

President Talks to American Farmers

AFBF Supports AAA Program And Demands Extension Of Many Features

Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States, addressed the farmers of America at the opening session of the 17th Annual Convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Chicago, on Monday, December 9th.

The American Farm Bureau's 17th Annual Convention continued through the 10th and 11th of December with the organization considering all matters

generally affecting the welfare of agriculture and went on record with resolutions outlining the Federation's program for 1936.

In general, the organization strongly endorsed the Federal Administration's agricultural program and urged further extension of many features on this program.

E. A. O'Neal, Pres.
American Farm
Bureau
Federation

M. L. Wilson, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, for Federal Agencies; F. W. Peck, Cooperative Bank Commissioner of Farm Credit Administration; Chester C. Davis, Administrator, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, were representatives of the Administration addressing the Farm Bureau Convention at its various sessions.

The 17th Annual Convention of the Farm Bureau was preceded by a two-day meeting of the Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Farm Bureau Defends

AAA Processing Tax

Early in December, oral argument was heard by the United States Supreme Court in the famous Hoosac Mills case testing the constitutionality of the processing tax feature of the AAA.

A 116-page written brief was filed by the Hoosac Corporation attacking the process tax features of the act.

"Taxation without representation," "insidious effort," congress has abdicated," and "bureaucrats," were among the phrases denouncing the AAA, in the document filed by the company.

The Corporation brief asserted the amendments were a "fraud, in essence, upon the powers declared to congress by the people."

The filing of this brief was followed by a "friend of the court" brief filed by the American Farm Bureau Federation defending the processing taxes and holding them comparable to protective tariffs for industry.

Farm Bureau lawyers maintained that the taxes are intended to provide for the general welfare, and asserted that the determination of congress as to what constitutes the general welfare "is one for which courts will rarely, if ever, substitute their own judgment."

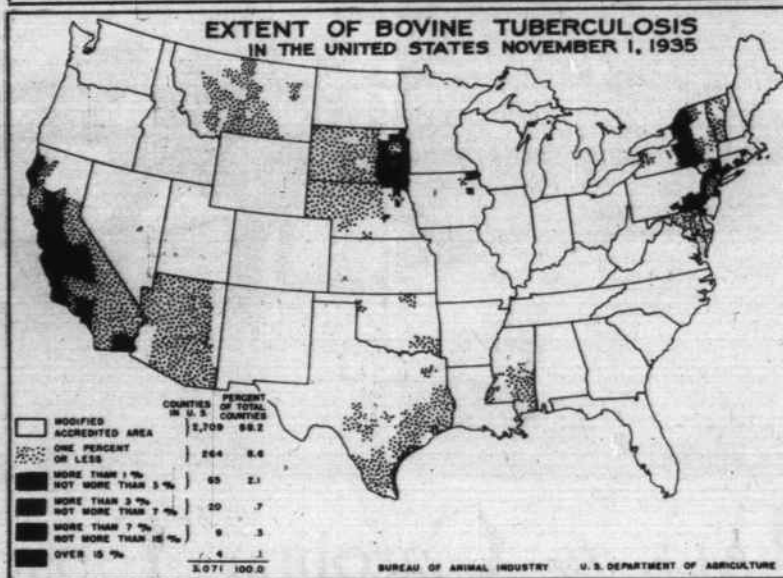
Japanese Cotton Imports

Alarm U. S. Planters

Continued increases in shipments of cotton cloth to the United States by Japan is causing considerable apprehension among both cotton planters and domestic textile interests.

In October of 1935, Japan sent seven times as much cotton cloth into the U. S. as in the corresponding month in

South Winning Bovine T. B. Fight



BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Southeastern states generally rank high in the campaign for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis, according to recent reports of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture.

The states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky are all 100 per cent modified accredited areas. Maryland is thirty-nine and one-tenth per cent accredited, and sixty-six and seven-tenths of the area in Delaware is accredited. Accredited areas are practically free from bovine tuberculosis (less than one-half of one per cent as shown by official tuberculin testing.)

On August 1, 1930, only three states in the United States had all their counties accredited. On May 1, 1934, there were thirteen. On November 1, 1935, there were thirty-one states. In this area was included 2,700 counties, parts of four counties, District of Columbia, one hundred and five towns in Vermont, and one municipality in Puerto Rico.

Trade Agreement Meets With Both Support and Opposition

Throughout December, the Reciprocity Trade Agreement between the United States and Canada signed November 15, 1935, was a subject of considerable controversy among farm leaders and others interested in agriculture.

