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FARMERS UNION IN NEBRASKA PAYS

Notwithstanding Strong Opposition, It Now Has a Membership of 120,000—Products Sold by the Cooperative Plan

Omaha, Neb.—When the farmers of Nebraska decided to form a union and sell their own live stock instead of marketing thru the regular live stock commission men, four years ago, April 1, 1917, the regulars predicted failure. But the farmers by starting at the Omaha terminal market the only cooperative selling agency on any live stock market, have found that the plan has greatly increased the number of dollars in their pockets. The Farmers Union Live Stock Commission of Nebraska, in spite of the fact that it is regarded as an outlaw by the regular commission firms, has proved that cooperative selling is a paying venture.

On the second floor of the big live-stock exchange building in South Omaha are two unpretentious office rooms where the business of the Farmers Union is transacted. C. H. Watts is general manager. Here business aggregating millions of dollars in a year is done. In 1917, when the Farmers Union set up its commission office in South Omaha, C. H. Gustafson was its president. The new United States Grain Growers, Inc., recently elected him president. Mr. Gustafson's successor, C. J. Osborne of Sidney, Nebraska, is said to be highly efficient. At a meeting of boards of directors of a half dozen organizations, including the Farmers Union, in Omaha April 22, a union of all the farmers, selling and buying organizations in Nebraska for mutual cooperation was launched. It was then decided to meet in Omaha in May to formulate the plan of union.

Commission men from the start did not look kindly on the producers getting into the field and taking the best trade away from them. They have fought the union at every turn, but notwithstanding, the farmers have gained. The agency at South Omaha operated at a loss the first seven months of its existence. In the eighth month there was a gain and by the end of the first year it was possible to return to patrons 38 per cent of the commissions paid. At the close of the third year 50 per cent was prorated to the members. Having made so much of a success of the office in South Omaha, a house was installed at the St. Joseph, Missouri, stockyards and another at Sioux City, Iowa. Today the Farmers Union has a membership of 126,000.

The Farmers Union report for 1920 shows that the total business handled by the three houses in 1920, including Omaha, Sioux City and St. Joseph, was 11,596 cars and 686,000 head of live stock. This business handled by the union amounts to \$40,000,000. It represents in the matter of commissions \$185,538.18 with expenses at \$92,926.40, making a net saving of \$92,611.78, or nearly \$100,000 saved to its members in 1920. The union handled business for over 400 shipping associations in 1920. The business for the first three months of 1921 indicates a steady growth. Total cars handled in January, February and March of 1921 at the three houses was 4613; commissions, \$84,080.63; net savings, \$56,963.73.

According to General Manager Watts the three houses are run on a strictly cooperative plan. Savings are prorated to all cooperative live stock shipping associations, to members of the Farmers Union and members of any other state-wide farmers cooperative organization. "We retain," said Mr. Watts, "at each office, a sum equivalent to the charges made under the rules of the Live Stock Exchange (known as 'commission charges'), to defray operating expenses. The business is conducted at actual cost, all savings being prorated in January of each year to our patrons, according to the amount that was held for operating expenses."

By having a direct contact between buyer and seller, the cooperative saves one commission. Patrons live in many states, though the Farmers Union is a Nebraska institution. General Manager Watts says: "We don't solicit business the way the oldline firms do. Every time a commission firm sends a man out into the country to see a shipper the farmer in the end has to pay the expenses of the trip. We don't entertain shippers when they come to town to get their business. We depend on the members of the union in different localities to get their neighbors to patronize our firm. We are doing business fairly and

squarely. We are not in the game to tear down the business of the old-line houses. We have our own field, we charge the same rates of commission that they do, and we live up to their rules as promulgated by the live stock exchanges."

HINDENBURG IS STILL A MUCH ADMIRER

This Was Manifested By the Prolonged Applause Given Him At Ex-Empress' Funeral

Potsdam, Germany, May 6.—The affection and admiration which German people still entertain for Field Marshal Von Hindenburg was manifested by the throngs who gathered to attend the funeral of the Empress Augusta Victoria.

