

Southern
Mercury

United With

The
National
Co-Operator
and
Farm
Journal

THE
NATIONAL
CO-OPERATOR
AND
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Farmers
Union
Password

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ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

Their Study and Discussion by Union
Members is Not Politics, but
Needed to Succeed.

Editor Co-Operator: The New Year of 1908, with its joys and sorrows, trials, tribulations, successes or failures, we know not which, is well upon us, and with it comes regularly The Co-Operator, filled with good things to meditate upon and for our guidance in the future.

The admonitions to avoid the mortgage and raise our supplies at home on the farm are all, not only good, but very good, as far as the farmers are in condition to heed such admonitions, but it does seem to me that we've had lavish advice on those lines. However, don't let up on it, but continue to advise and warn the farmers of all such traps and snares, so that all who can may keep out of them.

But, Mr. Editor, even that and building warehouses all over this country is not going to bring things our way on a silver platter. Nay, verily, and except the laboring people (the farmers, in particular) can rid their noses to their organization for them to raise a few bolls in the political seething pot, politics will always go our opponents' way, and with it will go all farmers and laborers' organizations. Our opponents are in politics, and have been all along, since they were organized, and we have been attending to our business all along, and letting these same opponents and their hirelings and paid lieutenants attend to the political or governmental part of our business (just so they kept the label top side up), till now we see that their blighting and ruling power reflected in the government to-day.

As to the world being non-partisan, that is bosh, pure and simple. There has always been, and ever will be, parties to the end of time. For instance, those who cling to justice, equity and right and all that the three imply, constitute a party. Those who do not, constitute another party in governments as in all things else, and whether the latter party is the most numerous or not, signs indicate that they are and have been in the saddle for a number of years, and are in the saddle to this good day, for proof of which just witness our very recent great panic, right in the midst of our much vaunted prosperity, when it would seem that a panic were impossible, and our generous government rushing to the aid of the "panic makers" to "relieve the situation." Times still remain panicky. Then our great and good government, with several hundred millions of dollars in the treasury, issues some bonds and certificates for the benefit of the poor, modest "panic makers." Some of our great educational newspapers began to tell us that the panic was vanishing and times looking up, but the panic seems to linger in spite of all the confidence we can rake or scrape up.

Ah, friends and Union men! Bonds mean bondage for the people and interest "gwine and cummin'" for the purchaser of those bonds (bankers), and they are guaranteed their toll.

Mr. Editor, did you ever figure the interest that the people have to pay on every dollar before it reaches its proper place in the channel of trade alone, and now are organizing a business organization for business purposes only. No official, he says, will from our cotton, and not many of us are permitted to meddle in politics realize it till the "proverbial" panic hits us, and some of us not then.

For humanity's and posterity's sake, get rid of the idea that the study and agitation of the money question, the transportation, land, postal savings, business organization and a political banks, and other questions will kill organization.

Mr. Pyle declares that the great kill it, you might as well prepare for its funeral, for it will die anyhow from ignorance of these things.

It is governmental favors that make our opponents so hard to overcome. We want 15 cents for our cotton; more reasonable and just freight rates; better shipping facilities, better homes for all that need and deserve them. Can we have these things for the present? Yes, if our masters say we can. "Well, well," we say, "we will warehouse our cotton and grain and let the others live on their money till they are ready to pay our price, and we will reduce our acreage or quit raising cotton entirely, or have our price."

Well, we find the whole push of them, with a few feeble exceptions who can't afford to quarrel with their "bread and butter" very much, say that we can't have these things by a large majority "if the court knows herself," and they seem to think that "she do."

So we constitute one party and they the other, label them what you please, and they are as determined that we shall not have a profitable price for our labor as we are to have it, and unless those governmental favors are taken away from them we can never win, for entrenched behind them they can outwind the day laborer, the renter and a good per cent of the one-horse land holders, and that means a deal in this battle.

Alien ownership of land in these United States is not prohibited by law, neither is the importation of cheap foreign labor prohibited by law to any great extent. Neither are many of our large speculative land holders any too patriotic to swap land for British gold; so if we should curtail the acreage, or even quit entirely, and the spinners wanted to buy cotton lands here and raise cotton and manufacture and sell it to their liking, why, as things are now, our Government would back them, even with the army and navy, if necessary.

No, don't let The Farmers' Union and kindred organizations die, but rather make them more lively, as it is the place to discuss economic questions, and the best way to bring about united action of all honest people. And let us get our opponents tread before we bark so loud.

I hope to see these questions discussed in the columns of your valuable paper often, and by men who can do it better than I can. Also the school book question. Surely the people of Texas are not satisfied with some of the books used these days in our public schools, especially of first and second grades.

Success to Co-Operator and The Farmers' Union. J. W. STEM.
Bald Prairie, Texas.

PYLE GOES TO KENTUCKY.

Editor of National Co-Operator to
Make Speeches in Bluegrass
State.

Dallas, Feb. 22.—(Special.)—O. P. Pyle, editor of The National Co-Operator, The Farmers Union publication of this city, will go to Kentucky next month to make several speeches in the interest of The Farmers Union. Mr. Pyle says the outlook for the permanent growth of the organization is bright, that the farmers have learned by experience in farmers' organizations to let politics and politicians severely alone, and now are organizing a business organization for business purposes only. No official, he says, will from our cotton, and not many of us are permitted to meddle in politics realize it till the "proverbial" panic hits us, and some of us not then.

For humanity's and posterity's sake, get rid of the idea that the study and agitation of the money question, the transportation, land, postal savings, business organization and a political banks, and other questions will kill organization.

Mr. Pyle declares that the great kill it, you might as well prepare for its funeral, for it will die anyhow from ignorance of these things.

Special Notice

NEXT WEEK, I WILL TELL, IN THE COLUMNS OF THE CO-OPERATOR, SOMETHING ABOUT OUR RECENT TROUBLES IN TEXAS. I HAVE NEVER BEFORE TOLD, IN THE CO-OPERATOR, ANYTHING ABOUT ANY TROUBLES WHICH EXISTED IN ANY STATE, THOUGH I HAVE KNOWN ABOUT MOST OF THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS. I ONLY DO THIS BECAUSE THERE IS NOTHING ELSE LEFT FOR ME TO DO, HAVING DONE ALL I COULD DO TO PREVENT THE PUBLICATION OF THIS MATTER.

I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO TELL IT ALL IN ONE ISSUE. IT WILL MOST LIKELY BE A CONTINUED STORY, AND WILL BE A VERY INTERESTING ONE. I WILL TELL THIS STORY WITH NO MALICE IN MY HEART WHATEVER, BUT WITH SORROW AND PITY FOR A FEW OF OUR FRIENDS AND BRETHREN WHO HAVE BEEN MADE THE VICTIMS OF INTERESTED PARTIES WHO HAVE AN AX TO GRIND AND WANT THE FARMERS' UNION TO TURN THE STONE. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THUS IN ALL ORGANIZATIONS, ESPECIALLY IN FARMERS ORGANIZATIONS. THE POLITICIAN HAS ALWAYS GOT IN HIS WORK. IT IS, AND HAS BEEN, THE SPECIAL MISSION OF THE CO-OPERATOR TO KEEP THE POLITICIAN FROM CONTROLLING THE FARMERS' UNION AS HE HAS DONE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE GONE THIS WAY BEFORE.

I WOULD ASK OUR READERS TO NOT BE ALARMED. I ASSURE YOU THAT THIS TROUBLE WILL WORK OUT ALL RIGHT WHEN WE ALL UNDERSTAND IT PROPERLY. I WOULD ASK YOU NOT TO MAKE UP YOUR MINDS ABOUT THE MATTER TILL YOU HAVE THE EVIDENCE. THIS I WILL GIVE YOU IN A PLAIN, UNIMPAISONED WAY. I WOULD ASK YOU AGAIN TO NOT BE DISCOURAGED. MOUNTAINS ARE BEING MADE OUT OF MOLES. THIS ORGANIZATION IS GOING TO GO ON AND IS GROWING GREATER AND GREATER. WE WILL TELL OUR CLASS, THE PRODUCERS OF WEALTH, COME INTO THAT WHICH IS RIGHTFULLY THEIR OWN. WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE AND CHARITY TO ALL, I WILL TELL YOU NEXT WEEK THE CAUSE OF OUR SEEMING TROUBLE.

FRATERNALLY,
O. P. PYLE.

organized the first six State Unions, where he organized the Texas State beginning at Mineola, Texas, in 1904. Union. He will be present and assist in the organization of the Kentucky and North Carolina State Unions, which are soon to be formed.—Fort Worth Record.

IN FARAWAY WASHINGTON.

To the Editor of Co-Operator On the night of February 15, 1908 the people of the vicinity of Moses Lake Washington, were delightfully entertained by The Farmers Educational and Co-Operative Union Organizer, J. M. Griffith, of Roitville, who gave a fine lecture, and organized a large Local. The following officers were elected and installed into office: President, F. A. McDonald; Vice President, Ellis Rinehart; Secretary-Treasurer, Wm. E. Atwood.

Success was the name chosen for the Local. On the evening of Feb. 14, a Local was also formed at Pleasant Ridge through the faithful efforts of the above named organizer, with a charter membership of seventeen; also on the night before a Local was formed with a charter membership of twenty-four, this meeting being such a grand success they named the Local Griffith in honor of the organizer.

Mr. Griffith intends to hold a meeting every night this week and will without a doubt meet with great success as he is a faithful worker for the Order, he being a farmer here, knows the graft there is in wheat and

sacks. He also talks of the cotton growers of the South.

With success to the Union, I remain a brother Co-Operator.

WM. E. ATWOOD,
Wheeler, Wash.

WILL HOLD TO IT.

Editor Co-Operator: We have a Farmers Union warehouse at Greenwood with 1275 bales in it holding for 15 cents.

The District Union met in Greenwood Feb. 17, with a large attendance. All declared they would hold their cotton until the bagging rotted before they would sell for less than 15 cents. Many wishes for our noble leaders and success for The Co-Operator.

Yours fraternally,
H. K. BASINGER.

OPPOSES OFFICIAL PAPER.

O. P. Pyle, Dallas, Texas.
Dear Sir and Bro.: Will you please change my paper from Rockdale to Tanglewood, and very much oblige me by so doing.

I suppose you are aware of the move that is on foot to start a State Union paper at headquarters. I think this a bad move right at this time, and am certain that Locals in my county will sit down on the proposition. We think The Co-Operator the cleanest and best Union paper published in the South or anywhere else for that matter. I don't believe the membership will submit to being led around by the nose by anybody and

somebody will wake up to that fact before long, or I will be badly fooled.

Wishing you and Co-Operator success, I remain,

Fraternally yours,
W. W. KYLE.
Rockdale, Tex., Feb. 22, 1908.

LITTLE GIRL'S GOOD LETTER.

Editor Co-Operator: I am a little girl just 13 years old. I go to school. I am in the fourth grade.

