

Build the New
Amalgamated
Farmers Weekly

THE PRODUCERS NEWS

County Edition

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED FARMERS LEAGUE

PLENTYWOOD, SHERIDAN COUNTY, MONTANA, JANUARY 19, 1934

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Workers, Farmers Jam Court; Force Acquittal of UFL Leader Arrested in Minn. Milk Strike

Reino Tanttla, Framed on Charge of "Destroying Sixty Cents Worth of Milk" and Assaulting Scab, Is Released by Organized Mass Pressure

By Farmer Correspondent
VIRGINIA, Minn.—Reino Tanttla, Minnesota Organizer of the United Farmers League, and the Communist candidate for mayor of Virginia, was acquitted of all the charges placed against him in connection with the recent milk strike of the Mesaba Range, in municipal court. The Bridgeman Russell Co.

DEMAND FEED FOR STARVING STOCK IN S. D.

Mass Meeting of Farmers Talks Straight to County Relief Heads

By E. L. Bolland

PIERPONT, S. D.—Because of a seemingly unwillingness or inability of the County Relief Administration to cope with the present live stock feed situation the farmers of Independence township in order to present a more united front, assembled in a mass meeting Friday evening. Resolutions were passed demanding immediate action in getting livestock feed to needy farmers. Gov. Berry, who stated in his recent radio address that farmers should quit worrying about feed for their animals, was notified by wire. The result of the feed survey taken at the meeting has been presented to the County Relief Board.

This survey, based on the actual number of live stock owned by each farmer who will be out of feed before next spring, revealed the fact that 800 tons of hay and 7,000 bushels of corn will be needed before May first, 60 tons of hay and 1,000 bushels of corn being needed immediately as some farmers are already out of feed while others have only a few days supply. Farmers living as many as 15 miles from town have made several trips in order to get a small amount of feed.

The situation has been further complicated by a recent ruling that orders for feed must be secured at Webster. This, because of the "congestion" at the court house, generally means several trips to the county seat.

From remarks dropped at this mass meeting one would almost be compelled to believe that the county relief administration specializes in playing politics and passing the buck. This remedy has so far proven very ineffective in stopping the ravages of "hollow gut" which is rapidly invading the herds of the county.

TO CUT TENANTS OFF CIVIL WORKS JOBS IN ALABAMA

Sharecroppers Union Prepares to Resist Campaign

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Plans are already under way here to stop C. W. A. projects early in February, cotton planting time, in order to force Negro and white workers to accept jobs on cotton plantations at starvation wages. With this same end in view, Thad Bost, state relief administrator, has announced that all tenant farmers "employed on farms or to whom farm work is available" cannot be given relief or C. W. A. jobs "unless both tenant and landlord are destitute." This move, which will cut thousands of sharecroppers and tenant farmers off relief or from jobs on which they have been getting a bare existence, was brazenly admitted in the announcement "to enable farm work to be carried on without interference." The Sharecroppers Union, with 6,000 members in Alabama, is leading a mass campaign against this action of the landlords and the government. The Unemployed Councils of Alabama have announced their support and cooperation in this campaign.

Predict Famine in USA as Poor Crops Forecast

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Importation of wheat for bread may be expected next year as the predicted short crop, plus the crop production, tends toward famine conditions here, according to B. W. Snow, economist writing in the Farm Journal. "The start is now distinctly bad and anything like a repetition of the season just past would spell calamity," he says. "A year hence there will be no carry-over of any size to again save us from the pinch of hunger. Under these conditions, I emphasize that we are headed toward importation of bread next year."

He blames the situation on bad crops and the government crop reduction program. Government economists employed by the Department of Agriculture deny the truth of Snow's statement. L. E. Bean predicted average or bumper crop in grains.

JOHN MILLER IN MINNESOTA FOR WEEKLY

St. Louis County Calls Conference to Lay Plans for Building Farm Paper

VIRGINIA, Minn.—In the interest of the Farmers Weekly drive for \$5,000 by March 1, John Miller of Chicago, business manager of the combined paper, will come here on Friday, Jan. 19, to confer with secretaries and members of UFL locals in St. Louis county.

Reino Tanttla, county secretary, has issued a call to all secretaries and active members to meet with Miller at the Workers Center on that date. Other organizations such as the Finnish Workers Clubs, Working Women's Clubs, etc. have been invited to send representatives. A representative of the district committee of the Finnish Workers Clubs will be present. Miller will discuss with the group the best method for building a mass circulation for the combined WEEKLY, and together the group will lay down a concrete plan for the work in this county and section.

In the call for the meeting, Secretary Tanttla points out the importance of the paper and its enlarged role since the amalgamation of the Producers News, Farmers National Weekly and Workers and Farmers Co-op Bulletin. It is the weapon in our hand through which we can weld the farmers of all nationalities and all militant organizations into one fighting front. Therefore to build a mass circulation for this paper is our foremost task.

BE SELF-SUPPORTING WELFARE BODY HEAD TELLS CWA WORKERS

BY M. H. P.
KALAMA, Wash.—The farmers here are being laid off the C. W. A. projects and told to make themselves self-supporting on their farms by Mrs. Bailey, who is in charge of the Kalama Welfare Board. Flour, sugar, salt and clothes can be obtained by work one or two days a month on the welfare, she explained.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

Demand CWA Jobs for All Needy Workers, Farmers

By C. P. Johnson
GRANTSBURG, Wis.—The following resolutions were read and unanimously adopted at a mass meeting of C. W. A. workers held at the courthouse at Grantsburg, Jan. 10.

Whereas, the farmers and workers are unable to pay our taxes and are unable to earn a living wage and

Whereas, the government has appropriated millions of dollars for the bankers, millions for the railroads and many millions for war purposes and

Whereas, the farmers and workers have not been considered by the C. W. A.

We the farmers and workers submit the following resolutions:

1. We demand that no farmers and workers be laid off from C. W. A. work.
2. We also go on record, demanding that all men who have been discharged be reinstated.
3. We demand that all needy workers and farmers be given C. W. A. jobs.
4. We demand the administration of all relief funds through representatives, elected directly by the farmers and workers.
5. We demand that no discrimination be made in workers or farmers.
6. We demand that a committee elected by C. W. A. workers be allowed to attend the meetings of the C. W. A. at the expense of the C. W. A.

Presses Roar as First Sample Issue of Combined Farmers Weekly Is Run Off; Step In Drive for \$5000 by March 1

By a Member of the Chicago John Reed Club

CHICAGO, Ill.—On Saturday the presses roared and the sample issue of the new FARMERS WEEKLY began to pour forth in a steady stream which did not stop until 20,000 copies, the largest issue of a militant farm paper on record, were printed, folded and ready for distribution to the far parts of the country.

Erik Bert, editor, John Miller, business manager, and L. M. Lerner, acting associate editor, stood at the mouth of the press as the machinery began to turn and grabbed for the first copies which came from the press. Back in some forty-odd states, militant farmers, farm women and farm youth, were also waiting for the first issue of the paper which their own energy and sacrifice had made possible.

When the press began to roll, 7,000 copies had been ordered and PAID FOR by farmer-booster in these forty-odd states. By today, 12,500 have been paid for and a steady stream of orders promises to exhaust this sample issue.

