

Southern
Mercury

United With

The
National
Co-Operator
and
Farm
Journal

THE
NATIONAL
GO-OPERATOR
AND
FARM JOURNAL

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Farmers
Union
Password

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Newsy Notes from the States.

Reports from State Organizers and Members.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

Editor Co-Operator:

I want to call the attention of the union brotherhood to a question of vast importance to a very useful and indispensable part of our membership, in fact, the guiding element of our standing and prestige as a free, enlightened people.

This question I have very rarely seen agitated in any of our popular publications and never as I shall try to present it in our Co-Operative Journal.

Question:

Should the wives and mothers of the agricultural part of our people be required or permitted to work in the fields as farm laborers?

I answer in the negative for many and various reasons. They were not created by our All Wise Creator in strength, disposition or temperament for this class of labor. The dress customs and habits of all civilized countries forbid it. Nothing except all cotton or all any other one special crop system endorse it. Even if healthy, able and willing to labor in any honest calling, a wife, as I shall try to show, when she has a home and a husband to care for, with such domestic industrial branches of labor added as more nearly conform to her part of the daily duties of life, has the most constant and laborious while the most profitable part of the daily labor that usually falls to the lot of husband and wife, doubly, trebly so when the duties of mother are added to her many other cares. See as I have seen, in fact, as an illustrative case, is now occurring under my daily observation. Mornings husband and wife rise early and after a hastily prepared and eaten breakfast hubby will say, "Come on, Ella, and let us go to the field. We are crowded with work today," and Ella goes with him, leaving their four little girls, the eldest but seven years old, asleep in bed with a little lunch left on the table for them to eat as they may when they awake. At half past eleven o'clock Ella and hubby return to the house, hot and tired, when hubby will say, "Now hurry up, Ella, and get us some dinner." Ella builds a fire in the stove and with all her morning's work on hand to do, has the dinner on the table ready to eat at twelve. As soon as eaten hubby will say, "Now, hurry up, Ella; pile up your dishes and we will go back to the field."

This is repeated at night, and with favorable weather five days each week. The sixth day hubby must go to town or attend his union or lodge meeting, and on this day Ella must do her washing, ironing and the accumulated week's cleaning up. Can a wife and mother under

this system perform her duties as a wife and mother to hubby, their children, themselves, their neighbors or their God?

Brothers, agitate a change from this system in your union meetings and keep on agitating it until some result is accomplished.

Should this subject be considered worthy of notice in our Union paper, I will later show how Ella can with less detriment to her health and the duties she owes her family contribute much more to the support of the family and a larger percentage in cash to the yearly savings by means better adapted to her strength and inclination and still have time left to care for herself, her home and her children as a woman, a wife and a mother. Observer. Silver Hill, Ark., 5-1-'08.

FROM CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.

Editor Co-Operator:

As I have not written to the Co-Operator since our new editor took charge of our "good paper," I thought that I would write again.

Our Local is doing very well but it could do lots better than it does if each member would attend the meetings regularly, and I think that they all should do that.

We enjoy reading the Co-Operator so much. I am always glad when it comes. But I want to correct a mistake in the last issue. Some one said that there is more cotton being planted this year but it can't be true as every body you can see or hear of is planting more corn, peas, potatoes, etc., and are going to raise hogs to have their "smoke houses" at home instead of up North, also to have plenty of milk and butter; so with all of that the farmers will sure not have to go to the merchant for very many things, and if they do they can raise corn and peas in place of cotton, for there is more money in them. There is just as good a market for corn, etc., as the "fleecy staple." So I hope people will not believe this "error" that is being printed. I don't think it should have been put in our paper, and I am going to ask our good editor not to let such a piece appear in our Co-Operator again, for it is a mistake.

Some people say our union will "break," but I say it will not. The union is here to stay. The farming class have been robbed by the speculators just as long as they are going to be, and instead of the union breaking I think some of the speculators will break and have to do something for a livelihood, instead of sitting up and feasting on the poor laboring class.

The people of the South have

learned more in the last three years than they ever knew before. A great many people are still holding their cotton for the minimum price, and they say they will hold it until next year or have it.

I think there are too many of our resolutions published; I believe we should have our work more secret, for if the speculators "resolve" to give eight cents for our cotton, they don't go to a news reporter and have it published so we can read, do they? So now let us do them like they do us, keep our secrets out of the newspapers. We all know them anyway, for we hear them at our Locals.

I want the brothers and sisters in Mississippi to write. It seems we are a little backward. Let's all get busy and come to the front with all the other states. I think one from every Local should write. The more good letters we have the better our paper will be. I think Mississippi is a dear old state and I want it to be represented better in the future.

Wishing the union and its many members success, also our new editor, I am, a true union girl. Bettie Burt. Crystal Springs, Miss., R. R. 2, May 11, '08.

Editor Co-Operator:

Having seen nothing from Local No. 652, I will ask space for a few lines.

We are not doing much business at present, only building up our Local so we can do some business in the future. We are taking in new members at nearly every meeting. We have about thirty members and have good attendance.

We have the promise of the attendance of one old gentleman eighty years old next meeting. So you can see we are taking in the old as well as the young; so let the good work go on.

We have arranged for a picnic in June, but will give the date in next letter.

Let all true brothers put their shoulders to the wheel and move along and gain a grand victory. Brothers, remember your obligations. We are too slack in our work. We must not sit down when we join this order, but work and get good material and we can influence others to join us.

Brother editor, we hope you success in your new home. Yours truly, J. R. Davis. Payson, Okla.

ENTHUSIASTIC IN ARKANSAS.

Editor Co-Operator:

If you will allow me space I will write concerning the Lanty Local. We are Union people in Arkansas. I have just left a County Union meeting. And a great meeting it was. Everything went smoothly and worked like a new machine. We are still holding our cotton.

B. H. Hilly. Lanty, Ark.

TRUE AS GOSPEL.

Editor Co-Operator:

I am a member of Harmony Union No. 384. There are a few of our local members who are trying to help the Union cause all we can. We believe in obeying the constitution and think every member should do that, and he will if he is a Union man at heart.

I am still holding my cotton. If every man that could have held his cotton would have done so, cotton would have been selling today for twelve and one-half instead of ten cents. I advocate cutting the cotton acreage for 1909 one-half, and raise more to live on and plenty of feed stuff for our stock. If we will cut the cotton down to half and raise plenty of corn, potatoes, molasses, and stay away from town, we will begin to see the bottom rail get on top, and Mr. Spinner will have to laugh out of the other side of his mouth or just grin it out.

Wishing our noble editor great success in his good work, I am, yours for the Union, John F. Burt. Crystal Springs, Miss.

LOYALTY TO THE UNION AND ITS OFFICERS.

Editor Co-Operator:

I feel such an interest in the Union that I desire space to say a few words.

I am proud that we can write to a paper that belongs to the Union and I hope that we will all give it our support as long as it continues to work for unionism. I believe that it will stick close to us if we will stick to it. Let us see who can send the largest list of subscribers to the Co-Operator.

What grieves me most is to see so many good writers that say too much against the Union. Now, brothers, if you think you see anything wrong in your Local or with the leaders, for the sake of yourself, your family and your neighbors, keep it within your local Union and write it to our leaders instead of telling it to the public through our paper. I believe our officers are doing what they think is right, and if we do not understand them let us write to them and tell them our complaints and objections and help them carry on our work. If we will do our part, they will do theirs.

J. G. Hendricks. Anadarko, Okla.

AS TO THE BUSINESS AGENT.

Editor Co-Operator:

I just want to say, hurrah for Bros. Calvin, Tyre of Dublin, Ga., and J. S. Weeks of Etheridge, Tenn., for their articles in the Co-Operator of April 30, defending the office of State Business Agent.

I want to say I know some members of the F. E. & C. U. of A. who believe that resolution was introduced into the State Union as a sop to the merchants (I, for one.) Now, I want to

say if we have to go to the merchants for advice about buying or fawn on them for the privilege of attending to our own business, let's stop paying dues and disband and get back in the old rut just as quick as we can. I want to ask who we are to apply to for prices on goods of any kind when we have no business agent. Now, if we have no use for a business agent, let's knock out Art. 3 in our declaration of purposes. I think the State Business Agent is one of our important offices and should be revived.

Let the Locals discuss this and send their views to the Co-Operator, for I firmly believe the question was not thoroughly understood.

Success to Co-Operator and the Farmers Union.

H. H. Hollowell, V.-Pres. Nolan Co. Union. Dora, Tex., 5-10-'08.

Editor Co-Operator:

As our Local has not been heard from, will say we are located in the northern part of Arkansas and do not raise any cotton. But we sympathize with the cotton raisers and favor the minimum price.

Our Local has a membership of about forty-seven, but is on a standstill at present. But we hope for better.

Fraternally, J. F. Edwards. Burlington, Ark.

VERNON CO., MO., ORGANIZES.

Editor Co-Operator:

The Farmers Educational and Co-Operative Union of America organized and elected officers for a county union, of Vernon county, Mo.

Officers elected: President, W. J. Mays. V.-Pres., J. B. Roberts. Secretary-Treasurer, Lester Moore. Chaplain, A. J. Danley. Conductor, Q. A. Cross. Sargent-at-Arms, R. C. Jones. Doorkeeper, W. C. Thrasher. County Lecturer, J. M. Ephland.

Business Agent, L. H. Smith. Executive Committee, John Frazier, Q. A. Cross, J. S. Nunn, L. T. Kennedy, J. B. Roberts.

With a large attendance, all enjoyed themselves. There was good speaking, good music, dinner was spread on the ground, there being plenty for all.

Indications are that the Farmers Educational and Co-Operative Union of America will soon cover the entire county.

Convention adjourned to meet again at J. M. Ephland's and enjoy a strawberry feast. We want all union members to be present and enjoy the good things of life.

We did not forget the National Co-Operator. Made up a club of ten subscribers. Same will come to you under a separate cover.

Mrs. N. A. Smith, Cor. Sec'y.

FARMERS AND RAINS REDUCE COTTON ACREAGE.

Editor Co-Operator:

Some of us up here in Tishomingo county, Mississippi, have reduced our cotton acreage this year and the extensive rains have forced others to reduce until there will be much less acreage than last year. We have two warehouses in this county and we believe that another will be built before the next crop. Several have cotton in the warehouses and they say they will keep it there until they get what it is worth.

Let us not wait too long to begin preparations to market the next crop. That has been our trouble heretofore. We have waited until the crop has been made before we have made our arrangements to market it and have then been forced to dump it on the market regardless of the price. J. R. Mann. Ming, Miss.

FROM STODDARD COUNTY, MO.

Editor Co-Operator:

The Stoddard county F. E. & C. U. of A. met on the 1st and 2nd of May, Friday night and Saturday. Met Friday night in open door meeting and had several interesting talks by the brothers. Saturday morning the body came together and called to order by the president, and attended to all business that came before the house. The next County Union will meet with the Poplin Local No. 384, on August 7th and 8th. We are expecting a grand time.

Yours for business, J. E. Gideon, County Pres.

A LIVE LOCAL.

Editor Co-Operator:

We seldom see anything in your valuable paper from this section, but will ask for space to say that we are bound to brag on the Co-Operator. Since it changed hands it has wonderfully improved.

We have a Local numbering about thirty-five members, but are sorry to say that some of them are getting weak because the minimum price has not been reached. Now is the time to stay closer together. We endorse the cotton mill movement in your city and think it the best thing for the Union. Let all Union brothers take hold and secure it. It would no doubt do more to win this fight than anything that could be put in motion.

We need a good lecturer in this section to wake up the sleepy brothers, and lots of material on the outside to work on; send us a lecturer and one that can give the pass word.

We have been a reader of your paper more than a year and will say we like its start at headquarters very well. The only objection we could see was that one sheet was taken up in an advertisement. We do not think that a good union paper like the Co-

operator should be spoiled with useless ads. Whatever its help to the paper, it takes the place of other news that would probably be of more importance to the readers.

Our County Union will be held in the country next meeting instead of in town. We think it a good idea as we cannot get as good attendance in the towns as in the country.

Success to Co-Operator. J. J. Upchurch, President Ezell Local.

SANITATION IN HOMES.

Editor Co-Operator:

The question of sanitary laws and regulations in the home is a very important one, yet many housekeepers wait until these is an excitement about fevers before they investigate the question, "Are my cellars and porches in a healthy condition?" you value the health and life of your family so will you watch after every corner of your kitchen, sinks, pantry, dish cloths and cook vessels, as decaying vegetables or spoiled food of any kind may spread the germs of disease through the whole house. The drain pipes from the kitchen and bath room are the most important part. If anything is wrong with them the whole family is in danger. Half the diseases contracted in winter, the time when people are more or less closely housed, may be traced to bad pipes and drainage and the only way to keep them in a sanitary condition is to flush them out well once a day and pour down them a strong solution of borax and water every two or three days. Nothing excels borax as a disinfectant, and while so many other disinfectants are unsafe, such as copers and carbolic acid because they are poisonous, the borax is harmless and yet very effective.

Poorly ventilated sleeping rooms are great breeders and feeders of disease and the rooms should be kept fresh and clean, with plenty of air and sunlight to penetrate every corner, and the housekeeper should watch that no causes producing foul air are allowed to exist. Even a vase of withering flowers is a lurking cause of disease and harmful dirt is not always that which is the most evident to the eye, as uncovered sloop jars, dusty carpets and the dust in the heavy draperies are all insidious foes to good health. It is waste of energy to sweep a room if you are going to return the greater part of the dirt to the floor again by careless dusting, and the best way to get rid of that dust and consequently of the bacteria is to remove it with a damp cloth or chamois leather. M. H.

LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION

Communications for publication should be written on one side of the paper only, and separate and apart from letters pertaining to subscriptions or other business. When writing an article for publication and a letter on business, use separate sheets of paper, so that the letter may be filed and the article passed in to the printers. In all instances sign full name to both.

Our Organizers Department.

News and Views from the Field

START THE EXCITEMENT.

Editor Co-Operator:

There is altogether too much indifference and inactivity in the Farmers Union movement. It's a dangerous thing to be idle. Stagnation is deplorable in any kind of business. The Rev. Sam Jones once said: "Stagnation is the next station to damnation." Last year the Farmers Union campaign was sizzling hot, and the fight was more exciting than a presidential election. There was not a day but what your lecturers and organizers could get a large crowd of interested farmers to talk to. Now you are about to let your battle go by default, while there is a greater reason today than ever for every union man to be on the alert, bold and daring.

We must not deceive ourselves much less others. There is a cause for the lapse of the burning enthusiasm that prevailed a few months ago.

The enemies of the farmers are making the most of their opportunity to bullyrag and harass them, and if possible discourage and destroy their faith in the Farmers Union, and drive them to the mastership of the gamblers.

It is indeed surprising to see so many farmers giving credence to the silly arguments of their known enemies—the very men who have all along encouraged the storm of opposition to the union of the farmers.

The silly twaddle has been dished up to the farmers that the holding of cotton caused the panic, and that the Farmers Union was directly responsible for the prevailing decline in cotton prices—that bucket shop laws in the South were adverse to the farmer's interests—that through legislation the bulls were dehorned, and hence the South was left to the ravages of the bears on Wall Street. These foes of the farmers and bucket shop chanters are not ignorant of the true condition, but they deliberately falsify in order to hold up their side of the question.

The truth is that one of the

greatest feuds among the rich families of New York precipitated the present panic, which came very near wrecking this nation. It all came up because the wife of Stuyvesant Fish refused to introduce into New York society the young daughters of E. H. Harriman, the railroad wizzard of modern times. This so incensed Mr. Harriman that he deposed Mr. Fish as president of the New York Central. From this the great interests lined up for battle.