The German princes passed virtually unnoticed through the crowds but wherever the popular field marshal went there was a murmur of admiration which frequently swelled into prolonged applause. Even the communists who could be distinguished by their remarks were silent before Von Hindenburg, although they spoke loudly about "tin soldiers" as other high officers passed.

There was an amusing incident when the "hero of Tannenberg," arrived before Wildpark station, where the services for the empress were held. As he descended somewhat heavily from an automobile, the great string of medals about his neck was disarranged.

A silk-hatted, white whiskered man and a policeman rushed to rearrange them and met head-on. The silk hat was dislodged and rolled upon the pavement, and the policeman stood in a daze.

In the meantime a half dozen officers in full dress of generals had gathered about the "old man of the Masurian lakes" and carefully arranged the medals, while others helped the Field Marshal put on his high, tasseled cap, which he had been unable to wear in the confines of the closed car.

When Von Hindenburg appeared at the station to depart, the streets for many squares were packed with excited crowds which raised a tumultuous cheer and again and again, until the train was out of sight, the "hochs" resounded from thousands of throats. A short time previous, Prince August appeared on the station platform, and was received with a few lifted hats, but without cheers.

Governor Morrison's Wish For Every N. C. Family

Governor Morrison wants every North Carolina family to have a garden, a few chickens and a cow. And this paper is making bold to ask the Governor, before he distributes his chickens and gardens and cows, to see to it that a "pig-tight and bull-strong" arrangement is made whereby the neighbors' chickens will be kept out of the garden and off the premises of the neighbors. Neighborhood rows without number have been promoted and feeling engendered that was mean enough to resort to murder and arson, by the habit of some neighbors wantonly, wilfully, and with malice aforethought, rearing chickens on other neighbors' gardens and lawns. If Morrison can think up something to stop that he will have won glory enough for one administration. But if he proposes to distribute chickens and gardens promiscuously, with nothing to keep them apart, then he is fixing to raise more—well, trouble, than he can quell with the state militia. The cow stables on small lots may not become a nuisance, breeders of flies and disease. But chickens and gardens without a separation that really separates won't do; and if the Governor doesn't know that some of his friends should coax him into a corner and have a few words of plain speech with him—Statesville Landmark.

Reynolds Tobacco Company Reduces Wages 20 Per Cent

Winston-Salem, June 4.—The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company announced today a reduction of approximately 20 per cent in the wages of operatives in the various plants here. Action does not affect office employees. The company states that plants will be operated five days a week instead of four, and that many employees will have the privilege of working five and a half days if they wish. This is the first reduction in wages the company has made since the beginning of the European war, during which several advances were allowed.

10,000 MILL OPERATIVES ON STRIKE

Charlotte, Concord and Other Towns Affected

Charlotte, June 1.—Charlotte, Concord and Kannapolis are the centers of the textile strike movement originated this morning at 10 o'clock when it is estimated that more than 10,000 mill operatives in these three centers left their looms and spindles and instituted the strike which for weeks has been impending.

In Charlotte, the mills notably affected are those owned by the Chadwick-Hoskins company, a string of five mills, four here and one in Pineville; the Johnston Manufacturing company and the Highland Park Manufacturing company, the mills owned by C. W. Johnston and associates. The Cannon mills in Concord and Kannapolis are under the ownership and management of J. W. Cannon.

Three or four thousand operatives are idle in Charlotte and immediate vicinity. Concord reports that the strike in that town and in Kannapolis involves more than 6,000 employees. Gaston county mills, nearly 100 of them, are unaffected, and so are those in Cleveland, Lincoln and Union counties.

The reason that the strike fell so heavily upon Charlotte, Concord and Kannapolis and so lightly upon other mill centers in the state is explained because of the strength of the United Textile Workers of America in the three first named communities. The union is not on all fours in Gaston county where its ranks, it is said, have become seriously eroded by conditions prevailing in the textile industry during the past 12 months. The same is the situation with the Cleveland mills. Union strength in those establishments is so outweighed by non-union forces that the strike could not be put on there. Where the local union of the United Textile Workers of America represents a maximum strength of the working forces in the textile mills, the strike was instituted; in those other centers where non-union strength prevails, the strike was not ordered for obvious reasons.