The sample issue is just what its name implies, a sample of what the paper will be like. (Except that the regular issues will be even better, the editors assured me.) It is a 12-page tabloid-size newspaper, one and a half times the size of either the Producers News or the old Farmers National Weekly. It is crammed full of features, from a full-page of pictures to a page of fiction. A page for the women and one for the children are features which will make it something more than just "Dad's paper."

The editors were not entirely satisfied. "Page one doesn't look just right," said Lerner. "We didn't have enough Washington news," said Bert. "It looks fine to me," said Miller, "except that there aren't enough advertisements."

"What we need," said Bert, "is a 24-page paper if we are going to print all the good material the farmers send in. Do you know we had sixteen galleys of some of the best material you ever read in your life, which we couldn't use for lack of space?"

"That'll come out all right when we start printing regularly every week. Then we'll have space enough to print all the material, and a good Washington column besides," said Lerner.

"But we will never be able to print regularly every week if you fellows stand there gabbing all day," said Miller. "Let's get back to the office and send out these papers. If we do our part, and if every farmer and booster does his part BY MARCH FIRST, we can make all our dreams come true. Now get along."

I followed the editors back to the office, a modest two rooms a block from the printing plant. The typewriters were cracking away there like machine guns as four girls, two of them volunteer helpers, ground out letters to farmers, thanking them for their orders, sending them receipts, (Continued on last page)

President Opens Inflation Drive

Skyrocketing Cost of Living Is Prospect for Workers and Small Farmers as Roosevelt Proposes to Congress to Decrease Gold Value of Dollar by Forty Per Cent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The most drastic inflationary step yet taken by the Roosevelt Administration came Monday when the President in a message to Congress asked for a vote of confidence for his plan to reduce the gold content of the dollar by forty per cent.

The plan calls for giving the government title to all monetary gold in the country, with provisions for payment in certificates. A fund of two billions to engage in gold purchases, both in the United States and abroad, is requested.

This plan would increase the value of the \$3,500,000,000 in gold held by the Federal Reserve Board to almost \$7,000,000,000. But it reduces the value of the dollar to 60 per cent of its former value.

The result is an immediate rise in value of bonds as well as all commodities, from grain, cotton, and farm products to steel and manufactured products. While this may look good to farmers at first sight, it will soon show its real colors.

The rise in prices of farm products will be reflected in huge profits for the speculators and middlemen with great quantities of products on their hands. Costs of living, from overalls to agricultural machinery, gasoline, feed, etc. will rise so quickly that the small farmers, and the majority of middle farmers, that their situation will be much worse.

For the millions of city workers, employed and unemployed, costs of living will rise so high that practical starvation is an immediate danger for many of them. The miserable wages which the employed receive will not be sufficient to pay the increased prices and their volume of purchases will decline. This will have a direct effect on the farmer in a short time.

\$5,000 by March 1 in Subs. Greetings, Donations for Farmers Weekly.

NEBR. FARMERS UNION VOTES INVESTIGATION OF SIMPSON AND RENO

Simpson Supports Frazier, Wheeler Bills as Relief for Farmers

Fails to Mention Demand of Farmers for Cancellation of Debt Burden

By Otto Frederickson

OMAHA, Neb.—Fresh from his lobbying duties in the senate of the Blue Buzzard, John A. "Papa" Simpson spoke to the convention of the Nebraska Farmers Union here Jan. 10-11, in an effort to raise the prestige of his service to the farmers, and national importance of the Farmers Union.

Opening his speech by citing the various services which he as national president had performed, he cited as examples minor acts of personal favoritism, or socially valueless wirepulling, and held this out as reasons why there is need for his organization.

Without "boosting my egotism" he said, he had laid on the table, himself, before President Roosevelt the national legislative program, and "other grievances," and significantly announced that he had won the "promise of his personal attention."

In rating his inestimable service to society and farmers in particular, he mentioned for instance this grievance: a rural mail carrier out in California had been dropped after 23 years of service, reasons, membership and activity in the Farmers Union.

Well, "Papa" Simpson takes it through various departments until he reaches the first assistant postmaster. It so happened that upon learning the identity of Simpson, this man had heard him speak several years ago and presto, Simpson had found a "friend," who said it all was "very silly," so the carrier was reinstated.

Again, complaint came from Oklahoma that a code would raise the abstractors fee to \$6, so again, Simpson gets busy Johnny-on-the-spot, wild taxi rides, brushing past secretaries and at the dramatic moment, he discovered another "friend," who halted the works. Horray, for the Farmers Union, and he, the national president.

Then he cited the proposed creamery code, and his plunge into action, more handshaking, backslapping, and again the union was saved. And so far into the night.

After an oratorical parade of such incidents as grievances, he angled off into predictions; no hope for Frazier bill, but perhaps something about like it; possibility for the Wheeler bill; a slam at Wallace for saying farmers didn't deserve as high standard of living as railroad engineers; a mild pinkish hue in picking at Hearst and Wall Street; a defiant challenge to his record as organizer and as stock promoter for the Farmers Union, so on, and on.

Not a word about relief to the needy farmers. Not a breath about cancellation of taxes and debts for the impoverished farmers. Not a mention of the piling debt burden and rising cost of living. Not a pretense at analyzing farm legislation.

Mere phrases about "cost of production" as the cure-all. Some gab about a strong Farmers Union "making congressmen be good" as the A. F. of L. does. Just a lot of baby talk about how he flits

U.F.L. Joins I.L.D. to Defend Polish Farmer and Wife

Heroic Mother Persecuted for Saving Life of Her Children

By a Worker Correspondent

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis.—In this town, live a number of Polish farmers, among them a family named Strachanowski, a mother with five children. During the summer of 1933, the mortgagee wanted to take the farm away through a foreclosure procedure.

A. Strachanowski attended the Second Polish Workers Convention which was held in Chicago and asked for help. By recommendation of the convention, the Polish Workers Club, Solidarity, of Milwaukee, sent a member from its Aid Committee to the Strachanowski farm to advise them. The

Threat of Nebraska State Group Seceding from National Farmers Union Brings President Simpson Speeding to Convention at Omaha

Nebraska Farmers Unimpressed by Simpson's Boast of Services to Tillers and Name Committee to Investigate Affair Involving Simpson, Kennedy, Reno

By Otto Frederickson

OMAHA, Neb.—The "baby talk" by the self-styled "papa" to Nebraska Farmers Union, John A. Simpson, at its convention, Jan. 10-11, was like a slap in the face to the 876 delegates and 100 visitors.

The threat of the Nebraska Farmers Union seceding from the national organization brought the national president speeding west from the playground of the politicians' at Washington, D. C., to steer the galloping Nebraskans, with H. G. Keeney hanging on to the reins, back to the trail.

"As your papa I come to you tonight seriously and in some ways sad," cooed Simpson, as he strutted around the platform. "You have one of the greatest Farmers Unions in the country, yet if I had been ignored and treated by other states as by Nebraska I would have resigned long ago. I have had no support from your state headquarters in putting over the national legislative program."

Glaring at the state president Keeney for a while, he turned to the audience and asked, "Am I not entitled to all the support of the Nebraska organization?"

A minority showed their hands. But the Nebraska leaders were spanking mad. Keeney had failed for re-election as national vice-president at the recent convention, defeated by the steam-roller of the Simpson machine. Harry C. Parmenter, you may remember, was elbowed into national leadership. But he was pushed out of his job as director in the Nebraska district by a 2 to 1 vote.

