for chicken cholera will do the world more good than the man who can repeat Homer in the original. The man who can destroy the mites and lice on poultry is worth more than the man who can exhumate a Troy or uncover a Pompeii. Direct your talents along lines that you fit, and add something to the sum total of human knowledge. Give more than you receive; it won't hurt you, but will help instead. Make a study of the poultry business. In the meantime write all you do not know for the poultry journals and help to make their columns more interesting. If you do not do this you will never write for them because when you have learned something about chickens and other fowls you will never want to write. Folks who understand chickens never give it away. You never see us telling anything.

THE STORY OF OLD JOHN.

He Wore His Overcoat in Summer and His Folks lived on Corn Bread But He's Independent.

Editor Co-Operator: Myself and husband belong to Pleasant Hill Local, in Rockdale County, Georgia. We have a membership of fifty members, ten of whom are ladies. We are getting along very well; have bought a lot of flour and other things through the Union, and saved money on them. Let me tell you, Mr. Editor, what I think the people have got to do. They have got to deny themselves of things they really need for one year, and stop this credit business. I knew a man who once lived in our neighborhood. This man was a very poor man, with a large family; he bought all his supplies on time; he lived with one of those rascals who run him, and when fall came he took the last thing the man had to pay him out of debt.

I don't mean to say that all men who carry people are rascals, for they are not. I know some good, nice gentlemen that credit people and treat them right, but as I started to tell of this man, say his name was Mr. John. He lived with Mr. B. Well when fall came, and Mr. B. took the last thing Mr. John had. Mr. John was fixing to move.

"Look here, John," said Mr. B., "if you will stay on with me another year I will give you my note for \$25." Well, Mr. John decided to stay; so he stayed on with Mr. B., and Mr. B. gave Mr. John his note for the \$25, thinking he would get to credit Mr. John another year; but Mr. John managed to get bread and never bought five cents' worth of anything on credit. His family lived on corn bread and water the most of the time and he did not even have a coat to put on that summer, except an old overcoat when it rained or turned cool enough for a coat. Old John, as he was called, would put on his old overcoat. I have seen him a number of times wearing his old overcoat in the summer time in rainy weather, but when fall came that year Mr. John didn't owe anybody anything. He had to sue Mr. B. to get his \$25, but he got it, and from that day until this Mr. John has been independent and that was twenty years ago. I remember very well a year or two after Mr. John left Mr. B. my brother-in-law came home from town one day and said:

"Well, you all used to laugh at Old John for wearing his overcoat in the

summer time; but he is independent now. I saw him sell cotton and put \$100 in his pocket and go home owing nobody anything."

Now this is a fact. It's not a hearsay. I knew both these men well and they are living today and Mr. John is doing well. If he had bought on credit he would probably have been still a slave. I know it is hard to deny ourselves of a great many things that we really need; but I think we had better do that if necessary than to be slaves the balance of our days.

Sisters, let's raise all the chickens and eggs we can and have plenty of vegetables, milk, butter, and canned fruit. We can help our husbands a great deal and encourage them to go to their Union and never miss a meet-

ing. Let's wear our same old hats and dresses and not buy five cents' worth of anything on credit. If people would only stay out of debt for one year and read Co-Operator, for I think that every Union man should take and read it! Before I would do without Co-Operator I would sell the last old hen I had to pay for it. Myself and husband are always glad when Co-Operator comes. We are Union from the crowns of our heads to the soles of our feet.

Wishing you success in your work; may Heaven's richest blessings rest upon you in this great fight which you are making for the people.

MRS. M. E. BAKER.
Conyers, Ga.

WEBSTER COUNTY UNION.

Editor Co-Operator: The Webster County Union met in Walthall on Dec. 13, 1907, with eighteen Locals represented.

Webster County Union was organized in July, 1906, with twelve Locals and today there are thirty-six Local Unions in the county with a membership of about fifteen hundred. The brethren are firm in the Union faith.

We have two warehouses filled with cotton holding for the minimum price. It has been reported that the cotton in the warehouses had been sold. This is not true. A few bales have been sold. There are eighteen hundred and thirty-nine bales in both houses, holding for the minimum price.

