

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

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POINT-OF-ORIGIN INSPECTION IN TWENTY-TWO STATES

An opportunity is now presented for many cooperators to put their marketing of fruits and vegetables upon a new and safer basis, securing shipping-point inspection certificates upon their entire output and basing their sales exclusively upon such certification. Such a course would put the association in a peculiarly advantageous position for the collection of just claims against the carriers, and also to secure settlements on the basis of the price originally agreed upon with a minimum of adjustment with the buyers.

The act making appropriations for the United States Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1922, authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to furnish inspection service at shipping points as well as in receiving markets. However, as no increase was made in the appropriation for the work, the Department has been limited in its field activities to such inspection work as could be handled in cooperation with various State departments or officers who had appropriations for similar work or who operated under laws which would permit the use of the fees to support the work. Twenty-two states have entered into cooperative arrangements with the United States Department of Agriculture for shipping-point inspection work on fruits and vegetables, and other states are falling into line as the season progresses. Additional funds will be available for this work on July 1, 1923, and the Department hopes to be able to render such service in almost any important shipping district where it may be desired after that date.

The act of Congress provides that a fee shall be charged for this service which shall be reasonable and as nearly as may be cover the cost of the service rendered, but so far as the Department of Agriculture collects these fees they must go into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts. However, there is no restriction upon the arrangements which the Department may make with the States for the joint handling of the work, and if the Department chooses to provide that the State collect and expend the fees there is no legal difficulty in carrying out such an arrangement. In every case, however, the Federal Department sees to it that adequate supervision is provided so that the methods of inspecting for grade and condition shall be uniform throughout the United States.

Congress has provided that the certificate issued by the Federal inspector on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture shall be prima facie evidence in all courts of the United States as to the truth of

the facts stated thereon. Thus these shipping-point certificates become highly valuable commercial documents in the hands of any organization which is in a position to make f.o.b. sales. In fact, if such sales can be concluded and confirmed on the basis of a definite United States grade and the shipping-point certificate shows that the product shipped was actually of this grade, the transaction may be considered legally closed and the shipper in a position legally to enforce the payment of the full amount of the purchase price through the courts.

Should the receiver, upon examining the car, believe that the products are not of the grade certified by the inspector, he may call upon the Federal Department for a reinspection, to secure which he must pay in advance a fee of \$12, or three times the usual fee charged for inspection in receiving markets. Two Federal inspectors will then reinspect the car, making an especially thorough and exhaustive examination, and if they sustain the buyer's appeal the original certificate is reversed and the buyer's fee refunded him. If, however, the original certificate is sustained the Government retains the \$12 which has been paid in advance by the receiver. In actual practice, however, it has been found that a negligible number of shipping-point certificates have actually been reversed in the markets. On the first 45,000 cars inspected at shipping point less than 70 appeals were made and less than half of these were sustained on reinspection.

Shipping-point inspection work dovetails with the Department's work in standardization, which was discussed by H. W. Samson in Agricultural Cooperation of April 9, 1923, Volume I, No. 8. The examination of the inspector shows the grower or association most conclusively whether or not the grade adopted is being adhered to. The official inspector is disinterested and his work has a most potent educational effect. If cars which do not meet the grade specifications, or which contain too large a percentage of defective stock, are shipped to market and bring unsatisfactory returns, the sales organization has a convincing answer to any complaint which the shipper may be inclined to make. The very fact that a sharp line of demarcation is being drawn at shipping point between products which are and those which are not up to grade does much to bring about uniformity in grading and standardization and efficiency in packing-house practices. During the first season of this work very few cooperative organizations have taken Federal shipping-point inspection on all of their products, and some which have done so were not so organized as to secure the proper grading and standardization of the products inspected.

Wells A. Sherman.

(Mr. Sherman is in charge of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. He is a native of Virginia and a graduate of Greylock Institute, So. Williamstown, Mass. From 1895-1900 he was State Statistical Agent for Virginia and West Virginia in the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture; later he was connected with the Bureau of Standards, the Civil Service Commission, the Bureau of Plant Industry, and since 1913 with this Bureau. He is joint author of numerous bulletins).

SUPREME COURT HOLDS ASSOCIATION OBSTRUCTS INTERSTATE COMMERCE

The Sherman Anti-Trust Act provides that if one is injured through the violation of the Act by another, he may sue and recover three times the amount of the damages suffered by him on account of such violation.

In the case of Ramsay Company against Associated Bill Posters of the United States and Canada, recently decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, the plaintiff brought suit for the recovery of treble damages under the Sherman Act. The District Court dismissed the complaint on the theory that the facts stated therein did not constitute a cause of action, and the Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed this action. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, which court reversed the judgment of the lower court, holding that the facts involved constituted a cause of action.

