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MERGERS OF THE UTAH COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION IN POST-WAR UTAH,

1940-1970

by

Emily Gurr Thompson

A plan b paper and project submitted
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree

of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

History

Approved:

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Logan, Utah

2018

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ABSTRACT

Mergers of the Utah Cooperative Association in Post-War Utah, 1940-1970

by

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Utah State University, 2018

Major Professor: Dr. Rebecca Andersen

Program: History

Agricultural historians have long grappled with the causes leading to the dissolution of the farming community and their disassociation with their lands. Cooperatives were key to maintaining this relationship. The cooperative economic model sustained farmers to shape, negotiate and create a place for themselves in the 20th century agrarian landscape. Long time agricultural leaders like W.B. Robins worked to bolster cooperative ideologies and prevent integration into large scale American agribusiness between 1940 and 1970.

This plan B paper examines a series of failed mergers that Robins had intended to thwart the decline of the Utah Cooperative Association (UCA). W.B. Robins's career as General Manager of the UCA provides a lens to examine why the cooperative mergers failed and their context to the larger decline of the Utah cooperative movement. Examining why the mergers failed sets the foundation for answering the following questions. First, what economic conditions existed that made the mergers necessary? Second, what political ideologies were exposed between competing capitalist and socialist farm organizations. Lastly, what part did religious influence of Mormon ideologies play to threaten the continuity of cooperatives and Utah agriculture as a whole? In answering these questions, this paper makes two important contributions. It updates and explains the local history of farmer cooperatives in Utah after 1940,

and builds on the work of historians Hal S. Barron and Keilor Stevens, by exploring the era when Utah agriculturalists resisted and accommodated market changes.

To uncover the merger history of the UCA and its manager W.B. Robins I marry archival and secondary sources together to illustrates the history of farmer co-operatives throughout Utah and the movement's longstanding connection with Utah State University.

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2. Digital Exhibit: <http://exhibits.lib.usu.edu/exhibits/show/extension>
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SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER: Women of the Weber County Home Bureau, 1917-1920

INTRODUCTION

On November 28, 1967, an article appeared in *The Salt Lake Tribune* entitled “Consumer Using Voice.” This title referred to the growing discontent among consumers concerning high supermarket prices, notably the 1966 “homemaker protests.” An event in which angry women took to the streets to boycott price increases at grocery stores and bakeries. Like the discontented housewives, farmers too, experienced financial strains as inflation increased the cost of nonfood products. U.S. farmers were heavily dependent on fertilizers, chemicals, tractors, petroleum products, labor, transportation and marketing. When the 1950s farm policy turned to favor commercial farmers, the overall cost of doing business increased, transportation and marketing services were outsourced to businesses who then passed the costs through to consumers. As a result, by 1965 food prices had sharply risen by twenty percent and added to building pressures in the U.S. economy. In response to the vocal outcry of price inflation, the solution, as suggested in the *Salt Lake Tribune*, was for the public to return to a co-operative farm and marketing model. Specifically, co-operatives, led by “talented leadership.” Leadership that had potential to “reduce production cost so both the farmer and consumer can be satisfied and achieve a fair price.”¹ The text of the article wrapped around a black and white pixelated photograph of man with a prominent nose, large ears and droopy glasses with the caption, “Mr. Cooperative.” The juxtaposition of the photo not-so-subtle suggested to readers, that this man, W.B. Robins, was the leader that Utah consumers and farmers needed to move out of their current economic discontent.

¹ Utah Farmers Cooperative Association Papers, Coll MS 129, Bx 1 Fd 2 (SLC Tribune 11/28/1967) Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

As General Manager of the Utah Cooperative Association (UCA) W.B. Robins, acted as a liberal spokesman for the case of cooperative consumers in a primarily conservative state. He assumed leadership of the Utah Cooperative Association at the age of twenty-three and busied his thirty year career bridging the gap between rural farmers and urban consumers. He formed pro co-operative relationships to secure friendly representation in the Utah Senate and created additional revenue sources so that co-operative consumers could acquire credit. He expanded the UCA into the oil, fertilizer and seed industry, increasing sales from \$200,000 to more than \$4.5 million, and made multiple attempts to merge his association with the competing, Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association, later known as the Intermountain Farm Association (IFA); the merger attempts were an effort to jointly reduce competition and overall costs to the consumer. Despite Robin's efforts, his chain of cooperative stores, like so many others, was unable to defeat the corporate order and in 1976 resulted in loss of local control and integration into CENEX, a regional co-operative chain. In earlier decades, the Utah Farm Bureau had lobbied for co-operative support in congress but beginning in the late 1950's retracted support and began introducing policies favoring commercial avenues that directly competed with co-operatives. W.B. Robins regarded the loss of support of the co-operative program from within the agricultural community as a "final attack on their independent cooperative system."² Where once, agricultural co-operatives were considered, "the lifeblood" of a community; increased competition from private industry in the 1960's, coupled with lack of community support, co-operatives disappeared from the Utah economic landscape.³ In one final attempt to preserve the memory of Utah co-operatives, Robins donated the residual funds, from the UCA disbandment,

² W.B. Robins, "Memorandum to the Utah Cooperatives Association Board of Directors," April 22, 1965. Utah Farmers, Bx 3 Fd 5.

³ John J. Scanlan, "Poultry Co-ops Often Community Lifeblood" *Farmer Cooperatives*, January 1963.

to the Utah Cooperative Association Education Trust Fund. This fund provided Utah State University monies to create a co-operative research program. For many years, economic professors Dee Von Baily and Gary B. Hansen carried out Robins wishes, teaching courses on applied and classical principles of co-operation. In 2008, the Economics Department allotted funds to Special Collections for the preservation and creation of a digital exhibit concerning the history of Utah co-operatives and their long standing relationship to Utah State University. Preservation of the material donations included: papers from William Preston Thomas, the first Weber County demonstration agent and head of the Agricultural Economics department from 1928 through 1952; the W.B. Robins papers pertaining to the Utah Cooperative Association, the Co-op Service, a subsidiary of the Utah Cooperation Association and photograph collection, and finally, select papers of USU economics professor, Gary B. Hansen, and Joseph Geddes, rural sociologist and longtime cooperative supporter.

This plan B project originated from the W.B. Robins education trust fund as a two year fellowship to preserve co-operative records. Under close supervision of University Archivist, Robert Parson, I processed these collections and created a digital exhibit that documented the history of Utah co-operatives and their partnership with Utah State University. After many hours of work from Robert Parson, Bradford Cole, Steve Sturgeon, Daniel Davis, Garth Mikesell, Cheryl D. Walters and the digital library scanning technicians, the digital exhibit went live in the spring of 2010! I kicked off the launch with a public power point presentation highlighting the process, purpose and adventures in its creation. Copies of the finding aids for each processed collection and screen shots of the digital exhibit pages comprise my plan B project. Since publication in 2010 the USU Digital Library has updated the format of the slides and added additional text and images, they will continue to add to the collection as new materials are

discovered and scanned. Copies of the launch power point and talking script are also included in this project to provide the full scope of the archival project.

Following the completion of the archival project I set out to formulate the backbone of my plan B paper by examining the industrialization of the early twentieth-century farm and the effects of the transformation in the dissolution of the farming community. While numerous scholarly works have examined this transformation few have done so through the lens of the cooperative movements.⁴ The first work to deal specifically with the transformation and cooperatives was Hal S. Barron in *Mixed Harvest: The Second Great Transformation in the Rural North 1870-1930*. Barron looks at the modernization of American rural places, not from the perspective of institutions and power structures, but from the experiences of farmers who worked to shape, negotiate and create a place for themselves in their new economic reality. Barron used the specific example of a grain and milk co-operative to show rural community desires to maintain local control and individual autonomy.⁵ Steven Keillor picks up where Barron leaves off in his book, *Cooperative Commonwealth*.⁶ Keillor researched hundreds of cooperatives in Minnesota and argued that the co-operative activity of rural people played a significant role in shaping their state. Both works address the founding and significance of co-operatives as community institutions and as means for farmers and agriculturalists to embrace change under

⁴ John L. Shover, *First Majority-Last Minority: The Transformation of Rural Life in America* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1976); Gary Comstock, *Is There a Moral Obligation to Save the Family Farm?* (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1987); Mark Friedberger, *Farm Families and Change in Twentieth-Century America* (Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 1988); Michael J. Grant, *Down and Out on the Family Farm: Rural Rehabilitation in the Great Plains, 1929-1945* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002); Mary Neth, *Preserving the Family Farm: Women, Community, and the Foundations of Agribusiness in the Midwest, 1900-1940* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995); Katherine Jellison, *Entitled to Power: Farm Women and Technology, 1913-1963* (The University of North Carolina Press, 1993).

⁵ Hal S. Barron, *Mixed Harvest: The Second Great Transformation in the Rural North 1870-1930* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1997), 108.

⁶ Steven J. Keillor, *Cooperative Commonwealth: Co-ops in Rural Minnesota, 1859-1939* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2000).

their terms; however, both studies conclude that by the 1940s rural society had shifted too far from the co-operative ideal to succeed. My paper expands upon the themes first presented by Barron and Keilor, in recognizing important contributions of cooperatives to farming communities, but my study explores the 1940 post-war co-operatives and how agricultural leaders labored to preserve their associations by resisting the economic and political changes.

My paper considers how W.B. Robins attempted to fortify the Utah Cooperative Association against post-war political and economic threats. One of his essential projects, as manager, was a series of failed mergers between 1940 and 1965 between the Utah Cooperative Association and its sister cooperative, the Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association (UPPCA or Utah Poultry). The future of the UCA, and consequently the future of many small-scale farmers, rested upon the outcome of these mergers. His efforts provide a lens for historians to examine Utah's post-war co-operative landscape and make sense of why the UCA, like other cooperatives, were unable to defeat the corporate order.

Examining why the mergers failed sets the foundation for answering the following questions. First, what economic conditions existed that made the mergers necessary? Second, what political ideologies were exposed between competing capitalist and socialist farm organizations. Lastly, what part did religious influence of Mormon ideologies play to threaten the continuity of co-operatives and Utah agriculture as a whole? In answering these questions, this thesis makes two important contributions. It updates and explains the local history of farmer co-operatives in Utah after 1940, and demonstrate the universal struggle of co-operative leaders and farmers to resist market forces.

Agricultural historians have long grappled with the causes leading to the dissolution of the farming community and their disassociation with their lands. I found through my research

and archival project that co-operatives were key to maintaining this relationship. The co-operative economic model sustained farmers to shape, negotiate and create a place for themselves in the 20th century agrarian landscape. Long time agricultural leaders like William Preston Thomas, Joseph Geddes, W.B. Robins, Gary Hansen, and Dee Von Baily all understood the many benefits both the urban consumer and farmer could enjoy through the co-operative model and each, in his own respected domain worked to bolster and teach co-operative ideologies. In my opinion, all of these agricultural leaders who advocated for Utah co-operatives are deserving of their photo in the paper with the title “Mr. Cooperative” scribbled beneath.

MERGERS OF THE UTAH COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION IN POST-WAR UTAH,
1940-1970

Emily Gurr Thompson

Travelers examining run-down buildings in rural Utah—an LDS meeting house, a mom-and-pop café, an abandoned gas station, or an old grain silo—may find remnants of old CO-OP logos fading beneath layers of peeling paint. These derelict logos are relics of a bygone agricultural institution that most present-day Utahans never knew existed. While, during the 1950s, 12.4 percent of Utah’s population worked in the agricultural industry, agriculture accounts for less than two percent of the workforce today.⁷ These statistics provide insight on the complex story of globalization that pushed family farmers out of this industry, and the local action agriculturalists took to counter those transformational forces.



Fig. 1: Grouse Creek Co-op (store) in Grouse Creek, Utah. 35 mm color slide. Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library. <http://digital.lib.usu.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/Grouse/id/57/rec/65>

Many American farmers experienced an uneasy transition from traditional farming to modern agribusiness. Post-war changes in agriculture created new tensions within the American value

7. Thomas G. Alexander, *Utah: The Right Place: The Official Centennial History* (Salt Lake City, UT: Gibbs Smith Publishers, 2003), 409.

system, in federal farm policy, and the transformation of farms to modern businesses. In efforts to maintain their way of life as family-size production units, farmers formed and joined cooperatives—private organizations democratically owned and intended to efficiently market, purchase, and distribute goods—to selectively embrace economic change on their terms. These cooperatives provided an alternative economic space where ordinary individuals could challenge dominant corporate agriculture.⁸

W.B. Robins, a cooperative agriculturist who assisted farmers in resisting transformational forces, managed the Utah Cooperative Association (UCA), comprising seventeen Utah stores that provided rural consumers with access to low-cost petroleum products and farm supplies. Robins worked to fortify the cooperative against post-war political and economic threats. As manager, one of his essential projects was to initiate a series of mergers between 1940 and 1965 between the Utah Cooperative Association (UCA) and its sister cooperative, the Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association (UPPCA or Utah Poultry). The future of the UCA, and consequently the future of many small-scale farmers, rested upon the outcome of these mergers. Robins's efforts provide a lens through which historians may examine Utah's post-war cooperative landscape and make sense of why the UCA, like other cooperatives, was unable to defeat the corporate order. This paper argues that the mergers between the UCA and UPPCA failed because of the incompatible competing brands of cooperative agriculture from the "capitalist" Utah Farm Bureau and the "socialist" Farmers Union, two competing farm organizations. Further, it contends that the religious influence of Mormon ideologies and contemporaneous Cold War politics caused the mergers to fail, which resulted in loss of

8. For further discussion of political spaces, see: Hannah Arendt, *Between Past and Future: Eight Exercises in Political Thought* (New York: Penguin Books, 2006); Bernard R. Crick, *In Defense of Politics* (Harmondsworth, Middlesex: Penguin Books, 1971).

economic power in Utah's main agricultural economy.⁹ This paper first explores the post-war plight of the Utah family farmer and the formative history of Utah cooperatives, specifically the Utah Cooperative Association and Utah Poultry, and their role in assisting farmers to overcome market challenges. It then examines the financial circumstances of both cooperatives and the economic necessity for merger. The final section demonstrates how political and ideological pressures from the Utah Farm Bureau, Mormon ideologies, and anti-communist rhetoric derailed the merger attempts, resulting in the loss of cooperative and farmer autonomy in Utah.

The Postwar Plight of the Utah Family Farmer

The late nineteenth century was a significant period of agricultural discontent toward big business in the United States, during which market circumstances were often unfavorable to farmers, who organized into agrarian groups, such as the Grange, and protested market changes through revolts and riots.¹⁰ However, rural reactions slowly changed as government policy increased farm prosperity through incentivized farm consolidation, mechanization, and the belief that agricultural permanency could no longer be achieved through family farms.¹¹ During the

9. This paper expands upon research by Hal Barron and Keilor Stevens, who argued for the important contributions of cooperatives to rural communities from 1900-1940; see Hal S. Barron, *Mixed Harvest: The Second Great Transformation in the Rural North 1870-1930* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1997), 108; Steven J. Keillor, *Cooperative Commonwealth: Co-ops in Rural Minnesota, 1859-1939* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2000); John L. Shover, *First Majority-Last Minority: The Transformation of Rural Life in America* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1976); Gary Comstock, *Is There a Moral Obligation to Save the Family Farm?* (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1987); Mark Friedberger, *Farm Families and Change in Twentieth-Century America* (Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 1988); Michael J. Grant, *Down and Out on the Family Farm: Rural Rehabilitation in the Great Plains, 1929-1945* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002); Mary Neth, *Preserving the Family Farm: Women, Community, and the Foundations of Agribusiness in the Midwest, 1900-1940* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995); Katherine Jellison, *Entitled to Power: Farm Women and Technology, 1913-1963* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993).

10. Louis Galambos, "The Agrarian Image of the Large Corporation, 1879-1920: A Study of Social Accommodation," *The Journal of Economic History* 28, no. 3 (1968): 348.

11. For more on the emergence of the corporate capitalist system and its influence on social, political, and economic structures, see works by historians including Alfred Chandler, Daniel Nelson, Louis Galambos on Alfred D. Chandler, *The Visible Hand: The Managerial Revolution in American Business* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1977); Glenn Peorter, *The Rise of Big Business, 1860-1920* (Wheeling, IL: Harland Davidson, 1992); Naomi R. Lamoreaux, *The Great Merger Movement in American Business, 1895-1904* (Cambridge: Cambridge University

Second World War, the rural countryside rapidly adopted modern corporate structures and new technologies out of a patriotic duty to feed the nation and soldiers serving overseas. The post-World War II period proved a transformative time for American farmers as they thought less about patriotic duty and more about farming as a business on an industrial scale. With pressure from national agricultural leaders, such as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, whose “get big or get out,” approach seemed to favor the “agribusiness” of corporate or large-scale commercial farming.¹² Interactions with the capitalist mode of production led to a reorganization of labor, economics, and the farming community.¹³

The rapid farm population decline following World War II—combined with commodity surplus, technology revolutions, and an agro-ecosystem crisis—created tensions within federal farm policy which became known as “the farm problem.” To manage the problem, the Truman and Eisenhower Administrations developed policies aimed to increase the size of farms and prevent too much efficiency in order to slow rapid changes that would result in the extinction of the family farm. As the cost of subsisting on farms increased, farmers either adapted or got out of the business.

Through the adoption of technology and corporate strategies, farms grew in size but decreased in number. By 1958, fewer than ten percent of Americans resided on farms, down from close to 33 percent in 1920. The numerous political and business changes affecting farmers, and the concern that this declining farm population would weaken the nation’s social fabric and

Press, 1985); Richard White, *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2011).