I have read so many good letters in Co-Operator, that I thought I would write one. My papa and mamma and two sisters and brother and two brothers-in-law are Union members. My paper is a farmer and we work on the farm.

Some of the non-union men will stand around with their hands in their pockets and say, "If the Union does anything, I will join."

Brother farmers, stand to the Union. Don't let it fall through.

We have a warehouse at Singleton. Brother farmers, hold your cotton for the standard price. We are holding our cotton for 15 cents, and I think we will get our price before long.

We had a County Union at Independence and had a nice time.

Brother farmers, I repeat, hold your cotton. We won't starve. We have got our cows and hogs, and we can live through. We will hold our cotton for 15 cents.

ONIE S. McDONALD.
Singleton, Miss.

DO SOMETHING.

No Labor, No Returns, No Petition, No Blessings Given. No Effort, No Success Achieved.

Editor Co-Operator: I do love The Co-Operator and its editor but I do think that it does publish too many things sent to it by Locals that it seems to me should be kept from the outside world. We, as a people, remind me of a little boy when he does something and his parents praise him. It has the wrong effect. Instead of keeping his mouth shut and trying the harder to please and merit the praise he so much loves, he takes a severe case of big head and it is not long until the old gentleman has to administer a lively dose of hickory oil.

Now, brethren, we have not got rid of the taste of that dose we have been trying to swallow since last fall. Suppose the world had not known what price we were demanding, do you honestly think the fight would have been as hard against us? I do not for this reason. The spinner would not have known what to fight.

Now the outside world has acknowledged that we are strictly a business

so you see, you have done something. But when you do something along this line, don't strike a long trot to town and tell everybody what you have thought ought to be done next fall, but let this be known at headquarters by private correspondence and in a few months your outside friends will know what you have done, and you will not be bothered with telling them.

There are two things I would like to impress on every mind. First, you cannot find a single place in the Holy Bible where the Creator has ever blessed the creature without an action on the part of the creature. You must do something in obedience to merit it before the blessing is bestowed. If you expect to reap any benefit from the Union do something to deserve a blessing for, remember that still water runs deep and smooth. When you hear the ripple of a stream as it makes its way over the stones and pebbles. Though the water is muddy and the eye cannot penetrate it, you are not afraid of the depth for there is too much noise for it to be deep.

Brethren, stop, think and act, then will come the blessings.

Yours Fraternally,
J. H. HENRY.

Arcadia, La.

Vernon, Tex., Feb. 23, 1908.

To The National Co-Operator: Building of warehouses is all right and certainly a step in the right direction. We have a warehouse at this place, but we find that something else is needed. A great many of our brethren cannot hold their cotton because they are indebted in some way. Now what is needed is to find out some way to get an advance of \$25 or \$30 on a bale, if needed, without the aid of banks, as I think we are all satisfied that it will not do to depend on them. Cotton in a warehouse is the very best of security, and it appears to me that some way out can be devised and now is the time and not wait till the cotton crop is ripe. If this cannot be done we will never be independent of the money power and therefore lose much of our strength and numbers. I am glad that there are multiplied thousands that are anxious to see this question answered or solved.

O. H. MULLER.
And you are right. Now is the time to get ready for the next crop. If we wait till the crop is ready to put on the market, we will get into trouble. In times of peace we should prepare for war. Let us get ready and keep on getting ready.—Editor.

A HISTORY.

I am preparing a history of the Alabama Farmers Union, and want the photo of every organizer in the State. With it I want you to send me your age, date of birth, postoffice, county and State, where you were born, postoffice and county you now reside in. I want also a history of your work, where you worked and your experience as an organizer. Please do this throats crying "see what we have ready as soon as possible. Write your name and address on back of photo. Let me hear from you at once.

E. J. COOK,
Birmingham, Ala.

SECRECY DEMANDED.

Editor Co-Operator: State Line Local is in favor of secret prices on farm products and wants it a law of the Union to come like the pass-word, and we do not favor the amount of cotton held in the warehouses being published, nor that being sold.

Let it all go from whisper to secret, then go to your Local and if you can't get up and tell it yourself, get Bro. A. off on a log and tell him your ideas and he will tell the rest,

Ida, La.
L. A. PELL,
Secretary.

Farmers' Big Loan

Special to Co-Operator.

MEMPHIS, TENN., FEB. 24.—BY A DEAL CONCLUDED TO-DAY WITH MEMPHIS BANKS, \$2,250,000 WILL BE LOANED ARKANSAS FARMERS, AND 60,000 BALES OF COTTON NOW STORED IN THAT STATE WILL BE STORED AND SOLD DIRECT TO SPINNERS THROUGH THE MEMPHIS MARKET.

R. H. MCCOLLOUGH OF BEBEE, ARK. NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE FARMERS' UNION, AND B. C. WEST, MANAGER OF THE FARMERS' UNION COTTON CO., OF MEMPHIS, CONDUCTED THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BANKS.

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Ask your dealer for
**Simpson-Eddystone
Silver Greys**

The celebrated old "Simpson" Prints
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Be stylish. Wear a Simpson-Eddystone Silver Grey. Rich designs; cloth of splendid quality, and color that never fades. Some designs in a new silk finish.

If your dealer hasn't Simpson-Eddystone Prints write us his name. We'll help him supply you. Decline substitutes and imitations.

The Eddystone Mfg. Co., Philadelphia
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LUMMUS
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Most Complete, Simple, Efficient and Durable Systems, both One and Two Story.

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We are the LARGEST INDEPENDENT COMPANY and offer special inducements to Farmers Union Associations.

Get our prices, before spending a dollar of your money for any other make of Machinery.

A postal will bring descriptive printed matter or our salesman.

F. H. Lummus Sons Co.,
Factories & Main Office, Columbus, Ga

WHAT IS CO-OPERATION AND WHAT IS NOT CO-OPERATION.

First. The only kind that is worth anything is voluntary co-operation. All men are co-operators, but sometimes do not know it. Now, let's see where we begin and where we leave off, and what is the object of it all.

The object is to build up a bigger, better, stronger individual. To attain to a higher ideal of life and living. Co-operation commenced with life itself—co-operation of the sexes. It is not so long ago we saw the example of co-operation in the husking-bee, the logging-bee, the house or barn raising, the exchange of day's work among the farmers. But with the advent of great machines brought out by the genius of man (God's gift), this form of co-operation passed away. And with these inventions came the obliteration, almost, of time and space (look at the wireless telegraphy), making necessary a broader co-operation. When the East and the West, and the North and the South wanted to exchange their products, and the modern means of machine production and communication, the necessity for greater factories arose. And it was then that the individual owner gave way and the corporation was born.

As commerce became so very, very extensive, only corporations could handle it, and the same is true of transportation. All of which is a form of co-operation for those in it, and fails in building up the mass of individuals, because it is the most potent means yet found for their exploitation. And therefore is not what we want. With the forcing of collective production and distribution came the necessity for co-operation upon the part of wage-workers. And the labor union was born! With the formation of the trusts, the stock exchanges, came the necessity for the Grange, The Farmers' Union and other producers' organizations for their mutual protection. All steps toward co-operation, that will give to every man the full product of his labor, and is pure co-operation, and is the kind we want. It is the kind that will bring the Rio Grande Woolen Mills Co. (Co-operative), is proposing to The Farmers' Union. One that will bring the wool growers, the cotton growers, the wheat growers, the stock growers, all labor union men, into one co-operative manufacturing company. Not just an exclusive co-operation by one class or organization, but a broader one—one that will take in humanity; that is what the **sons of God** want it, and is the **divine members of the Farmers' Union** want it. Their power to successfully launch such an advanced co-operation, that can only take the place of all those we have seen before. And that have taught what true co-operation is. I urge upon this committee the consideration of the most advanced thought upon this subject and not to a step backwards, by establishing co-operation that is broad enough to serve the wants of all the people with whom you want an exchange of necessities. I urge upon you to beware of any effort that has for its object the exploitation of any single individual or part of society, to the profit of yourselves. Be you one man or one million, exploitation remains the same.

Co-operation that is pure co-operation gives the benefit to him who creates the possibility. And that is the patron, the producer of raw materials, and the wage-workers are the patrons of the machines that are the modern means of their supply and exploitation. Let the patrons co-operatively own the machines and get the benefits that now go to their direct and indirect owners. That has been the means of piling up great wealth in the hands of a few persons and prevents you having an exchange of your products. And therefore caused a time of distress in the midst of plenty. A condition that has indeed opened our eyes to the need of a more general co-operation.

Our claim only is to have worked out such a plan. And we, for the reasons set forth above, ask that you use them. Should you concur in the thoughts heretofore given, it will be an easy matter to commence operations. A call made to the Union Locals will bring out enough volunteers to get out and get the subscribing patrons that it takes to make a success. They will have to supply the fixed capital that is used in buildings and machinery. This amount is only \$10 per capita. When 100,000 or more participate to manufacture their own necessities in wool, cotton and leather, then it is necessary to have a working capital. That, used in paying for raw materials and labor. This amount per capita is not over \$40.00 and must be borrowed (if not in hand in cash). And for this purpose we bring forth our so-called credit plan. (There is a vast difference between the use and the abuse of credit). It is especially for the purpose of bringing about equal ownership. And to make one's own patronage earn for him the most of that ownership, by his getting the unnecessary and unearned profit that is now going to the direct and indirect owners of toll-collecting machines, that we propose the plans. By your patronage you have given your credit to some one that has found it to be a very valuable thing. We say by our credit plan: **LOAN** (not give) to your own company your credit, in the form of your note for \$50, covering ten shares of Co-operative Manufacturing Stock, paying down \$10 in cash, and having it indorsed upon the note, which supplies the fixed capital. Then the earnings, by the fact of the machines being yours, working for you, getting the profits of your own patronage, of their making things of absolute necessity for you, being indorsed upon the note, until the sum of \$50 is reached.

That, in fact, you have not spent or invested a single red cent, because the \$10 in cash you put up, advanced, for fixed capital, you get back by saving that amount in value and price on the first suit of clothes, or on two pairs of bed blankets bought from your company. Then the profit in making these things goes on your note. And really you have invested nothing but your patronage. And shows how powerful both patronage and co-operation are. This plan has built every railroad and other large industry. Men have given their notes, have issued bonds and mortgages against their machinery. You have supplied the patronage, or labor, to operate them. And the profit paid their (not your) notes, their bonds and mortgages. So you see but one difference between these plans. In the present case your patronage gives the other fellow the ownership, while our plan makes the patron and wage-worker the owner. Read this, taken from the *Machinist Journal* of this year; it tells you how you have been sleeping:

DON'T WAKE 'EM UP.

"What did you tell that man just now?" "I told him to hurry." "What right have you to tell him to hurry?" "I pay him to hurry." "What do you pay him?" "Two dollars a day." "Where did you get the money to pay him with?" "I sell bricks." "Who makes the bricks?" "He does." "How many bricks does he make?" "Twenty-four men can make 24,000 bricks a day." "Then, instead of you paying him, he pays you \$5 a day for standing around and telling him to hurry." "Well, but I own the machinery?" "How did you get the machinery?" "Sold the bricks and bought it." "Who made the bricks?" "Shut up! You'll wake the fools up, and then they'll make bricks for themselves."

