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## Proposed Plan for Financing Cotton Crop

During the late panic—or the present panic, as you prefer—the people in many localities were treated to a new kind of circulating medium. The banks did not have the money to take care of their general run of business and at the same time finance the cotton crop, so they adopted the expedient of issuing “scrip.” This scrip was issued in denominations of \$1, \$5, \$10, etc., and each piece was in effect a note, bearing interest, signed by the officers of the bank, and secured only by the good name and the assets of the corporation. If the bank was sound, well and good. If virtually insolvent (as many banks were), the holder of the scrip ran a risk of loss. The fact is that our national banking system—“for the benefit of the bankers”—is not, when looked at from the standpoint of the public, the most beneficent of institutions; at many points it breaks down, to the great loss of its victims, the depositors.

Bank scrip, then, was not as solid as Gibraltar; but there was a lesson and an example in it which ought to be valuable to cotton growers if heeded by them. If a bank can issue scrip on insufficient security, and make it pass as legal tender, why cannot farmers, thru the medium of their warehouse, issue scrip (say to the amount of \$30 per bale) against the actual, physical cotton, stored and insured in the bonded warehouse? There is no better security in the world; Uncle Sam’s currency is no better secured. There is no danger of fraud; it is only necessary that the thing be gone about in a businesslike and legal way.

The more widely the idea is adopted and carried into effect the more far-reaching the result, but any local community can adopt it without waiting on the action of others.

On the other hand no bank, and no string of banks, has the resources to advance

money enough to keep the cotton crop off the market.

A form, simple, convenient, embodying all legal requirements, would be adopted, designating the union warehouse manager as trustee and making all scrip redeemable at the warehouse; providing that when a given issue of scrip is not redeemed at maturity, the manager may, after giving due notice, sell the cotton against which the scrip was issued. Of course, all proceeds over and above principal and interest and warehouse charges, would go to the owner of the cotton.

But it does not seem likely that this procedure would often be invoked. In the first place, if the plan were generally adopted, cotton would soon go above the minimum price, and if it didn’t, the enlightened merchant would be disposed to take a new issue of scrip so as to help the farmer hold; and to take care of exceptional cases, it might be advisable to have a state fund (or to have the State Union make arrangements for the money) for the purpose of holding distressed cotton off the market.

Under this system you would, when your debts come due in the fall, call upon your warehouse manager to deliver to you \$30 in scrip, bearing a fair rate of interest, against each bale of your cotton. You would take these scrip bills to your merchant and offer them in payment of your account. Would he accept them? There are several reasons why he should; and no sufficient one, that we know of, why he should not. He ought to have no trouble in liquidating his own obligations with it, and if it were generally adopted the business world would be compelled to recognize and accept it. It would pass as legal tender. But there is no reason why the legitimate business world should be antagonistic to cotton scrip, for it would mean higher priced cotton, and that would mean prosperity to all honest occupations.

It would be strictly safe “money.” And

strictly convenient to handle. When this is admitted, the farming world can count on enough enlightened selfishness, enough love of fair play, in the commercial world, to assure the prestige of cotton scrip. Accepted by the jobber, it would pass between jobber and banker, between banker and the public (and foreign creditors) freely.

In case the merchant, in the first place, should refuse to accept it, there are always men of means and institutions anxious to turn their cash into gilt-edge paper. Then the merchant’s competitor, with the hope of winning a new customer, would be apt to exert considerable influence in making cotton paper “go.”

Opposition should not be courted but disarmed by educating all classes to an attitude of confidence and good will.

The merchants, if brought to see the matter in the right light, would see their duty to be willing to suffer some hardships in helping the farmer bear the south’s burden, since the storekeeper’s interest in high-priced cotton is just as vital as the farmer’s.

No doubt difficulties would be encountered. And in order to take care of exceptional cases it would doubtless be well, as suggested before, that the State Union make provision, in one way or another, to stand behind Union scrip in the assistance of distressed members.

We hope to go into details more specifically next week, and invite a full discussion of the plan by the membership. We might add that the idea is advanced on its merits by the editor and that the state officials are not responsible for its being put forward.

Now is a good time to see the various candidates for office and get their views upon the parcels. Get them all committed to it before the elections, and then vote for the man who most nearly represents our interests.

## Among the Members

### SPICY LETTERS FROM MEMBERS AND LOCALS

#### GOOD NEWS FROM FISHER COUNTY.

Editor Co-Operator:

Our local has 35 members and we are gaining recruits nearly all the time—substantial members, too. Our local recently passed a resolution which if taken up and agitated all over the state will redound to much good to the renter, viz; That every renter ask and urge their landlord to allow them to plant more feed and forage crops and less cotton. In this county alone there has been about \$75,000 worth of chops and bran shipped in here and sold.

The main cause of it is that the landlord limits the renter to so much feed. This writer thinks the landlord acts very unwisely by doing this; in fact he ought to have sense enough to know that if there was more feed and less cotton that he would get just as much for the cotton and have plenty of feed for his work stock and hogs. So let the slogan be, "less cotton and more feed and truck." If we would plant just half as much cotton we would get just as much for it. Another thing, which is the key to the whole situation: we will never get a fair price for our cotton until we raise less of it. I am heartily in favor of establishing a cotton mill at Ft. Worth and other places in Texas too.

Crops are fine all over Fisher County and all over this country. Well, Mr. Editor, we think President Neill the man of the hour. Let us keep him where he is. The traitors in the Union and speculators and mammons of greed and their henchmen don't like him, but I'll tell you it will take just such men to guide our ship of state to the shores of victory. Let us put the bootlegging gamblers and the devils who have been stealing, robbing and plundering the people in the rear—make them hunt another job, so that the honest yeomanry of this country can secure a fair and legitimate price for their products and labor.

Yours for the right

B. F. Gibson,

Royston, Texas.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY UNION.

Montgomery county Farmers Union met in regular session at Leonidas Texas, July 2 and 3 1908, President T. W. Mc Caleb presiding. There was speaking in the forenoon of the first day by B. F. Chapman, of Dallas and in the afternoon by L. V. Evans

of Ft. Worth. Theirtalks were both forcible and interesting.

On the second day a lecture by Joe Edmondson of Slocum Tex., was heard. Bro. Edmondson talked for one and one-half hours in open session on Unionism; his speech was well received and applauded.

Officers were elected as follows.

E. N. Oualline, Pres.; J. W. Manning, Vice Pres. S. B. Johnson, sec.; Joe Wiggins, lecturer and organizer; E. Sunday, Chaplain; T. H. Moore, conductor; W. M. Scheffer, doorkeeper. County Executive Committee:

J. L. O'Banion, Chairman; Lawrence Johnson, Sec.; E. D. Goodin, W. C. Davis, Joe Gray. State Delegates:

E. N. Oualline and J. W. Manning.

Alternates:

G. F. Tadlock, and S. B. Johnson.

Dinner was served each day, with barbecue the first and basket dinner the second.

The people of Leonidas and vicinity have our thanks for their kindness and generous hospitality during our stay among them.

Next County Union will be held with Seet Hope Local four miles north east of the town of Montgomery, on Oct. 1st. 1908.

S. B. Johnson, sec.

#### A GROWING LOCAL.

Editor Co-Operator:

I read an encouraging letter in the Co-Operator and cannot refrain from dropping a few lines from this part of the county. Union work is progressing lively although we need a good speaker to canvass our county. Nearly all the Union men could have held their cotton.

There is a warehouse at Rotan, the only one in the county, and it still has plenty of cotton in it. So you see we have been in the fight for 15 cent cotton and are still there.

Our Local was organized in November with six members, and now we have thirty-seven, and another one to take in at our next meeting, which is Saturday night. Our local is doing fairly well though it could do better if all our members would come out to the meetings. I think every member ought to attend his local and try to make it as prosperous as possible. Our Locals are just what we make them. But some seem to think that all that is necessary is to elect their officers and then they

can go back home and stay and have a live local. But we cannot do it. Without the co-operation of the members, the officers cannot do much and you should not expect it. Let every member attend his local promptly for just one month and see what a vast difference it will make.

Our county Union met at Hitson the 17th and 18th days in April and had a good meeting in spite of the bad weather. President Neill was to have been with us, but for some cause he failed to come. However, on Friday night Brother Denton and our County president Read, delivered a speech to the public. Our next county meeting will be at Whitepond, on July 23rd and 24th.

I favor the business, agent and think that the office should not have been done away with. Let us hear from all the members on this subject.

Wishing the Union and Co-Operator success,

Sincerely yours,

J. C. Simpson.

Roby, Texas.

#### DONT CALL IT A FIGHT.

Editor Co-Operator:

I am a member of Atoyac Local Union; have been since October, 1907, have taken Co-Operator since that time, and have been pleased with the paper all the time. I think Brother Pyle did all he could for our grand cause, and I think you are doing the same.

Well, Brother Editor, we are battling along over here as best we can. We hope to accomplish the cause that we propose, knowing little about what is going on among our organizations, except what we learn through your valuable paper. I have never heard but few lectures on Unionism. We need some lecturing and organizing very badly here.

Brothers, it does appear to me that we should not call this a fight, but go to persuading the farmers to become members of the Union. When they are all organized with us, there will be no need to fight, to get what we are asking for. We cannot do anything better than this for the next few months. Especially in this county. Then stand firm with your obligations on your kind every day. We must stand by our leaders, attend to our own business and let the other fellows alone. If you follow the directions given you by our leaders, we will stay out of debt and make our living at home. When we do this we can do anything we please. So long as we depend on other countries for everything we use, we expect to be in the hands of the other fellow. If we live at home, manu-

facture our own goods at home, it appears to me that we would be the most independent people on earth. I have heard it said that we had better get out of debt the first thing we do. If we could get out of debt by staying in the old rut as we have done for the last forty years, by the same rule we could make money, and we would need no business organization.

Now brother farmers, let us go to work and own and control our own machinery, from a cane factory to a cotton factory, and patronize the same. If we make a little mistake it will be no more than we have done all this long forty years. We have raised cotton alone for when the price we were receiving for it would not pay for the gathering and marketing of the crop. Why? Because the other fellow has hold of both ends of the rope.

Sam Hunt,

Altonia, Texas.

#### PLEASED WITH PROGRESS.

Editor Co-Operator:

I am moved to say a few words for our paper and its noble contributors. I hardly know where to begin, there are so many things of interest to the Union cause. I am sorry there are many seeming lacking interest in the grand work of the Union. Some, perhaps, want to take things by leaps and bounds, some, because the minimum price was not reached for last year's crop seem to think the cause is hopeless. To all such I would say we ought to be encouraged to press on with renewed energy. The cause is not hopeless, but bright with promises for the future, to the faithful. "Be not weary in well doing for we shall reap in due time if we faint not;" is a Scriptural injunction which we should heed with all diligence. The grand possibilities awaiting the toiling millions if we will but stand firm for the principles of the Union, "Justice, Equity and the Golden Rule." Stop and think these over carefully and then decide if this is not the principle of the Divine truth; "Truth, crushed to earth shall rise again, the eternal years of God are hers."

Now a word about the cotton factory. Some of our speakers advise us to stand clear of anything of the kind, while some advise us to be very cautious, and I think we should be cautious, but then, have we not a competent business here in Texas as in South Carolina? And from different writers they have succeeded in the factory project. It seems the thing to do in connection with the warehouse. Have a factory. Make the heavy

grades of cotton goods into cotton bagging and other coarse goods out of the low grades of cotton which will cut a big figure in the crop though it be a bumper crop. Manufacture such goods as are a house-hold necessity. How many homes to-day are supplied with these things? I mean among the laboring people.

There are so many things claim our interest and attention, but I must give expression to Brother Hampton's letter of May 25, and especially to what he said in regard to arranging for the colonization of our brethren, many of whom are homeless and renters. If such scheme could be arranged, it would be a big thing to gain the interest of many poor men and their families and this too would be a great incentive to many poor worthy farmers who are out of the Union to become members and help on the mighty tide to free the laboring man and all laboring classes, but I must stop.

I want to say God bless our people in the mighty effort to throw off the tyrant's yoke.

John Spangler,  
Stockdale, Texas.

#### FAVORS STATE BAGGING MILL.

Editor Co-Operator:

The following resolutions were offered by Brother G. W. Sullivan, and were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the manufacturing of our low grades of cotton into bagging would advance the price of spot cotton by taking the low grades of cotton off the market. And,

Whereas, the low grades of cotton are used to bear the spot market by the speculator. And

Whereas, the jute bagging trust takes millions of dollars every year from the cotton growers of the South,

Therefore, be it resolved by the Union, Hill Local, Number 2684, that we call upon our state senators and representatives to immediately upon being convened in the thirty-first Legislature to pass a measure which shall adequately, and on broad liberal lines authorize the building and equipping of a cotton factory in connection with the state penitentiaries for the purpose of manufacturing bagging from low grades of cotton.

Be it further resolved that we urge all locals and county unions to join us in asking the next Legislature to pass a bill favorable to the above resolutions and that we pledge our support to all aiding such Legislation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of the above resolutions be sent to the Co-Operator, the

News and Advocate for publication.

Oscar Mc Dugal, Pres.  
G. W. Sullivan, Sec.

#### BELL COUNTY UNION.

The Bell County Farmer's Union wishes to extend its thanks and appreciation to the management of the Carnegie Library. In the course of the building of these libraries, many people condemn the course adopted by Mr. Carnegie, stating that these libraries represented an unearned increment, gathered from the toilers that would ever be used by a privileged class. While the unearned increment in a measure is true, the purpose or missions of the institutions rests largely in its local management, hence our thanks are not misdirected, that indicates the moral and economic acts of man are becoming more harmonious by being interwoven.