On the side of Harriman were the Rockefeller banks and amalgamated copper interests. On the other side were Morgan, Hill, Carnegie, Fish and the great steel trust.

This war reached a climax last October. Both sides had brought to their rescue every available dollar, and there never was such a money pool in the banks of New York in the history of the nation.

Call money soared to 70 per cent. and but for the interference of the secretary of the treasury in his offer to deposit \$25,000,000 in the banks of New York, and then his repeated offerings, until the sum total that has been deposited reached the stupendous sum of \$350,000,000.

The Morgan and Rockefeller banks were the first to the pie counter, and thus the industries of the nation were saved from total wreck.

The man who would stand up and tell the farmer that the Farmers Union is responsible for the panic ought to be hit in the head in the place where his brains ought to be, and then kicked in the place where they are. And the old rabbit twister of a farmer who would gulp down such rot and believe it should be classed as a curious accident in society and caged for exhibition as the greatest mental monstrosity of the age.

The other day a little pop fiddled chirper and street speculator tried to disturb one of my meetings on the street by shouting the question, "When are you union men going to get fifteen

cents for cotton?" I answered him, "that I was not allowed to give our secrets away." The crowd laughed and enjoyed the joke, and then in all seriousness I told the farmers they were going to get fifteen cents for cotton the very day they quit selling it for less.

Now, I don't blame the speculator and the gambler; they are the product of the system, and they are going to hold the death grip on the farmers just as long as the farmers permit them to do so.

An old farmer who possessed a speculator's mind remarked to me the other day that the farmers were making too much cotton. This may be true from your standpoint, but it is evidently plain that you nor your class are not wearing too much. Right then the old fellow's pants were gabled up so bad that he would have been ashamed for the women to see him all the way round.

Every time the little speculator in town takes snuff some farmers think they have to sneeze.

Now let us start up a blaze of enthusiasm. Talk Farmers Union every day and everywhere. Get us revival meetings all over the country. If the little chanter in town taunts you as belonging to the fifteen cent crowd, come back at him and ask him if he belongs to the low price crowd.

If he wants to know when you are going to get fifteen cents for cotton tell him it's a secret of the union, and that he will have to join to find out.

Don't be discouraged, brother. The union is better fortified than ever to continue the fight. Build and maintain your warehouses, push your organization to the remotest bounds of civilization. Renew your allegiance to the cause of justice. Enlist in this great army as the soldier who enlists in defense of his country. Let your motto be, in the language of the immortal Travis, "We will never surrender or retreat, it is victory or death."

Yours for equity,
S. J. Hampton.

DON'T BE FOOLED.

Look out, boys. Don't be fooled or misled. Keep one eye, your mind and your heart on the Union. Keep the other eye on the gambler of cotton and grain speculator, for there is no good to come from them to us. You can hear it in every town: "We have done wrong and we made a mistake when we put the bucket shops out of Texas and other Southern states." They have and are bringing their influence to bear on the business men of the town and city, so they can tell us what a mistake we have made. Believe them not for I tell you they are the greatest enemy we ever had. They will go over the country telling all manner of tales about the Union going into politics, and that our officials are professional men and politicians, which they know is false, in order to divert your minds from the union. Don't be misled; stand by our organization and fight it out if it takes two generations, for they will never give up until we compel them to. They say we made a mistake. I say we did not, and I want us to ask the next legislature to make it a felony for any man, firm or corporation to buy, sell or wire, or write a future contract in or out of Texas. I want every farmer in the United States to ask Congress to make it a felony for any man, set of men, corporation or firm to send a future contract out of the United States or receive one into the United States. Then we can make a minimum price which will be controlled by supplying demands, then our minimum price will be flexible, selling to the world every month in the year as the world demands our cotton.

Why sell your cotton or other farm products as soon as harvested, pack the money around in

your pocket or put it in some bank, that the price of your produce may be depressed with your own money? What fools we mortals be.

To illustrate, take five bales of cotton to town. Sell it on the streets for say ten cents per lb., bales weighing 500 pounds. The buyer gives you his check to the bank for five bales of cotton, which will be \$250.00. You take \$25 home to meet incidental expenses, leave \$225.00 in the bank, next day take five more bales as above described. Sell it, go to the bank with your check and the banker pays you for the second five bales of cotton \$225.00 of your own money. Would it not be much better to sell every month and have your money coming in every month as you need it, than to dump it on the market as fast as gathered, which will enable the gambler to control the price? Stand by our organization and the warehouse system, which will in the end put the gambler and speculator out of business and put money that he unjustly secures into your own homes and to the benefit of your family, who produce it.

Tom B. Taylor.

Editor Co-Operator:

As I meet the farmers of Texas from place to place and converse with them about our business in a co-operative way, I wonder at the great progress we have made in the last few years as a business organization. Yet I meet men who will say, "The Grangers failed, the Alliance failed and I believe this Farmers Union will fail, too." However, when I meet a man like that I conclude at once he is not a thinking man, or else his memory is very short. He has forgotten that we were a failure singlehanded. To such men I always ask two questions and they are enough for them generally. These questions are, "Did you ever sell cotton at three and a half and four cents per pound?" They always answer, "Yes." Then I ask, "When did you sell cotton that low? Was it during the time of the Grange or the Alliance?" They all say, "No, it was after the Alliance failed."

Now, if that be so (and we all know it is) we had better not try it singlehanded again, for we see we were the greatest failure singlehanded. I started up the line through the Panhandle of Texas on last Monday, making one appointment each day and sometimes two. I stopped off first at New-ark and was met there by Bro. Thornton, the standby of Wise county in the cause of unionism, who informed me that the river was past crossing and that the members of their Local mostly lived on the other side of it, hence we didn't have a crowd out there.

From there I passed on up to Bowie and was met at the depot by Elder Thomas Williams, a man who shuns not to declare the whole counsel of God on the first day of the week and then practices what he preaches the other six by teaching those of our class whom he comes into contact with the duty they owe to each other and how we may emancipate ourselves from the credit system. His hair is frosted from the frosts of 70 winters, yet he is not too old to work in the cause of the farming class. This is best demonstrated to those who know him together with myself, for he walked a mile and a half to hear me speak that night after I talked on the streets of Bowie that evening, returning with me to Bowie that night, making a total of three miles. Yet some farmers who could do much good for the cause of humanity will say, "I am too old to join." I initiated this honorable old veteran into the Union at Roach school house, in Comanche county, four years ago, and he has been an enthusiastic worker ever since, always carrying his dimit with him

wherever he moves to, never failing to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ on Lord's Days and the plan of salvation to the farmers through the week.

The brothers in general are very enthusiastic in Montague county. I have promised to make them a two weeks' campaign in that county, beginning on the second week in June, dates to be published later on.

From there I skipped up the line to Wichita Falls, where I met the generous veteran, J. L. McConkey, the man who believes in doing things right, together with his jovial bookkeeper, who always makes people enjoy a visit to his elegant stone residence at Wichita Falls.

Wichita Falls was full up on side shows Saturday. There was a prohibition lecture and a medicine show on one street and a Farmers Union lecture and Mollie Bailey's show on another, but in spite of all these those who came to hear the Union speaking listened with patience and did not seem to be frustrated by the fuss of the brass band or the banjo picking. Too much cannot be said in praise of Wichita's Farmers Union people; they are generous, hospitable, good looking and good people. I enjoyed the hospitality of Bro. McConkey's family for part of two days, and I was never with people that I felt more congenial with than I did with them; and when I left he says, "Brother Holloway, the latch string hangs out. Tell all the boys my home is theirs when in Wichita and for none of them to ever pass my house without stopping."

I have succeeded in placing the Co-Operator in the hands of some more readers this week, which is a great consolation. If we could get the people as a whole to use their heads more and hands less and thus receive better pay, we would feel like we had complied with our title: "Educational Union of America." Then if every farmer would take the Co-Operator, sit in the shade (or go fishing and take it them with) and read it more, he would get pay sitting there or fishing, and I'm sure we had rather fish than to work. We will all agree that this is right but it is hard for us to act according to our belief in this case. And why? I cannot answer it unless it is to say we have just got in a habit of working in the field and cannot get out of it. Then let all who believe that the man who works the least gets the best pay begin to conform to his belief.

L. B. Holloway.

CORYELL LOCAL UNION PICNIC.

A reference to your Texas map will show you that Coryell county lies very nearly in the center of the state; that many little period-like dots show in many different places in the county, the names of which tell us that she is thus dotted with many villages. Near one little dot designated as Waldo lies Coryell church, in the northeast portion of Coryell county, and here Coryell Local No. 1689 has its home.

As far north, northeast, south and southeast as the eye can reach is one broad expanse of rolling prairie country, dotted with beautiful country residences and like a vari-colored map are the rich crops of corn, wheat and oats. The icy fingers of Jack Frost had scarcely touched the tenderest plant, and all nature was lovely to behold. Many oat fields were ripening for the cycle, and some oats had fallen before this harvester of death. We were told the yield would be good in many places while in others not so abundant. In this lively place, in this rich country, Coryell picnic was held May 9, 1908.

We believe a better citizenship or a more contented people cannot be found anywhere. They are prosperous, happy, progressive, cultured and refined. A

visitor in their midst was made to feel at home and was not allowed to go away hungry. The ladies seemed to have vied with one another as to who could produce the most tempting viands, and while we sat and ate the thought came to us, "Who has proven the best cook, to whom should the prize be given for such food preparations," and as we ate we decided in our minds that all of them were entitled to it.

The date having been advertised as the day on which Uncle Sam Hampton was to speak, drew a large crowd, and as his hour for speaking was set at one o'clock, short addresses were made in the forenoon by County Superintendent of Public Instruction, Prof. Blankenship, on the education of the youth of Texas, defects of the law touching upon the inequality to the advantages of city schools over those of the country, and desired amendments of the Constitution.

Brother W. S. Glass, county president, followed the Professor, generalizing the advantages to accrue to Unionism when its basic principles were lived up to in all respects.

Brother Sam Hampton at 1:30 launched out in full blast, giving us one of his characteristic speeches on unity and co-operation. He spoke an hour and a half, and little did we think the time so long so well and clearly had he set forth his subject, replete with appropriate anecdotes which, while myrthful, taught us distinctly the ideas intended to be conveyed.

He is clear, convincing, intensifying and specific to a marked degree, and though clothing his ideas with levity at times, it detracts nothing from the subject in hand. He made a good impression and inspired all with renewed courage. After his speech to the public, he gave us information in the lodge room at night which we hope to see culminate soon into an actuality.

Brother Simmons, who presides over Local 1689, has the work at heart, and one can soon tell who hears him that he is in earnest and desires the "specialist" as well as the others to attend regularly—the "specialist," as told us, is one who attends on special occasions.

These brothers have great faith in the Union cause and nothing will prevent their forward movement.

The welfare and interests of the visitors were carefully looked after.

In company with Brother M. Simpson, than whom there is no better Union man on earth, and who has 105 bales of cotton in our warehouse, we were cared for by Brother J. W. Merret at

75 FORASIS GOVERNMENT RIFLE
No. 64889
FOR \$2.75 we offer this 45-70 caliber game Springfield Breech Loading Rifle, complete with one hundred rounds of ammunition, a rifle that costs the United States Government at least \$12.00 to \$15.00 to build. They were bought by us from the United States Government. We can offer them at the ridiculously low price of \$2.75. There is really no better rifle made, no such offer was ever before heard of. Send us \$2.75, and we will send you the rifle, shell and cartridge all complete, and if you are not more than pleased you can return them all at our expense and get your money back. Look it over in our late 31c Catalogue. Write to us for the book, borrow one of your neighbors and see what wonderful offers we are making in guns and sporting goods, or write us a postal card and stamp may. Mail me your great gun offers free.
SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO

his beautiful new home. Being an old citizen of Coryell county, a loyal Unionist, and knowing him to be an honest man, we "feared no evil" while under his roof, and slept as contented as a babe in its mother's arms. This is fraternalism to its fullest.
T. S. Miller.

"ALFALFA SMITH'S" POEM.

- What makes the landscape look so fair.
- What blossoms bright perfume the air.
- What plant repays the farmer's toil, And will enrich the worn out soil? Alfalfa.
- What is the crop that always pays, And will mature in forty days, Resisting drought, the frost, the heat, Whose roots reach down one hundred feet? Alfalfa.
- What grows in loam, clay and sand, What lifts the mortgage off the land, What crop is cut six times a year, And no foul weeds in it appear? Alfalfa.
- What makes the swine so healthy feed, And never raise a hungry squeal, That wholesome food that never falls To put three curls into their tails? Alfalfa.
- What makes all other stock look nice, And brings the highest market price, What fills the milk pail, feeds the calf, And makes the cow almost laugh? Alfalfa.
- What makes the poultry as good as gold, When eggs at a big price are sold, What makes the happy colts all play While mothers graze throughout the day? Alfalfa.
- What plant has virtue in its leaves To cure worst forms of blood disease, A "Nutrient" for human ills, That's better far than draught or pills? Alfalfa.
- What seed does Smith of Sherman sell That always suits this climate well, The pure, the clean, healthy kind, The best that Texas farmers find? Alfalfa.

NOTICE

May 1, 1908.
Any local of the "Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America" which permits politics being discussed at their meetings will be punished by the cancellation of their charter.
J. E. GIDEON,
County President.

ABSORBINE
Removes Bursal Enlargements, Thickened Mucous, Inflamed Parts, and any Puff or Swelling. Cures Lameness, Allays Pain without Laying the Horse up. Does not blister, scald or remove the hair. \$2.00 a bottle, delivered. Sample sent free. ABSORBINE, J.R. For mailing, \$1.00 bottle. Cures Syphilis, Weeping Sores, Strains, Gout, Rheumatic Deposits, reduces Varicose Veins, Varicocoele, Hydrocoele, Allays Pain. Book free. Genuine made only by W. F. YOUNG, P.O. 214 Monmouth St., Springfield, Mass.

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All fenced into 6 pastures and 2 farms--200 acres in cultivation. 1000 acres of rich valley land worth \$50 per acre if in cultivation. 700 acres of post oak worth \$15 per acre; 700 acres of prairie land worth \$20 per acre; 1600 acres of grazing land worth \$8 per acre. Fine living water.
Price only \$15 per Acre.
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We consider this one of the best propositions we have ever listed and ought to find an immediate purchaser.
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J. R. B. HALL,
Fort Worth, Texas.

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COTTON GIN MACHINERY
Of Any Description Write
Continental Gin Co.
Dallas, Texas.

Among the Members.

Spicy Letters From the Members and Locals.

APPRECIATES CO-OPERATOR.

Editor Co-Operator:
I will venture to write a short letter to your valuable paper. While I cannot find words to express my appreciation, I think it is a splendid paper for the farmer, both old and young, and hope the time is short when your paper will reach every farmer's home.

Our Local, No. 4246, at Buster school house, is doing nicely; are taking in a new member occasionally.

I think the Union is a grand organization of the farmers, for they have the world to feed and clothe. Therefore I think they have a right to price the product of their labor. If we will be a little more patient we will be victorious in the end.

I had the pleasure of hearing Uncle Sam Hampton speak May 9th at Osage, Coryell county, at a picnic given by the good people of Osage. I have never heard a better speech. But imagine my surprise in Uncle Sam. I was expecting to see an old, gray-headed man with long whiskers. Brother Hampton will be with us again on the 10th of July at a picnic at Levita, and will be in the county until the 20th. Arrangements will be made for various speeches in the county. I hope every farmer in the county will make it convenient to hear him.

Brother Smith, I feel like God has given you to us for our good. May God bless you in your noble work.

