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War on Future Gambling.

When congress meets Representative Burleson will renew his fight on the New York Cotton Exchange in an effort to have that institution put out of business by federal statute. During the last session Mr. Burleson, indorsed by the Farmers' Union and other agricultural societies and backed by the department of agriculture, came very near landing a solar plexus blow on that great and arrogant institution. It was proven by the department, by Mr. Burleson and others, and virtually admitted by the exchange itself, that it was a bogus affair; that its classification of cotton was a burlesque and that any old stuff that even looked like hulls could pass muster as "middling" cotton when it came to settling the bets. With the deepening of the Mississippi river at its mouth and with the removal of the bar at Galveston, New York ceased to be a cotton shipping port. Where formerly all cotton was moved by rail from the fields of the southern states to New York for export to Europe, very little now finds its way in that direction. The only all-rail cotton moving northward is that which is shipped to the New England mills. In the Carolinas and Georgia the mills consume large quantities of cotton, while perhaps more than 90 per cent of the crop grown in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana is exported through New Orleans and Galveston.

Why, therefore, New York should attempt to fix the price of cotton is a mystery. Throughout the country, under the name of "brokers," thousands of gamblers transacted a bucket shop business. Within the past two years, however, every cotton growing state has adopted laws which have put these bucket shops or brokers out of business, as much so as local option has wiped out the saloons. All of these bucket shops were conducted, directly and indirectly, by members of the New York Cotton Exchange, and it was ascertained by a congressional investigation committee and subsequently verified by the courts, that the government information as to crop conditions was being bought in advance by these speculators for the purpose of manipulating the prices of the crop. These disclosures compelled the department of agriculture to en-

list in the war upon the New York Cotton Exchange, and this onslaught is to be continued.

Exchanges are absolutely necessary, as much so as banks and clearing houses and dealing in futures is proper and essential—provided, however, the deals are genuine. The complaint is that for every bale of cotton raised, a million or more bales are sold. The exchange is simply a great gambling house. Less than 3 per cent of the transactions are genuine so far as the actual delivery of the stuff bought or sold is contemplated. The bulls and the bears simply gamble on what the price should be to their notion. They speculate on the margins, and the influence of this speculation or gambling is reflected in the price of the producer's crop, oftentimes to the detriment of the farmer.

Conducted as originally contemplated, the exchanges of the country would be of incalculable benefit to the farmers. The information gathered as to crop conditions, acreage, weather conditions are all essential to the business and enable those interested to arrive at a just and equitable price. All the surplus products of the nation are shipped to other countries, particularly to Europe. For this reason it is necessary to make contracts for future delivery. American millers will often contract to deliver flour three, four and six months ahead of some European buyers. In order to fulfill these contracts the American millers must make their purchases to meet the demands of their orders. They buy ahead, but they demand the delivery of the grain. They do not ask nor do they expect the difference in price to be considered in the settlement. These deals are all legal and just and are a help to the farmer. By keeping track of such deals for future delivery the farmer may get a line on what the market promises to be several months ahead. He may find it advantageous to hold his product or he may feel that the cost of holding would not justify the extra profit.

Manufacturers contract for their raw materials and fuel far ahead; merchants order new stocks months in advance, consequently farm products must be bought and sold for future delivery as well as for cash. No warfare is being waged on this class of

business. It is the gambling feature that must go. Already the bucket shops are almost entirely wiped out and, just as horse racing was killed because of its gambling features, just so will the margin gambling in farm

products be eliminated. The New York Cotton Exchange has seen the handwriting and has made some radical changes in classification and other rules, but the fight is on to the finish. —Journal of Agriculture.

Greatest Tobacco Sale Made

The crowning triumph of farm organization along the lines of equity was achieved, says the Up-to-Date Farming, when the sale of the remainder of the crops of 1906 and 1907 was recently consummated at Louisville, Ky. Continuing that paper says:

"By far the greatest single sale of tobacco ever made in this country or the world was consummated at Louisville, Ky., on November 19. It was by the Burley Tobacco district to the American Tobacco company and for about 75,000,000 pound ^{Quintal} _{high-grade} tobacco, are 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. The prices agreed upon, which are ^{highest} _{highest} paid for a large

bac

age for the 1906 crop and 17 cents

average for the 1907 crop.

The amount of money involved in the transaction will be around \$14,000,000. As the tobacco is ready for delivery and the tobacco company needs the goods, practically this amount of money will be put in circulation at once. This will boom every branch of business and prove a God-send to many poor families who have suffered many privations while waiting for the sale and holding to their principles of co-operation for mutual good.

"People outside of the district can hardly realize the conditions that has prevailed there. How these same people twice tried to solve their problem of profitable price and independence from the tobacco trust through capital stock companies to buy and hold the tobacco and failed each time. Then they accepted the equity plan, organized, pledged, pooled, co-operated and finally sold two crops at prices equal to what they had been getting for three or four without the equity plan. Will any person demand a more absolute demonstration of the practicability and efficiency of the plan? And it was done without a dollar of capital.

"We have reported some of the great demonstrations in this district of twenty-two counties during the campaign of organization, pledging and pooling. But none of these equaled the

popular demonstration when the great sale was announced. Everybody became wild with joy and enthusiasm. The high tension of suspense endured for many months let loose and old and young, men and women, joined in the great thanksgiving. Old men played pranks like boys, and thousands marched in parades riding their tobacco sticks like boys as imaginary horses. Women sank on their knees on the roads and streets and prayed in their thankfulness for the deliverance that had come to them and for the comforts the money from the sale of the crops would bring them."

This deal, it will be observed, was with the American Tobacco company, the so-called Tobacco trust. But the finishing of the whole business, the crowning triumph, came a few days later, when the independent companies took, at the same price, the entire remainder of the crops, and took all the balance of the tobacco held by the growers.

ENDORSES STATE COTTON MILL

Brother A. W. Falkner of Comanche, Texas, writes an interesting letter commanding other letters which have recently appeared in the Co-Operator and endorsing the idea of a state cotton mill to be operated by convicts and to manufacture cotton bagging from low grade cotton. He says that we used to see the statement in the papers that the United States treasury had sent \$50,000,000 to New Orleans to move the cotton crop, but we will never see where a dollar is sent to our central warehouses until we learn how to vote.

Lee Harper, lecturer of Williamson county, accompanies a nice subscription list with the statement that the farmers of Williamson county have considerable cotton yet unsold and that the low price does not seem to have much ^{fall} _{fall} on those who are holding and ^{are} determined to continue to hold ^{higher} prices.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

An Exchange for New Ideas

AN EXCHANGE FOR IDEAS

Under the above heading we aim to conduct a department for the exchange of ideas upon any subject of interest to the farmer, and especially to the organized farmer. Marketing is the all-important subject and necessarily we will give good articles intended to aid in evolving a better system of marketing farm products such space as they deserve. In discussing plans which might be adopted by the Farmers' Union, it must be kept in mind that the views expressed are not official, unless written by officials of the Union, but are allowed only because of their educational value. The president and some of the officials of the Union complain to us that the discussion of prospective plans through the Co-Operator has not been rightly understood by a great many members, who have mistaken the discussion of a proposition for a fixed and determined plan. For that reason they have suggested that hereafter no articles shall be published except those which develop or carry out the policies fixed and promulgated by the state Union or its officials. They suggest that any member who has a policy which he desires tested shall present the same to his local; if approved here, then submit it to his county Union and if there approved, send it to the state officials and if approved by them, present it to the entire membership through the Co-Operator. This plan would work admirably in sifting great deal of chaff out of some good wheat that is offered, but at the same time we cannot bring ourselves to believe that one man's ideas or one county's ideas should not be published without getting the sanction of somebody else. What we do believe in is a full and open discussion of everything pertaining to the public work of the Farmers' Union, but all the time remembering to keep ever in mind the successful execution of present policies. While these are our views, we trust that as far as possible members of the Union will follow the request of the state officials, as above stated, in getting their plans before the membership. We do not require this before publishing, but merely suggest it.

LORDS AND SERFS

To Remedy This, Market Slowly, Reduce Crop

Editor Co-Operator: I have just read "Uncle Sam" Hampton's plan for marketing cotton at a stipulated price.

I am a farmer and member of the Union and have shown my faith in its principles by my works as all who know me personally will testify, but have become somewhat discouraged and disgusted and about half way believe the manipulators and scalpers are right in their contentions that the great masses of the farmers are but little more than simpletons, and can be controlled like a herd of cattle by these presumptuous bosses. How many during this season have made any effort to resist this manipulating "bear" whip that has been so effectively applied to the bare legs and backs of this common herd? Instead of a kick or a thrust of the horn they have most generally, like the docile ox at the command or crack of the whip, fallen into line and became the

beast of burden for their lords. Is it any wonder they are called fools? I say "they" advisedly, for I speak of that class as above described and not of the minority that resent every crack of this manipulating whip to the extent of their strength. I know this yoke of serfdom would have been thrown off long ago had all farmers worked as I have worked, and as many others have worked, but we have been overpowered by the cowardly acts of our comrades in giving their assistance to our foes. Is it not a shame and a reproach even upon our wives and daughters of the fair sunny South to yield to these leeches and parasites of commerce and thus acknowledge them our masters? I would rather live on bread and water for the next decade of years than to surrender to this slimy octopus of greed and graft. The masses have acted like a set of imbeciles and crowding their cotton on the market as fast as they could get out of the fields, and that, too, at a price below the actual cost of production, counting their time at the lowest possible living wages. Moody & Co. of Galveston, in a circular letter just issued, say cotton has been marketed more rapidly this season than they ever knew it before. What does this mean? Has the rank and file surrendered to the financial bosses and returned to the old dumping system?

"Uncle Sam's" plan will work perfectly if carried out, though 10 cents is not enough for cotton in this age of high priced living. Even Mr. Moody says the prices realized this season are about equivalent to the 5 and 6 cent cotton a few years ago. But how is "Uncle Sam" to force the average cotton raiser to stick to his pledge? I believe they will generally agree to a pledge, as he suggests, but how few of them will stick to it?

Is it not a shame and scandal to the intelligence of the Southern farmer to cowardly humble down like a whipped dog to the red-handed sharks of cotton speculation? But old Mr. Sharp struts around like a peacock with his tail pulled out, or in his patched ducks unable to meet his obligations in many cases, or send his children to school or even half clothe them, with the cold winds whistling through the cracks of his modest shanty, boasting that he always sells his cotton as fast as he can get it ready for the market. Poor old simpletons, they should have guardians appointed to look after their interest, especially that of their families. If they alone suffered it would be different.

While I indorse "Uncle Sam's" plan, yet I suggest that the minimum should be at least 12c.

But I believe a better plan is to get them to sign a pledge to reduce the cotton acreage of another year at least one-third. One-half would be better and the cotton farmer who would object to this is either a simpleton, or misinformed, or else rascal enough to want to take the advantage of his fellow farmers. A whipping post would be good for the latter and a guardian for the former.

The time has come for something besides threats and noise. There is no use of raising false alarms. We must do something or step down and out. Our lords, for such they are, can no longer be excited in the least by

Notice to the Farmers We Solicit Your Cotton Shipments

¶ We were endorsed first by President E. A. Calvin, and now by President D. J. Neill to store and sell your cotton and finance your crop.

¶ Your interests are our interests; higher prices for you our aim.

¶ Our 37 years experience and hundreds of pleased shippers are our recommendations to you.

¶ We are able to make liberal advances at 6 per cent interest.

¶ Mr. J. C. Albritton, the official representative of the Union is here to look after your interests.

¶ We promise to hold your cotton until you instruct us to sell; then we sell promptly, and render quick returns.

¶ Write or wire us for full particulars or further information.

H. KEMPNER. Cotton Factor, Galveston, Texas.

noise or theorizing. They pay no more attention to this than the croak of a toad, the hoot of the owl or the braying of an ass. In fact, they realize that the average cotton producer has made an ass of himself and in many instances does not exercise half the sense of even a Spanish jackass.

Now, don't understand this as a poke, for it is not so meant, for I certainly believe the "ass" is in advance in many respects of many cotton producers, judging each by his acts.

I am going to reduce my cotton acreage at least three-fourths and am ready to go my hold length and strength in "Uncle Sam's" plan, but the price ought not be less than 12c, as 10c is not more than equal to 6c a few years ago, and people could not live at that. G. T. WALKER.
Auto, Texas.

WAREHOUSE AS A BASE

The warehouse lies at the very base of a new and more perfect system of selling our cotton for the following reasons:

First—It provides a way to protect the cotton from weather damage waiting for the demand.

Second—It bulks the cotton and keeps it off the streets where none but auction buyers have access to it.

Third—It places the cotton where it can be used as a collateral, while we hold for a legitimate price.

Fourth—It places the selling of cotton in line with modern business methods of merchandising.

Fifth—It places the farmer in condition to demand and secure the legitimate price for his cotton.

Many other reasons might be given for the warehouse, but these are sufficient to inspire every farmer to get in line for a warehouse at each point where cotton is marketed and all that is necessary to be able to build at each point is for the farmer to save 50 per cent of the loss of one year without a warehouse.

The writer has a plan by which every cotton market in Texas can get a warehouse for next season, if adhered to, but it can't be done by "cussing" the other fellow and lying idle. A new and better system can only be established by building a new one and, until this is done, we will continue to "cuss" and bemoan and patronize the speculators' system; also pay tribute to him. Establish a new system by building your warehouse and see to it that every farmer places his cotton in it, because he cannot patronize the new and correct system without sell-

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COTTON SEED
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Bagging & Ties.
Correspondence Solicited.

ing it through the warehouse. Until this is done we will continue to follow in the same old ruts. OLD FRANK.