The strike of textile workers in the Charlotte district is in connection with the nation-wide protest against wage reduction began Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. Employees of the Chadwick-Hoskins system and the Highland Park system were the first to walk out.

Search Is To Be Made For Lost River Of Gold

Edmonton, Alta., June 1.—Search for a lost river—a river of gold—will be undertaken this year by several prospectors, including old-timers from the Yukon and Alaska, who are here now outfitting for the long journey. This lost river bed, where the Peace river once flowed, is somewhere in the big bend of the Peace, bisected by a line drawn from Fort St. John to the mouth of the Battle river.

Some years ago an Indian brought into Fort St. John a fair-sized gold nugget which, according to the tale told by old-timers of the north, he discovered in a stream in the country to the northeast of the post.

Soon after this an old trapper, a white man, who made Fort St. John his headquarters, came into the Fort with a quantity of coarse gold which he had washed from some stream in a similar direction to that from which the Indian hailed.

He never visited the trap lines after this, living on the fat of the land in carefree idleness at the post. He often disappeared, whenever his supplies of necessities ran low, and would be away for a few days, always returning with a fresh supply of gold.

This aged trapper lived in this manner for a number of years. He died, as many trappers and north countrymen have, on the trail. His body was found frozen. With him went his secret, he never having told to anyone the location of his find. The books of the Hudson Bay Company still contain a large credit account in the name of the old trapper.

Northmen, who tell the story of the mystic El Dorado north of the Peace, declare that the gold was only available after a heavy fall of snow, with which the old fellow apparently washed his mineral. From an analysis of the circumstances generally, it is thought that the place from which the gold was taken was some old river bed where the Peace once flowed, but whether the story is correct or not remains to be proved.

Prospectors, however, are putting up good money to test the truth of the theory that the precious metal does exist somewhere to the north of Clear Hills in large quantities.

GERMAN TRIALS MERIT CONFIDENCE

British Solicitor-General Says Public Can Have Faith in Alleged War Criminals' Trials

London, Eng.—That the Leipzig Court, where the prosecution of German war criminals is progressing, is one in which the British public can have the fullest confidence is the view expressed by Sir Ernest Pollock, K. C., Solicitor-General, who has been in charge of the prosecution and has now returned to London, leaving Sir Ellis Hume Williams in charge of the British case. The German court is one of great authority and the equivalent in position to the Privy Council. The president is a man, Sir Ernest said, of striking force of character and of marked impartiality, who was very stern on occasions toward the German accused.

The British witnesses were given full opportunity of stating their case, and were examined with fairness, while their evidence was exceedingly well interpreted by a German who had taken his degree at Aberdeen University.

With regard to the sentence on Sergeant Heine of 10 months' imprisonment, Sir Ernest added: "You may take it that it will be carried out, and it dates from Monday last week. It is equivalent to a sentence of imprisonment with hard labor and involves dishonor."

A Scotland yard inspector, in charge of the witnesses, who was present at the trial, said he thought the sentence was fair having regard to the fact that a number of the gravest charges made were not proven, and that in some cases there appeared to have been a certain amount of provocation.

These views will in all probability allay public indignation in Britain at what has been called the inadequacy of the sentence passed on German war criminals at Leipzig, which found expression in the newspapers, and was also raised last night in the House of Commons, where Sir Gordon Hewart, the Attorney-General stated for this part, that what was proved and proved per contra he did not know, but for himself he proposed to wait till he had full information.

Taft Must Wait For Chief Justice's Post

Washington, May 31.—President Harding will probably name former President William Howard Taft chief justice of the United States Supreme court, although the appointment may be deferred for two or three years.