Here is a practical plan—one that has been proved, and one that we hope you will adopt, because it is practical and is broad enough to match conditions and requirements of the present day. And you must admit that it must be one in which all organizations may and must participate. All of this we claim for these plans. And our company is organized to carry them out. There is no way in which people can lose. We submit them to you for your adoption and recommendation, just as an inventor would a machine he had perfected. If you adopt it as the best, it is yours, with which to benefit yourselves and all other organizations that follow your lead.

RIO GRANDE WOOLEN MILLS CO. (Co-operative),

Albuquerque, New Mexico.

First, find out how many will subscribe. If enough—100,000 or more—then call for the pledges to be sent to your State Treasurer, to be paid out upon the order of the members you direct placed upon our board of directors, and who hold a majority control, and the proper start is made. All the rest is a matter of detail.

Respectfully submitted,

RIO GRANDE WOOLEN MILLS CO. (Co-operative),

Albuquerque, New Mexico.

A CONDITION, NOT A THEORY.

Confronts The Farmers' Union—Review of the Order's Work and Requisites for the Future.

Houston, Tex., Feb. 21, 1908.

Editor Co-Operator: The cotton growers are now being confronted with a condition and not a theory. We have been talking Unionism, 15-cent cotton, etc., for many months, but we are now facing the crucial period, and our faith will be proven by our works.

The commercial sleuth-hounds are camping on our trail, and at every turn we hear the stereotyped remark that "the farmer has no right to sell his cotton." The banker has a right to refuse to pay his depositors if he chooses to do so—as he did during the made-to-order "panic"—the investors in stocks and bonds have a right to hold the same for higher prices, or to speculate in them as they see fit and proper. The banks have a right to ship depositors' money out of the country to Eastern speculators to be used to depress values in farm products by manipulation of markets, but the farmer who, by his toil, creates the wealth which has made this commonwealth great and its people prosperous, has no right to shake his gory locks at the shysters of fortune and demand a fair price for the product of his labor.

The Farmers' Union, notwithstanding the many obstacles placed in its path of progress, has become and is

a potent factor in the civic, financial and economic welfare of the Southern people. If any one doubts the true greatness of the organization, he can easily convince himself of its importance by lending an ear for a few moments to what its critics have to say. There are those who have been so blinded by avarice and greed and by an unholy desire to prosper at the expense of his neighbor and the community generally, that all they can see in the movement is a determination on the part of those composing it to destroy business enterprises and do injury to the country. Nothing could be more erroneous. The Union insists that ours is a common fight, and that all who believe in general prosperity should be willing to encourage the movement.

The panic, which is now rapidly becoming a part of history, should be sufficient to convince any one that there is something radically wrong with "the system," and if the Union can succeed in righting the wrong, surely no one will object, unless it be a few individuals who are directly benefited by its influence; and if there are those who are so totally depraved and avaricious as to court this character of success at the expense of the peace and happiness of the millions, then they ought to be swept away like chaff before the wind and make room for those who are striving to succeed through honest endeavor.

The Union can right this wrong by the right kind of effort. We possess the things with which to do it, but we must learn to husband our resources and to look well into the influences which would destroy us.

There is absolutely no reason why the people of the South can not control the marketing of their great staple crop, except their own lethargy and inertia. I do not mean by this that a handful of organized men can control the price of cotton, but I mean that it is surprising that "knowing their power, they refuse to become a part of a movement the purpose of which is the emancipation of the Southern people from the domination of price fixers in Europe and elsewhere.

Through this organization the Southern people can so arrange their affairs that "prepared panics" will not affect them in the least, and they can laugh at the calamities of "panic manufacturers" and mock when their fear cometh.

With a handful of men a most decisive battle has been fought during the last year. It does not get a whit cooler upon the brow of the army of men who have fought so valiantly, the world has been taught a lesson, a lesson that will be remembered for many days.

I firmly believe that if there had been no Farmers' Union and no cotton warehouses, that cotton would have gone down to 6 or 7 cents per pound. There was practically no demand for cotton, and if it had been offered freely and placed on the market, a slump of 4 or 5 cents a pound would have been inevitable. It is true that some cotton was forced on the market during this period all over the South, but not enough to materially influence the price. The warehouse has proved to be a bulwark of safety. I was glad to see a lengthy article in *The Co-Operator* last week, dealing with this question. I naturally feel a pride in the warehouse movement in Texas, as most of the houses were built during my administration as President of the Texts State Union, and I sincerely hope that the movement will continue until every cotton market will have a warehouse of sufficient capacity to meet the requirements of the community.

The minutes of the National meeting of The Farmers' Union at Memphis, Tenn., at which more than one thousand delegates assembled, representing every cotton growing county in the South, have just come to me through the mail, and these minutes

show that the following plan for building and extending the warehouse system was adopted:

"Experience has taught us that wherever cotton is properly stored in approved warehouses, covered by insurance, there is no better collateral; therefore, through this convention we urge the State officials of each State to constantly keep before the membership the building of warehouses. Instruct all organizers to make that one feature of their lectures until all communities are supplied with warehouses."

"We recommend the following plan for adoption by the convention:

"First. All warehouses in a State should be incorporated under one charter, with the amount of the stockholders in the local warehouses, and thereby increase the capitalization to such an extent as to give the corporation a sufficient rating to guarantee all contracts and enable it to carry on all business along legitimate lines, but in the event a local warehouse refuses to comply with the above terms the refusal shall not interfere with the creation of a Central Selling Agency, and a local warehouse not taking advantage of the above plan may become affiliated with the Central Selling Agency on such terms as may be agreed to.

"Second. Said corporation shall have the power to issue bonds and other forms of credit, and to issue cotton certificates in suitable denominations based on cotton as collateral security, and backed by the credit of the corporation. Said certificates to be issued and placed in circulation in times of necessity, such as the present.

"Third. Said corporation to issue uniform negotiable cotton warehouse receipts for all warehouses under its jurisdiction, and negotiate loans on same either with local or foreign banks.

"Fourth. Said corporation shall at once create and maintain a Central Selling Agency for the sale of all cotton placed in the warehouses under its jurisdiction, or those warehouses becoming affiliated with it on agreed terms, and all distressed cotton should be sold through this agency. It shall keep a correct record of each bale of cotton so as to prevent any speculation in cotton by various warehouses, and prevent cotton being sold and still reported as being on hand, thereby being counted twice.

"Fifth. It shall provide for a system of co-operative insurance so that cotton can be insured at actual cost to the holder.

"Sixth. Said corporation shall extend and equip the warehouse system at cost to the membership of the Union.

"Seventh. No one shall be allowed to hold stock in the corporation unless he is a member of the Union.

"Eighth. The By-laws of the corporation shall be so framed as to provide for a local Governing Committee at each local warehouse, with power to make recommendations to the Board of Directors of the corporation, and any recommendations agreed to by a majority of the local Governing Committees shall control the action of the Board of Directors.

"Ninth. The State officials of the State Union shall be State ex-officio members of the Board of Directors and shall have all the privileges of the Board except to vote.

"Tenth. The Board of Directors shall select depositories at each local warehouse for the safe keeping of all funds that may accumulate from the sale of bonds or otherwise, and shall shift these funds from one place to another as necessity may require."

If the great convention at Memphis should have done nothing more than recommend this plan, the people would have been more than compensated for the time and money spent; and if each State Union will take this matter up and work in harmony with it, the results will be marvelous within the next two years.

From a careful reading of the plan, the reader will observe that there is nothing compulsory in it. The stockholders in a local warehouse are left perfectly free to decide for themselves whether they want to become a part of the general corporation, or whether they want to become affiliated with it upon agreed terms, or whether they will have anything whatever to do with it. Each local warehouse company should take this up and study it carefully and be ready to decide upon some general plan of action before another cotton season opens.

I have given a great deal of time and thought to the warehouse movement, and I have long seen the great necessity for action along the line as above indicated. Our trouble is, and has always been, that we expect too much with limited means. We can not finance a great movement without depend upon our own resources. We have them if we will utilize them.

The above is submitted for the candid consideration of the brethren, especially the local warehouse companies, and I hope they will see the wisdom of the plan and adopt it. If not, then adopt something else that will

bring about a concert of action all along the line. Begin early and do something before another cotton season opens. Fraternally yours,
E. A. CALVIN.

MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD.

Editor Co-Operator: Your paper brings to my mind the old adage of the pen being mightier than the sword, after being wielded by so heroic and fearless an editor as O. P. Pyle; like a great many brothers, wishing to say or do something for the benefit of the Unions, will just ask the opinion of one and all that wish to answer, what they think of not demanding, but only asking our home merchants to handle Union goods of all descriptions. Will close with good wishes to all subscribers.

S. KLEIN.

Kennett, Mo.

CO-OPERATOR HIS SOOTHING SYRUP.

To The National Co-Operator: I have been taking *The Co-Operator* for 12 months, and the effect of it is in my blood, so I cannot have a good night's rest without taking a dose of Co-Operator. It is one of the best blood purifiers I ever took. I think every man ought to take a dose of Co-Operator, especially the dumper, who says he is Union to the core and when he is needed to stand to his gun you will find him behind some mortgage with a bill attached to him, and nearly all of the things he bought were things he could have raised at home or could have done without.

J. D. RAMSEY.

Tishomingo, Miss.

Ten members in a Local who read the Co-Operator every week will keep the Local alive and working.

LIKES CO-OPERATOR.

Editor Co-Operator: I am a constant reader of Co-Operator, and think it the best paper I ever read. We could not do without it. I think everybody that is a Union man or woman should take Co-Operator. My little boys are always glad to see old Co-Operator come.

Our Local is moving along nicely, if it wasn't for the drawbacks, but we don't let that bother us much. We meet twice a month and have a very good turnout. We are holding cotton for 15 cents. All the talk now is about banks and factories. I think that it is a very good thing to talk.

I think the ladies have got tired of working for other people. I know

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I have and I hope I may quit it. I am going to work for self awhile. With best wishes for Co-Operator and its many readers,
NANNIE WARREN.
Lisbon, Ark.

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THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR AND FARM JOURNAL

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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.35
Cotton seed, per ton. 20.00
Do not sell for less.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

Let us be careful.

Put ourselves in shape where we can demand minimum indeed and in truth.

It is ever onward and upward, and anyone who gets in the way must be sent to the rear.

No man can afford to make up his mind too hastily. When he does this, he is generally sorry for it.

Read the letter headed "Alliance Wheel-horse" that appears elsewhere in this issue of Co-Operator. It is full of thought and gives many lessons learned from experience.

Cotton grading should be taught in all schools where it is possible to be taught. All State Agricultural schools should teach it. We do not know what we have after we have produced it.