HELP ONE ANOTHER CLUB

Loan to Brother Rather Than Deposit in Bank—Work, Agitate

Editor Co-Operator: I say three cheers and hurrah for Uncle Sam Hampton's cotton pledge plan. Rally, brother farmers, rally, and heartily unite and co-operate, sign the pledge in real good earnest like brave, true, courageous men. Protect home and native land by declaring in a second declaration of independence for freedom and liberty from the long oppressive tyrannical yoke of bondage placed there by plutocrats, speculators, monopolists, trusts, boards of exchange gamblers who have perverted their education and talents from honest principles, intentions and purposes, conspirators who do no manual labor but rob those who earn their living in the sweat of their faces. If I had got 10 cents per pound for the five heavy bales of cotton I sold of this season's crop I would have received \$30 more than I got, which would have greatly helped myself and family, who worked hard to make and gather same. When we consider the thousands of farmers who have sold at a loss of \$25 to \$30 per bale we can form some idea of the immense tremendous loss of money to farmers and their families. I was secretary of Honey Grove Grange for ten years and during all those years I do not remember there ever being a better plan suggested than Uncle Sam Hampton's pledge now proposed for the relief of farmers. Let every farmer act at once and continue to stand united for mutual defence and protection and all will be well for all laboring men, women and children for the present and future generations. Let us establish monuments to our memory for freedom, liberty and independence that will perpetually endure the storms of time. By so doing our lives will not have been in vain—will not have been sacrificed to serving greedy tyrannical monopolists and trusts. Instead of farmers depositing their hard earned money in banks where they do not get any interest but

their money is loaned out to farmers and other hard laboring people at a ruinous usury illegal interest, 12, 15 and 20 per cent, why not help and encourage your hard pressed brother farmers by loaning said money at 6 per cent to farmers who would appreciate help and would gladly and willingly secure loans with their cotton and other farm product they would then be able to hold for a remunerative living price. This plan would prove practical and effective in securing the greatest good to the greatest number. Let us hear from others

on this plan. Continue to agitate, plan and work, for in a multitude of counsel and practical, effective, united, co-operative work there is safety. If our kind, indulgent, patient editor will admit this in our paper that is so nobly defending our just cause, fighting our battles, perhaps I will not worry your patience again soon with as long a communication. Yours for reformation, freedom, liberty and independence.

J. TAYLOR ALLEN.

Honey Grove, Texas.

UNION HAS A PLAN.

County Presidents Seem to Have Offered a Working Plan.

BIG REVIVAL IS NOW ASSURED.

Opinion of the Delegates that Members Will Rally and Hold Cotton.

As the last forms of The Co-Operator close on Tuesday afternoon, it looks like the county presidents, the officials and executive committee of the Farmers' Union of Texas have formulated definite working plans for the working out of a successful selling system for the remainder of this season's cotton crop and that of the coming year. From the reports of those present, when this system is reported back to the counties during the early part of January, it seems reasonably certain that a great revival of Unionism will start up in every section of the state.

As this is being written the report of the committee on resolutions is being considered and adopted by sections and enough has been done to show that the benefits of this conference will be far-reaching in their results. Among matters already adopted are strong resolutions favoring state and national legislation to abolish gambling in agricultural products, providing for the sending of President Neill to Washington to advocate such legislation, demanding the abolition of the convict lease system in Texas and providing for the financing of cotton whenever practicable by local warehouses.

While this part of the resolutions has not been adopted, it is reasonably certain that the conference will recommend to the executive committee that the central selling agency be perfected and that immediately a movement shall be inaugurated providing for the pledging of cotton holding for a minimum price and reducing the cotton acreage the coming year by an increase in the acreage devoted to food and forage crops.

This plan will also contemplate a thorough canvass of every community of the state with a view to securing such co-operation as possible among non-Union Farmers.

About eighty counties were represented when the conference was called to order by State President Neill Monday morning at 10 o'clock, and there were about as many visitors as there were delegates.

Hon. W. D. Williams of Fort Worth delivered the welcome address, after which President Neill made an address outlining what the executive committee and officials had done and

the object of this conference, which, he stated, was to discuss present conditions in the Union and among the farmers and to provide a remedy if possible. In pursuance of this purpose, Lee Satterwhite offered a motion that the roll of counties be called and that each president or representative make a report. Before this was taken up, however, Judge Eugene Williams of Waco was introduced and discussed a proposed amendment to the Vreeland-Aldrich currency bill to provide that cotton certificates may be used as a basis for the issuance of bank note currency, the same as may now be done with government, state and municipal bonds, as well as railroad bonds and other commercial paper.

At the conclusion of Judge William's address National Executive Committee-man J. Y. Callahan of Oklahoma was introduced to the convention and discussed the plan of marketing cotton which is proposed by the national executive committee of the Farmers' Union. He was followed by President Morris of Alabama, who read the plan presented by the committee and spoke further in its favor.

At night Hon. Tom Gaines, representative in the Texas legislature from Comanche county, was introduced to the convention and outlined a bill which he will introduce at the coming session, providing for an agricultural high school in each congressional district of Texas.

Between and after these speeches the roll of counties was called and the representatives of such counties made their reports and recommendations and from them it gradually developed that all that the Farmers' Union of Texas needs is some definite plan to work to which will offer practical and permanent relief to those farmers who are willing to co-operate in marketing their products.

The convention has been harmonious throughout and when it adjourns all will go home with the idea that the organization is on the eve of a great forward movement.

The executive committee will remain in session a day or two, perfecting a plan to carry out the wishes of the conference.

The conference will, perhaps, adjourn Tuesday night or Wednesday, and the full proceedings which are necessary to be made public will be published in the next issue of The Co-Operator.

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We have nothing to do with Cotton Futures.
We protect the interests of our Patrons Honestly and Intelligent.

Our long and successful career is the best recommendation we can offer you.

We have been endorsed by the State Unions of Texas and Oklahoma.

We are under contract with these Unions to handle the cotton of their members. Your actual cotton is held until ordered sold.

One bale receives the same intelligent attention that is given to 1000 bales.

Your every interest is looked after also by J. C. Albritton, the official representative of the Farmers Union, who is stationed in our Warehouse, and our Banking House.

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We solicit consignments of Cotton, and are prepared to advance you liberally against your Bills of Lading. Write us for further particulars.

COLEMAN COUNTY

The Coleman County Union will meet the first Friday and Saturday, the 8th and 9th of January, in the city of Coleman. Every local is requested to send full delegations, also every member of the Farmers' Union of Coleman county is invited to be at the meeting, as there is business of importance to be attended to. Every body come.

T. B. TAYLOR,
President.

Montague County.

Montague County Union will be held at Packer school house on the north side of the county on July 8 and 9. Open door meeting Thursday night, January 7.

All locals please send full delegates, Business of importance.

J. A. RUSSELL,
President.
H. A. TAGE,
Secretary.

Gonzales County

The Gonzales County Farmers' Union will meet in regular session at the court house in Gonzales on Friday, January 8 and 9, 1909, at 10 a. m. A full representation is requested as business of importance will be transacted at this meeting.

GEORGE MINEAR,
President Gonzales Co. Union.

Angelina County

Angelina county will meet in executive session December 29 and 30 with Ozias local. All locals are urged to meet me with full representation, as I will be prepared to give the proceedings of the state convention.

J. QUARLES,
County Secretary.

Callahan County.

Callahan county meets January 6 and 7th at Putnam, Texas. All delegates requested to be present.

J. M. HOUSTON,
President.

McLennan County.

McLennan County will meet January 8 and 9 at Waco at the court house. All locals are requested to have full corps of delegates.

R. A. HORNE,
County President.

	Bales	Active ginned, ginneries.
Alabama	1,263,700	3,447
Arkansas	846,701	2,102
Florida	64,131	255
Georgia	1,869,346	4,449
Kan., Ky., N. Mex.	1,500	5
Louisiana	434,741	1,681
Mississippi	1,440,012	3,454
Missouri	50,386	77
North Carolina	615,191	2,724
Oklahoma	495,252	979
South Carolina	1,180,882	3,207
Tennessee	302,517	639
Texas	3,365,989	4,133
Virginia	11,767	117

Cotton and the Cotton Markets

COTTON AND THE COTTON MARKETS

The idea of a department devoted to cotton, the cotton goods trade and cotton markets has been in mind ever since the present publishers assumed charge of the Co-Operator, but for the reason that we have never been able to work it out satisfactorily to ourselves such a feature has not been inaugurated before. Even now this feature is less comprehensive than we desire to make it, but as we get our plans in process of execution we hope to improve it from week to week so that eventually it may become of estimable benefit to those of our readers who are engaged in the raising of cotton.

A very interesting feature of this department should be the local market reports from the interior towns of Texas and Oklahoma, and especially those in which there are Farmers' Union warehouses. To get these, however, we will have to have the assistance of the managers of local warehouses in making weekly reports and we would be pleased to have at once a postal card from every warehouse manager who will agree to report, on receipt of which we will send necessary cards and instructions and a copy of the paper.

HESTER'S STATISTICS

Weekly Statement

New Orleans, La., Dec. 18.—Secretary Hester's weekly New Orleans Cotton Exchange statement issued before the close of business today shows an increase in the movement into sight compared with the seven days ending this date last year in round numbers of 55,000 bales, a decrease under the same days year before last of 21,000 and an increase over the same time in 1905 of 178,000. For the eighteen days of December the totals show an increase over last year of 268,000, an increase over the same period year before last of 9,000 and an increase over the same time in 1905 of 459,000. For the 109 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is ahead of the 109 days of last year by 1,984,000, ahead of the same days year before last by 627,000 and ahead of 1905 by 1,303,000. The amount brought into sight during the last week has been 537,099 bales, against 482,273 for the seven days ending this date last year, 557,667 year before last and 538,753 same time in 1905, and for the eighteen days of December it has been 1,491,332, against 1,222,860 last year, 1,482,647 year before last and 1,022,500 same time in 1905. The movement since Sept. 1 shows receipts at all United States ports 5,690,521, against 4,324,965 last year, 5,292,418 year before last and 4,686,025 same time in 1905. Overland across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers to northern mills and Canada 591,183, against 242,086 last year, 472,238 year before last and 389,859 same time in 1905; interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of the commercial year 712,211, against 408,920 last year, 551,373 year before last and 536,277 same time in 1905; southern mill takings 883,000, against 886,716 last year, 883,282 year before last and 861,716 same time in 1905. These make the total movement for the 109 days of the season from Sept. 1 to date 7,826,915, against 5,842,686 last year, 7,200,309 year before last and 6,523,914 same time in 1905. Foreign exports for the week have been 272,616, against 284,959 last year, mak-

ing the total thus far for the season 4,010,111, against 3,173,753 last year, an increase of 836,358. Northern mill takings during the last seven days show an increase of 69,223, as compared with the corresponding period last year, and their total takings since Sept. 1 have increased 650,523. The total takings of American mills, north, south and Canada, thus far for the season have been 2,134,854, against 1,523,119 last year. These include 1,293,962 by northern spinners, against 643,439. Stocks at the seaboard and the twenty-nine leading southern interior centers have decreased during the week 93,957 bales, against an increase during the corresponding period last season of 98,496, and are now 469,476 larger than at this date in 1907. Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far from the new crop, the supply to date is 8,108,262, against 6,190,693 for the same period last year.

COTTON AND THE COTTON MARKETS

The past week witnessed a slight tendency toward advanced prices and there seems to be a general feeling that this upward tone will be resumed soon after the holidays. It is coming to be pretty generally admitted that the crop will not exceed 13,000,000 bales, and with a very small amount of last year's crop brought forward, and trade conditions improving, the mills can easily use more than the crop can possibly be.

The movement continues heavy at the ports and this fact has been commented upon daily in the press market reports as the main factor which has kept prices low.

Advices to the Co-Operator are that the most of the cotton now being held is by members of the Farmers' Union and there seems to be no disposition among these to sell at present prices. With the size of the crop now fairly well agreed upon, it would be an easy matter for the farmers to shove the price up to 10 cents, if they would, as one man, keep their cotton at home or store it in their local warehouses and keep it off the market.

At interior Texas towns the price has ranged from 8.00 to 8.25 the past week, middling basis.

NEW YORK COTTON REVIEW

Have Been Too Many Bears in All Sections of the Country

NEW YORK.—Enormous receipts of cotton have at times had a depressing effect, yet it is a fact at once singular and significant that, despite the incubus of a recent crop movement unparalleled in the history of cotton culture, prices actually show a small net advance for the week. Probing for the causes for such a phenomenon, for it is practically that, they are to be found, first, in the enormous consumption; second as a co-relative of this, the recent very heavy exports; third, the cheapness of the price, and, fourth, an overdoing of the short side. There have been too many bears in all sections of the country, owing to the mammoth receipts. But the price is relatively low, and this must be numbered with the most important of the bullish factors. Then, again, the quality is admittedly superior.

World's Visible Supply

New Orleans, La., Dec. 18.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's visible supply of cotton made up from special cable and telegraphic advices

INSURE

Against Water, Weather and Wear



Use "Vulcanite" Ready Roofing and insure your roof against damage by water, weather and wear. It assures long life to buildings and absolute protection to their contents. For over 60 years its superior qualities have been recognized wherever roofing is used. It is today the recognized standard Ready Roofing of two continents, no annual painting; easily put on—not affected by rain or snow, wet or dry, heat or cold; is fire-resistant, acid-proof and smoke-proof. Put on over old shingles it makes the old roof better than new. Before you build or repair write for free booklet, "The Right Roofing and the Reasons Why." Write today.

Southwestern Roofing Company,
DALLAS, TEXAS.
Birmingham Supply Co., Birmingham, Ala.

SPOT COTTON MARKETS

Galveston Spots

Class—	Today.	Last yr.
Low ordinary	3	9-16 6 15-16
Ordinary	4	7-16 8 13-16
Good ordinary	6	1-16 9 5-16
Low middling	7 1/2	10 11-16
Middling	8 1/2	11 11-16
Good middling	9 1/2	12 1-16
Middling fair	9 1/2	12 11-16

Houston Spots

Class—	Today.	Last yr.
Ordinary	4 1/2	7 11-16
Good ordinary	6	9 3-16
Low middling	7 11-16 10	9-16
Middling	8 11-16 11	9-16
Good middling	9 1-16 11	15-16
Middling fair	9 9-16 12	7-16

New Orleans Spots

Ordinary, 5 1/2.
Good ordinary 6 9-16.
Low middling 7 15-16.
Middling 8 11-16.
Good middling 9 1-16.
Middling fair 12 7-16.

New York Spots

Good ordinary 6.60.
Low middling 8.10.
Middling 9.10.
Good middling 9.54.
Middling fair 10.10.
Middling fair 10.60.

Among the Members

SPICY LETTERS FROM MEMBERS AND LOCALS

WICHITA COUNTY STANDS FIRM

Editor Co-Operator: At a meeting of Wichita County District Union, held in this city on Dec. 12, the following resolution was adopted:

"Be it resolved by Wichita County Union, in convention assembled, that we hereby pledge our unfailing loyalty to the Farmers' Union and also pledge ourselves to give our support to its success in 1909 better than the year just past."

GEO. SIMMONS, Sec.

LOCAL AT ENGLAND

Editor Co-Operator: At a recent meeting of our local at England we had Uncle Sam Hampton with us, and he did a great deal of good in the way of reviving our members and putting new life into our local.