12. Debra Spielmaker, “Growing a Nation Historical Timeline,” Growing a Nation: The Story of American Agriculture, last modified March 21, 2018, <https://www.agclassroom.org/gan/sources/media/benson.htm>.

13. See Donald Worster, “Environmental History,” *Journal of American History* 76 (1990): 1087-1147 for an example of monoculture or single species farming, which led to dependency on pesticides and fertilizers, training a new labor force, servicing machines in the field, acquiring credit, and marketing difficulties.

moral economy, led to an increase in pro-family farm rhetoric. However, between 1935 and 1959, the number of farms in Utah declined by 42 percent with the high in 1935 of 30,695 farms and a low of 17,811 farms in 1959. Of these farms, only 6,867 were classified as non-commercial family farms. The 1959 agricultural census confirms that farm acreage doubled in size and that crop land harvests increased from 43 acres to 53 acres per farm.¹⁴ As the number of farms decreased, so did the number of farmers and laborers living and working on the land.

Addressing the question of what could keep farmers on their land while retaining their principles, Joseph Geddes notes:

The trend of the times was for big business and for labor to become more and more strongly organized which made collective bargaining and collective price setting the established rule. But the farmer bought and sold individually and was constantly being urged to preserve his independence and his character by taking his share through the narrow spout...of the distributive teakettle.¹⁵

Geddes, a rural sociologist on the faculty at Utah State Agricultural College, contends that farm cooperatives were the solution, because they placed farmers in a position to defend their own best interests in the processing and distribution of their products.¹⁶ Through the cooperative model, farmers were no longer at the mercy of the buyer, the shipper, and the processor, or forced to accept the rate they paid him for the products of his labor.¹⁷ Through the assistance of state or farm organizations, cooperatives formed collective action groups within a community,

14. Warren J. Mather, "Feasibility of Combining Operations of Utah Cooperative Association and Intermountain Farmers Association" (Special Case Study 229), Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farmer Cooperative Service, Cooperative Research and Service Division, January 1965, MS 129, Box 22, Folder 2 Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

15. Joseph Geddes, "UCA's Birth Was an Act of Faith," MS 129, Box 1, Folder 5, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

16. Cynthia Sturgis, "How You Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?: Rural Women and the Urban Model in Utah," *Agriculture History* 60 (1986): 182.

17 John A. Hannah, Address by President of Michigan State College to the American Institute of Cooperation, East Lansing, Michigan, Aug 11, 1952, Box 5, Folder 1, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

which gave farmers local control and individual autonomy over their agricultural markets. The cooperative model thereby provided a path for farmers to resist and challenge transformational forces while integrating into dominant business models.

History of Co-ops and Family Farming in Utah

The cooperative movement was a worldwide phenomenon in the 1800s, but was particularly pervasive in Utah. Mormon settlement patterns and the top-down structure of the LDS church greatly influenced how agriculture developed in Utah, and predisposed Mormon farmers to join various cooperative projects. Until the late nineteenth century, the LDS Church had encouraged cooperation and promoted self-sufficiency. The transition from a theocracy to statehood caused the collapse of early church sponsored cooperatives, yet the cooperative spirit exemplified in early Mormon communities followed Utahans into the twentieth century, as farmers continued to associate in a variety of cooperative enterprises. Unlike the theocratic cooperatives, the twentieth-century models reacted against urban capitalism. Through the assistance of the Agricultural Extension Service a new scientific understanding of cooperation spread from the agricultural land-grant college centers out to the rural peripheries of the state, correcting marketing and producing techniques and integrating farmers into the existing order of capitalism.¹⁸ The cooperatives in Utah which survived into the post-war period emerged from one of two programs: the Utah Farm Bureau or the 1932 New Deal Self-Help program.

Lowell Dyson notes that, from its founding, the Farm Bureau “has been the powerful farm organization in the country.”¹⁹ The Farm Bureau’s novel political style, which used

18. Gabriel N. Rosenberg, *The 4-H Harvest: Sexuality and the State in Rural America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016), 55.

19. Lowell Dyson, *Farmers’ Organizations: Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Institutions 10* (New York: Greenwood Press, 1986), 14.

government agencies and educational institutions to promote cooperation, led it to become the nation's dominant farm organization. While many scholars dismiss the Farm Bureau as a group of elite white men advancing commercialization and industrialization at the expense of marginal groups, the Utah Farm Bureau (UFBF) did not fit this model until the late 1950s.²⁰ The organization helped form connections between “capitalist” developments and family farms, merging “traditional” and “modern” farming in rural communities.²¹ They were responsible for the creation of numerous cooperatives, notably the Weber Central Dairy Association, Canning Crops Growers Association, and the Utah Sugar Beet Growers Association.²² The Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association was one of the Utah Farm Bureaus' most successful cooperative ventures. With the aid of UFBF attorney, Frank Evans, the association incorporated in 1923.²³ The purpose of the association was to pool, market, and ship eggs by the cartload to

20. John M. Hansen, *Gaining Access: Congress and the Farm Lobby, 1919-1981* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991); Pete Daniel, *Dispossession: Discrimination against African American Farmers in the Age of Civil Rights* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2013); Christina M. Campbell, *The Farm Bureau and the New Deal: A Study of the Making of National Farm Policy, 1933-1940* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1962).

21. Nancy K. Berlage, *Farmers Helping Farmers: The Rise of the Farm and Home Bureaus, 1914-1935* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2016), 13; Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, “Utah State Farm Bureau- Its Activities: You and Your Neighbor-That’s All It Is. Farm Bureau Activities,” Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, circa 1925, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

22. W. Preston Thomas, “History of the Weber County Farm Bureau: Oldest of Kind in State,” Box 4 Folder 17, W. Preston Thomas collection, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT; Meeting of Cooperative Marketing Associations called by Relations Committee in the 1932 Farm Bureau Reorganization Papers, Box 4, Folder 15, W. Preston Thomas collection, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

23. *Utah Farm Bureau News* (Cache County), VIII, no. 9, February 1923; Arlin R. Johnson, “History and Analysis of Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association” (PhD dissertation, George Washington University, 1930), 7. Founded initially as the Central Utah Poultry Exchange in 1923, the Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association, also known as the Utah Poultry and Farmers Co-operative, changed their name in 1959 to the Intermountain Farmers Association.

markets in which eggs could command the highest price. Within the first year, 503 members had joined; six years later, the operation boasted over 4,100 members.²⁴

A few of the agrarian New Deal programs advocated for shared democracy between farm families and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These programs advocated joint participation between farmers and educators to administer self-help programs.²⁵ The Self-Help Cooperative Board was an experimental program implemented in Utah in 1933. It combined agricultural expertise from Utah State University, then known as Utah State Agricultural college, and University of Utah with local cooperative leaders of the state.²⁶ With a budget of \$204,500, the board worked to counteract unemployment by funding self-help directed cooperatives over the course of six years.²⁷ The board provided loans for a saw mill co-op, tomato co-ops, cannery co-ops and various fruit co-ops stretching from Springville to Brigham City. More than 2,135 farmers received aid through this program.

The Utah Farm Bureau already operated a rudimentary gasoline cooperative, but failed to provide the supplies farmers depended upon, such as barbed wire, baling twine, seed, or fertilizers. From this void, the Utah Cooperative Association incorporated on August 17, 1936 with funds allocated from the Self-Help Board.²⁸ The purpose of the association was to purchase and manufacture goods for all cooperative associations throughout the entire state. Geddes

24. Arlin R. Johnson, "History and Analysis of Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association," 85.

25. Jess Gilbert, *Planning Democracy: Agrarian Intellectuals and the Intended New Deal* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015), 55.

26. Joseph A. Geddes, "I Remember the Utah Self-Help Cooperative Board," October 1977. Marginalia and comments written by W.B. Robbins, March 1978, MS 129, Box 3, Folder 4, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

27. Geddes, "UCA's Birth Was an Act of Faith," 2.

28. Utah Cooperative Association, "Articles of Incorporation of the Utah Cooperative Association," MS 75, Box 3, Folder 2, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT; Joseph A. Geddes, "I Remember the Utah Self-Help Cooperative Board."

predicted the fledgling association would, “reinstate the farmer into full partnership with capital and labor in the distributive process,” suggesting that the association had the means to significantly reduce costs for farmers and improve livelihoods.²⁹ During the first four years of operation, the UCA struggled to construct more than seven cooperative service stations and was \$21,000 dollars in debt.³⁰ While war rationing of gasoline and tires created financial difficulties, in 1940, four additional service associations joined and the sales volume increased enough to discharge the initial debt and raise total revenue to \$199,000. In 1940, the Self-Help board transferred all management responsibilities into the hands of the 23-year-old UCA bookkeeper, W.B. Robins.

W.B. Robins was born in Scipio, Utah on August 21, 1917. He grew up on a farm and attended rural Millard County High School. After graduating from LDS Business College, Robins found a job as the bookkeeper for the UCA. After two years he was promoted to general manager of the UCA and served for over thirty-five years.³¹ Robins spent his career bridging the gap between rural farmers and urban consumers, by lobbying the Utah Senate to legislate favorably for small farmers and cooperatives, by adding additional revenue sources for consumers, and creating educational programs. He expanded the UCA to include the oil, fertilizer, and seed industries and, within eight years, raised revenue to 1.3 million.³² Robins

29. Geddes, “UCA’s Birth Was an Act of Faith,” 3.

30. Fred Walk, “Utah Wholesale Association Wholesale Cooperative,” January, 1947, MS 129, Box 3, Folder 3, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

31. W.B. Robins, “General Manager: Utah Cooperative Association,” in *W.B. Robins, Biography*, February, 1967, MS 129, Box 1, Folder 2. Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

32. Walk, “Utah Wholesale Association Wholesale Cooperative,” 3.

believed in the social and economic doctrines of the cooperative movement and worked to improve the situation for thousands of Utah farmers.

Keenly aware of the challenges to keep the Utah Cooperative Association in business, Robins created diversified product lines to fund the wholesale program, including the Uinta Oil Refining Company and creating PAX Crabgrass and soil pest control lines that produced herbicides and insecticides. The inability to secure low interest loans presented a challenge for the UCA. On two occasions, W.B. Robins testified in House and Senate hearings on the issues plaguing small businesses; on both occasions he spoke on the failures of cooperatives to secure loans.³³ In 1952, after multiple failed attempts with the Berkeley Bank, W.B. Robins and his associate, Justin Stuart, requested the National Farmers Union (NFU) finance a new cooperative plant and warehouse in downtown Salt Lake City.³⁴ The NFU loaned the UCA the money through a subpar, short-term, high interest loan.

The Utah Farmers Union (UFU), a branch from the National Farmers Union, established itself in 1948, only a few years before lending UCA funds and launching a partnership. The UFU established an insurance program in Emery County and launched electric co-ops, the Jensen oil refinery, and a feed and grist mill in Millard, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties.³⁵ The Utah Farmers Union, similar to its parent association, the National Farmers Union, organized with the purpose of assisting rural populations. The association organized cooperatives, marketed goods,

33. W.B. Robins, "Robins' Testimony: Testimony given at Hearings Subcommittee on Rural Development of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry United States Senate 92 Congress, First Session on S. 2223," July 23, 1971, 610.

34. Jesse Tuttle, *The History of the Utah-Idaho Farmers' Union* (Utah Cooperative Association, 1936-1983), MS 129, Box 1, Folder 1, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

35. *The Utah Farmer* (Lehi, Utah), May 25, 1948, 24; September 10, 1948, 21.

arranged wholesalers, promoted education, and lobbied congress. This alliance served several communities as a farm supply and insurance wholesaler.³⁶

In addition to addressing the everyday challenges of managing a state-wide supply cooperative, Robins attempted to combat the transformational machine converting the countryside into mini-factories. As farms grew across Utah, the UCA needed to locate more credit and bargaining power to meet the demands of the larger farm product purchasers. In the past, farm product suppliers networked with other associations and local farmers to provide supplies, but competition within the industrial market drove down prices and the cooperative could not compete for prices. Studies conducted by the National Farmer Cooperative Service suggested that, only when a cooperative expanded to larger sizes, could they operate at maximum capacity and provide adequate service to members.³⁷ The U.S. Department of Agriculture recommended vertical integration with either off-the-farm businesses or other consumer cooperatives.³⁸

The Mergers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture documented a proven merger method for co-ops to expand their market and meet growing demand by increasing capacity. Merging could potentially consolidate personnel, reduce cost of operation, expand services, and increase bargaining power. Between 1940 and 1955, over 100 farm supply cooperatives merged in the United States. These mergers led to the building of additional regional feed mills, fertilizer

36 Jesse Tuttle, "Utah Cooperative Association, Annual Report," May 21, 1955, in *The History of the Utah-Idaho Farmers' Union*, MS 75, Box 3, Folder 3, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

37. Martin A. Abrahamsen, "Possibilities for Coordinating the Farm Supply Operations of Utah Poultry and Farmers Cooperative and Utah Cooperative Association," (Advisory Report No. 3) Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farmer Cooperative Service, December 1953. MS 129, Box 22, Folder 7, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

38. Willard F. Mueller, "We Will Go Farther Yet," (presentation, 21st Biennial Congress of the Cooperative League of the U.S.A., September 9-11, 1958, Pick-Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, MN).

plants, and nineteen oil refineries.³⁹ Since 1957, over 400 cooperatives in the United States combined with other cooperatives to effectively deal with the changing economic market.⁴⁰ An added benefit of mergers between farm cooperatives was the preservation of local relationships and harmony of philosophical interests. Despite obvious overlap in the Utah supply sector and need for larger, more integrated cooperatives to lower operation costs, farm cooperatives in Utah strayed from the national merger trend.⁴¹ Composed of four regional cooperatives, the Utah farm supply industry included the Norbest Turkey Growers Association and the Farmers Grain Cooperative, which handled less than two percent of the supply volume.⁴² The Utah Cooperative Association and the Utah Poultry shared the remainder of the market, serving seventy-five to eighty percent of all Utah farmers.

The UCA supplied petroleum and tires and the UPPCA supplied feed. Both cooperatives handled fertilizer, seed, tires, batteries, and pesticides. Overlap between farm supply lines, trade locations, and membership costs created duplication in operational expenses. The close proximity of cooperative stores led to fierce competition between the two associations and raised the cost of supplies for farm consumers.⁴³ Typically, a financially strong association would merge with a weaker association. Of these two associations, UCA suffered from insufficient credit and subpar loans and, by 1963, owed loans up to 128 percent of its equity with only forty-five percent of those loans current. Conversely, Utah Poultry only owed fifty-one percent of its

39. Martin A. Abrahamsen, "Farm Supply Cooperatives in a Merger Economy," (presentation, 21st Biennial Congress of the Cooperative League of the U.S.A., September 9-11, 1958 Pick-Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, MN).

40. Mather, "Feasibility of Combining Operations," 21.

41. *Ibid.*, 20.

42. Abrahamsen, "Possibilities for Coordinating," 17.

43. *Ibid.*, 2; Mather, "Feasibility of Combining Operations," 18.

equity with seventy-three percent of loans current.⁴⁴ While the Utah Poultry did not suffer under the same credit problems as UCA, their net margins were in decline and showed erratic fluctuations.⁴⁵ Although UCA stood to benefit the most from the merger, both associations were in a downward spiral by the mid-1950s.

A merger between the two supply cooperatives would have provided a number of advantages for Utah farmers. Warren Mathers, a USDA economist dispatched to Utah to study the merger, estimates that within the first year of the anticipated merger, the associations would have saved 75,000 dollars by combining facilities, service, and coordinating supplies.⁴⁶ In addition to saving money, the merger would have combined the leadership strengths of UCA and Utah Poultry, leading to cooperative supply and marketing operations throughout the state and more adequately meeting the changing needs of farmers. Most importantly it would prevent duplication and lower handling costs.⁴⁷ In a merger feasibility report, Robins noted that Utah farmers were paying above the national average to acquire farm supplies. Although the total net sales had increased by sixty-one percent, the total cost of farm supplies to farmers in Utah rose by thirty-four percent, compared to the national average cost increase of only twenty-two percent.⁴⁸

The multiple merger attempts in 1946, 1953, and 1965 between UCA and UPPCA were late attempts at the cooperative model, which suggest the uneasy transition taking place between traditional cooperatives and modern business practices. The managers of both cooperatives and

44. Ibid., 41.

45. Ibid., 44.

46. Ibid., 22-23.

47. Ibid., 28.

48. Ibid., 21.

various leaders within the cooperative community pursued these mergers as a way to preserve local economic control for local farmers in this period of great change. Despite the best of intentions, all three mergers failed. The official 1953 feasibility report suggested that the 1940s merger was “hindered by the conflicting ideologies of the Utah Farm Bureau Federation and the Farmers Union.”⁴⁹ The 1965 feasibility report stated that “noneconomic differences” prevented an acceptable program of coordination for all interested parties.⁵⁰ This prompts a question as to how noneconomic differences could prove to be such insurmountable stumbling blocks that they took precedence over the development of a strong supply cooperative in the state, which both associations and farmers desperately needed to effectively respond to fluid economic conditions. Addressing conflicting ideologies, beginning with the founding of the Utah Farm Bureau and the Farmers Union—and addressing unique brand of Mormon capitalism that proliferated throughout the state and the influence of Cold War politics—facilitates increased insight on this question.

