

MILLIONS OF FARMERS TO MARKET GRAIN THROUGH NATIONAL AGENCY TO CUT WASTE

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Millions of American farmers will market their grain through a national sales agency, according to skeleton plans announced last night by the farmers' grain marketing committee of seventeen now in session at Kansas City. The public is being considered in the building of the new distributing machine, which is designed to cut the price of bread, remove waste from the farmer and consumer, and eliminate speculation.

The national sales agency will comprise hundreds of thousands of grain growers, who will agree to market their grain exclusively through the new system. Growers of all organizations will be eligible to membership. The central idea is that the farmer shall control and manage the machinery of distribution.

"Co-op" Elevators Ready. Elevator facilities now in existence will be used; nothing will be junked or discarded. An attempt will be made to convert all into co-operative institutions and wherever it is necessary new ones will be built. Many co-operative elevators owned by farmers are ready for use.

Growers who join the sales agency will go into contract with the local co-operative elevator association to sell grain according to the new plan.

The farmer will have the option of selling his grain through a pooling system or on consignment. Where the grain is pooled it will be transported to a national warehouse and later disposed of, and each man will get his share according to the quantity and grade of his grain. This is the California co-operative plan, now being successfully operated by the prune and orange growers. Where the grain is sold on consignment, the farmer will be paid cash at the local elevator, the amount being based on the market price.

Seek Exchange Seats.

The national sales agency will dispose of the grain with its own facilities. To do this the co-operative farmer believes it will be necessary for him to hold a seat on the various grain exchanges, whether he wishes to use it or not. As now constituted, however, he is not eligible to a seat. Bills are before the legislatures of Missouri and Minnesota and will soon be introduced in Illinois and other states to permit farmer's co-operative marketing organizations to hold seats on the boards of trade.

At present the laws forbid any commission firms which give "rebates" from holding seats on grain exchanges.

It is the practice of co-operative companies to refund all surplus profits, over the cost of operation, to customers on the basis of the amount of business done. Technically, this is called a rebate. Besides this legal restriction there is great hostility to co-operative firms on the part of the old line firms. The cause for this was very frankly stated by President Gates, of the Chicago board of trade, when, questioned why the board of trade would not admit a co-operative commission firm, he replied, "Because it would soon have all the business."

Solve Difficulties.

Indiana farmers have not had the same opposition in selling their grain through their own agency at Indianapolis, and have solved their difficulties by purchasing a commission firm which works for them. On account of the law, it can not be co-operative, but it is able to secure much better prices and already has a large percentage of the business, being the selling agent for co-operative elevators of Indiana. This firm has found hostility among the other firms, but with the volume of grain handled, found itself able to ignore that attitude.

The new plan provides for farmer control of the warehouses at the great terminal markets. The grain will be graded in government licensed warehouses.

By issuing warehouse receipts, which will be the basis of credit money can be borrowed on the grain. Instead of the grain growers' products being dumped onto the market within a short period, it will be possible to distribute it over a longer period.

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Western College Senior Day Will Be Held Feb. 22; Caps, Gowns Make Appearance

OXFORD, O., Feb. 18.—Tuesday,

February 22, will be Senior Day at the Western College for Women, and on that day the members of the senior class will make their first appearance in their academic caps and gowns.

The address of the day will be delivered by Dr. John Francis Cooks, president of the Presser Musical foundation, Philadelphia, Pa. On the previous evening the president and faculty of the college will give a reception in honor of the seniors.

State Liquor Raid.

Following the receipt of complaints from Miami university officials concerning a house opposite the campus, Mayor Hughes, accompanied by Deputy Marshals Finley, Smoots and Wolf, early yesterday raided the place. Nothing was found. The house is occupied by several families and parts of families. The arrival, night, of a wagon at the house, and its departure at an early hour led the educators to imagine that liquor was being manufactured on the premises.

Farmers to Vote on Project.

With the framework of the plan built, the committee of seventeen is now hard at work with the details. When the plan is finished it will be submitted to a convention of farmers' organizations. The committee was appointed about six months ago by J. R. Howard, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago.

GREEN BUGS FLY TO KANSAS WHEAT CROP

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 18.—

Myriads of Green Bugs of a kind not yet identified have appeared in Oklahoma and are advancing toward the Kansas wheat fields, according to information received here today by J. C. Mohler, secretary of the Kansas state board of agriculture.

Crops in the infested districts of Oklahoma are seriously threatened according to a message from Oklahoma City, which quoted Thomas B. Gordon, state entomologist, as announcing he would leave there immediately to investigate. Gordon said the bugs had entered Oklahoma from Texas.

According to Mohler's information the bugs have reached Nuld, Okla., making a clean sweep of as much wheat as they can cover.

Emma Schmermund Funeral
Held Thursday Afternoon

GREENVILLE, Feb. 18.—The death of Emma Charlotte Schmermund, 63 years old, a lifelong resident of this city, occurred at her home on East Main street Tuesday evening. Miss Schmermund was operated on in January three months ago, and has never recovered from the effects of the operation.

She is survived by two brothers, G. F. and Karl Schmermund, both of Greenville, and two sisters, Mrs. C. D. Hankins, of Greenville, and Miss Marie Schmermund, of Cedar Rapids, Ia. Funeral services were held at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon at the residence on East Main street, with Rev. Vorhis, pastor of the M. E. church, officiating. Interment in Greenville cemetery.

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poration will be established to promote foreign trade and have charge of sales abroad. A service department also will be maintained to provide statistical information concerning crops and market conditions, legal advice, transportation and insurance.

It is proposed to incorporate the national sales agency in the form of a nonprofit, nonstock grain growers' cooperative membership organization. Branch sales offices will be provided at all important grain marketing centers to handle the grain for each natural grain district.

The membership subscription of the growers will provide the agency with its initial working capital. Later it will be run by assessing a handling charge on all grain marketed.

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