From far-away Washington The Co-Operator gets cheering reports of the good work being done, and also, the good work The Co-Operator is doing for the cause there. Truly, this is a great National organization.

No great structure can be built without a little trouble now and then on the way. If there were no obstacles to encounter the victory would not be worth the getting. Let us keep up the work, for this, a business organization.

Set steady in the boat. There's two sides to every question. A sensible man will not make up his mind till both sides are heard; a fool will rush in where an angle would fear to tread. Let us be careful always to know what we are doing.

State Business Agent A. H. O'Keefe of the Texas State Union, was over from Fort Worth one day last week. He is prepared to furnish plans and specifications for the building of warehouses on short notice. Write him when you get ready to build.

Have you given that mortgage yet? If not, manage some way not to do it. There is a way around it. No man can be the free and independent American citizen he should be

and give a mortgage on his crop from year to year. Let us quit it.

The theory of controlled marketing has come to stay. If we should fail in our efforts now and then, it should not discourage us. We will only profit by the mistakes and not make them again. We are wiser now than we were a few months ago.

A brother asks us the question whether or not it is proper to elect people to office in an organization who do not know what they have after they have produced it. We would say that it surely would be a good thing if the officials were posted on these matters.

Instead of sittin' down and sittin', we should be gettin' up and gettin'. There is much work to be done. He who professes to be a Farmers' Union man and will not work at it, makes only a noise and a profession. He is only the shadow without the substance.

Let us get ready for the great fight which must come this year. If we lie idly by, we may get into serious trouble. The Texas Executive Committee should formulate a plan now for the proper marketing of our next crop. After the crop is on us it will be too late. They should get busy.

Don't forget that it is a warehouse and not politics you want in your community. If politics and politicians would have saved us we would have been in the New Jerusalem of financial prosperity long ago. The politicians however, will not save us. They will save themselves. Oh, the pie counter.

Panics will not always be with us. If it had not been for the made-to-order panic, we certainly would have succeeded in establishing our minimum price long ago. As it was, we kept the price from going down, down, down, so low that we have a night-mare when we contemplate it. We have saved the day and saved to the South millions of dollars.

National President Chas. S. Barrett of Georgia, was in Dallas in company with National Committeeman W. S. Miller, of Texas, one day last week. They were on their way home from the Kansas State Union meeting at Hutchinson. Both of them say that the work is progressing nicely, and that the organization is growing in membership and influence every day.

The American Society of Equity seems to be in a bad way and is threatened with absolute dissolution. It seems that it is all caused by an official paper; the officials could not and cannot agree among themselves. Now, let all the eligible members join The Farmers' Union where we have no official paper to wreck us. The National Union at Little Rock last September, by a unanimous vote, declared against an official paper. They have always been a failure and a source of trouble, and always will be.

We judge a tree by its fruits. This is scriptural and therefore it is the very essence of truth and good sense. If a man points out to you a peach or an apple tree in your orchard and tells you the tree is worthless; that it will not bear good fruit nor much of a yield, but if year by year that tree goes on budding and blooming in season and at the right time bringing forth rich, luscious peaches or mellow delicious apples, as the case may be, you will wisely judge the tree by its fruits and not by what this man has told you, or listen to similar tales from other people. In other words, be just to the tree and judge it by what it shows for itself, not by what people say.

Did you ever see a well drilled, well disciplined military company go through the drill? The movements were all in perfect rhythm and cadence and the men moved like machines, every one doing the same thing exactly at the same time. On another part of the field a company of raw recruits were being taught the elementary principles of the drill. They were as awkward as hogs on ice. Every man was acting for himself, no harmony, no concert of movement. This is exactly the way it is in any organization. There must be unity of action, harmony of sentiment, oneness of purpose, otherwise confusion and failure result. The Farmers' Union, when it becomes like the well drilled company, each member understanding the principles of the Order; each member keeping in mind the obligations he has solemnly taken, and each one living strictly and entirely up to these principles and obligations, we will win everything we undertake to do. Can we not do this?

Some Union members sometimes complain over the questions of dues to their Locals, to the State and to the National Union. The

latter is uniform, for all the States, but dues vary in the States. In Washington the initiation fee is \$5 and the same amount for annual dues to the Locals, and some of the Tennessee and Kentucky Locals charge from \$2 to \$4 per month in the busy season. These people are Unionists from love of the cause and have the spirit that insures success. Strange, is it not, that here in the South, where the only agricultural monopoly of all the world is raised, that Union members are in so many instances reluctant about their dues, and stranger still, is it, that any Southern farmer, knowing as each one does know, that The Farmers' Union will enable them to get a just and paying price for their cotton, will stay out of it. It is pitifully small to profit by the effort of others and yet refuse them help, when by helping you could make those efforts so much more certain and profitable.

WANTED IN KENTUCKY.

Paducah, Ky., Feb. 18, 1908.

Dear Bro. Pyle: Kentucky is coming to the front. I am working day and night in this great work. I want you to do me a favor. You have promised me that when you got time you would come to Kentucky and make several speeches. We need you now and you are the man we need. Please write me that you will come and I will make the dates. We need you. Fraternally,

R. L. BARNETT.

Yes, I will try to go to Kentucky for a few days. My business is demanding, it seems, all of my time, and it is hard for me to get away. I have been in most of the Southern States working for this great organization, but have never yet been in Kentucky. My friendship for you, Bro. Barnett, will cause me to go to your assistance if possible. Fraternally,

O. P. PYLE.

A LITTLE CHILD WRITES.

Liberty Hill, Tex., Feb. 20, 1908.

Editor Co-Operator:

I love to read The Co-Operator. I think we should all do our part. We know you are doing yours. Mama is holding her cotton for 15 cents. My dear papa died Jan. 11, 1908. Our home is so lonesome. I have to work in the field and do not think it is a disgrace.

Your friend,

MARY LINDER.

Brave little girl; brave mother. Father gone, but the mother so imbued with the spirit of Unionism that she holds firm to our announced principles, even if privations be her lot. Against such devotion as this, nothing can prevail. No, I do not think, Mary, that your working in the field is a disgrace to you; it is, rather, a star in your crown; but the system which forces our little girls and our women into the cotton fields is a disgrace. What a marvelous monopoly we have in the South in our cotton crop. We clothe the world, and yet, our women and our little girls, thousands of them, are forced into the fields to produce this crop. And, the more they produce, under our system of distribution, the less is realized for it, that is, a small crop will sell for more than a large one will. Co-Operator editor hopes to see the day when conditions will be so just that not a lady in all this Southland will be forced to work in the cotton fields. I sincerely hope, Miss Mary, that you will not have to do such work long.

EDITOR.

THE COTTON ASSOCIATION.

The National meeting of the Cotton Association was held in Dallas last week. It was not largely attended, which was a great disappointment to all, and it came near going to pieces entirely. There had developed a radical and a conservative element in the organization. Some of them wanted to do away with all kinds of exchanges and have no information concerning the speculative market whatever, while the other element, led by President Harvie Jordan, were in favor of what they call legitimate exchanges, whatever they may be. Jordan had declared that he would not accept the place again, but, when it came to the election of president, it was soon seen that unless Jordan could be prevailed on to accept the place the organization would go to pieces entirely. Indeed, Walter Clark, of Mississippi, who was nominated for the presidency, declared that it was his opinion that the best thing to do was to disorganize until such a time when the people would rally to the organization and appreciate its efforts. He was made vice-president without opposition. The Co-Operator is not a knocker and has never been, but it does seem to us that the boys should have taken the advice of Bro. Clark and disbanded. If The Farmers' Union is traveling the right road, there is no special use for the Cotton Association. Every member of the Cotton Association who is illigible should join The Farm-

ers' Union, and help us perfect the plans and complete the work so well begun. The Association can not permanently exist with its mixed membership. The only way for the farmers and the business men to stay together is for them to stay apart, in separate organizations. The Farmers' Union is on the right road, has a large and constantly growing membership. There is no use for both organizations to try to do the same work. Let the Cotton Association, if it is to live and be a factor for good, be made up of business men only, who believe in the principle of controlled marketing and are willing to give of their time and their means to help bring about this happy condition.

A FALSE PROPHECY.

In the Sunday issue of the Houston (Texas) Chronicle of Nov. 10, 1907, an individual signing himself T. C. Randall, and writing from Temple, Texas, emptied himself of about 850 words, and as Hamlet said, "Words, words," only words. It may seem a little late to be referring to what a man had to say over three months ago, but we have had the article all these months just waiting to see how false a prophet time would prove Mr. Randall to be. We knew when we read his screed that he was either utterly ignorant of what he was writing about, or else self-interest prompted him to urge the propositions he set forth, and we are inclined to believe now that both were important factors in his proceeding.

This "wise guy," animadverting upon the farmers because they did not sell their cotton, said: "The farmers, with a certain fortune within their grasp, refused a price which assured them a golden return for their toil and stored the product of their farms for a minimum value of 15 cents per pound," and he further charges the farmers, because they were holding their cotton, with "entering upon a campaign of the wildest kind of gambling in actual cotton." And again, he says, declaring 15 cents for middling cotton to be a prohibitive price, "it was easy to forecast the ultimate result and the bursting of The Farmers' Union bubble, was a foregone conclusion."

It is evident that in this prediction of the bursting of The Farmers' Union "bubble" as our Theodore Price is pleased to term it, "the wish was father to the thought."

Is it true that the farmers who have held to their cotton have "hoarded a certain fortune within their grasp" when it is a fact that cotton has gradually advanced during the past two months? Would they, could they have realized "a certain fortune" if they had turned their cotton loose during the times Mr. Randall wrote (the first third of November) when the entire country was in the throes of the panic and money was tied up everywhere and every every interest dead? Would not the market have been almost instantly glutted and prices have dropped down to 3 and 4 cents a pound? A man with brains enough to get in out of the rain must know such would have been the case.

And the proposition that because a farmer holds his cotton to get the price he thinks it is worth, he is a gambler, would be absurd, superlatively ridiculous, if it were not assinine. A farmer's cotton is the yield of his land, the return for his toil and is his own, and can a man not do what he pleases with his own? May he not ask whatever price he pleases for it? May he not refuse to sell at all, at any price? Whom does he wrong when he exercises these rights?

Whom would the farmers have benefited by selling their cotton at any time during the fall and December of last year? Neither themselves nor the general public. Money was tight and the market would have been glutted in half the time it would have been under other circumstances, and only prices less than cost of production could have been obtained. Is it to the interest of the public at large, to the spinner himself, for prices of cotton to recede below cost of production?

Mr. Randall says 15 cents was an exorbitant and prohibitive price to ask for middling cotton. How does Mr. Randall know this? The records show that cotton was selling at 13 9-16 cents on October 7, 1907, when the conspiracy was launched to keep the farmer from getting his own prices for his cotton. This was practically at the end of a crop of 13,600,000 bales, according to Government figures, and the beginning of the marketing of a crop, at outside figures, less than 12,000,000 bales. Then why should 15 cents be deemed a prohibitive price for middling cotton, the cost of production considered?