Our next County Union will meet in Walthall on Friday, Jan. 17, 1908. The following named brothers are to be installed into office: W. L. Mitchell, President; Albert McCain, Vice-President; W. A. Rodgers, Secretary-Treasurer; John McQuary, Chaplain; Bunk Lovett, Conductor; C. Norwood, Doorkeeper; J. W. Spence, County Lecturer. Executive Committee: J. A. Hunter, C. C. Duke, Willie Suggs. The above named brethren are expected to be present at the next county meeting to be installed. Please let's have a full delegation.

J. E. STEWART,
County President.
Mathiston, Miss.

DETESTS MORTGAGES.

Editor Co-Operator: I am a member of the Union and have been for about eighteen months, and I started to reading The Co-Operator and I wish I had been reading it one year sooner, and wish that every member of our Union would take the paper. I will try with all my might to get my brothers and sisters to take The Co-Operator.

We are doing very well in this county. We have our County Union here and we are working to do away with this mortgage business and if the Union stands together and helps one another we will destroy the bear and the bull gamblers.

H. J. THOMPSON.
Tillar, Ark.

We Have A Home That You Can Own

Agricultural and Stock Farm Land Investments a Source of Sure Profit in the Southwest.

LAND INVESTMENTS A SOURCE OF PROFIT IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The desire to invest in farm lands continues to grow for very good reasons, chief of which is the financial soundness of the investment. The Hon. Jas. Wilson, in his annual report for 1905, shows that during the last five years the value of the medium farms of the country has increased 33.5 per cent. In other words, every sunset during the last five years has seen land increase \$3,400,000, a growth unequalled in any other line of business. Thirty-five per cent of our population are farmers who, during the last decade, have produced an amount of wealth equal to one-half the entire National wealth produced in three centuries of the Nation's history. It is well for the farmer and those interested in other industries to bear these figures in mind in investing their earnings.

It is claimed that our population doubles every thirty years. This means that history repeats itself and land values are sure to double in value during the same period. Therefore, those who invest in land to-day are not speculating on the possibilities of land rising in price. Good cheap land areas are gradually narrowing down and the time to purchase is now. There are a number of tracts of land in the country that offer advantages to investors, renters and young farmers seeking land holdings.

Much of the land offered for sale is on long time, low rates of interest and small payments down. Many farmers are putting their surplus earnings in the purchase of land. We know this is a wise move. It is sound financial foresight. The successful farmer who invests in land is handling a proposition with which he is familiar and which beats any "get-rich-quick" scheme ever invented.

BALANCED FARMING.

We hear much about great profits of specialized farming. Some of the reports seem exaggerated, but upon investigation hold good. There is a reason why a man can make greater profits from a specialty. He gets to know all the ins and outs, devotes his whole attention to one thing, and more than that, the specialist is more apt to farm fewer acres. He concentrates all his energies and his capital on the object in view.

But the whole truth is not told in the story of great achievements with a single crop. We hear of the profits when the year was most favorable. The failures are not reported. Success generally comes at a high price. Specialization is always attended with great danger. If it be a grain or fruit that is raised successively insect enemies and fungus diseases are sure to get a foothold and cause great loss and anxiety. If it be some special stock that is the object in view some disease arises sooner or later

to dampen the ardor of the most enthusiastic advocate of specialization or the market goes off for a series of seasons and the way is dark.

There is little reason why diversified (balanced) farming should not be as thoroughly worked out as any specialty. It could be if men would farm less land and study better methods. The diversified farmer has the specialist beaten at every point of the game. It takes nothing less than a tornado, which actually sweeps everything off the farm to beat him out. If grain is cheap one year he can keep it or feed it to stock. If rust ruins his oats he's pretty apt to have good corn, or if it is too wet and cold for corn, it is fine for pastures. If hogs died with cholera he's got his cattle left, and when there are no apples he has an abundance of something else to sell.

With diversified farming the time is more fully and profitably utilized and the whole family finds congenial work to do. It brings out a better development of mind and body in every member of the house.

A CHANCE TO GET A FARM AND HOME WHILE LAND IS CHEAP.

There has never been in the United States a greater movement in cheap lands than the present season. Railroads everywhere report crowds of landseekers, which has made it necessary to not only add extra cars, but in many instances to run extra trains. There is no question about the advisability of buying cheap land. Even if you do not want to move upon it at once you should by all means investigate the matter with a view to buying simply to get the benefit of the advance in land values. Every reader knows personally of dozens of instances where people have made big money buying cheap lands. See what you could have made if you had bought land right around your own home twenty years ago. There are just as big opportunities to-day. Land will advance more the next few years than in the last twenty because cheap lands are getting scarce and there will never be but one crop of land.

