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 But the close co-operation
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 The army as a whole,
 But the over-laying team work
 Of every bloomin' soul.
 —Kipling

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WHY I JOINED THE FARM BUREAU

"I joined the Farm Bureau because I wanted to keep my girl out of the corn-field and give her the education she should have. My father made some money in farming but he made it at the expense of working himself fifteen hours a day and his wife and children longer hours than they should have had. It wasn't that he was greedy; it was just that farming was then so hazardous financially that he had no other recourse. The Farm Bureau in our county is eliminating the unnecessary risks from the business of farming and is putting it on the plane where efficiency and service, rather than drudgery and long hours, pay just returns. My farm bureau membership has come back into my pocket in added returns every year since I have belonged, and it will do the same thing for every other farmer who makes good use of it.

"I cite these benefits first not because I fail to see the other ideals of the Farm Bureau, but because agriculture must first be put on a just basis of prosperity if other ideals are to be attained."

Many people feel about the Farm Bureau as they do about church; that it is a splendid thing for the community; they would be sorry if it should fail. They hope that somebody else will see that it keeps going—keep it around handy. Maybe if it gets to be a real good thing they will want to join sometime. Shucks!

In all our appointments let's let the caliber of the man and not the salary limitation be our criterion.

The Federation is trying to do big things. It not only requires big men at the head but big men as members.

Keep your eyes on the little things and not demand that the bigger ones come too quickly.

Each person handling Farm Bureau funds is adequately bonded and his books frequently audited by a public accountant.

One of the first things I can do to boost my Farm Bureau is to keep my membership dues paid.

Our Own Problem

By W. H. WALKER
 Executive Committee member of the American Farm Bureau Federation



"Away back in the beginning of the history of America the ideals which are incorporated in the Constitution of the United States are set forth in—'We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, etc., and provide for the common defense and secure for ourselves prosperity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States.'"

"This is the composite picture of the agricultural mind of America.

"You cannot find such wonderfully inspired thoughts as that emanating from the crowded, congested districts of tenement quarters. This is the inspiration and the dream of the man who lived outdoors, who co-operated with his neighbor, who was not elbowed about and embarrassed by people jostling him about. He thought along the lines of the posterity and the farmers of America—ninety-five per cent of the people living in America at that time were farmers. They made possible this Republic of the United States of America.

The Farmers' Part. The monuments in Lexington and Concord, dedicated to the memory of those who fought, are statues of stalwart, husky farm boys. Washington, Monroe, Jefferson and John Hancock lived on the farm and the head of the Supreme Court; he was truly a farmer. Our Constitution is purely the contribution of the farmers' mind.

"After launching the Ship of State, one thing happened which possibly changed the entire trend and thought of the United States—the discovery of the steam engine, which made possible central factories in central points, and then there came the controversies of the man who owned the machine and the man who operated the machine, and the controversy has continued between the man who owned the machine and the man who operated the machine until the problems of capital and labor have been solved far in advance of those of agriculture.

"We have had the problems of agriculture facing us since the Revolutionary War, but instead of solving them and fighting them out and occupying the center of the stage as has labor and capital, agriculture has gradually retreated from those problems. If the agriculturist has had an acute problem in Kentucky, he retreated to Ohio, and the expansive territory offered to the people of America has afforded relief to the agriculturist in these economic problems and has delayed the solution of these problems possibly 25 years. The capital invested in agriculture is so strong that if the farmers should sell out, they could buy with that money in hand all of the railroads of the United States, all of the manufacturing plants, and then the next 75 biggest industries of the United States. That is merely representing the capital invested.

A Washington Conference. "We had a conference last April in Washington—our Executive Committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation—and we invited to this conference representatives from every state in the Union, leading agriculturists, financiers, and we asked them questions. What is the difficulty with agriculture in your part of the country? And they brought in various answers as to their difficulties that were afflicting agriculture in that part of the country, and we, after a careful analysis, were able to group them under practically four heads—transportation difficulty, a financial difficulty, a marketing difficulty, and a tax or tariff difficulty. Allied then and closely identified with those were the various groups under which you could subdivide those heads, but those were the chief problems.

"What do you consider is necessary in a legislative way to correct these difficulties? They outlined a program then to be presented at Congress in this last session. The Agricultural Bloc came into being.

The Distribution Cost. "In dining with Secretary Wallace and Mr. Hoover, and two or three more members of that like standing, this point was brought up for discussion. Under our present methods of transportation today, the center of production of the United States is about at St. Louis, Missouri; the center of consumption is near Philadelphia in Pennsylvania. Under our present methods of distribution it costs more to take food assembled at St. Louis to Philadelphia than it does to go down to Argentine Republic or New Zealand and deliver that same amount of food to Philadelphia.

"There are tremendous responsibilities placed upon the people of the United States; not agriculturists alone, but everybody identified with agriculture is interested in the correct solution of these problems, and there never was a time in the civilization of society where there were more people looking towards the United States for the standard by which they shall standardize their type of civilization at this time. When I look over this whole country with that view, it seems to me there never was a call so great as that upon the people of America today to act in a co-operative, friendly, patriotic spirit to solve some of these problems.

"The Farm Bureau has undertaken to solve these problems for farmers as a class. It is the farmer organized. And organized, he can do through his organization, the Farm Bureau, what, if he attempted singly, would result in miserable failure."