It appeared that the plaintiffs prepared, designed, purchased, and sold posters and caused them to be displayed by local operators in many cities and towns throughout the United States and Canada and contracted with their customers accordingly. In 1891 many bill posters, theretofore in competition, entered into a combination and conspiracy to monopolize the bill-posting business in their respective localities and to control all trade and commerce in posters within such limits.

The following were among the means adopted for carrying out the purposes of the combination and conspiracy: (a) Membership has been restricted to one employing bill poster in each town or city and members have been prohibited from competing with each other. (b) Funds have been furnished to members for buying out competitors. (c) Rules prevent members accepting certain work from an advertiser who has given business to a nonmember. (d) A schedule of prices has been fixed and members have been prohibited from accepting certain kinds of work from any one except solicitors (twelve in all) arbitrarily selected and licensed, who are forbidden to patronize a nonmember in any place where any member does business. (e) By threats of withdrawal of patronage, manufacturers have been prevented from furnishing posters to independent bill posters or to advertisers desiring to do business with independents except upon prohibitive terms.

The plaintiffs had been licensed as solicitors by the association, and their licenses were canceled in 1911, as the result of which they were disabled from competing in the markets, and their business was restricted and rendered unprofitable. In the opinion of the Supreme Court it is said:

The purpose of the combination here challenged is to destroy competition and secure a monopoly by limiting and restricting commerce in posters to channels dictated by the confederates, to exclude from such trade the undesired, including the plaintiffs, and to enrich the members by demanding noncompetitive prices.....

The fundamental purpose of the Sherman Act was to secure equality of opportunity and to protect the public against evils commonly incident to destruction of competition through monopolies and combinations in restraint of trade. The alleged actions of defendants are directly opposed to this beneficent purpose and are denounced by the statute.

L. S. Hulbert.

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HOLLINGSWORTH V. TEXAS HAY ASSOCIATION

The Texas Hay Association is a cooperative organization formed under the laws of the State of Texas. It entered into a contract with one of its members, one Hollingsworth, relative to the delivery and marketing of hay. He violated his contract by selling hay outside of the association. The association then brought suit to obtain an injunction to restrain him from disposing of hay contrary to his contract and also to restrain the party to whom he had sold hay from purchasing hay from him in violation thereof. The court enjoined both parties and an appeal was taken to the Appellate Court of Texas, which court, 246 S. W. 1068, affirmed the judgment of the lower court.

It was urged in this case that the provision of the statute in Texas under which the association was formed, which provided that associations organized under it should not be deemed to be combinations in restraint of trade, was unconstitutional. The court overruled this point and held the statutory provision in question valid. It is believed that this is the first case involving a cooperative association in which both the member who was violating his contract by disposing of products outside of the association, and the party to whom he was selling such products, have been restrained.

L. S. Hulbert

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SOLD FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND CASES OF EGGS IN FIVE WEEKS

Sales of eggs by the Poultry Producers of Central California, San Francisco, Calif., for the five weeks ending January 31, amounted to 48,418 cases, which brought a total amount of \$519,240.75. The total operating expenses for the period were \$16,567.06; the operating expenses per case were 34.22¢; and operating cost of sales, 3.19%.

SIDE LIGHTS ON COOPERATION IN THE FORTY-EIGHT STATES

The number of farms in the United States which reported sales of produce through farmers' marketing associations in 1919 was 511,383, according to the Fourteenth Census. Every one of the 48 States contained farms which sold more or less produce cooperatively. Minnesota led the list with 73,314 farms which reported cooperative selling, which was 15.31% of the total number of farms reporting collective sales. Iowa followed Minnesota on the list, Wisconsin came third and Michigan fourth. Each of these last three States contained over 8% of the total number of farms selling through farmers' marketing organizations. Over 33% of the farms reporting cooperative sales were in six of the North Central States, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Kansas and Nebraska.