The fact is, The Farmers' Union by holding cotton has saved the day. It has proven itself to be a bulwark of safety in the direst danger. Has "The Farmers' Union bubble" burst? Not by a large majority. It is the healthiest "bubble" that ever sparkled and is iridescent in the sunlight of hope, of courage and of success. Go on holding your cotton, boys, and let the heathen rage.

GOOD ROADS.

Co-Operator submitted some remarks last week in the article on the first page, on the country's transportation facilities in its riverways and railroads.

The basis of all transportation facilities is good country roads. Rivers nor even railroads can pass in front of every farmer's door, but country roads do, therefore to be available and really equal to the demands the public must make upon them, these country roads must be good roads—roads that are possible every day in the year, no matter what the character of weather and just as passable in bad as in good weather.

It is a fact that France has the best and most complete road system of any of the Nations of earth, but they have cost money. Indeed, France has spent upon the principal highways, that is the "National routes," comprising 23,656 miles in length, more than \$300,000,000, or an average of \$12,681 per mile. There are also roads in France constructed and maintained by local authorities, but they are very inferior to the "National routes."

Why are these French highways so superior to the roads in other countries is a natural question. Consul-General Skinner in his official report to the United States Government, says it is "due to the fact that the construction and maintenance of the principal roads is carried on under the supervision of a corps of experts in road-construction, who find in their profession opportunities for advancement and distinction such as could not and does not exist under a local road administration. French roads are good, not because of any superiority of road making material, nor because the French people possess any special talent for road building, but because the initiative in matters pertaining to the public highways is taken by highly-trained engineers and administrators, under the direction of the National Government."

"The superiority of these roads over those constructed or maintained by the local authorities is very marked, but even the local roads are kept in good condition, so that the standard French road is one upon which in a rolling country a draft horse hauling a load of 3,300 pounds is expected to travel 20 miles per day. This fact alone will serve to indicate the difference between the roads in France and those of the United States, where the load hauled by one horse over the average level country roads is 1,400 pounds, and the roads with 5 per cent. grades only 1,000 pounds."

You will see from the above figures how much a horse can haul on a first-class French road, 3,300 pounds, and go twenty miles a day, while the most he can draw on the best roads in this country is 1,400 pounds, less than one-half by 250 pounds. It will take very little calculation to show how much the first-class road will save in time, and therefore in money, to the farmer and how short a time it would take a mile of such road to pay for itself. It is not expected that the Federal Government in this country should build country roads—though it did build one that is historical—nor could you very readily make people believe it is the province of a State Government to do so, but it is the duty of the several county governments to do so, and when they do so, how to do it should be the important and controlling question and the easy answer to that is to pursue the policy of the French Government in putting the work into the hands of skilled, expert road engineers.

Now nearly every State in the American Union—perhaps every one of them—has an agricultural college or university where the farmer boys and young men are given widespread opportunities to acquire a complete knowledge of scientific farming and other things pertaining to the farming business. Every one of these agricultural institutions should have a "School of Bridges and Roads" which is the basis of the French system. This French school is one of the finest technical colleges in the world, where engineers are trained for positions in the public road administrative system," says Consul-General Skinner.

The United States Agricultural Department has a "Bureau of Public Roads," but it has not been aided financially sufficiently for it to amount to much yet.

The public road question is one The Farmers' Union could well take into careful consideration. The farmers alone are affected by bad roads or good ones, as the case may be, and they are the people to study the question and take action. Beyond question bad roads cost the farmers of these United States untold millions of dollars every year. What good is a large crop and an excellent market if you can not get your products to market when it is rainy weather. Your telephone may announce to you that "cotton is 18 cents for middling today," or "No. 2 wheat is \$1.50," or "corn is \$1.00" when the mud on your road to town is up to the hubs of your wagons and you can not get your produce to the market town? The character of roads in a community, it is said, is a fair index to the enterprise of the people.

Brother Co-Operator: Get up a Club and send it in at once.

The National Co-Operator and Farm Journal

Dallas, Texas.

Editor Co-Operator:

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Home Circle Department

MRS. RAYMOND'S EXPERIMENT.

The maid of all work had left without any warning, and Mrs. Raymond was confronted one morning with the perplexing problem of feeding five hungry mouths, besides keeping the rest of the domestic machinery in good running order.

Desperately she sought to bring order out of chaos by apportioning a certain amount of work to each child. Elsie was to dust and keep the rooms in order and make the beds. Kittie was to clear off the table and do the dishes, and Dick was to bring in the kindlings, fill the kitchen coal-hod and shake the furnace.

A girl is not easily procured in the country, and the mother knew that this state of affairs might be of long duration; so she wisely provided each child 25 cents a week, provided they performed their duties well and regularly, without any nagging or reminding on her part.

"It is only an experiment, and I have my apprehensions," she confided to a friend, after the regime had been in operation for about a week.

The friend smiled, but gave little encouragement. She had tried a similar plan, without remuneration, however,

and it had proved a dead failure, she said.

But Mrs. Raymond had considerable confidence in her paying scheme. If at the end of the week Kittie's dishes came to table sticky, or a day's dust was found collected upon the piano and polished tables under Elsie's supervision, or if Dick forgot some morning to fill the coal hod, the non-appearance of the quarter of a dollar on Saturday night soon set things right again. And Mrs. Raymond informed her friend, after three months' trial, that her domestic machinery was running much more harmoniously and economically than it ever had done, and that a domestic in the family was no longer a necessity.

HEALTH HINTS.

It is foolish and unnecessary for most people to get housed up for the winter. The human animal can not hibernate.

Keep the mouth closed when out of doors or when going from one room to a room of colder temperature, breathing through the nose.

Ventilate your sleeping rooms, where you spend one-third of your lives. Too many people poison themselves with the noxious exhalations of the night hours.

Don't try to prevent colds and illness by coddling. Create a vigorous, healthy body by proper eating, proper exercise, proper clothing, proper bathing, and by proper medication if ill.

Under-woolens should be as heavy as needed for warmth, but of loose texture and loose fitting. Such garments are warmer than tight-woven ones which are impervious to moisture.

The skin is the great regulator of bodily warmth. If kept clean and active it contracts on exposure to cold and keeps the warmth in. If allowed to become clogged with dirt or excretions its regulation function is lost, and it radiates heat as does any solid body. For this reason daily cool baths

throughout the winter are advisable for all except the very feeble or aged.

The true philosophy of curing the cold-catching tendency is to educate the body to bear all inevitable exposures without harm. Begin by making the feet warm, and the whole body into a natural circulation and glow every day, twice a day, if possible.

FOR THE GROWING GIRL.

When the sheer white dresses of the growing girl are found to be much too short when taken out in the spring, they may be lengthened with very little material so as to be an improvement over the original design. If no lace was used originally on the frock, turn a very small hem at the bottom, make a hem of the required width to lengthen the skirt, of another piece, and join with insertion. For the dress that is lace trimmed, when the lace can not be matched, hemstitch a narrow hem in the bottom of the skirt; take another piece of material, put a wide hem in the bottom and hemstitch a narrow hem in the top. Join the two narrow hems by catchstitching through the openings made by the hemstitching. The effect is very pretty.

SUBSTANTIAL SUPPLIES.

Baked Eggs and Cheese.—Put a tablespoon of butter in a baking dish and melt. Next add a layer of bread crumbs, then one of grated cheese, and upon this break the desired number of eggs. Add a teaspoon of cream—either sweet or sour—for each egg, dust the top with salt, pepper and a thin grating of cheese, and bake until the eggs are as hard as desired. Use a hard cheese and use it sparingly.

Chicken and Rice.—Line a baking dish with rice that has been boiled in salted water, and allow it to cool. In the center, place cold chicken cut fine, and pour over all enough gravy to moisten. Bake half an hour, turn out on a platter, and serve with currant or cranberry jelly.

Beef Omelets.—Put three pounds of beef through the meat chopper; mix with it three well-beaten eggs, one cup cracker crumbs, one tablespoon salt, one teaspoon pepper, two table-spoons melted butter, and a little sage if preferred. Mix well and form a loaf. Place in baking tin with a little water and butter; bake covered one and one-quarter hours, basting frequently. Serve cold, sliced thin.

Cream Toast.—Arrange slices of toasted bread in a deep dish. Have prepared two or three cold-boiled eggs; cut the whites of the eggs in thin slices over the toast. Over this place a sauce made from one pint rich milk, one tablespoon flour, salt, pepper, and a small piece of butter. Just before serving, grate the egg yolks over the top.

Egg Sandwiches.—Chop the whites of hard-boiled eggs very fine. Make a paste of the yolks, salt, pepper, and enough salad dressing and cream to make soft—prepared mustard can be substituted for the dressing with very good results. With a sharp knife cut some crisp lettuce leaves as for salad. Mix all together and spread between thin slices of buttered bread.

Cheese Sandwiches.—To whipped sweet cream add enough grated cheese

of a rich, sharp flavor to make a thick paste; season with a little salt, and spread thin slices of bread with the mixture, then sprinkle with finely chopped celery. These sandwiches should be eaten at once. If the celery can not be obtained, or the sandwiches are to be carried for lunch and the celery is apt to toughen from standing, the cream and cheese may be seasoned with celery salt with excellent results.

ENTHUSED BY CO-OPERATOR.

Editor Co-Operator: I am reading The Co-Operator and I am most profoundly impressed by its teachings in which I think I see set forth a system by which we will be able at some time in the near future to fully apply the Golden Rule, the paper advocating the system on strictly educational and pure business principles. And I note with interest this same impression among my neighbors and nearly every one that I chance to meet.

It seems that the farmers everywhere nearly are organizing, educating and calling for this great system. Let us all put our shoulders to the wheels at once and push together, build all things needful to us, raise everything we can for our own use and some to spare and learn the lesson that he that will not sow neither shall he reap.

Our Father has provided us with a world so full of good things that every family could enjoy that superabundant life to which we are entitled.

Yours for justice,
WIB CONNER.
Wappapello, Mo.

ECZEMA FOR 55 YEARS

Suffered Torments from Birth—In Frightful Condition—Got No Help.

UNTIL CUTICURA CURED HIM "I had an itching, tormenting eczema ever since I came into the world, and I am now a man fifty-five years old. I tried all kinds of medicines I heard of, but found no relief. At last I broke out all over with red and white boils, which kept growing until they were as big as walnuts, causing great pain and misery, but I kept from scratching as well as I could. I was so run down that I could hardly do my work. I used Cuticura Soap, Ointment, Resolvent, and Pills for about eight months, and I can truthfully say I am cured. Hale Bordwell, Tipton, Ia., Aug. 17, '07."

"I cheerfully endorse the above testimonial. It is the truth. I know Mr. Bordwell and know the condition he was in. Nelson R. Burnett, Tipton, Ia."

FROM ARKANSAS.

Editor Co-Operator: The Co-Operator is the greatest paper published in the South. How we can be good, true Unionists and not read this great paper is puzzling to me.