Yours for Unionism,
Mrs. U. T. Hopper.
Jonesboro, Tex.

BOGGY LOCAL.

Editor Co-Operator:
I will write you as we had a big rain last night and cannot work today.

Crops are very good in Boggy Community, the name of the Local where I am a member. I think it is progressing nicely; as some of our members are desirous to see the Co-Operator I will ask you to send me several copies to distribute in my Local.

I am a day laborer, but I do heartily urge my Union brothers to hold this year's cotton crop for the minimum price, let it be 15c or 20c. If we will hold our crops from the market, just selling as much each month as the manufacturers actually consume, we will better our condition.

Wishing much success to the Co-Operator, I remain,
Yours truly,
S. P. Aldridge.
Farmersville, Tex.

GRAYSON COUNTY DISTRICT UNION.

Editor Co-Operator:
Meeting held in regular session on May 9th at Mantua church. The day being fair and pleasant, the assembly was large. Several Locals were well represented. The long tables which, at noon hour, were well filled with the most excellent and delicious refreshments, and around which the jolly throng gathered, marked a feature of love and unity. At 1:30 p. m. the house was called to order and an address of welcome was delivered by President T. L. Reed, after which Brother Joe E. Edmondson, State Lecturer, was invited to address us and was heartily greeted. His speech was very emphatic with sincerity and simplicity. Picturing and impressing upon the mind of each and every one present the privileges which the farmer has for years ignorantly denied himself, patriotically denouncing the curse of injustice and oppression, planting deeply into every heart the seeds of sympathy and ambition, filling each soul with renewed enthusiasm and rousing the spirit of true enthusiasm.

Brother J. P. Lane, State Vice President, spoke to us in behalf

of the general interests of the Union. His speech was very pointed and impressive, reinforcing the energies and stirring the fire of true Unionism which was burning in each heart present. The audience was then dismissed and the house called to order for business. Among the resolutions which were adopted were the following: Resolution No. 2, That we, the District Union No. 5, of Grayson county, heartily endorse our president, D. J. Neill, as State President, as being to the Farmers Union a true, faithful worker, an agitator and educator, we believe his equal not to be found in Texas.

Resolution No. 4, That we heartily endorse the Co-Operator in its firmness toward the Farmers Union and recommend that every male member of this district, who may consistently do so, subscribe to this paper.

Great success having prevailed in the exercises of the day, the meeting adjourned until the next regular session.

O. B. Nichols.

REBUILD TAYLOR WAREHOUSE.

Taylor, Texas, May 10.—The Taylor District Farmers Union met in the city hall Saturday afternoon, the following local unions being represented: Brushy, White Rose, Sandoval, Taylor's School House, New Bern, Polanka, Circleville, Easley, Coupland. President J. N. B. Williams presided and Secretary R. A. Bradford was at his desk.

This was the Union's first meeting since the settlement of the litigation of losses sustained last fall when the warehouse and all its contents were destroyed by fire. Some of the members have been so discouraged that little talk of rebuilding the warehouse has been heard. Much pleasant surprise generally was felt yesterday when it was learned that the farmers had an enthusiastic session and unanimously voted to rebuild the warehouse even if they have to go into their own pockets to pay every cent of the cost. With such determination as this they will experience no difficulty in raising the funds necessary. Work will begin on the warehouse at an early date.—Houston Post.

FAVORS COTTON FACTORY.

Editor Co-Operator:
The paper is all right now so far as I am competent to judge. I like its general makeup very much.

I wish we were able to get Sam Hampton with us a few days. When he has time I want him to visit me, personally, and rest awhile.
Let's build the factory by all means. Let's build the cotton factory and add to it all other kinds of factories. What if we should make mistakes? Well, did any body else ever make mistakes? Why don't we ship our wheat and corn to Europe to have it ground? Why don't we ship our logs half around the world to get them cut into lumber? Why don't we have everything manufactured across the ocean, anyhow? Why aint we the biggest fools on earth, anyhow? If we wasn't, why do we have any of our raw stuff made up across the ocean and pay the freight both ways?
Byron Barber.
Mineral Wells, Tex., 5-13-'08.

COTTON FACTORIES.

BY E. O. MEITZEN.

Editor Co-Operator:
Please allow me a little space on a matter of great importance—the Union Cotton Factory. There has been quite a deal of agitation on the idea of the Union building one or more cotton factories. Nearly every writer, so far, favors such a move. But

advice is much more easily given than taken, and plans on paper often look much better than they are likely to appear when actually confronted. While I would like to see Union cotton mills on a strictly co-operative plan in operation all over the cotton belt I feel it my duty to point out a few of the dangers lurking along the pathway of success.

It must be considered that we have probably no trustworthy member who understands the whole machinery of a cotton mill. Thus we would have to depend on outside expert assistance. Since the ever moving tide of improvement in machinery necessitates the putting aside of the older kinds of machinery, and often a factory has such old type machines on hand that are not readily salable, there will be a great inducement to give our mediator a heavy rake off to unload such antiquated machines on us. It would be also of tremendous importance to the combined forces of the cotton factories to break up any move toward a co-operative manufactory erected by the Union.

In reply to this it can be stated that since we would necessarily have to compete in the markets with all other factories, we'd be compelled to employ just such expense saving help as they: Children can handle the almost self operating machinery of a cotton factory as efficiently as can men, and they work for three or four times less wages. They work longer hours and are never endangering the continuous stream of their masters' profits by organizing unions and striking for shorter hours or higher wages. Thus to compete we would be forced to do as they do or go out of business.

Finally, when we do all this, then we are in danger of having a combination of the big cotton mills to offer to those we deal with their goods of like quality at ruinously low prices, as for instance the W. P. Oil Co. did in Dallas and other places a few years ago when it ran the Oriental Oil Co. out of the field by reducing oil from 15 cents to 9 cents per gallon, though it was still 15 cents in all sections where the Oriental had no customers. All these things should be carefully considered before venturing out into deep water. Let us rather, like Lincoln, say, "When the money grabbers demanded favorable legislation during the war, threatening that they'd otherwise aid the Southern Confederacy, 'we cannot fight two wars at one time. Let us whip one enemy first and then tackle the other.'" Let us bend every energy to better our cotton prices by holding out and building warehouses to prevent any competition in their business. It is a matter of certainty that there is practically now no competition left in the business of cotton goods manufacturing as well as most other lines of manufacturing. This is amply evidenced from the fact that all lines of standard goods, no matter what business concern it is bought of at wholesale, is sold for exactly the same price. The only competition that is yet visible is between merchants and working people generally, including, of course, us farmers.

Another very unpleasant feature of the factory system is the congested population, the poor pay and especially the wholesale employment of women and children in fearfully dusty and noisy rooms, which rob the children of sunshine, fresh air, playgrounds, education and last, but by no means least, morality and health. It is officially stated that the average life of a factory child is only four years and if perchance one lives to maturity, a hollow chested and dwarfed excuse for humanity is the result.

In fancy I hear someone exclaim, "We would not employ children and would make our factory more sanitary by employing ventilators and safety appliances of the latest style to prevent disaster and disease."

When Pain Follows Physic, the Physic is Wrong

Pain is always a symptom of injury. Gripping means that the physic is harsh—that it irritates.

You injure the bowels when you seek to help them in that way. The bowel lining—like the skin—becomes calloused if you constantly irritate it.

The hardened lining retards the natural functions. Then you have a chronic condition calling for constant physic. And the calloused bowels demand a heavier dose.

Such physic is wrong. It is wicked. It destroys the very functions that you seek to aid.

You cause what you seek to cure. One should never take any laxative save Cascarets. They are gentle and natural.

They never irritate the bowels, never gripe. Every effect is curative. They are as harmless as they are palatable. One tablet is enough unless the bowels are calloused. The dose never needs increasing. Take them just as you need them to insure one free movement daily.

Cascarets are candy tablets. They are sold by all druggists, but never in bulk. Be sure to get the genuine, with C.C.C. on every tablet. The box is marked like this:



Newsy Letter From Erath County.

"Let the Light of the Co-Operator Shine."

Editor Co-Operator:

I have been taking the Co-Operator from the first and since it has become the official organ of the State Union, and having formed the acquaintance of Bro. Smith, its present editor, and like him very much, I thought I would write a little from Erath county to let the brethren in the Union know that we are not dead out here, but we are not doing as well as we should. Our membership has fallen off some since the money panic came on. But we have some as true, loyal members as you will find anywhere.

We have two warehouses in our county, one at Stephenville and one at Dublin. They have done a good business this year. We are holding more cotton in our county than we ever held before, though many had to sell because our bankers would not help us. They tried to crush our organization to death, but they did not do it. I do believe that we have less sympathy from the business men in our county than any place I ever saw. But we have gone quietly on, and have done the best we could and still have hopes that we will succeed better in the future.

We have had the world to contend with the last eight months, but considering the pressure brought to bear on us, I think we are doing fairly well. Our last County Union was held on the second day of April. We had a very good meeting, though it was cold. Our next meeting will be at Harbin on July 2, and Mr. Editor, we invite you to meet with us and make us a speech.

I do not think from the prospects of a cotton crop that the speculator needs to cry over production this year. I do not hear of any place that they have any cotton started yet. We have had our crops washed away very badly, and we have had two frosts in the last two weeks and everything looks very sorry.

J. E. Morton.

Dublin, Tex.

For Union Tan Yard.

Editor Co-Operator:
By request of my Local I will write a few lines to the Union at large.

Our Local, Bethany No. 4664, is still progressing. We have thirty-nine members and keep adding to our little band.

We are figuring on establishing a Union co-operative tan yard and shoe shop in Tyler county and we desire information on the subject. I would be glad to correspond with an experienced hand at the business. We want to know how to plan for same, also to know how to construct vats, how large they should be, how many hides one vat should contain, how long it will require to tan same under the chemical process. Also, what kind of chemicals are needed where they can be bought cheapest and at what price.

Any good, experienced hand desiring employment is requested to answer this for we will want some one to superintend the business for us.

Fraternally yours,
Jerome Knight.
Tyler, Texas.

Editor Co-Operator:

I have just read Uncle Sam Hampton's article on Co-Operation in your issue of April 23rd for the third time, and I must say the more I read it the better I like it. I wish it were possible for every farmer in the South to read it.

To my mind he has made the clearest statement of the difference between co-operation and corporation I have ever seen in print. I have thought for some time that there was a misconception by a large part of our Farmers Union members of the true principles of co-operation. I'm not well posted on such matters, but I have thought that a great many of our co-operative enterprises were only corporative enterprises under a new name.

Too many so-called co-operative enterprises seem to be organized by the farmers on a profit basis, and with Uncle Sam I think it is not strange that they soon find that their farmer patrons had as soon be ruined by the trusts as by a corporation of farmers.

As a rule the ordinary commercial corporation has the advantage of the farmers' corporation in its better business methods due of course to experience and better business training.

When Uncle Sam said, "Base the dividends on patronage and not on stock," I think he goes to the very root of the whole question. I do not know any other essential difference in corporation and co-operation. Corporations base their dividends on the amount of stock held by members of the company.

Co-operative societies base their dividends on the patronage of the members, of course making some little profit themselves from the patronage of persons who do not wish to become members, but give the society their patronage for other business reasons.

I indorse the proposition also to place such dividends in a separate fund to be drawn on for such improvements and repairs as are always in order if the business is to be kept in a thriving condition.

Corporations are organized for the purpose of wealth for its stockholders—profit, if you please.

A co-operative society should give its services to its members—patrons—at absolute cost of the service, thereby eliminating inflation of values and preventing the unholy accumulation of wealth as is now practiced by a great number of corporations.

Fraternally,
W. A. Strickland.
Rochester, Tex.

Buys Cotton Seed and Sells Coal.

Last week we published a card of A. S. Logsdon, Wheat cardinal, Fort Worth, Texas, who makes a specialty of buying and selling cotton seed, coal and lignite, and those who are interested in finding a market away from home for their seed and in purchasing fuel at the lowest prices direct from the coal fields should write him.

THE PRIZE DRESS

"Yes, Charlotte Cameron always did show a lot of taste in dressing. She's always so fresh-looking and dainty. No wonder she's the idol of all the boys. Any fellow might be proud of such a girl as that."

Thus spoke whole-souled Dorothy Griscorn, in confidence, to the members of the Sedgewick Sewing Circle.

"But I never gave her quite as much credit as she ought to have. That dress was a perfect dream, wasn't it, Mame? She deserved the prize—and no mistake."

As an incentive to bring forth the best efforts of its members the Circle had offered a prize for the prettiest dress that should be made, not exceeding a certain amount. The handwork of all the members was to be exhibited in competition on the first anniversary of the Circle.

For days every girl in the Circle racked her brain and contrived with all her might to meet the requirements of the contest in the best way possible.

It would have been easy to make a pretty but inexpensive but un-pretty, pretty but expensive dress; and equally easy to make an inexpensive but un-attractive dress. But the combination of beauty and economy called for real genius; and every girl was nerved up to do her level best.

"What material shall I use?" thought Charlotte Cameron. "That's the first question to decide."

"There's beau de sole. That would make up well, but it costs too much. And mousseline, and organza, and—no, they're all out of the question."

"Oh, I have it," she exclaimed, as though an inspiration had struck her.

"Mother, don't you remember those lovely new fine dress gingham we saw the last time we were shopping? Simpson-Eddystone Zephyrettes, they called them. The dress that was made up—wasn't it sweet? And don't you remember how we were struck with the moderate price of such fine dress gingham?"

"The biggest part of the problem is solved already. I'm going to select one of those beautiful fast-color ephryette patterns for my 'prize' dress."

It wasn't long before Charlotte's left fingers and natural good taste had brought forth a creation that was destined to "astonish the natives."

The night came. The exhibit was marvelous, because of the talent it brought to light; but it was plain to be seen which dress would win the prize.

After it was all over, and Charlotte Cameron was being showered with congratulations, everybody was interested to know how she came to make such a happy selection of material.

"Why, haven't you seen the advertisements in—(name of publication)—of Simpson-Eddystone Zephyrette Dress Gingham made by the Eddystone Mfg. Co., Philadelphia?" she asked. "I've noticed them for a long while; and when I saw those new dress gingham at Cook & Sanborne's I was fully convinced that they would make the most economical afternoon dresses I had ever seen. So when I was considering what to use for my prize dress the thought flashed through my mind—Simpson-Eddystone Zephyrette fine dress gingham. They solved the problem, and won me the prize."

HAPPIEST MAN IN DALLAS

DALLAS, Texas, May 8, 1908.—Dr. J. S. Hill, Greenville, Texas.—Dear Doctor: I am glad to say the young man I induced to go to you for treatment several months ago is entirely well and is the happiest man in Dallas. He had drunk liquor and smoked cigarettes excessively for more than five years, was reduced in weight from 225 pounds to 140 pounds, was partially paralyzed, had been treated twice at the Keeley Institute, with no benefit, and, altogether, seemed a hopeless wreck. But thanks to Providence, I noticed your advertisement and persuaded him to give you a trial. He now has no desire whatever to drink or to smoke, has regained his flesh and strength, and, as said above, is entirely well. His relatives and friends all rejoice with him over this miraculous cure.

I sincerely wish that all men afflicted by the terrible curse of drink and cigarettes could have the benefit of your treatment and be cured.
Your grateful friend,
JNO. H. GASTON,
Vice President Commonwealth National Bank.

BOOKS

An institution recently established to supply by mail the book wants of the readers of the National Co-operator, and those of the public generally, desires a word with the union farmer and his family. The Gulf Book Exchange is making arrangements with publishers to handle their books (at or below publishers' prices), and we hope to be able to supply all the books noticed in the "Books and Education" department, as well as many others. We shall make a specialty of supplying such books as have a particular interest in the farm home.