We have had many letters asking for advice in the matter of location, where to buy, how to buy, terms, etc. Feeling that our readers would be interested in the matter, we have carefully investigated the whole subject, prices, soils, crops, rainfall, prospects of advance, etc. There is new land in localities where a single crop will pay all except the first payment on the land. There is land which can be bought to-day at from \$6 to \$12 per acre which is sure to advance rapidly. Hundreds of thousands of acres have advanced \$2 to \$5 per acre during the past twelve months. It is still advancing. There is land which is as fer-

tile as any land in America on which only a small first payment need be made in the beginning, with very easy terms on the balance. There is good land which can be secured at very low figures adjoining a quarter of government land. The quarter owned by some land company can be bought now by small payment down and then in two, three, five or more years you can move onto this quarter and some member of your family can homestead the adjoining government quarter. There are lands which can be farmed the very first season and large crops raised. There are good fertile lands which can be bought on small payment down and small annual payments until paid for. This enables hired men or other salaried men, young men not married, etc., to buy a quarter and get it paid for before moving onto it.

We feel we can do no better service than to put our readers in touch with these opportunities. No matter how much land you own you can make no better investment than to buy more. If you do not own any land, now is a good time to start. A quarter section may be secured by the payment down of from \$1 to \$5 per acre and in some instances they can be bought on shares of the crops. No man is so poor but that he can buy land if he wishes.

If you are interested and wish such information as we have, write us answering the following questions and we will give you the benefit of the investigations we have made:

How old are you? What family have you? Do you want to buy for a home or for the profit of an advance? Do you want to move onto the farm at once? If not, when do you? Do you want to raise field crops, live stock, truck or fruit? How much could you pay down? Do you prefer South or West? Do you own land now? How much? Are you farming for yourself? Would you prefer to get medium high priced land in well settled country, or very low priced land in new country?

With this information we can judge as to what section to recommend to you.

We want to urge the young men to take up this matter of cheap land. We can put you in touch with land you can buy on such easy payments that you would never notice them, and in a few years you will have acquired a valuable asset in land.

DO YOU WANT A HOME?

If you do, the National Co-Operator can locate you in the richest and most healthful section of undeveloped farming section of the great Panhandle of Texas.

A GREAT COUNTRY.

Located in the center of the shallow water belt of the south plains, and is surrounded by the greatest body of rich land in the United States.

SOIL.

The soil is a dark loam (no sand in it), from two to seven feet deep. The soil is the same color and class of land as Arkansas, Red and Brazos river bottoms, and equally as rich and level; is covered with a heavy turf of Buffalo grass, and very easily cultivated after the turf is broken.

WATER.

The whole country is underlaid with an inexhaustible supply of pure, cold, soft water, which can be obtained at from 25 to 75 feet. The cost of drilling wells in this section is 35 to 40 cents per foot, and water can be obtained on any square yard of it at the same depth. There is no hard or mineral water in any part of this section, and it is as cold as any one desires to drink. In fact, it is the best watered section in the United States.

CROPS.

Indian corn, Kaffir corn, milo-maize, broom corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, alfalfa and all kindred crops grow to perfection. Cotton makes from one-half to three-quarters of a bale to the acre; there is no boll weevil or other crop pests in this country.

Apples, peaches, pears, nectarines, cherries, plums and all kindred fruits grow to perfection. Strawberries, dewberries, blackberries, and all kinds of vegetables, melons, pumpkins and all fruits growing on a vine grow as finely as in any country in the world.

RAINFALL.

The United States Government Bureau shows that for thirteen years, from 1894 to 1906, both years included, the annual rainfall has been 24.87 inches. The rainfall during these years in the months of December, January, February and March has averaged .62 of an inch each month, while during the months of April, May, June, July, August and September the rainfall has averaged over three inches per month.

Every intelligent person knows that three inches of rainfall per month is ample to produce the best of crops, with proper cultivation, in any rich soil. Again, every farmer knows that more crops have been injured by too much rain than ever was injured for the want of it.

CLIMATE.

Owing to the fact that there is a very light rainfall during December, January, February and March, the winters are mild, the air is dry, crisp and exhilarating; no loss of stock from blizzards. The mean temperature of the winter is 36 degrees and that of the summer 74 degrees. These conditions make it one of the most pleasant countries to live in, in the United States.