Conflicting Ideologies

In the beginning, the UCA and UPPCA cooperative programs appeared to be similar modernist state creations intended to reorder rural life and replace their populist forbearers through uplift, efficiency, and integration into the capitalist economy.⁵¹ The cooperatives shared a common goal: to reinstate the farmer to a competitive place within the market. Despite these shared goals, both cooperatives had firm ideological boundaries. Traditionally, the American Farm Bureau Federation and its state chapters had politically aligned right-of-center and favored

49. Abrahamsen, “Possibilities for Coordinating,” 35.

50. Mather, “Feasibility of Combining Operations,” 1.

51. See James C. Scott, *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition have Failed* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2008); Jess Gilbert, *Planning Democracy*; Gabriel N. Rosenberg, *The 4-H Harvest*; Kenyon L. Butterfield, *The Farmer and the New Day* (New York: The MacMillan Company, 1919); Claude Scroggs, “Historical Highlights,” in *Agricultural Cooperation*, ed. Martin Abrahamsen and Claude L. Scroggs (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1957).

unregulated business. An article published in the *Utah Farm Bureau News* epitomizes the UFBF ideology: “Generally speaking, a declining farm population is one of the best measurements of the progress being made under our free enterprise systems. Farmers have sent their sons away to college and developed machines to replace people.”⁵²

The Farmers Union and affiliates, conversely, aligned left-of-center and favored federal regulations to preserve family-sized farms and ranches. Farmer’s Union members supposed that Utah Farm Bureau members worked for the interests of the state, while bureaucrats and Farm Bureau leaders supposed the Farmers Union favored populism that threatened capitalist enterprise. Often, the National Farmers Union attracted the rural poor who spoke out against centralized urban capital. According to historian Richard M. Valelly, this “placed their [Farmers Union] members in uneasy alliances with Socialist Democrats and communists rather than bankers and businessmen.”⁵³

Rather than distinctions between classes or racial groups, issues that normally divided cooperatives, only ideology divided the two Utah organizations. The division between the organizations matured when Utah Congressman Walter K. Granger introduced the Divorce Bill in 1950, on behalf of the Farmers Union.⁵⁴ The bill called for immediate separation of farm bureaus from the Agricultural Extension Service. In response, the Farm Bureau singled out Granger as the “Number One enemy of a free, independent American agriculture.”⁵⁵ Later, the

52. *The Utah Farm Bureau News*, April 1964.

53. See Richard M. Valelly, *Radicalism in the American States: The Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party and the American Political Economy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989).

54. William J. Block, *The Separation of the Farm Bureau and the Extension Service: Political Issue in a Federal System* (Illinois: The University of Illinois Press-Urbana, 1960), 24; H.R. 3222, 81st Congress, 1st Session, *Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Proceedings of the Thirty-sixth Convention*, November 21-23, 1922, 220.

55. *The Utah Farm Bureau News*, November 1950.

national Brannan Plan would sharpen that wedge by favoring small family farmers at the expense of large operators through proposals to raise parity for farmers. The AFBF and Republicans denounced the Brannan Plan as a serious government infringement that threatened to remove free enterprise from the farm sector.⁵⁶ UFBF Executive Secretary, Frank G. Shelley, observed that such “a program would simply mean government handouts to farmers and the end of free-enterprise in agriculture.”⁵⁷ Because the ideological battle lines were drawn between the “modernist Farm Bureau” and the “populist Farmers Union,” members of both state associations adamantly opposed any arrangement that brought the two organizations closer together.

Cold War Ideological Complications

By the 1950s, Cold War politics shrouded all aspects of American society and colored Americans’ perceptions of agriculture, cooperatives, and family farming.⁵⁸ While politicians advertised the family farmer as the nation’s bulwark against communism, the cooperatives to which farmers belonged declined in popular opinion.⁵⁹ Senator Style Bridges (R-NH), a past secretary with the New Hampshire Farm Bureau, invoked Cold War rhetoric and branded the National Farmers Union a “communist dominated” organization.⁶⁰ In Utah, political

56. Dean, “Why Not the Brannan Plan?,” 274-275.

57. *The Utah Farm Bureau News*, March 1950, 7.

58. See Stephen J. Whitfield, *The Culture of the Cold War* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991); Lisle Abbott Rose, *The Cold War Comes to Main Street: America in 1950* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1999); Cynthia Hendershot, *Anti-Communism and Popular Culture in Mid-Century America* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2003).

59. Farmer’s Union involvement with the Korean War and the Cold War are addressed by works including: William P. Tucker, “Populism Up-to-Date: The Story of the Farmers Union,” *Agricultural History* 21 (1947): 198-208; Glenn J. Talbott, “The Farmers Union, and American Liberalism after World War II,” *North Dakota History* 55 (1988): 3-13.

60. Bruce E. Field, *Harvest of Dissent: The National Farmers Union and the Early Cold War* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1998), 90.

advertisements ridiculed 1950 Democratic candidates Elbert Thomas, Reva Beck Bosone, and Walter Granger as communist sympathizers.⁶¹ Inspired by McCarthyism at state and local levels, the Utah Farm Bureau joined with its parent organization in 1950 and endorsed a “firm stand” on its principles, and “vigorous opposition” toward those who opposed them.⁶² Motivated to disentangle his cooperative from political fallout, W.B. Robins wrote to C.E. Huff, of the National Farmers Union, stating” “We are gravely concerned that unless the charge of Communism against Farmers Union...are vigorously and effectively countered, there is a grave danger...that cooperatives which bear the Farmers Union name may suffer untold damage in their business and general public esteem.”⁶³ Encouraged by Robins’s letter, the National Farmers Union sued the Utah Farm Bureau for slander.

In November 1950, the NFU filed a libel suit in the United States District Court for Utah, claiming that the Utah Farm Bureau had “in a document accompanying a letter addressed to various...members...published of and concerning...that the Farmers Union was Communist dominated and a Communist organization.” The Utah Farm Bureau allegedly published the slander in the *Desert News*, *Box Elder News*, *Mt. Pleasant Pyramid*, *Ephraim Enterprise* and the *Richfield Reaper*.⁶⁴ The NFU sought judgment for “false and defamatory publication,” which it claimed had injured their reputation and business. While similar libel cases had been dismissed, presiding District Court Judge Willis W. Ritter stated: “the label of ‘Communist’ today, in these

61. Janet Burton Seegmiller, “Walter K. Granger: A Friend to Labor, Industry, and the Unfortunate and Aged,” *Utah Historical Quarterly* 67 (1999): 343.

62. National Farmers Union Service Corporation, plaintiffs v. Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, defendants. United States District Court of Utah, Central Division, Civil no. 1923, 17 September 1951, Narrative statement of a portion of the transcript of testimony, 2-3; hereafter cited as *Farmers Union v. Farm Bureau* (transcript).

63. Letter from W.B. Robins to C.E. Huff, October 17, 1950, MS 129, Box 1, Folder 6, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

64. *Farmers Union v. Farm Bureau* (transcript), 22.

times in which we live, in the mind of average and respectable persons...makes them a symbol of public hatred, ridicule and contempt.”⁶⁵ Veteran litigators A.H. Nebeker and O.N. Ottosen reportedly advised their client to settle out of court, knowing the courts would not be in their favor. Although the Utah Farm Bureau was willing to settle, the AFBF “encouraged its Utah affiliate to seek total victory,” hoping to prove in a legal forum that its ideological rival and commercial competitor did advocate Communism.⁶⁶

The trial revealed the baselessness of the communist allegations directed against the NFU. The defense litigators produced a number of former communists to testify of the connection between the NFU and Communist Party. Manning Johnson—an employee of the Department of Justice and reformed member of the New York Communist party—claimed that communists were “taught to infiltrate...and form new cooperatives” to “control the cooperative and the farm organization” and “bring it under the political influence...and control of the Communist party.”⁶⁷ He continued to testify the Communist Party had infiltrated NFU cooperatives through mergers; the defense ceased arguing that cooperatives jeopardized free enterprise only when prosecuting attorney Quentin Burdock read off a long list of cooperatives sponsored by the Utah Farm Bureau.

The jury awarded the NFU a \$25,000 judgment, approximately \$250,000 by today’s standards. Robert McManus, a journalist who testified on behalf of the defense and who consulted with the AFBF, admitted that he had prepared the speech given by Senator Styles

65. *Farmers Union v. Farm Bureau* (transcript), 8.

66. Bruce E. Field, *Harvest of Dissent: The National Farmers Union and the Early Cold War* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1998), 132.

67. *Farmers Union v. Farm Bureau* (transcript), 276.

Bridges that day on the senate floor.⁶⁸ Characterized by one writer as the “master of guilt by association,” McManus’s acknowledgment reinforced suspicions that the AFBF and Republican Party had been the real perpetrators, while Bridges had merely “been the conduit for the attack.”⁶⁹ In a *Denver Post* article, president of the National Farmers Union, Jim Patton, speculated that “wheat merchants, oil men and insurance interests” were also behind the attack. In this, Patton likely alluded to the National Tax Equality Association (NTEA).

The debate of American tax policy at the intersection of the Cold War called into question the long-standing agrarian myth that idealized farm people and their cooperatives, and speculated whether farmers deserved the federal government providing uninhibited competition. In 1943, the competition between co-ops and for-profit businesses, specifically the International Elevator Company and the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association in Missouri, spurred the creation of the lobby group, the NTEA, the largest anti-cooperative organization.⁷⁰ The NTEA represented the interests of private and corporate businesses, and lobbied to alter the tax code that seemed to unfairly favor cooperatives. Farm co-ops received a tax incentive that excluded patronage dividends as taxable funds. These dividends, often called rebates, represented a percentage of a member’s total volume of transaction and were supposedly returned at the end of the year. The Internal Revenue Service viewed the dividends as an overcharge to the patron rather than taxable investment money; more often than not, co-ops invested these dividends to fund special projects before returning them to patrons.

68. Farmers Union v. Farm Bureau (record), minute entry, May 18, 1951, 28.

69. Field, *Harvest of Dissent*, 135.

70. Douthit, *Taxes and Coops*, 1; Wesley McCune, *Who’s Behind Our Farm Policy?* (New York: Frederick A. Praeger, 1956), 120.

As small cooperatives merged into large regional amalgamates, market competition increased and cooperatives marketed products, including petroleum and insurance, to both rural and urban communities. Frustrated with the rising competition from co-ops, the NTEA, like the U.S. House Committee on Un-American Activities and the American Legion, employed red-baiting tactics to discredit the image of cooperatives.⁷¹ In Utah, both the agrarian and mainstream papers continued this conversation for well over a decade.⁷² Ladru Jensen, esteemed attorney and professor at the University of Utah, suggests that: “the tax issue has been for the lay public one of the most confused, socially controversial, and commonly misunderstood subjects in the law of taxation during the last fifteen years.”⁷³ Implications of un-American ideologies, alignment with “communist dominated Farmers Union,” and the “crooked paths of political campaigns” resulted in a deleterious slump in public opinion on co-ops.⁷⁴

Cooperative leaders rallied to counteract such opinions; W.B. Robins participated in a weekly radio broadcast that made “firm denials” of any “kinship with communism” and educated the public in the many ways cooperatives were ‘all-American’ and benefited the Utah farmer.⁷⁵ Notwithstanding the alignment between the Utah Farm Bureau and Utah Poultry, the court case intended to smear the Farmers Union had consequently targeted all Utah cooperatives. The

71. John F. Freeman, *Persistent Progressives: The Rocky Mountain Farmers Union* (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2016), Kindle edition, chapter 4, 2110, 2103.

72. J. Warren Mather, “Advisability and Ways of Combining Operations of Intermountain Farmers Association and Draper Poultrymen, Inc.” (Special Case Study 182) Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farmer Cooperative Service, Cooperative Research and Service Division, February 1963. MS 129, Box 22, Folder 14, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

73. A. Ladru Jensen, “The Federal Income Tax Status of Nonexempt Cooperatives,” *Utah Law Review* 6, no. 1 (1958): 23.

74. Letter from C.E. Huff to W.B. Robins and Justin C. Stewart, October 23, 1950. MS 129 Box 1, Folder 6, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

75. *Ibid.*

National Council of Farmer Cooperatives stepped in to assist Utah Poultry in launching a series of speeches, radio broadcasts, and TV appearances to repair their reputation. Similar to the campaigns sponsored by the UCA, this rebranded local cooperatives as “a benefit to farmers and improvement to all types of business.”⁷⁶ As both cooperatives worked to repair public favor, the topic of merger resurfaced; however, the controversy from the tax laws and court case enlarged the ideological gap between the Utah Farm Bureau and the Farmers Union, making notions of alignment unbearable for both parties.

Mormon Capitalism

Speaking at the 1951 session of the American Institute of Cooperation at Utah State Agricultural College, Ernest L. Wilkinson, presiding president of Brigham Young University, proposed a solution to salvage the reputation of cooperatives. He petitioned all cooperative leaders to “prayerfully consider” surrendering their tax exemption: “the public unknowingly assumes that we are great tax dodgers” and “have been granted special tax favors” for an exemption that “isn’t worth a tinkers damn and yet cooperatives are damned throughout the country because of it.”⁷⁷ Knowing the risk of alienating the public, half of Utah cooperatives had already filed the tax, and other cooperatives would likely have followed suit until the Internal Revenue Service revised the tax code in 1954.⁷⁸ The significance of Wilkinson’s words was rooted in the messenger rather than the message. As a representative of The Church of Jesus

76. Letter from National Council of Farmer Cooperatives to Clyde C. Edmonds, December 26, 1954. “Material for Use in Explaining the place and functions of Farmer cooperatives in the Nation’s Economy,” MS 1426, Box 4, Folder 9, Clyde C. Edmonds papers, L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, BYU.

77. Ernest L. Wilkinson, “Cooperative Business in our Economy” (presentation, 23rd Session of the American Institute of Cooperation at Utah State Agricultural College, Logan UT, August 26-30, 1951) in *Cooperatives in a World of Conflict: A Collections of Papers and Discussions* (Washington, DC: American Institute of Cooperation), 20.13/1, no. 43, 51.

78. *The Salt Lake Tribune* (Salt Lake City, Utah) February 23, 1951, 6; Development in Consumer Cooperatives in 1951 Bulletin No. 1073 US Dept of Labor, 14.

Christ of Latter Day Saints, also known as the Mormon or LDS Church, Wilkinson's influence went beyond that of a mere agricultural leader. The permeation of the lay clergy of the LDS Church into farm organizations, local cooperatives, and local politics indicates the power the Mormon Church had in influencing the outcomes of the Utah agricultural community.

Since the inception of the LDS Church, a distinctive agrarian ideal permeated Mormon culture, positioning farmers as custodians of freedom, industry and independence and suggesting that cultivation of the soil not only builds character but is part of man's sacred work and duty to redeem the land from the effects of "Fall of Adam" by working the soil.⁷⁹ This ideal is evident in decades of LDS Church publications, manuals, artwork, building motifs, and speeches, as well as church sanctioned agrarian projects including: the United Order' various farm, land, mercantile and canning cooperative projects; church owned commercial sugar beet, potato, and grain operations; and the Welfare Plan. While these projects changed to reflect external pressures, their fundamental theme remained that the church and its membership could preserve their freedom and attain self-sufficiency and God-led stewardship over resources through sacred cultivation of the land. While rural transformation and out-migration from farms weakened the Mormon connection to the countryside and use of the land grew weaker,⁸⁰ agrarian stories are still evoked by ecclesiastical leaders as a metaphor of moral virtue and character.⁸¹

In the twentieth century, LDS Church leaders used agrarian projects to direct the organization and its members to focus "their religious energy for financial ends,"⁸² which

79. Donald H. Dyal, "Pursuit of the Agrarian Ideal," *Agricultural History Society* 63 (1989), 19.

80. Ethan R. Yorgason, *Transformation of the Mormon Culture Region* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2003), 97.

81. Dyal, "Pursuit of the Agrarian Ideal."

82. Matthew C. Godfrey, *Religion, Politics, and Sugar: The Mormon Church, the Federal Government, and the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company 1907-1921* (Logan: Utah State University Press, 2007), 189.

translated to amassing wealth and embracing capitalism. During the Cold War period, the cultural struggle against communism solidified religion and capitalism in Mormon doctrine as hallmarks of freedom and agency, while communism taught enslavement.⁸³ Controversial politician and Mormon apostle Ezra Taft Benson, who would serve as Secretary of Agriculture under the Eisenhower Administration, promoted these ideas by fueling a distinctive Mormon brand of agrarian capitalism as an undercurrent to his public policies. Benson notably cut elements of the New Deal that benefited the small farmer: “He restricted rural credit, raised interest rates, cut back the Rural Electrical Association co-ops and access to public power.”⁸⁴ Resulting in a decrease in the amount of family farms and the average small farm income while allowing profit margins for processors to increase, Benson’s policies appeared to favor large growers and Republican farm organizations, such as the American Farm Bureau Federation. While Democrats often criticized him for pulling the rug out from under small farmers, Benson claimed that family farmers were, “the strongest bulwark we have against all that is aimed, not only at weakening, but at the very destruction of our American way of life.”⁸⁵ Benson operated with a Cold War mentality, believing that reliance on government resulted in the moral dangers of enslavement. Despite the cost to small farmers, Benson’s overriding objective was to reduce farmers’ reliance on government. Benson’s solution to ward off the Communist political threat growing within America was to add more spirituality in both politics and economics.

83. W. Cleon Skousen, *The Naked Communist: Exposing Communism and Restoring Freedom* (Salt Lake City: Izzard Ink Publishing Company, 1958).