THIS WEEK WE OFFER

Heart Throbs, cloth, 410 pages, \$1.25. A book that would be nestled read but preserved as a permanent treasure in any family. Noticed in last week's Co-operator.

Bryan Among the Peacemakers, by Hayne Davis; 170 pages; illustrated. Cloth, \$1.00; paper, 50c. A valuable contribution to the literature of the movement for world peace.

What's So and What Isn't, by John M. Work. Cloth, 156 pages, 50c. Any one wishing a concise, plain and straightforward statement of the philosophy and aims of socialism will find this book eminently satisfactory. Written in language simple enough for a school boy to understand.

The American Farmer, by A. M. Simons. Cloth, 214 pages, 50c. Of this book the Chicago Tribune says: "The largest contribution yet given to the agrarian literature of this country. The author, besides being a student of American social conditions, is thoroughly conversant with practical farming, and there is little doubt that the farmer who reads the work will have to admit that the conclusions are based on a real understanding of the difficulties of his struggle with the soil, with railroads, trusts and foreign competitors."

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While the Gulf Book Exchange has no financial connection with the National Co-operator, we are pleased to state that we personally know its manager and can vouch for his businesslike and upright methods. He is in entire sympathy with the objects and aims of the union and will fulfill every promise.

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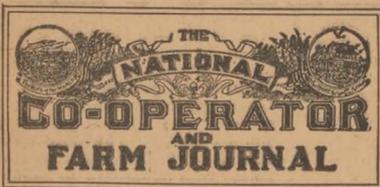
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AARON SMITH
EDITOR

M. S. SWEET
BUSINESS MANAGER

Terms of subscription, one dollar a year, in advance.

Entered as second-class matter, April 23, 1908, at the post office at Fort Worth, Texas, under the act 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 will 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. 1, red, per bu.	1.00
Corn, No. 2, per bu.	.55
Cotton seed, per ton.	20.00

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.

The farmers have held their cotton for protection and not for speculation, as some have charged.

The farmers may make too much cotton, but it is evidently plain that they don't wear too much of it.

The New York Cotton Exchange no longer performs the useful function of bringing the seller and buyer together. Hence the spinners and the farmers have long since abandoned New York as a market, and it is now used only as a rendezvous for gamblers.

The speech of Congressman Albert Burleson of Texas, delivered in congress, was one of the strongest arraignment of the New York Cotton Exchange and its manipulators that has been made. Mr. Burleson put the opposition to flight and heaped up the testimony with such preponderance of force, until the apologists for the gambling exchanges on the floor of congress were completely submerged. Every farmer should write to Congressman Burleson and secure a copy of his great speech.

Announcement has been made from Cleburne, Texas, that Cato Sells, a prominent banker, has called a joint meeting of the farmers and business men of Johnson for the purpose of discussing "intelligent farming." It is always gratifying to see bankers and business men working in harmony with farmers for the cotton good of all—for that is what the prosperity of the farmer means, but the incidental statement in the same announcement that Colonel Sells is a member of the legislative committee of the Commercial Secretaries of Texas may not mean as much for the farmers as otherwise might have been expected.

COTTON STILL ADVANCING

Last Wednesday cotton advanced \$2.50 on the bale and every day since has recorded some advance in the price, the gain for the week amounting to over \$5 on the bale. A new gambler on the New York exchange started the excitement by advancing July futures 50 points and taking a half million dollars in profits. Attention began then to be redirected to the fact that

Liverpool had continued to buy spot cotton at an advance over the American markets and this added new fear to the bear speculators. Finally, it has been frankly admitted from Liverpool that the demand for the better grades of spot cotton is greater than the supply. This is what has been contended all along by the Farmers' Union, but there were too many who were frightened by the growlings of the bears at home and abroad and a great deal of the staple has passed into the hands of the speculators. Let this be a sufficient warning to those who hold the remainder of the crop and to all who expect to plant cotton this year, to hold to what they have left and to plant less this year. Diversify and reduce the crop until a perfect marketing system is inaugurated.

THE CHARACTER ASSASSIN.

It frequently occurs that anonymous letters are sent thru the mails. Individuals who are too cowardly to fight in the open, often stab their victims in the back, under cover of darkness. A favorite method of doing this appears to be the unsigned letter. Last fall President Neill of the Texas Farmers' Union was harassed with a number of these cowardly and slanderous missives. They were dated from different parts of the country, but several were written by the same hand. Brother Neill remained silent, considering them a species of blackmail by the enemies of the organization.

Now, these libelous letters are beginning to fly around again, but this time they are sent to officers of county unions and prominent workers in the Unions. These letters make great pretensions for the interest of the Farmers' Union, but invariably unfold their true purpose, by appealing to the brothers to help him oust President Neill as the head of the Union. To what extent these secret propositions are being sent we are not able to say, but evidently their base purpose is to impeach and if possible blackmail our worthy president. These cowardly assassins of character refrain from signing their names.

Now, the motive is clearly unfolded. These gambling degenerates failed to influence and corrupt our old farmer president, and now they are endeavoring to carry out their original declaration: to blacken his character and dethrone him in dishonor.

Will the Farmers' Union men of Texas stand for such cowardly insolence? Will they at the behest of these star chamber assassins bow to the will of a few schemers and insurrectionists, smite the brow of honor, and shut out the hope of the farmers of Texas by heaping ignominy and shame on the head of the man, who stood with unconquerable honesty, and saved our grand organization from public disgrace.

It is perfectly fair and right for any member of the Union who is dissatisfied with Brother Neill's administration to oppose his re-election. But it is exceedingly unfair and cowardly to resort to the methods of the midnight assassin. We do not believe any Union man is writing these letters, nor yet any man who even approves of the Union. In order to try to locate their origin and the extent of their circulation, we would like for all Union men who receive these secret messages to send them to the Co-Operator.

TO RAISE THE PRICE OF COTTON

Ladonia News: One way to help sustain the price of the fleecy staple is to help consume it. Demand that your salt, sugar and other commodities be put up in cotton bags; also have your cotton itself wrapped in cotton bagging, and thus take a shot at the jute trust. Demand that your wearing apparel be made of cotton, as near as possible. These are small things, but if adhered to by us people of the South it would make a tremendous difference in the price of the staple.

It is a good suggestion. The cotton bales, at least, might be wrapped in cotton duck. It is an admirable covering, and not expensive. As a matter of fact, however, farmers seem to favor jute, and it may be because the latter is heavier and the cotton seller gets an advantage in selling his bales by reason of the increased weight. But this is not generally the case—the "tare" is figured off in the prices.—State Press, Galveston News.

Tom Bell is in the habit of making sensible suggestions, and his remarks above are of unusual value, as they point out a line of policy which can be easily put into execution, and will prove invaluable to cotton farmers. President Neill of the Farmers' Union has endorsed the wrapping of cotton, and the Lamar County Farmers'

Union has appointed a committee to act in conjunction with a similar committee from Fannin county, and they are to report on cotton bagging at a district Union to be held in Clarksville on May 14 and 15, where it is expected much information will be disclosed.

The Herald has noticed where millions of jute bags are shipped yearly to Brazil for coffee, and this should receive attention at the Clarksville meeting, and steps should also be taken to encourage the use of more cotton rope, and the use of cotton twine in binding grain, which could also be put in cotton sacks. These subjects should insure the gathering of delegates from every county in the state at the Farmers' Union meeting in Clarksville on May 14 and 15. This Farmers' Union district is composed of the counties of Lamar, Bowie, Red River, Delta and Fannin. This is a most important movement. The Herald has been, as a friend of the Farmers' Union, urging just such work as this—to

have the farmers intelligently acquaint themselves with market conditions and needs along lines of their principal products and that then they act upon the information put before them. There is no question but that the consumption of cotton has a much wider range than heretofore dreamed of. And it depends entirely upon the raisers of cotton as to whether they are made the victims of manufactures in other lines. The suggestions above as to using cotton for bagging has been made time and again. Cotton bagging is safer, cleaner, will keep the cotton in better condition—which means better prices, and the use of cotton for twine, rope, etc., will also enhance consumption and thus increase the demand and price of the fleecy staple. Let Milam county by all means send a representative from our county Unions to Clarksville. The Herald puts this squarely up to County President W. W. Klye.—Milam County Herald.

The Battle Is Not Lost.

Address by President D. J. Neill.

Fort Worth, Tex., May 18, 1908. To the Farmers' Union of Texas, and Farmers generally—

The fight of the Farmers' Union has been a long drawn out battle, and not infrequently do you hear that the day has been lost to the farmers, and even ridicule is often hurled at us and we have been charged with holding our cotton for speculation. This is not true, but we had a right to hold for protection. I am not in the least dismayed, and feel now, that ultimate victory is sure and that in a very short time.

Is there any reason why the farmers of the South should cowardly surrender to a horde of gambling bandits? Did the brave Texans of the Alamo under the leadership of the immortal Travis lose to Texas her independence because they had the nerve to die rather than to surrender to Santa Anna's murderous army? In the language of the brave Travis and his noble band of heroes, I exclaim to you today: "We will never surrender or retreat." That is the ultimatum. The line is drawn. Let every farmer get over on the side of the line with the farmers and our victory will be swift and complete.

Study the tactics of the gamblers and educate the farmers. Defend your property and the interest of your beloved Southland.

The farmers have endured the cruel wrong of these conscienceless gamblers and wealthy sports in New York for many years and prices are kept shifting around the crops of a nation of farmers have become a mere plaything.

The market manipulations have been going on for years without creating much alarm. In fact, the people have never investigated it as they should; in fact, don't know anything about it. The market quotations that are given out daily to the interior towns—the price manufactured by the New York Cotton Exchange—is a fictitious price, a fraud and deception, the gamblers' price, one that is made on fictitious bids by these so-called bears and bulls.

The bear is a bull and the bull is a bear—both a fraud and deception—and the worst class of gamblers. The people have been taught that the bear is a fellow located North, that he wants cheap cotton, and that he is an enemy to the South. The bull is a fellow that is supposed to be in the South; he is represented as a fellow that wants high cotton. And the South has been led to believe that he is a friend to the South. These two elements are represented as warring upon each other, each trying to gain the ascendancy over the other. The bear and the bull are one and the same; in fact operating together or separately to accomplish their purposes.

The term bear is used to fool the people who think they want cheap cotton, and to induce gambling on the bear side; in fact, to catch suckers. The term bull is used to fool people who think they want high cotton and to induce gambling on that side. Thus they fictitiously bid the market up and down. For instance, when the great majority of margins (gambling) are on the bear side, the market is bid up fictitiously by a system of wash sales. Often the fluctuation is so violent and great that no man can afford to put up margins again. Then the fellow loses out, as now the majority of margins (gambling) is on the bull side, and the market is bid down by day until all those who have put up

margins will be forfeited out. Then the machine will go the other way.

These wash sales are sudden, often violent and sometimes rise and fall as much as 120 points in a single day. Sometimes touching both extremes.

These manipulations are of serious consideration, prostrating the farmer, utterly disrupting and destroying his market; jeopardizing the business interests of the country, precipitating widespread bankruptcy, causing the loss of millions and millions of dollars, taking out all competition and actual speculation that existed in the cotton market. Thus his gambling price, coined out by gambling bandits, is telegraphed the world over as the price of the greatest commercial crop the world ever saw, making a uniform price all over the world and destroying all competition and taking out all actual speculation.

The violent manipulation of the cotton up and down has destroyed all actual speculation. The manipulation has become so dexterous and frequent that no man can tell today what the market will be tomorrow.

The fluctuations made the farmer afraid, this fear moved him to sacrifice his cotton year by year by dumping it on the market. The local merchants, moved by the same fear and experience, could not buy and hold for a better price. Hence there was no actual speculation in the cotton market at all. The men most affected, the farmers and merchants, would not hold, consequently, the great crop was sacrificed year by year. Unstable conditions of the cotton market were such that no man could or would buy spot cotton and hold it without the necessity of hedging. Thus step by step the South was drawn into the great power of the New York Cotton Exchange and is adjuncts in each Southern city.

Before the enactment of the Jenkins-Mayfield anti-bucket shop bill, these hell traps were laid in almost every city, ready to write the price as coined in New York upon the bucket-shop bulletin boards, thus adding power and influence to one of the most potent, devilish, flexible and gigantic systems of robbery the world ever saw. The Farmers' Union began this way by advising the farmers and merchants and everybody to hold cotton by fixing a minimum price and establishing a system of warehouses that will in the end put these devilish schemes inaugurated by the exchanges out of business.

The farmers' price of 15 cents is fixed upon the cost of production and the shortage of cotton and the great demand for cotton goods. The demand for cotton goods justifies the price the spinner can buy it for and still make handsome profits.

The supreme moment has come, the test is now to be made. Will the gamblers' fluctuating price be taken or will the price fixed by the farmers prevail? A formidable organization, a network of systems with grit and determination, a consciousness of right and the co-operation and sympathy of the entire South on the other; which will win? It is a battle of giants, the world trembles and looks on with awe. The farmer undaunted, his resolution is required, his fear must be overcome and the battle is won. Will the farmer hold his cotton and not yield? Yes. The gambler and his price must go. The world must be freed from the clutches of such freebooters. The farmer has not a cent for tribute, but millions for defense.

The farmer must stand by the minimum

price. The merchants and banks are cooperating with us; the world is sympathizing. We must win. Each state is in line—each is in the fight. A million and a half strong, with warehouses built all over the South and facilities arranged to carry millions of bales of cotton.

Brethren, pay no attention whatever to the price given upon the streets; it is the gamblers' price coined upon the New York Exchange. Let us have but one price—the minimum price. Write it upon the bulletin boards and write it upon your hearts; write it everywhere. It will break the power of the New York gamblers and legitimate prices will prevail.

On the 3rd day of September, 1907, the gauge of battle was thrown down by the Farmers' Union of America in its great national convention at Little Rock, when the minimum price of cotton was fixed at 15 cents. The prevailing price at that time in many of the interior towns was 13 1/2 to 14 cents for middling cotton and the Farmers' Union did not make any mistake in setting the price. Had that great national convention reduced the price to 12 cents, they would have been called a lot of simpletons and they would have been susceptible to the charge that organized speculators and gamblers had unduly influenced the delegation, and that they had bowed to the will of the New York and New Orleans Exchanges. I am proud to state every delegate to the national convention at Little Rock spoke the sentiments of the Union and challenged the combined hordes of speculators and gamblers to battle. Our flag is still waving without stain or taint. Our fight has been honorable and fair, our cause is as just as the laws of heaven, but our enemies have waged a campaign against us of treachery, slander and all the vicious means known to the tactics of exchange gamblers. Their flag is black and their march is one of desolation and death, involving our whole nation in the toils of bankruptcy and ruin. But with all their miserable assaults upon the property of a nation of farmers, their very missiles of destruction are about to recoil upon their own heads and the blows they intended for the Farmers' Union are now reacting upon their own fortifications and their cowardly retreat has already begun.

Let us take a retrospective view and prove to you, that the history of the Farmers' Union has been one of conquest and victory. Go back to 1904 when the fight began for stable and profitable prices. We only had at that time in the whole State of Texas a membership of less than 50,000. We had no warehouses, no system of handling further than the proposition to hold and control marketing, and the minimum price fixed at that time of 10 cents.

At that time the bucket-shops element were enthroned in every Southern state with a strong commercial sentiment supporting them, but through the unconquerable spirit and imperishable honor of the millions of loyal farmers, the murderous policies of this element has been almost abrogated throughout the South.