We also wish to extend our thanks to the Commercial Club for the kind welcome address by Dr. Pit Turner. In the answer to the Welcome Address brother Tom Taylor apparently criticised a point in the Doctor's address "That old Bell County, notwithstanding the floods and lateness of crops held out a great promise for abundant yield, while some other parts of our nation were short. The Doctor dropped the impression unintentionally, that we rejoice at the other fellows shortage, as it insured us good prices for our abundant yield. Since we live in the midst of just such condition and environment as our good Dr. Turner indicated, we understand from whence and where the idea emanated, but brother Tom being very sensitive on the idea of co-operation, like many others on the word neighbor used by the Great Nazarene, that these ideas of co-operation your neighbor etc., include others than Bill Jones and Charlie Smith, just across the way, but like the brotherhood of man embraces all humanity. Our horizon, of course being limited by our mental vision and we cannot cross the bridge before we get to it. Theory and sentiment of one age that is considered Utopian is the common practical realization of the next.

Brother Tom gave us a very fine sample of what he is doing as a State Lecturer, in our first morning session, showing that he is master of his subject. He indicated in somewhat of a detailed manner the economic trend of our age and pointed out our only plan of escape from its blighting forces.

We experienced one of the most harmonious meetings ever

held in the period of our order and the best represented. At times tears could be seen sparkling on the cheeks of old soldiers but in the next instance you would see that same face with as cold a determination as ever characterized the features of an old Roman soldier.

The onward march of this order is so interwoven with the economic trend of the age that it is as certain of victory as the rise and fall of the temperature, caused by the variable rays of the sun on the earth's surface. With new determination, sealed with the immortal words of Patrick Henry: "Give me Liberty or give me Death."

We are not in search of great numbers, to lose a few members here and there is of little note, history bears us out. President Roosevelt taking lessons from history of old where a few were selected on account of a peculiar or a natural habit, caused by environment, the distinction was, "They lap like dogs." In the latter case, the Rough Riders is their prototype.

Our beloved J. W. Smith that served us so able and faithful has a commission as State Lecturer, so the good work, so nobly begun, will go on.

The following officials we elected to take up the work so ably brought this far, to be carried on by their successors.

J. K. Briggs, President; E. L. Evans, Vice-President; R. L. Garrett, Secretary; Temple, R. F. D. No. 3; J. P. Jeffries, Lecturer, Belton, R. F. D. No. 4; A. G. Walker, Chaplain; T. J. Taylor, Door-keeper; J. L. Morris, Conductor; J. L. Bowen, Chairman of Executive Committee; J. L. Whittenburger, Secretary; A. C. Griffin, J. A. Riddlehoover, A. W. Parrot.

R. L. Garrett, Secretary  
J. J. Deaver, Chairman  
J. K. Griggs, President.  
Press Committee

J. K. Briggs, President  
R. L. Garrett, Secretary.  
Bell County Farmers Union.

#### UNION IN TITUS COUNTY.

Editor Co-Operator:

Our county meeting at Green Hill Local of Titus County was a great success. Our beloved Brother Peter Radford of Whitt, Parker County was with us and gave us some very important information. He also spoke to a large crowd at night, which enthused our people very much. We are coming to the front in Titus County. By the help of God we will take this country for the Union. Of course we have the enemy to fight, but we have the weapons all on our side, justice and the Golden Rule. We

have some squash-headed fellows yet out of the Union but when you stop to think about it and watch them they are doing nothing for themselves. All they do is to raise a large cotton crop and turn it over to the speculator and take just what he gives. Now just what account that fellow would be to us if he has known our order for five years and has learned nothing yet! I hardly think you could teach him anything. If he has no more love for his family and country than he has demonstrated, I hardly think such a one would have any for our grand order. So I see we have got to fight and lets get to business. We can win if we stand to our guns.

It seems the entire Union is firing on New York Cotton Exchange and the Chicago packing houses and the tobacco trust, which is all right, but let's wipe out some of those little trusts in our own towns and homes. Stop going to them with propositions and stop making contracts with them. Get busy and lets finance our own business.

Ship our own stuff, order our own stuff, and attend to our own business. For example, I shipped three dozen hens to New Orleans last Spring, for which I had been offered only \$3.00 per dozen; and after express and commission were paid I received a check for \$7.80, making \$4.80 clear profit on one dozen hens. Now if all would do this, our wives would get pay for their work. I want to say the cotton crop in Northerst Texas looks short, and the boll weevil is doing his work. I think if he would eat all of it up the people would learn some sense and plant something besides cotton.

Yours for the cause of humanity,  
E. C. Davis,  
Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

#### WISE COUNTY MEETING ENTHUSIASTIC.

Editor Co-Operator:

Wise County Union No. 15 met with Briar Branch Local no. 569. July 2 and any looker-on would have thought that the hour had arrived for a great spiritual revival, which it was. One never met a more determined body of Union farmers. And to encourage the delegates, the community had killed the fatted calf. I do wish the editor of this grand paper could have been with us and got some hearty handshakes, some pure country air and a square meal. We passed some good resolutions. We think of establishing a business agency through which to sell all our farm products such as hogs, cattle, chickens butter, eggs, corn

and cotton seed. We had an open-door session on the night of the second; had a crowded house with many of the good looking ladies of that community present. Had some of the best singing and speaking we have ever heard. In fact we had a grand time. Our next County meeting will be at Lone Star, Oct. 1.

Best wishes to the Co-Operator, the best farmers' guide we have ever had the pleasure of reading.

J. J. Gaut, Sec.-Treas.  
Alvord, Texas.

#### CALL FOR STATE UNION MEETING

President Neill Issues Official Call For Meeting on August 4.

Ft. Worth, July 2, 1908.  
To The Membership of Texas:

By the authority vested in me as President of State Union of Texas I do hereby call the Annual State Meeting to convene in the city of Ft. Worth on the 4th day of August to continue in session for a period of three days or until the business of said session is concluded for the purpose of electing Officials for the ensuing year and to transact such other business as may be brought before said Convention.

The Constitution provides the basis of representation shall be one delegate from each county and one additional delegate for each 1,000 members or majority fraction thereof.

This section means that each county is entitled to one delegate should the membership fall below 500; in case the membership reached 501 the county would be entitled to two delegates etc. Now the county secretaries should bestir themselves and see that each member pay their dues so each county may have proper representation as the basis will be put upon the actual paid up membership of the State.

Given under my hand as President of the Farmers Union of the State of Texas, this the 2nd day of July, A. D. 1908.

All the railroads in Texas have agreed to give reduced rates to the State Union. For distances within 100 miles of Ft. Worth the rate will be one and one-third fare; over 100 miles one and one-fifth fare for the round trip. Tickets will be on sale August 3 and as late as August 4 for trains which will reach Ft. Worth on August 4 and will be good for return until Aug. 9 or trains reaching home by August 10. Please take due notice of these dates and rates.

D. J. Neill,  
President.

From the number of applications being made by scholars to the Farmers' Grading School, it looks to us to be the largest school ever held by the Union.

#### GIVES REASON FOR COTTON MILLS

Editor Co-Operator: I will write a few lines on co-operation. I think Brother Hampton's plan is all right and I am in favor of the move. My \$10 is ready, whether I ever receive a cent from it or not. It is a good thing for the country. Brethren, let us do something as a Farmers' Union to show the world that we are not selfish.

If the mill is built, posterity will rejoice when we are gone and say, "Our forefathers tried to do something for their children while here in this world."

When your company gets the business fixed up send us your plan and the writer will see what he can make up for the factory. We will then be where we can consume some of what we make in the south, as everything is priced in the north and sent there to be manufactured and then priced and sent back to us at a big profit. Suppose we just quit sending our raw material up there, and if we do, we must build cotton factories in the south. I am in favor of building the first Union factory in Fort Worth, Texas. If it costs the Union \$300,000, we can pay for it as easy as we can take the speculator's price for our cotton.

Lorene Union is still right side up and is going to do something in the near future, if the Lord wills. So hurrah for the Union, the Co-Operator and its editors.

JAMES W. TAYLOR,  
Lorene, Texas.

#### McLENNAN COUNTY UNION.

Editor Co-Operator: The McLennan County Farmers' Union met in regular session July 3 and 4, and it was one of the most successful meetings we have ever had in this county. More business attended to than ever before. The membership is anxious to do something to promote the interest of the Union. If we could get a lecturer and organizer in this county he could do some good work. Yours respectfully,

R. A. HORNE,  
County President.  
McGregor, Texas.

#### VICTORIA COUNTY UNION

Editor Co-Operator: The County Union of Victoria county held its meeting on the third day of July. There was much business transacted for the good of the order, and the election of new officers for one year was proceeded with with the following results: R. H. Tucker, president; P. Rodgers, vice president; Massey, secretary and treasurer; L. E. Jaynes, lecturer; Underwood, chaplain. On the following day, which was the Fourth, the Union had a fine barbecue in a grove near Victoria. About 2,000 people were present, and there was plenty to eat for all. J. P. Pool of Victoria gave a talk on the meaning of the day we celebrate. Then Brother Dornblaser made us a fine talk. G. A. Levi, a banker of Victoria, and L. E. Jaynes followed, after which Brother Dornblaser closed with another speech.

We hope the Union will be benefited by the day's work. The stronger we grow the better it is for the Union.

Next County Union will meet with Spring Creek Local. R. H. Tucker is the delegate to the State Union in August.

With best wishes for the Union,  
F. BOTZ,  
Inez, Texas.

#### NEW BRAUNFELS ALIVE

Editor Co-Operator: I have never seen anything from our Union in your worthy paper. Our Union is progressing slowly but steadily. Crops of this section look good. Farmers are still

holding cotton for 15 cents, but we cannot sell direct to the spinners because there are so many gamblers in between us, which will be "cleaned out," and it will not take long if we farmers stand together.

The very life of civilization and perpetuity of industrial and economical progress depends upon the heroes of the hoe.

Now, brother farmers, work together and we shall stay together as long as we live, and get away from the surging horde of gamblers and speculators or else we and children will be slaves all our lives.

Do not tire—cheer, cheer for our great Union. Let all of us say: "United we stand, but divided we fall."  
W. SCHAEFER,  
New Braunfels, Texas.

#### RESOLUTIONS ON CROP STATISTICS

Resolved, That Reagan Union No. 4279 ask all Unions in the United States to instruct our legislative agents at Washington and in all the state legislatures where we have Unions organized to do away with the bureau of crop statistics, as it has cost the farmers many millions of dollars and is of no benefit to us, but keeps the gamblers posted with reports in their favor; in fact, the whole thing is against the farmer and increases his burdens to the amount of \$25,000,000 in the nation and state, and it should be a penal offense to give out any news as to crops, and should have not less than five years' servitude attached.

W. B. DeWALT,  
W. R. CULBERT,  
J. C. JACOB,  
Reagan, Texas.

H. L. Hester writes us from Kiowa, Okla.: "We are getting along pretty well in our Union work. We will build four if not five warehouses in this (Pittsburg) county this year. Our County Union meets July 14 at Quinton."

#### APPEAL.

Primitive Union No. 4670, Duly in Session May 16, 1908.

Through the committee beg to submit the following appeal to the brotherhood of Texas:

Whereas, On or about the 15th of December, 1907, said school house and church of this district was totally destroyed by fire and on account of almost a crop failure in this district for the last three years, we have not been able to rebuild, and that said union has been compelled to meet in the woods to hold its sessions and transact its business since the school house was burned.

We, therefore, beg to appeal to the brother unions for a small donation to help build a union house at this place. Such donations will be greatly appreciated, be it ever so small. We further state that we organized the first Club Union in Texas and still hold charter No. 1. We also organized one of the first clubs of the Farmers' Alliance in Rains county and remained with them till the last ray of sunshine died out of the organization. We were always ready to lend a helping hand and many times have sent donations to different parts of Texas and elsewhere, and have never appealed to the brotherhood before. We also expect to stand in the middle of the road for the Grand Old Farmers' Union until she gains her victory. Respectfully submitted,

G. W. COCHRAN,  
F. M. MOTES,  
J. W. KENNEMER,  
Committee.

Send donations to W. R. Cochran, president, of G. W. Cochran, secretary, Emory, Texas.

#### INTERVIEW BY PRESIDENT NEILL

President D. J. Neill of the Farmers' Union yesterday gave out the following interview regarding the tax laws now being discussed in the state:

"There is being a carefully hidden assault made upon the laws, which have been secured through the efforts of the Farmers' Union in the recent legislatures of this state, and a part of the program is to deceive the individual taxpayers as to the effects of these laws upon them. It is being talked and urged throughout the state that because renditions are increased this year, this means an increase in taxes, which is not true. An investigation will show to any man that the taxes of the individual taxpayer have not been increased, but have been decreased by these laws, notwithstanding that the school money apportioned to each county has been considerably increased. I find upon investigation that the total ad valorem tax to be collected from individual taxpayers this year is more than \$1,000,000 less than the amount collected in 1906 and more than \$500,000 less than collected in 1907. While the state school tax, all of which has been returned to the county for use in the schools, is somewhat increased, the increase is not as great as the decrease in the state ad valorem taxes and the state ad valorem and school taxes combined will not amount to as much this year as they did in 1907. It is being urged, however, that local county and school district taxes and special taxes, on account of bond issues, will be increased by the operation of the new laws. This I find upon investigation is absolutely unfounded. The local authorities have full power to reduce the rate of these taxes in proportion to the increase in values after the renditions are all completed and if they do this, there cannot be any increase in the amount of taxes paid by the individual taxpayers. It behooves farmers to get in touch with their commissioners' court and all other local tax authorities at once and see that they make proper reduction as provided by the law. If this is done, and it ought to be no trouble to get it done, your taxes will be less than they were under the former laws, and as your school money will be increased more than \$1 for each child, you will get the benefit of the corporation tax reform measures, which the Farmers' Union has been enabled to get enacted in this state. I have fully investigated this subject and I know whereof I speak.