Senators have informed the President that there would be much opposition to the appointment of Mr. Taft at this time. This would not be manifested in the vote, which so far as the Republicans are concerned would probably be unanimously in favor of the former President. Some of the senators have disliked articles written by Mr. Taft and others do not approve some of his decisions on the war labor board.

Mr. Harding is quoted as having told callers at the White House that he intended to promote Associate Justice Day to be chief justice and to name George Sutherland, former senator from Utah, associate justice. The arrangement was to be that Justice Day should retire in about two years after which Mr. Taft would be offered the place.

It was hinted today that Mr. Taft was receiving much attention for immediate appointment, the inference being that the President is weighing the two plans.

Protest On Physical Examination Rule

Asheville, N. C.—Protest has been made to the board of city commissioners against the practice of public physical examination of pupils at the Asheville High school. As a result, pupils in the future will only be examined by city school physicians, in the presence of their parents or a member of the Parent-Teacher association, according to an announcement of A. J. Hutchins, principal of the school. City Commissioner Sherill said that the law had been in effect for some years, but that he did not think it was compulsory, and that the parents, if they so desired, could have their children examined by their family physicians. The protest which brought action was filed by E. E. Stanberry, who has his children in school.

A Negro scientist of Tuskegee, Ala. has discovered 107 uses for the sweet potato. They range from mock oysters to cereal coffee.

RACE RIOT IN OKLAHOMA TOWN

Tulsa Scene of Serious Outbreak—80 or More Dead

Tulsa, Okla., June 1.—Race riots today resulted in the death of 80 or more persons, including nine whites, and the injury of scores, according to estimates by the police, and in the destruction of 10 blocks of homes in the negro quarters. Despite the placing of the city under martial law today, desultory firing continued during the afternoon, but the city this evening was comparatively quiet. Four companies of the national guard under Adjutant General Barrett are on duty.

The reported death list grew all day. At noon the chief of police notified Governor Robertson, at Oklahoma City, that the total was 75. In one statement, Major Charles W. Daley, of the police department, put the figure at 175, saying he believed negroes had been burned to death in their homes.

Later this evening, police headquarters had reports that conservative estimates of the dead would be about 25 white persons and 60 negroes.

The trouble is declared to have started last night from the arrest of a negro charged with attacking a white girl, and subsequent attempts of negroes to rescue the arrested man. Comparative quiet prevailed in the later hours of the night but at day-break a group of negro houses were set afire and the city firemen were prevented from fighting the flames. Armed white men then formed a circle about the negro sections.

For several hours during the morning parties of negroes and whites faced each other across railroad tracks, on which could be seen a number of slain negroes.

With the arrival of Adjutant General Barrett and a machine gun company from Oklahoma City a semblance of order was restored. Several thousand negroes were assembled under guard at Convention hall, the baseball park and the police station. Orders were issued for the disarming of all persons not belonging to the guard or especially deputized.

Detachments of the National Guard were scattered about the city at strategic points, especially about the negro quarter, where 10,000 to 13,000 negroes, it is estimated, reside. Nearly half that number are under guard.

Dick Rowland, the negro whose arrest led to the disturbance, was removed from the city to an unnamed destination. Officers declared he would be given an early trial.

Prompt medical attention was given to the wounded. Civic organizations and citizens who volunteered their services cared for the negro refugees, to whom ice water and sandwiches were served throughout the day. Special care was given to the aged and infirm and a call was sent to nearby towns for available nurses.

After the firing of the first shot last night, at Sixth and Boulder streets, the fighting spread to various parts of the city, including the business section. At one time 2,000 armed white men were reported to have engaged the negroes.

Railroad stations were the scenes of several encounters, and a number of casualties resulted when trains were fired upon. Women and children huddled together in the stations, seeking safety behind marble wainscoting. In addition to the negroes under guard at Convention hall and elsewhere, 24 negro riot prisoners were in the city jail.

Ends Perfumed Kiss

Elimination of the "perfumed kiss" is the latest result of prohibition. It has been blacklisted by the dry chiefs who warn maidens against scenting their lips with violet or rose flavors. Those familiar with the kiss say that hereafter it will be followed by a chemical reaction.

