

## Farmers' Union Growth Steady

Objective of Farm Group Cited by Secretary

Steady growth of the Farmers' Union over the whole United States during the last five years, and the pushing of the organization into the eastern states and deep south, was reported by E. E. Kennedy, national secretary in a special interview with The Argus during his stay in Hillsboro August 26.

Kennedy is particularly optimistic over the chances of William L. Spike, North Dakota congressman, becoming president of the United States. Twenty-two states, through which he has traveled, he said, will give a majority to Lemke. These states, if carried, would be enough to throw the election into congress and therefore assure his selection.

In addition to the desire of the union to elect a president, there also is a comprehensive program being advocated to bring quick aid to the farmer other than the present subsidy plan. This plan has two phases; the monetary and the marketing, Kennedy explained.

Most important, Kennedy declares, is that which deals with money. First the union advocates the refinancing of farm credits by issuance of new currency up to about three billion dollars which will be loaned from a revolving fund to the farmers at one and a half per cent interest, the principal to be paid back over a period of 27 years.

Another phase of the monetary plan is the creation of a government bank to replace the federal reserve system, this bank to issue all currency used in the United States.

The bank would be controlled by a board of directors made up of a member from each state, the member to be elected by direct vote of the people in a manner similar to the election of a senator.

Marketing, Kennedy explained, would be limited by law while production would be allowed to proceed without restraint. The only price fixing by the government under this plan, would be to set a minimum price not less than the average cost of production over a period of five years.

On any product of which not enough is produced in the United States, imports would be limited to the amount of the difference between production and consumption, he said.

Those farm products on which there were surpluses would be barred by embargo instead of by reciprocal treaty as now.

Products would be handled directly from farm to the first market point, where the percentage of surplus would be segregated from the amount needed for domestic consumption, the producer receiving the domestic price for all but the surplus while the surplus would be paid for at the world market, Kennedy pointed out.

Commenting on the work of organization in the south, Kennedy declared that the condition of the tenant farmer and sharecropper was deplorable.

"The sharecropper and tenant suffered greatly through the action of the triple A," he said. "Under this law, the tenants and sharecroppers were deprived of their acreage of crops by the owners who diverted the benefits to themselves.

"By reason of this we now find these classes destitute, living in the hovels formerly occupied by the negroes. These whites are even deprived of their right to vote and so register their disapproval of the situation," he explained.

The disenfranchisement came about, he said, through laws in the southern states which forbid persons to vote who have not paid the poll tax, poll tax, or head tax, is a levy on the person of sums ranging upward from \$1. Too poor to pay this tax, these people, Ken-

## The Great American Home



nedly said, now cannot register their votes.

This law, he further explained, is an antique from the Civil war days when the southerner made laws to prohibit the excessive negro vote from overbalancing the white domination.

Kennedy recently traveled through the drouth area and of this he remarked that the situation there was not nearly as severe as reported. He cited his father's farm in Iowa, which is included in the area stricken. Oats, he said, went 45 bushels to the acre and the corn will make a good crop. While this is not the best yield known, it still is a long way from a failure, he said.

However, there are spots where nothing was harvested and other spots where the crops have been fairly good, he pointed out. The drouth extends from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic coast.

### Rock Creek Pastor on Eastern Trip

(By Mrs. Frank Penoldt)  
ROCK CREEK—Rev. B. M. Fresenberg left this week on a trip east. He will visit his mother in Iowa and attend the Synod of the Reformed church. The Sunday school classes here will be held as usual.

**Aid to Meet**  
The Helvetia and Phillips Ladies' Aid of the Reformed church will meet with Mrs. Ernest Staehle September 9 and will not meet this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Leu and family of this section, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nichols and family of Bethany and Mrs. Walter Wismer and Miss Ophelia Wismer of Hillsboro picnicked at Lost park Sunday.

**Picnic Held**  
The Sunday school picnic of the Free Methodist church of Brooks Hill was held at Columbia park Tuesday night.

**Visit in California**  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weldon left last week for Gilroy, Cal., to visit his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Waefer and daughter Lavida left Wednesday for a few days' trip to the beach

and to visit with relatives at Toledo.

**East's Move**  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank East moved Saturday from the Abraham Zunker place to the Dr. Pageler place. He drives back and forth to his work in Portland and the new location is more convenient.

Julius Sychrowsky returned Monday from a few weeks' stay at the home of Joe Hershey at Bacona.

**Paul Lueth Married**  
Paul Lueth, son of Mrs. Theresa Lueth of Brooks Hill, was married in Seattle August 23. He recently finished his four years training as a marine. Mr. and Mrs. Lueth intend to make their home on Brooks Hill.

John Boeckli of Brooks Hill exhibited 21 head of his Brown Swiss cattle at the Gresham fair last week. He will exhibit at the Canby fair this week.

Miss Mattie Boeckli is employed at the Hanneman hospital.

**THOMAS BURGESS**  
NORTH PLAINS—Mrs. Clara Garwood was suddenly called to Huntsville, Wash., Friday evening by the death of her grandson, Thomas Burgess, 9. His death was the result of a heart attack. Thomas F. Burgess was born in Hillsboro November 17, 1926, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burgess (Mary Garwood).

He is survived by his parents and one brother, Stanley.

Please send in news copy early to the Argus. tf

## Grove Insurance Man Laid to Rest

Orson G. Bretz, 69, for nearly 20 years connected with the Portland offices of the Massachusetts Life Insurance company, died Friday at his home in Forest Grove. The funeral was held Sunday in Forest Grove Methodist church. The Rev. Jesse Bunch, pastor, was in charge, assisted by the Rev. J. R. Jeffery of Oregon City. Concluding service at the Sellwood mausoleum was private. Mr. Bretz had been in poor health for several months.

Mr. Bretz was born October 15, 1866, at Lake Odessa, Mich. In 1899 he married Miss Ewilda Stinchcomb, who died in 1922. They are survived by a daughter, Mrs. Opal Bretz Clarke, and one grandson, Verne Bretz Clarke.

Mr. Bretz later married Mrs. Mary Black, who survives. Other near relatives are two brothers, David of Ewart, Mich., and Donald of Fort Worth, Texas, and a sister, Mrs. Ruth Buckborough of Evanston, Ill.

In the East Mr. Bretz was a farmer and merchant. In 1908 the family moved to Portland and he soon entered the insurance business. He was an active worker in the Methodist church.

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**TODAY'S JOY TODAY**  
I would rather have one little rose,  
From the garden of a friend;  
Than to have the choicest flowers  
When my stay on earth must end.  
  
I would rather have the kindest words,  
And the smile that I can see,  
Than flattery when my heart is still  
And this life has ceased to be.  
  
I would rather have a loving smile,  
From friends I know are true,  
Than tears shed 'round my casket,  
When this world I bid adieu.  
  
So send me all the flowers today,  
Whether pink or white or red;  
I'd rather have one blossom now  
Than a truckload when I'm dead.  
—(By M. E. Kreh of Hillsboro  
in "The Carnation.")

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