We are not entirely asleep down here in this part of Arkansas. We know that we have not yet reached the zenith in Unionism, but are still striving onward and upward. But we ignorant, backwoodsman down here in Arkansas think that too much of our business affairs and intentions are published to the world. If we represent a secret Order, let us keep our transactions and intentions in the Order and not publish so much. If we are going to let the world know what we are doing, why not just open our doors and let Mr. Everybody come in and see what we do, and thereby save them the trouble of reading so much, after our conventions, to learn what we have decided to do with this or next year's crop of cotton? And if the minimum price of middling cotton is 15 cents, why should we want this published in every newspaper, magazine and other periodical throughout these United States?

Let us place our cotton in our ware rooms and say nothing about it, and when our price comes we will sell.

Some may say, "We cannot hold. We've got to sell to get money to buy something to eat and wear." Why,

we all have hogs for our meat; we have cows which furnish milk and butter; we raise corn, potatoes, peas, beans, turnips, sorghum, ribbon cane and cabbage and we can put up a few barrels of kraut. Now, who of us could not live for awhile at least when we can sit down to the breakfast table laden with fresh pork, sausage, fresh butter, plenty of sweet milk, sirup, preserves and biscuit, and a dinner of turnips, greens, peas, kraut, potatoes, cornbread and butter milk? Of course we know that we would get mighty lank on such scanty food after awhile, but let's give it a trial. It's our own fault if we have not got all these things. With the above mentioned articles of food, together with chickens and eggs, all of which we can raise at home, it looks like we might hold our cotton until we can realize a remunerative price for the same.

Again let me ask all Union brethren to consider the question of secrecy in our work as being one of great importance. This question has been introduced and discussed several times in our Local, and we consider it one of vital importance.

Oak Hill Local was one among the first to be organized in the State, and for some time we moved very slowly, but finally we got together and built a hall of our own.

We have about thirty-five male members. We have initiated twice this number, but since other Locals were organized near us, several got demits and moved to a more convenient Local. We have fifteen lady members, which we are very proud to state.

Let us all attend our Local meetings regularly and be loyal to the cause, and the victory is ours.

Let us stand heart to heart and clasp hands, united, all united, now, and united forever.

Success to the Union and may long live The Co-Operator.

WILLIAM BURT.

Wilton, Ark.

BETTER THAN SPANKING

Spanking does not cure children of bad-habits. There is a constitutional cause for this trouble. Mrs. M. Summers, Box W, Notre Dame, Ind., will send free to any mother her successful home treatment, with full instructions. Send no money, but write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child, the chances are it can't help it. This treatment also cures adults and aged people troubled with urine difficulties by day or night.

GROWING IN INDIANA.

Editor National Co-Operator: The National Co-Operator is gaining members quite fast in this locality.

Brother farmers of Indiana, and every other State, let us get an inspiration and let us go into the fray with renewed courage and determination.

When things have quieted down and every man shall be a producer and every one gets the fruits of his honest toil; when our wives are no longer slaves and when our children shall be educated, and no longer unlearned, then we will wonder why we didn't do it long ago.

W. W. MYERS.

Wheatland, Ind.

HOLDING FIRMLY.

Editor Co-Operator: I am a member of Burnville Local. We have sixty members.

We are standing firm for the minimum price for our cotton. We have a warehouse at Greenwood with some 1240 bales in it with the doors locked and nothing but 15 cents will open them.

Yours for the Union.

MRS. NANNIE WILLIAMS.

Burnville, Ark.

SISTER ARMSTRONG.

We were all saddened by the death of our dear sister, Mrs. Armstrong. She had been sick only a few days, but the good Lord said it is finished. Her spirit has gone to a better and brighter land to meet her loving husband.

The church has lost a consecrated member, the community one of its best neighbors and her children a most devoted mother, our Union a very loyal and earnest member.

May God bless the bereaved children and friends in this hour of sorrow.

MRS. S. E. McCLELLAN,

Groesbeck, Tex.

BRO. JOHN A. ADAMS.

Bro. John A. Adams, ex-President of Knox County, Indiana, Union, died on January 29 and in his death Unionism loses a devoted worker.

He was an earnest Christian, a model citizen, beloved by all who knew him and of him it may be truly said that dying he but "drew the drapery of his couch about him and sank to pleasant slumbers."

The hearts of his brother Unionists go out to the bereaved widow and sons as do those of his friends, for "his name was written in the book of life as one who loved his fellow men."

W. W. MYERS,

Wheatland, Ind.

C. T. LADSON'S APPOINTMENT.

Atlanta Constitution.

News announcement is made elsewhere of the appointment of Mr. C. T. Ladson by President Charles S. Barrett to the position of general counsel to The National Farmers Union.

Mr. Ladson has for some months been freely consulted by the officers of The Farmers Union in such legal matters as have arisen pertaining to the welfare of the organization, the broadening scope of which has been such as to justify the selection of a permanent official to direct such work as usually devolves upon the general counsel of a great organization. Mr. Ladson's familiarity with the work of The Farmers Union, growing out of his association with its officers, in giving attention to such legal features as have been submitted to him, renders the appointment as one which was to have been taken as a matter of course, after the organization had decided that it was wise to create a permanent position of this kind.

It was, of course, essential that a great organization numbering its members by the hundreds of thousands and pursuing a work National in character, should sooner or later select some to direct its legal affairs—not that the association expects to be involved in legal complications, but because its various warehouse contracts and other incidental legal details renders it necessary to secure the services of someone familiar with the laws of the various States, and capable of harmonizing and directing the efforts of such legal assistants as might be acting under him.

In choosing Mr. Ladson for this most responsible position President Barrett has made no mistake. Careful, able, conservative, and painstaking, his advice, if followed, will lead to no pitfalls but will more than ever uphold and strengthen the work of the association.

SISTER ANNIE THOMAS.

Whereas, On the 11th of February, God called our beloved friend, neighbor and sister, Annie Thomas,

Resolved, That Primrose Local Union has lost a true member, this community one of its ornaments, her family a tender and loving wife and indulgent mother.

Resolved, That Primrose Local Union extends heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives.

W. W. MYERS.

Alto, Tex.

PRESIDENT R. B. LEWELLEN.

Bro. R. B. Lewellen, president of the Titus County Farmers' Union, died Sunday, February 16.

Bro. Lewellen has been an honored citizen of this county ever since before the civil war, and was one of our foremost farmers. He leaves a devoted wife and several grown children, and a whole county of friends to mourn his demise.

W. M. TABB.

Mt. Pleasant, Tex.

FROM INDIANA.

Editor Co-Operator: The F. E. & C. U. of A. is living in our midst and spreading its spirit of Unionism.

We have a Local of twenty-two members, and they are of the true blue quality.

I organized a Local at Stover School-house on Feb. 11 with twenty charter members. We took our degree team along and initiated five of the new members to the entire satisfaction of the rest of the membership and left them in a high state of enthusiasm.

May the good work proceed until there is none left outside.

L. C. McBRIDE,

President and Organizer.

Plainville, Ind.

FROM MISSOURI.

Editor Co-Operator: I am a member of the Poplin Local Union.

We have 135 members, forty-five of them being ladies. We meet every Thursday night and take in from two to sixteen members every time.

Our Union is moving very fast. We haven't a warehouse to hold our cotton, but we contemplate building one for next year's crop.

MRS. DUCY J. SOMMERS,

Bernice, Mo.

Have your Local members lost interest in the Union? Are they disheartened? Do they fail to attend the meetings? A few visits of the Co-Operator will infuse new life and get them on the firing line. Send for a bunch of sample copies and try it.

SECRECY RESOLUTIONS.

Editor Co-Operator: Holly Hill Local Union passed resolutions by a unanimous vote to keep the minimum price a secret and no one to know only those entitled to the password.

J. F. SMITH,

Secretary.

Hartley, Ark.

We could all bear poverty with more patience if it paid regular dividends.

FARM TELEPHONES Direct from Factory to You. Over 12 years successful use everywhere and an Iron Clad guarantee protect buyers of "Central" phones. Not in the Trust. Makers of reliable goods at correct prices. Write for FREE 60 Page Instruction Book. CENTRAL TELEPHONE & ELECTRIC CO. DEPT. 25, DALLAS, TEX. OR ST. LOUIS, MO.

NORTH TELEPHONES include adapted to farm lines. Sold direct from factory. Book of instructions how to organize farmers and build line free. Write for Bulletin No. 25. The North Electric Co., Cleveland, O. Kansas City, Mo., Dallas, Tex.

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Cleburne, Texas

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OPPORTUNITIES

We are located in the Panhandle of Texas in a rich farming belt of Donkey county. We have sold many of our cars of corn which we raised, but could not begin to supply the demand. Crop now all sold.

We are not members of the Union but sympathizers and most of our customers are Union men. Many of you have Bois d'Arc posts which you cannot sell. Others have lumber, syrup in gallon cans. We need all those articles here to build up a new country and we can sell them for you, if you have good material, and if you want a home among us we can show you a good one also, as we buy the products raised in many different parts of the country and know when the good opportunities are.

If you desire to sell or buy write us and we perhaps can assist you to sell your surplus and keep you out of debt until you reach the roasting ear and watermelon day and then you are safe.

We have sold you our surplus corn, Kaffir corn, maize, and corn seed. Now we are ready to buy of you.

Yours for success to aid the home builders.

ROWE MERCANTILE CO.,

Rowe, Texas.

BE A MAN—OUR BOOK IS FREE

If you are small, weak, and underfed, suffer from errors of youth, nervous debility, stricture, gonorrhea, day-drunk, loss of blood, "For Men Only" will explain how you can cure yourself quickly at home. Most wonderful medicine ever discovered. Write for free copy. Dr. H. H. Green's Sons, Box C, Atlanta, Ga.

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DALLAS, TEXAS.

WANT to buy corn and alfalfa hay; quote me prices free on board of cars as cheap as can. Address W. A. Watts, Chester, Tex. 3-15-08

Remit \$1.00 for nickel plated press; embosses initial on stationery, postals; no supplies, wax, or water or ink necessary; fashionable and appropriate presents. C. G. Fordtran, Galveston.

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Largest Factory in the Southwest. Latest process for cleaning and dyeing. Lowest prices for first-class work. Agents wanted. Write for free Catalogue.

WOOD & EDWARDS,

108 S. Akard St., Dallas, Texas

"Lest We Forget."

Marble and granite monuments become discolored, moss-grown and in time crumble and decay. Some cemeteries now prohibit marble.

White Bronze

Monuments are indestructible. Time and the elements do not affect them.

Old and Silver Medals at St. Louis.

If in need of Monuments, Grave Covers or Statuary, give us approximate sum you can spend and we will send a variety of

BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS.

prices, etc. No obligation to buy. We deal direct and deliver everywhere.

MONUMENTAL BRONZE CO.

