

**THE RED CLOUD CHIEF**

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**STATE FARM BUREAU NOTES**

That the membership in the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation should be materially increased during this spring, inspired by the success of the farm bureau in the launching of its several large national co-operative enterprises, as well as the unprecedented success of the "agricultural bloc" in Washington, is the opinion of H. D. Lute of Lincoln who has been secretary of the Nebraska organization since it first started.

In a statement issued today, Mr. Lute urged the various county organizations to use every effort to secure additional members among their neighbors who did not share in the success of the past year's achievements, and also secure reinstatements from those who may have lagged behind.

The Nebraska farm bureau has done very little organization work, according to Mr. Lute. A campaign for memberships conducted for about four months during the winter of 1920-21 resulted in a membership in this state of approximately 27,000, nothing having been done since that time. A concerted effort, however, to secure additional memberships is urged before spring work opens up.

"The farmer has never had the need for organization work impressed upon him like he has the past year," Mr. Lute says, "and again never in history have farm organizations accomplished as much as they have during the past year."

He says that while some are still seeking government aid, that the thinking farmers are heeding the words of Sidney Anderson, Minnesota congressman, who recently said at Washington that the government can only remove the obstacles and that the rest must come from the farmers themselves through their organizations.

"The farm bureau," Lute says, "as a service organization has secured results in a short time beyond the fondest hopes of its best friends. Investigations it has carried on, the organization of gigantic co-operative marketing concerns, the securing of a wonderful farmer legislative program at Washington and drastic cuts in freight rates, all go to make the farm bureau an outstanding farmers' service organization."

The special committee of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation, appointed by President J. N. Norton to make a study of taxation and public expenditures has practically determined upon the preliminary procedure it will follow, and in fact, according to Secretary Lute of the bureau is now gathering data for the foundation work of its study.

Harry L. Keefe of Walt Hill, chairman of the committee has attended several tax-payers' meetings during the past week in different parts of the state in order to learn in a first hand way just what is wanted in the way of action on taxation matters and that will be the most practical and effective.

After making these observations, Mr. Keefe made a sketch specifically dealing with tax money in Thurston county both as to the amount collected per \$1000 valuation, and then following the amount collected on this \$1000 worth of property in the way of taxes right down through the list of public expenditures.

Similar figures will be gathered by the county farm bureau officials in each county in the state and when these figures are finally compiled it will make a most complete and simple study by which the people of the entire state or its smallest subdivision may know exactly the amount of taxes they are paying and just where each penny goes.

For instance in Thurston county it was found that for each \$1000 worth of property, in the town of Walt Hill, the owner paid out during the year \$30.20 in taxes. From this \$30.20, the state received \$3.30, county \$4.90, school district \$15.50 and the village of Walt Hill \$6.50. The amount collected for each of these subdivisions is also divided showing to which activity the money actually goes.

The \$3.30 collected by the state is divided, for state capital .22 cents, state government .44 cents, state institutions .66 cents, bonds etc., .88 cents, educational \$1.10. The amount collected by the county is divided into various activities, while that paid for school purposes in the local school district shows the amount paid for teachers' salaries and then the vari-

ous other items of school expense. A similar division is also made where village taxes appear in any particular subdivision.

These figures when finally gathered will be the most complete ever compiled for the purpose of studying general tax matters in Nebraska and will further serve largely as a basis for the farm bureau committee to arrive at the recommendations it will make in the matter of raising revenue on a fair equitable basis and a more proper distribution of it when it is finally collected.

E. P. Taylor of the organization department of the American Farm Bureau Federation is a recent arrival in Nebraska. He will assist the officials of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation for a few weeks in organization work before his return to the national headquarters in Chicago.

Asked what he considered the outstanding and most popular phase of work being done by this million-member national farmers organization, he gave Co-operative Marketing as a leader and spoke enthusiastically of the agricultural bloc in securing almost unanimous passage in Congress of the Co-operative Marketing bill.

"Co-operative marketing is by no means the limiting activity for the Farm Bureau movement in America," he said, "for it is much deeper rooted and includes production and general welfare service for the farmer. However, Co-operative Marketing is a logical step in the progress of agricultural organization. A farmer working individually may produce an excellent crop, but when the marketing process begins he must work with his neighbors. One farmer cannot standardize his products. It takes group action to make a standard and to hold it in marketing. The growers of all kinds of farm crops are glad to see this Co-operative Marketing bill passed. It has been one of the objects sought in the legislative program of the Nebraska Farm Bureau."

"Nebraska will note that the terms of this co-operative marketing bill coincide with the plan of operation of co-operative elevators and shipping associations so numerous in the state which are built upon the principle of one vote for each member with a limitation on dividends and with profits in proportion to business of the co-operating farmer."

"There have been many farmers' so-called co-operative marketing organizations which have been in reality closed corporations where a few farmers banded themselves together and sold the products of their neighbors. Farmers are now learning to distinguish between the bona fide co-operative marketing organization and the other type."

"With the rights of the farmers to market their products co-operatively now established, genuine commodity selling organizations will multiply to the benefit of both the farmer who produces and to those who are consumers."

"The welding together of a million farmers into American Farm Bureau Federation, with this membership group'd in state and county organizations, helps farmers get together to start their marketing right and keeps it going right."

"It gives a powerful backing for all co-operative marketing organizations which may spring from it or lean upon it. No one farmer group could hope for the power of this interrelated group."

"The agricultural bloc felt this power and recognized in it the expression of the most thoughtful and substantial farmers of this nation."

"In the United States there are 1761 state, 143 interstate, and 263 national farmers' organizations engaged in educational, promotional and economic farm enterprises all of which now receive the support of this great basic farmers organization, the Farm Bureau."

**The Profiteer.**

President Thaukkin of Wesleyan university was condemning the profiteer.

"I know a college professor," he said, "who was disturbed at his frugal supper one night by a suspicious noise in the cellar.

"The professor put down his porridge spoon and stole down the cellar stairs. Suddenly an electric torch was flashed on him, and the shadowy figure behind the torch said:

"It's all right, professor. It's only me."

"Me?" the professor muttered.

"Sure—me—the provision man, ye know, leavin' yer week's provisions."

"Thereupon the professor gave a great start, and held his hands up higher still."

**Powerful Sermon.**

A penurious north side man was so affected by a charity sermon the other Sunday that he borrowed a dollar from a neighbor and put it in his own pocket.

Pardon proceeds Superiority. In taking revenge a man is but even with his enemy; but in passing it by, he is superior; for it is a prince's part to pardon.—Bacon.

**A Letter To Make Good**

Must impress the person who receives it with its importance, whether the correspondence be of a business or personal nature. The mails are flooded with cheap circular letters and the average busy man of to-day gives his mail the "once over" and passes most of it to the waste basket. A letter to demand attention in these busy times must be distinctive.

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