I have been reading the Co-Operator and wish that every member would take it, because every line of it is worth reading and is pure and reliable Union matter, from it you can learn what the Union is doing.

O. M. FORTENBERRY.
Seymour, Texas.

WOULD FIGURE THE COST

Milton Graham, president of the local at Harmony, in Coryell county, reports that his local has passed a

resolution that each member will keep a correct account of the expenses of his next year's crop and will make a report of same at the end of the year.

This is a good movement and as a result of next year's reports we suspect that there will be some revision of crop methods in this local.

HAS THE CAN'T'S

Editor Co-Operator: Our local, Lone Star, has forty members, but somehow they are not doing very much in Union matters here and in this county. In fact, Saline county seems to have a bad case of the can't's. We need a good speaker to canvass the county and we would be glad if Brother Neil would send us one. S. J. HALL.
Pineland, Texas.

S. E. Roache, chairman of the executive committee of Cherokee county is doing some excellent work in building up the Union in his county and says that one of his greatest aids is the Co-Operator.

We have an interesting little letter from Laura Furgerson of Lexington, Texas, but on account of so many other communications it is crowded out.

Try our classified columns when you have something to sell or want to buy an article which someone else has.

Notes From the States

REPORTS OF STATE ORGANIZERS AND MEMBERS

HIND SIGHT BETTER THAN FORESIGHT

A Retrospective View of Some of the Features of the Panic

When we consider what organization has and is doing for man and realize the fact that we as farmers must meet organization with organization and we fully realize the importance of a farmers' organization that has within it the absolute power to cope with organized capital, we can then begin to hope for better and more equitable dealings one with the other.

Such an organization we have in the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America. An organization formed six years ago at Point, Texas, by one Newt Gresham. Said organization has grown to be enormous and extended its limits to seventeen Southern and Western states and is now working for state organization in six grain and stock growing states.

This organization has taken into its membership more than two and a half million people. Of course these have not all "stuck" to their obligation.

As is natural with all religious bodies, political bodies, social and fraternal organizations, a very large per cent of their gatherings soon fall away and are lost to the cause they espoused. So we have never been so egotistical as to suppose we would be the exception to the general rule.

What has organized effort accomplished thus far? They have caused the raise in the price of cotton, of tobacco, of peanuts and to a large extent have raised and maintained the price of wheat, corn, oats, pork and beef throughout one of the greatest panics contemplated by man on this American continent.

Cotton, the greatest staple crop of America, has been raised from 8½¢ per pound with a short crop of only 8,000,000 bales produced to 11¢ per pound with a bumper crop of 13,500,000 bales. It has caused the increase in the price of tobacco from about 4¢ to 6¢ per pound to from 30¢ to 36¢ on one occasion.

While just recently the tobacco farmers have closed a deal with the tobacco trust for 80,000,000 pounds at an average price of 19¢ per pound.

Whether this is just and right or not can only be justly determined when we have the real facts before us.

I am credibly informed both by those in and out of the deal that the farmers had offered their tobacco to the manufacturers at an average price of 15¢ per pound, but the manufacturers persistently refused to buy of the farmer tobacco that had been pooled. At all times making the claim that they were getting and would continue to get plenty of tobacco without buying that had been pooled by the farmers.

The fact is they had determined not to buy this pooled tobacco and if possible to break the organization by boycotting and starving the farmers out or into subjection.

These tactics were pursued until prices by competition (the buyers competing for what little tobacco could be secured outside the farmers' organization) until the price was forced up to from 30¢ to 36¢ before

they would yield to the demands of the farmers.

For several months these same factories had been run on short time, or not at all, until their orders had accumulated to that extent that they, the manufacturers, became desperate and opened up negotiations with the farmers' representatives, the warehouse men, who, it seems, were fully aware of the desperate condition of the tobacco trust (for so indeed they were) and they, the warehouse men, now refused to sell to the trust at such prices as they had been asking and really expected.

But now, through negotiations, they entered into a compromise by which the trust agreed to take all the 1906 and 1907 crops that were in the pool to the amount of 80,000,000 pounds and thereby turning loose about \$14,000,000 to the people.

Now, does it pay the farmer to organize? Let's figure this sale alone at the best of former prices, 6¢. It would have brought only \$2,800,000.

Yes, it paid the farmer on this one deal \$11,200,000. Now this is not the result of a band of lawless "night riders" committing depredations on unsuspecting citizens, as the St. Louis papers and others who are either owned or controlled by the speculative interests of the country say, but the accomplishment of a band of honorable, industrious and determined farmers working through a legal organization chartered by the states of Indiana and Texas—chartered for the express purpose of co-operating together to this special end. The protection of the farmers as a class as against the tobacco trust, the cotton speculator, the grain association, the steel trust and every other sort of a trust except "In God we trust."

Now, when we consider what has been accomplished in the tobacco and in the cotton districts, we can begin to contemplate what we can hope to accomplish in the grain and stock belt.

The world must be fed. Will we continue to feed them at their prices or will we, by organization and consolidation, do as others are doing, make the price ourselves on what we produce?

All other classes price their products. The manufacturer prices his output, the distiller and refiner prices his product, the miner prices his mineral, the common carriers, railroads and marine companies, price their services; the lawyer and the minister price their intellect; the miller prices his meal and flour and why not the farmer price his products?

We all concede the fact that it is but just and right for each of these to put such a price upon the product of his labor or his intellect as will pay cost of production, plus a reasonable profit FORESIGHT on the amount invested, and this is what we propose to do by organization and co-operation.

Let us see how this worked during the panic. By the principle of co-operation we maintained an average price of better than 11¢ per pound for cotton when the speculator had at his command and under his control for the time being about 90 per cent of all the cash of the country. With the cash all cornered and no one in the

open market, for the time being, to bid against them, they sought to accomplish the greatest downfall to the South that had ever been accomplished. But by the principle of co-operation we, as an organization, said to Mr. Speculator, you can't have our cotton to fill your contracts with the spinner at 12½¢ per pound, which is from 1½¢ to 6½¢ less than they had ever sold before, for a period of ten years, and which is 4½¢ below their average price to the spinner for same period.

By the principle of co-operation we said to the banking world, we will not sell our cotton at the very unjust prices made by the speculator. And by a co-operative effort held our cotton until an outside party from Europe could come over here and buy a few thousand bales for immediate consumption, which sufficed to hold our stuff off the market until the speculator had to paw his margins or furnish the actual cotton, which they could not buy from the organization for less than 15¢.

Which fact caused the loss of millions of dollars which had been filched from the farmers by unjust methods.

By co-operation we have taught those people the sad lesson "That the fool farmer can stick."

By "co-operation" and the law of "regulating the supply to the demand" we continued to market as the "demand" came, and thereby saved the honor and credit of the nation. When one class alone had so large a per

cent of all the available cash of the country.

Thus, by the co-operation of a band of farmers, we saved the nation from financial ruin and set in motion again the wheels of commerce.

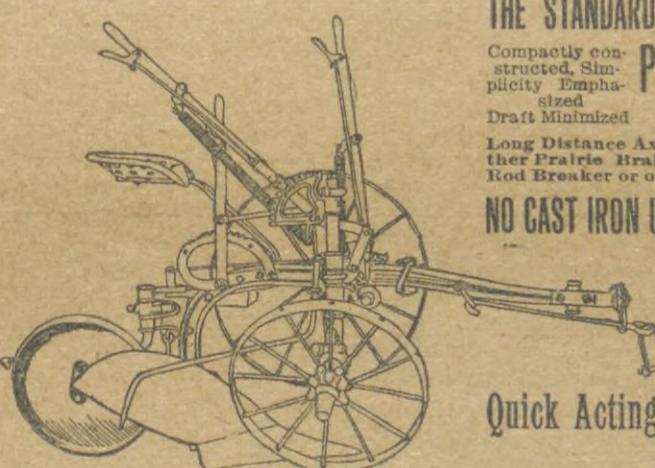
These and many other things having been accomplished by organization and co-operation, we come to the American farmer with a blessing and through him to all the rest of mankind save one, and only one, class, "the speculator."

Thus we come with an organization some 2,000,000 strong and ask you, Brother Farmer, to cast your lot with us and help in the promotion of this, the greatest farmers' organization America has ever known, the "Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America."

Shall we not expect and depend upon you, Brother Farmer, to help carry this organization on to grander and

Here's a Harrow that makes the teams
The Detroit Tongueless Disc Harrow does away with all side draft and sore necks. Sold direct from factory on 30 Days' Free Trial to prove it best. Freight allowed. Our American Manure Spreader sold same way. Write for latest free catalog—of either or both and lowest delivered prices. Address American Harrow Co. 1383 Hastings St., Detroit, Mich.

Valuable Buggy Book FREE
Our new 88 page Catalog shows and describes over 80 styles of vehicles on which we save you from \$20 to \$40 in middlemen's profit and expenses. Let us mail you one free. GOLDEN EAGLE BUGGY CO., Atlanta, Ga. "Station St."



THE STANDARD EXPRESS SULKY

Compactly constructed, Simplicity Emphasized, Draft Minimized, 12-inch, 14-inch, 16-inch, Strong and Safe.

Long Distance Axels furnished with either Prairie Braker, Middle Breaker, Rod Breaker or old Ground Bottoms.

NO CAST IRON USED IN THIS PLOW

Designed and built to secure durability and freedom from breakage.

Quick Acting

Furrow Wheels.

EMERSON MFG. CO., Dallas, Tex.

When writing advertisers please mention the Co-Operator.

Der Canton Staudenschneider

Die gegenwärtige Klasse von Staudenschneidern, wie sie jetzt allgemein im Lande gebraucht werden, entstanden in unserer Fabrik vor etwa 50 Jahren. Von der Zeit an bis jetzt ist der CANTON der leitende Staudenschneider im Markt.

Das Grundsätzliche eines Stauden- schneiders beruht auf die gleich- mäßige Verteilung des Ge- wichts, um erfolgreiche Arbeit zu thun. Dies ist speziell nötig, um gute Arbeit in Baumwollfeldern zu ermöglichen.

Bitte! Euch vor leichten Ma- schinen, welche gemacht sind, dass sie billig verkauft werden können.

Ihr merkt mit diesen nicht zufrie- ben sein; sie sind zu teuer einem breiten Markt. Wenn Ihr einen CANTON kauft, so bekommt Ihr um- stellbarer Schneidemesser, welche man ständig gewechselt und so gut wie nie gemacht werden können. Ihr bekommt grifflössige Staudenbekleidung, welche Sand u. Klar- senhaut, und den Delvordrath sind; das bedeutet leichten Zug. Ihr bekommt Dra- füder, welche den Western Radlauf ge- den, und so billige Arbeit ermöglichen. Für andre Dörfer bezahlt Ihr nur wenig mehr, bekommt aber die beste Maschine, welche eine über 30jährige er- folgreiche Fabrikation erzeugt hat.

Wenn Ihr keinen nicht bekommen könnet, so schreibt für Katalog und spezielle Einführungs- preise. — Wir sind das Hauptquartier von allem was am besten in Wagen, Fuhr- werken und Gerütschaften. Schreibt uns Eure Bedürfnisse.

Parlin & Orendorff Implement Co., Dallas, Texas.

even nobler accomplishments which lie within our reach if we will but enlist and march on to victory.

W. W. FISHER,
Ex-State Organizer for Missouri.

WANTS TO SELL CORN

Editor Co-Operator: I am writing you a letter of inquiry. I am wanting to know if we can sell corn in car-load lots to the Union brothers of Texas. Our brethren in the north and central part of the state have a surplus of corn on hand, and desire, if they can, to sell it through the Union. If you have any knowledge at present of any place in Texas where corn is wanted, please let me know by return mail. Or if you do not know at present and care to investigate, notify me at the earliest date possible. Also giving name and address of any party who can handle it in car-load lots; also what price they will pay, if possible. C. E. HOOK.

Shawnee, Okla.

GOOD LETTER FROM LOUISIANA

Editor Co-Operator: As it has been some time since any one has written to your paper from this parish, will write a little if you will give me space.

I have been a subscriber for the past year and think I will still continue to be a subscriber, for I think your paper ought to be in every farmer's home. It is awfully disheartening now as everything has turned against the farmer. However, we all have dark places to go through.

Our Union is very dull at present. Some of our men have given up and some still have hopes. Some never read papers and never know what is going on. It seems that the largest half is asleep and there isn't enough of the others to keep them awake. They think it is too hard to attend to their business and have to get a big man to do it for them, and pay a large salary for what they can do themselves. We went in to stick and let's show them there is good in it. If we stick we will be sure to win. I saw in your paper where many suggest shipping cotton to Galveston but have never seen any quotation on prices on cotton shipped. I am a subscriber and suggest to Mr. Editor to always quote prices of these places if it is convenient.

We farmers in the broken country decreased our acreage. Some have plowed up their cotton, in order to help the prices, but we are told that Texas is making a million bales more of cotton this year than last, and this seems to us, in the hill country, that Texas is making no sacrifice to help prices.

Bro. Editor, I wish you would explain the cause of this. It seems if this be true they are willing to raise cotton for 5 cents. If this is true we have decided to assist them in this way.

It is well known that the hill country has done all that is in its power to decrease the cotton acreage, and why not Texas grow grain and let us make cotton, as we cannot grow grain to any advantage.

Cotton in our country is the only money making crop we can grow.

Bro. Editor, this is like a wolf among sheep. It has us in such a place we know not what to do. Our business men here tell us that is what is the matter. Texas is making too much cotton and traveling men tell us the same thing. Some say Texas don't practice what they preach. We will have to line up better if we expect to accomplish anything.

I am so interested in this work I thought I would write a little in re-

gard to what our leading men are doing. I hope they will take notice how things are going before it is too late. I will call off for this time, hoping this will escape the waste basket. I thank Mr. Editor for the good letters he has written. Hope he will come again. Yours sincerely,

D. L. FUTCH.

FROM CLAUNCH, ARK.

Editor Co-Operator: Please find enclosed blank for four new subscribers. I am glad to tell the brothers that read the Co-Operator that Lake View local, of which I am president, is gaining in power as well as in number. We have taken in several new members lately and have reinstated five or six. We have in all 51 in good standing of which 11 are ladies. We fully believe victory is ours if we will only half try. Let us not become discouraged, but stand for our rights. Let us plant less cotton and more corn and potatoes, sorghum cane, etc.

Come, let's reason together; isn't it better to plant two-thirds of a cotton crop and sell it for as much as we can a full crop? Let's try it one time and see the result. I have four bales of cotton in the warehouse at Brookland. Let us patronize the local warehouses all we can. Yours for Unionism.