Two things will put the jinx on the "perfumed kiss." Dimethoystrichine is one. The other is brucine sulphate.

These are two chemicals which government officials have ruled must go into all perfumes and toilet waters to render them unfit for beverage purposes. Perfumed lips bearing a dose of either of these drugs will give a "kick," second only to that of strychnine, said officials.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Miners searching for gold along a river in British New Guinea encountered a bluish-gray flakish substance which they discarded. This substance was osmiridium, a member of the platinum metals and one of the hardest metals known to science. It is worth about \$150 an ounce.

POTATOES RAISED IN MICHIGAN AT LOSS

Six Dollar Seed and \$5-a-Day

Labor Left No Margin of Profit in Sales—Crops Are Offered at 30 Cents a Bushel

Detroit, Mich.—The story of the potato in Michigan in 1921 is a sad one. Six-dollar seed, planted by \$5-a-day help, in ground worth \$200 per acre last summer raised one of the greatest crops in the history of the potato belt of the central part of the state. Today the farmers would gladly sell their crops at 30 cents a bushel, but few are finding customers. Thousands of bushels will be taken from pits and strewn broadcast as fertilizer.

As a result of this condition there will be a small crop planted in 1921. Another result is added impetus to the attempt to form a potato growers' exchange.

While stories that farmers were offering their crops to any who might come and take them away are largely exaggeration, the situation is clearly explained by John Carruthers of Owosso, who operates the largest potato farm in Shiawassee county, the center of the industry, as follows:

I cannot afford to give them away, for the reason that if I did those who came after them would not have the tools to get them out of the pits, and I would have to furnish them, as well as giving my time and that of my men to overseeing the removal of the potatoes.

Mr. Carruthers now is shipping several carloads of potatoes to the east as 28 cents per bushel; this will just about cover the cost of sacking and loading them.

Last spring Mr. Carruthers planted 100 acres of his farm, of several hundred acres, to potatoes. He used 10 bushels to the acre for seed, or 1000 bushels in all. He used his own seed, for which he was offered \$6 a bushel by a seed house. That was an investment of \$6,000. It took several men and teams many days to fit the land and plant the potatoes, and it required an enormous amount of labor to take care of them until it was time to dig them. The early potatoes brought a fair price, but before the late potatoes were dug the price had dropped to a point where Mr. Carruthers could not get his money out of them. He hung on, and the price continued to slip until they reached what apparently is the bottom price, 28 cents.

Up to a few weeks ago Mr. Carruthers had between 12,000 and 15,000 bushels in his pits, and when he fills his present order he will have at least 5,000 bushels left. They will be used as fertilizer.

This story is true of nearly every potato raiser in this county, only on a smaller scale. All have failed to get even the price of their seed back, without pay for their labor and the use of their ground. As a result most of them have decided to raise this year only what potatoes they will need for themselves. They declare there is too much hard work entailed in raising potatoes to do it for nothing.

Mr. Carruthers, however, will not abandon the crop. He believes that this year will be the best year to raise them, because other farmers are cutting down their acreage. He will plant about 75 acres, he says.

County agents about the state are advising farmers to raise the crop again this year. They attribute the present low prices to an under-consumption rather than an over-supply, pointing to statistics which show that the crop as a whole in the United States was not enough larger to warrant the present low prices. They believe that had the consumption been normal, the price would have been \$2 a bushel.

Citizenship Denied To Draft Evaders

Chicago, Ill.—Denial of the applications of several men for citizenship was made by Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis because of their record during the war. "Any man who in the fall of 1917 claimed exemption from the draft because it happened he had not been naturalized can't come to this court now and expect to become a citizen of the nation he wouldn't fight for," said Judge Landis.

The case which first caused the judge to comment was that of Jacob Rothstein, employed in the Pullman shops, who admitted that he had claimed exemption because relatives were in the Austrian army. "Application refused," said Judge Landis. "You cannot have the benefits of citizenship and not bear part of the burden of maintaining its rights and privileges."