SAND STORMS.

There never has been a sand storm in this country because there is no sandy land nearer than fifty miles of this county and no sand storms nearer than 150 miles south of it; neither is there any waste land—all of it is rich, level land.

THE PRINCIPAL TOWN.

Is situated in the center of the County, and near the center of the 50,000 acres of land. One railroad runs through it. Two more railroads have been projected through this county and through these lands.

PRICES OF THIS LAND.

The prices of this land is reasonable, considering the quality, location, water, church, school and social advantages. This section is now rapidly changing from a cattle grazing to a farming country and these lands will advance rapidly, hence now is the time to secure cheap homes in a country that abounds in rich land, good water and good health.

We will be glad to hear from all who are interested and will be glad to give you the most information possible. Address letters of inquiry in regard to this to the editor of the National Co-Operator and Farm Journal, Dallas, Texas.

DON'T BE A ROLLING STONE.

There is a definite reason why farmers should not be renters. It is bad for the farm, but the renter usually cares little for that. It is bad that he does not care, for it makes him shiftless. But the main reason is that to be a good farmer one must know the land he is farming. This can only be done where one lives long enough on one place to become thoroughly acquainted with every field. When a man knows every foot of land he is master over, he knows how to plow and cultivate each field. He knows where the manure is needed, where to grow certain crops with the best results for the future of the soil. He fits like unto a successful merchant who knows the individual likes and dislikes of his customers and can please them all so as to retain their trade. The renter is too much like the merchant who lacks that personal knowledge of his customers, and who is continually offending or displeasing and losing his customers. A field shows its displeasure, as it were, by refusing to give the farmer a full yield if he has sown the wrong crop or treated the soil in the wrong way.

The drifting renter gets in the habit of treating all fields alike without regard to their soil makeup, and he crops all to the limit for that reason only, without regard to the future. It is a habit that will ruin any farm and in the end result in failure for the farmer.

Settle down somewhere and get acquainted with your farm and the climate. Become a fixture in some locality, so you will be known and can be a power for good. The man who has farmed in every State never gets ahead much. He gets a wide experience, but doesn't stay long enough to practice it. The moving habit is a curse to the American people. It means the loss of that word "home." Settle down. Don't drift. Let us help you to get a home that you can call all your own.

Incubator Why's
Our new book telling Why's and Wherefore's of Poultry Flocks—Why Brel machines make most for their owners; how hatches are uniformly over ninety per cent with our machines; how we pay freight and why our prices are lowest—will be sent you free.
You owe it to yourself to learn the best method in raising chickens between Brel incubators and other machines. Write for our free book, which may be yours. It tells you whether interested in large machines or a small outfit.
BREL CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

WAREHOUSE MANAGERS
To satisfy both buyers and sellers your weights should be absolutely accurate. The only way to insure this is to test your scales daily with U. S. Government Standard 50lb testers. We sell these at \$6.00 a pair, f. o. b. Houston. Order today and write us about our warehouse supplies.
FARMERS & BANKERS WAREHOUSE BUILDING ASSOCIATION, HOUSTON, TEXAS

Heart Weakness
The action of the heart depends upon the heart nerves and muscles. When from any cause they become weak or exhausted, and fail to furnish sufficient power, the heart flutters, palpitates, skips beats; and in its effort to keep up its work, causes pain and distress, such as smothering spells, short breath, fainting, pain around heart, arm and shoulders. The circulation is impeded, and the entire system suffers from lack of nourishment.
Dr. Miles' Heart Cure makes a heart strong and vigorous by strengthening these nerves and muscles.
"I had palpitation and pain around my heart, and the doctors said it was incurable. I don't believe it now, for after taking six bottles of Dr. Miles' Heart Cure, three bottles of the Nervine and three boxes of the Nerve and Liver Pills I am entirely cured, and feel better than I have for five years, and it is all due to these remedies. I want you to know that your medicines cured me. It relieved me from the first dose, and I kept right on till the pain in my chest was gone, and I kept on feeling better every day after I quit taking it."
JOHN H. SHERMAN, Belding, Mich.
Dr. Miles' Heart Cure is sold by your druggist, who will guarantee that the first bottle will benefit. If it fails he will refund your money.
Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind

Address All Communications for Full and Free Particulars to
Editor, National Co-Operator & Farm Journal,
11 & 12 Gaston Building, Dallas, Texas.