J. M. CRAFT.

Claunch, Ark.

WOULD PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR

Editor Co-Operator: I notice a plan given in the paper Dec. 3 about holding cotton by pledging so much. I highly endorse the plan, but let's simplify it so that everybody may understand it.

In the first place let the locals get together and ascertain how much ground it will take to raise all the corn that they will need and how much for sweet and Irish potatoes, and if wheat country, how much ground for wheat; whether they will try to raise their own meat, and let them sign a pledge that they will do all they pledge to the best of their ability. Of course this pledge allows them to plant the balance in cotton. Now, when the corn, the wheat, the potatoes and hogs are raised and market time draws near for them, let some one in each county visit the locals at a stated meeting and take a pledge that they will not sell their produce for less than a certain price, provided they have any to sell. We have spoken of such as we must eat, but if Tom, Dick and Harry is allowed to sell at the purchaser's price that throws the price of my produce down to the level with theirs and I had just as well sell, but if you will see Tom, Dick and Harry and they agree to sign the pledge, then I am not afraid to sign also. Now, we come to the cotton. Previous to the time of marketing our cotton let some one visit the locals, take pledges of all members and if possible all those on the outside, that they will not sell any above two bales for less than the fixed price, and that we pledge ourselves not to sell more than so many bales at a time.

Let me say, without this pledge the farmers will find no relief. What I want to know is, just how many bales Tom, Dick and Harry are going to hold and that will induce me to do the same.

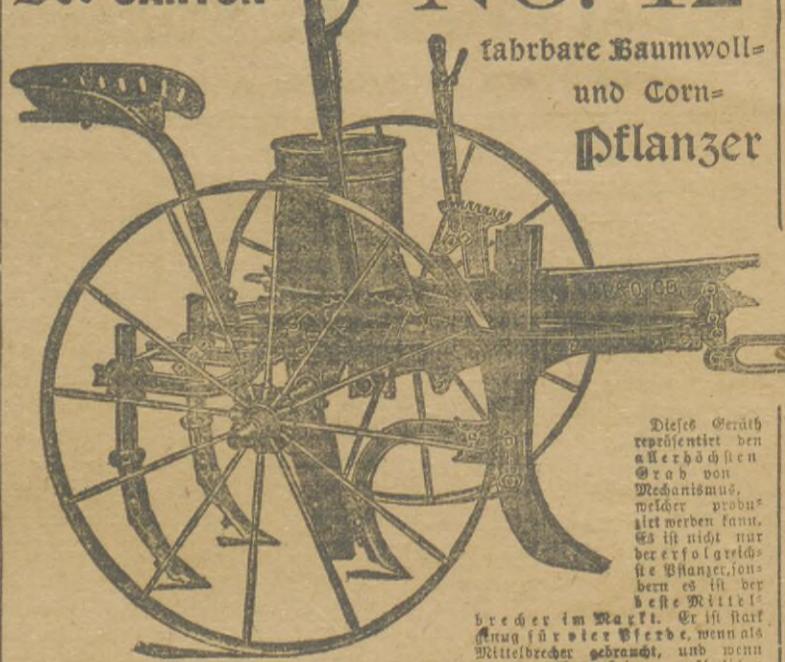
Any man that won't sign this pledge when he is able to do so ought to be expelled from the Union. And any man that will not obey the rules and regulations of his local, state and national Union, is not worthy of membership in them.

Brethren, what good does it do for

Der CANTON

NO. 12

fabrbare Baumwoll-
und Corn-
Pflanzer



Dieses Gerät
repräsentiert den
allerhöchsten
Stand von
Mechanismus,
welcher probu-
gt werden kann.
Es ist nicht nur
der erforderliche
Pflanzer, sondern es ist der
beste Mittel-
brecher im Markt. Es ist sehr
gut für viele Werke, wenn als
Mittelbrecher gebraucht, und wenn
der derselben beim gewöhnlichen

Prüfen in Baumwollböden gereicht, so erfreut wir die Theile ganz und gar.
Es ist mit den berühmten Canton Pflanzungs-Devisen versehen, zum Pflanzen von Baumwolle, Corn, Bohnen u. s. w. welche gut sein muss, da verschiedene unserer be-
deutendsten Konkurrenten dieselbe angewendet haben. Es ist der einzige Pflanzer, welcher einen besonderen Hebel zum Regulieren des vorderen Standards hat, das ist ein Vorhebel, der den geraden Aufschwung im Breite wohl vertritt, der für den Canton ver-
langt wird. Es gibt noch andere Verbesserungen, eben so wichtig, welche nur am Canton zu
finden sind, welche sehr geschickt werden.

Westeht darauf den Canton von Eurem Händler zu erhalten. Wenn Ihr dies
nicht tun könnet, so schreibt an uns für Circular und spezielle Anschaffungspreise. Wir sind
das Hauptmarter für alles, das am besten ist in Farms Gerätschaften, Fahrwer-
ken und Wagen. Schreibt uns Eure Bedürfnisse.

Parlin & Orendorff Implement Co.,
DALLAS, TEXAS

our leaders to devise plans whereby we may better our condition and not be heeded? We prove to be a traitor to them. Our leaders are the wisest and best men that the Union in her judgment could get. Suppose a general of an army was to give orders in a battle and every man was to go contrary or two-thirds were to do so, what would be the result. The one-third would have to do likewise. Thus forcing the willing ones to disobey and the battle is lost.

Now, consider our leaders and obey their plans and say by the help of God we will heed the orders and pledge every bale of cotton possible to be sold only for the fixed price set by the Union, and the result will be a grand victory will be ours. And such a panic has never been witnessed as this cotton panic will be.

There is so many sinners against the leading orders that it makes it difficult for the faithful ones. O, for a revival in the Union camps! Success to the Co-Operator.

J. H. JOHNSTON.
Box 324, Wynne, Ark.

G. T. Chambers of Lincoln, Ark., writes that his local endorsed the idea of securing pledges from those and will agree to hold their cotton for better prices.

FROM OUR MINES TO YOUR BINS

No profits to jobbers or retailers. No traveling salesmen. No unnecessary expense. We save you all there is in it. Why pay two prices for coal? Write us today. The Farmers' Co-Operative Coal Company, Pueblo, Colo.

If your local secretary is not in our contest for the gold watch and library, write and enter it yourself.

Send in your subscription now and get the advantage of our special offer.

Always mention Co-Operator when you write an advertiser.

HARVESTER TRUST HARVESTS MILLIONS

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 3.—How the International Harvester Company of America obtained control of several of its subsidiary plants was told here today when the hearing of the ouster suit of the state of Missouri against the company was resumed before Theodore Brace, special commissioner.

President Wm. R. Jones of Foster, Cal., and J. J. Gleaser of Chicago and Littleton, N. H., director of the International Harvester Company of New Jersey, were the witnesses. Mr. Jones told of a visit to New York in 1902, which he said he made at the request of Judge Cary of the United States Steel Corporation. Judge Cary introduced him to George W. Perkins of J. P. Morgan & Co., who requested him to sell a plant at Plano, Ill. When the check of the sale was signed, Mr. Jones said, all the property involved was turned over to a Mr. Lane to hold until the organization of the new company. Jones said that he was willing to sell the plant because of fierce competition which had demoralized his business, and there was no money in sight for the dividend payments. The sale took place July 24, 1902. When the new company was formed it had a capital of \$120,000,000, of which \$60,000,000 was in cash and an equal amount in stock certificates of the consolidated companies. He said the International Harvester Company had paid dividends since 1902 of \$21,150,000, and has a surplus of \$12,000,000.

Much Land for Settlers.

Austin: The coming year should prove profitable to the prospective purchaser and settler of land as a vast quantity of public domain will go on the market at various periods after the holidays. The widespread interest in public lands in Texas continues to develop. The only difficulty attending the sale is the enormous number of applicants.

MONEY SAVER

Good Cabinet Photos, \$1.50 pr doz
16x20 Portrait and Frame, \$3.00

JOHN SWARTZ,
Photographer,

705½ Main St. Ft. Worth.

Business Announcements

Wants — For Sale — Exchanges

The extremely low rates for advertising in this department make it very attractive to advertise anything you wish to buy, sell or exchange.

The rates are 3 cents per word for the first and 2 cents per word for each subsequent insertion of the same ad. Cash must always accompany order.

In figuring cost for advertisement, each number, sign or initial must count as one word, and the address must also be counted.

All ads in this department will be set in the same size and style type.

The rates of 2 and 3 cents per word applies only in the Classified Columns.

THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR,

FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

ATTORNEY

W. D. WILLIAMS, Attorney at Law, Wheat Building, Fort Worth, Texas.

SAM R. SCOTT, Attorney at Law, Waco, Texas.

C. H. JENKINS, Attorney at Law, Brownwood, Texas.

CLARENCE JUGENT, Attorney at Law, Stephenville, Texas.

MISCELLANEOUS

COLLETT & SEIBOLD, Fort Worth, Texas. Insurance on Cotton and cotton warehouses. 12-24

WANTED to buy milk and cream in large and small quantities. Shaw Bros., Box 30, Fort Worth, Texas.

FOR SALE—Best frost-proof cabbage plants, at 1,000, \$1.10; 2,000, \$2; 5,000, \$4.50. H. E. Simpson, Piedmont, S. C., R. F. D. No. 1. 12-31-P

RAILROAD TELEGRAPHY—We have a scholarship in good telegraph school in Fort Worth, which we will. The Co-Operator, Fort Worth, Texas, sell cheap or trade. Make us an offer

EMPLOYMENT WANTED—I want to correspond with someone in a good locality west of Fort Worth to get employment on the farm. There are 3 or 4 work hands in the family. C. C. Hutchinson, Norristown, Ark. 12-17 P.

WANTED—Active solicitors and local organizers in every locality adapted to fruit and truck growing. For terms write B. M. Anderson, state organizer Texas Home Canners' Association, Palestine, Texas.

BUTTONS—At the national meeting, the F. E. and C. U. of A. passed a resolution to adopt as their official emblem a button with Newt Gresham's portrait in the center. This button is sold exclusively by the daughter of Newt Gresham, at 25c each. Miss Bly Gresham, Point, Texas. 10-29-ff

FOR SALE—The Texas brand of home canned goods; inspected and guaranteed by the Texas Home Canners' Association; best goods; prices right. Try them. B. M. Anderson, Secretary, Palestine, Texas. ttp

AFTER Oct. 20 I can supply my strictly pure Ribbon Cane Syrup to all who want the BEST at a LIVING PRICE. No middle-man's profit. No adulteration; straight from the cane plantation to the consumer. Order now or write for Syrup Booklet. J. E. McGuire, Pledger, Texas. 10-8ff

BUY OR SELL direct from one farmer to the other. We want cane seed, millet seed and corn now. We handle everything farmers raise. The Farmers' Union Clearing House, Dublin, Texas, December 10.

NOTICE—I took first premium at the Dallas State Fair this year on my Improved Rowden cotton; made bale to the acre this year; is an extra early storm-proof five-lock cotton; can pick 450 to 550 a day in this cotton. Write for prices of seed and testimony. J. W. Overstreet, Wills Point, Texas. 1-31-9p

ONLY BARGAINS — We handle land bargains only. Send for folder. A. W. Collier Co., Real Estate, 106 East Second St., Ft. Worth, Texas. 1-7p

PURE LEAF TOBACCO
Raised by a dyed-in-the-wool Farmers' Union man. Fine chew or smoke. For prices to brother Union Men write W. L. Parks, R. F. D. No. 1, Adams, Tenn.

I will vouch for Brother Parks and guarantee his tobacco to be all he claims for it.—Milton Park, former editor So. Mercury.

BUSINESS COLLEGE Scholarship for sale at a bargain. Number of cities and schools to select from. Write for particulars. Box 635, Fort Worth, Tex. tf

LEARN BOOKKEEPING or Shorthand at best Business College in the south. We have a scholarship for sale at a discount. You may select your location. Box 635, Fort Worth, Texas.

FOR SALE—Lumber at first cost, direct from mill to consumer. If you need lumber write me for delivered prices. I can save you money. W. M. Bridges, Rusk, Texas. Route No. 4. 12-17p

THOROUGHBRED CHICKENS

Buff Leghorns, White Plymouth Rocks, perfect fowls; put new blood into your poultry yard. It costs no more to raise the best, and it pays tenfold. Mosley Hill Poultry Farm, Route 2 Siloam, Mo. 12-31

FOR SALE—202-acres farm, four miles southeast of DeKalb, Bowie county, Texas; well improved; three good houses; two good barns; five acre orchard; good water; close to public school; good neighborhood. Will sell or trade for stock of merchandise, groceries preferred. Snow Gro. Co., Mangum, Okla. 12-17p

CO-OPERATIVE COLONY IN CALIFORNIA.

Only 400 memberships. Each colonist gets house and lot and equal share in industries, factories and 8,000 acres of land; \$350 secures permanent residence and employment. If your application is accepted you can come now or later. Write for booklet, 45 Kearny street, room 304, San Francisco, Cal. 12-17p

WHO wants to rent 80 acres of land adjoining the town of Shafter Lake for a period of six years at 17 cents per acre? We have nine sections to be cut into small farms. Eighty acres to the renter near town, and if you want more you can get it just one mile further away. Those who do not wish to build on this land will be given a lot free in the town of Shafter Lake to build on. This is no fake. It is a bona-fide proposition to give the man of small means a chance to make a home in the garden spot of the west. Address J. M. Speed, Shafter Lake, Texas. 12-17p

30 LBS. GRANULATED SUGAR 75¢
with order, other groceries equally as cheap; freight paid on all merchandise east of the Rocky Mountains. (If full amount of cash is sent with order) Free grocery list, jewelry catalogue, etc. WRITE TO DAY
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A remarkable offer by one of the leading ear specialists in this country, who will send two months' medicine free to prove his ability to cure Deafness, Head Noises and Catarrh. Address Dr. G. M. Brannaman, 1362 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

SPUR FARM LANDS

The Farmer's Opportunity
The Spur Farm Lands are now being open to sale, and offer to the homeseeker selections from a body 430,000 acres in extent, all under one ownership.

This immense property is being subdivided into quarter-sections, and sold direct from the owners to the farmer, thus insuring him best values for his outlay, as the land is not loaded with selling commissions.

The first offerings are in Dickens county, Texas. Land produces wonderfully; easily cultivated. Reliable cotton territory, this crop having never

CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY

BY BYRON WILLIAMS

E hear of Christmas early in the country! No sooner have the days faded into twilight at six o'clock, than mother begins her needle-work. When the supper dishes are put away, she takes her place in the sitting room where father is reading his newspaper, draws her work-basket toward her and begins to fashion things which only mother can make beautiful and useful.