This "papa" stuff burned the ears of Nebraskans. So it was decided to air the whole matter. An investigation committee of 14 was elected to inquire into charges of alleged misappropriation of funds on part of national secretary E. E. Kennedy, and John A. Simpson, national president, which also involved Milo Reno.

about the capital contacting influential "friends" as does Green and Lewis of the A. F. of L. Smug and well fed, Simpson, no less than his colleagues in the state and national leadership of the Farmers Union, never entertained a suggestion for discussion on vital issues that affect the majority of the farming population today.

The entire theme might have been profits, dividends, credits, membership and dues, except for stale references to "loyalty," "cooperation," "honesty" and "prosperity." And thus spoke the house keeper of finance capital in control of farmers cooperatives.

FARMERS PROTEST HITLER FRAME-UP

Demand Release of Torgler and Others Held by Nazis Jails

HIBBING, Minn.—Numerous organizations have sent protest to Hans Luther, German ambassador in Washington, demanding the release of Torgler, Dimitroff, Popoff, and Tanoff, including the Working Women's Club of this city and the Finnish Workers and the Farmers Club of Kettle River, the Argo-Wassa Working Women's club of Embarras, the Deep River Farmers Club, the International Working People's Cooperative of Gilbert, and a meeting of Workers and farmers in Toivola, Minn.

With its large cooperative interests, the Nebraska organization is regarded as one of the most prosperous, paying approximately \$4,000 annually to the national treasury, officers said. It was voted to suspend dues pending the investigation.

Bert Graff, Bancroft, named after the national convention to inquire into affairs of the Illinois union of which E. E. Kennedy, Kankakee, Ill., now national secretary, was once secretary, expressed the fear that the Nebraska union may be split as in Illinois, Kentucky, and Iowa, and that rump organizations be recognized in place.

H. G. Keeney was unanimously re-elected for the 10th time as state president. Red-baiting Parmenter got the boot, while his successor, John Henthorn, Aurora, announced, "I'm conservative." He didn't believe in farm strikes, he stated.

Schefcik on Committee

Of the committee to investigate the accusations involving Simpson, Kennedy, Reno et al., J. J. Schefcik, Alliance, represents the first district. He is also state president of the Holiday Association of Nebraska, (Madison Co. Plan), a real rank and file leader.

Charges and counter charges flew in the convention hall before the resolution was adopted to investigate. Apparently reluctant to wash their dirty linen in public, yet the wearied delegates forced the issue to a head despite the diplomatic maneuvers of "lead-

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January 19, 1934

Nebraska Farmers Union Meet and the Rank and File

THERE IS A SHAM-BATTLE going on in the Farmers Union. H. G. Keeney, Nebraska president, and John Simpson, national president are glaring balefully at each other. Keeney has threatened to have the Nebraska organization secede from the national set-up. John Simpson, on receipt of this information, speeds away from Washington to Omaha to make a personal plea before the state convention.

In matters of fundamental policy, Keeney has no real differences from Simpson. On the minor detail of tactics, however, Keeney believes that the Farmers Union should sing the praises of Roosevelt and get good jobs in the AAA for such fellows as himself; while Simpson, recognizing the great discontent of the farmers, realizes that he must appear to criticize Roosevelt if he is to hold his present job. Reno, Parmenter and Crocker agree with Simpson. Ricker, editor of the Farmers Union paper, agrees with Keeney.

Simpson, like all of the officials of the old-line farm organizations, holds his job by a combination of the most blatant demagoguery and having a smooth-running 'machine' with which to control the inner-organization elections. But the machine must work perfectly if the demagoguery is to be put across, and the machine, alas, is not working so well. When Herron, for instance, refuses to print John's picture in every issue of the paper and omits John's windy speeches, the demagoguery fails to get across.

Now Simpson is faced with the prospect of the entire Nebraska apparatus withdrawing its support from him completely and leaving him high and dry.

It is this war for power which went on behind the scenes at the Nebraska convention. Both Keeney and Simpson would have liked to have kept their battle for power strictly behind the scenes, but a new factor had injected itself into the situation which offers a lot of grief to both of these gentlemen. This new factor is the RANK AND FILE.

AT THE AVERAGE Farmers Union convention, many of the delegates, perhaps the majority, will be hand-picked, rich farmers, oil station proprietors and many other salaried staff members of the Farmers Union apparatus. This explains, for one thing, why the convention, despite its show of militancy, endorsed such discredited 'relief' measures as the Frazier bill, the Wheeler bill and similar legislation benefitting bankers and rich farmers. However, at every Farmers Union convention, and in every Farmers Union local, there are bound to be some militant farmers, ruined middle farmers, impoverished poor and small farmers. This is the real RANK AND FILE, and it is this group of which both Keeney and Simpson are mortally afraid.

It was this Rank and File which forced the dark-closet war between Keeney and Simpson into the open. Like a bull dog, the rank and file got its teeth into the matter and refused to let go. All Simpson wanted was some sort of vote of confidence and a continuation of dues payments. All Keeney wanted was control over the state organization and the right to control the dues payments. What they got they neither expected nor wanted.

The rank and file delegates pushed forward the question of charges of misappropriation of funds involving Simpson, Reno, and E. E. Kennedy, the dapper little fellow who figures 'cost of production' for Reno and serves as secretary-treasurer to the Farmers Union. The rank and file voted to suspend dues payments to the national organization until this matter was settled.

The rank and file came forward again to defy the efforts of the Farmers Union officials to prevent them from forming fighting united fronts with the Nebraska Holiday, the United Farmers League and other militant farm organizations.

For while there is no fundamental differences between Simpson and Keeney, there is a real difference between the rank and file and the high officials of the Farmers Union, both Simpson and Keeney. The rank and file members are facing foreclosure and eviction. Many of them are in actual need of cash relief, or CWA work. They have confidence in organized mass action, not in the 'New Deal' of Roosevelt nor the fake political maneuvers of the farm politicians. For this reason they despise Keeney who openly supports Roosevelt, and they despise Simpson who really supports Roosevelt but who hides it behind a smoke screen of 'criticism.'

That is why Simpson's speech was merely a wet blanket to the rank and file delegates who were present. They rejected his praise of the Frazier and Wheeler bills. They were not impressed by his claims of settling grievances by bootlicking the politicians.

But most of all, they resented his failure to recognize their main fighting demand, adopted at Chicago and now a nationwide slogan wherever impoverished farmers meet: For Cancellation of Secured Farm Debts.

THE HOSTILITY shown to Simpson at Omaha, therefore, cannot be understood only in terms of the sham-battle between Simpson and Keeney. The real significance of this incident lies in the smoldering resentment of the masses of farmers, reflected by the rank and file delegates, which burst into a flame of anger when the fight was dragged into the open. The flame now threatens to consume both Simpson and Keeney, as well as the rest of the fakers in the Farmers Union.

The convention shows us very clearly the potential strength of the RANK AND FILE of the Farmers Union. To this rank and file we send our greetings, and our whole-hearted wish that by diligent work, by militant action, by refusing to be misled by the fakers, they may yet make their Farmers Union locals real instruments in the fight against the bankers and middlemen, for the protection of their homes and livelihood.

The Letter Box

Farmer Asks Whether We Verified Story of Mrs. Frank Murtland; Editor Answers His Question

Renton, Wash.