84. Robert Gottlieb and Peter Wiley, *American Saints: The Rise of Mormon Power* (New York: G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1984), 76.

85. Edward L. Schapsmeier and Frederick H. Schapsmeier, *Ezra Taft Benson and the Politics of Agriculture: The Eisenhower Years, 1953-1961* (Danville, IL: Interstate Printers and Publishers, 1975), 32; Address at Higginsville, MO, October 10, 1956, Microfilm no. 3, MS 8462.

Benson's Mormon influence and public notoriety carried great weight in Utah agricultural circles. In a speech calling upon cooperative leaders to keep America spiritually strong, he attacked cooperatives and farmers who relied on government parities: "Nobody owes them anything for crops they don't grow, or goods they don't produce, or work they won't do. That something for nothing requires stealing from somebody."⁸⁶ Clearly, Ezra Taft Benson considered farming subsidies to be a moral sin that should be eschewed by any member of his religion. At the time, Utah cooperatives were still reeling from the recent tax evasion scandal and libel case only three months prior, and public support for cooperatives had plummeted; Benson's harsh criticism for using subsidies, combined with his plan to preserve the American way of life by using spirituality to destroy communism, was viewed as a personal attack directed at the leftist minority farm group. As a long-time supporter of cooperatives, Benson clearly displayed his preference for Farm Bureau cooperatives. In 1950, he attended the Utah Poultry convention as guest speaker and lauded the co-op for its "great contribution to the state and for the excellent reputation it has gained nationally as a model co-op for the high quality of its products."⁸⁷ His attendance at the conference validated the righteous and sacred work that Utah Poultry co-op was performing.⁸⁸

Only days before the controversial 1950 election, the LDS Church-owned newspaper, *Deseret News*, prominently displayed a picture of AFBF President, Allan B. Kline, and President of the LDS Church Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, David O. McKay, which conveyed the "unmistakable message that the Mormon Church approved of Kline, the Farm Bureau, and

86. Ibid.

87. Stacie Duce, *Unpublished History of Poultry Pioneers* (printed by the author), 96.

88. See also Benson and Allan B. Kline (presentation, AFBF, 1954); Allen V. Olsen, *As Farmers Forward Go: A History of the Utah Farm Bureau Federation* (Salt Lake City: The Utah Farm Bureau Federation, 1975), 71.

Republicans.”⁸⁹ Although no explicit support for the UPPCA and Utah Farm Bureau was ever stated by the LDS Church, then, relationships with co-op leaders, public appearances, and Benson’s political and religious ideologies evidenced which side the LDS Church favored. The Farm Bureau stood for all-American capitalist values with little dependence upon the government; conversely, the Farmers Union’s ranks were supposedly filled with communists who relied on the government for handouts. Just as members had internalized agrarian and capitalist messages from church leaders, they also internalized messages of the moral right side of agriculture.⁹⁰ Clearly, the LDS Church was a powerful influence that managed to sway the majority of Utah farmers to support the Utah Farm Bureau Federation, successfully merging spiritual leadership and political pressure to manipulate the majority Mormon farming population into choosing the God-sanctioned farming organization.⁹¹

Conclusion

In the 1960s, as the number of farms in Utah declined and political power in the state shifted from rural areas to the more populated urban centers, the divisions between the farm organizations softened. As frequently as the UFBF publicly denounced federal bureaucracy, it too remained committed to federal assistance. The Bureau, much like the Farmers Union of Utah, sustained an array of state and federal legislation that supported the economies of rural Utahans. While the specter of communism would continue to haunt the UCA until the mid-1960s, the smear campaigns by the AFBF and NTEA between the Utah Farmers Union, Utah

89. See *Deseret News*, 3 November 1950, 1B.

90. Yorgason, *Transformation of the Mormon Culture Region*, 109.

91. Bethany Moreton, *To Serve God and Walmart: The Making of Christian Free Enterprise* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009); R. Laurence Moore, *Selling God: American Religion in the Marketplace of Culture* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994); Amanda Porterfield, Darren E. Grem, and John Corrigan, *The Business Turn in American Religious History* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2017).

Farm Bureau, and LDS Church were a thing of the past.⁹² Finally, as the threats to the sanctity of farming as an American institution dissolved, Robins reached out to Joseph G. Knapp, administrator of the Farmer Cooperative Service and Ezra T. Benson. He asked that Benson come down on the side of the cooperatives so one last final merger attempted could go forward.⁹³ After several years of politics and negotiations, in 1965, both of the parent farm organizations finally granted consent for the UCA and UPPCA cooperatives to merge.

The path to merger was clear of all political and ideological roadblocks; however, the economic outlook in the 1960s was dismal for cooperatives. In 1961, the UFBF formed private buying clubs that undercut cooperative pricing on farm supplies.⁹⁴ Robins claimed that these buying clubs lured consumers into purchasing farm supplies with unsustainably low prices: a for-profit business model that relied on products supplied through commercial wholesalers. These corporate companies used buying clubs as a point of entry into the marketplace from which they had previously been excluded, and offered temporary low prices on farm supplies, which increased competition with cooperatives. Once a cooperative failed, Robins claimed, the corporations could then exploit farmers by raising prices. Enraged, Robins blamed the UFBF for instituting this program as tactic to wholly eliminate cooperatives and asked: “how long can we

92. The Cooperative League of the U.S.A. invited the UCA to host two Polish cooperative exchange employees as part of educational teaching program but Robins declined stating, the UFBF recently “renewed their smear attacks” and he didn’t care to supply “Frank Shelley and his group ammunition.” Letter from W.B. Robins to Jerry Voorhis, January 12, 1960. MS 129, Box 1, Folder 6, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

93. Letter from Robins to Joseph G. Knapp, September 12, 1961; Letter from Joseph G. Knapp to Ezra T. Benson, Sept 12, 1961; Letter from C.K. Ferre to W.B. Robins, October 13, 1961; MS 129, Box 22, Folder 4, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

94. Insurance Advertisement from February 12, 1962, MS 129, Box 22, Folder14, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT; A second letter from the UFBF to Utah County members, December 23, 1963, MS 129, Box 22, Folder 6, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

turn the other cheek and let Farm Bureau slap us?”⁹⁵ Robins was not alone in voicing his disdain for the program. An article published in the *Cooperative Digest* in 1962 suggested buying clubs were part of a larger initiative sponsored by the AFBF: “Co-op leaders wondered if the AFBF was so determined to be agriculture’s only voice that it had turned its back on cooperatives, many of which its state federations had helped build.”⁹⁶

By 1964, increased competition from the UFBF buying clubs created financial instability for the UPPCA in Utah County. By the end of the year, general manager, C.K. Ferre resigned and all merger agreements between UPPCA and UCA were permanently dissolved.⁹⁷ By March 12 of the following year, the new manager of UPPCA, John A. Roghaar had partnered with the UFBF private buying clubs and provided supplies at discounted prices to all UPPCA and UFBF members. This placed the UCA in direct competition with their longtime ally, the UPPCA. Within only a few short years of struggling to compete with artificially low prices, the UCA sold to the Western Regional Farmers Union Central Exchange (CENEX). The exchange provided more regional buying power for the cooperative but removed its management from local control and closed down a number of its service stations. Consequently, the CENEX merger ended a chapter in the history of cooperatives in Utah, just as Robins predicted.

By the 1960s, the window had closed for the mergers to take place. The failure primarily occurred because of political conflict between the Farm Bureau and Farmers Union. The Farm Bureau, with the support of Ezra T. Benson as well as other notable figures within the LDS Church, maligned the Farmers Union as a communist organization. These aggressive actions

95. W.B. Robins, “Memorandum to UCA Board of Directors,” April 22, 1965, MS 129, Box 3, Folder 3, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

96. Ibid.

97. Ibid.

widened the tension between the farm organizations, and prevented amicable merger between their two cooperatives. In 1953, at the apex of their bickering, UCA Board member, Joseph A. Geddes, had encouraged greater cooperation between the UCA and the UFBB. He entreated both to “become more tolerant,” and cited historical examples ranging from the Puritans to the Mormon Pioneers to declare how “differences in ideology overemphasized are a menace to cooperation. Only increased tolerance . . . can enable us to live in peace and work in peace.”⁹⁸ As a result of not heeding his advice, farmers lost local control of the Utah Cooperative Association and were abandoned to economically fend for themselves in Utah’s increasingly inhospitable farming environment.

98. Notes Covering Ben Lomond Hotel Conference of Utah Farm Cooperative Leaders, August 31, 1953.

Acronym Key

Utah Poultry Producers Cooperative Association/ named changed to Intermountain Farm Association in 1959 (UPPCA) (IFA)
Utah Cooperative Association (UCA)
Utah Farm Bureau Federation (UFBF)
American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF)
Utah Farmers Union (UFU)
National Farmers Union (NFU)
National Tax Equity League (NTEA)
Western Regional Farmers Union Central Exchange (CENEX)

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PLAN B PROJECT

Extension, Enterprise, and Education: the Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah

1. Finding Aids: The Co-op Service, William Preston Thomas papers, Utah Cooperative Association, Sorenson Family papers, Utah Cooperative Association photograph collection
2. Digital Exhibit: <http://exhibits.lib.usu.edu/exhibits/show/extension>
3. Power Point Exhibit Launch and Script: Presented Spring 2010

FINDING AIDS

List of collections and finding aids processed as the first phase of the project to preserve images, papers, reports, pamphlets, audio and video clips of farmer co-operatives throughout Utah.

1. The Co-op Service, 1941-1989 USU_MSS COLL 343 (2009)
2. William Preston Thomas papers, 1914-1975 USU_14.1/4:26 (2008)
3. Utah Cooperative Association, 1936-1983 USU_MSS COLL 129 (2010)
4. Sorensen Family papers, 1879-2008 USU_MSS COLL 344 (2009)
5. Utah Cooperative Association photograph collection, 1950-1978 USU_P0385 (2010)

The Co-op Service, 1941-1989

Overview of the Collection

Title	The Co-op Service
Dates	1941-1989 (inclusive) 1941 1989
Quantity	16 boxes, (8 linear feet)
Collection Number	USU_MSS COLL 343
Summary	This collection contains records of the Coop Service Company, a Salt Lake City consumer cooperative organized in 1941.
Repository	Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives Division Special Collections and Archives Merrill-Cazier Library Utah State University Logan, UT 84322-3000 Telephone: 435-797-2663 Fax: 435-797-2880 scweb@usu.edu
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on use, except: not available through interlibrary loan.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, 2007-2008

Biographical Note

The Co-op Service, a chain of gas stations, was originally incorporated in 1941, as a subsidiary of Utah Cooperative Association (UCA), under the name of Salt Lake Consumer Co-op Service. In 1959 the Articles of Incorporation were amended, changing the name of the cooperative to Co-op Service. (A cooperative is a business owned and controlled by the people who use its services.) Within three weeks of deciding to open a cooperative, UCA had leased the land on Seventh South and Main Street, Salt Lake City and remodeled the existing building. The cooperative opened for business February 28, 1941 with thirty-seven dollars of net worth and five-thousand dollars in borrowed assets. The first station was equipped with four gasoline pumps, an outdoor wash rack, and hoist to provide basic car care, lube and tire services to consumers. Fifteen years later the Co-op moved to Roberta Street and Ninth South. Three more Co-op stations opened in Bountiful, Orem and along Redwood Road. All four stations served as official state vehicle safety inspection stations.

Membership in the Co-op association is evidenced by a stock certificate. Benefits of membership entitled each stock holder to one vote at the annual election meetings and an annual cash refund at the years end. Members received a monthly newspaper which recorded the Co-op's activities and offered helpful tips about car maintenance, including winterization, lighting and tire varieties. Additionally, members participated in cooperative contests, dinners and promotional meetings.

In June 1964, because of continuous low sales, the Orem station shut down. In 1973 the OPEC oil crisis caused the price of crude oil to triple and consequently, unprecedented inflation followed. These economic forces increased the cost of operation at the service stations and the Co-op lost too much

The Co-op Service, 1941-1989

<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv00363>

money to recover their profits. By 1981 the Co-op was taking steps to liquidate the service stations and minimize financial losses. The Bountiful station and Redwood Road station were sold in 1983. The Ninth South station in Salt Lake City was sold in 1986. The Board of Directors remained intact until the sales were finalized in 1989.

Content Description

This collection contains records of the Coop Service Company, a Salt Lake City consumer cooperative organized in 1941. Materials from Co-op Service include origination documents, stock and membership lists, annual reports, meeting minutes and financial records from 1941-1989.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the The Co-op Service must be obtained from the [Special Collections Manuscript Curator](#) and/or the Special Collections Department Head.

Preferred Citation

Initial Citation: The Co-op Service USU_MSS COLL 343, box []. Special Collections and Archives. Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library. Logan, Utah.

*Following Citations:*USU_MSS COLL 343, USUSCA.

Administrative Information

Processing Note

Processed in July of 2009

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated to USU Special Collections and Archives by Robert Bennion in 1990. Robert Bennion served as the last president of Coop Service.

Related Materials

Utah Cooperative Association [Coll Mss 129](#)

Custodial History

This collection was donated to USU Special Collections and Archives by Robert Bennion in 1990. Robert Bennion served as the last president of Coop Service.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Material relating to Co-op History, Personnel and Financial Record, Undated

Box1

(15 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	1	Business license and permits	
1	2	Co-op Service Newspaper Accelerator	1957-1964
1	3	Employee Photographs and Biographical Facts	
1	4	Station and Group Employee Photographs	
1	5	Bountiful Financial Statements	1959-1957
1	6	Geneva Association Financial Statements	1953-1961
1	7	Husky Station Papers and Deeds.	Undated
1	8	Salt Lake City Station Financial Statements	Undated
1	9	Centerville Notes and Certificates.	Undated
1	10	Chris Birch.	
1	11	Phil Ferguson Lawsuit	Undated
1	12	Marjorie Waite Wall	Undated
1	13	Co-op Court Cases	Undated
1	14	Dale Mann, Lost Certificate Bond	Undated
1	15	Bonds	Undated

General Files relating to Co-op Membership and Financial Record, 1979-1981, Undated

Box2

(15 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
2	1	Membership Lists	Undated
2	2	Member Interest Payments	Undated
2	3	Deeds	Undated
2	4	Co-op News Mailing List	Undated
2	5	CENEX Insurance and Defaulted Bank Deposits	Undated
2	6	Leases	Undated
2	7	Misc. General Files	Undated
2	8	Farmers Union Credit Union	Undated
2	9	Farmers Union Credit Union and CENEX	Undated
2	10	Documents and Policies after Merger	Undated
2	11	State Insurance Fund	Undated
2	12	Co-op Service Taxes	Undated
2	13	Utah State Tax Check Stubs	1979-1980
2	14	Miscellaneous Taxes	1980
2	15	Federal Tax Returns	1979-1981

General Files relating to Co-op Financial Record, 1961-1981

Box3

(9 folders)

The Co-op Service, 1941-1989

<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv00363>

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
3	1	Sales Account Book	1977
3	2	Coop Land Titles	Undated
3	3	Stephan A. Regan Property	Undated
3	4	ASAP Enterprises	Undated
3	5	Missing Deposits and Membership Activity	Undated
3	6	Photocopies of 6% Renewable Savings Certificates	Undated
3	7	Certificate of Interest Analysis	1980
3	8	Accrued Interest Rate	1961-1981
3	9	Expense Book	Undated

Annual Reports and Minutes, 1947-1977

Box4

(6 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	1	Annual Member Meeting Minutes	1960-1964
4	2	Annual Member Meeting Minutes	1947-1959
4	3	Board of Directors Minutes, Reports and Financial Income Tax Returns	1948-1957
4	4	Financial Statements	1961-1977
4	5	Board of Directors Minutes, Reports and Financial Income Tax Returns	1963

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4 6	Board of Directors Minutes, Reports and Financial Income Tax Returns	1965

Annual Reports and Minutes, 1966-1979

Box5

(13 folders)

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
5	1-13 Board of Directors Minutes, Reports and Financial Income Tax Returns (Missing 1972)	1966/1979

Annual Reports and Minutes, 1980-1989

Box6

(9 folders)

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
6	1-9 Board of Directors Minutes, Reports and Financial Income Tax Returns (Missing 1987)	1980-1989

Income Tax Returns, 1950-1982

Box7

(4 folders)

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
7	1-4 Income Tax Returns (Missing 1953 and 1957)	1950-1982

Meeting Minutes and Balance Book, 1958-1977

Box8

(2 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
8	1	Board of Directors Meeting Minutes	1958-1964
8	2	Coop Balance Book	1958-1977

Loan Capital Certificates, 1936-1969

Box9

(6 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
9	1	Misc. Certificates of Interest	
9	2	Bureau Supply Association Certificate of Interest, No. 1-121	1936-1969
9	3	4 ½ Loan Capital Certificates, No. 1-15	1957-1964
9	4	Series B Loan Capital Certificates, 1-12	1955-1956
9	5	Series A Loan Capital Stock Certificates, 1-84	1948-1956
9	6	Series A Loan Capital Stock Certificates, 85-113	1955-1957

Loan Capital Certificates, 1957-1974

Box10

(7 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
10	1	4 ½ % Certificate of Interest, 1-50	1952-1954
10	2	4 ½ % Certificate of Interest, 51-100	1954-1955