Immediately on the heels of the signing of the pact, National Grange delegates at the 69th Annual Convention of that organization in Sacramento, California, went on record opposing the treaty as "certain to prove injurious to the growers of many American farm products."

Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, in a press statement felt that the agreement would benefit the "whole of agriculture."

Citrus growers in Florida anticipated an increased Canadian market to result from the treaty and felt that it balanced Florida losses from the

1934. And this comparison was roughly true for the first ten months of 1935.

Early in 1935 quiet efforts were started in the Department of State to persuade Japanese exporters to voluntarily limit their shipments to this country.

During the first ten months of 1935 the net gain in importations of cotton cloth from all countries was actually less than the increase in Japanese imports. This indicates that the Japanese gains have been made at the expense of other foreign supplies.

American cotton growers are particularly concerned with this situation since government figures show that Japanese consumption of American cotton fell off 100,000 bales last year. Japan is turning to India as a source of cotton. Total cotton consumption in Japan increased sharply last year, in spite of the large decrease in purchases of American cotton.



Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture

Cuban Trade Agreement in so far as it affected the Florida vegetable industry.

George N. Peek, Special Advisor to President Roosevelt on foreign trade and president of two federal Export-Import Banks, resigned his federal positions on December 2nd.

Peek was known to be in sharp disagreement with the Secretary of State Hull's foreign trade policies and especially the Canadian trade pact.

Under the agricultural concessions in the Canadian agreement, Canada reduces the duties applicable to the United States on a large number of fruits and vegetables, livestock products, poultry and eggs. The principal concessions made by the United States are in the form of duty reduction on cattle, cream and certified seed potatoes. In each of these cases, the duty reduction applied only to a special quantity of imports. Other Canadian agriculture products upon which duties were reduced included cheese, live and dressed poultry, horses, grass and other forage crop seeds, maple sugar, turnips, hay and certain fruits.

In a release for publication, the United States Department of Agriculture states "a large part of the decline in our agricultural exports to Canada from \$50,000,000 to \$15,000,000 in the past five years should be recovered in consequence of the Canadian trade

Grange Outlines National Policy

National Group Oppose Canada Trade Pact; Ask For AAA Amendments

In Sacramento, California, in November, the National Grange held its 69th Annual Session. Thirty-five states were represented in its voting body which deliberated for nine days on the varied needs of rural people.

Seventeen hundred members of the organization at Sacramento received the highest degree of the Grange. At the biennial election the organization endorsed National Master Louis J. Taber for another two-year term following his progressive leadership for the past 12 years.

Has 800,000 Members

The Grange represents 8,000 subordinate units with a dues paid membership of 800,000.

Outstanding actions taken by the Grange in their annual session included demands for amendment and simplification of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, better agricultural financing facilities, restriction of holding companies, extension of rural electrification, reduction in rural unemployment, rigid economy in Government and a balanced budget, and the elimination of political influences from the administration of farm organizations.

The Grange went on record opposing reciprocal trade practices or favored national treaties using industrial products to the disadvantage of agriculture and especially condemned the reciprocity treaty with Canada.

Opposes Resettlement

The Grange also opposed the Resettlement Program except "when carefully considered and guided by sound common sense." It also opposed reduction of present tariff rates on seed potatoes, hay and other farm staples.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a member of the Grange for a quarter century, sent a personal message of greeting to the Sacramento convention.

Ask AAA Amendments

In regard to the AAA, the Grange asked that the act be amended to increase farm control and eliminate bureaucratic methods. It also asked that a reward be given farmers for growing crops for which there is a shortage, and for development of new crops; crop insurance for thrifty farmers to the extent of a return equal to seed and labor investment; prevention of crop signers from growing crops of which there is a surplus.

Permanent features of a definite agricultural program endorsed by the Grange looked to the development of cooperative marketing; diversion of agricultural products to industrial uses; a sound land use program with definite efforts to check soil erosion; reforestation, and the debenture method to open foreign markets.

agreement.

Secretary Wallace, commenting on the Canadian pact said in part "there are a few farm groups which will fear their being held by the new agreement, but actually in these cases the tariff reductions are moderate, and in addition, there are quota restrictions of such a nature that imports from Canada cannot affect the American price structure by more than 1 percent. This small effect in my judgment will, as a rule, be more than offset by the increased payrolls of industries established along the northern border and in the northeastern states."



Louis J. Taber, Master, National Grange