A pair of men's shoes weighs three pounds and is priced at \$10.50. A cowhide weighs fifty-five pounds and the price today is seven cents per pound. A farmer hauls hides to town and offers to trade them to the storekeeper for shoes. If the storekeeper takes him up on the basis of present prices the farmer finds that he is not strong enough to carry across the street from his wagon to the store enough hides to pay for the shoes.

"Farmers Must Work Together"

by WARREN G. HARDING,
 President of the United States of America.

When the responsibility for leadership in putting America back on to the main road, was placed upon me, I said to myself that we must all unite under the slogan "America First!" When I say America First, I mean not only that America maintain her own independence and be first in fulfilling her obligations to the world, by deeds rather than words, and by example rather than preaching, but I mean that at home any special interest, any class, any group of our citizenship that has arrayed itself against the interests of all, must learn that at home, as well as abroad, America first has a meaning, profound, and, with God's aid, everlasting.

It is true that you, the farmers of this country, and I are charged with an obligation of program and definite action that fosters the welfare of all America, the welfare of the man who lives in the house with the red barn and the productive fields behind it, and also the welfare of the man who in a crowded industrial city, comes home at nightfall to climb the stairs to his fourth-floor home, behind the fire-escapes, with hunger in the body.

A Day of Land Hunger. The day of land hunger has come. The day when we see before us the spectacle of the land-owning farmer being displaced by capitalistic speculation in land and the soil-exhausting and landlord-exploited tenant farmer has come. The day when the share of the American farmer is whatever is left of prosperity has been over-topped by the share taken by our industrial production, has come.

I believe that the American people, through their government and otherwise, not only in behalf of the farmer but in behalf of their own welfare, and the pocketbooks of the consumers of America, will encourage, make lawful, and stimulate co-operative buying, co-operative distribution, and co-operative selling of farm products.

Not for Special Interests. Industry has been organized; labor has been organized; co-operation within industry and within labor, and indeed, co-operation between the two, is far advanced. I do not contemplate the organization of the farmers and consumers of this country, as a step toward

organization of special interests to obtain special favors. If I did, I would oppose it. But I know full well that we must, all of us consumers—the laborers, the business men, the teachers, the children, the rich and the poor, the young and the old, the men and the women—act together to find our way closer and easier and cheaper to the sources of our food supply. And I know full well that the farmers must work together to find their way, by better transportation, better marketing and organized co-operative effort, closer to the consumers of America.

Heretofore the farmer has been an individualist. Living a somewhat isolated life and being compelled to work long hours, it has not been easy for him to gather with his fellows. He has not had a ready means of defense against the strong organizations of both capital and labor, which in their own interest have at times imposed unfair conditions upon him. It is true that at times, during the past fifty years, there have been temporary farmer organizations brought together to combat some unusually burdensome conditions but usually breaking down when the emergency has passed.

A Different Kind. But of late years there have sprung up farmer organizations of a quite different sort—organizations with a very large membership, with an aggressive and intelligent leadership, and with a way of raising whatever funds they may find necessary to promote the interest of their members. The leaders of these organizations are learning rapidly how to adapt to their work the methods which business men and working men have found successful in furthering their own interests. The fruit-growers of the western coast have become so strong that they are now able not only to do away with many of the expenses heretofore paid to others, but also to influence the price of their products. The grain-growers of the West and Northwest have become strong enough to bring about many changes they desired in the marketing of their crops. The farmers of the corn-belt states are rapidly perfecting the most powerful organization of farmers ever known in this country. All of these are natural developments in the evolving change of relationships and the modern complexities of productivity and exchange.

So long as America can produce the foods we need, I am in favor of buying from America first. It is this very preference which impels development and improvement. Whenever America can manufacture to meet American needs—and there is almost no limit to our genius and resources—I favor producing in America first. I commend American preference for American productive activities, because material goods are so essential to our higher civilization and linked indissolubly are farm products in the economic fabric of America.

Individually we cannot do much, but collectively we can do a great deal. A farmer at Iowa City, Iowa, carried off by a carload of hay to St. Louis, \$82.61 for it. The freight charges totaled \$92.15.

A farmer in Nebraska has raised his corn at thirty-five cents a bushel. It costs thirty-five cents a bushel to get it by rail from the Nebraska farm to the processing plant in New York. According to the comparative figures obtainable, the average farmer at least 93 cents a bushel more.

WHAT A BADGE

What's that badge?
 "Did you notice it on the badge of the last few weeks in the farmer's coat—the badge of the design of the map of America, with letters 'A. F. B. F.' and the state of Missouri across it?"

"Why that's the badge of the membership in the county state farm bureau, all of which are in these United States in the term 'farm bureau.'"

"The 'A. F. B. F.' is a national organization, the Farm Bureau Federation, to which state farm bureaus and county farm bureaus belong."

"The map of the United States say farm bureau leaders, through only limit of the farm bureau, 'You certainly see a lot of these days.'"

BEEF GROWERS' CONFERENCE

One of the seven county meetings called by the Farm Bureau, a sugar-beef conference, which was held in Chicago, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, and Michigan, and was held in Chicago, 17-18, 1921. At this conference, planned to evolve the United States Beef Growers' Federation into a co-operative beef marketing organization, the conference also arranged nationally uniform contract for sugar companies and the grow-

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