Since the battle of 1904-05, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08 have passed into history, we recount the achievements of the Farmers' Union through its definite plans promulgated of holding at minimum prices with our vast system of warehousing for the minimum price. We have swept the bucket-shops and exchanges from Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Oklahoma and North and South Carolina. Louisiana alone remains as a harbor for bucket-shops and exchange operations in the South, and even there the sentiment is growing strong to undo the vicious practices of the New Orleans Exchange.

The three crops of 1904 to 1906-07 marketed upon the basis of the price set by the Farmers' Union, yielded to the farmers of the South a net profit of more than six hundred millions of dollars, that is an excess of the three previous crops sold, when no Union existed, or a clear gain of more than \$15 per bale. Has the Union lost its battle? Is any Southern farmer ashamed of this splendid record of achievements?

Also under the system adopted by the Farmers' Union the price of cotton has been more stable than for forty years before.

The season of 1907-08 has been the most unique of any for many years, being an unusually short crop with the demand for the use of cotton growing greater all the time and the trade in cotton goods also unusually active, the farmers were of the opinion that under the circumstances their cotton was worth 15 cents.

This season has demonstrated that the New York Cotton Exchange, backed by the

spinners of the world, could hammer down the future price made upon the Exchange board, but could not deliver the spot cotton; in fact the buyers and sellers of spot cotton no longer go to New York to market. The contest has been unusually spirited, proving to the world that the Farmers' Union was able to endure any hardships in order that they win the battle against the Exchange gamblers.

On the 28th day of October, 1907, the panic overshadowed the whole country and all classes of business for the time being was prostrated, but the farmers continued to show their power and to endure one of the most trying periods of threatening bankruptcy that has ever afflicted the nation.

The cowardly assaults of the bear speculators continued, and taking the form of a siege as though to starve the farmers into surrender. As the season advanced the gamblers continued to hammer the price of cotton day by day. They raided the markets upon the New York Cotton Exchange, but the farmers still remained impregnable and held their spot cotton.

The wash sales were enacted upon the exchange daily, but this did not cause the farmers to take fright, but served only to make them more determined to win, or carry their cotton over to the next season. Every subterfuge under the sun that could be used to deceive and destroy the confidence of the people was brought to play, but wholly without effect.

Two weeks ago it was announced to the world that Theodore Price the great bear leader, had retired from the pit with a loss of over \$600,000, also that a great banking institution had gone into bankruptcy. The world was also startled with the news that Inman & Co., members of the Exchange, had fallen with a great crash.

The last fifteen days have seen cotton go higher more than \$12 per bale, with continued prospects of a happy realization of reaching the minimum price, than has obtained in many months.

Last week it was announced that the domestic spinners who manufacture the coarser class of cotton goods had met in convention and considered the congestive state of the market and resolved to close down their mills for this season. The next morning after this astonishing proceeding was taken by the domestic spinners, cotton advanced \$2.50 per bale, which was a clear proof that the proceedings of the convention was a fraud and was only published to deceive the people and to break the holding movement.

Let me say to you, Brother Farmers, that you have fought one of the greatest battles in history; that you have shown a spirit of fortitude and endurance animated by a patriotic hope of liberty, that has won the plaudits of mankind and challenges the world for a parallel. You have shown that under the most trying and adverse circumstances you were able to stand and with our great system of organization and by the use of rural telephones, the rural mail delivery, you were able to keep in constant touch with each other and thwart the deception of gamblers.

The machinery of our organization is now so near perfect that within three hours' time every country in the south may be put on the alert and intercept any deceptive measures that may be attempted on the cotton movement, and if necessary the movement of cotton to the market can be entirely closed.

As our great organization grows its systems will become more perfect, its influence greater and its power to protect its members will be complete.

The grand achievements of the last four years should thrill every patriotic heart and stir our people to greater activity and nerve them for any conflict that may be precipitated by our enemies.

My advice is to go forward, carry out the purposes of our Union and realize the hopes of its founders, and consummate the overthrow of the gamblers and restore stable prices for our cotton.

The Farmers' Union is growing all the time, both in power and strength. The Texas Union has 4,935 local Unions, 155 county and 120 district Unions, with approximately 323 warehouses and an estimated membership that will reach 250,000.

The people from now until August should be educated that this is strictly a farmers' Union and that all professional classes should be debarred. The eligibility clause should be strictly construed and no one permitted to pass the portals but those that are actual farmers.

Let me warn you of a certain tendency that is manifesting itself for great consoli-

dated schemes. The consolidation of several counties into large district Unions can but result in confusion and expense, with no possible good to the membership.

An attempt to consolidate your local warehouses into one gigantic concern is also a most dangerous proposition and if successful would result in the overthrow of your warehouse system and concentrate the powers of the local Unions in the hands of a few men.

Brothers, WATCH the schemes of Centralization; don't be ensnared by these things, but hold the power of our organization in the hands of the locals and you are safe. Let this power once slip from your grasp, then the Farmers' Union will have met its doom.

Now, in conclusion, let me say to you, that there never was such gloomy prospects for cotton. Incessant rains, floods and storms with all their concomitant evils have set the cotton back, the stand is bad, the plant is late and in many places re-planting is impossible. I know the acreage is lower than in former years, and the very bad conditions of the crop, we are bound to make much less cotton this year than last.

Yet in the face of all these bad conditions the New York Cotton Exchange, so-called, has placed a boycott upon those states of the south which enacted bucket-shop laws and have decided not to permit their gambling quotations to be wired to us.

I am truly thankful for this, and as a matter of reciprocity, I hope that every southern farmer will boycott the New York Stock Exchange and not permit another bale of cotton to be shipped to that port and to aid them in their work. I ask that every farmer give his influence to Hon. Albert Burleson and urge the passage of his bill that will prevent the New York Exchange from using the United States mails or any of the telegraph lines in the transmission of their fictitious pricing and dealing.

Now is the time to wage a relentless war. You have just reached your strongest and most strategical position. Now is the time to recruit your ranks, reform your columns and strengthen your fortifications and with one mighty and united march wipe out the dishonor on your nation's business by routing the murderous minions of the gambling dens, and future generations will rise up and celebrate your imperishable honor and glorify your names in our country's history, and call you blessed.

D. J. NEILL, President.

We
Want
Every
Loyal
Union
Man
on the
Subscription
List of
Co-Operator

"Uncle Sam" Makes Statement.

Editor Co-Operator:

In order to clear the mental atmosphere, and brush away the cobwebs from the brains of secret peddlers, who have been traversing this state, ostensibly in the interest of the Farmers Union, but whose sole purpose seems to be to handle my name in a slanderous manner, I desire to make a public statement and define my attitude towards politicians and partisan questions. These men very dexterously handle my name, and wilfully misrepresent me, and in a few instances have connected my name in newspaper articles, a sample of which was published in the Co-Operator a few weeks ago. The motive for all this I will show in this article.

Partisan politics and the corrupt practices of politicians have disgusted me. In fact, I have come to regard the average politician as equal to a combination of dry dog bones wrapped in a grey wolf hide, and I have never manifested any desire to see the Farmers Union plunged into the cess pools of political prostitution. In all my five years as a member I have never been even reprimanded for such a tendency and no one knows this better than the loyal farmers to whom I have been speaking. Yet, with a clear record as a Union agitator and organizer, I am hounded by a few slanderers who make tracks all over the state and carry on a star chamber campaign against me. Let me put it stronger: If I had it in my power to commit the entire Union to any political ideas or to my way of thinking, I would refuse to do so, for I detest such tactics, and the ruin that has attended all former farmers' organizations from such causes is enough to guide the feet of any sensible man.

Besides, I have adhered closely to the obligation of this grand order, that assures every man that it shall not interfere in any way with his political, social or religious views. But, notwithstanding my strict adherence to this rule, and my firm determination to maintain this attitude, there are two or three schemers who are silently and secretly stabbing at my back.

These assassins care nothing about me. They know that I do not hold any official position in the Union, and that I never did;

also, they know that I would not accept any office, and that I have no ax to grind, but their motives are deeper laid, for they are the tools of certain interests whose real object is to depose D. J. Neill as the president of the Farmers Union of Texas and to oust every one of the loyal officials who have stood by the imperishable integrity of this great organization.

The schemers, both outside and inside of the Union, are after D. J. Neill's head. In him they have met a man for once who will not bow his neck to their treacherous yoke. The railroad lobbyists and bucket shop and gambling interests cannot control this old farmer and subdue his unconquerable honesty. I know them and I can call their names, and if they have any moral or physical courage they will quit peddling out their slime at long distance and meet their victim in the open. They have traversed this state and poisoned the minds of loyal farmers, and are arranging to finish up their grand play at the State Union by driving Brother Neill out and placing one of their tools at the head of this great organization, who will obey the mandates of gamblers and railroad lobbyists. They have even gone so far as to fix up a slate.

Brother farmers, I have given five years of my life to this organization as a humble scout in the field. I have seen the trail of the grafter and I have lived to see them dethroned and kicked out, both in Oklahoma and in Texas. This is their last frail attempt, but if you will do your duty and put none but loyal farmers on guard, you will witness the honor and integrity of this great organization put beyond the reach of foul hands that seek to pollute it.

Then arouse, ye honest farmers, and seize the machinery of this great organization and permit not the cunning hands of despotic interests to blacken the name of D. J. Neill or his loyal associates. This done, then like one of old, "my soul will be ready to depart in peace," for the day will surely come when every man shall have the opportunity to work and the right to live without paying tribute to the gods of gold.

Yours devotedly,
Sam J. Hampton.

NO COTTON PRICES ON SOUTHERN WIRES

NEW YORK, May 15.—Managers of the cotton exchange tonight rendered a final decision on the question of the right of private wires sending quotations made on the local exchange to cotton exchanges in six southern states where the anti-option laws are in effect. The managers decided not to permit Haywood & Clark, members of the exchange, to send quotations to points in Texas, Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, North and South Carolina.

John F. Clark, a member of the firm which operates a comprehensive system of wires thruout the south, asked for a rehearing on a recent ruling of the exchange, which forbade his firm to use the exchange's quotations, and this was given last night. He brought with him letters from the Western Union, stating that the latter did not consider the service given by his wires to exchanges in the south a breach of the Western Union's agreement with the cotton exchange. The Postal Telegraph Company, however, did object and the exchange decided against him. Mr. Clark pointed out that at present there was very little business being done, but that his firm desired to maintain the service it is now supplying minor exchanges in the southern states.

After the hearing, when the result of the board of managers' decision was announced, Mr. Clark immediately sent word to discontinue service on 9,000 miles of wire tomorrow. The tier of states mentioned in the anti-option states will after tomorrow be cut off from New York quotations except those paid for at regular rates from the two telegraph companies.

On the cotton exchange it was said that the action of the board of managers was a direct rebuff to the southern states, which prohibited by law speculation in futures. The cotton exchange will now prevent quotations from entering the six anti-option states except thru the usual commercial channels. The Haywood & Clark firm maintains a system of wires, the rental of which amounts to \$256,000 a year.

NOTICE

The Farmers Union Cotton Grading Association of Texas will open their classing school in Fort Worth, Texas, July 1, 1908. The school will be open for instruction to Sept. 1, 1908. We have selected Fort Worth as being the most central point; it will cost less to get first class accommodations there than in any other large city in the state. We have secured the service of our old teacher, R. E. Dolman of Paris, Texas, as our teacher. Mr. Dolman was teacher for the first school ever held by our Farmers' Union in Dallas, Texas.

The school was a grand success, a large number of his scholars are now receiving good salaries as cotton classers. The Farmers' Union Cotton Grading Association will have full control of said school. We have a number of members belonging to our association who will assist Mr. Dolman. Our desire is to make this school the largest ever held in the state.

No one who enters this school need have any fear of leaving before he has mastered the art of grading cotton, making out bills of lading, also how to run our warehouses in a business-like manner. We want to say to our brothers that this is strictly a Farmers' Union school; that we have not given anyone authority to conduct a school for our association. We shall expect the help and co-operation of the state union and every brother who has an interest in our association to make the school a success by his attendance at the Fort Worth school.

H. H. ALLISON,
President Farmers' Union Cotton Grading Association.
W. W. KYLE,
Vice President.
C. M. PYRON,
Secretary and Treasurer.

San Angelo has put the convicts to work on its streets.

The Commissioners' Court of Jones County in regular session ordered an election for June 30 to determine the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$100,000 for a court house.

Simpson-Eddystone
Zephyrette
Ginghams

The most stylish dresses are possible at moderate cost, with these fine Zephyrette Dress Ginghams made by our scientific new process. Their beautiful designs in fast colors, and their fine, durable fabric add greatly to their economy.

Ask your dealer for Simpson-Eddystone Zephyrette Ginghams. Write us his name if he hasn't them in stock. We'll help him supply you. Don't accept a substitute.

The Eddystone Mfg. Co. Philadelphia

Below is a list of dates for "Uncle Sam" Hampton in Victoria county:
Inez, Friday, May 22, 2:30 p. m., picnic.
Victoria, Saturday, May 23, 2:30 p. m.
Pavilion, Monday, May 25, 2:30 p. m.
Raven, Tuesday, May 26, 2:30 p. m.
Kemper City, Wednesday, May 27, 2:30 p. m.
Nursery Bridge, Thursday, May 28, 2:30 p. m., picnic.
Spring Creek, Friday, May 29, 2:30 p. m.
Victoria, Saturday, May 30, 2:30 p. m.
All the above dates will be for the public, and everybody is cordially invited to be present. "Uncle Sam" is a very forcible speaker and never fails to delight his hearers and convert them to unionism. Yours fraternally,
D. J. NEILL,
President F. U. of T.

SECRETARY ALBRITTON'S APPOINTMENTS
Secretary J. C. Albritton of the executive committee of the state union will fill the following appointments:
Camp Springs, May 27, 8 p. m.
Bethel, May 28, 8 p. m.
Light, May 29, 8 p. m.
Polar, May 30, 8 p. m.

IN NOLAND COUNTY
White Flat, June 15, 8 p. m.
Plum Creek and Bitter Creek, June 16.
Valley Creek, June 17, 8 p. m.
Rock Crossing and Rough Hollow, June 18.
Decker, June 19, 2 p. m.
Mary Neal, June 19, 8 p. m.
Roscoe, June 20, 8 p. m.

At Manto, N. C., the Wright brothers have broken all records with their aeroplane. They recently made a flight of more than two miles, turning three corners and having the machine under good control all the time.

The five-story plant of the Sendelbach Wheel Company, East St. Louis, was burned Saturday causing a loss of \$110,000. The plant was in full operation when the fire started, and some of the employees had a narrow escape.

With Saturday night's performance at Ford's opera house, Baltimore, Keller, the magician, closed his professional career. Mr. Keller is 59 years of age and has been before the public for over forty years. He has made three tours of the world professionally.

The blowing up of a Trinity and Brazos Valley freight engine at Virginia Point Thursday resulted in injury to four of the train crew, only one of whom, however, was seriously hurt.

BUCKETSHOPS DOOMED IN LOUISIANA
Baton Rouge, La.—Notice of the fight to be waged against trading in cotton futures was served in both branches of the legislature today.

Senator Marston of Red River parish, who served the notice in the senate, announced that the Louisiana bills will be modeled after the Georgia laws regulating cotton futures trading.

He said that "legitimate trading" in cotton futures will not be prohibited, but pointed out that he considered much of the future trading carried on by the New Orleans exchange as gambling, which ought to be prohibited.

Notice of similar legislation was given in the house by Representative Paul M. Potts, president of the Louisiana division of the Southern Cotton Association.