#### Where the Shoe Pinches

The real fight is not on account of these taxing measures as they affect

(Continued on page 13)

#### SUFFERED 25 YEARS

With Eczema—Her Limb Peeled and Foot was Raw—Thought Amputation Necessary—Believes

#### HER LIFE SAVED BY CUTICURA

"I have been treated by doctors for twenty-five years for a bad case of eczema on my leg. They did their best, but failed to cure it. My doctor had advised me to have my leg cut off. At this time my leg was peeled from the knee, my foot was like a piece of raw flesh, and I had to walk on crutches. I bought a set of Cuticura Remedies. After the first two treatments the swelling went down, and in two months my leg was cured and the new skin came on. The doctor was surprised and said that he would use Cuticura for his own patients. I have now been cured over seven years, and but for the Cuticura Remedies I might have lost my life. Mrs. J. B. Renaud, 277 Montana St., Montreal, Que., Feb., 20, 1907."

## Notes From the States

### REPORTS OF STATE ORGANIZERS AND MEMBERS

#### ALABAMA STATE UNION

#### A Great Meeting With Minimum of Friction—State Officials Endorsed and Executive Committee Re-elected—Morris for President

(From Farmers' Union Guide.)

The state convention of the Farmers' Union, called to convene on June 30 at Birmingham, was the largest and most harmonious state meeting ever held in Alabama. There were 236 delegates and twelve state officers present, giving a total vote in the convention of 248.

National President Barrett presided over the meeting, while on the rostrum were National Committeemen Wilson of Mississippi and Miller of Texas. State Business Agent Welch of Mississippi was also on the rostrum during the first day's session.

The first executive session was called to order at 2 p. m. sharp Tuesday, June 30. At first there were slight indications of friction, but the convention, under the able, conservative and unprejudiced action of President Barrett, soon took the chips off their shoulders and settled down to do business for the good of the organization, the delegates present showing they were there for harmony and good will.

After the appointment of the credentials committee by the chair, there were some splendid talks made by the different brethren along different lines. The first session held until 5 o'clock, adjourning till 8 p. m.

On reassembling the talkers still had their opportunity of relieving their minds on subjects that were educational and progressive. It was soon seen that the credentials committee could not get their report ready for the night session, so after passing a resolution, which had been under discussion during the afternoon and night session of the first day, the convention adjourned at 10 p. m. until Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock.

#### Wednesday, July 1

The credentials committee handed in their report, showing 236 delegates present. The report was accepted and all delegates seated.

The officers' reports were then read. President Duncan's report reviewed the past ten months of the history of the state union and gave several recommendations to the convention. His report was heard with much interest.

The next report was that of Secretary-Treasurer T. F. Johnson. Secretary Johnson's report was a magnificent one and goes to show what the union farmers of old Alabama can do when they put their shoulder to the wheel. The report was received with much applause and cheers. The secretary's report showed that the money received at state headquarters for the month of June exceeded that of any month in the history of the state organization. He also reported that he had made arrangements whereby he could furnish minute and receipt books at just one-half (65 cents) the cost they had heretofore cost. This statement met with wild applause. He also reported that he could furnish seals for locals at a saving of 50c each, and

put a profit of 25c from each sale into the state treasury. He also reported that he would be enabled to put a profit from each sale of minute and receipt books into the state treasury. At the conclusion of Secretary Johnson's report the assembled delegates cheered heartily.

The state business agent made his report.

The next report was that of Organizer W. A. Morris. The report was short but to the point, and was received with enthusiasm.

Lecturer O. P. Ford made a short, concise report. He stated that he had been talking "hog and hominy," warehouses and education on all his trips thru the state. He advocated that each county have a county lecturer, who should co-operate with the state lecturer.

The report of the state executive committee was then read by J. J. Robinson Jr., secretary of the committee. The report was a lengthy one and went into many details of the past differences at state headquarters. The report was a fair statement and in no way showed a tendency to bring up trouble. The convention listened to Brother Robinson's report of the executive committee and showed unmistakably by the many rounds of applause that punctuated the reading of it that the committee had the hearty approval of a majority of the convention for their past acts in their official capacity.

The convention adjourned at 12 m. to reassemble at 2 p. m.

Promptly at 2 o'clock National President Barrett's gavel fell to call the convention to order. In a few minutes the chairman announced that the convention would go into the election of officers for the ensuing term.

Brother W. A. Morris was placed in nomination by Brother J. M. Pearson, who made an able speech. There were several to second the nomination of Brother Morris, and for a while it looked as though he would be elected by acclamation, but there was some slight objection to this, and three other brothers were nominated. Brother Morris was elected on the first ballot. When the result was announced the convention went wild.

J. W. Kelsoe of Coffee county was elected vice president, and when the result was announced by the chair there was much applause. Brother Kelsoe, living in the southern part of the state, will undoubtedly add strength to the union in that section.

T. F. Johnson, who was appointed by the state executive committee to fill the unexpired term of secretary-treasurer, had practically no opposition. His record for the month of June was such a splendid one that the convention was almost unanimous in its choice of him for secretary-treasurer.

The afternoon session was wound up by the election of chaplain.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 to meet again at 8 p. m. This session was looked forward to by all, for it was to be the crucial time of how the late trouble had affected the different locals thruout the state.

Promptly at 8 o'clock the gavel fell and the election of officers was re-

sumed. O. P. Ford was re-elected state lecturer; J. F. Hill, sergeant-at-arms; H. O. Dean, conductor, and M. J. Taylor, doorkeeper.

Then came the election of a state executive committee. There were many good speeches made, but nothing was said to open old wounds or cause new ones. Every man nominated was a good, true union man, who had the interests of the organization at heart. After three hours of nominating and seconding speeches the vote was taken. The count was finished at 1 o'clock and showed that the entire executive committee was re-elected. As soon as the result was announced by the chair there was much handshaking, hugging and cheers, and the faithful, sleepy delegates retired to their various homes to rest after a strenuous five hours' meeting. It was 1 o'clock when the night session adjourned to meet again at 8 o'clock Thursday morning.

#### Thursday, July 2

Thursday's session was devoted to many important recommendations and resolutions. A change in the constitution and by-laws will be submitted to the locals for adoption.

Thursday afternoon and night will be given over to sight-seeing, car rides and a barbecue and speech making at East Lake. Many prominent men will take part in the exercises at East Lake, and everybody will have a grand time.

#### ATTEND YOUR LOCAL AND—STUDY

Editor Co-Operator: Allow me space in our valuable paper, the Co-Operator. I am a subscriber and have been for two years and don't think I can do without the good old lecturer. I am secretary of Pleasant Home Local No. 518. We have a good local of fifty-one members. We had a good lecture Saturday night, the 13th inst., by our county lecturer, Bro. A. G. Jones. He held the crowd spellbound for one hour and thirty minutes.

Now, brothers, let's attend our local meetings and make them interesting. Your appearance in the local will be encouraging, be you big or small. I have belonged three years and seven months and I have not missed a half dozen meetings. We cannot afford to miss our local meetings, for the Union is just what we make out of it, and we want to start right at our home locals.

Brother Editor, what are we Farmers' Union men going to do? The judges of the supreme court have declared all unions to be in violation of the United States laws and would have to be cut out. Now, if this is true, our government is based on thrifty rascality, schemery and capital. Why need we send representatives to that law-scheming gang, congress, unless we are backed with plenty of capital to buy what we want? Just as long as the dollar is foremost, just so long will we be under bondage, because the farming class have not the capital to back them. Please excuse my scattered remarks, but we will have to change this system of government before we can accomplish our aims. How can we change the system without going into politics? By simply studying our interest and expressing it at the ballot box. W. D. MEREDITH.  
Cedar Glades, Ark., June 15.

#### LOYALTY AND LADIES

Editor Co-Operator: I have been, a member of the Farmers' Union at Mountmariah Union No. 194 for four

years. We have had ups and downs with those sore-headed and selfish people that can be found in most any community, and we have some members that are as wolves in sheep's clothing—just a member for what might happen to bring union help to them in some way. But I am proud to say that we have a good number of true-hearted union men, men that stand the same in time of trouble. It is very easy for any kind of a member to appear to be carrying his cross in time of peace, but let the storm begin to rattle and they get weak in their knees—those that are not made of the proper material. We have a few members, and I wish we had as many lady members as men.

Some brother that objects to ladies belonging might say, "I would like to know your reason?" My brother, my reasons are too numerous to mention them all. One is that where there are ladies at a gathering it makes everything more pleasant. Their presence keeps dirty yarns from being told, and keeps men from using improper language.

Boys, never surrender. If you do the crafty speculator will teach all poor classes a lesson that will be with us forevermore. In my honest opinion, if your order dies, we will forever die. Scare is what the money power is using now and all we will let them use. Don't you see they are just getting over a great bugaboo of that sort (the panic) when they found out that we were of bulldog grit and would not surrender to such scare, banks were reported to be gaining as fast as they lost. Success is ours as sure as we will hold out a year or two longer. We all believe that they who do not are not full-blood union men.

In conclusion I will ask some union brother that lives in Texas to write me personally concerning some Texas school land. I want to buy some to farm on if I can find some to suit. If you locate men I will make you as good a neighbor and union brother as I know how.

W. J. CARPENTER.

Ussery, Ark., May 17.

#### HOLDING COTTON

Editor Co-Operator: Standing firm for the cause, some of our union men have all their cotton. This is the kind of unionism that it takes to gain the victory.

I hope there is not a man in our whole army that will sit still and not do anything to help gain the victory. I want to be able to say when the battle is over, "I have done my part, I have fought for my country bravely to the end."

Brethren, we are the only independent class on earth, and the time has presented itself for us to prove it.

Now, will you bow down and say, "O kings of gold and silver, have mercy on us, and we will never oppose thy will again. We, with our wives and children, will serve thee the balance of our lives and leave our children to serve thee as we have done, if thou wilt just spare us enough to keep our little babes from crying from hunger!"

Brothers, will you pray this horrible prayer, or will you stand up in bold manhood and say, "We don't want your money, nor your sugar-coated tongue, but by the help of our great and Almighty God, we are going to prove to you (the money kings) that we are a free and independent people, and will

have our rights, or die fighting for them."

If we get weak and nervous, we take a few drinks of "Union" and are restored to good spirits. With the best wishes to the Co-operator, I remain,

J. F. HEWELL.  
Bogart, Ga.

#### FARMERS' ENTERPRISES IN KANSAS

Editor Co-Operator: I think a few lines from Kansas will not come amiss, so I pen a few to the best union paper we get, of course excepting our own Farmers' Union."

We like the Co-Operator for the inspiring letters and news from the very heart of the Farmers' Union cause. We admire the spirit of the union people that have held their cotton, although we realize it has caused a great deal of inconvenience and sacrifice. But what great thing was ever accomplished without sacrifice, even life itself sometimes?

We are glad to hear the talk of a cotton manufacturing plant. We think it would be the greatest help of anything that could be started, if it only made the most necessary material. We are paying high prices for cotton goods since cotton has got up to living prices. We know what it is to raise a crop of cotton and take care of it, and not get much for it either. You people are surely paying two prices for your necessities that you get from use. Meat products are high here compared with what hogs sold for last fall after the panic, but nothing like they are quoted in the Co-Operator. There is a big steal somewhere.

The Farmers' Co-Operative Creamery of Osage City is running successfully and turning out a fine product. It is owned principally by Farmers' Union people and the majority of the directors are the same. We have a Farmers' Business or Mercantile Association that handles all of our flour, feed and meat for us, and sells such things as they can handle. Their capital is not very ample. The people have been swindled so many times by schemes of that kind that they are rather afraid to put much money into anything of that kind. But Kansas has a god many grain elevators owned by the farmers on the co-operative plan, and they are a success, too, when they are managed by good business men; and they do not need to go to the city to get them, either.

If this is not rejected, we will send you some more news from the Sunflower state. Fraternal yours,

FRANCIS O. QUILLEN.  
Osage City, Kan.

#### THE WIDOW'S MITE

Editor Co-Operator: Will you allow an Arkansas widow to join your band of writers? I belong to Plumlee Springs Local No. 2796. We are a very strong lodge, being in our infancy. We were organized in March with five members; now we have seventeen members and we are all true-blue union workers. We are not cotton raisers here, but are just as anxious for the cotton farmer to get his price as if we were, and the way to get that is to keep it off the market until the demand gets strong enough to make them pay the price. But I think the best way would be to put up cotton mills in every cotton state in the Union, and by so doing bring the manufactured goods closer to the producer and consumer, and the same with every other necessity that is used by the farmer—man-

ufacture it at home.

Why will we sell our produce and see it go away to make the rich man richer and then help to make them still richer by buying it back in the finished product at an enormous price? why not go to work and keep the middlemen out and co-operate right? Let the wheat and corn farmer co-operate with the cotton farmer and let the potato and sugar farmer co-operate with both and we will all be better off.