"Christmas will be here before we know it," she smiles as father questions with his eyes.

"My, how time flies!" he comments, as he turns his paper.

Night after night she sews and knits and crochets—and no sooner are the children out of the house and her housework finished, than she goes quietly to some deep corner and brings out uncompleted presents for them. Mittens for Willie, laces for Nell, slippers for Dad. Guardedly she works, her ear sensitive to the least intrusion, the slightest danger of a surprise.

And when the children come home after school, she hurries the work into a friendly drawer and turns her soft hands to the regular routine!

At the church, the children hear of the Christmas tree and of the presents for everyone. The Sunday School takes on added numbers and the young men meet the young ladies to string popcorn and fashion decorations.

Delightful occupation! How, in the days now gone, all men have strung their hearts upon the threads and passed them awkwardly to rosy-cheeked maids with hair braided down their backs, with ruby lips and eyes that sparkled with the first love glances!

And the Christmas parties, the sleighrides, the renewing of friendships with those who have been away at school and have returned for the season of gayety and good cheer!

And the stockings that are hung on Christmas eve in the country! In every home they reap their harvest year by year on Christmas morning. Reap their harvest as the "Merry Christmas!" salutation rings throughout the house.

And it is mother, usually, that steals in upon the sleeping ones and wishes them a glad and happy Christmas!

And always on Christmas morning she will do this! Though she be in the land of bliss beyond, or in the flesh of the present, she will speak to us of the Christmas morning, speak to us from her loving heart and wish us happiness. Nor time, nor death, nor changes, nor wars, nor misfortunes ever can take from a man this Christmas wish of mother's:

"A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

From the endless acons of the turquoise sky she speaks to me on Christmas morning—and she speaks to you, too—but, mayhap, nearer by, for Christmas in the country is indissolubly associated with her. And for that reason, Christmas in the country is doubly dear to me—and doubly sacred.

"With trembling fingers did we weave
The holly round the Christmas hearth;
A rainy cloud possess'd the earth,
And sadly fell our Christmas-eve."



(Copyright, 1908, by Wright A. Patterson.)

er failed. Absolutely free from boll weevil—it cannot propagate here. Corn and feed stuffs, and a great range of farm crops produce abundantly. Ideal for hog raising—cholera unknown.

The Stamford & Northwestern Railway is being pushed into this country, and will be operating in time to handle the 1909 crop. Present purchasers get the benefit of best prices,

easy terms, with certainty of railroad facilities and increased value of holdings.

Fine healthful climate, altitude about 2,000 feet, lying below the plains.

For further information, address Charles A. Jones, Manager for S. M. Swenson & Sons, ESPUELA, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS.

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Correspondence Solicited



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AARON SMITH
EDITOR

M. S. SWEET
BUSINESS MANAGER

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at the post office at Fort Worth, Texas,
under the act of March 3, 1879.

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.

OUR AGENTS.

The regular state organizer, Joe E. Edmondson and assistants, J. L. Armstrong, and have authority to collect and receipt Sam J. Hampton, O. F. Dornblaser, Bud Terry, Peter Radford, all state, county and local officials of the Texas Farmers' Union and all duly commissioned organizers whose names are published in The Co-Operator are authorized agents of this paper for subscriptions.

PLANNING FOR BETTER THINGS

Perhaps The Co-Operator has not been all that its readers desired it to be. Certain we are that it has not been and is not yet what its publishers desire that it should be, neither as a farm journal nor a Farmers' Union organ. Plans were formed at the time of its acquisition from its former owners for a great farm paper and advocate of unionism, but the enormous expense of operation and the inability of our subscribers to renew promptly, together with a heavy burden of debt have caused these contemplated improvements to be shoved further and further in advance. Even now, as we begin them, we do so with hundreds of unpaid subscribers on our list, and until they renew, we can go only at a slow pace.

But we are going to risk the cost, and those who read closely will profit enough by the first issue or two within the new year to pay for their subscription, and then some.

In the first place, we are going to give a cotton page, which will be worth many a dollar a year. We shall try to gather data upon the markets, the crop, the cotton trade and general trade conditions which will be not only instructive, but profitable to every man who wants to market intelligently. In this department we want, also, to give the interior local markets, as well as those of the ports, and to this end we ask for reports every Saturday evening from every Union warehouse manager in Texas. These reports will be of

great value. Cards and information will be furnished those who will agree to report.

Next we will have a Livestock Review, which will be to the hog and cattle interests what the cotton department is to the cotton farmer.

An Exchange for New Ideas will afford a corner in which new ideas in farming, selling and co-operation may be discussed. Then there will be a cozy corner for the happy home makers, where all the family may find interesting chats, short stories, real experiences in home building, etc., etc. We want everybody to write for this department, especially the boys and girls between 16 and 21 years of age, and all the ladies. We have not yet decided what we shall call this department, and if you have any name to suggest, you may offer it in your first letter.

Now, a word to correspondents: Please be careful to write plainly, and on one side of the paper only. Always head your letter showing what department it belongs to, and be brief and to the point.

Hoping that we shall all fall in line for a great forward move in the interest of the wealth producers of the nation, the coming year, and wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, we are,

Fraternally,
THE PUBLISHERS.

Because the governor was about to withhold his official commission, the sheriff of Galveston county issued a notice last week that he would enforce the Sunday and gambling laws. This same sheriff would, perhaps, ride miles through sleet and storm to hunt evidence to convict a so-called "night rider," but in this notice he virtually confesses his wilful neglect to enforce the laws he swore he would enforce. And this shameful violation of the law and his oath of office has failed to elicit the usual amount of red ink and big headlines of the daily press which is usually so careful of the good name of Texas.

Last week the country was treated to the disgusting spectacle of the President of the United States sending a special message to Congress in which he resorted to language unbecoming to a street bully, denouncing the editors of the New York World and the Indianapolis News for having urged an inquiry into the deal by which the United States government purchased the Panama canal. For the first time in the history of this government the President has declared it to be his intention to have these editors prosecuted for criminal libel, the meaning of which is to muzzle the press and prevent a full discussion of the policies of the administration of this government. Close observers have noticed the trend among the great commercial interests of the country

toward limiting the freedom of the press, and in our opinion this is one of the most alarming symptoms in the condition of the body politic today. It remained, however, for a President who is posing as the champion of the people to lead this most dangerous attack upon their liberties. It is to be hoped that this attack is not deliberate upon his part, and that he will not continue to lend his influence toward abridging the freedom of the press, no matter what the provocation was.

THE OBJECT OF THE CERTIFICATE PLAN.

When the Co-Operator took up the discussion of the proposition to finance what is called distress cotton by the certificate plan, it did not expect to do more than encourage a campaign of education. Different plans have been proposed for financing cotton and at various times cotton certificates have been suggested. As a matter of fact the editor of the Co-Operator has never looked to any particular financing plan as the key to pricing cotton by the farmer, but rather as a small factor which might be made useful. We believe that intelligent, slow marketing, and the independence which comes from raising the living on the farm, will do more to give the farmer the power to set the price on his products than all other agencies combined. But as the question of financing that part of the crop on which advances had to be secured was being discussed, we gave space to articles advocating the certificate plan; not that we expected such a plan to be adopted this year, if at all, but that the discussion of it might bring out the merits or impracticability of the proposition.

We presumed that the members of the Farmers' Union who read the Co-Operator would readily understand that since no such proposition had been submitted by the Union officials of Texas, the discussion was unofficial and merely educational, and that it represented the personal views of the paper. It appears, however, that some have not understood it thus, as evidenced by their disappointment that the state officials have not promulgated the plan. We deeply regret this misunderstanding, because we would not do anything that would for one moment create any confusion among the membership.

As stated above, the discussion of the cotton certificate plan was indulged in as a means of determining its value for next year's crop, or as an emergency remedy in cases like last year. It was too late to try to do anything with it this year, if it had been already agreed upon as practicable. Hence it should not in any wise be allowed to interfere with the successful carrying out of the plans already matured and being worked out by the state officials and executive committee. There should be no restlessness at the failure of these officials to take up and test out individual pet schemes and plans, for we must rest assured that they, too, are studying these propositions and perhaps see much further into them than many who think they understand the subject fully.

We as farmers, have no doubt, lost more by disloyalty to our leaders and by allowing ourselves to be diverted from the plans provided by them for us than we have ever lost by supporting plans which may not have been the best that could have been provided. We must learn to be loyal to our leaders if we ever expect to win our rights against the combined forces of the industrial and commercial world.

If there is one thing above all others to check the evil, because it would enable and an ideal location for homes for employees, with schools, churches, electric lights, train and electric cars, with none of the disadvantages of a big city like Paris and Dallas. The News is correct when it says our law makers should encourage the establishing of stock yards and packing houses. They are a need to our farmers mainly, and help to finance cotton.

WHY NOT PACKING HOUSES.

During the recent warm spell which followed the cold wave some time ago reports from the country are to the effect that some farmers lost meat aggregating thousands of dollars in value, and had Paris packing house and stock yards, this loss to our farmers could have been avoided. The states of Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and even Kentucky are well supplied with packing houses, with the result that the farmers in those states can sell off their surplus hogs at any time during the year at good prices, and the fact of any farmer losing meat in that section is never heard.

There is no question but what stock yards and packing houses are a great benefit to farmers, and, as the Journal says,

The News suggests that Messrs. Schwarzschild & Sulzberger Company, who seem to help to finance cotton.

Congressman Cooper of Texas proposes introducing a bill in Congress requiring newspapers which have the second class postal privileges to publish the names of their editors, directors and stockholders in every issue of the paper. Such a law would, to some extent, place the public on guard as to the motive for the publication of many articles which appear as news, but which are published for the purpose of making public sentiment for or against certain interests. A short time ago we commented upon certain correspondence in which Congressman Sibley, of Pennsylvania, advised Mr. Archbold of the Standard Oil trust of the urgent necessity of establishing a press bureau for the purpose of educating the public along proper lines with reference to the business of that concern. The Standard Oil is not the only enemy of the people which is thus carrying on a campaign of education in order to strengthen and perpetuate its hold upon the American people, but the same thing is being done all the way down to local affairs. Congressman Cooper's bill would not stop this practice, but we believe that if any of the packing plants want the publication of the names of the owners and editors of newspapers would help some

be looking for a location for a branch of their big packing plant, visit Paris and join the circle of factories now in operation for a packing plant, as a large and growing demand for meats can be reached to an advantage from Paris in several points in Arkansas and Oklahoma, as well as all Northeast Texas.

If the Thirty-first legislature would enact laws which would protect and encourage the building of packing houses and stock yards in Texas, they would do our farmers a real service. Paris has a cold storage plant in which farmers can store their meat until lasting cold weather sets in, and the News has mentioned this fact several times before, but a packing plant would be better. So, let their erection be encouraged by our law makers.—

Had he shipped them to Swift or Armour in Fort Worth he could have got about 6½ cents per pound on the hoof.

Not long ago hogs sold for \$7.05 per 100 pounds, so The Co-Operator agrees with which are having a weekly pay roll of the News and Journal in advocating more several thousand dollars in their midst, but packing houses for Texas, and if the Thirty-first Legislature will encourage stock yards and packing houses a real service will be rendered by them to Texas farmers.

WHY DO NOT OUR SOUTHERN FARMERS ADVERTISE MORE?

Director Dodson Points Out That They Are Losing Money Every Day by Not Advertising All Improved Stock, Poultry, or Seed in Farm Papers.

One thing I am frequently impressed with is the fact that the farmers of the south do not avail themselves of the press as an advertising medium for the disposition of their products nearly as much as they should. We frequently have letters inquiring as to where a given breed of stock or some agricultural product can be secured, and we are usually unable to give this information.

In taking up the agricultural papers and looking through them for advertisements, we find that the products desired are not advertised for sale, although we know these products are to be sold and that the producers are anxious to dispose of their products at good prices.

As a specific illustration, we frequently have inquiries as to where Merino sheep can be procured. We take up the agricultural papers published in the south and go through them and fail to find any advertise-

ment of this breed. We are constantly receiving inquiries for various milk breeds of cattle and the different breeds of swine and inquiries concerning other live stock.

Judicious advertising in our agricultural papers would be beneficial to both the producer and the purchaser.

W. R. DODSON,

Director Louisiana Experiment Station, New Orleans, La., Nov. 4, 1908.

HISTORY OF FARMERS' UNION

Barrett's History of the Farmers' Union will be ready to put on the market within the next few weeks.

No man in the Union is so well prepared to write a history of the Farmers' Union as is National President Charles S. Barrett. He knows fully every detail of the work, and is personally familiar with every particle of its history from its beginning to the present time. In fact, he helped to make most of the history, beginning as he did with the Union in its infancy, he has kept pace with its growth. He has visited many times every state where the organization has been planted, and knows in person all the officials and organizers, and well-nigh its entire membership.

Mr. Barrett has had experiences in

the order that no other man has had, or could have had, and he tells in this history the whole truth about the movement. The bad as well as the good is told. His position as national president and his personal knowledge of the workings of each state organization eminently qualifies him to tell all the ups and downs of the Union. In this history he gives accurate details of things that have hindered the Union as well as details that have helped it.

He ably tells the story of other organizations and what killed them, and forcibly sets before the people of the nation what the farmers have had to contend with.

The man does not live who knows the American farmer as Mr. Barrett knows him. He has mixed and mingled with him in the South, the East, the North, and the West. His opportunity to know him in his home, to know his likes and dislikes have been such as no one has ever had, and hence, he tells the story of the farmer as no one but Mr. Barrett could.

The chapter on the iniquitous dealings of the New York Exchange, the octopus that has been sapping the life-blood of the farmer for more than twenty years, is forcibly told, and is

alone worth five times the price of the book.

Mr. Politician, Mr. Barrett shows you up in good style. Mr. Schemer he certainly makes it hot for you. Everybody ought to have the book just to see how nicely he takes the hide off the scoundrels. He certainly hits them hard.

The book is a substantial one and contains some four hundred and fifty pages with cuts of the state officials and prominent members of the Farmers' Union. Several chapters are devoted to the development of the Union in different states. These chapters give a true and accurate history of the movements of the organization from the first local Union in each state to the present time. Nothing is left out.

A brief history of the Farmers' Alliance, the Grange, and the Farmers' Wheel and kindred organizations are given.