LOOK AT THE LABEL ON YOUR PAPER

This Label Shows the Date on Which Your Subscription Expires

We know you do not wish to miss a number of Co-Operator. It comes to your home a welcome visitor, we are sure, because it is your paper. It is fighting earnestly, untiringly and with all the skill and ability at its command for you and your cause, The Farmers' Union cause. It is striving studiously, zealously, faithfully for the uplifting and upbuilding of the family classes of this entire country that they may prosper and by their prosperity make the country prosperous, happy, strong and great among nations. It is making a determined, unrelenting warfare against wrong and injustice wherever and however they exist, especially against the wrongs that have so long been

perpetrated against the farmers interests of this country. In other words, The Co-Operator is championing, defending and maintaining every right of the farmer that his condition may be bettered, his wife and children taken from the fields, the wife to be restored to her home where the wifely duties all lie, and the children sent to school that they may acquire that education needful to equip them for the great battle of life starting out upon the tremendous struggle upon the higher planes of educated Christian men and women.

There are 80,000 white women and three or four times as many children, working in the cotton fields of the South for a living, forced

there by the oppression and graft of the avaricious and to LIBERATE these helpless and defenseless ones is the high aim and purpose of The Co-Operator, and we know you are more than willing to help us do this by subscribing for Co-Operator, and thereby helping to scatter abroad the truths it teaches and the principles of The Farmers' Union that it sets forth and maintains continuously.

Read then your labels that you may know when your subscriptions expire and send in your renewals beforehand that the paper may keep on without missing a number. READ! READ!! RENEW!!! RENEW!!!!

Send all remittances and instructions to

THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR AND FARM JOURNAL,

Gaston Building,

Dallas, Texas

ABOUT CROP ESTIMATES.

The Possibility of Making Them Correct Under Present System of Gathering Data.

Editor Co-Operator: All through the history of extensive cotton raising, we have been deceived, or rather misrepresented, by the reports that are made of our cotton production.

In the beginning of the cotton gathering season, the government sends out men to make an estimate of the cotton crop. In some few cases it is probable that some of these men know a cotton patch from a frog pond, but in many they do not. If you will but

think, it takes a man with a pretty good knowledge of the cotton business to drive over a whole country and guess how many bales there is going to be made. It may be that some of these men will walk over your field and see how your crop looks. If there is no cockle burrs in it, but if it is too foul, they'll just drive on to the next farm and guess you have no average.

Well, I guess this all has a good intent, but does it prove up all right? Then we have the ginners' reports. One of the darkest and most hideous deceptions that has ever been practiced among us. In some cases we have an accurate report of gins, but as we go down the line, let's think a little ourselves. We reach the knowledge that about one-third of the gins are operated by the cotton seed oil trust. Are you willing to take a report from any such source and stand by it as the truth?

Especially after they have been trained up by the greedy speculator, that wouldn't know a boll of cotton from a bird's nest?

The farmers have been for many years, leaving their business to be looked after by the "business" man, for this simple reason: That the "business" man was in a position to advise, as he was experienced in the methods of finance, and commerce, and he was not, and didn't have sense enough to tend to this business ourselves.

The Farmers Union was founded for the purpose of arousing the farmer to the sense that he was being brutally robbed, and that he had sense enough to tend to his own business.

Let the good work go on! Let us march on step by step, and the next step for us to take is to devise some plan for getting an accurate report of the cotton crop as well as other crops. This can be done and The Farmers Union can do it. I will suggest a plan and ask that others write on this subject. Here is my plan:

Let each County Union appoint or elect a man to go over his respective county and make a report of the cotton crop as well as other crops by a very careful examination of the crops. Let each Local have a reporter to keep posted on the number of bales gathered, ginned and sold, stored in warehouses, held at home, etc., and to make a report of this each month. In this way, we can keep posted, as to the situation.

Bro. H. L. Graves, of Texico, N. M., offers some good thoughts in The Co-Operator of Dec. 4.

Wishing the Co-Operator success, I am, fraternally,

N. L. VOTAW,

Lampasas, Tex.

A FATHER IN THE UNION ISRAEL

Editor Co-Operator: Yes, Enon Local is alive, although we live away down here in East Texas and made a failure in crops, but we are ordering corn through our agent.