The 48 States arranged according to the number of farms reporting sales through farmers' marketing organizations, the number of such farms for each State, and the percentage of the total for each State, are as follows:

States	Farms : Reporting :	Per Cent : of Total : :	States	Farms : Reporting :	Per Cent : of Total : :
Minnesota	: 73,314	: 15.31	New Jersey	: 2,758	: .54
Iowa	: 43,350	: 8.48	Alabama	: 2,678	: .52
Wisconsin	: 42,843	: 8.38	Texas	: 2,486	: .49
Michigan	: 42,104	: 8.23	Idaho	: 2,336	: .46
Kansas	: 33,654	: 6.59	Montana	: 1,948	: .38
Nebraska	: 32,543	: 6.36	Maryland	: 1,865	: .36
California	: 25,772	: 5.04	Florida	: 1,367	: .27
Illinois	: 24,797	: 4.85	Maine	: 1,264	: .25
New York	: 23,494	: 4.59	Tennessee	: 1,255	: .246
South Dakota	: 20,241	: 3.96	Vermont	: 1,239	: .24
Ohio	: 19,952	: 3.90	Utah	: 1,127	: .22
Missouri	: 17,748	: 3.47	New Mexico	: 975	: .19
North Dakota	: 17,438	: 3.41	North Carolina	: 850	: .17
Indiana	: 14,633	: 2.86	Massachusetts	: 747	: .15
Pennsylvania	: 7,602	: 1.49	West Virginia	: 625	: .12
Oklahoma	: 5,980	: 1.17	Connecticut	: 593	: .12
Colorado	: 5,847	: 1.14	Delaware	: 548	: .11
Washington	: 5,583	: 1.09	Wyoming	: 370	: .07
Mississippi	: 5,274	: 1.03	Georgia	: 210	: .04
Louisiana	: 4,284	: .84	South Carolina	: 203	: .04
Virginia	: 3,849	: .75	Arizona	: 180	: .04
Oregon	: 3,845	: .75	New Hampshire	: 122	: .02
Kentucky	: 3,498	: .68	Rhode Island	: 95	: .02
Arkansas	: 2,885	: .56	Nevada	: 2	: .004
Total	:	:		511,383	100.00

Census figures show that the number of farms reporting cooperative purchasing is 64.4% of the number reporting cooperative selling,

with some such purchasing in every State except Nevada. The total number of farms reporting purchases through farmers' organizations in 1919 was 329,449, or 5.1% of the total number of farms in the United States. Each of six States had more than 20,000 farms buying through cooperative associations. Arranged according to the number of farms engaged in this activity, and showing the percentage of the total number doing cooperative purchasing, the list is as follows:

States	Farms Reporting	Per Cent of Total	States	Farms Reporting	Per Cent of Total
Iowa	32,530	9.87	Oregon	2,515	.76
Kansas	32,321	9.81	Kentucky	2,344	.71
Minnesota	29,611	8.99	West Virginia	2,203	.67
Nebraska	27,335	8.30	Texas	1,769	.54
Wisconsin	21,792	6.61	Vermont	1,672	.51
Ohio	21,250	6.45	Louisiana	1,591	.48
Michigan	18,154	5.51	Utah	1,377	.42
Missouri	17,954	5.45	Mississippi	1,345	.41
South Dakota	13,754	4.17	Tennessee	1,174	.36
North Dakota	12,579	3.82	Arkansas	1,072	.32
Illinois	12,303	3.73	Massachusetts	1,009	.31
Indiana	10,019	3.04	New Hampshire	946	.29
Pennsylvania	7,980	2.42	Maryland	637	.19
New York	7,106	2.16	Wyoming	611	.19
California	5,792	1.76	New Mexico	574	.17
Colorado	5,613	1.70	Connecticut	459	.14
Washington	5,355	1.63	Alabama	422	.13
Virginia	5,161	1.57	Georgia	411	.12
Oklahoma	4,900	1.49	Florida	381	.11
Maine	3,407	1.03	Delaware	275	.08
North Carolina	2,976	.90	South Carolina	185	.06
Montana	2,926	.89	Arizona	121	.04
New Jersey	2,798	.85	Rhode Island	86	.03
Idaho	2,653	.81	Nevada	00	.00
Total				329,449	100.00

The combined purchasing and marketing activities reported amounted to \$306,599,308. Of products marketed cooperatively, the most important were grain, milk and cream, fruits and truck crops, while the most important items purchased cooperatively were fertilizer, feed, binder twine, spraying materials, coal, crates and boxes.

An arrangement of the States according to the amount of cooperative buying and selling, expressed in dollars instead of number of farms, shows a slightly changed order. California heads the list with a reported value of \$132,312,110, which is over 16% of the total amount of cooperative sales and purchases reported for the 48 States. Minnesota comes second with over 11% to its credit. The following table shows the amounts and percentages for the several States:

States	: Dollars	: Per Cent :	States	: Dollars	: Per Cent
:	:	: of Total :	:	:	: of Total
California	:\$132,312,110	: 16.40	Florida	:\$4,615,388	: .57
Minnesota	: 89,402,621	: 11.09	Idaho	: 4,057,550	: .50
Iowa	: 66,164,573	: 8.20	Maryland	: 3,361,620	: .42
Nebraska	: 54,415,247	: 6.75	Maine	: 2,919,417	: .36
Kansas	: 53,954,008	: 6.69	Kentucky	: 2,812,192	: .35
Illinois	: 51,254,154	: 6.36	Montana	: 2,409,495	: .30
New York	: 47,177,223	: 5.85	Massachusetts	: 2,192,646	: .27
South Dakota	: 35,235,015	: 4.37	Vermont	: 1,959,694	: .24
Wisconsin	: 32,447,211	: 4.03	Mississippi	: 1,571,131	: .19
North Dakota	: 28,325,369	: 3.51	Utah	: 1,238,535	: .16
Michigan	: 26,740,641	: 3.32	New Mexico	: 1,257,131	: .16
Ohio	: 21,959,057	: 2.73	Connecticut	: 1,251,532	: .16
Washington	: 18,065,428	: 2.24	So. Carolina	: 1,088,189	: .13
Missouri	: 16,439,705	: 2.04	No. Carolina	: 1,084,369	: .13
Indiana	: 14,544,303	: 1.80	Georgia	: 956,051	: .12
Pennsylvania	: 11,543,594	: 1.43	Alabama	: 909,785	: .11
Virginia	: 11,391,751	: 1.41	Wyoming	: 784,151	: .10
Colorado	: 10,961,704	: 1.36	Tennessee	: 740,941	: .09
Louisiana	: 10,585,233	: 1.31	West Virginia	: 502,369	: .06
Oklahoma	: 9,161,354	: 1.14	Arizona	: 435,678	: .05
Oregon	: 8,736,790	: 1.08	New Hampshire	: 366,486	: .039
New Jersey	: 8,696,958	: 1.08	Rhode Island	: 252,612	: .03
Texas	: 5,090,969	: .63	Delaware	: 247,588	: .03
Arkansas	: 4,900,213	: .61	Nevada	: 8,300	: .001
Total	:	:	Total	: 806,599,308	: 100.00

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TWO ARIZONA ASSOCIATIONS TO MERGE MANAGEMENT

At a joint meeting of the directors of the Arizona Grain Growers and the Roosevelt Hay Growers, Phoenix, Ariz., April 7, resolutions were passed expressing the belief that the two associations could be handled more economically by one manager, and empowering the executive committees to select a manager to look after the affairs of both associations and to work out the necessary details for the consolidation. G. C. Spilsbury, formerly manager of the Arizona Grain Growers, was chosen as manager for the two associations which are to remain distinct in all other particulars.

The Roosevelt Hay Growers have established a spring pool for early alfalfa, moving out all the first cutting and liquidating the accounts as soon as possible in order to aid the growers who are in need of ready money. The total disbursements of this association for the 1922 crop amounted to approximately \$100,000.

PEANUT GROWERS ISSUE REPORT OF 1921 POOLS

A complete report of its 1921 operations has been issued by the Peanut Growers' Association, Inc., Norfolk, Va. The Virginia and Spanish peanuts were sold in separate pools. The total quantity in the Virginia pool was 65,017,320 pounds (46,571,662 after cleaning), and the gross sales amounted to \$2,427,992.50. The Spanish pool contained 2,594,070 pounds (2,038,275 after cleaning) and the gross sales amounted to \$119,138.44. Expenses for the season were \$1,096,046.83, of which \$29,195.69 was charged to the Spanish pool and \$1,066,851.14 to the Virginia pool, averaging \$1.12-1/2 per cwt. for the Spanish and \$1.64 per cwt. for the Virginia pool. Among the larger items of expense were the following: milling, \$361,766; storage and insurance, \$322,713; freight and drayage, \$157,999; salaries, \$56,668; interest and discount, \$51,819. From the Virginia pool the sum of \$1,338,569.45, 55.13% of the total, was returned to the growers; and from the Spanish pool, \$89,942.75, or 75.49%. The return to the growers per pound was 2.06¢ for the peanuts in the Virginia pool and 3.47¢ for those in the Spanish.

Expenses of organization amounted to \$73,491.78, which sum is to be divided into seven parts and payment distributed over a period of seven years.

Suits for breach of contract had been filed against 28 growers in Virginia and 19 growers in North Carolina up to February 7, and 11 growers had paid liquidated damages of two cents a pound, the sums paid ranging from \$21 to \$913.

One payment has been made on the 1922 crop, less than one-fifth of which has been sold.