Dear Editor:
I enjoy reading your paper except for one small matter which I think you will find well worth changing. I refer to the minor exaggerations in many of the letters and reports printed in the paper, as in the statement of the FNCA (Dec. 29 issue)—"Millions freeze on breadlines waiting for a bowl of soup, a crust of hard bread." Why not simply say, "A slice of bread?" Maybe it wasn't a hard crust at all. Things are bad enough without trying to make them look worse.

My main objections to such exaggerations is that the conservative farmers and workers who generally can be induced to read a sample of most any newspaper, immediately become suspicious and sometimes real hostile, the minute they run across anything that smacks of a cheap, everything-knocking, everything-denouncing, no-program sheet.

What really started me writing this letter was the effect produced upon me by reading the letter from Mrs. Frank Murtland in the Dec. 29 issue. Did you verify her statements as printed in her letter? Have conditions come to such a state of affairs that kidnapping has been legalized? I feel urged to shout to the world such injustice but for the fear that if those statements may not be exactly in accordance with the facts.

Julius Blüchfeldt.

Editor's Note

On This Friend

No doubt Friend Blüchfeldt is correct in that we are sometimes guilty of over-statement. However, if this reader has ever stood on a breadline, he cannot deny the broken pieces of stale bread is the rule rather than the exception. It boils down to whether it is more correct to call dry, stale bread "a slice of bread" or "a crust of bread." While we agree that our printed statements must be very exact, we do not believe that in this instance the words used go very far from the mark.

On the next point, that of the authenticity of Mrs. Frank Murtland's letter, Friend Blüchfeldt raises a much more important question. The farmers and farm women who use the columns of the Producers News, tell the truth because there is no reason to tell lies. They serve no other interest except that of the workers and farmers militant movement. The bare facts of their conditions may seem unbelievable to members of "polite society" where such things as hunger, oppression, and misery are religiously barred from discussion. Nevertheless, these facts are the truth.

When historians in future years seek for a record of the lives of

the people of this age, they will go first to the columns of workers and farmers correspondence in the militant press. For it is here that the unvarnished, undecorated, naked truth appears. This is the most accurate reporting of conditions and times possible.

Of course one who reads only the capitalist press may find the facts which the workers and farmers tell unbelievable. Their minds have become so poisoned with the propaganda of the capitalist class that they are certain that "prosperity" is here and that happiness and contentment have descended upon the land. Through the rose-colored glasses which the capitalist fakers have fastened upon their eyes, everything appears lovely.

The Kept Press

The capitalist papers distort the truth beyond recognition, they omit facts, or they deliberately lie—all for a purpose. They serve the interests of the bankers, the middlemen and the exploiting bosses. The letters of farmers and workers—such as Mrs. Murtland's letter, for instance—would never find space in the sheets of the money class.

The workers and farmers press also serves a purpose. It works and fights in the interest of the workers and exploited farmers. But where capitalist press must lie to serve its masters, the truth is good enough for the workers and farmers press.

Friend Blüchfeldt hesitates to believe that the authorities would stoop to such inhumanity as to kidnap the children of a leading UFL organizer. Friend Blüchfeldt need not hesitate. Mrs. Murtland's story is verified in a thousand ways, both by her own experience and by the experience of thousands of farmers and workers who have discovered that there is nothing so inhuman to which the ruling class will not stoop in order to protect its profits, its life of ease and luxury.

We have already seen how far the capitalists will go in the spectacle of Fascist Germany. In America, we have the cases of Tom Mooney, the Scottsboro Boys and many others of outright persecution of militant workers and farmers. Let Mr. Blüchfeldt remember the brutal treatment given Casey Boskajon in his own state, Washington, by a group of fascist gangsters, led by the 'sheriff's force' because Casey sought to organize farmers against the robbery of the money class.

What we need is not LESS of the straightforward, honest reporting of farmers in our papers, but MORE of it. And we need a bigger and better class-conscious press to print the true stories of the conditions among the farm masses. That is why we are now building the Farmers Weekly.

Neb. F.U. to Investigate Simpson and Reno

(Continued from Front Page)

ers' of the state organization to keep it behind closed doors.

Before adjourning the delegates adopted a resolution "expressing appreciation to the administration in Washington for its earnest endeavor to restore agriculture to its just rights in the industrial world." No essential change was made in its legislative program.

A musty atmosphere hung over the convention, reflecting the decayed spirit of an old organization. Chained to routine procedure and conventional questions of the accumulated years, anything new seemed foreign, like the "papa" breezes, and a real gust of militancy would have blown cobwebs out.

Distrustful of rank and file action, the state officials talked of doing everything in the "open show window," but shunned off embarrassing questions, as for instance, the discussion as to the existence of the "delegates railway fund of \$10,000."

Steam-roller Discussion
"We have it and we have not," was the substance of the official explanations. "Get the idea?" to quote the secretary. Many farmers did not. And when one farmer finally saw the inconsistency of the explanation, three directors coincidentally arose as one with drawn gold watches in hand, and announced: "It is now time for special business." The delegate stood gaping at his unanswered question.

And again, the proposed resolution "not to hold any picnics, or any other gatherings, in conjunction with other organizations, but make it strictly Farmers Union meetings" met with stormy opposition. This caused the first rumormongering and the drumming speakers that there was an audience, which had been silent for a day and a half after being fed official reports and statistics.

It was declared passed by the chairman after a standing recount, and several votes by acclamation, and votes to table. But a militant delegate who had attended the Chicago United Front conference scored this piece of dictatorship to the county organizations. Another rank and file delegate mounted the platform and declared his organization would continue to cooperate

as in the past with any other farm organization.

A proposal to lower dues from \$2.60 to \$1.50 was ridiculed off the floor. Instead explanations were heard as to how it was found very necessary to demand dues payment before receiving cooperative dividends and benefits, etc., thus in fact, amounting to a check-off system similar to the A. F. of L. method of assuring incomes for the "leaders," etc.

The convention again reiterated its stand on the Frazier bill of refinancing farms and farm mortgages at 3 per cent interest rate.

It favored passage of the Wheeler bill for remonetization of silver at 16 to 1 ratio, with unlimited coinage of silver and gold. It opposed the general sales tax, and favored a vague state income tax, and stood for lowering of the legal maximum interest rate, as well as reduction of the tariff.

And so closed a tame affair, steeped in tradition, out of step with the times, so much so that Peterson of the South Dakota Farmers Union commented upon its lack of militancy, while the demagogic Talbot of the North Dakota Farmers Union thundered "what you need is to get the youth here and leave the bald-heads at home."

UFL and ILD to Defend Farmer and Wife

(Continued from Front Page)

so-called official judgment on the land.

When the mother noticed the killers, to avoid a tragedy she let a shot go from her rifle in order to scare the killers in this way. Next day the mother was arrested. The Aid Committee of Club Solidarity went to the I. L. D. and recommended that a lawyer send a telegram to lay the case over for two weeks. Strachanowski was freed under bond and the case laid over. But not for long did she enjoy freedom, for in three days along came the police with a hospital ambulance to take her away to an insane asylum for observation, 39 miles from her farm. The Aid Committee of Club Solidarity and the secretary of the I. L. D. visited her in this institution and were convinced that Strachanowski was of her right mind. She complained of poor food, and said that a nurse came to her room every half hour to

Farm Organizer Tells How Relief Workers Union Was Built in Washington State

When CWA Workers Laid off, Storm Begins to Threaten Self-satisfied Relief Bureaucrats; Masses Eager to Organize for Struggle

By W. F. Carlson

BELLINGHAM, Wash.—When the CWA projects started here 5 or 6 weeks ago a large percentage of the farmers (possibly 40 per cent) including myself, were immediately given jobs, being transferred directly from relief work to these jobs.