BALES 15 TONS A DAY HAY

—often 15 and 20 tons. Such wonderful records are possible because our Gem Full Circle Baler has a large feed opening, automatic brake device, small trip lever and long pitman travel. Either two or three strokes, and self feed if desired. We will save you \$500 or more in first cost and much more every year in repairs. Drop us a postal for prices and a free copy of our "Baler Book."

W. E. FRETTEL & CO., QUINCY, ILL.

PILES

And all forms of rectal and private diseases cured under a positive guarantee; cures effected by the latest and improved methods, without the knife or chloroform. No carbolic acid injection for the cure of Piles or Fistula. Our appliances are unsurpassed and our patients are cured permanently. Come to my offices, 401-403 Moore Bldg. Will be glad to meet you and diagnose your case. No charge for consultation or examination.

J. R. MIDDLEBROOK, M. D., SPECIALIST,
Fort Worth, Texas.
Phone 4883.

Red Mineral Springs.
(Delwood Park.)
Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

A rest garden for the sick and afflicted where Nature restores to the system its normal functions. The best remedy in Texas for Kidney and Bladder Troubles, Skin Diseases and Rheumatism. A delightful place to rest and a cheap place to live. Or, if you prefer, you can have water sent to you by express. For full particulars and pamphlet address

Red Mineral Springs Development Company,
M. C. WOLFE, Mgr., Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

The Watson Publications

THOSE who wish to be well informed upon governmental questions, and in the principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, as taught by our forefathers, cannot afford to neglect the two publications which Mr. Watson established after he was reorganized out of the New York Magazine which bore his name.

Watson's Jeffersonian Magazine is beautifully printed and illustrated, and is issued once a month. In addition to political matters, the JEFFERSONIAN MAGAZINE carries high-class Short Stories, Serial Stories, Poems, and historical sketches. Therefore, it appeals to every member of the family. The price is \$1.50 per year.

Watson's Weekly Jeffersonian is a sixteen-page paper of standard size. It carries cartoons and other illustrations, from time to time, and, being issued weekly, enables Mr. Watson to keep in closer touch with public men and political events than is possible in a monthly magazine. The price of the Weekly is \$1.00 a year.

Where a subscriber orders both of these publications at the same time, the price is \$2.00 per year. In all cases, address,

Thos. E. Watson,
Thomson, Georgia

A Simple Remedy

Purely Vegetable
Cardui is a purely vegetable extract, of certain medicinal influence, on the womanly organs, as is proved by its record of over half a century of success, in the relief or cure of female ailments. Mrs. A. C. Beaver, of Unicoi, Route No. 1, Marbleton, Tenn., writes: "I suffered with bearing-down pains, feet swelled, pain in right side, headache,

pains in shoulders, nervous palpitation, and other troubles I cannot mention, but I took Wine of Cardui and can recommend it to all who suffer from female diseases, as I have found it the best medicine I ever used, for female troubles." Try it. All druggists sell it.

FREE BOOK FOR LADIES

Write for Free 64-page Book for Women, giving symptoms, causes, home treatment and valuable hints on diet, exercise, etc. Address: Ladies' Advisory Dept., The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

Take CARDUI

AROUND THE HOUSE

INFORMATION AND ADVICE OF ALL SORTS.

Table Linen of To-Day an Improvement Over that of a Few Years Ago—The Latest in Lunch Cloths.

Comparing the table linen of to-day with that of ten or 12 years ago, there is a marked improvement in design. For years we have had very fine linens in our shops, and there have been many beautiful designs, but not within the reach of the moderate purse. So much progress has been made by manufacturers that now prices are lower and designs are better. Of course there are certain pattern cloths of foreign make that can never be cheap. It is the linens of medium quality, weight and price, but of fine design, that will appeal to the average housekeeper. Some think that the linen made in Ireland has taken the place of that manufactured in other countries. It is good, cheap and often very handsome, and will last for many years, provided, of course, it is not ruined by chemicals in laundering. Designs in all household linens are steadily gaining in artistic merit. The old-time cloth that swept the floor is no longer in fashion.

The best style table linen for a luncheon is a center-piece and individual doilies to match. There are, however, beautiful covers, made especially for luncheons, but a regular dinner cloth, no matter how simple or magnificent, should never be used. The center-piece is only large enough to cover the middle of the table, and the doilies come in different sizes. There are those for plates, two sizes for goblets, those for water and wine, others for different dishes, and still others for the finger bowls. Linen sets with scalloped edges are very durable and practical. Fluted lace is handsome, but expensive. The lace is joined with fine linen squares, in long bands or circular. The doilies are entirely of lace. Renaissance is still used for the table.

Japanese and Chinese lunch cloths are liked by many, but the plain white embroidery is more desirable than that into which blue is introduced. These cloths are round, and their beautiful patterns of chrysanthemums, aster or iris nearly cover the body of the cloths and reach to the edges. Some of the center-pieces show artistic introduction of colors. Even the best colored embroideries will fade in time, and their use demands a judicious selection which will harmonize with the table china.

Round center-pieces are popular at present, owing to the general use of round tables, and charming patterns are shown with borders of Maltese, Cluny and Bohemian lace. Then there is shown the beautiful lace from the Azores, known as Fayal. No more lovely handwork can be seen than this lace, whose designs are executed by darning in the pattern after the threads have been drawn. Some beautiful towels with borders of Fayal lace were recently seen. The purchaser only paid \$1.50 apiece for the towels at Fayal.

A well-known authority says that

table linen should never be starched. It is a common mistake that many housekeepers make, and nothing so detracts from the appearance and life of handsome linen as starch. "Elbow grease" is all that one needs to make the proper kind of linen stiff. It should be ironed damp, to get the fine sheen so characteristic of well-laundered linen. If it is ironed when it is dry, or nearly so, it gets fuzzy.

Always darn table damask, as well as various other materials, with a raveling from the cloth. If there is a hole, put under it a piece of the same damask, matching the pattern as near as possible. Then darn very carefully backward and forward with the raveling. If the work is done right, the darn will hardly be noticed after laundering.

Try Larding Lean and Dry Meat.
Larding is quite easy—it only requires care and accuracy. It simply needs a larding-needle and some neatly and evenly-cut strips of fat, bacon or pork, which are used exactly as if they were pieces of wool or thread, one large stitch being taken through the meat and the short ends of the fat left sticking out. The strips are called lardons. The fat bacon or pork to be used in the process should be kept in a cold place. Use that part of the pork which lies between the rind and the vein. Lean and dry meat and some kinds of game are much improved by larding.—The Delineator.

A Good Family Soup.
Take two pounds of boiled turnips, cut into little squares, put into a stewpan with two ounces of butter; stir over a quick fire; add a large tablespoonful of flour, two quarts of stock. Simmer gently one hour and a half, strain through a sieve and put back into the saucepan; season, stir, boil and serve.

Water may be used instead of stock, only a less quantity is required and a little more flour and butter, also half a pint of rich milk or cream just before serving.

Simple Cheese Fondue.
One cup of soft white bread crumbs, one cup of grated cheese, two eggs, beaten together, a cup of milk, a tablespoonful of butter, a pinch of salt, a pinch of cayenne, a pinch of soda. Melt the butter, add the milk, soda, bread crumbs and last the cheese. Season and cook five minutes, or until smooth; then put in the eggs, stir three minutes and serve on buttered toast.

TO GET BEST RESULTS.

Two Approved Methods for the Cooking of Sweetbreads.
The Housekeeper presents two recipes for cooking sweetbreads. In the first they are stewed white and in the second they are stewed brown. Ingredients—Two sweetbreads, one pint of veal broth, seasonings, one ounce of flour, one ounce of butter, two yolks of eggs, one-sixteenth pint cream.

Method—Soak and prepare the sweetbreads as in the second recipe, stewing them for an hour in veal broth with a seasoning of mace, white pepper, salt and a very small slice of onion. Press them till cold, trim them and strain into a bowl. Melt the but-

ter in a stewpan, stir the flour into it and let it cook without browning. Add the strained veal broth and stir till well boiled, then remove from the fire and beat in the yolk of two eggs or some cream. Let the sweetbreads warm in this without boiling, then dish them and serve, garnished with slices of lemon and sprigs of parsley.

Ingredients—Two sweetbreads, three-quarters of a pint of brown sauce and tomatoes.
Method—Soak two sweetbreads in warm, salted water for an hour. Put on stove in cold water, and bring to boiling point. Take out sweetbreads and rinse. Put on again in fresh water or white stock, and allow to simmer gently for an hour. Drain and press sweetbreads between two plates with weight upon top of them. Trim neatly and cut into thick slices. Put the sweetbreads into a stewpan with three-quarters of a pint of rich brown sauce, and let them get quite hot. In the meanwhile pour boiling water over some tomatoes, skin them and place them in a buttered tin with buttered paper over. Bake till tender but unbrowned.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Hot sunshine will remove scorch. Hot tartaric acid will take ink stains out of white cloth.

A package or envelope sealed with white of egg cannot be steamed open. Even delicate glass can be safely washed in very hot water if slipped in edgewise.

Insects like neither salt nor alum and enough adheres to the carpet to keep them away.

Saturate grass stains on children's pinafores, etc., in paraffin and then put into the wash-tub.

Burning oil is spread by water. To extinguish it throw down flour, sand or earth. The idea is to prevent the oil from spreading.

Starch should be mixed with soapy water, for thus the linen will have a more glossy appearance and be less likely to stick to the iron.

Clotheslines and pegs will last much longer if they are boiled for ten minutes when new. It is a good plan to repeat the boiling occasionally. It is not generally known, but to prevent cakes from burning place a little bran at the bottom of the tins. This will save a lot of grumbling and vexation.

Italian Cakes.

Half a cup of butter, warmed but not melted, and the same quantity of sugar, beaten to a cream. Add one by one, beating continuously, four eggs, whites and yolks. At the last beat in very hard half a cup of pastry flour. Pour this mixture to the depth of half an inch in a shallow buttered tin and bake in a moderately quick oven for 10 or 15 minutes. Turn upside down to cool; spread thickly with a firm jam or jelly, preferably strawberry or raspberry, and then overlay this with stiff chocolate icing. When firm, cut into odd shapes, squares, discs, diamonds, triangles, etc.

Rag Carpet Without Sewing.

Rag rags about an inch wide, cut a buttonhole in each end, lay one strip on the other so that one hole is over the other, take the end of the lower one and draw it through the hole of the upper one tightly, and it will look as if sewed. Now take a large crocheting hook and crocheting as if making a common round tidy. You can make it as large as you want and quickly, can be washed in a tub, and with care will last a lifetime.

Lyman Salad.

Select long green peppers, cut in halves lengthwise, remove the seeds, and fill with grapefruit pulp, celery and apple finely cut, and pecan nut meats broken in pieces, using half as much each of celery and apple as of grapefruit, and allowing three nut meats to each case. Arrange on lettuce leaves and garnish with mayonnaise dressing.

Former Congressman J. H. Rowell died Friday at Bloomington, Ill., at the age of 75 years. He was a captain in the Civil War.

Chinese rebels to the number of 10,000 are again causing trouble in the Celestial Empire. They are under military instructors trained in Japan. Pekin is alarmed owing to their display of discipline and the possession of artillery by the rebels, who, differing from their predecessors in this respect, are not molesting the population or foreigners.

UNDER THE RED FLAG

RIOTERS IN CLEVELAND TRY TO USE DYNAMITE.

CARS STONED; WIRES CUT

Police Kept Busy Charging Mobs. Explosives Followed by Immense Riot.

Cleveland, Ohio, May 18.—Two cars were attacked with dynamite last night by strike sympathizers and dynamite and other explosives were found on tracks in other parts of the city.

All night the policemen were busy charging mobs, which stoned street cars, attacked the crews and cut trolley wires. Police fired on a mob that was tearing down wires, but no one was injured.

Dynamite was used under a Broadway car early in the evening. The explosion knocked the front trucks off and started a riot in which the police were forced to battle with a mob of 1000 people.

PROSPERITY BOOSTERS BUSY.

Practical Work of Business Men Begins to Tell.

St. Louis, Mo., May 18.—The plan of the National Prosperity Association to have the manufacturers and corporations re-employ men laid off during the recent stringency has borne fruit, and the Ferguson-McKinney Dry Goods Company of St. Louis announces that 1000 employees who have been idle since the business depression will be recalled to work June 1.

The Haragidine-McKittrick Dry Goods Company, the Simmons Hardware Company and several other large St. Louis manufacturers and jobbers have approved of the plan and given assurance of their co-operation. In two or three days the officers of the association will be in a position to announce the different corporations that will put their idle employees back to work.

NINE KNOWN DEAD OVER SCORE INJURED.

New Orleans, La., May 18.—A tornado swept across the Central Northern portion of Louisiana late Saturday afternoon, leaving death and devastation in its path. The town of Chataignier, on the Texas and Pacific Railroad, 150 miles northwest of New Orleans, was practically wiped from the map. Chataignier had about one hundred inhabitants.

Plaquemine Ridge, a village in St. Landry Parish, was ruined. Three persons were killed and a dozen or more injured. Every house in that neighborhood was demolished by the tornado. A child of E. Richards was killed and an unknown negro man and a child were crushed to death. Relief supplies are being sent to Plaquemine Ridge from Opelousas.

Crossing the Mississippi River a few miles below St. Francisville, the tornado devastated one of the finest timber sections of the State, destroyed many farm houses and fences and injured a number of people.

J. W. Alexander, lineman for the Western Union Telegraph Company at Sherman, was seriously hurt Friday afternoon, falling thirty feet and striking on his head and shoulders. He lived only a few minutes, and never recovered consciousness.

Prosperity Wave Rides High.

St. Louis, Mo.: Prosperity again reigns in St. Louis, as shown by the receipts of the charity carnival at Forest Park Highlands Sunday. The receipts were \$42,000, as compared with \$37,000 last year. Once each year the prominent society people of St. Louis have charge of the Highlands and the concessions, running the booths and amusements themselves, and the proceeds are donated to five charities.

Father and Son Fight Fatal Duel.

Milledgeville, Ga.: Daniel Brewer had been rebuked by his son, Willard Brewer, Friday night, for some words the father used to the young man's mother. Saturday morning he stationed himself in the road which he expected his son to pass. When the son came up the father leveled his gun and the younger man drew his revolver. He received in his breast the entire load from his father's gun, and died in a few moments.

Taft Pleased With Panama.

Charleston, S. C.: W. H. Taft, Secretary of War, arrived in Charleston Sunday on board the cruiser Prairie, and after spending a few hours in the city, during which time he was met and greeted by a number of officials and friends, left for Washington. Mr. Taft grew enthusiastic when telling of the excellent progress being made and comparing the situation to that which greeted him on the occasion of his first visit to Panama in 1904.

SEIGE OF EXTRAVAGANCE.

Billion-Dollar Congress Will Soon Adjourn.

Washington, May 19.—The Sixtieth Congress will earn the title of a billion-dollar Congress at its first session before adjournment is taken at the end of this week. It is estimated the total appropriations will reach the enormous sum of \$1,026,000,000, which is said to be the largest ever appropriated at a single session.

The appropriations are for the fiscal year which begins July 1, 1908. It is too early to give anything like an accurate estimate of the revenues of the Government during that period of twelve months, but members of the appropriation committees think they will run somewhere between \$850,000,000 and \$900,000,000. This would mean a deficit of between \$125,000,000 to \$175,000,000.

Chairman Tawney of the House of Representatives Committee warned the House the deficit would reach about \$150,000,000, and if this prediction is fulfilled the surplus now in the treasury will be wiped out June 30, 1909, inasmuch as at the end of this fiscal year there will be a deficit of between \$60,000,000 and \$65,000,000.