Container(s)		Description	Dates
10	3	4 ½ % Certificate of Interest, 101-150	1955-1957
10	4	4 ½ % Certificate of Interest, 151-181	1957-1959
10	5	5 % Certificate of Interest, 189-286	1959-1961
10	6	5 % Certificate of Interest, 289-389	1961-1974
10	7	5 ½ % Certificate of Interest, 1-3	1950-1957

Loan Capital Certificates, 1961-1964

Box11

(3 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
11	1	6 % Certificate of Interest, 14-114	1961-1962
11	2	6 % Certificate of Interest, 115-213	1961-1963
11	3	6 % Certificate of Interest, 214-314	1963-1964

Loan Capital Certificates, 1965-1977

Box12

(4 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
12	1	46 % Certificate of Interest, 315-374	1965-1969
12	2	6 % Certificate of Interest, 375-434	1967-1971
12	3	6 % Certificate of Interest, 435-494	1967-1969
12	4	6 % Certificate of Interest, 495-557	1970-1977

Membership Lists, Undated

Box13

(5 folders)

(Ordered alphabetically by last name)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
13	1	Abell-Ayoub, Book 1	Undated
13	2	Babcock-Blonquist, Book 2	Undated
13	3	Bluck-Cairns, Book 2	Undated
13	4	Calderwood-Complete Auto, Book 2	Undated
13	5	Con-Cuthbert, Book 2	Undated

Membership Lists (continued), Undated

Box14

(7 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
14	1	DDT Construction Co.-Dyer, Book 3	Undated
14	2	Everett-Everton, Book 3	Undated
14	3	Fackrell-Fushimi, Book 3	Undated
14	4	Gadd-Guymon, Book 3	Undated
14	5	Haacke-Holbrook, Book 4	Undated
14	6	Holbrook-Ivory, Book 4	Undated
14	7	Jack-Kaas, Book 4	Undated

Membership Lists (continued), Undated

Box15

(5 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
15	1	Kagie-Kyremes, Book 4	Undated
15	2	Lake-McBride, Book 5	Undated
15	3	McBride-Myers, Book 5	Undated
15	4	Naccarate-Oxborrow, Book 5	Undated
15	5	Pace-Raymond, Book 5	Undated

Membership Lists (continued), Undated

Box16

(6 folders)

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
16	1	Radmill-Ryse, Book 6	Undated
16	2	Sabey-Steel, Book 6	Undated
16	3	Tabish-Umberger, Book 7	Undated
16	4	Uintah Homes-Wabel, Book 7	Undated
16	5	Wach-Yazzie, Book 7	Undated
16	6	Yates-Zwan, Book 7	Undated

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Business Enterprises--Utah--History

The Co-op Service, 1941-1989

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2009

William Preston Thomas papers, 1914-1975

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Thomas, W. Preston--(William Preston), 1887-1962
Title	William Preston Thomas papers
Dates	1914-1975 (inclusive) 1914 1975
Quantity	22 boxes, (11 linear feet)
Collection Number	USU_14.1/4:26
Summary	Writings, speeches, correspondence, lecture notes, travel information, statistics, graphs, and charts from William Preston Thomas' tenure at Utah State Agricultural College and as first County Extension Agent; mainly dating from the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. Notable are materials from the Cache Valley Tomato Growers Association and the Farr West Dairy Marketing Association; the annual reports of the Weber County Farm Bureau; correspondence regarding the Western Economics Research Council; and materials on water resource development in the state and region.
Repository	Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives Division Special Collections and Archives Merrill-Cazier Library Utah State University Logan, UT 84322-3000 Telephone: 435-797-2663 Fax: 435-797-2880 scweb@usu.edu
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on use, except: not available through interlibrary loan. Restrictions Open to public research.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, 2007-2008

Biographical Note

William Preston Thomas was born on 8 April 1887 in Plain City, Utah to James Madison and Mary Geddes Thomas. In 1915 he married Lucile Hayball, with whom he had four children: Madison Thomas, William Thomas, Paul Thomas and Preston Thomas. Thomas received a B.S. degree from Utah Agricultural College in 1914, and was appointed extension agent for Weber County. He joined the faculty at his alma mater as assistant professor of Marketing Research following completion of his Master's Degree at Cornell University in 1926. Later, he received his Ph. D. from Cornell in 1939. Thomas served as professor and department head of Agricultural Economics and Marketing from 1928 to 1952, and as Emeritus Professor through 1959. He passed away January 30, 1962 in Logan, Utah after four decades of service to the institution, the state and the nation.

Thomas distinguished himself as a promoter of Agricultural Cooperatives, and helped establish many local, state and Intermountain regional organizations. Thomas carried a heavy teaching load within the Department, mentoring over 250 graduates during his academic career. Simultaneously, he conducted research through the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, authoring or co-authoring over 20 technical bulletins and circulars, including "Agricultural Cooperation in Utah," an historical overview of cooperatives published in 1956. Among other prestigious positions he held, Thomas represented USU as President of the Western Farm Economics Association and Western Agricultural Economics Research Council. He frequently consulted on water resources applications with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and on economic issues for the USDA. His work on planning for the post-war farm economy merged his ideas on farmer cooperatives with other innovative economic principles to insure against an agricultural recession following World War II.

Over the course of his career Thomas also involved himself in local and civic affairs. He served as a member of the Ogden and Logan Kiwanis Club and as local chairman of the Boy Scouts. He was a director of the renowned Ogden Livestock Shows and participated on numerous agricultural committee boards in Weber County.

Content Description

The W.P. Thomas papers (1914-1959) contain materials related to Thomas, a former professor, Head of the Agricultural Economics Department at Utah State University and first County Extension Agent. Included in the collection are writings, speeches, correspondence, lecture notes, travel information, statistics, graphs, and charts. Notable in the collection are materials from the Cache Valley Tomato Growers Association and the Farr West Dairy Marketing Association; the annual reports of the Weber County Farm Bureau; correspondence regarding the Western Agricultural Economics Research Council; and materials on water resource development in the state and region.

Other Descriptive Information

Thirty-three of Thomas' mimeographs are included in the collection. For a complete listing of the mimeograph series published by Utah State University including title and mimeograph numbers see: Record Group 18.8

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the William Preston Thomas papers> must be obtained from the [University Archivist](#) and/or the Special Collections Department Head.

Preferred Citation

International Student Council general files (14.1/4:26). Utah State University. Special Collections and Archives Department.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

The collection is alphabetically arranged by subject.

Processing Note

Processed in November of 2008

Acquisition Information

This collection was acquired in stages from deposits made by the Department and Agricultural Experiment Station.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA), 1936-1949

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	1	Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Appraisal Schedules	
1	2	Agricultural Adjustment Act	
1	3	The A.A.A.: An Epitaph, James E. Boyle	1936
1	4	Agricultural Adjustment Act, Brief of	1938
1	5	Agricultural Adjustment Act, Corporations Organized under	
1	6	Agriculture Adjustments and Price Supports, Federal Legislation Related to	
1	7	Agricultural Act Policy, 230 Notes	
1	8	Agricultural Act Policy, Notes	1949
1	9	Agricultural Policy, Long Range, America Symposium	1947

Agricultural Production, 1909-1975

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	10	Agricultural Outlook, Discussion, Conference of Canning Crop Growers and Processors, Ogden	1948
1	11	Agricultural Production for 1945, summarized by W.P. Thomas	1945
1	12	Agricultural Production for Utah 1948, W.P. Thomas and George T. Blanch	1948
1	13	Agricultural Production and Income	1955-1975
1	14	Agricultural Situation for Utah, Review of	1950
1	15	Agricultural Situation for Utah, W. P. Thomas	1951-1952
1	16	Canned Vegetable Situation, Article	1949
1	17	Changing Agricultural Economy, Preliminary Statement of Some Important Measures and Concepts, Experiment Station	1959
1	18	Changing Agricultural and Growing Economy, Compilation of Articles	
1	19	Cost and Efficiency of Agricultural Production in Utah, Project 356	1950
1	20	Cost of Producing Eggs in Utah, Issues Bulletin, W. P. Thomas	1932
1	21	Discussion on Utah's Agricultural Outlook, Notes on, Utah Academy of Science Meeting	1953 May 09
1	22	Food Production and Consumption, W. P. Thomas	1955
1	23	Outlook for Fruit, W. P. Thomas	1950
1	24	Status of Agriculture, Article	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
1	25	Trends of Production and Cash Incomes by County, Outline	1909-1945

Chamber of Commerce, Cache County, 1938

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
2	1	Cache Valley Banking Company	1938
2	2	Chamber of Commerce, Financial Statement	

Cooperations, 1923-1957

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
2	3	Agricultural Cooperatives in Utah	1937-1941
2	4	Agricultural Cooperatives, Project Outline	1953-1957
2	5	Agricultural Cooperatives, Growth Study	1957
2	6	Cooperatives, List of	
2	7	Cooperatives, List of Active, Utah	1953
2	8	Corporation Marketing, Inventory and Rating of	
2	9	Cooperatives Marketing, Legal Papers	1930
2	10	Cooperatives, Officers of	1953
2	11	Cooperation, Pamphlets	
2	12	Cooperative Workbook	1943
2	13	Dairy Marketing Association, Organization Papers, Farr West	1923

Container(s)		Description	Dates
2	14	LDS Church, Cooperative Study, Committee Meeting	1941
2	15	Marketing Agreement	1933-1934
2	16	Mormon Culture, Symposium	1952
2	17	Tomato Growers Association, Articles of Incorporation, Cache Valley,	1937

Cooperation Articles, >1935-1953

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
2	18	Cooperative Marketing, History and Principles, W. P. Thomas	
2	19	Cooperative Marketing, Idaho Potato Growers, Speech, Idaho Falls, W.P. Thomas	1946
2	20	Cooperative Market, Notes	
2	21	Cooperative Milking Barns, Utah, W.P. Thomas	1953
2	22	Economic and Other Trends as they Relate to Cooperative Marketing, W, P. Thomas	
2	23	Farmers' Cooperatives in our Community, class and discussion groups, Outline	
2	24	Marketing Poultry Products, Lecture, Clyde E. Edmunds, Marketing Seminar	1940
2	25	Membership Relations, W. P. Thomas	1951
2	26	Problems of Cooperation Organization, W.B. Stout	1941
2	27	Present Status, Strength and Weaknesses of Utah Cooperatives , W. P. Thomas	1950

Cooperation Articles (cont'd), 1935-1953

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
3	1	Recent Developments in Cooperative Movements, W. P. Thomas	1935
3	2	Rural Electric and Telephone Cooperatives, Utah, W. P. Thomas	1953
3	3	Trends in Cooperative Marketing of Fruits and Vegetables, W.P. Thomas and George T. Blanch	

Dairy, 1924-1940

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
3	4	Condensed and Evaporated Milk Situation, Report, Cache County, Fuhriman and Stokdyk	
3	5	Dairy Industry, Outlook for, Extension Service	1931
3	6	Feed and Labor Costs Per Pound of Butterfat, George Q. Bateman, George B. Caine, L. H. Rich	
3	7	Status of the Dairy Industry in Utah, W. W. Owens	1924
3	8	Trends in Agriculture as they Relate to Dairying, Speech, W.P. Thomas	1940

Economics Articles, 1930-1951

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
3	9	American Money, Past, Present and Future, Albert Shaw	>1933
3	10	Agriculture Economic Articles, W. I. Myers	1950-1951

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3 11	Economic and Social Advantages and Disadvantages of Village Settlements of Farm Families, Excerpt from unpublished manuscript, G. Alvin Carpenter	
3 12	Economic Problems in Utah Agriculture and Needed Research, Report	
3 13	Forum Magazine	1933
3 14	General Economic Factors of Utah's Agriculture, W. P. Thomas	
3 15	Graphic Methods used in Agricultural Economics, R.G. Hainsworth	1938
3 16	Livestock and Utah's Metal Mine, W. E. Carroll	
3 17	Science, Politics and Economic Progress, Dilwarth Walker	
3 18	Special Lecture on Economics, United States Department of Agriculture	1930
3 19	To Curb Inflation and Equalize its Burden, Sumner H. Slichter	1950

Farm Articles, 1924-1952

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
3 20	Adminstration of Farm Prices and Income Supported Programs, Abstract of Dissertation, Reed L. Frischknecht	1952
3 21	Agricultural Credit, Studies, W. P. Thomas	1933
3 22	Cash Receipts and Value of Home Consumption by States, compiled, Cash Receipts From Farming	1924-1951
3 23	Economic Program for Farmers, George T. Blanch, delivered over K.V.N.U.	1944
3 24	Farm Land Appraisals, W. U. Fuhriman	

Farm Articles (cont'd), 1924-1952

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	1	Farming Economic, articles	
4	2	Farming Economic, articles	
4	3	Percentage of Delinquency of Land Bank Loans in Utah as of Value of Farm Real Estate	1936
4	4	Production Credit Association Meeting, Ogden	1934
4	5	Small Farms, Western Farm Economics Convention, President E. G. Peterson, Notes for Paper	
4	6	The Small Farm, Speech, Convention of Western Farm Economics Association, Elmer G. Peterson	1937
4	7	The Nation Lives the Way it Farms	
4	8	Type of Farming Study in Utah, Marion Clawson, W. P. Thomas	1932
4	9	Utah Fruit Production and Income for 1943, W. P. Thomas, George T. Blanch	1943

Farm Bureau, 1915-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	10	American Agriculture at Mid-Century, Annual Meeting American Farm Bureau, Dallas Texas, W.I. Myers	1950
4	11	Annual Report of Agricultural Activities, Farm Bureau, Weber County	
4	12	Annual Report of Weber County Farm Bureau, W.P. Thomas	1916

Container(s)		Description	Dates
4	13	Annual Report of Weber County, Farm Bureau News	1918-1919
4	14	Farm Bureau, Development of	
4	15	Farm Bureau, Development of	
4	16	Farm Bureau, Weber County, Development of	1915-1925
4	17	Farm Bureau, Weber County, History of	
4	18	Legislative Matters as Affecting Agriculture, List of, State Farm Bureau Meeting, Salt Lake City	1942
4	19	Qualifications of Frank Evans to Receive the Annual Award from American Farm Bureau Federation, Notes on, W.P. Thomas	
4	20	State Farm Bureau Legislative Committee, Correspondence	1942-1943
4	21	Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, Statement of, Hearing on the Proposed Marketing Order for the Great Basin Marketing Area	1958

Farm Management, 1931-1937

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
5	1	Analyzing Farm Business, Instructions for Calculating Factors,	
5	2	Annual Farm Business Analysis of Farm Management Demonstrations, W. P. Thomas, C. O. Stott	1931
5	3	Annual Farm Business Analysis of Farm Management Demonstrations, Cruz Venstrom, Edith Hayball	1934
5	4	Factors to Consider in the Selection of a Farm, George T. Blanch	1937
5	5	Farm Business, Analysis of	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
5	6	Farm Management Class Material	
5	7	Farm Management Manual, V. B. Hart, S. W. Warren	
5	8	Farm Management, Notebook	
5	9	Farm Management Terms and Definitions	
5	10	Writing a Farm Lease	

Farm Studies, 1924-1945

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
5	11	Calculating Livestock Yield Index, Methods of	
5	12	Farm Business Analysis and Wheat Enterprise Cost, Report of	1934
5	13	Income for Utah Crops, Charts	1924-1945
5	14	Production, Uses and Requirements of Wheat by County	

Farm Economic Research Division, 1957-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
5	15	Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Personnel	1957-1958
5	16	ARS General Information	
5	17	Research Marketing Administrator (R.M.A.), Reports and Research	
5	18	Research and Marketing Administrator (R.M.A.), State Colleges and Universities, Reports	

Forestry

Container(s)		Description
Box	Folder	
6	1	Forestry Correspondence: Thadeus box, Milton C. Abrams and Edward P. Cliff
6	2	Forest Policy and Programs in Greece, Report to the Under Secretary, Ministry of National Economy, Sector of Agriculture
6	3	U.S. Forest Service, Grazing Permits, Sheep Permits, Land Grants
6	4	U.S. Forest Service, Grazing Permits, Sheep Permits, Land Grants (cont'd)

Industry and Population , 1929-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
6	5	Geneva Steel Plant, Economic Relationship to Agriculture of the Western States, George T. Blanch and W. P. Thomas	
6	6	Growth and Steel Production, Western Resources Handbook	
6	7	Impacts on Agricultural of the Industrial and Population Growth in Four Basin States, Project Outline	1958
6	8	Industrial and Population Growth in reference to Utah's Agriculture, Comments on Reports	
6	9	Industrial Development, Utah Present and Future	
6	10	Industrial Development Guide for Utah Areas and Communities, Utah Committee on Industrial Planning	
6	11	Industrial and Population Growth in Utah with Special Reference to Utah's Agriculture, Draft, W. P. Thomas	

Industry and Population (cont'd), 1929-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
7	1	Industrial and Population Growth in Utah	1957-1958
7	2	Industrial and Population Growth in Utah (part 2)	1957-1958
7	3	Industrial and Population Growth in Colorado	
7	4	Industrial and Population Growth in Utah with Reference to Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture	1959
7	5	Kansas Plan for Elevator Surveys	
7	6	Labor, Crop Yields to Labor Earnings on Sanpete and Sevier County Farms, W. P. Thomas	
7	7	Labor Requirements for Agricultural Production in Utah to Labor Available, Experiemtn Station	
7	8	LDS Census, Changes in Population of Utah	1929-1933
7	9	State Economic Development Conference, Utah Committee on Industrial and Employment Planning	1954-1957
7	10	The Population of Colorado, A Critical Survey of Several Forecasts of	1957
7	11	World Population, Cooperative Grain Quarterly	