I like to read the letters. Come on, sisters, lets make the good old Co-Operator so good that every farmer will subscribe for it and make our editor glad.

I think this is enough for a new writer, so I will make my bow and step down. Success to the Co-Operator.

A. MYERS.  
Batavia, Ark., June 16, 1908.

#### MISSOURIANS WANT COTTON MILL

The Co-Operator is in receipt of the following, which explains itself:

We, the members of Liberty Local No. 412, do resolve that, for the betterment of all concerned, we should build a cotton mill, to produce cotton and woolen goods, and that said mill should be operated solely for the benefit of the farmers and sell to them at cost all goods manufactured by said mill. It should sell to outsiders at a reasonable profit to pay expense of breakage and wear of machinery. To build this mill we want every member of this union to buy at least one share at \$1.00 per share, and limit all members to fifty shares, and if there be a surplus sufficient, build larger mills or use it as desired by the union. If we build a cotton mill we will profit three ways by it.

First, we can set a price on our cotton and wool and get it; second, we can buy our clothes at cost, and, last but not least, stop the speculator and capitalist from robbing us and getting rich on our products.

Brother farmers, and friends: Let us build a cotton mill, raise our own cotton, sell it at a fair price, do our own work, buy our own goods, and consequently get what we make, and stop giving it to some speculator or capitalist.

HARRY BAND,  
Dexter, Mo. For Committee.

#### THE NEW DISPENSATION—WAREHOUSES

Editor Co-operator: I will introduce myself by inclosing a dollar bill as my subscription has expired. Please mark me for time paid for. I congratulate Texas in securing the Co-operator as her state union paper, but would have liked it better if it had been adopted as the national organ. I hardly see how you could dispense with Brother Pyle, but Brother Smith seems equal to the change or better, as he has the whole state union to back him.

I write from local union 523, Howard county, Arkansas, in the southwest corner of the state. We have one warehouse in our county and are to have another by September next. I term the warehouse plan as the new dispensation in selling cotton. I tell the union that our little boys, when they are grown to be men, will laugh at us when we tell them how we marketed cotton in their childhood.

This is a trying time for the farmer, a hard fight between the farmer and the speculator or gambler, the farmer claiming the right to price his farm products and the speculator claiming

DEAN BELL

GEO. BELL

## BELL BROS

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15.00 "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	12.00

Corner of Main Street and Court House Square  
Same Building as Farmers Union  
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the absolute right to price same. Any sane man will admit that the farmer has the preponderance of evidence on his side. How can he lose? I say only one way, and that is to get negligent, fail to attend regular meetings of his union or criticize our leaders. Don't do that, brothers. That is just what our opponents want us to do. Never surrender. The harder the fight the closer stick. We will come out all right. Remember, if we win we will get from one-third to one-half more for our farm products than we have been getting, and that is why the speculator is resorting to all kinds of tactics to conquer us, for he will lose from one-third to one-half of what we produce.

Now, for the sake of self, wife and the children and the good of the country, don't be discouraged; don't miss a meeting of your local.

S. C. COWLING.  
Mineral Springs, Ark., July 10.

#### COTTON HIS SURPLUS CROP

Editor Co-operator: I will ask for a little space for a few notes to the readers of the Co-operator. I have just returned from the county union convention. Business done to order and warehouse and diversified culture discussed. Union gained ground. It is supposed that there will be about a million and a half bales of cotton short on account of washouts; much cotton has been plowed up and the land put in feedstuffs.

Brother farmers, let's push the feedstuff to the front and save our cotton and what it takes to run the speculators. Let's put in our own mills; we have to make the raw material and also the labor. If all men were of the same mind the Wall street and all gamblers would go overboard.

I have already sold \$144 worth of raisins for table use. I think if no bad luck gets in my patch I will sell over \$400 worth, besides my cotton crop. Cotton is my surplus crop. As a union man I am trying to accomplish all the good I can and no harm at all.

W. C. KELLY.  
Century, Fla., June 29.

#### "ONE OF THE BOYS"

Editor Co-operator: As I have not seen anything in print from this section of the country and especially from our home local, I will inform the

brotherhood that they have a band of co-workers in Leake county, Miss.

Marydell local has over 45 members and they are doing a good deal of business. The local is gradually growing. I notice that there are many warehouses in the southern states and that they contain much cotton yet. We haven't got our warehouse completed yet, but will have soon, tho there are over 500 bales of cotton in the surrounding country yet and it is being held for a better price.

Brother farmer, do you think a lecture does the brethren any good? I do. We had our brother county president and lecturer also last meeting, and some other good lecturers, too. They made some fine talks; it caused the brothers and sisters to think and to see the necessity of working together.

I indorse Brother Cuba Alexander's idea on keeping our business more of a secret. If the outside world knows all about our prices on our home products the speculator will know how to price their goods to us, so as to make a profit.

Several brothers speak about building factories for the manufacture of our cotton. I think it will be all right when we get a more established business of our own. I think we should have a little better foundation first, and the only way we can have a sure foundation is for us to stand like "Stonewall" Jackson did.

Fraternal yours,  
J. CLIFTON ROBERTS.  
Marydell, Miss.

#### LADY TALKS SENSE

Editor Co-operator: If you will allow me space in your good paper I will write a few lines. This is from Dawson local No. 1920, of which I am a member. We are nearly 100 strong, 36 of whom are ladies. We are here to stay and always ready to do our part; we think we know our business. I think I am the only one that takes the Co-operator in our local. I am always glad when it arrives. I think it is a really good paper—do not know how I would get along without it. Allow me to say that I am not a 200-pounder, as one brother, who wrote an article in the May 28 issue and failed to sign his name, but I am a 240-pounder in avoirdupois. I agree with him that all men in and out of the union ought to

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SORGHUM SEED—\$1.75 per bushel Drumm Seed & Floral Co. 11

INMAN HOTEL—Two blocks south State Headquarters; 2nd and Main. Rates reasonable. 7-23

JOHN T. HONEA, candidate for Sheriff of Tarrant County, Texas, subject to action of the Democratic Primary. 7-23

JUNE CORN and Squaw Corn—\$2.50 per bushel. Drumm Seed & Floral Co. 11

MEET US at Wall St. Restaurant, 113 W. Weatherford street, 1/4 block west of Union Headquarters. 7-30

STATE Convention Headquarters at meal time; close to City Hall; O K Restaurant, 908 Houston st. J. M. Allen, Prop. 8-6

5 PER DAY easily made selling Fish Traps on halves. Samples free. Address, D. H. All-day & Co., Atlanta, Texas. 7-16p

TOM WOODS, candidate for Sheriff, Tarrant county, Texas, subject to action of Democratic primary. 7-13

TURNIP SEEDS—All standard varieties, 50c per pound, post paid. Drumm Seed & Floral Co. 11

SAVE MONEY on coal, bagging and ties, and make money by selling your cotton seed to A. S. Logsdon, Ft. Worth. 7-30

IF YOU have anything to sell or buy, write Drumm Seed & Floral Co., 507 Houston St., Ft. Worth. 11

MAKE MONEY selling or teaching Short Method Arithmetic. Saves 20 to 40 figures on any problem. Sample copy free. Address J. E. Haugh, Granbury, Texas. 7-25

IF anyone knows the address of T. F. Montgomery, who moved from Carbon, Texas, to San Saba County 7 or 8 years ago, please notify J. B. Jordan, Carbon, Texas. 7-16x

QUICK SERVICE and good things to eat at O K Restaurant; 1/4 block from City Hall, 908 Houston st. J. M. Allen, Prop. 8-6

HOW IS YOUR CORN CROP?—Fine of course; plenty to do you. "15 Cent Cotton the Way to It" shows you the way—the only way—to get the price. A text book for farmers. Ex-State Pres. Worley of Alabama State Union says: "It's a God send, a revelation to southern farmers." Order at once; nothing like it. Delivered in lots of one dozen or more at \$1.50 per dozen. Money back if not satisfied. Send all orders to Union Farmer Pub. Co., Birmingham, Ala.

O K RESTAURANT for good 25c meals. 908 Houston st., next Western National Bank. J. M. Allen, Proprietor. 8-6

FOR SALE—Large elegant residence, on best street in Georgetown, Texas, convenient to Southwestern University and public school and churches. Large lot, good barn, underground cistern, young orchard. Address M, care Co-Operator.

WANTED—1000 Organizers, to organize the colored people of the United States into The Negro Farmer and Laborers' Educational, Co-Operative Union of America. Chartered by the State of Texas, and Copy-Righted by the United States, and indorsed by the Executive Committee of the White Farmers Union of Texas. For further particulars address, J. E. A. Banger, Linden, Texas. 1-1-9

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

BE A MISSIONARY—And make up an order for at least one dozen "15 Cent Cotton the Way to It." In lots of one dozen or more \$1.50 per dozen delivered. Less than one dozen 15c each. If every cotton farmer would read and carry out its policies a revolution would take place in the south. Make up an order at once among your Union members and non-union as well. Your money back if not satisfied. Order at once from Union Farmer Pub. Co., Birmingham, Ala.

be honest and if we thru mistake get one in the organization it is our business as soon as he proves dishonest and it is ascertained, to demand his withdrawal and see that he withdraws. The brother seems to be a retired merchant and classes the farmers as the most dishonest people he ever dealt with, but I think that if all classes were as honest as the farmer we would need no Farmers' Union to help control prices. But, as he has been on both sides, we will leave that to his honesty and let him speak for himself. What I think we need is an economical system that will produce the necessities of life for use by the producers and not for the profit mongers. I will say without fear of contradiction that so long as we farmers produce goods for profit our children will grow up uneducated and ignorant.

With best wishes for the Co-operator and members of the union, I am fraternally yours,

MISS S. A. ANDERSON,

Jennings Falls, Ark.

**MISSOURIAN ARGUES FOR UNION MILLS.**

Editor Co-operator: I send a few lines from Texas county, Missouri. I am a Union man from head to foot. The principles of the F. E. and C. U. of A. are all right if carried out. I heartily indorse the warehouse plan. We don't raise any cotton, but we raise hogs and cattle for market and buy cotton after it is manufactured into thread and cloth.

Those who oppose the Union say it will not be any benefit to us up here, but I think I can show them differently. First, is it just and right that a farmer should raise cotton and sell it for less than cost to produce? And is it right that men should gamble at the producer's and consumer's expense? I say no, and any honest man will say no. Well, now we will commence at the foundation:

First, the producer should protect himself by holding his cotton for better prices; second, the consumer should be protected by cutting out the middle man. How can it be done? First, by keeping the cotton out of the speculators' hands; second, by building factories and manufacturing our own products.

Manufacture our own cotton, place the Union label on it, establish our own stores (unless the present merchants will handle our goods right), and ship direct from the factory to the local dealer, and do away with the middle man's profit, with the expense of packing and shipping. Then the producer can get a good price and the consumer can save all of the middle man's profit; so you see, it is a benefit both to the producer and the consumer.

It is the same way with our hogs and cattle; we must establish our own packing houses and pack our own meat, unless the present packing houses will do it right. It is the same way with corn and wheat. We must handle our own stuff; cut out the middle man.

Some will say, "How can this be done? Where will the money come from?"

Figure out the difference in the price of your cotton. How much will you save on a bale and how much on the 1,000 bales, and you can see at once where the money will come from.

Brethren, hold fast and the victory

is ours. We have got the wheels a-rolling; keep them going.

C. B. ANGLE,

Assistant Organizer for Texas county, Missouri.

**FARMERS' UNION ENCAMPMENT**

For the Farmers' Union encampment July 21, 22 and 23, speakers of state and national reputation will be at Stephenville, Texas. The speakers whose names appear on the following program have promised positively to be there:

July 21, 9 o'clock a. m.—Address of welcome, Major N. C. Baldwin; response, J. C. Albritten. Dinner, 2 p. m., address, C. S. Barrett, national president; 8 o'clock p. m., address, W. T. Loudermilk.

July 22—10 o'clock, address, Governor T. M. Campbell. Dinner, 2 o'clock p. m., address, D. J. Neill; 8 p. m., address, J. C. Albritten.

July 23—Address, Senator Charles A. Culberson. Dinner, 2 o'clock p. m., address, S. J. Hampton.

**BRADFORD IN FOARD AND KNOX COUNTIES**

Organizer Buell Bradford will lecture in Foard and Knox counties at the places and on the dates indicated: Crowell, July 17; Black's School House, July 20, at 2 p. m.; Margaret, July 20, at night; Thalia, July 21, at 2 p. m.; Rayland, July 21, at night; Benjamin, July 23, at night. Four or five other Knox county appointments will be arranged by the county president.

**FISHER COUNTY UNION**

Editor Co-operator: The Fisher County Union will meet with White Pond local, one and one-half miles east of McCanley on the Orient railroad. All union people are invited to come, bring your families, and spend two days in a grand union rally. Public speaking at nights. Pass the word down the line. Come on, boys. The date—July 23 and 24.

L. M. REED,  
County Secretary.

**POLK COUNTY UNION**

Editor Co-operator: Will you please announce thru the Co-operator that Polk county F. E. and C. U. of A. will meet with Union Chapel local at Bluff Creek school house, seven miles east of Livingston, our county capital, on Thursday and Friday before the third Sunday in July, at 10 o'clock a. m., the same being July 16 and 17. All locals in the county are requested to send full representation, as this is the time to elect our officers for the ensuing year and also to elect our delegates to the state union, and to attend to such other business as may come before the union.