An enormous sale of the work is assured. Various state officials and members of the Union in every state knowing Mr. Barrett's ability and his knowledge of the working of the Union have repeatedly urged him to prepare this history, and they are now assuring him of its universal sale in their states.—Union News.



Intense Fadeless Black

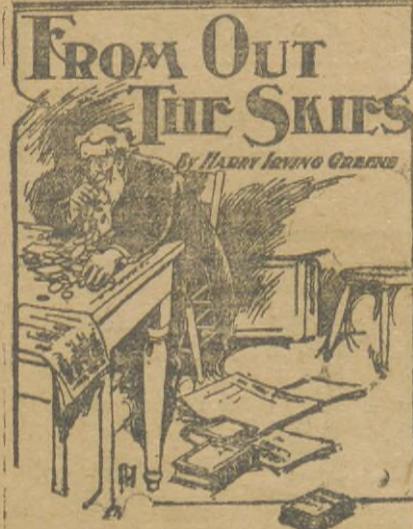
You are always sure of absolutely fast color in **Simpson - Eddystone Solid Black** cotton dress-goods—sure of high quality too. This combination has made and kept them the standard calicoes for over 65 years.

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doubted Providence in the least, but because he feared it might need a gentle reminder at this season of the year when there were so many de-



HERE once lived on a plantation a miser so mean and stingy that even his pigs were eternally disgruntled, while his geese hissed at him as he passed, and his hens cackled derisively at the very sight of him. He never paid anybody more than half of what they were entitled to, and even the mosquitoes avoided him in disgust as having a hide like an automobile tire and with no more sustenance beneath it. No man, woman, child or beast was ever fed by him without rendering services in advance for more than the food was worth, and his neighbors were afraid to shake hands with him for fear that he would steal their finger-nails. He skimmed his milk twice, made his decayed apples into cider, and when his horses got so old they could not work for him any longer he killed them and made them into glue, and then used the glue to stick another mortgage on some neighbor's house. Of course everybody hated him worse than they did the fever and ague, but he did not mind that much because in one way or another he kept getting money and that was revenge enough for him.

Now, half a mile away from this man's house was the little cabin of old Ike Clay and his old wife Sally. Ike was so poor that even the mice could not afford to board with him, much as they liked him, and his poverty was generally due to the fact that as soon as he got anything he would give it away to the first one who asked him for it, for Ike and Sally lived in the belief that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Also they were very humble and religious and devoutly believed in everyday miracles and that the Lord would feed his children even as he did his sparrows and fishes. And up to this time it had always turned out that way, but now the day before Christmas had arrived and the cupboard was as empty as Ike's pockets, and Ike's pockets had nothing in them at all but holes. But his wife's faith was unwavering and she filled the pot with water and put it on the stove that it might be hot and ready for the offering when it came.

"Where our Christmas offerin' is a-goin' ter come from I shore don't know, but the Lord works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform, and I don't reckon he is a-goin' to forget we uns," she said, confidently. But as the day slipped by and no special Providence befell them Ike began to become a trifle nervous—not that he

mands being made upon it. So he decided to make a little special effort of his own. He knew well enough that it would be a waste of time to ask the miser to give him a goose or gobbler, but he had a faint hope that because of the season of the year the old skinflint might perhaps soften enough to give him credit on his well-known honesty. So he set forth in the gathering dusk and sifting snow upon his mission and in a little time was tapping at the miser's back door.

For several minutes he tapped away and scuffed his feet and at last the miser came forth—not as a man comes forth, but in the manner you would expect to see a miser appear, first a nose and then a foot and then a hand and finally the rest of him, as if he grudged even his presence, and stood frowning at Ike through the gloom. Ike's clothes were ragged and flapping in the wind and his toes were leaking from the end of his shoes, but the smile on his face was cheerful and would have made a friend of any one except a miser who loved no man or woman or child or beast, and whose soul was shriveled and warped, and whose conscience was as tough as the hoof of a horse.

"What do you want?" he asked in a voice as disagreeable as the sound of filing a saw.

Ike took off his hat and his bare head began to bob conciliatingly up and down like the bobber of a fish line when the fish nibbles at the hook below. "I has come to see yu', Mistah Skimpum, fo' the reason that I am most pow'ful hungry an' because there is no meat in we-un's cabin. And because this is the evenin' of the most blessed day in the whole world when the good book says there should be peace on earth and good will to man, I am a-goin' to ask yu' to do me a mighty favor."

"I haven't got anything to give," interrupted the miser, hastily. "And I don't believe in Christmas giving, any way. It is merely an excuse for beggary. I wish you would go away."

Ike's head bobbed again. "Yes, suh, but I am not begging. I'll do yu' two days' hard work to pay yu' for a turkey."

"I don't need any help. I do my own work."

"Yes, suh. I know that. But if

you'll loan me a turkey for a couple of days I'll work for somebody else and pay yu' in cash."

"No, I wouldn't trust you. And, besides, if the Lord wanted you to have



"Didn't I Tell Yu' So?"

a turkey he would send you one without your begging for it. So go away."

Ike took a step backward with quiet dignity. "All right, suh, I reckon yu' is correct. Thank yu', suh," he said, and then went plodding homeward empty of hands and as hollow inside as an old bee tree, the wind nipping at his bare toes and howling after him like a wolf, and as a matter of fact the wolf of hunger was very close to him indeed. But Sally did not despair when she heard his story.

"That offerin' is shore a-comin', Ike," she asserted, as she put another stick on the fire to keep the water in readiness. "I don't know jest how we-all is a-goin' to get it, but I feels it a-comin' in the air. And jest yu' mark what I tell yu'."

Then they sat down together by the bare table and listened to the wind. And, my, how it began to howl! Away off in the northwest a great storm had been brewing that day and now it was approaching them like a giant in a rage. And as it passed along it came to the home of the miser and with a growl fell upon it. It gripped the house and shook it as a terrier does a rat, roaring down the chimney and whistling under the door until the shingles flew from the roof like feathers and the bones of the cringing miser rattled together in his fear. Then it pounced upon the fowlhouse, and cuffing off the roof blew with all its breath within, and in a second the night air was filled with flying fowls that flapped and squawked as they went sailing into the distance like puff balls scattered by a blast.

Over in their little cabin Ike and Sally heard the uproar and fell upon their knees in prayer. Frightened

though he was Ike did not forget his hunger.

"They say it is an ill wind that don't blow anybody good, dear Lord," he began. "And I prays that out of this heah mighty gale will fall a few grain from yu' bounteous store." And scarcely was the prayer finished than there came a fearful gust and the crash of a heavy body against the door. And the latch broke and the door flew wide and upon the floor there fell with a thud a ten-pound gobbler, wind-blown and ruffled to be sure, but fat, tender and soul-satisfying—the very bird, in fact, that the miser had fattened for his own sharp teeth.

Sally arose and held the big bird high in her hands. Faith, charity and happiness illuminated her lean face until it shone as from a light within. "Didn't I tell yu' so, old man," she cried, exultingly. "Didn't I tell yu' I felt it a-comin' in the air? Bless the good Lord, for he shorely works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform."

(Copyright, 1908, by Wright A. Patterson.)



Good Cause for Gladness.

"Alas!" sighed the moody man, "there is no gladness for me in this joyous season."

"Tut-tut!" said the optimist. "Surely there is a ray of sunshine for you, as there is for all of us if we but look for it."

"No," replied the moody one. "I have not a single friend, and no relatives with whom I am on speaking terms."

"Cheer up, then," advised the other, with a shade of envy in his tone. "Can't you be glad because you will not have to buy any Christmas presents?"

West Texas Land Opportunities

The Fruit, Vegetable and Agricultural Country of the Southwest, reached via



Write for descriptive literature,

E. P. TURNER, G. P. A.,
Dallas, Texas.

F FARMS
IN THE
PANHANDLE COUNTRY
(Northwest Texas)

Have freed from debt and brought financial comfort to the hundreds who have located there within the past three years; evidence of which was offered by the numerous

FIRST PREMIUMS

awarded exhibitors of the products of that section at the recent

TEXAS STATE FAIR,
as extensively reported and most favorably commented upon by many unbiased and reliable publications throughout the State. Those not so fortunately located should profit by the experiences of others and promptly avail themselves of the many opportunities still open in this wonderfully productive section whose people are broad minded, law-abiding, neighborly, co-operative, progressive, and therefore know the value to themselves of assisting and encouraging New-Comers.

Although land here has increased in value rapidly during recent years, it is still cheap for what it will produce and will be much higher in a few years; but much of it is still offered at prices and upon terms more liberal than available in other tested and proven sections of Texas.

There is still room for thousands without danger of crowding and, to encourage investigation.

"THE DENVER ROAD"
sells cheap round-trip tickets Tuesdays and Saturdays—with liberal stop-over privileges.

For fuller particulars write A. A. GLISSON, G. P. A., Ft. Worth, Texas.

Anuouncements

ERATH COUNTY CALLED

Editor Co-Operator: Erath County Union will convene with the Oak Dale local the first Wednesday in January, 1909. Please give notice in your valuable paper. We hope to have a full delegation, and I would suggest that we have as many of the delegates as we can of last meeting. We try to work in too many who are not acquainted with our business and at every meeting so many new things come up that is impossible to succeed at any one thing. This is a business order and not a political, for change of office. The banks keep their officers when once acquainted with the business as long as they can. The merchant wants to hold bookkeepers and business men, the railroads keep well informed men; in fact, all avenues of business keep their well informed men. But we must, as Union, change every quarter and year. Yours fraternally,

H. M. COURTNEY,
County Secretary.

TARRANT COUNTY UNION CALLED

Editor Co-Operator: Please publish the following notice:

Tarrant County Farmers' Union will meet in regular quarterly session at Labor Temple in the city of Fort Worth Friday, Jan. 8, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m. Every local Union in the county should have a full delegation at this meeting as there will be business of vast importance to the membership.

Our state president has called a meeting of all the county presidents for Dec. 21 and 22 on account of matters of special importance at this time. So come prepared to do business. Yours fraternally,

W. R. BUCKNER,
President.

VICTORIA COUNTY

Victoria County Union will meet with Lone Tree local on Saturday, Jan. 2, at 10 p. m. All locals are hereby notified to elect their delegates and send them to this meeting. We would be glad if some of the state lecturers could be with us at this meeting. We need some help. R. H. TUCKER,
President.

EASTLAND COUNTY

Editor Co-Operator: The Eastland County F. E. and C. U. of A. will meet at Bear Springs Jan. 7 and 8, 1909. One delegate for each twenty or majority fraction in good standing for 4th quarter 1908 and one delegate at large. Business of importance to attend to.

H. A. COLLINS,
County Secretary.

TITUS COUNTY MEETING

The Titus County Union will meet at Oak Grove, four miles northeast from Mount Pleasant, on the 30th and 31st of December. All locals are requested to send full delegations and all Union people are invited to attend. Open meeting the night of the 30th, and we expect some good speakers for the occasion. Come, Union people, and let's enjoy a good time.

L. E. CULVER,
Vice-President.

JOHNSON COUNTY

The Johnson County Farmers' Union will meet in Cleburne Friday, Jan. 1, 1909. J. E. BEENE, President.

BELL COUNTY UNION

Bell County Union will meet at Belton, Texas, Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1909, at 10 a. m.

Let every local in Bell county elect delegates to be at this meeting. We are expecting great things to be done and will have good speakers.

J. N. GRIGGS,
County President.

Bastrop County

The Bastrop County Farmers' Union will meet at Bastrop on Jan. 7, 1909. The officers of all defunct locals are invited to attend this meeting. Brethren, please elect delegates who will attend the county Union.

W. C. RANKIN, President.

O. F. DORNBLASER'S APPOINTMENTS

Editor Co-Operator: We wish you to publish the following explanation and dates of O. F. Dornblaser in Erath county.

Mr. Dornblaser will commence a campaign in Erath county on Monday, Dec. 7, and speak at the following places until the Xmas holidays, after which he will take up his work again here and complete the county, leaving no one slighted. He will be at the county Union at Oak Dale, and there arrangements will be made for all other locals.

Dates as follows:

Monday, Jan. 4, New Hope, 7:30 p. m.
Tuesday, Jan. 5, Lingleville, 7:30 p. m.

Wednesday, Jan. 6, Oak Dale, 10:30 a. m.

Mr. Dornblaser is a new man with new subjects. Come and get his new ideas. Respectfully COMMITTEE.

Per H. K. Rawlings.

DATES FOR COUNTY MEETINGS

The following county Unions have agreed to allow the state officials to set the dates of their meetings and they have been arranged as given below. The object of this is to get the county meetings held in rotation so that lecturers may go from one to the other at the smallest possible expense:

Section 1

Kaufman county, first Tuesday in January.

Navarro county, first Wednesday in January.

Henderson county, first Thursday in January.

Smith county, first Friday in January.

Camp county, first Saturday in January.

Marion county, second Monday in January.

Cherokee county, second Tuesday in January.

Anderson county, second Wednesday in January.

Houston county, second Thursday in January.

Walker county, second Friday in January.

San Jacinto county, third Monday in January.

Jasper county, third Wednesday in January.

Section 2

Jackson county, first Monday in January.

Wilson county, first Wednesday in January.

Frio county, first Friday in January.

Bandera county, second Monday in January.

San Saba county, second Wednesday in January.

McColloch county, second Friday in January.

Runnels county, third Monday in January.

Section 3

Parker county, first Monday in January.

Haskell county, first Wednesday in January.

Floyd county, first Saturday in January.

Remember that the smallest local in the country is on an equal footing with the largest in our library contest.

Majestic Theatre

Better Than Ever

Week of December 28

Two Performances Daily.
Popular Prices.

Magnificent Holiday Program

Music, Comedy, Acrobatic
Clowns, Singing, Impersonation, Dancing, etc.

CHRISTMAS IN
A GREAT CITY
BY BYRON WILLIAMS

In the metropolis Christmas treads upon the heels of Thanksgiving, eager to exploit its wares. The windows of the great stores, that have been tinged with Autumn leaves, now present the entire gamut of holiday goods. Images of Santa Claus appear in bas reliefs, backed with reindeer and sledges, capacious chimneys and snug fire-places. Toys and sweetmeats run riot upon the counters, and the Christmas shopper appears mincingly in the long aisles of the great department stores. There are yet many days for making Christmas choices and the shopper has about her none of that mad scrambling air so noticeable during the last few days of the runaway season.