115 Howard Ave. Bridgeport, Conn. Post, Texas.

Several State Unions have adopted the picture of Newt Gresham as their official button. Many Union men everywhere, no doubt, would like to have one to wear and to perpetuate the memory of the founder of the Farmers' Union. The Co-Operator places these buttons on sale for the benefit of the family, who, while not in actual want, yet they need this small profit in the sale of these buttons. The buttons will be sold for 25c each. It is a nice button, less than one inch in diameter, and the picture surrounded by the letters, F. E. & C. U. of A. Write for as many as you want and they will be sent by return mail. Always send money with order. Do not send stamps if you can avoid it. Send all orders to MISS LUTIE GRESHAM.

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.

Poultry Department

SOFT SHELLED EGGS.

The poultry raiser no doubt wonders what causes the presence of so many soft-shelled eggs at this time of the year. Some of the eggs are entirely without shells while on others the shells are so thin and frail that they break very easily. With this trouble generally goes the habit of eating eggs by the hens. Broken eggs tempt the hens to partake, and when they once get a taste it does not take them long to acquire the habit of breaking the shell and eating both shell and contents whenever they desire.

Where the habit is acquired without first an egg or two being broken, the blame can correctly be laid to a lack

of lime in the bird's ration. Laying hens require lime and other material in the formation of egg shells, and if these materials are not supplied the appetite will cause the hen to seek them in the egg shell.

The birds should have plenty of lime where it is easily obtained, whether they are addicted to the habit of egg-eating or laying soft-shelled eggs or not. This will go a long way toward preventing either of these troubles. In addition to this they should have an abundance of grit, especially the sharp grits, such as broken or crushed oyster shell. This material can be obtained for a cent a pound or less of the local dealer, and a dime's worth will last the laying birds a long time.

BUILDING UP SIZE AND VIGOR.

I have had White Leghorns for years. I selected this kind because of their beauty and utility, combined with noble carriage and other desirable traits. I long ago determined to try to produce a larger fowl than the standard type of the Leghorn family. This I succeeded in doing by constantly and carefully selecting eggs for hatching from my very best specimen birds only, and also by always breeding for points. After a short course of experimenting on the above line, I began to obtain the desired results. My fowls increased materially in size, while at the same time my constant selection of the best laying strains among my flocks kept showing a steady increase in egg production that was most gratifying. Now after these years of patient work I find that I have a strain that is unexcelled in the desired points of increased size of body and laying qualities. Of course I do not claim that all my eggs hatch out perfect chicks, but that the general average shows a decided gain, fixed in the direction of size of body and prolific laying qualities.

You requested me to give a statement of my method of care and feed, etc. I have my ranges in my apple orchard, where there is plenty of good room and shade in hot weather. I keep the houses perfectly clean, and feed only good sound grains and fresh, sweet milk stuffs, thereby securing the highest quality and flavor both of eggs and poultry for table use. I also find that by using only such grains as above stated, my eggs are far stronger in vitality and high hatching percentage than eggs produced by equally good hens fed all manner of rations, some good, some sour and mouldy, such as is too often supplied to laying fowls; this is a point that I am sure deserves attention of poultry raisers. I keep a supply of all kinds of grit always before my flocks, and fresh, clean water is not neglected; green bone is fed regularly and moderately in winter. Instead of using straw for scratching purposes I provide clean, sharp sand, which I find preferable to straw from a sanitary point of view.

THE HEN AND HER NEST.

Many claim that the nest should be on the ground; but all claims that hens should have their nests on the moist ground are unsupported by facts, says Green's Fruit-Grower and Home Companion.

What is required for the hen in winter is a snug, warm location; while in summer she should have a cool place. The best material for a nest is dry earth on the bottom, with chopped hay over the earth.

Then dust the nest, hen and eggs with a good insect powder, and put a small quantity of tobacco refuse in the nest.

Should an egg be broken, or the nest become foul, clean it out thoroughly. The broken egg will cause lice quicker than anything else.

But first see that the hen has no lice, then give her good eggs and she will bring off a brood if she has a warm and comfortable nest.

The nest should be made movable, so that it can be taken outside for cleaning, and it should never be placed where any of the fowls can roost upon it, or cause it to become filthy.

It should never be so high as to compel effort to reach it. The large breeds will prefer to lay on the ground rather than attempt to reach a high nest, even when a footway is provided.

Some hens learn to fly over a fence by first learning to reach a high nest. Never have the nest so constructed that the hen must jump down into it, as broken eggs will be the consequence. Rather place the entrance so as to permit her to walk in upon the eggs.

If every Local will give each of its members a chance to subscribe for the Co-Operator, by placing in their hands a sample copy, the growth in membership will more than double within the next three months.

EQUALIZE SCHOOL TAXES.

Editor Co-Operator: To maintain the public schools we must pay taxes, but it is in my opinion very unjust for one class of people to bear the burden of all the masses.

I do not mean that we should stop paying taxes, but I do think that every man that has a child to go to school should pay a school tax. What we want is better schools and longer terms. Which calls for more money. Now, the farmers are taxed to the full limit of their ability, still there is an ever increasing demand on them for the school fund. It doesn't make any difference whether we make a good crop or a bad one, we must pay our taxes or the school is cut short. Then

I think it is very unjust for a man that has not even a family to be forced to pay school taxes just because he has a home or a few head of cattle when there are thousands and thousands of men with large families of children to go to school that never pay a penny for their education. Not even their poll taxes.

If every man with children would pay school tax that would enable us to have at least one high school in every precinct, which is sadly needed. I would be glad for some of the sisters or brothers to express their opinions on this subject and let us see if something cannot be done.

Our Local was organized February 7, 1907. We now have fifty-five members, twenty of them being ladies.

With best wishes for The Farmers Union and Co-Operator I will close. I enjoy the letters in Co-Operator so much.

EMILY SERRES.

Fairbanks, Tex.

FIGHT ON FOR VICTORY.

Editor Co-Operator: Midway Local Union passed resolutions recommending that the minimum price for farm products be fixed by The National Union, and be kept strictly secret.

Our Union believes in Unionism strictly. We believe that there is too much of Union business going out in print for the world to see and know what we are doing. Our Farmers Union has a ware-

house containing between 600 and 700 bales of cotton and there is quite a number of the farmers that have their cotton stored in private warehouses.

Our Union is small in number but the spirit and interest has begun to grow. We received at our last meeting two male members and expect at an early date several of the good ladies to join.

Be loyal to Unionism; fight on that the victory be won.

G. T. REYNOLDS.

Secretary.

Ramsey, Ark.

My advice to laboring people is, Read! Read everything, especially political economy. You must know things before you can do things.

BRO. G. W. GOOCH.

Whereas, Death has called from our midst, Br. G. W. Gooch on January 29th, 1908.

Resolved, That Ellison Ridge Local Union extends its sympathy to his bereaved family and that we have lost a true Union man and officer. He stood out boldly for the principles of Unionism.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, one sent to his family and one to The National Co-Operator.

J. M. GILCHRIST.

For Committee.

Thorndale, Tex.

Some booze fighters begin it by battling with the grip.

We Have A Home That You Can Own

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

LAND INVESTMENTS A SOURCE OF PROFIT IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The desire to invest in farm lands continues to grow for very good reasons, chief of which is the financial soundness of the investment. The Hon. Jas. Wilson, in his annual report for 1905, shows that during the last five years the value of the medium farms of the country has increased 33.5 per cent. In other words, every sunset during the last five years has seen land increase \$3,400,000, a growth unequaled in any other line of business. Thirty-five per cent of our population are farmers who, during the last decade, have produced an amount of wealth equal to one-half the entire National wealth produced in three centuries of the Nation's history. It is well for the farmer and those interested in other industries to bear these figures in mind in investing their earnings. It is claimed that our population doubles every thirty years. This means that history repeats itself and land values are sure to double in value during the same period. Therefore, those who invest in land today are not speculating on the possibilities of land rising in price. Good cheap land areas are gradually narrowing down and the time to purchase is now. There are a number of tracts of land in the country that offer advantages to investors, renters and young farmers seeking land holdings.

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

BALANCED FARMING.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DO YOU WANT A HOME?

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

A GREAT COUNTRY.

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

SOIL.

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

WATER.

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

CROPS.

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

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

RAINFALL.

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

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

CLIMATE.

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

SAND STORMS.

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

THE PRINCIPAL TOWN.

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

PRICES OF THIS LAND.

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

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

DON'T BE A ROLLING STONE.

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

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

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

Address All Communications for Full and Free Particulars to

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I make a specialty of Rhode Island Red and Rhode Island White eggs. They are the best. Pure bred, and healthy birds. EGGS \$2 Per 15. GOOD HATCH GUARANTEED.

Will C. Allen, Lometa, Tex.

Single Comb Rhode Island Reds—winners wherever shown. My egg circular is free. Send for it and let's get acquainted. **S. H. BASHAM, Midland, Texas.** 4-1-08.

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WHITE WYANDOTTES, S. C. Rhode Island Reds, Buff and Black Orpingtons, White Leghorns, Pekin ducks. Write for prices. Lakeside Poultry Farm, Texarkana, Texas. 11.

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will be paid to any person who can find one atom of opium, chloral, morphine, cocaine, ether or chloroform or their derivatives in any of Dr. Miles' Remedies.

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"I consider that there are no better remedies put up than Dr. Miles' Nervine, Anti-Pain Pills, and Nerve and Liver Pills. We have used them for years, and recommend them to many others. My wife is using the Nervine, and considers it the best medicine in the world. A lady friend of mine, who was almost a total nervous wreck, through my earnest solicitation has used several bottles of the Nervine with wonderful results."

WM. CROMBIE, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills are sold by your druggist, who will guarantee that the first package will benefit. If it fails, he will return your money. 25 doses, 25 cents. Never sold in bulk.
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TO AWAKEN INTEREST.

Open Meetings with Discussions of Live Topics and Drawing Out the Young to Effort.

The National Co-Operator: Mesquite Local Union, Greer County, Oklahoma, is about four years old and is alive and has been since its organization. It being the wish of the Local that we cast our mite with the writers of The Co-Operator, I will tell how we manage the Local and its affairs.

We see the need of secrecy at the present by the past. If our Union had been as secret as other classes of business, especially the spinners we would have fared better.

Getting back to the point, if we use the tactics of secrecy it should be, no one would know our minimum price on any goods we had to sell. If this had been kept a secret last year at this time or many days before we would have got our price for our cotton, or anything we might have had to sell. But instead our business in general has been heralded to the world from the Local member to the National Union, and the outside world gets the news out of some of the big daily papers before our delegates get back home from the convention or whatever it may be.

Our Local has made and adopted a rule that no word shall be spoken out of the Local to any member or any one. If a member wishes to know what was done he must be at the Union meeting in person, and the Local put it before the County Union and it was adopted all over the county of Greer.