We expect a good time, as Brother Neill has promised to send us a lecturer to be with us. Don't forget the time, July 16 and 17. J. A. KNOX,  
President Polk Union.

**CHEROKEE COUNTY UNION**

Editor Co-operator: Please announce that the Cherokee county union will meet with the Iron Hill local Tuesday, July 21, 1908, for at least two days' session. I earnestly request that all locals of the county send delegates, as that will be the time to elect delegates to the state union and also to elect county officers for the ensuing year.

Iron Hill is two and a half miles east of Rusk. We hope to have Brother D. J. Neill or Brother S. J. Hampton with us. We hope to have a good attendance and a good time.

Locals, please send in the number of members in good standing.

J. W. McMEANS,  
County President.

**NOLAN COUNTY UNION**

Nolan county Farmers' Union will meet at Brooks School House, near Dora, July 16, 17 and 18. County officers and delegates to the state union will be elected. Assistant State Lecturer T. B. Taylor of Gouldbusk will be with us on the occasion.

W. D. HOBBS, President,  
W. F. CRABTREE, Secretary,  
Eskota, Texas, July 1.

**NOTICE, FARMERS' UNIONS**

The third quarterly meeting of Taylor county union will be held at Gulon July 16 and 17. All locals are requested to have a full delegations present. All members of the union are invited to meet with us. County officers are to be elected, also delegates to the state union. Other business of importance will be transacted.

Brothers D. J. Neill, state president, and J. C. Albritten, secretary of the state executive committee, are expected to be present.

W. R. HOLLAND, President,  
J. R. Keeling, Secretary Taylor County Union.

**SECRETARY ALBRITTEN'S APPOINTMENTS.**

J. C. Albritten will speak at the following appointments:

Porter Springs, Houston county, July 16 and 17.

Kent, Kaufman and Henderson counties, July 18.

Stephenville, Erath county, July 21 and 22.

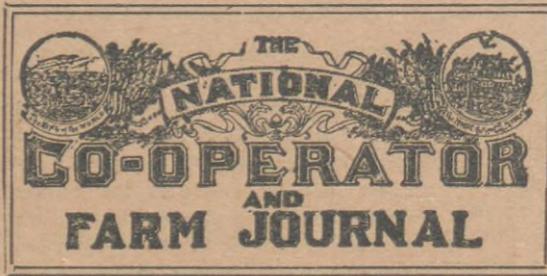
Roby, Fisher county, July 23 and 24

**CORN HARVESTER.**

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AARON SMITH  
EDITOR

M. S. SWEET  
BUSINESS MANAGER

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Entered as second-class matter, April 23, 1908,  
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Advertising rates will be furnished on application.



#### 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.

#### ADVANCE OF FREIGHT RATES

The Southwestern Traffic Association, composed of the general freight agents of the railroads operating in the southwest, last week gave notice to the Interstate Commerce Commission of an advance of five to ten cents per hundred pounds on all commodities shipped from another state into Texas. The rate does not apply to interstate shipments between other states than Texas and hence the motive behind the move is not clearly revealed. Of course, the first object is to extort more money from the public, but just why they tax it all against Texas is not apparent. Oklahoma, for instance, gets a two-cent passenger fare, while Texas pays three cents, and yet no advance is made in freights in Oklahoma to make up the difference. Not that we think such an advance should have been made. On the contrary, we think conditions do not warrant any advance anywhere, and we believe that a strong protest should go up from every state in the southwest and if it is not made effective before the railroads and the Interstate Commerce Commission, should be carried to the ballot box.

There is a strong suspicion that the motive for charging all the advance made by the southwestern roads to Texas is to punish this state for the intangible assets tax and to warn the public against any further anti-railroad legislation. If this is the motive, the game will prove a boomerang. The people of Texas have been not only good, but very good, to the railroads. They have given them millions of acres of their best lands as bonuses and have never yet made them bear their share of the support of the government, and in no instance has any unjust burden been placed upon them. If any injustice had been done them the people of Texas are fair and honest and

an appeal to their judgment and sense of fairness would correct the evil. But this imposition of more tribute against the already overburdened and long-suffering producer of the state's wealth will never frighten him into submission to railroad dictation of the laws which shall govern Texas.

Thousands of friends thruout Texas will learn with deep sorrow of the death of Cecil Park, son of Colonel and Mrs. Milton Park of Dallas. Cecil was a noble young man and our sympathies go out to his young wife and parents in their bereavement.

The resolution passed by the Farmers' Congress last week calling for legislative enactment providing that the directors of A. and M. College shall be actual farmers was both wise and just. This board should be divorced from politics and placed in touch with the farmers.

This is the time of year to build warehouses and gins. Get in a position to handle and control your own cotton. Be able to market intelligently. The mills require a year to manufacture it and the world takes a year in which to consume it. Then why try to force it all on the market within one-fourth of this time?

One of the demands the Texas bankers will make of the next legislature is that it shall be made a crime for any person to suggest to another the insolvency of any bank. And the worst part of it is that when the people are careless about the selection of their representatives men are found who will favor as rotten legislation as this would be.

The situation which now confronts the farmers of Texas is not a partisan political one, but an economic, a business proposition. It is whether the people shall stand by the present tax laws and the men who made and are executing them and force the railroads, insurance companies and great corporations to pay their share of the taxes or whether they will allow themselves to be deceived into placing the state government of Texas in the hands of their enemies. It is not a question of Farmers' Unionism, but one of good government, and as good citizens we must meet the issue like men.

Newspaper reports quote Texas Railroad Commissioner Storey as saying that the railroads were entitled to the ten cents advance in rates, which was recently announced. The capitalistic class has educated almost all the state and national officials into believing that the country owes them a fair profit upon their investments, but no one thinks of the laboring man being entitled to anything. Away with such rot! The state compels no man to invest in railroad stocks and there is no reason or justice in its guaranteeing them a profit thereon. Why should the farmer, who has suffered first and most by panics brought

on by capitalistic manipulators, be robbed to make the property which they have purposely crippled pay them a dividend? The man who favors such a thing is no friend of the people.

Very properly, partisan politics is forever prohibited in the Union, but that does not mean that the members should not study politics and political economy, and do everything in their power, as citizens, to make right principles and policies prevail. Indeed, the constitution declares it one of the purposes of the union to advance its membership in a correct knowledge of political economy. When the farming and laboring people begin to think, and come to know what they want—when they become concerned more in achieving their independence at the ballot box than in electing the party nominee—then a new day will dawn for the race. As union men we should fight the good fight in the Union for industrial emancipation; as citizens and individuals we should fight an equally good fight in the library and at the ballot box for a complete political independence. They go together. It takes both weapons to gain a complete and lasting victory.

#### THE TEXAS FARMERS' CONGRESS Interesting and Profitable Meeting Held Last Week

While the attendance at the annual session of the Texas Farmers' Congress, held at College Station last week, was not as large as on some former occasions, the meeting was eminently profitable and interesting.

It can be said with certainty that almost every section of the state was fairly well represented. The corn grower of the central part of the state sat by the corn grower and stockman from other sections of the state. The hog raiser of East and Central Texas hobnobbed with the horticulturist of North Texas. The sheepman of the west and southwest exchanged ideas with the bee-keepers of the east and central parts of the state. In a word, the meeting may be said to be one great experience meeting, in which farmers from every section have an opportunity of meeting the brother farmers from other sections and exchanging ideas along all progressive and up-to-date lines of farming.

The various sections of the congress held sessions and discussed many topics of value to them. They were all along educational lines and each man who attended went away repaid a hundred fold for his time and expense.

Among the resolutions passed was one calling upon the legislature to provide that the board of directors of A. and M. College shall be composed of actual farmers. This was said to be without casting any reflection upon the present board or Governor Campbell.

Delegates who attended were not well pleased with their treatment by the college authorities nor were they all favorably impressed with the way in which grounds and experiment plots are being kept.

ANNUAL MEETING OF NATIONAL UNION.

The annual meeting of the National Union of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America will be held in the city of Fort Worth, Texas, on the first day of Septtmer, 1908, the same being the first Tuesday of the month, the day fixed by the constitution for holding said meeting.

The basis of representation is one delegate for each five thousand members or majority fraction thereof, who have paid dues for the third quarter, 1908. States having no state union will be entitled to one representative.

Done by order of the board of directors. C. S. BARRETT, President.

Attest: R. H. McCULLOCH, Secretary. July 10, 1908.

The commissioners' court of Parker county has made another reduction of 30 per cent in the tax rate.

THE UNION SCOUT

Gives Warning Words and Solemnly Advises Loyalty to Principle

Editor Co-Operator: Since you have thrown my last article in the waste basket, I will write again to remind you that I am never daunted at difficulties.

I want to ask, shall the great work of the Farmers' Union of Texas be now turned into defeat? That is exactly the program that is on foot at this time. It does not take a close observer to know these things.

The boldest effort to undo the work of years of organization of the farmers is the organization of a lot of commercial ringsters in Texas, known as the "Fewer and Better Laws," which being interpreted, means "fewer laws for the workers and better laws for the shirkers." The commercial clubs and their allied interests, to-wit: Crop gamblers, insurance agents, railroad lobbyists, tax dodgers, tin-horn gamblers and the vampires of trusts and corporations are moving with united effort to capture the powers of government in Texas, and repeal every vestige of laws on the statute books of Texas in favor of the people, and unbridle the despotic interests and turn them loose upon the working people and let them have a harvest of rich picking.

The farmers are being told that bucket-shop gamblers are their benefactors; that they need the future dealer to help them bull the price on cotton. There is not a farmer in this state that can go into a bucket-shop gambling house and read the chalk marks on the board and tell the price of spot cotton. The reason is, that these dens don't deal in spots, they deal in fictitious cotton. No man goes there to sell cotton or buy cotton. Now, let us see. Suppose a dealer goes out upon the street and buys one hundred bales of cotton from the farmers. What does he do next under the present system? Why he telegraphs to New Orleans or New York and sells one hundred bales of futures, and calls it "hedging," and then he doesn't give a cent

if cotton goes up or down. But you remove the opportunity to gamble by "hedging" and stop the buying and selling of futures, and then the buyer's interest will be the same as that of the farmer, because when he buys one hundred bales of cotton at 10 or 12 cents today he will be interested in that cotton being worth just as much or more tomorrow.

Let us demand legitimate dealing, and if any man buys or sells, let him buy real cotton, corn or wheat, and pay the worth of the article—its full value, and not as it is now, put up one dollar a bale and call it "hedging."

We have been led into the marshes of the gamblers long enough, and when so-called union men get so wise as to occupy seats with gamblers, and toy with the cotton of union men, speculate and gamble in the cotton of women and children, let us invite them to retire from the union. The gambling element in the Farmers' Union is going to be at Fort Worth at the state union with all the force and strength it can muster, and if possible, commit the state union to gambling tactics. They have failed to swerve old Neill from the path of duty and honor, and now their last and only hope is to raise a row at the state meeting and capture the organization.

The same can be said as regards the next state legislature. The allied interests are seductively at work to defeat every man aspiring to the legislature who voted for reform and supported the union propositions. They even want Governor Campbell's scalp, because he openly espoused the cause of the farmers, and who is mainly responsible for the enactment of anti-bucket shop laws, anti-trust laws, automatic tax bill, full rendition law, anti-gambling legislation, and many other wholesome and moral laws. The powerful corporations and trusts, the rich property holders, don't want to pay their proportion of the taxes, hence they are raising a hue and cry about full rendition.

Now, you take a small farmer who owns fifty acres of land. Say that he renders it

for taxation at \$40 per acre. He will pay taxes on \$2,000 worth of property. Now, there is a rich property holder in Fort Worth that has a building that could be easily sold for \$100,000. Let him pay taxes on the full value the same as the small farmer. But suppose the "Fewer and Better Laws" crowd elect their candidates, what then? They will go back to the old system, and the small farmer will render his fifty acres at \$10 per acre, and the rich holder in town will render his property at \$25,000 instead of \$100,000. So you see the farmer only escapes taxation on \$1,500, while the rich holder and rent-taker in town escapes taxation on \$75,000. Now, it does seem to me that any man with average intelligence ought to see that full rendition is the only plan to establish equity in taxation. With the automatic tax bill, the tax rate can be so regulated that no more money than is necessary will be collected for taxes. I can't see why any farmer would be impaled on the hook of the "Fewer and Better Laws" club. I merely drop this hint, so that the sincere workers for reform will know what is up. The union is not a political organization, but the "Fewer and Better Laws" club is in politics up to the eyes, and it does seem to me that when farmers and working men see all the gamblers, tax dodgers and the vampires of trusts and corporations hobnobbing and voting together, they ought to have sense enough to vote the other way.

I hope ever delegate will come to the state meeting on August 4 at Fort Worth with a full determination to preserve the honor and integrity of this grand Union of farmers. I hope you will take a progressive step. All our hopes for liberty and independence are founded on this mighty movement. If we make a cowardly surrender now, the organization will soon perish. The very life and perpetuity of this noble order depends upon the firm and wise deliberation of your state meeting. Yours devotedly,

"UNCLE SAM" HAMPTON.

Around Union Headquarters

W. A. Binyon, editor of the Granbury Graphic-Truth and a prominent union man of Hood county, was at headquarters and at the Co-operator office one day last week.

Brother Woods, a union organizer of Hood county, was in town the first of last week.

Miss Nellie Horton, the efficient assistant to Secretary C. Smith, is in Colorado on a vacation and her place is being filled by Miss Lula Hampton.

The cotton school is moving off nicely. Several new pupils came in the past week and still others are expected this week.