I want to say we are in the fight for 15 cent cotton or burst. I never have missed a county Union nor a State Union since I joined, and if the boys think that I am needed in the battle begun at Memphis, Tenn., I am in the war to conquer or die, but I think the victory is ours.

I am 70 years old and we have one member who is 87, my good old neighbor, J. T. Kirby.

We want to leave our children a free people. Boys let's love these cotton gamblers for they know not what they are doing, for it is the farmer and their children that make a living for the whole world. Boys, let's take the good Lord in this fight with us, for I surely believe that He will be with us if we will trust Him.

I have two grown daughters and four grown boys at home with me and the two girls have not asked me to get them even a new dress. They say that their old dresses will do them. We have got a plenty of meat and bread to make a crop with, and if the banks can eat their brick walls and gold and greenbacks we can go barefooted. Let's stick together boys like one solid wall cemented together and love our enemies and pray for them that spitefully use us.

I remain yours in love and truth. J. T. PRIEST.

GROWING STRONGER.

Editor National Co-Operator: We Farmers' Union people at Anderson are growing stronger in Unionism

and stronger every day in numbers. We now have about seventy members, most all pulling together.

We are holding our cotton for 15 cents, you bet. We have a large warehouse at Cushman and have dumped our cotton in it.

We have just completed a new Union hall in our little town.

Success to the Union everywhere. B. N. WEAVER, Secretary.

Anderson, Ark.

HOW TO WIN.

Editor Co-Operator: I can't sit still. I have to do all I can for The Farmers' Union.

I read in The Co-Operator a week or two ago about a poodle dog's wedding. I read in a book about a poodle dog selling for, I think, it was upwards of \$3000. Now just think of that. Just a nasty, dirty poodle dog! Now if some of our brother farmer lose one of his family and he is not able to bury it the Local has to do it for him, and it is all because we farmers do not get enough for our products. Now, brethren, and sisters, let us all wake up and wake up those that are asleep. There was a Local just three miles south of us that was asleep. There was not a lady member in the Local nor there was not a member who took The Co-Operator. We went down there one night, took a brother speaker and some Co-Operators and gave the copies to them. Now there are eleven lady members and six or eight members are taking The Co-Operator. I saw one of the members in Chandler recently and he said we did a lot of good by coming to visit his Local. Now, brothers, there is not enough speaking going on. Where you see a Local dying down take a speaker there. Read The Co-Operator to them, get them to take The Co-Operator and read it. That, I think, will wake them up. When we get our paper read I can't let it lay up five minutes. I want some one to get it who is not taking it, either a Union or a nonunion man.

I want to say, brothers, we are having a hard fight up here. We have no friends to assist us except a few non-union farmers. They are staying with us, but the merchants and business men are trying to cut our throats. The bankers here are our worst enemies. They say they have got their feet on our necks and are going to keep them there, but if every man or woman could see like I can they would not have them there much longer.

We haven't sold a pound of cotton yet. We are wearing our old clothes yet and I just feel fine, too. When I go out among the big bugs I try to feel as big as they do. I feel like we are the children of Israel camped on the bank of Jordan just ready to cross over in to the promised land, and we will get there.

MRS. J. C. THOMAS, Chandler, Okla.

Advertisements first appeared in newspapers in 1652.

The first horse railroad was built in 1826.

A WAREHOUSE COMPANY.

An Argument in Favor of Such a Scheme. "Will We Not Have a Solid Wall of Defense Then?"

Editor Co-Operator: "We cannot run politics and build warehouses also, and we've got to get busy and keep busy all next spring and summer building warehouses. We have got to have in Texas by September next year not less than 1000 more warehouses than we have now. We've got to have room to store our cotton, for we must be prepared better next year than we were this year to hold and fight and fight and hold and make the gamblers come across."

The above paragraph was taken from the issue of the Co-Operator published Dec. 18, 1907.

If the editor will allow me I wish to say that to the most of the above, I sincerely agree. As to politics we must never let it get behind our closed doors. Yet when we point out to the legislatures of our Nation and States wherein we are being imposed upon by the "Shylocks" of the day they must not ignore our humble pleadings.

I agree that we should have a thousand more warehouses in Texas. One warehouse in a county is not enough to accommodate the people who are in the most of counties. Then every Union man should put his cotton in a warehouse and not offer a single bale for sale on the street. Neither should he sell a single load in the seed, for every bale sold in the seed weakens the Union that much.