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COLORADO POTATO GROWERS FORMING STATE WIDE MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Tentative plans for the Colorado Potato Growers' Exchange were formulated at a meeting called by the Governor of the State in Denver, April 13. Growers from the various potato-producing sections responded to the Governor's invitation to consider and adopt a program of procedure and to set up a temporary organization to conduct field work preliminary to the formation of the exchange. A marketing contract calling for a minimum sign-up by June 30 was adopted. It was decided to pool returns for potatoes on a weekly basis. A general organization committee was selected to conduct the "sign-up" campaign and one thousand dollars was subscribed for the use of the committee which consists of representative potato growers from 18 counties, the Governor, representatives of the State Board of Agriculture, the Greater Colorado Club and the Farmers' Union. W. S. Hill of Fort Collins was employed as organization manager.

The shipments of white potatoes out of Colorado for the past three seasons have been as follows: 1920-21, 11,345 carlots; 1921-22, 17,742 carlots; 1922-23 (to May 5), 14,448 carlots.

TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL COOPERATIVE MARKETING

The third-oldest of the eleven cooperative butter-export associations operating in Denmark to-day, the Mid-Jutland Cooperative Butter Export Association, Horsens, Denmark, has recently celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. A handsome booklet giving a summary of the activities of the quarter century has been issued in commemoration of the event.

The association, which now consists of 44 member creameries, was organized in March, 1898, for the purpose of carrying out needed reforms in the Danish butter trade. Reforms in regard to weight and payment for quality - innovations in the butter trade - were introduced at once. Each week as the butter from the local creameries was assembled for export the product from each creamery was scored as to quality by six judges and payment was made according to this scoring. This method stimulated the manufacture of the finest quality of butter possible, resulted in establishing on foreign markets a reputation for high quality and dependability, and brought top prices to the association.

England furnishes the principal market for the association's butter. Sales are made direct to wholesale houses and large retail companies. The association also exports butter to Switzerland, Belgium, Austria, Germany and the United States. In 1919-20 America became a buyer of Danish butter in large quantities, and an organization made up of several Danish export associations, including the Mid-Jutland, established a sales office in New York City. However, this office was discontinued in 1922 because of the tariff on imported butter.

When organized, the Mid-Jutland Association consisted of four cooperative and two private creameries located in the middle section of the Jutland Peninsula surrounding Horsens. The necessary capital for equipment and operation was secured from a local bank, the liability for the loan being jointly guaranteed by the members, each creamery being liable for a fixed amount based on the quantity of its annual production.

The stringent requirements which the association adopted and enforced are responsible for the small initial membership and the slow growth in the first years. Only 10 creameries were added to the original 6 during the first eight years. At the close of the first twelve years the membership embraced only 25 creameries. The first large increase came in 1911 when the practice of payment for butter according to quality was generally accepted throughout the Danish dairy industry. That year 8 creameries joined the association. During the War the dangers involved in water transportation made the foreign butter trade very uncertain and risky and private traders often refused to handle butter. This accounts for the unusual increase of 11 creameries in the years 1915-16.

Each member creamery is bound by contract to deliver its total output to the association, except what butter is required for home use. A member creamery may withdraw at the end of any fiscal year provided it gives six months' advance notice, however, no creamery has ever withdrawn.

The control of the association lies with a committee consisting of three representatives from each creamery. These representatives elect from their own number a board of five directors, which board employs a butter merchant to conduct the business. One farmer has served as chair-

man of the board of directors for the entire twenty-five years. A butter merchant has served as manager of the association during the same period.

The association is a member of the Danish Cooperative Bank in Copenhagen, owning \$13,400 worth of stock. It has for several years built up a special insurance fund which now amounts to \$16,080, with which it proposes to establish its own sea-risks insurance.

The growth of the association as measured by quantity of butter handled has been steady from the beginning. The first year only a little over half a million pounds were exported; during 1921-22 nearly nine million pounds were marketed. The butter sold the first year was valued at \$107,383; that sold the twenty-fifth year at \$4,365,342. Every year save the second there has been a net surplus after paying the member creameries each week the price fixed by the Copenhagen butter quotation. The greater part of the surplus has been prorated to the member creameries on the basis of butter furnished.

The following table shows the pounds of butter handled, the value in dollars, and the surplus for each year in dollars. In converting Danish money into United States money the normal rate of exchange (1 Kr. = 26.8¢) has been used. During recent years, however, Danish currency has depreciated about 25%.