Land-Use, 1934-1935

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
8	1	Land Settlement in Utah, General Economic Factors of Utah's Agriculture	
8	2	Land Utilization	
8	3	Land Utilization and Resettlement, Cooperative Planning Project	1935

Container(s)		Description	Dates
8	4	Land Mapping, Project Outline	
8	5	Methodology, Criteria and Standards for Land Classification in Utah, George T. Blanch, Clyde E. Stewart	
8	6	Progress Report of Land and Water, Washington County, for Utah State Planning Board, by Experiment Station	1934-1935
8	7	Rural Land-Use, Outline	1935

Livestock, 1900-1947

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
8	8	A program of Range Livestock Research, W.E. Carroll	1938
8	9	Beef Cattle Situation: Prices, Demand and Numbers, Western Outlook Report	1931
8	10	Changes in Livestock Numbers and Feed Production in Utah, M. Clawson	1900-1930
8	11	Research in Livestock Marketing in the Western States, W.P. Thomas	1947

Marketing, 1928-1946

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
8	12	Agricultural Marketing Service Committee Meeting, Minutes of	1942
8	13	Developments Affecting Market Outlets for Farm Products, Address, F.L. Thomsen	1946
8	14	Economics of Advertising as Applied to Marketing, Report, C.C. Edmonds	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
8	15	Economics of Advertising and Marketing, Memorandum, Article, Outline, Department of Agricultural Economics	
8	16	Geography of Utahs Markets for Agricultural Products, W.P. Thomas, Ottis National Bank Association	1932
8	17	Marketing Cattle	
8	18	Marketing Fruits and Vegetables, Preliminary Report on Investigation, Utah	1941-1942
8	19	Marketing Investigations and Recommendations for Improving Fruits and Vegetables, Agricultural Marketing Service Committee, Report	1942
8	20	Marketing Research Work, Objectives	
8	21	Marketing Utah Fruit and Vegetables, Outlooks and Problems, W. P. Thomas and George T. Blanch	
8	22	Survey of Production and Marketing of truck crops in Moapa Valley, Nevada, Preliminary Report, W.P. Thomas	1928

Peas, 1940-1945

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
8	23	Acres of Peas and Income, Cache Valley	1941
8	24	Green Peas, Commercial Crop	
8	25	Pea Tenderometer Test Study, Data Supplied by A. W. Chambers	1940
8	26	Pea Tenderometer Test Study, Data Supplied by A. W. Chambers	1941
8	27	Pea Tenderometer Test Study, Data Supplied by A. W. Chambers	1943

Peas (cont'd), 1940-1945

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
9	1	Pea Tenderometer Test Study, Data Supplied by A. W. Chambers	1944
9	2	Pea Tenderometer Test Study, Data Supplied by A. W. Chambers	1945
9	3	Pea Tenderometer Test Study, Summary Sheets	

Pricing

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
9	4	Agricultural Price Policy, Outline and Paper, W.P. Thomas	1910-1958
9	5	Are We Giving Farmers the Facts About Price Supports, Special Report, County Agent and Vo-Ag Teachers, John Harms	1958
9	6	Farm Pricing, News articles	
9	7	Food Control During Forty-six Centuries: A Contribution to the History of Price Fixing, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Mary G. Lacy	1922
9	8	Poultry Production in Utah, Articles	
9	9	Prices, Articles, W.P. Thomas	
9	10	Production and Marketing, Status of CCC Price Support Program, United States Department of Agriculture	1949 November 18
9	11	Utah Production Prices, Income and Taxes, Report	1910-1944

Reference, Material Notes, W.P. Thomas, 1950

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
10	1	Project Agreement for Economic Research, Memorandum, Agricultural College and Agricultural Experiment Station	
10	2	Rates and Basis of County and Farm payments for Soil Conserving Crops, , Memorandum, Agricultural Conservation Program	
10	3	Reference, Material Notes, W.P. Thomas	
10	4	Research Project File and Publication List, Key for, W.P. Thomas	
10	5	Research Relating to Agricultural Marketing in Western States, Biolography, Compiled by Giannini Foundation	1950

Sheep, 1933-1948

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
10	6	Economic Position of the Sheep Industry, Wool Growers Association Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, W.P. Thomas, and Mimeos: 181, 258, 234	1948 January 20
10	7	How can Utah Producers Realize more Money in the Marketing of His Lambs, outline, Dee A. Broadbent	1950
10	8	Outlook for Sheep Industry, Department of Agricultural Economics and Animal Husbandry, Utah State Agricultural College	1932

Sugar Beets, 1933-1946

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
10	9	Cost of Growing Beets as Reported by 16 Producers in Salt Lake County, Study	1933

Container(s)		Description	Dates
10	10	Economic Status of Sugar Beet Production, Study	
10	11	Sugar Beet Acreage and Yields by Stations and Districts, Study	
10	12	Sugar Beet Cost of Production, Study	
10	13	Sugar Beet Costs Study, Salt Lake County	
10	14	Sugar Beet Production in Utah, Summary of Statement, John D. Black	1946

Uintah Basin, 1937-1941

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
10	15	Agricultural Resources of the Uintah Basin, Utah, with Special Reference to Duchesne County, Preliminary Report, J. Haward Maughan, W.P. Thomas, C. D. Clyde, R. J. Evans and L. A. Stoddart	1937
10	16	Assistance Disbursed by Department of Public Welfare, Information on taxation and Relief in the Uinta Basin, Department of Agricultural Economics	
10	17	Committee of the National Tax Association, Preliminary Report, National Tax Association Conference, Columbus, Ohio	1932
10	18	Financial Relationship of Uintah-Ouray Indian Reservation and Uintah Basin, Maurice T. Price	
10	19	Local Government Organization and Finance in Uintah Basin, Utah, John J. Haggerty,	
10	20	Study of Land Utilization in the Reservation Area of Uintah Basin, George T. Blanch and Clyde E. Stewart	1941
10	21	Taxation Problems Arising from the Land Ownership Pattern, Basin Economy	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
10 22	Uinta Not what was Represented, Excerpt, Desert News	

Utah State Agriculture College, Class Grades and Roll, 1934-1950

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
11 1	Agricultural Economics 120-201, Winter Quarter	1937
11 2	Agricultural Prices 120, Spring Quarter	1941
11 3	Agricultural Prices 120, Winter Quarter	1934
11 4	Agricultural Prices 120, Winter Quarter	1942
11 5	Agricultural Prices 120, Winter Quarter	1943
11 6	Cooperative Marketing 113, Winter Quarter	1942
11 7	Cooperative Marketing 113, Winter Quarter	1942
11 8	Land Economics 106, Spring Quarter	1941
11 9	Land Economics 106, Winter Quarter	1940
11 10	Prices Class Role 120	1940
11 11	Public Problems in Agriculture, Winter Quarter	1940
11 12	Roll and Grade Booklets	1949-1950

Utah State Agriculture College, Class Material, 1926-1959

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
11 13	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, Cooperatives, 113	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
11 14	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, Farm Management, 191	
11 15	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, Land Economics and Utilization 106	
11 16	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, Land Economics and Utilization 106 (part 2)	

Utah State Agriculture College, Class Material (cont'd)

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
		1926-1959
12 1	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, Prices 120	
12 2	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, Prices 120 (part 2)	
12 3	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, 201 and 231	
12 4	Lecture Notes, Agricultural Economics, 240	
12 5	Research and Writing Guide	
12 6	Research, Agricultural Situation	1957
12 7	Research, Industrial Population Growth in Utah and the Colorado River Storage Project	

Utah State Agriculture College, Class Material (cont'd), 1926-1959

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
13 1	Research, Prices and Consumption	1956-1957
13 2	Research, Population Production	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
13 3	Research, Population Production (part 2)	

Utah State Agriculture College, Correspondence

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
13 4	R. H. Walker and W. P. Thomas, Correspondence	

Utah State Agriculture College, Department Budget, 1940-1952

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
13 5	Appointment and Travel sheets, W.P. Thomas	
13 6	Expense Account and Travel Vouchers	
13 7	Financial Report of Agriculture College, Charts Based on	1940
13 8	Financial Report of Agriculture College, Charts Based on	1940
13 9	Recommended Budget	1951-1952
13 10	Time Reports, W.P. Thomas	

Utah State Agriculture College, Department Reports, 1942-1958

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
14 1	Department of Agricultural Economics, Biennial Report	1942-1944
14 2	Department Job Evaluation	1950-1951
14 3	Department Policies and Procedures, Code for Staff	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
14	4	Departmental Research Review, Department of Agricultural Economics	1958
14	5	Employee Handbook and Policy	1954
14	6	Organization and Policy in the School of Agriculture, Report of Committee	1945
14	7	Phi Kappa Phi Awards	
14	8	Pictures of Agricultural Economics Department: M. Hyer, W.P. Thomas, R. Kelly, C. Stewart, P. Huefner, A. Christensen, T. Taylor, D. A. Broadbent, G. A. Carpenter, H. H. Cutler, R. Rallison, M. Larsen, G. Armstrong, R. Magleby, J. Bailey, A. Henrie, W. Wilson, I. Corbridge, R. Hicken, F. Johnson, D. Pincock, O. Brough, D. Strong, H. Luke, R. Robins, L. Johnson, D. Whitesides, M. Taft, E. Broadbent, D. Kearl, S. Kearl, C. Allred, E. Drake, M. Peterson, C. Dixon, G. Rich, R. Wangsgaard, G. T. Blanch, E. J. Jensen, G. Nelson, E. Lambourne, E. Broadbent, P. Poulson, G. Anhder.	
14	9	Problem of Low Salaries of Faculty Members, University of Utah, Utah State Ag. College	1945
14	10	Staff Meeting, Minutes	1947-1952
14	11	Teachers Salaries, Statements	
14	12	Thomas, W.P., historical record and Tribute Program, typescript	

Utah State Agriculture College, Experiment Station, 1935

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
14	13	Grant applications for projects	
14	14	Meetings of Executive Committee, Minutes of	1935

War and Post-War Planning, 1941-1948

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
14	15	After the War, New Jobs in the Pacific Southwest, Memorandum No. 6	1943 May 15
14	16	Agricultural Labor Camps, Dee Broadbent and W.P. Thomas	1943-1944
14	17	Agricultural Situation During the War and Post War Periods	
14	18	Analysis of Agricultural Situation in the Wasatch Area War and Post-War, Utah Agricultural Experiment Station	1943
14	19	Council of Defense, Pamphlet and Purpose Paper	1941
14	20	Cooperative Marketing and the Agricultural Situation during Postwar Period, W.P. Thomas	1946
14	21	Discussion of F.R. Wilcox's Paper on Foreign Trade and Western Agriculture, W.P. Thomas	1948
14	22	Inflation in Wartime, W.M. Curtiss	
14	23	National Agricultural Problems and Policies, W.P. Thomas	
14	24	Plan for Rendering Advisory Assistance to Returning Veterans, W.P. Thomas and G.T. Blanch	
14	25	Post War Planning The United States and the New World, Reports	1942
14	26	Research and Post-War Economic Problems of Western Agriculture, W.P. Thomas and George T. Blanch	
14	27	War and its Effects on Business, Chart	
14	28	Wartime Program for United States Farmers, War Savings Staff United States Treasury, William I. Myers	

Water Resource Development, Bear River Basin, 1922-1948

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
15	1	Arable Virgin Lands and Land Classes, Bear Division	
15	2	Bear Division, Report	
15	3	Economic Analysis of the Bear Division	
15	4	Utilization of the Land and Water Resources of Cache Valley, Utah, Report, Samuel Fortier and W.W. McLaughlin	1922
15	5	Water Rights: Main Stem of Bear River and Smiths Fork, U.S. Geological Survey, W.V. Iorns	1948

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Basin, 1939-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
15	6	Bonneville Basin, Report	1946
15	7	Bonneville Basin, Water Supply Report	
15	8	Colorado and Bonneville Basin	
15	9	Colorado Project, Deseret News, Statements	
15	10	Colorado River Basin, Outline of, and Bear River Basin, Notes and Drafts of	
15	11	Colorado River Compact, August 1921 and Upper Colorado River Compact	1948
15	12	Crop Acreage, Livestock Products and Values in Drainage Basin	1944
15	13	Data on Value of Irrigated Crops and Cost of Irrigation Water, Upper Colorado River Basin and Potential Water Export Areas	1939

Container(s)		Description	Dates
15	14	Economic Factors Affecting Agriculture and Irrigation Development: Lahontan Basin	
15	15	Economic Factors Affecting Agriculture and Irrigation Development: Upper Colorado River Basin, W.P. Thomas and G.T. Blanch	1946
15	16	Financial and Economic Analysis: Colorado River Storage Project and Participating Projects, Bureau of Reclamation	1958
15	17	Preliminary Report on Colorado River and Utah's Agriculture	1948

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Basin (cont'd), 1939-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
16	1	Preliminary Report on Colorado River and Utah's Agriculture (book 2)	1948
16	2	Public Law 485, 84th Congress, 2d Session	1956 April 11
16	3	Reappraisal of direct Agricultural Benefits and Project Relationships, USDA Field Advisory and USDA Field Party	1959
16	4	Reports on the Lahonta Basin	
16	5	Utah's Claim to Colorado River Water, Factors that May be Considered in Preparing Report	1948
16	6	Utah's Demand for Upper Colorado River, Outline for	1946

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Storage Reports, 1957

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
16	7	Colorado River Storage Project, The Upper Colorado River Commission, Publication	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
16 8	Letters and Memorandum	
16 9	Reviews and Reports	
16 10	USDA Advisory Committee, Meeting of, George Phillips to Harold Elmendorf	1957

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Storage, Colorado Report, 1940-1957

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
16 11	Smith Fork Project, Reference of Basic Date, Computation and Assumptions, U.S. Department of Agriculture	1958
16 12	The National Beet Grower	1940
16 13	Paonia Project, memorandum, Clyde Stewart to W.P. Thomas	
16 14	Paonia Project, Colorado, A Report of Reappraisal of Direct Agricultural Benefits and Project Impacts, U.S. Department of Agriculture	1957

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Storage, New Mexico Report

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box	Folder	
16 15	Hammond Project, New Mexico, A Report of Reappraisal of Direct Agricultural Benefits and Rproject Impacts, Supplement,U.S. Department of Agriculture	1957
16 16	Hammond Project, Notes on	

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Storage, Utah Report, 1956

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
16	17	Vernal Unit Central Utah Project, A Report of Reappraisal of Direct Agricultural Benefits and Rproject Impacts, U.S. Department of Agriculture	1956

Water Resource Development, Colorado River Storage, Wyoming Report, 1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
16	18	Seedskadee Project, Wyoming, A Report of Reappraisal of Direct Agricultural Benefits and Project Impacts, U.S. Department of Agriculture	1958
16	19	Seedskadee Project Crop Yields	

Water Resource Development, Irrigation, 1938-1950

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
17	1	Federal Aid to Irrigation Development, Walter U. Fuhrman, Speech, American Farm Economic Association, Wyoming	1949
17	2	Irrigation Committee and ooperation with Bureau of Reclamation	
17	3	Irrigation Development, Papers	
17	4	Irrigation Development for Utah, Reports and Surveys	1938
17	5	Irrigation, Washington County	
17	6	New Water for Utah, Papers and Articles	
17	7	Successful Irrigated Farm Development, Clyde C. Stewart, Speech, Western Farm Economics Association	1950 June 29

Water Resource Development, Land and Water Development, 1935-1959

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
17	8	Appraisal of the Small Reservoirs in Utah, State Water Commission	1940
17	9	Case-Wheeler Act	
17	10	Correspondence, Members of the Committee on Water Resource Development	1951
17	11	Correspondence, W.P. Thomas and Federal Power Commission	
17	12	Land Classification in Utah, Report	1946-1947
17	13	Land Inventory and Land Requirements in the United States, H.H. Wooten and J.R. Anderson	1956 October 17
17	14	New Water for Utah Lands, Deseret News	1949 January 9
17	15	Power Report, Data used for	1946
17	16	Project For the Study of Economic Uses of Land, Water, and Other Agricultural Resources of Utah, Proposal P.W.A., Utah State Planning Board	1935
17	17	Suggested Formula for Varying Water Change, correspondence, William I. Palmer to G.W. Lineveweaver	1946 November 25
17	18	Utah Farm Bureau News	1957
17	19	Utah Water, Misc. Papers	
17	20	Utah Water, Misc. Reports and Publications	

Water Resource Development, Land and Water Development (cont'd), 1935-1959

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
18	1	Water Laws of Utah, T.H. Humpherys and Public Water Policy for the West, Roy E. Huffman	1939
18	2	Water Policy for the West	
18	3	Will the Lake Swamp Us? The Salt Lake Tribune	1951 October 21
18	4	Where do we Stand on Water Rights, Hon. Henry Aldous Dixon, Utah House of Representatives	1959 February 18

Water Resource Development, Sevier River Basin, 1952

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
18	5	Benefits to Agriculture and the Economy of the Area from Water Storage on the South Fork of the Sevier River in Garfield and Piute Counties, W.P. Thomas	1952
18	6	Water users to Build Dam on Upper Colorado, Material on Sevier River	