The warehouses are of a necessity. But to build a thousand more warehouses in Texas and that alone will give us "a solid wall of defense" I do not think so. Will not the gambler continue to do as he has done this year until much of the cotton has been dumped on the market? The gambler knows that under the mortgage system and by the oppression of such bankers and merchants as we find, not only at San Saba, but in other places, many of the farmers will sell.

We only need to complete that that we have almost perfected. Then how can we do it? Let us, while building more warehouses, organize a big Farmers' Union Cotton Company and let no one belong to that company but a farmer who is of good standing in the Union. Let him also be a stockholder in the warehouse if he wants to. A large company of this kind that owned even five hundred local warehouses in Texas, each company or warehouse being worth say \$1000, this would make a company worth \$500,000, which could through proper management market every bale of cotton raised in Texas direct with the spinners. This company would also be a rescuing one for cotton in distress. A company of that kind in this great State with that much money behind it could defy the gambler in the removal of our cotton crop and not allow a bale to pass through the hands of any one except the State representative of The Farmers' Cotton Union Company.

This is something that is practical and can be done. I dare say there is not a farmer in Texas but who

rather take a company of this kind use his money than deposit it in the banks, where no interest is paid ad where it is loaned to the grafter to buy cotton with in the fall. To organize such a company as this, I believe to be practical and will be doing business in a business way and will give us "a solid wall of defense."

R. V. PARR.

Bonham, Texas.

MISSISSIPPI ALL RIGHT.

Editor Co-Operator: Rogers Hill Local is on a boom. It was organized about a year ago with eight members and has grown to twenty-four.

I noticed in the last issue of Co-Operator that the gamblers say we people over here in Mississippi and other Southern States are selling our cotton at just what price we can get, the gamblers' price. I want to say that is a false report, a lie made of the whole cloth. Of course there was some cotton that had to be sold to pay debts, but that is over now, and a large part of our members are holding for the minimum price, 15 cents. And they say they must get it before they sell.

Unionism is quite young in Mississippi yet, but there are as true Union men and women in Mississippi as were ever born.

R. F. BRIGHT, Secretary.

Ashland, Miss.

BRO. ISAIAH BRIGHT.

Brother Isalah Bright a loyal, most esteemed member of Rogers Hill Local Union, died October 23, 1907.

In his death our Local has lost a most useful and efficient member and the cause of Unionism one of its most zealous and devoted adherents. Our county deplores the loss of a good citizen and his family a loving husband and father.

Our Local extends to his family our heartfelt sympathies in their sad bereavement and we speak this tribute of our appreciation of our brother's worth and of our kindly regard for him upon our minutes.

R. L. KIDD, For Committee.

Ashland, Miss.

DIRECTORY OF UNION OFFICIALS.

- National. Chas. S. Barrett, president, Bixbee, Okla. J. E. Montgomery, vice-president, Glasgow, Tenn. R. H. McCulloch, secretary-treasurer, Bebee, Ark. Executive Committee: W. A. Morris, chairman, Sulligent, Ala.; T. M. Jeffords, secretary, Elgin, Ok.; W. S. Miller, Lake Creek, Tex.; I. N. McCollister, Many, La.; S. L. Wilson, Eden, Miss. Alabama. J. F. Duncan, president, McShan. J. M. Pearson, vice-president, Florence. E. J. Cook, secretary-treasurer, Birmingham. W. A. Morris, State organizer, Sulligent. O. P. Ford, lecturer, McFall. J. N. Hutto, conductor, Lincoln. M. G. Lumsden, sergeant-at-arms, Dutton. M. J. Taylor, doorkeeper, Lawrence, Florida. G. N. Trawick, president, Mayo. W. G. Watford, vice-president, Esto. J. R. Anderson, secretary-treasurer, Union. Jno. M. Caldwell, chaplain, Jasper. S. Newburn, conductor, Madison. J. A. Jackson, doorkeeper, Jasper.

R. L. Bishop, sergeant-at-arms, Berryville. W. M. Carlisle, lecturer, Dukes. W. J. McRae, organizer, Harlem. Executive Committee: C. E. Pledger, chairman; W. C. Caldwell, secretary; J. L. Brown, J. M. Jenkins, G. T. Braswell.

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