Year.	: Butter Handled	: Annual Business	: Surplus
	: (In pounds)	: (In dollars)	: (In Dollars)
1398	: 547,742	: \$ 107,383	: \$ 69
1398-1899	: 1,596,450	: 365,708	: * 720
1899-1900	: 1,825,757	: 427,274	: 84
1900-1901	: 1,508,156	: 359,244	: 2,644
1901-1902	: 1,689,437	: 400,601	: 4,248
1902-1903	: 1,995,141	: 457,808	: 7,051
1903-1904	: 2,083,312	: 478,279	: 12,423
1904-1905	: 2,722,513	: 633,852	: 15,294
1905-1906	: 2,902,721	: 718,357	: 18,698
1906-1907	: 3,676,478	: 875,062	: 24,663
1907-1908	: 4,275,352	: 1,085,997	: 31,522
1908-1909	: 4,593,582	: 1,111,692	: 34,129
1909-1910	: 4,567,662	: 1,163,440	: 37,686
1910-1911	: 5,729,820	: 1,435,149	: 53,049
1911-1912	: 6,396,351	: 1,755,097	: 67,406
1912-1913	: 7,020,391	: 1,846,468	: 43,726
1913-1914	: 7,293,999	: 1,916,714	: 49,377
1914-1915	: 7,191,618	: 2,366,252	: 68,700
1915-1916	: 7,547,702	: 2,866,704	: 80,038
1916-1917	: 6,423,005	: 2,836,037	: 75,573
1917-1918	: 3,612,244	: 2,290,868	: 37,918
1918-1919	: 3,779,226	: 2,384,046	: 48,641
1919-1920	: 6,498,881	: 5,126,189	: 90,746
1920-1921	: 8,268,045	: 5,583,218	: 122,601
1921-1922	: 8,903,945	: 4,365,342	: 154,703

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PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN RUSSIAN COOPERATION

Russian peasant and working women have for a long time shown an interest in the cooperative movement, in both the producers' and consumers' organizations. In the rural home industries, especially, women workers have long been known to unite in local associations along occupational lines. These associations supply their members with materials and undertake the marketing of their products. The most widespread forms of home industry among peasant women are weaving and lace making. Lace making alone employs about 90,000, chiefly in the provinces of Vologda, Orel, Viatka, and Riazan. In other provinces there are numerous women's associations producing embroidery, tablecloth, dresses, etc. Such associations are usually found in the villages but they are not unknown in the towns. Machine-knitting is widespread in the provinces of Novgorod and Vladimir. Other rural occupations engaging the work of women are net-making, cardboard-box making, button making, dolls, and underwear; in nearly all the central and northern provinces. Recently these associations have shown a tendency to unite in cooperative unions, as, for instance, the Union of Home Lace-Makers at Yelets, which undertakes the function of wholesale marketing at home and abroad.

In the consumers' movement there are a number of special cooperatives which serve exclusively the interests of women. They are known as "Mother and Child" cooperatives, and their chief aim is the promotion of child welfare. In Petrograd the "Mother and Child" cooperative has a membership of 12,000 working women. In Penza the membership is about 1,000. These cooperatives supply their members with good milk, pure children's food, clothing, soap, and other necessities, purchased from the cooperative wholesale unions in the field. Recently this movement has spread to the villages as well.

With regard to the participation of women in cooperative management, it is estimated that in 37 provinces there are about 500 peasant and working women serving on local management boards and committees in various cooperative organizations. For the purpose of inducing women to take a more active part in the movement the cooperative unions have introduced what is known as the "probational system," by which, after a period of practical service in the local society, women are allowed to take up a course of special training to fit themselves for work on boards and committees. The latest reports show that in 39 provincial cooperative unions the present number of women receiving special instruction is 227, but the figures are incomplete in character.

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"FIFTY YEARS OF FARMERS' ELEVATORS IN IOWA"

"Fifty Years of Farmers' Elevators in Iowa," is the title of Bulletin No. 211, issued in March by the Agricultural Experiment Station of Iowa State College of Agriculture, Ames, Iowa. The author, Dr. E. G. Nourse, discusses the causes which led the farmers to organize to handle their own grain, and traces the history and development through fifty years, and considers the outlook for the future.

ALL COTTON IN OKLAHOMA POOL IS NOW SOLD

Announcement is made by the sales manager of the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' Association, Oklahoma City, Okla., that the sales of pooled cotton have been completed for the season, and that the average gross price received was 25.355 cents per pound f. o. b. Oklahoma.

The total number of bales received and sold was 65,868, of which 59,382 bales have been shipped. The following figures have been issued by the association, subject to minor variations:

Actual proceeds of 58,382 bales already invoiced	\$7,638,226.89
Approximate proceeds of 6,486 bales to be invoiced	908,952.77
Total proceeds from 65,868 bales	8,547,179.66

Less amounts as follows:

Advances to growers	\$3,964,310.64	
Distributions to growers	3,336,689.76	
3.7% of all gross proceeds	319,469.93	7,620,470.33
Still due growers		926,709.33

Net handling and operating expenses to date have amounted to \$242,632, of which some of the larger items were: \$39,649 for interest and exchange, \$34,711 for cotton insurance, \$120,620 for salaries, and \$27,228 for local agents' commissions. To provide for expenses and a safe reserve, a deduction of 3.7% of gross receipts was made, amounting to \$319,469. Deducting from this amount the operating expenses of \$242,632 leaves \$76,837 for reserves and expenses for the balance of the season.