I began to work for the building of the Relief Workers Union. We were beginning to make headway with the UFL, holding various meetings throughout the county at which our delegate to the National Conference spoke. We were disposing of the Producers News by taking up collections and giving a copy to each one present. This way we disposed of about 200 of the 500 copies which I had received. We were getting enough to pay for the papers and also gas to get to these meetings.

Last week without warning the CWA work blew up, and about 400 men were laid off. We had already been laying the foundation for building the relief workers union and had made preparations for a mass meeting on Tuesday the 9th. This lay-off started on the 5th. The workers were very hostile about this lay-off but having no organization were traveling in circles at the welfare board. A meeting of fired CWA workers was called for 1 p. m. and about a hundred came to this meeting. A committee of 25 was elected, specific demands were drawn up and we sailed into the welfare and CWA officials. Before the afternoon was over we had a nice little demonstration. About 200 workers were united solid behind this committee. In fact so solid that when part of this committee was forcibly evicted from the office of one of the head officials (McElmon, head of the county welfare board) and the cops were called out to clear the place out, the workers laughed at them and would not budge an inch. They finally gave up and tried to pass it off as a joke. Resolutions and demands were also sent to all federal and state officials, and delivered by committee to all county officials. We also demanded a meeting of our committee with the welfare board on Thursday the 11.

On Tuesday the 9th we launched

the floor, endeavoring to unnerve her. The asylum doctors, after 14 days of examination, stated that she was mentally well, but in order to whitewash a bad conspiracy they also said she had nervous trouble in order to take her last dollars for the cure of this sickness.

A mother who dares to defend her hard-earned property is persecuted by these capitalist confederates in all possible ways. The Aid Committee, Polish Workers Club Solidarity and the I. L. D. will not neglect this case and will strive to free this mother from the asylum and give her back to her children.

It is time that all mothers would take an example from this heroine who defends her hard earned savings, and stand together with the men in workers organizations for only with united strength can we defend our homes and our lives.

The farm work in this situation is not being neglected as a large number of these workers are farmers and through these struggles will come a real united front mass organization of workers and farmers. I would like to give you details also of how the workers of key industries are being organized through these struggles and that how those theories that the workers are afraid of the reds and of how our hall of which it has been said the workers would never be seen in it etc., is being jammed to the utmost of its capacity. Many other nice theories some of the comrades have had in order to excuse their own inertia, have been blown up.

the Relief Workers Union about 220 attended the meeting, was a very enthusiastic meeting about 50 joined at that time and many have joined since.

On Thursday we had our meeting with the welfare board and approximately 200 workers then marched in a column of two from the hall directly to the chamber of commerce building where the meeting was held. We didn't stay out on the street either but marched right in. The ultimatum was delivered that only a committee of three would be heard or there would be no meeting. We demanded an open meeting first, then for the whole committee of 25, but was finally agreed by the workers that they should meet with a committee of seven which was accepted. We had a two-hour session with these men; and the workers stood solid waiting for us to report. They tried to get them out on the streets without success. Of course the board told us how helpless they were, how their heart bled for us and what fine fellows they were, but the demands were placed before them, the responsibility was placed directly upon them and the workers delivered their ultimatum and what they thought of them in no uncertain terms.

A motion was made and unanimously carried after the committee had reported, to return to the hall and lay plans for further intensification of the struggle for our demands and to put forth every effort to make the mass meeting and demonstration to be held on the 15th a success.

Many gains have been made by the activities of the past few days. Those that were laid off were put immediately on relief, although it was the intention of these relief dispensers to keep dragging along for two or three weeks or more. They have recognized our committees and I might say here that the major battle has been whether they shall deal with the workers as an organized body or as individuals. They are dealing with us as an organized body and are going to continue to do so whether they like it or not. Many other victories have been won and we intend to win many more. The workers realize the issues and also that they will have to organize stronger than ever, and continue the fight to a successful conclusion.

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Advance Guard

We don't like to mention it, but you fellows that are behind on your bundle payments would be doing the old sheet a great service if you would settle up.

Regular publication of our Farmers Weekly begins on March 1, but in the meantime, the national edition, being published at Plentywood, requires funds. So drop us a line and remit for your old bundles. Then order—and pay for—some more bundles.

M. Willer, Goshen county, Wyo., remits for bundle.
Neston Vainio, St. Louis county, Minn., sends one sub.

F. Dobbins, Winnebago county, Wis., remits for bundle.
Wesley Nevanen, St. Louis county, Minn., orders weekly bundle for sub drive.

W. C. Bloyed, Jefferson county, Colo., remits for papers.
Simon P. Madsen, Roosevelt county, Mont., renews for 2 years. Workers Book Shop, Los Angeles county, Calif., remits for bundles.

C. L. Cluster, Douglas county, Oregon, sends a dollar for weekly bundle.
Wm. Ferguson, Lewis county, Wash., orders bundles.

James Flower, Ottertail county, Minn., orders programs and pays on account.
Mrs. M. Petty John, Columbia county, Wash., subscribes.

Julius Walstad, Roberts county, S. Dak., remits on account.
Emil Laine, Idaho county, Idaho, sends two subs.

W. F. Carlson, Whatcom county, Wash., remits on account.
Enlightens the Situation
Ruth Zimmer, Mecosta county, Mich., renews. "I find much in your columns that interest me and enlighten people situated as we are," she writes.

John Eggere, Crawford county, Iowa, sends renewal.
Leo Silja, Yakima county, Wash., orders bundles.

Frank Arvola, Chippewa county, Mich., orders bundle and programs.
W. C. Dutton, Morgan county, Ohio, orders bundles.

S. Wulff, Merced county, Calif., remits for bundles.
Adolph N. Landy, Clearwater county, Minn., renews. "I can't be without the paper," he says.

Emil Laine, Idaho county, Idaho, also renews.
Will Get Them Fast
J. M. Herzog, Lake county, Mont., sends three subs. "I will continue to get more subscribers as fast as I can," he says.

August Nehls, Crawford county, Iowa, renews for year.
D. G. Johnson, Kenosha county, Wis., remits on account.

C. M. Boskajon, King county, Wash., sends order for bundle of 300.
N. G. Bjornsdahl, Snohomish county, Wash., sends one sub.

Ben Frantz, Clark county, Wis., wants sample copies.
J. A. Vance, Sheridan county, Mont., renews.

W. H. Espe, Ravalli county, Mont., renews.
Bruce N. Taylor, Aitkin county, Minn., renews.

Frank Witty, Burke county, N. Dak., remits for bundles.
D. G. Johnson, Kenosha county, Wis., sends for bundle.

Hans Kaupilla, Cowitz county, Wash., pays for three sub cards.
Ralph Nelson, Skagit county, Wash., renews.

Making Better Fighters
T. L. Edwards, Adams county, N. Dak., remits for bundles. "The fight is getting better here all the time," he says.

Nestor Vainio, St. Louis county, Minn., remits for bundles.
Harry Wolhowe, McHenry county, N. D., renews and sends one sub.</



Buffalo Given to Indians

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An increase in the herds of buffalo in Yellowstone national park has led park authorities to turn over 225 head to reservation Indians. The Indians are receiving little or no relief.