Secretary C. Smith requests that as new county and local union officers are elected they will please notify him, giving him

name and postoffice address of the president and secretary.

The Coming Country

The beautiful Quitaque Valley just below the cap rock at the foot of the Plains where crops of all kinds produce in abundance. If you are expecting to take a summer trip this summer, Brother Farmer, you could not do better than to write to me about this location.

Fraternally yours,

R. E. MORRIS.

Quitaque, Briscoe Co., Texas.

# Books and Education

## TOM WATSON'S DEFINITION OF EDUCATION.

The simplest meaning of the word is "to lead out." When you think of the numberless ways in which the definition can be applied, its vast magnitude dawns upon you. To lead out the dormant strength of the body; to lead out inert powers of the mind; to lead out the better qualities of the heart; to lead out the noblest capabilities of the soul; this is the end of education and this her mission on earth. College walls can't confine her, nor can obscurity or poverty prevent her from finding her favorites. The farmer who can make successful crops, the mechanic who can drive his machinery, the merchant who makes money, are educated men, tho they never saw Webster's spelling book.

If from day to day we are learning things that enable us to do our work better, we are getting an education, no matter where we are, or what we are. These boys who go to college don't come back with an education. If they do not frolic away too much time they come back well prepared to receive one. That is all. Daily work hammers into our heads the lessons that teach us how to advance. If today I could call up around me all the boys that were with me in those dear old college days whose memory is one of life's sweetest forget-me-nots—if I could call them away from the court rooms and the pulpits, from the counters and the plow handles, they would every one, from my friend, Will Reynolds, who bore away the honors from the seniors, down to the dullest among us freshmen, they would every one bear me witness that actual life is the real education, and that their education will reach its completion when life itself shall end.

So, then, education does not stop at the school house or the college; does not confine herself to the young, or to any favored few. She goes on and on, thru every walk of life, every grade of society, every age of man and every tribe of men under the sun.

There are duties which the young owe to the old, but there is first the duty which the old owe to the young. In its broadest sense, we owe them education—and education includes everything that we can do to lead out that which is best in the young. We owe them a good example; we owe them the maintenance of a correct standard of living; we owe them the inspiration of meritorious effort and honorable success; we owe them the open door of opportunity and the helping hand of sympathy; we owe them that full definition of duty which is emphasized by our own unflinching constancy to conviction.—The Jeffersonian.

### CO-OPERATOR BOOKS AND EDUCATION JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS

Lovers of literature all over the country—all over the world, for that matter—were pained the other morning to learn that Joel Chandler Harris, the famous creator of "Uncle Remus," had passed beyond the sight of mortal men. Mr. Harris died at his home at Atlanta, Ga., one day last week. He would have been 60 years old next December.

He was born at Eatonton, Ga., and

at the age of 12 became a printer on "The Countryman," owned by a rich planter. Young Harris availed himself of his employer's choice library and found delight in listening to the fire-side wonder tales of the old slaves. These he treasured up in memory, and they became the basis of his later literary work. After the war he worked at Macon, New Orleans and Savannah, marrying at the last named city. He was successively printer, lawyer and editor. In 1876 he removed to Atlanta, where he joined the editorial staff of the Constitution. It was here he began writing the Uncle Remus tales, which first appeared in the columns of the Constitution and later in book form. The book at once leaped into popularity with the great public, on both sides of the ocean, just as the articles had made their instant appeal to the hearts of the readers of the newspaper. The stories were, and are, great favorites with children. Their quaint portrayal of the good side of negro character and the ways of animals (as seen thru the old Jarky's magic glasses), their homely philosophy and kindly humor, make them household treasures.

The author later published "Nights With Uncle Remus," "Mingo and Other Sketches," "Free Joe and Other Georgia Sketches," "Daddy Jake, the Run-away," and "Balaam and His Master." While writing his books he never for any great length of time forsook the editorial desk. About a year ago

(Continued on page 11.)

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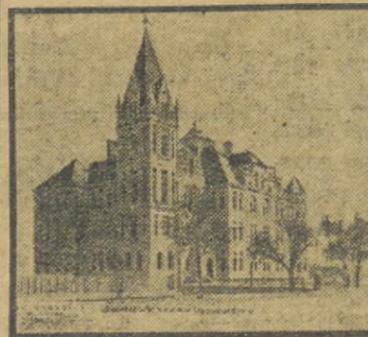
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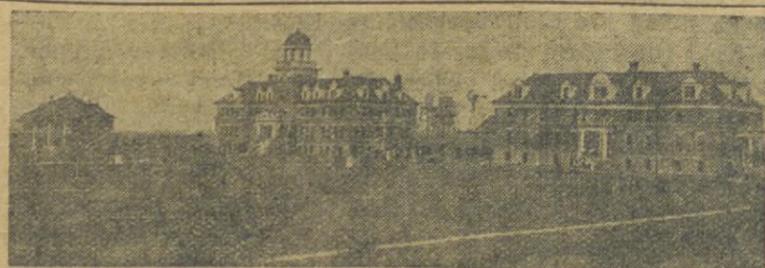
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College Opens September 24, 1908. For catalogue, illustrated by photograph, write  
**REV. HENRY C. EVANS, A. M., D. D., President, MILFORD, TEXAS.**



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**Th' Mistletoe.**

Th' Christmas time is comin'; I kin feel it in th' air. They's tinkets in th' bureau and they's whispers on th' stair. Th' kids is sorter quiet, watchin' chimney nooks at night, While mother comes frum shoppin' with her eyes a flashin' bright. They's expectation bigger than a load o' clover hay. When daddy's Little Willie kneels him down at night to pray;

"O p'esse, God, make th' chimney just a little wider—do. Er else I'm 'fraid that Santy cannot git my pony through!" He wants a sled and mittens and a dandy drum t' beat, A train o' cars, a muffler an' sum skates t' fit his feet. He's fixed it up on father—I kin hear th' rascal laugh— Th' things he wants fer mother must be compromised by half.

There's bakin' in th' kitchen and a smell o' punkin pies, A spirit of enchantment and a bracin' fer surprise. Th' rural mall deliv'rer stops at every house enroute— There aint a soul a livin' but that Santy hez found out. Th' turkey cock is struttin', full o' pride before a fall, And they's mistletoe a hangin' frum th' casin' in th' hall!

I'm watchin' it, by ginger, an' when ma cums hustlin' through I'll ketch her gist in under and I'll smack her kisser, too! It ain't so long, young feller, when I ketched my Mandy thus And sealed th' hull transaction with a rousin' Christmas buss. That's why this Yuletide spirit allus seems t' gladden me. An' kinda runs me over with a joyous ecstacy!

We've trod th' way t'gether, holdin' hands a-down th' lane. An' thankin' God pertic'lar they has been more sun than rain! Each Christmas finds us richer than we wuz th' one afore. Contented and plumb happy with our touseheads—they's four! That's why I'm watchin', mister, fer my Mandy here tonight, T' kiss her like I loved her an' t' start this Christmas right!

**Tickle Grass.**

One way to keep a young man late, girls, is to sit on his hat. A tombstone is always one on the man beneath it.

And now the ladies have formed a "Ruminator's Club". No, sir, they do NOT chew the rag. They chew every mouthful of food thirty-two times and avoid dyspepsia, indigestion, liver trouble, chills and fevr'n ague! Now is the time to join!

Good fortune is generally the child of careful effort, good habits and right living.

A gentleman is the grown up son of a good mother.

One way to avoid even the appearance of evil is to daub the cat's face with jam.

When a woman tells you she found out something today that she promised not to tell, get ready to hear the news.

A great many self-made men must have made themselves in the dark.

Starch is said to rot linen, but it never has a chance to work on mine. The laundryman does the business while the starch is getting ready to begin.

No, dear, a good complexion does not come out of the rouge box. It comes out of God's fresh air, plenty of work to do, a cheerful disposition and a carefully prescribed diet. Try it!

Eight Pennsylvania girls took their beaux riding, paying the expenses of the livery, setting a banquet at a hotel and providing the cigars smoked by their male companions. Talk about the good old times!

I have discovered perpetual motion

at last. During the summer I built a new house and the bills keep coming every day with no hint of ever ceasing. It always has been presumed that the discoverer of perpetual motion would make a fortune out of it, but it seems to work in an inverse ratio with me.

Quit your knockin'!

**Fancies.**

My wife is mad at me. Last night she had a pain in her back and wanted me to rub it with arnica. I rubbed it and next morning discovered that I had substituted a bottle of red stain I had been using on the leather furniture. I don't see anything to get mad about—it stopped the pain and it takes a beautiful polish.

The government experts claim that half the granulated tobacco is made of brown paper steeped in tobacco stems. Lovers of a nice mild smoke, may have noticed that brown taste after smoking.

While reading a newspaper yesterday my eye caught the heading, "Wall Street Items". The first item was this: "Directory for East Liberty church next Sunday: Sunday school at 2 p m, sharp; preaching at 3 and Epworth league at 7:30." Then I knew I was wrong. Upon investigation, I discovered that Iowa has a suburban community of that name and ye correspondent merely was filling his space. In the real Wall street they never have three religious meetings in one day.

**A Scatterment.**

One of Hank Harvey's teams ran away a few weeks ago, but did little damage outside of breaking the harness in a few places and making quite a scatterment of the wagon through town.—Hincley (Mich.) Courier.

*Byron Williams*

**Books and Education.**

(Continued from page 10.)

he founded "Uncle Remus' Magazine," which at once took its place among the leading American periodicals. One northern admirer of Harris' sent a check to pay his subscription 100 years in advance. Mr. Harris contributed liberally of both prose and verse to its pages.

Of this southern writer President Roosevelt said that Georgia had never done a greater thing than to give him to the world. This was on the occasion of Roosevelt's visit to Georgia, yet the man who was so highly praised was so modest, so shy, that he could not be induced to meet the President. Of very retiring disposition, he was contemplative and full of optimism and generosity. Like Thomas Nelson Page, he lived in the good old days of the past rather than in the future that is being born.

Last week in our mention of the book, "Religion and Medicine," we inadvertently omitted the name of the publishers, Moffat, Yard & Co., New York City. The book is bound in cloth, has 416 pages, and the price is \$1.50.

**Low Clubbing Offer**

We have made arrangements whereby we can offer the Co-Operator and Murray's Swine Breeder both for one year for \$1.25. Hog raising is going to be a great industry in Texas within the next few years. In fact, the farmer who does not raise hogs now is making a serious mistake. If you want the best results, you need a hog journal. Murray's Swine Breeder is a monthly paper devoted exclusively to this business. Send us \$1.25 for the two papers.

**Orchard and Garden.**

**DO FERTILIZERS WEAR LAND OUT?**

To Wallaces' Farmer:

E. H. R. of Bureau county, Illinois, makes the following inquiry:

"I have been told that if rock phosphate is once added to the soil it is necessary to continue the use of it or else the land becomes more unproductive than it was before the first application. You will favor me by letting me know if this is true, and, if so, why?"

In the broadest sense I think this is correct. It is also true that if you begin applying manure to the soil you must keep on applying it or else the land will ultimately become poorer than before the first application was made. It is also true that if you begin making bank deposits you must keep on making bank deposits if you continue to write checks.

On the other hand, the land will become poorer than it now is if you continue to remove crops without the application of rock phosphate or manure. If, however, you continue to apply more phosphorus than you remove in the crops, and, if at the same time you continue to increase the supply of humus and nitrogen in the soil by growing and plowing under clover either directly or in the form of manure, your land will become richer and richer as time goes on instead of becoming poorer and poorer, which is the unavoidable result of continued cropping without the return of both phosphorus and humus for all of our ordinary Illinois soils. No one-sided system of fertilizing will maintain the soil. Phosphorus alone may give you benefit for a few years, assuming that phosphorus is the limiting element at the present time; but, whether you apply phosphorus or do not apply phosphorus, nitrogen will become a limiting element if you fail to make ample provision for maintaining the supply of nitrogen. Crops can not live

upon phosphorus alone. A 100-bushel crop of corn requires 23 pounds of phosphorus and 148 pounds of nitrogen, and a ton of clover hay contains five pounds of phosphorus and forty pounds of nitrogen. The difference between corn and clover is that corn must take both phosphorus and nitrogen from the soil, while clover must take its phosphorus from the soil but may secure nitrogen from the air, in case the supply furnished by the soil is insufficient.

Of course, if you apply ten pounds of phosphorus and remove twenty your soil grows poorer in phosphorus, and, if you plow under a half ton of clover containing twenty pounds of phosphorus once in three or four years and continue to remove 100 pounds every year your soil grows poorer in nitrogen. These facts are simple and they are absolute, and there is no justification for practicing a one-sided system of soil improvement. Phosphorus and humus must both be maintained or increased. This is the key to permanent agriculture on the ordinary Illinois soils.

CYRIL G. HOPKINS.

University of Illinois.

It is difficult for people living outside the belt where sugar beets are produced to realize the enormous proportions this industry has attained. In the Greeley, Eaton and Windsor districts of Colorado there are now 24,000 acres in the crop. Most of the farmers have sublet their ground to Russians and Japanese, who, strangely enough, are working side by side in cultivating it; 22,000,000 of sugar was stored at the Greeley factory last fall, and two-thirds of it has since been sold. Where the soil has been found adaptable sugar beets have driven out fruit, potatoes and everything else because of the enormous profits they yield producers, altho the crop season lasts only three months of the year.—The Telegram.