We meet every Saturday night and this is because we saw the sad fate of other Locals that meet twice a month or less. In meeting every Sat-

urday night every member knows the night the Union meets. He can miss a night and come the next and never lose track of the night, but if we meet every other Saturday night it causes confusion and a chance for an excuse as to not knowing the time of meeting. We always have a good turnout and the life of the Local is to have some one present.

We have a question for discussion, part taking one side and part the other, and then the fun begins; and right there is where the educational part of the Union comes in. By these discussions we bring out points that are instructive and perhaps we had never thought of before.

To get the outsiders to take an interest we have an open meeting about once a month, have music, songs, any kind of entertainment with some good speeches if we can get speakers; if not we use Local talent; and we deem this one of the best features of our Union. If we get a speaker from some other community or State, he is bound to be Local at some other point, but the human family wants something called new as a big gun. So they most always say, "we want to get a big speaker from somewhere for such and such an occasion."

I think the thing to do in our grand organization is to take the young men and our boys of our neighborhood and make orators, writers and leaders of them. If your neighborhood does not take hold of the young, it is a certain fact, if it is in them and is not brought out, they will drift to some other locality where the fathers and older heads will encourage them to make the start to say their first speech or write their first piece for liberty's grand cause. The young must be trained to lead the battle after the older ones pass the reins of the noble cause over to them. So, brother Unionist, teach and train the young in the way they should go.

By the open meeting we get the outsider interested for his interest and the welfare of his children and the consequence we rake in some new applications to ballot on in our next meeting.

Success to The Co-Operator and its many readers.

L. P. TYLER, President.
L. A. CORNELL, Secretary.

Looney, Okla.

The Union is strongest and largest where the Co-Operator is read most.

ALLIANCE WHEELHORSE.

Tells of Trials of The Old Order and Glorifies the Union and What It Stands For.

Editor Co-Operator: In 1886 I joined the Alliance and I stayed with the boys until our flag went down in defeat. I lost considerable money and much time. When the Union was organized, I hesitated for I had lost all confidence in the stickability of the farmer.

Finally I concluded that they had been educated up to the point that they would stick; so in December, 1907, I joined Marselena Local. Then I subscribed for The Co-Operator as all Union men should do. Then I read it closely and it makes me think of reading the old goo dappers.

Some say politics ruined the Alliance; others refer to its financial mistakes. Now, I ask if the Union is not walking in her financial footsteps. One brother wants to go into the banking business; another wants manufacturing; another insurance. Now, brethren, wouldn't it be a good idea for us to drop a whole lot of these plans and put our heads together and see if we can't perfect our warehouse system? Take up the Memphis plan; discuss it in your Locals. I am opposed to the second and eleven sections in this plan. The financing of the cotton crop is an individual matter, and if you will pardon me for referring to myself, I will prove it. In 1903 we had 80 acres in cotton, made two bales; in 1904, 80 acres in cotton and made 2½ bales. Boll weevils galore. I lost in the two years, \$300 spot cash and a pair of mules. Then we began to diversify our farming. We raise corn, hogs, some cattle, chickens, eggs, vegetables etc., for home use and then what cotton we can; result, we are out of debt, have 8 bales of cotton at home, hold the receipts for seven bales in the Stockdale warehouse for which we advanced over \$200 and have money in the bank yet, and so far as we are individually concerned the money panic has not given us any trouble. If we sell our cotton it is our business, the same if we don't. In fact it is nobody's business what we do with it. Now, haven't I proved my position, brethren? You may preach banking, manufacturing, insurance, and all the isms in the world, unless we can get our people to quit running to town, trading on credit, paying two prices for what they live on; living out of paper bags, consuming their crops before they are made, the Union will be a

FAVOR SECRECY.

Editor Co-Operator: Calico Mount Local Union in regular session passed a resolution recommending secret prices for Union products in futures, the prices to be made known to none except those Union members who are in possession of the password, and we urgently request all Locals to adopt this movement.

J. W. DANIEL, Secretary.

Paris, Ark.

DOING VERY WELL.

Editor Co-Operator: New Prospect Local Union is still alike and we are taking in new members nearly every meeting.

Our next County Union will meet with our Local and I hope it will revive us up.

I only made five bales of cotton last year and it would have taken it all to pay my debts at the present prices, so I put it in the Union warehouse and then carried my receipt to the man I owed and told him I would turn it over to him with the understanding my cotton was 15 cents cotton. He said he did not have any use for it; that all he wanted was for me to say I would pay him. I told him I would do that.

Now, some will say, "I had to sell; I owe Mr. So-and-So, and he wants his money." That is no excuse at all. The trouble is they get weak-kneed.

I am a Union man, both warp and filling and my wife is also a member. I am all the time doing what I can for the Union.

We have a nice little warehouse at Strong. I take The Co-Operator and think it a good Union paper.

W. F. VESTAL.

Strong, Ark.

A GOOD LOCAL.

Editor Co-Operator: We are still alive at Moore's Chapel Union and have some good meetings and take in a new member every once in awhile. I believe we have some as true Union folks here as anywhere, but we need more workers in our Local.

Too many say "I can't do that, and I can't do this," when we never have tried to do or say anything, but we keep everything too much in the papers, so the world knows our aims too well.

Long live our noble leaders and may God give us the victory.

MRS. M. A. HARGER.

Riley, Ark.

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our history. We have again increased our facilities for the coming year and will be better prepared than ever to care for our rapidly increasing trade, and if you will place your orders with us and influence your friends to do so we will promise better service than ever before. We handle nothing but the very highest quality of seeds and plants grown under expert supervision, giving highest germinating strength.

Our New Spring Catalogue, containing 128 finely illustrated pages, is now ready and will be sent free to every interested buyer of seeds, plants, bulbs and poultry supplies. Just write us a postal card immediately when you see this advertisement, for it may not appear again. This catalogue is compiled with greatest care and contains the best varieties suited to the South and West. Many of our patrons who have been buying North and East tell us our varieties are much better suited to their localities and will in future give us their orders, thus giving them better results, besides helping home institutions.

This Catalogue tells you farmers should plant our high-bred, acclimated Seed Corn. You know it only costs about 35c an acre to plant it, and if it yields 10 per cent more than the old worn-out varieties you are a big winner. It also tells about the **Select Cotton Seed** we are offering this year. It illustrates the length of our celebrated **Sunflower Long Staple** variety. Thousands of satisfied customers used it last year. You will learn from this catalogue all about our **Alfalfa Seed**, the greatest money producing crop ever introduced to Southern and Western farmers. Carload after carload of our seed have gone into the hands of satisfied customers, making our house headquarters because our seed has given best results. This Catalogue describes our specially **Southern-grown Watermelon Seed**, selected from hand-picked specimens of the highest type rather than from culls after the best melons have been sold. This makes our seed a little higher in price, but much better in quality than many seedsmen offer.

Our Greenhouse and other plants are fully described. We have splendid facilities for growing our own plants in large quantities and make a specialty of **Roses**. We guarantee them true to name and being grown in the South have splendid vitality and give better satisfaction than weakly plants grown in Northern hothouses. We received **two Cash Premiums** at the **Dallas Chrysanthemum Show** for the grand blooms grown by us. We invite special attention to our **Poultry Supply Department**. We won three grand prizes at the Dallas Fair on **Poultry Supply Exhibit**, **Mandy Lee Incubators and Brooders**, for which we are Special Agents. **We are the oldest Successful Seed Selling. Write at once for this interesting Catalogue**, as this advertisement may not appear again. If you received our book last year, do not write for it again, as our new Catalogue will be sent you this year.

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NEW COTTON GRADING SCHOOL FOR DALLAS, TEXAS.

We are pleased to announce to the Cotton Growers of the South that the Metropolitan Business College of Dallas, Texas, has opened a new department, and will from now on teach the grading of cotton in a scientific and thorough manner. The past few years has demonstrated beyond any question the necessity of the Cotton Growers, and especially the men engaged in our cotton warehouses, being able to judge and grade cotton accurately. In fact, our business colleges have received a great many inquiries in regard to such a department, and we take pleasure in stating to our subscribers and readers that Messrs. W. W. Darby and A. Ragland, who are the proprietors of the college, are men of standing and will give a thorough course in this department accurately. Any of our readers who are interested in knowing the terms and would like to have any other information in regard to this department should write the Metropolitan Business College, Dallas, Texas, direct and they will give the full particulars.

IS FARMING A BUSINESS.

Editor Co-Operator: As we often hear the words used, "the business men," it sounds to me like farming is not a business. Now I'm one farmer that believes it is a business because we follow it for a living.

If any man wants to succeed in any business he must be attentive to it. Don't we, as farmers, lose too much time from our business in going to town, when we could stay at home? If we have nothing to do on the farm we could be fixing up our places.

Brother farmers, you who are guilty of going to town lounging around on the streets, keeping your teams standing fighting flies all day, don't you think it would pay you to stay at home and help your wife build hen's nests, if you haven't anything else to do that would pay better? I used to live in town and know that some men go to town at least once a week and buy some things they could do without.

To one and all, I say, stay at home this year, only when we have to go off and make farming our business and sure to raise plenty of corn and everything we need on our places and try to get out of debt.

I belong to Salt Fork Union. We are little in number, but have big ways and we are going to have corn and hog, and plenty of feed for our horses. Then we will need but little money.

Stick to your Locals, attend all meetings and let all of us try to make this a good year of the Union.

Rising Star, Tex.

INDORSE SECRECY AND SLIDING SCALE.

Editor Co-Operator: Lone Star Local Union of McCulloch county at its last meeting passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we indorse the resolutions adopted by Oak Grove Local Union of Houston County, Texas, as to secrecy and sliding scale.

Resolved, That we indorse the bank proposition adopted by Jordan Springs Local of Brown County, Texas, and that a copy of these resolutions be furnished The Co-Operator for publication.

J. T. MATHIS, President.
N. A. KIMBROUGH, Secretary.

Rochelle, Tex.

SISTER MATTIE GAYLE.

On the ninth day of February, 1908, our sister, Mrs. Mattie Gayle died. She was an honored member of Mill Springs Local Union and was well thought of by those who knew her. She leaves a devoted husband and one child, and many relatives.

This Local Union extends sympathy to the bereaved family.

J. C. PARK, Secretary.

Mineola, Tex.

HOLDING COTTON.

Editor Co-Operator: We have a warehouse in our county and the most of the Union men have their cotton in it and can just say for myself that I am going to let mine stay there for the price set. I will eat bread alone before I will take it out, and I think that all of the rest are of the same notion.

We have a strong Local and we meet regularly. I love the name of the Union and ever expect to defend its cause and I will say hold your cotton, boys, and stay out of debt, and we will come out all right.

W. S. CARR.

Ain, Ark.

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E. Benjamin Andrews, Chancellor of the University of Nebraska, says: "Its educational value in the home is sure to be very great."

Rev. Frank W. Gunsulius, of Chicago, says: "These volumes will be of immense service in stimulating history study in our country. It is a work of real genius."

Prof. Dabney, of Virginia, says: "Southern readers will be gratified at the impartial spirit in which the war for Southern Independence is treated."

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