

Seek a 'voice'...

Farmers join to control prices

The U. S.'s youngest and possibly most outspoken farm group is the National Farmers Organization with headquarters in Corning, Iowa.

In a current article, Farm Quarterly magazine says the NFO holds to the idea that the basic farm problem is that the farmer has no voice in pricing his own products. This can be remedied either by legislation or by action of organized farmers.

In the words of NFO president

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT PLANS

Miss Lucile Elliott, assisted by Mrs. L. R. Taff, will review Edgar Allen Poe: The Inner Pattern, by David M. Rein, for the Literature Department of the Community Club at its meeting next Thursday at 3 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Alfred Linde.

KLASS, PENNY IN SCHOOL

Chapel Hill Police Patrolmen George Penny and Jessie Klass, and Carrboro Patrolman Claudie Williams, all of whom joined the forces in the last six months, are attending a one-month school for police recruits being held during January under auspices of the Durham Police Department.

WMU TO HEAR DR. ELLIS

The general meeting of the University Baptist Church Women's Missionary Union will be held Monday at 8 p.m. The Fannie Heck Circle, Mrs. Harold Harville, chairman, will be in charge. Dr. Fred Ellis of the UNC pharmacology faculty will speak and show slides on his recent trip to Russia.

Oren Lee Staley, "American agriculture is production crazy." He says, "We can grow anything but we still don't know how to sell. We take our stuff, dump it on the market and ask 'What'll you give me?'"

As an organized group, the NFO hopes to make agreements with processors under which member farmers will deliver stated number of livestock at definite times and at stipulated prices. Eventually, they hope to expand to contracts with processors of other farm products.

To pressure the processor into signing up the NFO has adopted a technique called the "holding action."

This is a kind of strike in which NFO, through its county bargaining committees, sets target prices for farm products and asks its members and all other producers to refuse to market the stipulated products except at these prices.

Authority to organize the NFO comes by way of the Capper-Volstead Act, passed in 1922, giving agricultural cooperatives the right to act collectively in marketing their agricultural products without violating the anti-trust laws.

Each NFO member is required to sign a three-year membership agreement: a lengthy document designed not to be broken except under penalty of assessment. There is nothing in it per se that would be damaging to a signer but it is a legal document and contains clauses that do affect his future rights and income.

In order to strengthen its position and prove it commands the allegiance of enough farmers to make it worthwhile for a processor to negotiate a contract, the NFO has been holding organizational drives throughout the Corn Belt and dairy

regions. The states with sizeable numbers of NFO members are Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Kentucky, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Idaho. Farmers are showing they are in a mood to protest current marketing arrangements.

There will be further holding actions involving more territory, more producers and more livestock and commodities. Nothing in the NFO agreement, incidentally, compels a member to participate in a holding action.

Interracial Fellowship will have discussion on its future course

Some past and present officers of the Chapel Hill Fellowship for School Integration will serve as discussion leaders for an open meeting of the group to air opinions of the membership concerning its future course.

Among those who will speak at 8 o'clock next Jan. 18, at St. Paul's A.M.E. Church will be Walter Spearman and Daniel Okun, both past presidents; the Rev. W. R. Foushee, a past member of the Steering Committee; and Mrs. Vivian Foushee, a current member of this committee.

A brief questionnaire has been sent to the mailing list of the organization's bulletin asking members to evaluate past activities and to indicate possible future areas of concern. Included in the questions is one asking whether the Fellowship should be disbanded, now that the Chapel Hill School Board has begun assignment of first grade pupils on a geographical basis without regard to race.

A social hour and refreshments will follow the discussion, to which the public is invited.



Scouting The Skies

Jan. 9 through Feb. 12

Weekday 8:30 P.M.
Sat. 11, 3, 8:30 P.M.
Sun. 3, 4, 8:30 P.M.

The Morehead Planetarium gratefully acknowledges the generous cooperation of this newspaper in presenting this program listing.



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