The following table shows the movement of cotton by months in percentages of the total:

	: Advances : Paid	: Compress : Arrivals:	: Sales	: Shipments
September	: 31.89	: 22.92	: 4.94	: .17
October	: 51.18	: 39.54	: 20.27	: 10.79
November	: 13.64	: 26.36	: 16.59	: 20.20
December	: 2.67	: 8.28	: 10.52	: 12.22
January	: .61	: 2.80	: 19.59	: 19.64
February	: .01	: .10	: 13.84	: 21.58
March	: :	: :	: 4.40	: 15.39
April	: :	: :	: 9.85	: .01
Total	: 100.00	: 100.00	: 100.00	: 100.00

The number of Oklahoma banks which have signed the agreement regarding mortgaged cotton has now risen to 138.

The second annual meeting of the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' Association is to be held May 29 and 30, at the office of the association in Oklahoma City.

FOUR HUNDRED ATTEND ANNUAL MEETING OF CREAMERIES ASSOCIATION

Nearly four hundred persons attended the second annual meeting of the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, St. Paul, Minn., March 7. Directors and officers were elected and reports were read. The meeting was harmonious and while the association is not entirely satisfactory to all the member creameries, the most of them feel that it is on the right road and real progress is being made.

Reports showed that capital stock had been issued to the amount of \$20,337, and dues had been paid by the creameries to the amount of \$113,726, of which \$8,685.72 was returned to the districts as a refund of 15% of butter-fat dues. The association has an operating surplus of \$32,469.39 and no debts.

The work of the New York office in receiving and distributing shipments and attending to freights and other details, has proved of such value that it was recommended that offices be established in Chicago and Philadelphia, also that a sales department for butter be established in the Twin Cities and other large markets where the trade is not being supplied with cooperative creamery butter.

The department for the handling of creamery machinery and supplies, established at the beginning of 1923, handled orders amounting to \$275,000 between January 1 and March 15.

In the month of March, 1923, 172 cars of butter were shipped, amounting to 4,827,564 pounds. The freight paid on these cars was \$101,157.87.

Reports received from 148 cooperative creameries for the month of February show the following prices paid for butter fat:

10 creameries paid	57 cents	15 creameries paid	50 cents
10 " " "	56 " "	7 " " "	49 " "
20 " " "	55 " "	6 " " "	48 " "
24 " " "	54 " "	5 " " "	47 " "
16 " " "	53 " "	3 " " "	46 " "
15 " " "	52 " "	2 " " "	45 " "
12 " " "	51 " "	3 " " "	44 " "

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THREE GEORGIA ASSOCIATIONS PREPARING FOR BUSINESS

The National Pecan Growers' Exchange, Albany, Ga., was incorporated under the cooperative marketing act of the State, April 16. The Georgia Dewberry Growers' Association, McRea, Ga., completed its organization April 17 with the adoption of by-laws embodying the essential pooling plan and the long-term contract. An effort will be made to induce every dewberry grower in the State to become a member of the association this year.

Organizers for the Georgia Peanut Growers Cooperative Association have signed up growers in five counties in their program to secure a minimum of 50% of the 1922 crop.

THIRTY PER CENT REFUND VOTED ON COMMISSION CHARGES

The following figures, abstracted from a statement issued by the Producers' Commission Association, Indianapolis, Ind., show the total number of animals handled the first four months of 1923 on the Indianapolis stock yards, and the percentage handled by the Producers' Commission Association:

	: Total Animals	: Percentage	:: Total Animals	: Percentage
	: Received by	: Handled by	: Driven in	: Handled by
	: Rail	: Producers		: Producers
January	: 206,026	: 21.82	:: 73,699	: 30.07
February	: 144,723	: 25.82	:: 59,639	: 31.57
March	: 169,793	: 25.02	:: 62,798	: 29.90
April	: 150,477	: 27.93	:: 73,985	: 29.40

The total number of cars of stock handled by the association in the 11 1/2 months of operation on the Indianapolis market is shown below:

Month	: Cars	: Value
May 1922 (Half Month)	: 191	: \$ 279,952.99
June	: 608	: 943,514.29
July	: 467	: 600,647.68
August	: 606	: 838,763.93
September	: 655	: 908,714.87
October	: 762	: 1,038,361.85
November	: 937	: 1,227,455.56
December	: 1,148	: 1,566,063.37
January 1923	: 1,047	: 1,485,643.39
February	: 844	: 1,169,307.48
March	: 874	: 1,193,660.17
April	: 914	: 1,194,537.48
Total	: 9,053	: 12,446,623.06

The board of directors has voted to refund to its 33,000 members 30% of the \$140,000 collected in commissions during the 11 1/2 months of operation.