PRACTICALLY COMPLETE RETURNS OF PRIMARY

Officially reported returns up to Saturday from 171 counties give

Bailey	113,085
Johnson	91,732
Unofficially reported official figures for fifteen counties are	
Bailey	13,040
Johnson	11,393
Total vote, 189 counties:	
Bailey	126,125
Johnson	103,125
Bailey's majority	23,000

Twenty-nine counties held no primary elections. No reports of any kind have been received from the remaining sixteen organized counties. Eight of these held no primary elections in 1906. Of the remaining eight Senator Bailey's name was not upon the ballot in three in 1906.

Giving Senator Bailey all the votes he received in 1906 in the sixteen unreported counties, his majority would still be less than 24,000. It is probable that his majority in the report of the complete returns will not exceed 23,500, and it is not likely to be that much.

Anti-Gross Receipts Decision.

Washington, May 19.—The Supreme Court Monday decided adversely to the State the case of the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railway vs. the State of Texas. The case involved the constitutionality of the Texas law imposing a tax upon the gross receipts of railway corporations, and was argued before the Supreme Court several weeks ago by Attorney General Davidson and Assistant Attorney General Hawkins, representing the State, and H. M. Garwood of Houston, counsel for the railroad.

By agreement of counsel the decision of the case decided yesterday is to control in a number of cases of the same character now on the docket in Texas courts. These cases will be dismissed.

The decision was by a divided court of four of the nine Justices concurring in a dissenting opinion prepared by Justice Harlan.

Bad Greer, a negro working on T. C. Westbrook's plantation near Lorena, was found at daylight Sunday just inside the barn with his throat cut. He lived only a few minutes, and never recovered consciousness.

Geography Contract Canceled.

Austin: The half-finished contract for geographies awarded the American Book Company at the recent adoption was abrogated by the State Textbook Board Monday on the grounds that the contractors are irrefutably involved in an illegal monopoly. By sustaining each suggestion advanced in the Attorney General's report, the available substitutes for the geographies were reduced to those of one concern, Ginn & Company.

Two Small Brothers Drown.

Comanche: The two sons of Jay Cunningham—Marshall, aged nine, and Derwood, aged seven, drowned Monday afternoon in a creek near their home, two miles from Newburg. The younger boy fell into the creek, and in an effort to save his brother Marshall also lost his life. The screams of the children attracted their mother, but when their little bodies were recovered all efforts to revive them failed.

Long Trolley Line Nearly Complete.

Dallas: The finishing touches are being put to the Sherman-Dallas Interurban Railroad. A force of 300 men is pushing the surfacing of the roadbed and another force of 150 men is stringing the trolley wires. The power house at McKinney is completed and the machinery in place. The cars have been shipped from the factory, and are due to arrive in a few days. The cars will begin to run June 15.

THE WEEK'S EPITOME

A RESUME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

A Carefully Digested and Condensed Compilation of Current News Domestic and Foreign.

The Texas Company has made a cut of three cents per barrel in the price of crude oil.

The State Medical Association is in session at Corpus Christi this week with a large attendance.

News comes from Mexico that the rebellious Yaqui Indians of the State of Sonora have sued for peace.

An order passed by the Commissioners' Court on Thursday prohibits the painting or tacking of signs on the bridges of Tom Green County.

For the first time in its history the Chicago police department has recently engaged Chinese detectives to aid in preserving peace in Chinatown.

Nineteen mills making ducking, including four in Texas, have closed down for the summer. More than 25,000 operatives will be out for several months.

Work of tearing down the old court house preparatory to building a \$40,000 temple of justice has begun at Stanton, and work on the new rock jail is progressing.

A bill appropriating \$50,000 for a memorial for Abraham Lincoln on the site of the Lincoln birthplace in Kentucky passed the Senate Friday on Motion of Mr. Wetmore.

The trolley wires for the Sherman-Dallas Interurban are being placed in position, having reached McKinney from Sherman. It is expected that a car will be run as early as June 25.

Three thousand cape jasmine blossoms were sent to the Washington convention of Governors from Alvin, as a Texas offering to the noted assemblage. They were highly appreciated.

Representatives of more than 300 commercial bodies from all parts of the country at a meeting in Chicago adopted resolutions protesting against the proposed advance in railroad freight rates.

Armstead Martin, cashier of the Farmers' State Bank and Trust Company of Coleman, after shaving a few days since, applied carbolic acid to his face, mistaking it for bay rum, burning it severely.

Rear Admiral Thomas lowered his flag on the battleship Connecticut as commander in chief of the Atlantic fleet Saturday, and the flag of Rear Admiral Charles Sperry was run up at the main truck.

The final count of those who met death in Wednesday's tornado in Caddo and Bossier Parishes, La., will probably total fifty. The number known up to Saturday to have been killed, is forty-four.

A party of fifty-two Japanese, touring under the auspices of the Tokio Asahi Shimbun, who have been visiting America and Europe, are now in Paris, returning to Japan via the Trans-Siberian Railway.

A general convention of Baptists at Hot Springs, Ark., was attended by about 1500 delegates. Rev. R. C. Buckner, President of the Buckner Orphans' Home, near Dallas, was elected one of the Vice-Presidents.

The Texas Division, Travelers' Protective Association, left Dallas Sunday morning for Louisville, Ky., to attend the National meeting in that city.

A Lamar county farmer sold forty-one bales of cotton Friday at 10c. He received \$25 per bale less for it than he could have sold it for last fall.

United States Senator Julius Caesar Burrows of Michigan was elected Saturday by the subcommittee of the Republican National Committee to be temporary chairman of the National Convention.

An incipient blaze at Mexia destroyed a cafe, at a loss of \$2000, and damaged the building to the extent of \$500, before the fire was under control.

A thief in Dallas coolly picked up a buzz fan a few nights since, cut the line and walked away before those who saw the act realized what he was up to.

The infant child of Mart Morgan, north of High, was given ten drops of laudanum through mistake for a tonic and came near dying before the mistake was discovered.

Frank Schneider shot and killed Fred Wetzel, Jr., in Germantown a few days ago, claiming that Wetzel had insulted his wife.

Henry Farman, the English aeronaut, has challenged Wilbur Wright, the Ohio aeroplane artist, to a championship match, to take place in France, the prize to be \$5000.

Active preparations on a zinc and lead mine have been commenced at Ardmore, Okla. The ore has been tested and pronounced of high productivity.

MYSTERIOUS PLOT THICKENS.

Prosecuting Attorney in Gunness Case Threatened.

Laporte, Ind., May 16.—Threats and warnings addressed to Prosecuting Attorney R. N. Smith, in letters sent from various parts of the United States, demanding that he drop the investigation of the Gunness farm murder mystery, are being investigated by Pinkerton detectives and officials of Laporte.

Prosecutor Smith has worked hard and late into the night every day since the discovery of the first body in the "garden graveyard," and the fact that his activity should receive attention in different parts of the United States from people who deliberately threaten to kill him unless he desists is considered significant at this time.

Although Attorney Smith declares that he does not fear the threats and warnings, he is taking special precautions to protect himself, especially when callers come to his home late at night.

Enmity and jealousy of political rivals is declared to be back of some of the threats, and for that reason the Prosecuting Attorney is taking no chances.

That Mrs. Gunness was a hypnotist was proven yesterday, when a number of her books and manuscripts were recovered. It was also learned that she was a student of anatomy. Part of a burned letter told how her days and nights were filled with indescribable terror of something she could not explain.

TWO KILLED IN WRECK.

Katy Flyer and Freight Collide Head-on near Muskogee.

Muskogee, Ok., May 16.—The south-bound Katy Flyer No. 5 and north-bound freight No. 412 came together in a head-on collision three miles north of this city just after noon yesterday. The engineer on the freight, James Lanahan, of Parsons, Kan., and Express Messenger Billy West were killed outright and Engineer Hotchkiss of Parsons had his leg broken, and many passengers were injured, but none thought to be serious.

The wreck immediately caught fire but was extinguished before much damage was done. Engineer James Lanahan of Parsons, Kan., had his body mangled to a pulp. Express Messenger Billy West's heart was torn out.

The freight crew, it is alleged, had orders to meet another train at Waggoner, and another was out running the Flyer forty minutes late. It is said that either the freight crew had too many orders and overlooked a "hold" order to await the passage of the Flyer or they were under the impression that the Flyer had arrived.

The Flyer is due in Muskogee at 12:04 o'clock. The freight crew was in charge of Conductor Daight and Engineer Lanahan.

When the trains met the freight was going down hill under every ounce of steam the engineer could force on and the passenger was coming up the hill at its usual high rate of speed.

A fight against trading in cotton futures is about to be inaugurated in the Louisiana Legislature. Remember, this rate, three cents a word per insertion, applies only to advertisements in this Classified Column. When you run an ad continuously for four or more insertions our rate are two cents a word per insertion. Copy must be in our hands at least two days in advance of publication day. Address all communications to Advertising Department, THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR, Dallas, Texas.

AGENTS' PORTRAITS \$50. FRAMES 75c.

Business Announcements
Wants—For Sale—Exchanges

This department fills a long-felt want. It is a place where you can advertise for anything they wish to buy, sell or exchange at the extremely low rate of three cents a word per insertion. Cash must accompany order. In figuring out cost for advertisement each number, sign or initial must be counted as one word, and address included as part of the advertisement. Large or small ads appearing in this Classified Column will be set in the same style—no display or black-faced type used.

Remember, this rate, three cents a word per insertion, applies only to advertisements in this Classified Column. When you run an ad continuously for four or more insertions our rate are two cents a word per insertion. Copy must be in our hands at least two days in advance of publication day. Address all communications to Advertising Department, THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR, Dallas, Texas.

USE FARMERS' UNION FLOUR.

There is a flour mill in northern Oklahoma that is controlled exclusively by the Farmers' Union. They are located in the best milling wheat country in the world. They use none but the best of the wheat in their products. Be loyal and patronize your own institutions. Buy your flour and feed stuffs of them. Write them at once and be sure and buy from them. Woods County Co-Operative Association, W. T. Ruby, Carmen, Okla., secretary and manager.

\$25,000 per acre easily made growing Ginseng anywhere in United States. Plant any time. Send \$1 for package guaranteed pure Ginseng Seed and Guide to Ginseng Culture. Address C. T. Austin, R. R. 4, Ripley, Tenn.

SAY, BROTHERS, buy fence posts from the Union Brothers in Arkansas. Write for prices on all kinds. Satisfaction guaranteed. H. W. Buyjes, secretary, Winslow, Ark. 6-11-P.

WANTED—Union people to ask me for prices on flour, meal, bran, corn and corn chops. I will save you the middle man's profit. T. J. Edmondson, Golden, Mo.

East Texas Yellow Pine Lumber.

Direct from mill to consumer, and at enormous saving of middlemen's profits. All grades in stock; 700,000 feet now on hand and prompt shipment can be made. Individual buyers can beat the dealers' prices who buy from the trust. For prices and freight rates, write

A. H. O'KEEFE,

State Purchasing and Sales Agent, F. E. & C. U. of Texas, Fort Worth Texas.

Buttons Buttons Buttons!

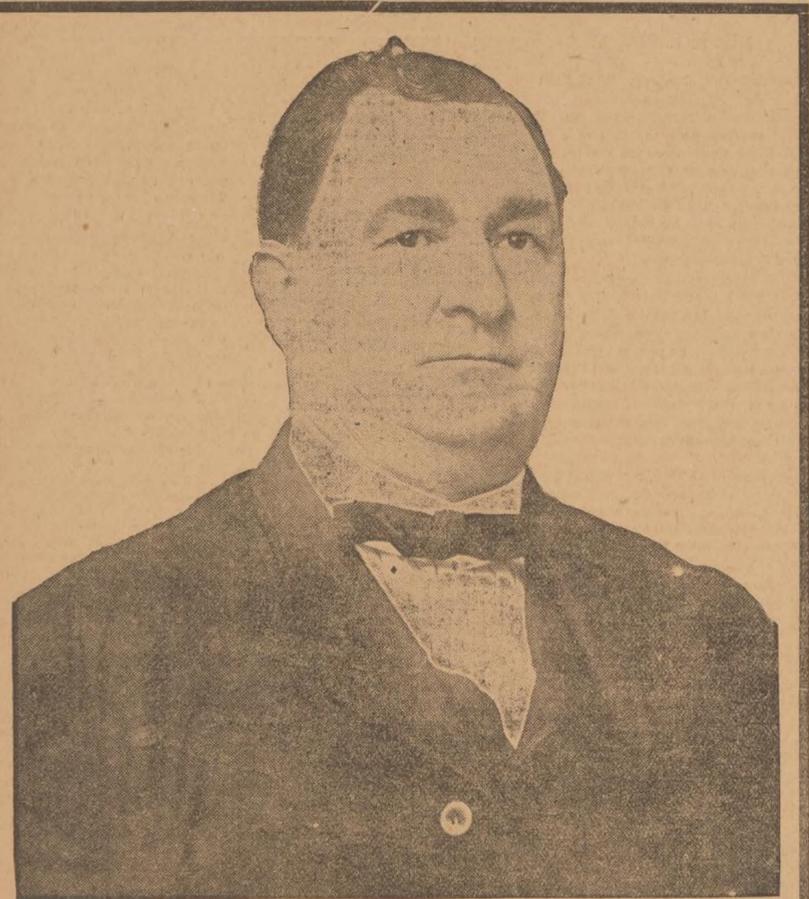
The National Farmers' Union decided that the button, with a picture of Newt, Gresham engraved thereon, should be sold by Miss Lutie Gresham (his daughter), of Point, Texas. The National Union decided that these buttons should be sold for 25c each. Every member of the Farmers' Union should wear one of these buttons. Send your orders direct to

Miss Bly Gresham

Point,

Texas

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD



Dr. J. S. HILL, of Greenville, Texas.

The man who has challenged the world for fifteen years for an incurable case of Whiskey, Drug, Tobacco, Snuff or Cigarette Habit. He is the only man who absolutely guarantees all his cases. He can do this because they never fail. If any reader of the Co-operator needs help to get away from any of these dreadful habits he should write to Dr. Hill as soon as he reads this. Address all communications to

DR. J. S. HILL,
Greenville, Texas.
Department B.

NOTE—The management of the Co-operator have known of Dr. Hill's work for many years, and unhesitatingly recommend him to our readers.

MILKING CHARACTERISTICS.

How They Can Be Successfully Fixed by Breeding.

It is believed that if two animals of dissimilar characters are bred together the offspring will assume the qualities principally of the individual that has a dominant character, but the fixed characteristics of either animal are more or less disturbed and in succeeding generations almost any gradation and blending of the cross can be expected. As a matter of fact, when two animals of good milking strain are bred together we generally get an offspring that is quite superior in milk production to either of the ancestors. However, this cannot be absolutely relied upon but is the best way to increase the capacity for milk production. To perpetuate the character in succeeding generations this cross may be bred to a male who has a dominant character for milk production inherited from his ancestors. If no such strain of animals is available it is wise to breed this offspring back to its sire in order to fix this character. For instance, a bull and a cow are mated, both from different strains. The dam and the sire's dam have the character to produce 20 pounds of milk per day well established, but these strains for many generations back are not related to each other. The offspring from this cross may only have a capacity of 15 pounds. However, it is more likely to have the capacity to produce 30 pounds. To fix this character in succeeding generations it would be wise to breed this offspring back to its sire, which has but 20 pounds capacity, while there is a possibility of slightly reducing the capacity of the offspring, yet it fixes the character and makes it more permanent for future generations. But if you desire to run the risk of a still greater increase in milk production it would be well to breed this cow with a capacity of 30 pounds of milk per day to a sire of another strain which has an average capacity of 30 pounds per day. The closer a strain is related the more permanent and the more reliable will be the fixing of that character for all future generations at 30 pounds capacity.—Prof. Oscar Brf.