Water Resource Development, Water and Power , 1948-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
18	7	Colorado River Power Market Survey, Irvine J. Rees and Utah Power and Light Company, Annual Publication	1955-1957
18	8	Municipal and Industrial Water, Correspondence	
18	9	Participating Irrigation Projects Colorado River Storage Project, Guide for USDA Surveys and Reports	1959
18	10	Power Commission Survey	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
18	11	Power Market Survey Colorado River Storage Project, Draft, Federal Power Commission	1958
18	12	Power Market Survey Colorado River Storage Project, Federal Power Commission	1958
18	13	Use of Water and Power Development of Utah, Preliminary Outline for Report, Memorandum to Edward H. Watson from Ivan Bloch	1948
18	14	Utah Economic and Business Review	1957
18	15	Utah State Water and Power Board and Laws	
18	16	Water and Power, Speeches, Salt Lake City, Utah	1957
18	17	Water Resource Development, Correspondence	

Water Resource Development, Weber River Basin, 1942-1952

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
19	1	Irrigation Development in Weber County, W.P. Thomas, U.S.A.C. Extension Agent	1942
19	2	Repayment of Agricultural Water Users on Lands Within the Proposed Weber Basin Reclamation Project, Report to Secretary of Agriculture, Warren T. Murphy, Field Rep Pacific Southwest Area	1952
19	3	Utah Water Conservancy Act and Other Papers on Weber River Basin Project	
19	4	Weber Basin, Report and Correspondence	1952

Western Agriculture, 1930-1954

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		

Container(s)		Description	Dates
19	5	Agreement USDA and Western States, Memorandum, Western Agriculture Economics Research Council	1947
19	6	Annual Meeting, Minutes of, Western Research Council, Reno, Nevada	1951
19	7	Annual Meeting, Minutes of, Western Research Council, Flagstaff, Arizona	1952
19	8	Budget and Notes, Western Agricultural Economics Research Council	1951-1952
19	9	Economic Development of the Western Range Resources, Inventory of Research, Western Agricultural Economics Research Council	1952
19	10	Economic Factors in Public Policy for Western Range Improvement, M. L. Upchurch, Western Farm Economics Association	1953
19	11	Economics of Resource Development, Research and Correspondence, Western Agricultural Economics Research Council	
19	12	Expanding Productive Potential of Western Agriculture, Marion Clawson	1946
19	13	Impact of Resource Development on Economic Expansion on Markets for Western Agricultural Products, William E. Folz	
19	14	Long Term Outlook for Western Agriculture, Marion Clawson and Wendell Calhoun	1946
19	15	Meeting of the Committee on Economics of Range Resource Development, Minutes of	1951
19	16	Program of Western Farm Econ Association Convention, Pullman, Washington and Moscow, Idaho	1931
19	17	Suggested Areas of Research in the Economics of Western Resource Development, Progress Report, Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, W.P. Thomas	1951

Western Agriculture, 1930-1954

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
20	1	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Correspondence	1949-1952
20	2	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Correspondence	1950
20	3	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Correspondence	1950-1952
20	4	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Correspondence	1950-1951
20	5	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Correspondence, W.P. Thomas to M.T. Buchanan	1950 April 13
20	6	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Conference on Range Resource Development, Correspondence	1951
20	7	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council	1951
20	8	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Minutes and Correspondence	1949-1950
20	9	Western Agricultural Economics Research Council, Range Land Development, Correspondence	1951-1952
20	10	Western Farm Economic Association, Convention Program, Corvallis, Oregon	1935
20	11	Western Farm Economics Association, Program Outline	1930
20	12	Western Political Quarterly, Elections	1954
20	13	Western Region Marketing Projects, Preliminary Allotments of the Regional Research Fund, Western Agricultural Economics Council	1951-1952

Utah Agricultural Experiment Station Mimeograph Series

Container(s)		Description
Box	Folder	
21	1	116
21	2	179
21	3	181
21	4	188-209
21	5	210
21	6	211- 230
21	7	231
21	8	232-236
21	9	237
21	10	240
21	11	243
21	12	246-249
21	13	251
21	14	252
21	15	253-257
21	16	258
21	17	263
21	18	264-283
21	19	284

Container(s)		Description
21	20	291
21	21	296-299

Utah Agricultural Experiment Station Mimeograph Series (cont'd)

Container(s)		Description
Box	Folder	
22	1	298
22	2	303
22	3	308
22	4	320
22	5	339
22	6	359
22	7	379
22	8	393
22	9	401
22	10	410
22	11	426
22	12	429

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Agriculture, Cooperative--Utah--History.
 Agriculture--Cache Valley (Utah and Idaho)--History.
 Agriculture--Economic aspects--Utah--History.
 Dairy products--Utah--Marketing--History.
 Tomato growers--Utah--History.

William Preston Thomas papers, 1914-1975
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv07077>

Water resources development--West (U.S.)--History.

Personal Names :

Thomas, W. Preston--(William Preston),1887-1962

Corporate Names :

Utah State University--History--Sources.

Finding aid/Register created by Emily Gurr
2008

Utah Cooperative Association, 1936-1983

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Utah Cooperative Association
Title	Utah Cooperative Association
Dates	1936-1983 (inclusive) 1936 1983
Quantity	40 boxes, (19.25 linear ft)
Collection Number	USU_Coll Mss 129
Summary	Records from the board of directors meetings, data from local outlet stores, and details on the U.C.A. merger with CENEX and the Intermountain Farmers Association.
Repository	Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives Division Special Collections and Archives Merrill-Cazier Library Utah State University Logan, UT 84322-3000 Telephone: 435-797-2663 Fax: 435-797-2880 scweb@usu.edu
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on use, except: not available through interlibrary loan.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, 2007-2008

Biographical Note

The Utah Cooperative Association (UCA) was a wholesale cooperative owned and controlled by local cooperatives throughout the state of Utah. A cooperative is a business owned and controlled by the people who use its agricultural services. The local co-ops organized with the assistance of the State Self-Help Board August 17, 1936 with six employees and six local co-ops. By 1941, UCA became independent of the Self-Help Board and began operating as a wholesale supply co-op for farmers. By 1945 UCA had become financially strong enough to enable the organization to purchase its own warehouse and bulk plant. Their affiliation with the Cooperative League of the United States of America in the same year increased their buying power. By the early 1950s UCA had expanded its operation through the purchase of an oil refinery in the Uintah Basin and by becoming sole owner of the PAX trademark for agricultural chemicals through its acquisition of Kelly-Western Seed Company. UCA ceased to exist when it merged with the Farmer's Union Central Exchange (CENEX) in 1976. CENEX employed W.B. Robins as Western Area Development Manager at the time of the merger. CENEX is now one of the largest retail/wholesale propane networks in the nation.

Wilmer Burke Robins was born on August 21, 1917, in Scipio, Utah, the son of Clark H. Robins and Mary Marcella Johnson. W.B. as he was called moved as a young man to Salt Lake City, where he began his thirty-five year career in the development of the cooperative movement (1940-1976). At age 23 he became General Manager of the Utah Cooperative Association and served on numerous

state and national councils, committees, and advisory groups. Robins is given credit for organizing the PAX Co., a subsidiary of the Utah Cooperative Association, which distributes lawn-care products. As a member of the Utah State University Board of Trustees and later chairman of the Institutional Council, Robins was a key member in the University's policy making body. In the late 1970's Robins established the Utah Cooperative Association Educational Trust Fund. The purpose of the fund was to establish an endowment at USU for study and research within a Cooperatives Management Program. Utah State University awarded Robins an honorary degree in Agribusiness 1983. Robins passed away November 28, 2001.

Content Description

This collection contains papers pertaining to the Utah Cooperative Association as well as the personal papers of Robins, dating from 1936 to 1978. The collection reflects Robins time as manager for the UCA and later as Western Area Development Manager for CENEX. Materials donated by Robins include correspondence, minutes, reports, studies, correspondence, financial records of UCA, publications, and conference proceedings. All photographs have been removed to P0385.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the Utah Cooperative Association must be obtained from the [Special Collections Manuscript Curator](#) and/or the Special Collections Department Head.

Preferred Citation

Initial Citation: Utah Cooperative Association USU_Coll Mss 129, Box []. Special Collections and Archives. Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library. Logan, Utah.

*Following Citations:*USU_Coll Mss 129, USUSCA.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Materials in this collection have been divided into four separate series. The first series contains Corporate Files that include UCA's history, news articles, corporate papers and business documents covering approximately the years 1936-81. The second series contains information regarding the Corporate Mergers, reflecting from a historical perspective the expansion of the company into different areas. The third series are the UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-ops and the fourth series contains the additional materials donated in 2001.

Processing Note

Processed in September of 2010

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated to USU Special Collections and Archives by W.B. Robins in 1986 with additional materials donated by Hal Robins in 2001.

Related Materials

Utah Cooperative Photographs (P0385)

Gary B. Hansen Papers [COLL MSS 319](#)

Joseph A. Geddes Papers [COLL MSS 75](#)

The Co-op Service Records [COLL MSS 343](#)

Separated Materials

All photographs and slides have been removed to PO385.

Detailed Description of the Collection

I: Corporate Files

Boxes 1 through 14 are included in Series I

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
1	Materials relating to UCA History 10 folders are included in box 1	
Box	Folder	
1	1	UCA History
1	2	Board Members, Biographies, Political Appointments
1	3	W. B. Robins, Personal Correspondence
1	4	UCA, Press Release, News Articles, Advertising
1	5	UCA, Geddes Lectures, Miscellaneous Photo's and Drawings
1	6	McCarthy Hearings on Un-American Activities, UCA Involvement

Container(s)		Description	Dates
1	7	Utah Power and Light Controversy	
1	8	Tenure Controversy	
1	9	Political Activities	
1	10	Farmers for Rampton, 1972 Election	
2		Materials relating to UCA History 5 folders are included in box 2	
Box	Folder		
2	1	Farmers for Rampton, Correspondence	1968
2	2	Farmers for Rampton, Correspondence	1968
2	3	Farmers for Rampton Contributors List	1968
2	4	Farmers for Rampton, Possible Contributors	1968
2	5	Farmers for Rampton, Advertising	1968
3		Materials relating to UCA corporate and business documents 8 folders are included in box 3	1936-1981
Box	Folder		
3	1	UCA Corporate Bylaws and Amendments	
3	2	UCA Corporate Bylaws	1948-1949
3	3	Foundation Documents and Corporate Bylaw	1947
3	4	Board of Directors Memoranda	
3	5	Board of Directors Memoranda	
3	6	Board of Directors Memoranda	
3	7	Board of Directors Memoranda	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
3	8	Refined Fuels Information	
4		Materials relating to UCA corporate and business documents 9 folders are included in box 4	1936-1981
Box	Folder		
4	1	Refined Fuels Information	
4	2	Refined Fuels Information	
4	3	Oil Suppliers Correspondence	
4	4	Mint Production	1969
4	5	Mint Production	1969
4	6	Mint Production	1970-1972
4	7	Mint Production	1973-1974
4	8	Mint Production	1975-1979
4	9	UCA and Wholly Owned Subsidiaries	
5		Materials relating to UCA corporate and business documents 7 folders are included in box 5	1936-1981
Box	Folder		
5	1	Executive Committee Reports	
5	2	Operation Committee Reports	
5	3	Financial Records	1975-1979
5	4	Financial Records	1974
5	5	Financial Records	1970-1973

Container(s)	Description	Dates
5 6	Financial Records, 1968-1979	1968-1979
5 7	Financial Records	1960-1977
6	Board of Directors Meetings, Reports and Minutes	1969-1981
7	Board of Directors Meetings, Reports and Minutes	1960-1968
8	Board of Directors Meetings, Reports and Minutes	1953-1959
9	Board of Directors Meetings, Reports and Minutes	1949-1953
10	Board of Directors Meetings, Reports and Minutes	1936-1949
11	Corporate Audit Reports	1940-1959
12	Corporate Audit Reports	1960-1976
13	UCA General Information and Correspondence	1950-1975
14	: UCA General Information and Correspondence and Annual Report to Members	1947-1979

II: CENEX Merger

Boxes 16 through 24 are included in Series II

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
16	CENEX Merger 12 folders are included in box 16	
Box Folder		
16	1 UCA Financial Records	
16	2 Financial Records, Refined Fuel Sales	1964-1970
16	3 Financial Records, Refined Fuel Sales	1970-1976
16	4 UCA Files after 30 April 1976 Audit	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
16	5	Report on Unclaimed Property held by UCA	1980
16	6	Co-op Sales by Customer	1970-1971
16	7	Co-op Sales by Customer	1971
16	8	Co-op Sales by Customer	1971-1972
16	9	Co-op Sales by Customer	1972-1973
16	10	Co-op Sales by Customer	1973-1974
16	11	Co-op Sales by Customer	1974-1975
16	12	Co-op Sales by Customer	1975-1976
17		CENEX Merger 8 folders are included in box 17	
Box	Folder		
17	1	Statement of Misplaced Stockholders, Assets and Transactions, Walker Bank	1980
17	2	Statement of Misplaced Stockholders, Assets and Transactions, Walker Bank	1979
17	3	CENEX Correspondence	
17	4	Statement of Misplaced Stockholders, Assets and Transactions, Walker Bank	1978
17	5	Statement of Misplaced Stockholders, Assets and Transactions, Walker Bank	1977
17	6	Document Exchange at the Closing of CENEX Purchase, pt. 1	
17	7	Document Exchange at the Closing of CENEX Purchase, pt. 2	
17	8	Document Exchange at the Closing of CENEX Purchase, pt. 3	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
18	CENEX Merger 9 folders are included in box 18	
Box	Folder	
18	1 Agricultural Development Council	
18	2 Agricultural Development Council	
18	3 Agricultural Development Council	
18	4 UFA Annual Reports and Directories	
18	5 UFA Annual Reports and Directories	
18	6 Bob Bess File	
18	7 Budgets, Marketing, and P.R	
18	8 BYU Energy Workshop	
18	9 John Carr File	
19	CENEX Files 8 folders are included in box 19	
Box	Folder	
19	1 CENEX Personnel (Misc., St. Paul), Correspondence	1977-1978
19	2 CENEX Personnel (Misc., St. Paul), Correspondence	1977-1979
19	3 CENEX Personnel (Misc., St. Paul), Correspondence	1977-1979
19	4 CENEX Personnel (Misc., St. Paul), Correspondence	1977-1979
19	5 Co-op Managers Correspondence	
19	6 Ed Felton File, Eureka, Nevada	
19	7 Ed Felton File, Eureka, Nevada	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
19	8	Farmers Union	
20		CENEX Files 12 folders are included in box 20	
Box	Folder		
20	1	HMO Advising Council	
20	2	Don Holbrook File	
20	3	Miscellaneous	
20	4	Miscellaneous	
20	5	Employee's Benefits	
20	6	Pension Matters	
20	7	Plant Variety Board	
20	8	Plant Variety Board, from Plant Variety Protection Office to W.B. Robins	
20	9	Preview Magazine	
20	10	PAX Co	
20	11	Senator Jake Garn File	
20	12	Public Relations, Tom Winn	
21		CENEX Files 17 folders are included in box 21	
Box	Folder		
21	1	P.R. Materials	
21	2	Requisitions Pending	
21	3	W.B. Robins Incoming Correspondence	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
21	4	Richard Siderius File	
21	5	Richard Siderius File	
21	6	Scholarships	1977-1978
21	7	UCA Shareholders Financial Data	
21	8	Bob Trottier File	
21	9	Tanner, Brunson, Pickett, and Co., Accountants	
21	10	UCA Board and Executive Committee	
21	11	Young Peoples Conference	
21	12	Utah Institutional Council	
21	13	Utah Institutional Council	
21	14	Utah Institutional Council	
21	15	USU Foundation Annual Members Meeting	1978
21	16	USU Thesis by Swarna Raghuur	1962
21	17	Clark Wall Folder	
22		IFA Merger 16 folders are included in box 22	
Box	Folder		
22	1	Coordination of Farm Supply Operations of the Utah Poultry and Farmers Co-op and UCA	
22	2	Merger Feasibility Report	
22	3	IFA Merger	
22	4	Merger Correspondence	1960-1961

Container(s)	Description	Dates
22 5	Merger Correspondence	1962-1963
22 6	Merger Correspondence	1964-1965
22 7	Merger Correspondence, undated	
22 8	Merger Correspondence	1968
22 9	IFA during the Merger, Pete Marick	
22 10	Report on Merger	1964
22 11	Feasibility Report	1968
22 12	Feasibility of Merger Documents	
22 13	Feasibility Study of Merger	1968
22 14	IFA Discussion and Merger	
22 15	IFA, General	
22 16	IFA, Legal	
23	Uintah Oil Refining Company, Board Minutes and Reports	1945-1964
24	Uintah Oil Refining Company, Board Minutes and Reports	1965-1976

III: UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's

Boxes 25 through 35 are included in Series III

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
25	UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 9 folders are included in box 25	
Box Folder		
25 1	Anderson	1963-1967