Suspend Anti-War Students

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—President Rightmire of Ohio State University suspended seven students who refused to participate in military training.

The students declared "conscientious objections" to war training.

Terror Against Georgia Negroes

BARTOW, Ga.—At least three Negroes have been killed, six beaten, and the homes of 14 burned to the ground in a reign of terror conducted against the Negroes by a gang of 20 nightriders.

Denver Jobless Threaten Stores

DENVER, Colo.—Unemployed workers informed the governor that unless the legislature provided funds for immediate relief by Friday noon, they would seize the food from grocery stores and warehouses in the city.

Nations Defaulted Eleven Billions

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The United States Treasury will lay before Congress a report on the international debt question which will show that capitalist nations have defaulted in their debts to the United States government by eleven billion dollars.

Daily Worker Issues 250,000 Copies

NEW YORK CITY.—The Daily Worker, central organ of the Communist Party, announced that its issue of January 6, celebrating its tenth anniversary, reached 250,000 copies.

Mock War Trains Navy

SAN PEDRO, Calif.—A mock warfare, part of the preparations for a real war, will be held off the coast here April 19 with navy planes, ships and submarines participating.

Langer's Embargo Fails in Court

FARGO, N. D.—A court of three federal judges today held North Dakota's embargo on out-state shipments of wheat and the law under which such embargo was ordered by Gov. William A. Langer without force or effect.

Five Million Children on Relief

WASHINGTON.—Preliminary data on a nationwide unemployment relief census, submitted today to the federal emergency relief administration, showed that approximately 5,500,000 children below the age of 18 were on relief rolls during November, 1933.

Kentucky Drops 10,000 CWA Workers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—As a part of the general campaign to reduce CWA expenditures, Harry Hopkins ordered Kentucky to drop 10,000 men from CWA work. Wisconsin and Michigan have received similar orders. The order states that no new projects are to be started.

German Seaman Defies Nazis

SEATTLE, Wash.—At a street demonstration of workers in this city, the crowd was surprised to hear a greeting from a German seaman, from aboard a Nazi boat in that port. "I, a German sailor, greet the American workers and the Communist Party of America in the name of the German workers." He took his life in his hands by appearing at this meeting.

Printers Union Head Charged With Theft

NEW YORK.—George L. Berry, president of the International Printing Pressmen's Union, has been charged with the misappropriation of \$23,000 of union funds. Attorney Robert Elder, who makes the charge, told City Judge Keller that 32 union workers were caused to be fired by Berry because they demanded an investigation of Berry's handling of funds.

Anthracite Miners in Giant Strike

WILKES BARRE, Pa.—Seventeen thousand anthracite miners struck Jan. 15 and the number is increasing until 45,000 are expected out in another day.

The Lackawanna county court has issued an injunction forbidding the miners to picket the Penn. Colliery Co. The strike is led by a new independent union, the National Anthracite Miners Union.

Half Veterans Dropped From Pensions

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Half of the veterans receiving pensions last March have been dropped under Roosevelt economy legislation, stated Frank T. Hines, veterans administrator. On March 31, the number on pensions was 1,016,561 and that by November, the number was 514,784. During the same period the number of pensioned dependents of deceased veterans dropped from 279,926 to 265,528.

Washington State Meet Issues Call to Action to Exploited Farmers

Delegates Discuss Most Pressing Grievances of Farmers, and Conference Draws Up Program of Demands; Vote to Build Farmers Weekly

BY ETHEL TUIVA

SEATTLE, Wash.—The Washington State Farmers' United Front Conference was held in Seattle, at the Finish Federation Hall, on January 6, 7. There were 34 delegates registered from two different organizations, representing about 800 organized farmers from ten counties.

C. M. Boskajon, State Secretary of the United Farmers League, reported on the accomplishments and growth of the U. F. L. in this state.

There were also reports on the Second National Farmers' Conference by Comrades M. Pakkala, J. C. Klingsbury and W. Hopkinson, who had attended the conference as delegates from this state.

In spite of the small number of delegates at this United Front Conference of the farmers of the state of Washington, much was accomplished. A State Committee was elected; also an Executive Committee. Comrade Casey Boskajon was re-elected for State Secretary of the United Farmers League and Comrade J. C. Klingsbury was elected State Organizer.

There was much discussion about the necessity of the farmers and workers uniting their efforts to better the living condition of each. It was clearly brought out that neither could do without the other in the class struggle.

No Improvement for Farmers

The delegates from the different localities reported on the prevailing conditions of the farmers in this district. There has been no improvement in the status of the small farmer during the past year. On the contrary, it has become much harder for him to eke out a living at all. Produce prices have steadily declined, while the prices on the commodities he has to buy are much higher. The delegates told of the most pressing grievances in each community and around these the demands were drawn up.

The conference issued a "call to action" to exploited farmers of the state, proposing "united struggle to save the homes and families from the destructive crisis of capitalism."

The farmers at the conference united behind the following demands, urged the busted farmers of the state to support the fight for these demands:

1. For Cash Relief.—Adequate and immediate cash relief for all needy farmers in order to live and continue production; free medical, dental, and hospital care for the impoverished farmers and their families with the right to choose their own doctors and hospitals; free hot lunches of wholesome food and free transportation in public schools for children of impoverished farmers at the expense of the government.

2. Cancellation of Debts.—Cancellation of secured debts, mortgages, back rents, delinquent taxes and seed and feed loans to the small and middle farmers.

3. Higher Purchasing Power.—Increase in prices of all farm products at the expense of the middlemen profiteers, at no additional cost to the consumer.

4. Against Foreclosures and evictions.—We demand and shall fight to put a stop to all foreclosures and evictions of impoverished farmers, farm families and small home owners.

5. Free Water and Electric Power.—Free irrigation water and electric power to be supplied to all impoverished farmers at the expense of the government and the bosses.

6. Compensation for Condemned Products.—Full compensation to all small and impoverished farmers for all condemned products.

7. Reduction in Rents.—We demand that cash and crop rents of the exploited farmers shall be substantially reduced.

8. Tax Relief.—We demand that ruined and destitute farmers shall be exempt from taxation, for all other exploited farmers we demand substantial tax reductions.

9. Against Discrimination.—We demand that there be no discrimination against impoverished and middle farmers in the marketing of their produce such as written in the vicious marketing acts passed by the legislature of the State of Washington which are aimed to aid the large cooperation farms and food trusts.

10. Flood Control.—We demand immediate cash relief for all farmers who suffered flood losses and complete compensation from the Federal Government for all damages incurred during recent floods. Damages to be appraised by Committees of farmers in the damaged districts.

"On the New Deal"

The Call to Action points out that the "New Deal" with its huge subsidies to the banks and big corporations, with its policy of raising the cost of living to farmers and workers through inflation, is an attempt to help the money class out of the crisis at the expense of the masses. "Billions are being spent by the Roosevelt government to destroy crops, reduce acreage, with the aim of eliminating the thousands of small farmers from the land while the well-to-do

farmers, and trusts, will thus be sure of continued large profits."

The refinancing force and the processing tax are scored.

Oppression of the Negro

On the oppression of the Negro, the Washington state, the call says "The New Deal in the South has increased the terror and the lynching against the Negro people. They are exploited not only as farmers and workers, but as a nation kept in subjection by a white ruling class. We are against this vicious jim-crowism and race hatred bred to divide and to keep down the toiling masses both Negro and white. We declare ourselves for the firmest solidarity with the Negroes and all other oppressed people at home and abroad."