**FARMERS' UNION PICNIC**

Dewey and Guion Farmers' Union locals will give a picnic in W. S. Crow's pasture, three-quarters of a mile north of Guion postoffice, July 17.

The public generally is invited to come. The program follows:

Address of welcome, by W. P. Crow.

Response to welcome address, by O. D. McIlroy of Hamby union.

"Why the Demands of the Union Are Just," by J. C. Albritten, secretary of the state executive committee.

Dinner.

Short talk on the Farmers' Union in Taylor county by the county president. "Is the Farmers' Union a Success?" by D. J. Neill, president State Farmers' Union.

At 12 o'clock there will be a fat man's race, distance 150 yards. No one weighing less than 200 pounds will be allowed to contest; entrance fee, nothing; premium, box of fifty cigars.

Two games of ball.

All rights reserved.

No political speeches or announcements allowed. Candidates are invited to come and tell their troubles to the people privately.

Everybody come and bring some one with you. Plenty of dinner for all.

J. R. KEELING,

The Farmers' Union Cotton Grading Association is saving no expense to make this school a grand success.

The Farmers' Union Cotton Grading Association has opened this school to all that want to come.

**CORN HARVESTER** cuts and throws in piles on harvester or windrows. Man and horse cuts and shocks equal with a corn blader. Sold in every state. Price \$15. Testimonials and catalog free, showing harvester at work. **NEW PROCESS MFG CO., SALINA, KANSAS**



It Was Originated in Texas

It's Home is in Texas

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At Fountains and in Bottles

## Dairy Department

BY CHARLES S. SUTTON, Lawrence, Kan.

Can the dairy bred calf be made to pay is the important question confronting the western dairyman. Milk has been very high and it has not paid to feed it and high-priced grain into the calf bred along dairy lines, for the purpose of making beef. A great many dairymen have tried feeding this class of cattle only to find at the end of two years they have not returned the cost of the grain consumed, not to mention the item of labor. This has led to the common practice of destroying practically all the male calves, even tho the owner almost hates himself when committing the cowardly act of taking an innocent life, but what can he do with the calf and make him pay a profit is the question every dairyman desires to have answered, and the experience of the gentleman mentioned in this article we believe will answer the question and transfer the dairy bred calf from an item of loss to one of satisfactory profit.

About 18 years ago our Angus bull accidentally got into the corral and bred a couple of registered Holstein heifers. The result was a surprise to us, as the calves came black as crows, hornless and of good beef form. Later we continued the cross on twenty-five or thirty head of Holsteins, putting two and three calves on a cow and grainning them besides, with the result that the calves were sold and went right along with our beef calves without a question.

The above experiment has been extensively tried in other states with flattering results and is strongly recommended by the agricultural colleges. Professor Kennedy of the Iowa Agricultural College states that this cross is a decided success in England and Scotland, and recommends it to the farmers of Iowa who desire to produce steers to fatten. Professor Kennedy recently answered the following inquiry from Iowa along these lines:

"Inasmuch as the dairy industry is gaining ground very rapidly in this section of Iowa, several of us farmers are wondering what influence it will have on the beef business. Do you think that we could raise good beef cattle by using a good pure-bred Angus bull on our dairy cows? If such work were pursued, would it be best to use both male and females for beef? We would like to have Professor Kennedy answer this, as I understand he has visited sections in Scotland and England where beef is produced along somewhat similar lines."

The questions asked are full of interest for every dairyman in the west. There is indeed a strong and growing sentiment among the western farmers to go into the dairy business. High priced land, high priced feed and low priced fat cattle have caused this condition of affairs. The western farmer does not desire to abandon beef production, but he must modify his methods.

Dairying is without doubt the most profitable branch of live stock farming if the farmer has good help and good conditions. The average farmer desires to produce calves that will make good beef animals. He also wishes to own a herd of cows that will produce handsome profits from the milk production standpoint. He has tried the dual purpose cow, but she has not fulfilled his expectations. And moreover she never will.

By crossing the high class Angus bull on the dairy bred cow you solve this problem in the twinkling of an eye. The writer has seen this method of crossing the Angus bull on all grades of dairy cows practiced, both in this country and in Great Britain. He

also goes on record as saying that the man who wishes to maintain a high class herd of dairy cows and at the same time produce a crop of calves capable of being developed into good beef cattle can do so successfully in this way, and no other method of cross breeding yet discovered will give any such perfect results. The method has been thoroly tried in the best districts of England and Scotland and is a pronounced success. The writer has visited Perthshire and the Midlothian districts, where land rents for \$12.50 an acre, and there found these methods in vogue. Every farmer who pursued this line of work claimed the Angus sire to be the best because the calves all came polled, black in color, uniform in type and were good feeders and early maturers, and produced a high quality of beef. Sires of other breeds have been tried, but all agreed that the Angus sire has no equal in this special line of work.

A. W. Trow, Freeborn county, Minnesota, has been using this cross in his dairy for many years. In answer to an inquiry he writes as follows:

"We are asked to give the results obtained by using an Angus bull on dairy cows, as well as our observation of results obtained by others. For years we were backward about advising the use of beef bulls on dairy bred cows, but eighteen years ago such striking results of Angus cross breeding came to our attention on the farm of John Frank, where we saw a herd of over 100 cows of various colors and with them about as many calves, all of which were solid black and hornless, that we decided to try the experiment ourselves, being forced to admit the wonderful prepotency of the Angus bull.

"Upon returning home we described this herd to a neighbor, who became so infatuated with the idea that he purchased an Angus bull. His cows were a mixture of all colors carried by the bovine family and representing at least four different breeds. After several years' experience in this line of breeding he concluded that he had gained his two points, uniformity and good beefing qualities.

"Years ago we started an experiment along similar lines, our object being to produce a satisfactory steer calf from our Jersey cows (we had at the time as many dairy bred cows as we desired for several years to come and it occurred to us that by using a black polled sire with these cows for a few years we disliked to destroy the calves.) The question of what to do with the calf having come to us as it has to every man who keeps special purpose cows.

"Dairyman disliking to destroy young animals have kept these calves only to find at the end of two years that there was no possible way of getting pay for the feed consumed, and the average farmer has found that, taking one year with another, it is economy to destroy the dairy bred bull calf as soon as he is born, but this Jersey-Angus cross breeding produces a calf in every way satisfactory for feeding purposes and we believe that for the man who keeps Jersey, Guernsey or Holsten cows there is no better plan to follow than for a portion of the time to use an extreme beef type Angus sire and dispose of all the increase until he is again obliged to replenish his dairy with young cows. He can then for a time use a high class dairy sire with his old stock and continue to improve his cows, and between times he will have calves to sell that will bring him more money than the average cattle that are put on the market. The superiority in this method of cross breeding is

that a special purpose cow for milk is better than a general purpose cow. This is conceded by all, and the price at which we have sold calves and steers from this Angus-Jersey cross proves that they are worth more than the average general purpose steer."

This Angus cross is also a decided success with Holsteins.

A. T. Budlong has a herd of Holstein cows that produces close to 300 pounds of butter per cow each year and by this method of cross breeding he has a bunch of calves which are with the exception of two, first class specimens of the beef type in both form and color.

G. B. Thayer has a herd of high grade and thorobred Jerseys. He also has produced remarkable results. In a bunch of thirty-five calves there are but two, each with a small white spot and only one showing horns.

Professor Haeckner has used an Angus bull with Ayrshire and Holstein cows and has as fine beef specimens as one would wish to see.

### TITUS COUNTY SPEAKING DATES

E. B. Davis will speak at the following times and places in the interest of the Farmers' Union:

Argo, Friday, July 17, at 8:30 p. m.  
Glade Water, Monday, July 20, at 8:30 p. m.

Maple Springs, Tuesday, July 21, at 8:30 p. m.

Goolsboro, Wednesday, July 22, at 8:30 p. m.

Bridges Chapel, Thursday, July 23, at 8:30 p. m.

Newhope, Friday, July 24, 8:30 p. m.  
Mount Pleasant, Saturday, July 25, at 2:30 p. m.

Old Union, Monday, July 27, at 8:30 p. m.

Nevill's Chapel, Tuesday, July 28, at 8:30 p. m.

Forest Grove, Wednesday, July 29, at 8:30 p. m.

Marshall Springs, Thursday, July 30, at 8:30 p. m.

Benton School House, Friday, July 31, at 8:30 p. m.

Winfield, Saturday, August 1, at 2:30 p. m.

Mount Sylvia, Monday, August 3, at 8:30 p. m.

Oak Grove, Tuesday, August 4, at 8:30 p. m.

Farmers' Academy, Wednesday, August 5, at 8:30 p. m.

Our motto is "Equity, Justice and the Golden Rule."

These meetings announced in your midst are for the interest of every farmer and it is hoped that you will make it convenient to hear this special representative of the Farmers' Union. Hear him before you pass your judgment. The farmers' financial success is the success of the land. Hence this organization should have the good will of every class.

L. E. CULVER,  
Secretary and Treasurer Titus County Farmers' Union.

For

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**The Ideal Canning Apparatus**

Invented and patented by a member of the Texas Farmers Congress after four years hard study of what was confronting the Fruit and Truck Growers of the Southern and Middle States.

Simple and complete in construction. Does perfect work. Capacity 8,000 to 10,000 cans of fruit daily. Cans all kinds of Fruit and Vegetables.

It is a patent that every community needs. It can be put up at a low cost, and makes a canning factory within the reach of all.

It does the work of a canning factory that costs several times as much. It costs \$200 to \$450 to put up in first-class order.

The quality of fruits it puts up is unsurpassed. It is the same to the fruit and truck grower as a sorghum mill is to the cane raiser.

Ask for Folder B. **JOHN T. GARNER, Dallas, Tex.,**  
243 Commerce St.

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## Hog Department

### HOG RAISING IN MISSISSIPPI

**Experiment on a Farmer's Basis—The Pigs from Ten Sows Raised Profitably and Sold at Ten Months**

In the state of Mississippi, at the Delta experiment station, they raised a bunch of pigs on a farmer's basis. They were Berkshires and they were the produce of ten sows and a boar.

The fall pigs were farrowed from September 20 to October 10, and the spring pigs from March 18 to April 22. They were marketed at the average age of about ten months.

Thirty-two of the pigs were sold on foot and weighed 175½ pounds at 6 cents a pound. Eighty-five pigs were dressed, the net weight averaging 135½ pounds, at 8 cents a pound; and five gilts were sold for breeding purposes at \$25 per head. The cash proceeds amounted to \$1,382.51.

The expense account charges up the pigs with the rent of 13½ acres of ground at \$6 per acre. It appears that the pigs had pasture which furnished grazing every day in the year. They were charged \$29.50 for the seed used on the pasture lots, also \$39.50 for the labor and expense in preparing and seeding the pasture lots. They were also charged up with the feed bill for the mother sows, and we presume the boar was also fed at the expense of the pigs. It appears that the feed bill includes three tons of shorts at \$25 a ton, with 260 bushels of estimated corn at 6 cents a bushel and 265 bushels of corn at 70 cents a bushel, a total expense account of \$579.50.

Deducting the expense from the receipts we find the profit to be \$803, which is \$80.30 per head for the ten sows, and all we allow the boar is his feed bill.

It appears that the estimated corn was produced on thirteen additional acres which had already produced a crop of oats. The corn was planted late and after it was worked once, peas were planted in the corn, and, both maturing together, these Mississippi pigs had a fine old time "hogging" it down.

The pasture rotation is a valuable study. The basis of all is a lot of Bermuda grass on which the sows' houses are located and which contains shade and water. Opening from this are three different lots of four and a half acres each; one of these was seeded to Dwarf Essex rape and red clover in August or early in September. The other two were seeded to wheat and red clover in September. The rape lot was plowed in April and planted in sorghum about the 1st of May. In addition to these pastures they had the corn and peas which was the second crop on the oats land.

The rape was ready to graze in thirty to forty days after seeding and furnished grazing all winter. When the sows and small pigs were turned on the rape and clover the market hogs were in the pea field. In April the hogs were turned from the rape lot into the red clover and wheat lots, which they grazed alternately until August, when they were turned into the sorghum. By this time the sorghum was maturing and was a most excellent feed.

The experimenters acknowledge that the market weights of the hogs were too light weights for their age, but it must be remembered that the sows had most of the shorts, and that the corn feeding was light. In fact, they averaged but four bushels of corn, and the pasturage can be credited with the success of the entire transaction. The corn charged up at 67 to 70 cents a bushel represents two-thirds of the cost, and it is very likely that if it had all been reserved for a finishing ration the market weights would have

been a few pounds heavier.

The bulletin from which this article is extracted is No. 107, and is entitled "Pork Production at the Delta Station." A copy can be had by addressing Director Agricultural Experiment Station and the postoffice address is Agricultural College, Miss. We have purposefully omitted copying some of the important points in the experiment which are well worth writing for.

One of the concluding paragraphs is as follows: "The farm is fenced, making it possible to fatten the hogs largely on peas planted in the corn as a catch crop for fertilizing purposes. The crop gives the south a distinct advantage over other sections, and this feature of the work cannot be too strongly urged. The fact that the peas can be converted into money without any cost of harvesting should add an additional incentive to grow more corn and peas and thus improve the land, handle the farm with less labor and keep the cotton money at home. We are blessed by being able to raise cotton, the greatest staple money crop of any section. Let us make the most of this privilege by raising our hay, corn and hogs; in order that our cotton money may be our own."