In the streets Santa works at every corner, asking alms for the needy and the sick, that their Christmas, too, may be brightened and of good cheer. With the giving, the faces of the crowd take on a happier smile; the heart is answering to the message of "good will on earth." Inch by inch we are drawn into the merry-making, the bustle and the spirit of the time. In our minds we are turning over and over the problem of what for this dear one and what for that—and in our list we include those who are less apt to be joyous on this day than we are—and now comes the real joy of Christmas: the doing of good that makes our hearts sing with happiness!

There is the little girl we met away up in the pine woods last summer who will be delighted with a pretty book; the lame boy who sells papers at the corner of Hit and Miss streets, the widow who takes in washing out in the suburb where we live, the jolly boy friend of a business associate who has so many things one cannot just decide on his present, the elevator man who has met us morning and night with a cheery good morning and a respectful good night—and then there are the closer ones: the mother, father, wife and babies!

What a galaxy of needy folk—for all are needy on Christmas day! Those who do not need food, or clothing, or money, need something that will prove our love, prove that we have not forgotten them and that on this, the day commemorating the coming of the King of Bethlehem, our heart is attuned to theirs in gladness and rejoicing.

And now the holly and the mistletoe appear upon the street corners and rushing business men stop on their hurried way homeward to buy wreaths of the green and the red to hang in the windows of their homes and from the chandeliers of their living rooms.

On and on surges the spirit of Christmas!

Like a mighty enveloping shaft of sunshine, it breaks through the clouds of every-day mediocrity and racing across the world sends its glowing glory into every home! Garlands hang everywhere, bells chime and merry laughter echoes through the halls of time. And with the ringing of the crystal spheres, peace spreads her mantle like a cloak and plenty sits enthroned among the merrymaking and the praise!

"Peace on earth, good-will to men."



The FAIRY CHRISTMAS TREE
A Xmas Fairy Story for Children
by EDWARD WRIGHT

IT was an uncommonly late hour when Dan Derrick set out to get some-thing for a Christmas dinner. The bell in the village church chimed twelve, and the sounds came floating on the cold, still air of the forest.

"Tis a fine night for rabbiting, eh, Rough?" said Dan to his dog, as he came to a warren. "But bide a minute," he added.

His eye had been attracted by a little mountain ash growing above the warren. Being a young tree, it had not lost its red, autumnal leaves, and it was laden with berries.

"Now, that would make a pretty Christmas-tree for the little ones," he said.

He pulled it up by its roots from the loose earth, and put it under a neighboring oak.

Taking a net out of his pocket, he fixed it round some of the rabbit-holes in the warren, and said to the dog:

"Now round 'em up, lad; round 'em up!"

Rough knew his work well. He raced like a black shadow across the moonlit waste of snow, to the nearest field of winter cabbages, and there he silently routed out the rabbits, and sent them helter-skelter back to their holes.

"Draat the net!" said Dan, springing out from behind the oak.

Somehow he had not fixed it firmly, and the rabbits knocked it over and escaped. Only one got entangled in the loose meshes.

"One wild rabbit isn't much of a Christmas feast for man and wife and five little ones," said Dan ruefully, as he threw it beside the mountain ash.

"Ah, hal I've caught you red-handed this time, Dan!"

The poacher turned, and found a keeper watching him.

"I'm only after a rabbit," he exclaimed.

"Yes," said the keeper; "I've been tracking you in the hopes that you were after the deer again. But it doesn't matter. Soon as Christmas is over I'll have you up for it."

He walked away, leaving Dan Derrick in a state of hopeless misery. This capped it all. Dan was a wood-cutter. But the winter before his right arm had been crushed by a falling tree, and he had lost the use of it. With the help of Rough, however, he had managed, since this accident, just to keep his wife and children from starving.

Now all that was over. The magistrate would impose a fine on him, and, having no money to pay it, he would be sent to prison. What would become of his wife and the five little ones?

"Well," he said, with an attempt at cheerfulness, "I won't spoil their Christmas by telling them of what's waiting for me a couple o' days after."

He returned home by the way he came, and picked up the rabbit and the mountain ash, and went to bed without saying anything to his wife.

It was to the merrymaking by candlelight

The wife and husband looked up in astonishment. The berries on the mountain ash were glowing with a deep, soft, red light. The tree seemed to be hung with lamps carved out of large round rubies. The inexpressibly beautiful radiance grew richer and fuller and brighter, flooding all the room, and transfiguring, with its strange rose-red tint, the wondering faces of man, woman and children.

"Listen!" said Peggy, who had the quick, fresh sense of a woodland child.

Music sounded faintly in the distance, and then came nearer and nearer. Peggy ran to the door and unlatched it, and into the room there swept a troop of pretty little forest elves. They were all clad in Lincoln-green, except their Queen, and she wore a bodice and a kirtle of pure, snowy silk, with a girdle of gold and a golden hem.

"Thank you so much," she said to Dan, "for bringing the fairy tree in out

of the cold and the snow. It will be much nicer for us to dance by a warm fire this weather than out in the chill forest."

"I'm sorry we've nothing of a supper for you, ma'am," said Doll Derrick. "But if you'd care to taste our rabbit pie?"

"Nol no!" said the Queen of the Elves, touching the table with her wand. "You must permit me to provide a feast for you this Christmas."

The table at once became covered with a splendid dinner. There were roast turkey, and Christmas pudding and grapes, and nuts and sweets, and boxes of crackers, and every good thing, in fact, that the heart of man could wish for.

"No" said the Queen of the Elves, "while you are all enjoying yourselves we will do our Christmas homage to the Lady of the Mountain Ash. Strike up, my merry harpers!"

Four little men, with four little harps, sat down by the fire, and began to make a sweet, faery music, and the Queen and the other elves took hold of hands, and danced round the red-lighted mountain ash. And as they danced they sang.

If there was one thing that little Peggy Derrick liked even more than Christmas pudding it was dancing; and there was besides, a strange and delicious charm in the music that the elfin harpers were

playing. "Oh, let's go and dance, too!" she cried, "and finish the feast afterwards."

She got down from the table, and her four brothers followed. Then her mother came, and at last Dan himself, now trembling with anxiety, joined them.

As they whirled round, the lights on the mountain ash grew dim, and about the tree a soft incense gathered, and took on the form of a lady of wild, unspeakable beauty, clad in vapory, trailing robes. When the dancers gave over, she was standing beside the tree in the center of the ring, and gazing at Dan Derrick. There was a kindness in her glance, but, for all that, poor Dan's knees shook under him.

"Well, all's well that ends well," she said. "But you were a very bold man, Dan, to bring me into your house in so unceremonious a fashion. I had half a mind to slay you outright last night!"

Dan then had a glorious inspiration.

"It was well for you that you didn't hurt me, ma'am," he said very respectfully, yet firmly. "Look what I've done for you

that they all looked forward. The morning they spent in gathering holly, and the afternoon in decking the cottage with it; and Dan himself forgot his troubles in a secret work of decoration. Shutting himself in the shed, he planted the mountain ash in a deep box filled with leaf mould, and clipped off a few unsightly leaves and tied bits of gayly colored paper on the branches. When the rabbit pie was at last placed on the table in the full light of the solitary candle, he told his two eldest boys to bring in something which they would find in the shed.

In the meantime his wife, Doll, served him with some of the pie. But with the first piece of rabbit that he ate, the thought of his misfortune overcame him, and he burst into tears, and told his wife what had happened. She took the news in a very strange way.

"That, that!" she cried wildly, pointing to the mountain ash, which the boys were bringing in. "You pulled that up? Oh, now I understand! Now I understand! 'Tisn't the first fairy tree you've hurt. What were you doing last winter when the elm fell on your arm? Oh, you mad, senseless man!"

She covered her face with her hands and wept, rocking herself to and fro in utter grief. Dan gazed at her blankly. Even now he didn't understand what she was raving about. Was the thought of his misfortune driving her out of her mind?

It was bad enough, surely, but she needn't take it in that manner. He came and sat beside her, and bent tenderly over her, and tried to comfort her.

"Look at the Christmas-tree, mammy!" shouted the children, dancing with delight and clapping their hands. "Look at the Christmas-tree, daddy! Oh, isn't it lovely!"

Before departing back into the fairy tree, she stroked Dan's arm; and he was able to open the door with it as he said good-night to the Queen of the Elves and her troop.

Dan now grows the best apples in New England, and he has a very good crop of them in the worst season.

"I say, Mr. Derrick," said a stranger one day, "why don't you root up that useless mountain ash in the center there?"

"Oh, that's what some folks call a fairy tree!" said Dan. "They say it brings a man luck."

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ENTIRELY CURED BY CUTICURA

"Eczema appeared on my son's face. We went to a doctor who treated him for three months. Then he was so bad that his face and head were nothing but one sore and his ears looked as if they were going to fall off, so we tried another doctor for four months, the baby never getting any better. His hand and legs had big sores on them and the poor

little fellow suffered so terribly that he could not sleep. After he had suffered six months we tried a set of the Cuticura Remedies and the first treatment let him sleep and rest well, in one week the sores were gone and in two months he had a clear face. Now he is two years and has never had eczema again. Mrs. Louis Beck, R. F. D. 3, San Antonio, Tex., Apr. 15, 1907."

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MEITZEN WRITES ON POLITICS.

The following article was sent in by Brother Meitzen in time for our issue of October 29, but we considered it inadvisable for the interests of the Farmers' Union to continue the discussion of partisan politics, and for that reason it was laid aside. Brother Meitzen has felt that he had a grievance and has taken the matter up with President Neil, and writes us that the latter has promised him that the letter will be published. We therefore publish it and refrain from comment, because a reply would naturally call forth the we scussion of partisan politics would thereby be dragged along indefinitely.

—Ed.

Editor Co-Operator:
Hallettsville, Texas, Oct. 18, 1908.—

You have seen fit to disagree with some points of my article printed in the Co-Operator of October 15, I trust at you may forgive me for coming again. I shall use as little of your space as possible.

To sum up your objections, we find them to be: First, that the monopolists do not need any party in particular to rob the people; they seek to control and do control all dominant parties and will control the new (Socialist) party as soon as it gets strong enough to be worthy of their notice.

Second, you urge purification of the old parties by the membership of the Union, each working in his respective party, and argue that that will do the work.

Your first objection, Mr. Editor clearly shows that you have no idea how fundamentally the Socialist organization differs from that of all other parties.

Not in the history of the world has any political party been so completely in the hands of its rank and file as is the Socialist party. Every important officer, be he local, county, district, state or national delegate, organizer, chairman, secretary or committeeman, is both nominated and elected by a direct vote of the party membership and can at any time be removed by a direct majority vote. Also, every nominee for an office, except candidates for president and vice president (who are selected by convention) are selected in the same way and must invariably file with the party authorities signed resignations both from the nomination and from the office to which they are nominated, so that in case of necessity these resignations can be instantly put into effect. And, by the way, no one can be nominated for any office up to governor who has not been a party member for one year. And a nominee for a national office must have been one for three years, whereby is cut out the "eleventh hour" convert with which the Populist party has had so much trouble.

No platform or constitution, local, district, state or national, can be adopted without being first ratified by a majority of the party membership, who can also at any time demand to vote on any proposition affecting the party. In fact, there is not a single part in the machinery of the Socialist party that cannot be promptly gotten at by the membership.

No person can have a voice in the affairs of the party unless he is admitted to membership in a Socialist local or becomes a member-at-large and agrees to abide by the party laws and principles, though of course no one is debarred from voting the ticket. Any member who SEEKS a party office or nomination advocates fusion.

accepts office from other political parties or otherwise violates the party laws, is subject to expulsion. In England, for instance, John Burns was "bounced" for accepting a cabinet position from a capitalistic government. In Italy, France and Germany several were read out of the party for similar offenses. In this country John H. Walker, state president of the Illinois Miners' Union and a leading Socialist, was forced to resign his membership because he had advocated for the governorship John Mitchell, a Democrat. In this state the charter of a large local was forfeited because it had failed to expel members guilty of fusion deals. In this county in 1904 the undersigned, though a known and outspoken Socialist, had to give up his membership for the length of time that he held a county office that had been obtained through a non-partisan white man's primary.

After a careful perusal of the foregoing, do you begin to understand why the monopolists are not going to control the Socialist party? They could not corrupt it unless they corrupted a majority of the members, which is, of course, out of the question. The old parties, however, are so organized that it is only necessary for the monopolists to buy off a handful of leaders in order to obtain control of the party. The only direct say so the "common herd" has in the management of the old parties is in the selection of precinct delegates and of nominees up to governor, subject, however, to the juggling of corrupt "machine" bosses, for whose disposal by direct vote no provision is made. The selection of the most important party officers, the formulating of the most vital party policies and principles must be left to a few politicians. In view of these facts, is it any wonder that monopolists control the Democratic and Republican parties?

As to the editor's suggestion that the Union members should try to purify their respective parties I would point out that their political efforts would thereby be divided, and thus, instead of union we would have division. Furthermore, it would be a most stupendous task for them to gain control of a party organization already owned bag and baggage by the monopolists.

TWO CO-OPERATOR
How much easier and simpler would it be for the farmers to join a party of the working class whose platform, constitution and program are in perfect accord with the aims and objects of the Farmers Union, and whose management is absolutely in the hands of its membership?

In conclusion I will say that the editor does not deny the logic of my statement that "the withholding from the market of two million bales of cotton would frighten the speculator far less than if two million votes were cast for Debs and Hanford next November."

E. O. MEITZEN.

HOW THE PRESIDENT CAN MAKE COUNTRY LIFE ATTRACTIVE.

Editor Co-Operator:

If our President wants to make farm life attractive, and by that means to induce young men to remain on the farms instead of seeking employment in the towns and cities he can do so by making farm life profitable. This can be done by the repeal of our iniquitous tariff laws which forces every man, woman and child of the 58,000,000 inhabitants of the United States to pay two prices, or nearly so, for every article they want compel them to

buy that the 30,000 tariff beneficiaries may build up fortunes, some of which run up into the hundreds of millions. We import rice, sugar, tobacco and some other farm products. As these products are imported they can be and are protected by an import duty.

But not so with cotton. We export cotton and consequently an import duty on it would bring the farmer no relief, but an export duty would. The writer has to suggest that at the next national meeting of the Farmers' Union you send a delegation to Washington asking Congress to pay the farmer an export duty of \$15 per bale on cotton—about \$200,000,000 annually—to continue while the cotton farmer is taxed for the benefit of others.

Where some one may ask would the government get the money. Getting the money is dead easy. All the government would have to do to get the money would be to levy an income tax on inheritances, bank checks and drafts and all bonds, stocks, mortgages and other forms of indebtedness. This would place the farmer on a par with other citizens, would make farm life desirable and would check the exodus of young men from the farms to the cities.