Fight Against War

On the question of an imminent imperialist war, the call says: "The New Deal spends billions for war preparations, and plans to use the surplus farmers and workers to fight in the interests of big business. We will not be used to kill other farmers and workers, but will strengthen our fight against war and war preparations."

"What the New Deal cannot put over by demagoguery, they attempt to do by force. Law and Order Leagues, Vigilance, Silver Shirts, etc., are used to crush the farmers' struggles for better prices, against foreclosure, etc."

UFL Conference

The immediate tasks outlined by the state UFL, holding its meeting during the conference include county conferences in all counties having two or more locals, to set up a county committee with a secretary, organizer and chairman, to coordinate the work in the county. This committee must make a monthly report to the state secretary.

At the same time locals are to be established in counties which do not already have locals. Locals are urged to establish themselves on a dues-paying basis.

Build the Militant Press

It was decided as one of the most important tasks that the quota for the state for the Farmers Weekly Drive for \$5,000 by March 1 be fulfilled on schedule. The Voice of Action, militant paper of the workers and farmers of the state, must be supported and built also.

The State Executive Committee of the UFL is as follows:

Casey Boskajon, Eatonville, secretary.

J. C. Klingsbury, Toledo (care of A. Davis) organizer.

P. J. Cantwell, Arlington, Rt. 4.

W. Hopkinson, Spanaway, Rt. 1.

J. W. Johnson, Ferndale, Rt. 1, Box 15.

SHOW FAVORITISM IN CWA JOBS, SAYS

Medicine Lake, Mont.

Dear Editor: Mr. Emmet Gormley is the big shot in the NRA work going on here in Medicine Lake, and it seems as a man must belong to his church or be related to the family in order to have any chance at all getting a job.

Gormley is an agent for Westland Oil Co. here, and I understand he is drawing 90 cents per hour for his service as NRA captain.

Dr. Stephens is the second lieutenant, and God knows he is no better than Gormley. He has his truck hauling gravel, also two of his boys are on the payroll.

Frank French, the big oil, cattle and sheep man, has two trucks on the job. Nels Markson, the Ford dealer, also has a truck or two on the job.

Likely these people need the jobs, but what about us little rats with a family and no work and nothing to wear or eat. Where do we come in at? If this is the way the "New Deal" has got to be worked out, then I say to hell with the NRA.

—An Unemployed.

(Editor's Note: The writer evidently refers to CWA work, a part of the Roosevelt "Recovery" program, and twin brother of the NRA.)

FARMERS PROTEST HITLER FRAME-UP

Demand Release of Torgler and Others Held by Nazis Jails

IRONWOOD, Mich.—The National Cooperative Society and the Finnish Federation of the Ironwood District sent telegrams to Judge Buenger, demanding the unconditional and safe release of the four Reichstag fire trial defendants.

MANY CITIES PLAN ANTI-WAR ACTION JAN. 29

League Against War Prepares Organized Protest on Military Funds

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Various cities throughout the country are forging ahead in their preparations for outdoor and indoor mass demonstrations to back the United Front Committee of the American League Against War and Fascism going to Washington on Jan. 29, to protest against the huge and increasing sums voted by Congress for war purposes, was announced by Ida Dailies, Assistant Secretary of the League.

The national office of the League has been informed by its city committees of San Francisco, Newark, N. J., Washington, D. C., and Yonkers, N. Y., that arrangements have all been completed for large mass meetings on January 29th. The San Francisco meeting will also be in form of a conference to strengthen the organization of the American League in that section.

The broad United Front Committee going to Washington will place before President Roosevelt and Secretaries of the Army and Navy, a set of four definite demands against war appropriations which will include equally strong demands to what use these hundreds of millions of dollars shall be put. The following four demands will be made in Washington:

1. No more appropriations for war purposes; we demand public works and not war works. Complete rejection of the current requests of the Army and Navy for additional funds for war preparations. Instead of billions for war, we demand the use of these funds for the unemployed and a national system of social insurance.

2. Immediate cancellation of all war contracts for the building of battleships, airplanes, submarines, etc., which have been financed by grants from the Public Works Funds during the past months.

3. Immediate abolition of the R. O. T. C., the C. M. T. C., and the C. C. C. Build schools not battleships!

4. Immediate withdrawal of all armed forces from all foreign land and waters.

After these demands are presented in Washington members of the committee will fly to New York to address the giant mass meeting that evening at St. Nicholas Arena where the report of the meeting with the President will be made.

CANADIAN FARMER PRAISES WORK OF 'PRODUCERS NEWS'

Writes of Trouble of Workers and Farmers Over the Line in Sask.

Minton, Sask.

Dear Editor—Through your columns I would like to show some of the appreciation we Canadian workers have for the excellent work done by the Producers News and your organization for the welfare of workers and small farmers. Let me assure you it is a real pleasure to read a paper dedicated to truth and workingclass justice and to feel that we have neighbors who have worth-while principles and will stick to them come what may. We are glad that we have neighbors who realize there can be no compromise with an economic system based on the exploitation of the creators of wealth.

In Canada we have our troubles. Grain elevators and terminals full of grain, with no markets and our own people hungry and stock is starving. We are indebted to the extent of some 17 billions of dollars and we cannot meet our interest payments.

There have been started some relief projects which are paying the men 20 cents a day but still the workers and miners are dissatisfied. They even complain about having to pay \$1.75 for a pair of overalls. They don't seem to realize that if the government cannot continue to pay a dividend of 16 per cent in bank stocks the rest of the world will look on Canada with contempt.

The other day a Saskatchewan family decided to commit suicide. They borrowed a neighbors car closed themselves in a tight building and started the motor. The child, a boy of about eight, died, but the parents survived. They then slashed their veins with a razor but were found before they bled to death. The reason was no work and nothing to eat.

They will be tried for murder. The working people say that we should try the capitalist system instead. If they would have only waited they may have obtained work in a relief camp at 20 cents a day, and in the spring—well the Russian thistles grow in abundance and gophers can be caught with a piece of twine.

Well so much for our troubles. We have come to a point where we must make a decision. Are we to continue under the present system which means the degeneracy

20,000 Copies of New Weekly are Printed

(Continued from Front Page)

and making little notations on sheets of paper beside them. Yes, it was a busy day for the Farmers Weekly staff.

"Another order from Sheridan county Montana. Hans Harderson orders 200 copies," said Ruth Bert as we entered the office.

"Did he pay?" asked Miller. "He did," said Ruth. Back in the office, John Miller explained the Weekly's Drive for \$5,000 by March 1.

"The sample issue was printed primarily to help our boosters, our Advance Guard, get subscriptions and donations. If we reach our goal by that date, we will begin to publish every week. And judging by the fine spirit of the militant farmers who built the paper to begin with, we are going to reach that goal all right."

"The total sum has been divided up among the states, with the largest quotas going to those states with the largest and most active organizations. About three fourths of the amount is to be secured in subscriptions, the remainder in greetings, advertisements and donations. Many locals are holding affairs, parties, etc., to raise donations for the paper."

"Nebraska has gotten off to a good start and has already raised 20 per cent of its quota. Minnesota and Michigan have begun rather well, and Wisconsin pro-

mise to be a blue-ribbon entry. The eastern states have been pretty slow getting under way. We had expected so much from Pennsylvania that we are somewhat disappointed."