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SELLS TWELVE THOUSAND BUSHELS OF WHEAT THROUGH ASSOCIATION

More than 12,000 bushels of 1922 wheat has been delivered to the Oklahoma Wheat Growers' Association by one member, C. Leeper of Dacoma. Three payments totaling nearly \$10,000 have been made on this wheat and the final settlement probably will be made in June. Mr. Leeper has over 800 acres of wheat planted and expects to market his crop through the association.

AIMS TO SERVE BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS

Income and expense statements of the Somerset Dairy Cooperation, Johnstown, Pa., show sales of milk, cream, cheese, buttermilk and butter amounting to \$202,593 in 1921 and \$201,041 in 1922. Disbursements for each of the two years, figured in percentages of total income, were as follows:

	Per Cent of Total Income	
	1921	1922
Milk, cream, butter, etc.	51.18	51.53
Assembling expense	1.98	
Processing "	10.31	11.30
Delivery "	19.35	19.35
Administration"	14.39	12.62
Profit	2.79	5.20
Total	100.00	100.00

This distributing company has contracts with both its producers and its employees. It aims to deliver all its products at as near actual cost as is practicable after paying the usual price to producers, deducting the expenses of operation and delivery, and an amount sufficient to pay six per cent on the investment. Such net earnings as may accrue are to be used for the benefit of the producers and consumers. "Every patron a partner" is its motto. The management believes that good milk and interested and alert drivers are the best advertisements.

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NORTH CAROLINA COTTON GROWERS DISTRIBUTING THREE MILLION DOLLARS

On the first day of May the North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, Raleigh, N. C., began mailing checks to 30,000 growers for the third advance on 135,000 bales of cotton. This distribution, which is figured on the basis of 19¢ a pound, middling basis, will amount to about three million dollars and will bring the total paid this season up to nearly thirteen millions. The time of the next distribution will depend upon sales.

More than 900 community cotton associations have been formed. These locals are aiding the headquarters office by checking up addresses of members and securing new members.

A shipment of 9,000 bales of cotton recently left Savannah, Ga., direct for Bremen, Germany. Most of this cotton was sold through the American Cotton Growers' Exchange.

TENNESSEE COTTON GROWERS' ASSOCIATION BEING FORMED

The organization of the cotton growers of Tennessee into the Tennessee Cotton Growers' Association, which was begun in January, is proceeding rapidly. Under the leadership of the organization committee of twenty, contracts covering five years have been secured for the required minimum of 60,000 bales. The contracts cover from one bale to 6,000 bales, a contract for this amount having been signed by the largest cotton grower in the State. The expense of the organization work is estimated at ten cents a bale for the life of the contracts. The cotton-producing section of the State is being divided into ten districts, each of which is to elect a representative on the board of directors of the association, which will be a non-capital stock, non-profit association. An eleventh director will be nominated jointly by the president of the University of Tennessee and the commissioner of agriculture.

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NORTH DAKOTA WHEAT POOL TO CLOSE JUNE 20

June 20 is the date set by the North Dakota Wheat Growers' Association, Grand Forks, N. D., for closing its 1922 pool, with the exception of wheat in carlots which will be accepted up to July 1. The total amount of wheat delivered is 2,800,000 bushels and it is estimated that about 1,000,000 more bushels will be delivered before the pool closes. The membership now numbers 7,700.

Plans are under consideration for correlating the activities of the North Dakota Wheat Growers' Association and the North Dakota Farm Bureau Federation, and a committee of two from each organization has been appointed to work out details.

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MARKETS FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY CARS OF POTATOES FIRST YEAR

Four hundred fifty cars of potatoes have been marketed during the past season by the Idaho Falls Potato Growers' Association, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and it is expected that 100 more carloads will be sold. The association was organized February 10, 1922, and has handled potatoes exclusively. It has 254 members, all of whom are potato growers. Warehouses are maintained at Idaho Falls and at a number of points in the Upper Snake River Valley on the Oregon Short Line Railroad.

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PLANS FORMULATED FOR ORGANIZATION OF ARIZONA POULTRYMEN

Steps are being taken for the formation of an association to be known as the Arizona Poultry Producers, Inc. As soon as the necessary papers are prepared the campaign will begin for securing the signatures of the owners of 75,000 hens in the State.