#### Points of a Hog

The hog multiplies rapidly. This is point No. 1. The hog matures quickly. This is point No. 2. The pig requires little feed to produce a pound of meat. This is point No. 3. The market hog is worth good money, cured or fresh. This is point No. 4. The hog does not require herding. This is point No. 5. The hog can build up 80 per cent of his market weight on grass and forage crops. This is point No. 6. The hog is naturally healthy. This is point No. 7. Point No. 8 is that the hog has only one program, and that never varies.

You don't have to worry over the dual-purpose hog. You don't have to consider if it is best to raise the hog for meat or for milk, neither do you have to worry over the question whether it is meat or eggs, or meat or bristles. The hog is raised for meat alone, and when you are driving one crop to market another one ought to be well on its way to marketable condition and weight.

There may be other points in favor of the hog, but these will answer the question why it is that more hogs arrive in market than either cattle or sheep.

#### LECTURE TOUR OF T. B. TAYLOR.

T. B. Taylor has been lecturing in Blanco, Bell, Coryell and Runnels counties for the last twenty days and finds the Union in good working order in these counties. Everywhere he spoke they solidly indorsed Brother Neill's administration and passed resolutions commending his course as president. The Co-Operator was also indorsed, as evidenced by a list of twenty-six subscribers. Those reading The Co-Operator declare it the best paper published in the interest of the farmers.—Correspondence.

#### NOTICE TO THE MEMBERS.

Please remember that I will only remain in this office until State convention Aug. 4. So please send in your orders for bagging and ties, coal, lumber and building material, implements and machinery, buggies, wagons, harness, saddles, sewing machines, binder twine, warehouse supplies, in fact write me for any old thing. I am here to serve until Aug. only.

A. H. O'Keeffe  
Business Agent.

#### Interview By President Neill.

(Continued from page 3)

paid by the railroads have been increased more than \$1,500,000 a year for state and county purposes and the gross receipts tax law has increased the taxes of other corporations nearly \$1,000,000 more and there is no doubt but that the interests affected by these laws are at the bottom of the fight. The intangible assets tax law placed last year, as it will this year, more than \$170,000,000 of railroad property on the tax rolls, that was never there before, and other laws will put millions of dollars of money and notes on the tax rolls that were never there before. There can be no doubt upon investigation that all the taxes of the average honest taxpayer will be reduced, unless the local authorities increase the amount of local taxes collected by failing to lower the local rates in proportion to the increase in valuation. If there is any increase in taxes, it will be their fault and the people can and should control locally these matters for themselves.

The movement is to repeal the intangible assets tax law; the gross receipts tax law; the anti-bucketshop law and other measures, and so confident are the advocates of the repeal of the anti-bucketshop law that they are now offering to bet \$5,000 that the bucketshop will be reinstated in the state of Texas at the next convening of the legislature of Texas. These men seem to be confident of victory under the combinations they are trying to effect in Texas. They are bent on either repealing or amending the anti-free pass law, which the farmers of this state have urged and desired for years and which the Farmers' Union cordially supported. We are not in politics, but in business, and do not wish to meddle in political affairs, but I feel it to be my duty to warn the people of all movements against their interests, and this is not a question of politics, but of good government and the people's rights. People are traveling over this state actively seeking by deception to get the assistance of the farmers in their efforts to destroy all that has been accomplished for the farmers in this state in recent years thru the influence of our organization. I feel it my duty to warn you of this danger.

#### Be Not Deceived

It is being urged in certain quarters that the state tax commission should be abolished and the assessment of all property should be made by the assessors under the commissioners' court as under the former laws. This means the repeal of the intangible assets law or tax on railroads, which was passed largely thru the influence of our organization and upon petition of many thousands of our members thru various sections of the state. It increased the railroad taxes for state and county purposes, altogether, more than \$1,500,000 last year and relieved the individual taxpayers of that amount, which for years they had been carrying for the railroads. The repeal of that law would immediately increase the taxes paid by the people and decrease the taxes paid by the railroads.

There is plenty of time to investigate this matter before the primary and I feel it my duty to warn the people of the movement which is being made to deceive them and get them to vote for the destruction of all we have accomplished in their behalf. It is on the law passed by the legislature in behalf of our people and in response to our petition that the fight is being principally waged.

Should the enemies succeed in their purpose, it will be years and years before the great common people of our state will again succeed in getting an administration that will enact laws in favor of the great common people of this state.

I want to warn the farmers to investigate and they will find the conditions as I have stated. Be not deceived.

## BARGAIN IN BLACK LAND

### in the Artesian Belt in Southwest Texas.

558 acres in Dimmit county adjoining the Famous Bermuda Colony, where lands are selling at \$22.00 per acre. This tract lies nearly level and can be bought now for \$10.00 per acre; \$4.00 cash, balance reasonable.

1160 acres in La Salle County, close to Flowing Well, two and one-half miles of R. R. town; 90 per cent tillable, fine onion and truck land. Would exchange for North Texas black land at drowned out prices.

1400 acres in Nueces County, 5 miles east of Alice, all fine, open, black prairie. Price \$20.00 per acre. Will be \$100 cotton land when improved.

Any size tract of fine onion and truck land at Artesia on the I & G. N. R. R. at \$20.00 per acre.

W. Y. PENN,

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American Plan. \$2.00 Per Day. Modern Elevator and Electrical Equipments. HEADQUARTERS FOR TEXAS PEOPLE. Fourth and Rusk Street.

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The best accommodations for prices paid in Texas. 112 cool, clean, airy rooms, and our rates the most reasonable to be found anywhere. Corner 15th and Main st.

HOLLIS R. IVY & J. B. SPRINKLE, Successors to J. M. IVY.

#### HAYS COUNTY UNION

State Lecturer J. L. Armstrong writes us that the best County Union ever held in Hays county was held there on July 10 and 11. The delegates to the State Union were instructed for the re-election of President Neill, Secretary Smith and the executive committee.

#### UNION ORGANIZERS

The following is a list of the duly appointed organizers of the Farmers' Union of Texas to date:

- J. E. Morton, Dublin, Erath county.
- F. R. McEatrige, Brookston, Lamar county.
- J. L. Armstrong, Euda, Hays county.
- Tom B. Taylor, Gouldbusk, Coleman county.
- F. S. Roundtree, Potosi, Taylor county.
- Byron Barber, Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto county.
- F. M. Goodman, Granbury, route No. 3, Hood county.
- J. M. Copeland, Atlanta, Cass county.
- Steve Roach, Van Alstyne, Grayson county.
- S. W. York, Giddings, Lee county.
- W. B. Nicholson, Scurry, route No. 1, Kaufman county.
- H. E. Webb, Red Springs, Baylor county.
- W. T. Riddings, Georgetown, Wil-Hamson countv.
- O. F. Dornblaser, Cleburne, Johnson county.
- R. K. Grimes, Roanoke, Tarrant county.
- A. M. Nabors, Kosse, Limestone county.
- W. W. Scott, Dodd City, Fannin county.

(Continued to page 15)



# Poultry Department

## MELLETT'S MEDLEY

Since writing for the pages of the Southern Poultry Journal under the above title, the writer has traveled many a long and sometimes "weary mile." Two trips have I taken to the Pacific Coast; the last trip I spent two weeks in the poultry section around Petaluma; the first trip I had the pleasure of attending poultry shows at Salem, Tacoma, Portland, Seattle and even going as far north as Vancouver and Victoria, B. C., and back to Denver by the way of Salt Lake City, where I attended the Utah State Poultry Show.

No one could take such trips as these without growing to have unlimited faith in poultry culture and to see so much interest as was everywhere evinced in chickens would serve to make even a mummy enthusiastic; the writer lays no claim to being a mummy, in fact I am too much alive as I am oftentimes painfully aware. Nor did I need such an experience to make me jubilant over the possibilities of poultry culture but of a truth the sights I saw strengthened my faith.

The first time I visited Petaluma I saw it in December, the hills around (in fact it is all hills and vales) were most delightfully green and pretty, and everywhere, as far as the eye could reach the landscape was dotted with small chicken houses, all white-washed and glistening against the background of living green.

The same state of housing pervades around Sebastopol and Santa Rosa also. Of all the poultry plants I saw but two had long continuous houses; everything being arranged on the colony house plan. Most all the houses are made on runners, and movable.

One plant the writer visited, the houses were all so arranged and about twenty feet apart, in a young walnut orchard. It was in August, right in the heat of the fruit-picking season, and the man was awfully busy. Said he to the writer: "We are awfully busy these days picking fruit; we don't go to the house but once a day, in the evening when we gather the eggs. We always aim to move and spray the houses out once a month, but we are too busy with the fruit to do it this month."

"We bring the grain out on the wagon and throw a sackful out on the ground about every so far, so the chickens can just help themselves and eat when they are hungry. We feed nothing but wheat and oyster shells. When we move the houses we always put in a plow and turn the droppings under."

The poultry establishment was full a quarter of a mile from the house and there were 2,00 hens. Everyone White Leghorns. In fact the White Leghorns were so prevalent as to make any other chicken look like an oddity.

One special feature I noticed everywhere was the fact that California chickens are all taught the utility of the roosts before they are out of the brooder, as every brooder house is equipped with a set of roosts on which the little chicks jump and play like a set of boys on a vaulting pole till when they are moved out into the colony houses they take to the roosts at once.

One other feature was specially noticeable, i. e., the nests were never put under the roosts, not there. Lots of times there would be a special colony laying house fitted up with nests thruout and sometimes there would be a little double-pitch roof made over a set of roosts on the outside.

In Colorado or Texas if a man be

raising fruit he will say: "Oh, I can't raise chickens, I am a fruit grower." but in California they let their chickens run in the blackberry patches and in their orchards. They claim that the chickens do the fruit good by eating the injurious insect enemies.

But of poultry culture in Texas—the more I see of it the more my faith grows. Just last week a cotton farmer said to me: "I am raising White Leghorns on the side. The other day I sold a dozen pullets for \$10; that was about one-fifth the selling price for a bale of cotton and look how much easier it is earned."

And, so it is, and the farmer who has chickens and eggs to sell every month in the year can hold his cotton for a higher price, without making his groceryman suffer by the speculation. And modern methods of poultry culture have put the attendant work on such an economical-of-time basis that the farmer can carry from two to four hundred chickens on his farm with comparatively small expenditure of time on their care.

The incubator and brooder put the hatching and rearing work to where it loses its drudgery while the hopper feeding of the drymash obviates the necessity of the toilsome regularity of feeding that was always before necessary.

Keep a drymash before your chickens all the time, and if you happen to go to town and do not get back in time to feed them, you know they will not go to bed with empty craws. Let the foundation of the mash be bran, adding cornmeal or any other ground grain you may happen to have, together with met scraps or beef meal and you have both a good egg food and a good growing feed.

The colony house plan is a great saving of work over the old methods when it was thought that the only way to keep a big number of chickens on one place was to yard them separately and have gates to be open and shut everywhere. It remained for the California people to teach this lesson for they kept 200 hens in one flock, in one big yard but they will generally have two houses in each yard.

They plow their yards and sow each alternate yard, (for with many each flock was two yards) to grain of some sort. Close to the fence where they can not plow, they sweep. One place the writer visited was too rough, uneven and steep to plow, so the man swept these yards with a broom once a week.

Much credit is due to the poultry raisers in California for broadening out methods, for teaching people that they can make a success of hens in 100 and 200 flocks, for teaching us to feed the dry mash and for proving to the world that poultry keeping can make aliving and a bank account for a man on the eggs-for-the-market basis, even if he doesn't raise his own feed, for they say, "A poultryman's time is too valuable to put it in raising feed; it pays better to buy," but every poultry raiser has his patch of kale for green feed. Most all of them used horse heads for meat. These they boil in tanks, covering them with wheat in the boiling as when boiled alone it is hard to get them soft.—E. J. Mellette, in Southern Poultry Journal.

## UNION PICNIC IN PARKER

A Farmers' Union basket picnic will be given at Cold Springs, near Garner, in Parker county, Texas, on Saturday, July 18. All neighboring unions are invited. W. A. Whiting and W. A. Boyd are the committee.

## FARMERS SCHOOL OPENS JULY 1

Cotton Grading and Warehouse Management to Be Taught by Union Men

FORT WORTH, Texas, June 16.—Beginning July 1 the Farmers' Union Cotton Grading school will open in Fort Worth to continue until Sept. 1. This school is one of the most successful of Farmers' Union ventures and has already had two sessions.

The first years' school was held in Dallas and last session was held at Houston. In a statement to the members of the union, signed by the officers of the school, it is stated that Fort Worth is chosen because it is the most central point and because it will cost less for the students to get first-class accommodations here than in any other large city in Texas.

The school will be in charge of R. E. Dolman of Paris, who was teacher of the school in Dallas. It is claimed for the school that practically all of its graduates are now receiving good salaries as cotton graders. It is expected that the attendance this year will reach 250, the largest held so far. Not only does the school teach cotton grading but warehouse management as well, and so becomes a part of the intricate system whereby the Farmers' Union hopes to control



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the price of cotton. The officers are H. H. Allison of Abilene, president; W. H. Kyle of Rockdale, vice president, and C. M. Pyron, secretary-treasurer. A committee composed of A. N. Evans, J. P. Brashear and W. T. Ladd has been appointed by the Factory Club to secure a suitable hall in which to hold the school.

The initiation fee of \$15 will be charged to all new scholars and \$1 to all old scholars who attend the Farmers' Union Cotton Grading School. Board and lodging can be had from \$3 to \$4 per week.

## HORSES

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All organizers should turn in their commissions at once so the people may know who are authorized to lecture and who are commissioned to organize.

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