DAIRY COWS.

Are You Observing State Law and Keeping Them in a Sanitary Way?

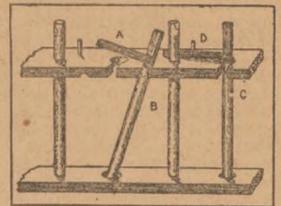
There are hundreds of creamery patrons to-day who are violating the pure food laws of the state in which they live to a more or less degree and do not realize it. They are ignorant of the provisions of the law on the subject of dairying and carelessly vio-

late these statutes. The laws have been published time and again for their benefit, but it is a deplorable fact that in some localities a good farm or dairy paper is a seldom visitor. They will not take the paper and would not read them if the papers were given to them. What such men need, declares the Northwestern Agriculturist, is a vigorous application of the law. It has been said that the most certain way to reach a man's heart is by way of his stomach; it might also be said that the most certain way to reach most men's mind is by the way of their pocketbook. They will not give thought to this question of properly caring for their cows and the milk, until they can be made to understand that it will cost them money if they neglect to do so.

CATTLE STANCHION.

This One is Easily Made and Will Stay in Place When Set.

A cattle stanchion that is easily operated and will stay in place when set



Easily Operated.

is made as shown in the illustration, says Popular Mechanics. The post, B, is placed in position by turning the small lever, A, so the square or thin part of the post, B, will enter the notch. The small lever, A, is then turned as shown in the second position, C, and the pin, D, inserted.

Name the Farm.

Name the stock farm is the advice given by an exchange and we think it is good advice. Nothing looks better in print or sounds better when mentioned than "John Smith, proprietor of the Maplewood farm." Have your printer print your letter heads with the name of your farm thereon. Some few back numbers may laugh at you, but remember that this is the twentieth century and people who laugh are always back numbers.

The Kind That Pays.

You have many times seen the man with a pen full of scrub hogs, a crib of rusty corn and a filthy wallow filled with stagnant water, wondering why hog raising does not pay. He is

always the first man to arrive at the conclusion that farming does not pay. Farming, especially hog raising pays, but it must be worked at in the right way—strict attention must be paid to every detail.

Copper Sulphate Solution,
One pound copper sulphate, 25 gallons water.

15 YEARS OF SUFFERING

Burning, Painful Sores on Legs—Tortured Day and Night—Tried Many Remedies to No Avail.

USED CUT-CUR: IS WELL AGAIN

"After an attack of rheumatism, running sores broke out on my husband's legs, from below the knees to the ankles. There are no words to tell all the discomfort and great suffering he had to endure night and day. He used every kind of remedy and three physicians treated him, one after the other, without any good results whatever. One day I ordered some Cut-Cur Soap, Cut-Cur Ointment, and Cut-Cur Resolvent. He began to use them and in three weeks all the sores were dried up. The burning fire stopped, and the pains became bearable. After three months he was quite well. I can prove this testimonial at any time. Mrs. V. V. Albert, Upper Frenchville, Me., July 21, 1907."

THE UNION COTTON SCHOOL.

SNYDER, Texas, May 15. To the Members of the F. E. and C. U. of A.—Brethren: The cotton grading school will begin on July 1 and close Sept. 1, 1908, and will be taught in Fort Worth, it being the most central point of any of the larger cities in the state and board and other accommodations can be had there as cheap or cheaper than any other city, and we think it the logical home of all union institutions of state character. This school will be taught for the purpose of educating our members to grade and handle cotton and none will be admitted to same who are not members of the order in good standing. Brother H. H. Allison will have direct management of the school and R. E. Dolman will have charge of the instruction department, and is fully capable to teach all the principles of cotton classification, etc., and is a man to be thoroughly trusted to do his work well. The grading school is a creature of the state union and will be kept strictly as a union institution, and the state executive committee will have general supervision of the same.

Anyone wishing further information concerning the school will write to J. C. Albritton, Snyder, Texas, Box 225. Fraternally, J. C. ALBRITTON, Secretary State Executive Committee.

Denver, Col.—A bill patterned after the Canadian law which has for its purpose the prevention of strikes and lockouts, has been introduced in the Colorado legislature. It provides that when employers and their workmen cannot agree upon wages or conditions of employment this fact shall be reported to the governor of the state, before any strike or lockout shall take place. The governor shall then appoint a board of arbitration and conciliation of three members. One member shall be recommended by a committee of workmen or their union and one by the employer, and the two shall recommend the third member, who shall be the chairman of the committee. The board thus constituted shall have power to summon witnesses and require the production of books and papers. It shall then make recommendation as to settlement of the disagreement. There will be no obligation on the part of either side to a dispute to accept the award or finding of the commission, but the fact that no strike or lockout can be ordered or called until an investigation by the commission is calculated to have a good effect. Fines are provided for in case of violation by either side pending an investigation, as prescribed in the measure.

Boston.—Mayor Hibbard has announced his intention to be free from the dictations of labor unions. In an interview on his selection of James H. Smith of Brighton as superintendent of the municipal printing plant, he said: "I believe in the union shop; but I want a man that will be with me wholly in what I am trying to do at the city hall. For that reason I have made up my mind not to appoint to office any active members of a union, for I am convinced that their first interest will be for their organization and not for the mayor."

New York.—Applications for employment made to the Interborough Rapid Transit company have greatly fallen off during the last three weeks, especially from among the ranks of unemployed building workmen and railroad men. Judging from the applicants now as compared with a few weeks ago it looks as if there are fewer idle in some of the trades. At a conference of representatives of all carpenters' unions within a radius of 25 miles reports were received to the effect that conditions in the trade were rapidly improving.

Washington.—Labor has two representatives in congress who hold membership cards in the Telegraphers' union. One is Representative Carey of Milwaukee, a Republican, and the other Representative McDermott of Chicago, a Democrat. These labor men are working hard to obtain the passage of labor legislation, and since the recent decision by the supreme court in the Hatters' union case have been seeking to have enacted an amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law that will exempt labor unions from its provisions.

Indianapolis.—The printers were the first craft of any importance to extend their organization throughout the entire country. The National Typographical union was established in 1852. In order to take in Canada there was established in 1862 the International Typographical union.

Kansas City.—Twenty members of Kansas City Beer Drivers' union No. 100, employed by local breweries, struck in sympathy with the striking workers of St. Louis. Several breweries were unable to deliver beer.

Dublin, Ireland.—Until recent years a remunerative Irish cottage industry had been drawn needwork. Nowadays this industry is killed by Japanese exports of linen to be made into drawn work, table covers and the like, which counted 600,000 yards in 1906. Irish home workers have thus to face the competition of the Orientals.

Mobile, Ala.—The Southern Railway issued orders closing the city ticket office and downtown freight offices in Mobile. The same class of offices at Selma have also been closed indefinitely. It is understood the nine-hour law caused the retrenchment.

Seattle, Wash.—M. Saito, former minister of commerce in the Japanese cabinet, arrived here from Tokyo. His errand covers a campaign among union labor leaders for admission of Japanese workmen to membership in organized labor bodies.

Chicago.—A union of hospital superintendents has been organized, which may be extended to take in medical and surgical workers. It is called the Chicago Hospital association and has 25 hospitals in its membership.

Hammond, Ind.—The Republic Iron and Steel company's plant, employing 1,200 men, was closed as the result of a strike of engineers, caused by a wage reduction from \$3 to \$2.90 per diem. The Standard Steel Car plant, employing 2,600 men, will close the first of the week owing to lack of orders. Its pay roll is \$100,000 monthly.

Ithaca, N. Y.—The striking tailors have signed an agreement with their former employers whereby strikers are to go back to work at the old schedule. They failed to win a point they struck for. The shops will be conducted on the open shop plan.

St. Paul, Minn.—Refusing to agree to the new working schedule proposed by the officials of the road, and despairing of reaching an amicable understanding on any other basis, the committee representing the engineers, conductors, brakemen, firemen and switchmen on the Chicago Great Western have asked Chairman Knapp of the Interstate commerce commission and Charles P. Neil, commissioner of labor, to intervene, under the Erdman act, which provides for the arbitration of difficulties arising between the officials and employees of railroads which threaten to interfere with interstate commerce.

Fall River, Mass.—Notices were posted at the Fall River Iron works and the American Print company in this city that these plants would be closed one week, and that until four weeks' curtailment had been completed they would be in operation on alternate weeks only. The American Print company is the largest producer of printed fabrics in the United States, and employs about 750 hands. The Iron Works company operates seven large cotton mills, which feed the print works. It employs 5,000 hands and has a weekly pay roll of approximately \$35,000.

Washington.—Probably the most important gathering in the history of labor in this country, as far as future results are concerned, was that at Washington of President Gompers and the A. F. of L. executive board with the international officers of the nearly 200 international labor unions of the country. It was to consider action to remedy the situation labor is in because of the recent decisions of the United States supreme court and to consider political action, if necessary, to secure to labor what it considers its just rights.

Pittsfield, Mass.—A reduction in working hours went into effect in the two largest manufacturing plants in this city. At the plant of the Stanley General Incandescent Electric company, employing 1,900 men, about ten per cent of the employees will continue to work on full time, while in certain departments the men will work only 3 1/2 days a week and in other departments 4 1/2 days. At the mills of the Eaton, Crane & Pike Paper company the 1,100 operatives went on a schedule of 39 hours a week.

New York.—In a canvass of the country to ascertain the number of unemployed men discharges have been received from many industrial centers with reports of conditions, and from these it is estimated that more than one million men are minus jobs. The reports indicate more than 600,000 unemployed in the chief cities and nearly 600,000 in the states outside the cities.

Providence, R. I.—Robert Knight, head of the B. B. & R. Knight company, announced that a general reduction in wages amounting to ten per cent will be made in the Knight mill. The company employs 6,000 operatives. A ten per cent reduction will also be made at the mills of the Goddard Bros. and the Manville company's Globe, Social and Nurse mills.

New Bedford, Mass.—Notices of a wage reduction averaging ten per cent were posted in all the cotton cloth mills in the city. The yarn mills which are outside the New Bedford Cotton Manufacturers' association will, it is understood, take similar action. About 22,000 operatives will be affected, 16,000 in the cloth mills and 6,000 in the yarn mills.

Springfield, Mass.—A wholesale exodus of Poles to Europe followed the ten per cent reduction in wages in the Chicopee and Holyoke cotton mills. Seventy-five per cent of the 4,000 operatives affected are Poles.

San Francisco.—The Alaska Fishermen's Protective union decided to fight against the proposed 20 per cent cut in wages. Unless the packers submit to their demand 3,000 salmon fishers in Alaska will be called out.

Boston.—Mayor Hibbard declared that he is and always was in favor of labor unions at a big mass meeting of the railroad clerks of New England. But first of all, he said, he wanted a man to be an American.

St. Louis, Mo.—The supreme court affirmed the sentence of Clarence O. Skinner, treasurer of the billposters' union, of two years in the penitentiary upon conviction of having embezzled \$600 of the union's funds.

Cleveland, O.—The wage scale for tugmen upon the great lakes for the next two years has been agreed upon. The rate of the last two years will be maintained. The contract will go into effect on May 1.

Indianapolis, Ind.—John Mitchell, the famous leader of the coal miners, delivered his valedictory to the men's representatives at the special convention at Indianapolis, and permanently retires from the presidency of the union, which, with its nearly 400,000 members, is the largest trades union of the entire world.

Boston.—Boot and Shoe Workers' union international officers report that the union's moving picture show, advertising the union stamp and showing the process of shoemaking, is being well received in the sections of the country it is now touring.

THE FARM GATES.

If They Are Properly Made and Hung They Will Not Sag.

A good gate properly hung is one of the best equipments of the farm. It will save time and it will save the farm property, too; then, it will just "sorter" help the look of things. A good gate is easy to make and easy to hang also, and I will give here a short description of the kind I have used for a dozen or more years, writes Bernard Quinn in "Farmers' Voice," and the same I see in use now on a good many farms around here. We used to be bothered a great deal with gates sagging or getting out of square. I



One Type of Gate.

tried many different kinds of bracing and at last got my present way from noticing the bracing in a truss bridge. I like to use five-inch bars or boards and three-quarters of an inch in thickness, according to weight of lumber. The bracing is of the truss or double X style, putting two pieces V-shaped on one side of the gate, and on the other side an inverted V, as shown in cut. A gate of this style properly hung will not sag; even a 12-foot gate will hold up well.

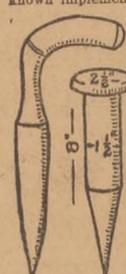
Of course, in doing a good job of gate hanging the hinge post must be firmly set and strongly braced. The screw of the bottom hinge should not be screwed in the post quite so far as the top screw, and to make a gate open up-hill the bottom screw should be put further back in the post. About a half-inch in either will generally be enough. This makes the gate rise from the ground when opening.

HORTICULTURE

THE DIBBLE.

Make Quick Work of Transplanting by Its Use.

The transplanting peg is a little known implement. It would be profitable to many to form its acquaintance. By its much profit and pleasure can be derived from the garden. To transplant by making holes in the ground with your finger is as crude as to cultivate with your hand instead of a hoe or plow.



The rapidity of an expert in setting plants with a peg is a surprise to the novice. I have had men peg in 20 plants to the minute or 1,200 in an hour. Steel pegs are for sale, but a wooden one costs nothing and is far better. As plants are of different kinds and sizes, I find different sizes and shapes of pegs necessary, so I whittle the pegs to suit the kind of plants I am setting.

The right use, and the rapid use, of the peg will gradually be learned by practice. If the ground is too wet, dirt will stick to the peg; if too dry, will fall back into the hole when the peg is removed. In either case, this can be avoided by giving the peg a twist as it is removed from the hole. Sometimes the hole is too small, to admit the plant. This can be overcome by wabbling the peg while making the hole.

When the plant is inserted, continues the writer in Farm and Home, the dirt should be pressed firmly about it with the peg. This is done by a movement of the wrist, in which the peg is thrown from an upright position to a sharp slant, so that while the point of the peg has pressed the dirt on the far side of the plant, the side of the peg, by a semi-circular movement of the hand, has pressed the dirt on the right and on the side next to you. This movement is not easily learned.

To gain rapid movement practice by counting four. When you say one, pick up the plant with the left hand; two, make the hole with the right; three, insert plant with the left; four, press the dirt about the plant with the right. Begin very slowly and increase the movement until you are planting as fast as you can count. You will be surprised how quickly you attain this speed.

FARM NOTES.

Every farm should have some live stock.

An animal's comfort means the owner's profit.

It is never wise or profitable to keep an animal in poor flesh.

The trained veterinarian should be encouraged and patronized.

No one who has to labor for a living should slight small industries.

Good crops, stock, fertility and industry are the essential features in good farming.

There is a certain satisfaction in taking a yearly inventory of the farm. It is the best way to find the "leaks," too.

Keep the land as rich as possible. Angleworms work more in rich land than in poor land, and they constantly improve the soil.

"Universal prosperity" tooters haven't been heard explaining why multitudes of laborers were clamoring for bread after being out of work only a week or two. The fruit of real prosperity would last longer than that.

STATIONERY

and Supplies for Local and County Unions

The Co-Operator is thoroughly equipped for printing all kinds of stationery for local and county unions as well as commercial and pamphlet printing of all kinds.

Send in your orders for letterheads, envelopes, receipts, cards and blanks.

Local and county secretaries can make good money soliciting orders for printing from their home merchants where there are no printing offices.

Write for terms and particulars.

The National Co-Operator
—Fort Worth, Texas—