"But we believe that all of that will be corrected. From today on, the campaign goes on in dead earnest. The sample issue will be circulated to the tune of 20,000 copies. There is no time to lose, and the farmers realize it. Every state, every locality, every individual militant farmer and even every member of his family must get into action before the week is out if we are to succeed."

"And we are confident that the campaign will be a success because we believe that this is exactly what will happen and is happening."

"J. S. Pospisil of Nebraska got 62 subs, for instance. Before many more days are gone, I hope to be able to show you several hundred Pospisils!"

From reading a few of the letters which had come into the office, I felt sure that John Miller was right. The spirit of enthusiasm, the will to build, was apparent in every line of the letters.

Farmers had built the Producers News. They had built the old Farmers National Weekly, and they had built the Co-op Bulletin. Their efforts had made it possible to amalgamate these three papers into one larger, stronger fighting paper. Now they were going to build this paper, put it on a firm foundation. I realized that these farmers, by their collective might, were throwing a challenge into the capitalist farm papers which lied to them, cheated them, and attempted to lead them back into a slavery of hunger and misery.

The farmers' struggle for a new paper, I could see, was not just a pet campaign, such as might be stirred by any cheap capitalist promoter. The building of this paper was costing farmers a great deal of money, not only of money made by the literal sweat of their brows, but also of time, energy, and labor. They were going about it in the same dead earnest with which they stopped forced sales, or with which they fought sheriffs and the national guards. This paper I could see, was to be a monument to the loyalty, devotion and courage of the militant farmers of the country.

And when I took my leave of 1817 South Loomis Street, I was just as confident as John Miller or Erik Bert that the farmers were going to put across their drive for \$5,000 by March 1.

The working peasants of the village of Iasmos elected the communist list in the rural council election. The working peasants of the village of Baira (Macedonia) beat up and drove away the officials sent by the government to take back the land which has been cultivated by the peasants for six years. A large detachment of gendarmes arrested a number of peasants, upon which a large body of peasants marched to the prefecture in Nigrida to protest against the arrests.

Two hundred and fifty peasants of Karamlyi, ruined by a frightful hailstorm, marched under the leadership of the communists to the capital of the province, and demanded compensation.

of civilization and the moral, and mental and physical deterioration of humanity or shall we put into force a system in which the motive is the supplying of human needs instead of making profits for a few.

I am convinced that if we stand firm and refuse to sacrifice our principles of justice for all we will be victorious in the near future. From what I have seen and heard of your movement I feel satisfied you will never desert the exploited farmer for any bait which may be dangling before your eyes and it is a great encouragement to us.

Fraternally yours,
Canadian Farmer.

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Sunday, Jan. 28, will be Farmers Weekly Sunday for several thousand farmers, members of the UFL and other militant farm organizations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and northern Michigan.

The Workers and Farmers Cooperative Unity Alliance, the United Farmers League and other workers and farmers clubs are co-operating to make this a red letter day in the history of the new Farmers Weekly drive for \$5,000 by March 1.

On that day, these farmers will personally call upon hundreds of thousands of farmers in these states and urge them to subscribe to the Farmers Weekly, to read and donate to the new militant paper.

The counties and townships have been divided up and each farmer has a given locality to cover.

Get Your Bundle of Sample Copies

The sample copies retail at three cents a copy. Every farmer who has not already done so should send for a bundle for sale in his community. The sample copy will help him get subscriptions. The price in bundles is:

100 copies or more 1c each.
50-100 copies 1 1/2c each.
Less than 50 copies 2c each.
Send money with your order.

Enclosed is \$1.50 for one year's subscription to our new combined paper.

Please send me sub blanks. I pledge to get subscriptions before March 1.

I also pledge to raise \$..... in Greetings advertisements and donations.

To aid me in this work, please send me..... copies of the January 15th issue. Enclosed is money.

Name.....

Organization.....

Address.....



21 Killed in India Earthquake

CALCUTTA, India.—At least 21 were killed and many injured in an earthquake which shook all India Jan. 15.

Debt Increases Under Hitler

BERLIN.—On Nov. 30 of this year the floating debt of the German state amounted to 2051.9 millions, as compared with 2005 millions on Oct. 31.

Unemployed in Italy Increases

ROME.—The officially admitted number of unemployed in Italy has increased from 962,868 at the end of October to 1,066,215 on Nov. 30.

Italian Fascism Arms

ROME.—Tests are being made in the Italian army with a new and especially "effective" 75 mm mountain howitzer with hydraulic brake. This can be taken into seven pieces for purposes of transport.

Destroyer Launched in Japan

TOKYO.—A new submarine destroyer has been launched at the shipyard at Utsunomiya. It is of the same type as the destroyer completed Dec. 2 at the Ishikawajima shipyard.

Shanghai Silk Mills Shut

SHANGHAI, China.—The "Shanghai Times" announces that all the Chinese silk mills in this city, 65 in number, have been shut down, throwing 10,000 workers out of their jobs. The newspapers lay the cause to Japanese dumping.

New Spy Case in Soviet Russia

MOSCOW.—A new spy case, similar to the recent Metro-Vickers affair, was disclosed here when representatives of the Societe Generale des Surveillances, a French-Swiss company having concessions here, were taken into custody.

Land Marines in Chinese City

FOOCHOW, China.—United States marines were landed here as rebel troops threatened to defeat the army of Chiang Kai Shek, nationalist leader, and capture the city. Chang is friendly to American, British and French interests.

Plague Spreads to North Java

BATAVIA.—Only a few days ago a great sensation was aroused by the reports of the plague in West Java, and now news comes from North Java that there too the numbers of deaths from the plague are increasing steadily. In the Tegal district alone 246 deaths from the plague are reported.

Falling Off of Russian Orders

BERLIN.—During the first 10 months of 1933 Germany supplied goods to Russia to the value of 128 million marks. It may be assumed that the figures for the remaining two months will not exceed 12 million marks, so that Russian orders may be calculated to have declined by about two thirds in 1933—from 400 million marks in 1932 to 140 millions this year.

Japan, Germany Plot War on USSR

LONDON.—An alliance between Japan and Hitler Germany for war on Soviet Russia is in existence, stated Milukov, former leader of the Russian government immediately after the downfall of Czarism. Milukov, who along with his friends was overthrown by the Bolsheviks, has no love for the Soviet government, but he was compelled to admit the truth of this fact.

Bulgaria Asks Death for Anti-War Fighters

SOFIA, Bulgaria.—The death penalty is asked for 20 in the trial of 69 revolutionary workers, soldiers and sailors charged with carrying on anti-war agitation in the Bulgarian naval and military forces.

The trial, which is taking place at Varna, is being held under the strictest secrecy, with workers excluded from the court.

Cuban President Forced to Resign

HAVANA, Cuba.—Ramon Grau San Martin resigned from the presidency under pressure from Jefferson Caffery, American ambassador, and a new president, more competent to protect American interests, will be named. The action followed Grau's failure to prevent the strike of employees in the American-owned Cuban Electric company, which shrouded Havana in darkness for several nights.

Preparations for War in Greece

ATHENS.—Only last year the Greek government bought four new destroyers, and now it was decided to purchase two more. The naval ministry has further resolved to build a great aircraft defense station at the naval seaport of Salamis, although a number of small stations of this kind have been built during the last few months. A new laboratory for war chemistry was opened at Salamis in the presence of the naval minister.

Farmers National Weekly