J. C. KUYKENDAL.
Wrightsboro, Texas.

There ought to be 500 contestants for our libraries and gold watch.

See our gold watch and library offer on last page.

WANTED—To give free consultation to every afflicted man and woman; for I am positive that my Special and Specific treatment is almost an infallible cure for skin eruptions, blotches, blood disorders, anal, rectal and contagious diseases, syphilis, scrofula, gonorrhea, leucorrhea, spermatorrhea, gleet, unnatural drains, impotency, weakened or lost vigor of the sexual organs, ovarian and womb displacements, irregularities or painful menstruations, nervousness, hysteria, scarey feelings, backaches, kidney and bladder troubles, tired and all rundown feelings. Should you be one of these unfortunate sufferers it will be to your own interest to see me. Dr. N. Bascom Morris, office 611½ Houston st., Fort Worth, Texas. Phone 1993.

Our great subscription bargain offer is renewed in this issue, but will not be extended again.

Read our want columns. There are things advertised there every week that interest you.



MEANS' IMPERIAL STRAIN Barred Plymouth Rocks

Won at Weatherford, 1908, 50 birds competing, 2nd tie, 3, 4, 5 cock; 1 cockerel; 1, 2, 3, 5 hen; 2, 5 pullet; 2, 4, 5 pen; 1st best display of Barred Rocks. 1907—1, 2, cockerel; 1, 2, 4, 5 pullet; 1, 2 pen. Also winner at Dallas State Fair, 1908. I have bred them 10 years. This speaks for the quality of my stock. Eggs and stock for sale at all seasons at reasonable prices. Write your wants.

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THE National Co-Operator and Farm Journal has made a special effort to secure a list of newspapers and magazines of a high-class and valuable for their news or educational features, which at the same time are in the reach of everybody. As some of the clubs offered below are about one-half the regular publishers' prices, we believe we have succeeded remarkably well. Read them over; you will find something for every member of the family.

The Co-Operator and Home and Farm, one of the leading agricultural papers of the South, \$1.25.

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Send all subscriptions to
NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR, Ft. Worth, Texas.

Fruit, Truck and Canning Dept.

By B. M. ANDERSON, PALESTINE, TEXAS.

Readers of The Co-Operator who are interested in the fruit, truck or home canning industry are invited to write short letters of general interest for publication or ask for any information pertaining to this department. Direct all letters to the above address.

ANNOUNCEMENT

To the Members of the Texas Home Canners' Association: Co-operation is essential to success in the home canning industry. The widely scattered membership of an association cannot successfully co-operate without keeping in touch with the work through some established medium of communication. In the discharge of my duties as secretary of this association the correspondence becomes too burdensome to reply to all of it through personal letters. I attempted to establish a medium through which this work could be facilitated and the members be kept in close touch and informed on all matters of interest pertaining to the home canning industry. As much of the work is educational, I published the Home Canner Monthly from April till September, but finding the financial support given it was not sufficient to pay the actual cost of printing the paper, I consolidated it with the National Co-Operator and was given editorial charge of a fruit, truck and canning department, affording an established medium with an extensive circulation for carrying on this work and relieving me of the burden of expense in maintaining the publication of the Home Canner. I therefore urgently request every member of the Texas Home Canners' Association who are not already subscribers to the National Co-Operator and Farm Journal to send me your subscription for this splendid farm journal, which is truly devoted to the best interests of the farmers. If you cannot send a dollar for a year's subscription, send for a trial subscription of six months for 50 cents, or till July 1, 1909. While I have been for some time so very busy that I could not send contributions every week for the fruit, truck and canning department, yet it will be open for letters from any member on any matter of interest to this great industry of the South. Kindly send orders or communications for this department to me at Palestine, Texas.

B. M. ANDERSON.

Fruit and Truck.

To the Texas Home Consumers Association:

While the past season has been one of unusual activity with most all canning concerns, yet the results have been unsatisfactory and unprofitable to many of them, and especially has it been so to the home canners' association. A combination of unfavorable conditions, circumstances and influences unfriendly to the home canning industry is responsible for these results.

The Home Canners' Association, being young and just passing through its crucial period of existence was not in a condition to successfully cope with this powerful combination that has opposed the success of this young home industry.

But notwithstanding the discouragement and disappointments that have been met, there has been some sub-

stantial progress made, some strong points of advantage gained which are essential to the permanent success of this important home industry.

New and unforeseen conditions have arisen since the organization of this association which must be met if this industry is established on a permanent basis. The last two years some wholesale grocery houses were quite willing to buy the home canned product but this year they refused to buy any of them at any price. Unfair and unjust discriminations have been made against this home industry this year in Texas.

It is not our purpose, however, to criticize or find fault, but simply state facts and conditions as we seem them, in the hope that all those who are interested may get together and find a practical solution of the problem that confronts them. "In counsel there is wisdom and in union there is strength." This association being unincorporated, without financial responsibility, was not in a condition to make contracts for future delivery of canned goods, which is the established custom of selling this produce. This is a serious defect in our organization which should be remedied at the earliest possible date.

While there was a committee appointed for this purpose at the annual meeting of the association in Henderson last January and it failing to report another like committee was appointed at the Jacksonville meeting last July. It is to be hoped that this committee will make a report to the annual meeting, which will be held in Palestine on Tuesday, January 12, 1909. This should be the best attended and most important of all the meetings held by this association. The interests are too great and the welfare and prosperity of too many people are at stake in the establishment of this home canning industry to fall through indifference or neglect to respond to this urgent need of getting together into a closer and more effective business organization that will enable us to meet the condition that confronts us and permanently establish this great home industry for the betterment of the conditions of the growers and canners of food products in the South.

Every member of the Texas Home Canners' Association should if possible attend the annual meeting in Palestine on Tuesday, January 12, in person or by a chosen delegate from the county locality. All growers or canners of food products are cordially invited.

B. M. ANDERSON,

Secretary.

SMITH COUNTY'S LESSON IN DIVERSIFICATION

Charles Herndon of Tyler has compiled and is circulating through the Tyler Commercial Club a very interesting booklet of facts entitled: "Smith County, the Land of Diversified Farming and the Heart of the Great Fruit and Truck Belt." Statements of the main features of the county are given in tabloid form, alphabetically arranged, and the growth of the fruit and truck industries is strikingly shown in percentages. Some of the statements are:

Tyler's strawberry shipments have increased in the last nine years 12,400 per cent, or an average of 1,377 per

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This book gives valuable information on every phase of Lost Manhood, Varicocele, Stricture, Blood Poison, Skin, Nervous and Rectal Diseases, Kidney and Bladder Complaints, and many other chronic and special diseases peculiar to Men and Women. It contains plain, solid facts that Men and Women of all ages should know. Do not give up all hope and think yourself incurable because you have tried other treatments in vain. Send for our book. It will give you a clear understanding of your condition and show you the way to regain your health and happiness.

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SEEDS

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PLENTY OF TIME YET

While several locals have entered our library contest, none of them have sent in enough subscriptions to give them any material advantage over new comers, and as we have extended the contest until Feb. 1 there should be a large number of new entries next week.

The rules of the contest make the premiums within the reach of any local which hustles, as the winner will be decided by the number of subscribers in proportion to number of members.

There are three premiums to locals and two to agents or secretaries. Why not try for one of these? You will help the farmers of Texas whether you win or not and you have as good a chance to win as anybody else.

Another Month in which to Work

A large number of Locals have entered our Library Contest, but want more time in which to canvass. Therefore we have decided to postpone the closing of the contest one month.

MONDAY, FEB. 1, AT 12 O'CLOCK NOON THE CONTEST CLOSES

Positively, no further postponement will be made and all who want to try for this excellent library should now go to work in earnest. **Another Premium.** Besides the gold filled watch to the winning agent or secretary, we will give free to every agent who sends ten annual subscribers a beautiful \$1.50 fountain pen. The books named below are not all from which selections may be made. We will send a complete list to the winners before they make their selection. There are a large number of books for boys and girls not on the list herein published. Get to work now and help strengthen the Union by circulating Union literature.

Our Proposition

We will present free to the three local unions sending the highest number of annual subscriptions, or equivalent, in proportion to paid up membership by 12 o'clock noon, February 1, 1909, three handsome libraries, as follows:

To the local sending the largest number, fifty volumes.

To the local sending the second largest number, twenty-five volumes.

To the local sending the third largest number, ten annual subscriptions to the Co-Operator.

Each annual subscription shall count one, each three months' subscription, one-fourth and each six months subscription, one-half of an annual, so that all will count.

Any local which desires to contest for the premiums must notify us at once. A record will then be opened and every name sent in by or from that local will be recorded, with the amount paid and date. However, every subscription sent under the contest MUST BE SO STATED WHEN SENT, in order that we may give credit.

At the end of the contest this record will be submitted to the state president and secretary and they will be asked to declare the result under the conditions herein named.

The awards shall be made to those locals which shall have sent in the first, second and third largest number of annual subscriptions or fractional equivalents, in proportion to paid up membership on the first day of October, 1908. This will put all locals on an equal footing, regardless of numbers. For instance, a local having twenty members will have to send in one more than twice as many subscriptions as a local having only ten members.

In event of a tie between three locals or less, the premiums will be combined and then divided equally between them. If more than three tie, the premiums will be awarded according to some plan to be agreed upon by the successful ones.

Locals which have sent in lists since the first of September may have them credited on this contract by writing us a special request at once.

An Agents Premium

In addition to the above premiums to the banner local, we will give a twenty-year gold filled case watch, standard make, lady or gentleman's size, to the local secretary or local agent who sends us the largest list of subscribers before 12 o'clock February 1, 1909. Following are the terms:

No general or county organizer will be allowed to contest for this prize.

First—Where a local secretary has been acting as agent, he will be recognized as the contesting agent of such local. Where local secretary does not act and no one is elected agent, the first member who writes will be appointed.

Second—To enter this contest, such secretary or agent must write at once, asking to be entered and giving his name, office, union if an officer, name of local and postoffice address.

Fourth—In event of a tie the value of the premium may be divided among those sending the largest lists or awarded in such manner as may be agreed upon by them.

Two Premiums for One List.

Under the above propositions two credits will be given for every subscription when requested. First, the local will get credit; second, the agent who sends it in. To secure these credits, however, it must be requested when subscriptions are sent in.

What the Members Get

The members of the union, the individual subscribers of the Co-Operator will be the chief beneficiaries of this campaign for subscriptions in proportion to the amount they invest. If the Co-Operator's subscription list were doubled, there would be twice as much cotton held off the market as there is now. That would mean from \$5 to \$10 on every bale of cotton yet unsold. Therefore every man who helps increase its circulation helps to advance the price of cotton, and if one-fourth our readers will secure one new subscriber each, they will make back more than the cost of their paper on every bale of cotton they sell.

Special Offer

We are going to make the subscription price cheaper, however, by sending the paper from now until February 1, 1910, to every person who pays up back subscription, and \$1 in advance, per

To those who owe no back subscription and to new subscribers the paper will be sent until February 1, 1910, for \$1 in advance.

The Library

The books to be given away under this offer are printed on good paper and neatly bound in cloth. They embrace books of travel, history, romance, fiction, poetry, philosophy, and are just the thing for a circulating library for the pleasure, instruction and profit for both old and young. The locals which win them may rest assured that they will not lack for interest the coming year. Besides, the premiums of fifty and twenty-five volumes herein offered, which are purchased by us, we will secure from five to ten extra volumes of government records which are needed for reference in every local union.

The local secretary should be made librarian and each member allowed to keep a book a reasonable length of time and return it. By this means each member has the opportunity of reading every book in the library. The value of such a library is an educational factor cannot be estimated.

Books Comprising the Library

The winners of the premiums may select their books from the following list, or we will select for them, if they prefer. Note the wide range of subjects covered:

Arnold, Edwin.
Browning, Mrs.
Byron.
Cary Alice and Phoebe.
Child Harold's Pilgrimage.
Coleridge.
Courtship of Miles Standish.
Cowper.
Dante.
Emerson, Ralph Waldo.
Familiar Quotations.
Favorite Poems.
Goldsmith.
Hemans, Mrs.
Lady of the Lake.
Language and Poetry of Flowers.
Longfellow.
Lucile.
Moore.
Cushing's Manual of Parliamentary Rules.
Webster's Every Man's Own Law.

Brownies and the Farmer.
Bible Stories and Pictures.
Anderson's Fairy Tales.
Children's Life of Jesus.
Oliver Optic's New Story Book.
Our Country, Illustrated.
Life of Benjamin Franklin.
Life of Daniel Boone.
Life of Patrick Henry.
Washington and His Generals.
Deerslayer, J. Fennimore Cooper.
Pathfinder, J. Fennimore Cooper.
Red Rover, J. Fennimore Cooper.
Alice in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll.
Helen's Babies, John Habberton.
Lamplighter, The, Cummins.
Little Lame Prince, Miss Mulock.
Prince of the House of David, Ingraham.
Wide, Wide World, Susan Warner.
Black Rock, Ralph Connor.
Bondman The, Hall Caine.
Count of Monte Cristo, Dumas.
Elsie Venner Oliver Wendell Holmes.
Guy Mannering, Sir Walter Scott.
Ivanhoe, Sir Walter Scott.
Lena Rivers, Mary J. Holmes.
Quo Vadie, Henryk Sienkiewicz.
Romance of Two Worlds.
Talisman, The, Sir Walter Scott.
Thelma, Marie Corelli.
Descent of Man, Darwin.
Koran of Mohammed.
Last Days of Pompeii, Bulwer.
Napoleon and His Marshals, Headley.
Bill Nye's Sparks.
Bitter Sweet J. G. Holland.
French Revolution, Carlyle.
Natural Law in the Spiritual World, Drummond.
Origin of the Species, Darwin.
Our Planet, Its Life History Gunning.
Three Men in a Boat, Jerome.
Wandering Jew, Eugene Sue.
Red Headed Boy, Peck's.
Holy Living, Jeremy Taylor.
Imitations of Christ, A'Kempis.
In His Steps, Rev. Charles M. Sheldon.
Stepping Heavenward, Mrs. Elizabeth Prentiss.
Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow, Jerome K. Jerome.
Burns' Poems.
Hiawatha, Longfellow.
Prince of the House of David, Rev. Professor J. H. Ingraham.

Get busy and receive one of these valuable Premiums. Write at once and have your local and yourself recorded as contestants. Remember you and your local may both win.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATOR & FARM JOURNAL, Ft. Worth, Tex.