Container(s)		Description	Dates
25	2	Anderson	1968-1975
25	3	Anderson, Blue Prints for Factory, Advertising, Newspaper Articles	
25	4	Ashley Farmers Union	
25	5	Ashley Farmers Union	
25	6	Ashley Farmers Union	
25	7	Bear River Valley Co-op	
25	8	Bear River Valley Co-op	
25	9	Bear River Valley Co-op	
26		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 8 folders are included in box 26	
Box	Folder		
26	1	Bunker-Grobest, Correspondence	1974-1976
26	2	Bunker-Grobest	1971-1974
26	3	Bunker Feed Company Profile and Consolidation Feasibility Report	1964 & 1971 April. 21
26	4	Bunker Feed, Contracts, Press Releases, Undated Notes, News Clippings, Magazines	
26	5	Bunker Feed, Financial Data	1971-1976
26	6	Bunker Feed	1970
26	7	Center Farm Service	
26	8	C.L. Young Inc	
28		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 9 folders are included in box 28	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
28	1	Cache Valley Dairy Association	
28	2	Castle Valley Co-op	
28	3	Castle Valley Co-op	
28	4	Castle Valley Co-op	
28	5	Co-op Service	
28	6	Co-op Service	
28	7	Co-op Service	
28	8	Co-op Service	
28	9	Davis Farm Co-op	
29		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 8 folders are included in box 29	
Box	Folder		
29	1	Dallas Green	
29	2	Ence, St. George	
29	3	Enterprise	
29	4	Enterprise	
29	5	Enterprise	
29	6	Enterprise	
29	7	Ephraim Co-op	
29	8	Ephraim Co-op	
30		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		10 folders are included in box 30	
Box	Folder		
30	1	Farmland Ind.	1975 July - 1976 December
30	2	Farmland Ind.	1975 January-June
30	3	Farmland Ind.	1974
30	4	Grouse Creek Co-op	
30	5	Hansen's Farm Supply, Gunnison	
30	6	Hansen's Farm Supply, Gunnison	
30	7	Honeyville Feed and Elevator	
30	8	Jackson Farm Supply	
30	9	Jenkins, Nephi	
30	10	Kamas Valley Feed Co-op	
31		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 7 folders are included in box 31	
Box	Folder		
31	1	Larsen's Farm Supply, Wellington	
31	2	Moroni Feed Co-op	
31	3	Mount-A-Lake Association, Geneva	
31	4	Mount Pleasant Co-op	
31	5	Nevada Accounts and Other Independents	
31	6	Nevada Accounts and Other Independents	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
31	7	Nevada Accounts and Other Independents	
32		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 12 folders are included in box 32	
Box	Folder		
32	1	Oasis Seed Co-op	
32	2	Overson's Feed and Seed	
32	3	Panguitch Co-op	
32	4	Ralph Pace	
32	5	Rich Co-op	
32	6	Rich Co-op	
32	7	Rich Co-op	
32	8	Sevier Valley Co-op	
32	9	Southern Utah Dairy	
32	10	Trenton Feed Co-op	
32	11	Trenton Feed Co-op	
32	12	Trenton Feed Co-op	
33		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 5 folders are included in box 33	
Box	Folder		
33	1	Uintah Farmers Union	
33	2	Uintah Farmers Union	
33	3	Uintah Farmers Union	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
33	4	Uintah Farmers Union	
33	5	West Millard Co-op	
34		UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 20 folders are included in box 34	
Box	Folder		
34	1	Meeting Minutes	1949
34	2	Meeting Minutes	1950
34	3	Meeting Minutes	1951
34	4	Meeting Minutes	1952
34	5	Meeting Minutes	1953
34	6	Meeting Minutes	1954
34	7	Meeting Minutes	1955
34	8	Meeting Minutes	1956
34	9	Meeting Minutes	1957
34	10	Meeting Minutes	>1958
34	11	Meeting Minutes	1959
34	12	Meeting Minutes	1960
34	13	Meeting Minutes	1962
34	14	Meeting Minutes	1963
34	15	Meeting Minutes	1964
34	16	Meeting Minutes	1965
34	17	Meeting Minutes	1966

Container(s)	Description	Dates
34 18	Meeting Minutes	1967
34 19	Meeting Minutes	1968
34 20	Meeting Minutes	1969
35	UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's 8 folders are included in box 35	
Box	Folder	
35 1	Meeting Minutes	1970
35 2	Meeting Minutes	1971
35 3	Meeting Minutes	1971
35 4	Meeting Minutes	1972
35 5	Meeting Minutes	1973
35 6	Meeting Minutes	1974
35 7	Meeting Minutes	1975
35 8	Meeting Minutes	1976

Series IV: UCA Distributors, Suppliers, and Local Co-op's

Boxes 36 through 40 are included in Series IV

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
36	Miscellaneous Materials relating to CENEX merger and Utah Cooperative Education Trust Fund 8 folders are included in box 36	
Box	Folder	
36 1	Agricultural Development Council	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
36 2	CENEX merger, Papers and Correspondence	
36 3	"Correspondence and Data on the liquidation of Utah Cooperative Association for members"	
36 4	"Correspondence and Data on the liquidation of Utah Cooperative Association for members"	
36 5	Correspondence, W.B. Robins, Miscellaneous	
36 6	Correspondence, W.B. Robins, Miscellaneous	
36 7	Cooperator Newspapers	
36 8	Honorary Diploma and Photograph, Utah State University	June 4, 1983
37	Miscellaneous Materials relating to CENEX merger and Utah Cooperative Education Trust Fund, (cont'd) 6 folders are included in box 37	
Box	Folder	
37 1	"Memorandum of Law: A Student Publication, Utah State University	1974 November 12
37 2	Newspaper Clippings	
37 3	Universal Cooperatives, Inc. Executive Committee Meeting Budget and Finance Committee Meeting, Board of Directors Meeting; Minutes	1976 April 29-30
37 4	Utah Coop Association Educational Trust, Drafts	
37 5	Utah Coop Association Educational Trust Fund Account	
37 6	W.B. Robins and Utah Cooperative Association, Accession notes	
38	Cooperative Books 5 folders are included in box 38	
Box	Folder	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
38 1	Cooperation: Working Together for Human Freedoms, Proceedings of the 21st Biennial Congress of The Cooperative League of the U.S.A., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1958 September 9-11
38 2	Factors Affecting Loyalty in Consumer Cooperative, Thesis by John Geddes Wark	1977
38 3	Problems of Small Business Related to the National Emergency: Hearings before Subcommittee No. 1 of the Select Committee of Small Business House of Representatives Eighty-Second Congress, First Session, H.Res. 33, Part 3	1951
38 4	Proceedings of the 18th Biennial Congress of the Cooperative League of the U.S.A.; Cooperatives Meeting the Needs of the Present World Minutes of the Congress Reports and Addresses, Chicago, Illinois	1952 November 6-8
38 5	Rural Development: Hearings before the Subcommittee on Rural Development of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry United States Senate Ninety-Second Congress First Session on S. 2223 Part 4	1971
39	Cooperative Books (cont'd) 12 folders are included in box 39	
Box	Folder	
39 1	To Gather Together CENEX: The First Fifty Years by Leo N. Rickertsen,[St. Paul] : Farmers Union Central Exchange	1980
39 2	W.B. Robins on KSL Radio, UCA Sold to CENEX, cassette tape	1976 April 1
39 3	California Consumer Cooperatives Annual Reports and Publications	
39 4	CENEX Annual Reports and Publications	
39 5	Consumers Cooperative Association Reports and Publications, Kansas City	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
39 6	Cooperative Community in the North Brigham City Utah by Leonard J. Arrington, Reprinted from Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. 33, No. 3 Summer, 1965	1965
39 7	Farmer Cooperative Service, Publications, U.S. Department of Agriculture	
39 8	Farmers Union Central Exchange, Annual Reports	
39 9	Farmland Industries, Inc. Annual Reports and Publications	
39 10	FELCO Annual Reports	
39 11	Indiana Farm Bureau Cooperative Annual Report	
39 12	Landmark Annual Report	
40	Cooperative Magazines and Reports (cont'd) 5 folders are included in box 40	
Box	Folder	
40 1	Midland Cooperative Annual Reports	
40 2	Miscellaneous Cooperative Annual Reports	
40 3	Miscellaneous Cooperative Reports and Articles	
40 4	Pacific Supply Cooperative, Annual Reports, Statements and Speech	
40 5	Southern Farmers Association	

Names and Subjects

Corporate Names :

Ashley Farmers Union.
 Bear River Valley Cooperative.
 Bunker Feed Company.
 Cache Valley Dairy Association.
 Castle Valley Cooperative.
 Davis Farm Cooperative.
 Ence (St. George, Utah).

Ephraim Cooperative (Ephraim, Utah).
Grouse Creek Cooperative.
Hansen's Farm Supply (Gunnison, Colo.)
Intermountain Farmers Association.
Jackson Farm Supply.
Kamas Valley Feed Cooperative.
Larsens Farm Supply (Wellington, Utah)
Moroni Feed Cooperative.
Mount Pleasant Cooperative.
Mount-A-Lake Association (Geneva, Utah)
Oasis Seed Cooperative.
Panguitch Cooperative.
Sevier Valley Cooperative.
Southern Utah Dairy.
Trenton Feed Cooperative.
Utah Cooperative Association.
Utah Farmers Cooperative Association.

Finding aid/Register created by Emily Gurr-Thompson
2010

Sorensen Family Papers, 1879-2008

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Sorensen family
Title	Sorensen Family Papers
Dates	1879-2008 (inclusive) 1879 2008
Quantity	5 boxes, (8.5 linear ft.)
Collection Number	USU_Coll Mss 344
Summary	The Sorensen family papers are a collection of mission diaries, school memorabilia, writings, photographs, a cook book, articles, essays and correspondence from three generations spanning the period of 1879-2008.
Repository	Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives Division Special Collections and Archives Merrill-Cazier Library Utah State University Logan, UT 84322-3000 Telephone: 435-797-2663 Fax: 435-797-2880 scweb@usu.edu
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on use, except: not available through interlibrary loan.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, 2007-2008

Biographical Note

Frederick Isaac Sorensen was born February 24, 1840 in Soro, Denmark. Isaac and his brother Peter arrived in Mendon, Utah in 1859, two years prior to the arrival of the entire Sorensen family, and began settlement of the region. He married Mary Kristine Jacobsen (Poulsen) in 1869 with whom he had eleven children. Isaac was later called to serve in the LDS church Scandinavian mission in 1879. Isaac wrote poetry and many songs as well as his most prominent work, History of Mendon: A Pioneer Chronicle of a Mormon Settlement. Isaac died November 7, 1922.

Alma N. Sorensen, the fifth son of Isaac Sorensen was born March 3, 1879 in Mendon, Utah. A.N. was one of the first three students from Mendon to earn an eighth grade diploma, and belonged to the Mendon band and the Mandolin and Guitar Club. He entered the Brigham Young College in Logan in 1897 but left after one year and spent two years laboring on the farm and railroad. From 1901 to 1904 he served an LDS mission in the southern United States. He returned to school in 1904 and obtained his Bachelors degree in 1909 from the Brigham Young College. He attended Harvard from 1910-11 and again in 1915-1916, graduating with a Masters Degree in English. He married Lavinia Hughes in 1917 and had one child, Wendell, before Lavinia's death in 1920. He married Mary Carlisle in 1924 with whom he had six children: Mary Jean, Robert N., David C., Philip E., John Mark, and Anne. Their son David died tragically on October 15, 1944, at the age of 15 of an undiagnosed heart condition.

A.N. joined the Utah Agricultural College (hereafter known as Utah State University) staff in 1926 after serving as head of the English department at Brigham Young College for fifteen years. A.N. was a professor of English at Utah State University for twenty-three years. He served as chairman of the Utah State College Athletic Council and president of both the Rocky Mountain Conference and the Big Seven Circuit. He died December 11, 1958.

Mary Carlisle, wife of Alma N. Sorensen, was born in Logan, Utah on December 26, 1894. In 1918 she married Walter Farrell Barber. He died only five months later of the Spanish influenza that had swept throughout the country. Widowed, Mary gave birth to her first son, Walter Carlisle. She married Alma in 1924. She was a teacher at Brigham Young College for several years during the 1920s and a prominent civic worker. She was a member of the founding board of the Sunshine Terrace Foundation and an active member of Utah State University's Women's Faculty League for many years. Mary died May 26, 1962.

John E. Carlisle, the father of Mary Carlisle, was born March 4, 1858 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He married Clara Melissa Crandall in 1892 and died March 27, 1936 in Logan, Utah.

Robert N. (Bob) Sorensen, son of A.N. Sorensen, distinguished himself as an editor, writer and cartoonist while attending Utah State University. He majored in Journalism, was a feature editor for Student Life, edited the Scribble magazine and helped organize the USAC Radio Guild. Following graduation Robert began a five year Air Force career. The papers comprising the Robert N. Sorensen series are heavily focused towards his military career. He began basic pilot training in Waco and advanced training in Lubbock, both in Texas. After a year in pilot training he was assigned to The Strategic Air Command (SAC) at Randolph AFB, San Antonio, Texas for transition into the B-29 bomber. After completing combat crew training in March, 1952, Bob and his crew were ordered to Yokota AFB near Tokyo, Japan where they flew 27 missions against targets in North Korea during the Korean War. Following his time overseas, Bob was sent to Barksdale AFB near Shreveport, Louisiana, where he completed his Air Force tour as a copilot flying SAC's then fastest jet bomber, the B-47. After his Air Force service, Bob entered graduate school at Northwestern University and earned his M. S. degree in Journalism in 1956. In 1955, he married Noel Naylor of Shreveport, Louisiana, with whom he has three children: Robert Scott, Jeffrey Lloyd and Steven Mark, and four grandchildren. Bob's first employment was with Boeing Airplane Company as a flight handbook editor, after which he served in various public relations and advertising capacities with a number of companies before establishing his own advertising agency in Dallas, Texas, in 1976 which he operated for almost 20 years.

Philip E. Sorensen, son of Alma N. Sorensen, received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at USU in 1954 and 1957. He received the USU College Award at the time of his graduation in 1954 on the basis of his scholarship and many student activities including the USU Student Council, USU radio station KVSC, and dramatic arts. He received his Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of California in Berkeley in 1965 and went on to a 45-year career of teaching and research at the University of California in Santa Barbara, Florida State University in Tallahassee, and a number of other universities in the U. S. and overseas. He was a recognized expert in natural resource economics (mainly offshore oil production and oil spill analysis) and in antitrust economics. He presented testimony in many state and government hearings and received a special commendation from Florida's governor and cabinet in 1976. He married Joyce Strand in Great Falls, Montana, in 1957. He and Joyce have three children: Eric, Thomas and Mary, and six grandchildren.

John Mark Sorensen, youngest son of Alma N. Sorensen, earned his Bachelors and Masters degrees in English at Utah State University in 1956 and 1961. He later received a Master of Library Science degree at Brigham Young University. He taught English at USU and served for many years as Arts and Humanities librarian at the Merrill Library.

Content Description

The Sorensen family papers are a collection of mission diaries, school memorabilia, writings, photographs, a cook book, articles, essays and correspondence from three generations spanning the period of 1879-2008.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the Sorensen Family Papers must be obtained from the [Special Collections Manuscript Curator](#) and/or the Special Collections Department Head.

Preferred Citation

Initial Citation: Sorensen Family Papers USU_Coll Mss 344, Box []. Special Collections and Archives. Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library. Logan, Utah.

*Following Citations:*USU_Coll Mss 344, USUSCA.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Arrangement of the collection is divided into seven series, each representing a family member.

Series I: Frederick Isaac Sorensen

Series II: Alma N. Sorensen

Series III: Mary Carlisle Sorensen

Series IV: John E. Carlisle

Series V: Robert N. Sorensen

Series VI: Philip E. Sorensen

Series VII: John Mark Sorensen

The collection is housed in four manuscript and one oversized storage boxes.

Individual folders, where possible, have retained the label information used in Robert Sorensen's original files. News clippings and correspondence are arranged chronologically. All other items are arranged topically under general titles.

The first two boxes consist of material from Frederick Isaac Sorensen and son Alma N. Sorensen, the third box contains material from Mary Sorensen and the fourth box contains material from John E. Carlisle and brothers Robert, Philip and Mark Sorensen.

Processing Note

Processed in October of 2009

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated to USU Special Collections and Archives by Robert Sorenson in 2008 and 2009.

Separated Materials

Oversized items are housed in a separate box

Detailed Description of the Collection

I: Materials relating to Frederick Isaac Sorensen

1 folder is included in Series I

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	1	Scandinavian Mission Journal	1879-1880

II: Materials relating to Alma N. Sorensen

folders 2 through 11 in box 1 and folders 1 through 18 in box 2 are part of Series II

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	2	Photographs, Postcards and Memorabilia, Items 1-8	
1	3	Correspondence from Alma N. Sorensen and Mary Sorensen to Sorensen children	
		Item: 1: Correspondence	1956 May 8
		Item: 2: Correspondence	1958 May 3
		Item: 3: Correspondence	1958 June 26

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Item: 4: Correspondence	1958 September 9
	Item: 5: Correspondence	1958 October 14
	Item: 6: Correspondence	1958 December 10
1 4	Correspondence to Alma N. Sorensen	1905-1958
	Item: 1: From Mrs. Parry	1905 December 17
	Item: 2: From Mrs. J. A. Gardner	1906 November 20
	Item: 3: From Bessie Spencer	1916 June 1
	Item: 4: From W. W. Henderson	1924 March 4
	Item: 5: From his mother	1929
	Item: 6: From Frank R. A	1935 December 16
	Item: 7: From Frank R. A	1938 October 12
	Item: 8: From Virginia	1956 January 17
	Item: 9: From Frederick P. Champ	1958 April 5
	Item: 10: From Melvin J. Hulme	
	Item: 11: From Clyde C. Edmonds, Secretary and General Manager of the Utah Poultry Producers Co-Operative Association	1933 March 25
1 5	Material relating to Southern States Mission	1901-1904
	Item: 1: Missionary name card	
	Item: 2: Missionary snapshot	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Item: 3: Scripture card, Abraham 3:27-28	
	Item: 4: Letter to Elder Anderson from E. Perry	1904 January 25
	Item: 5: "The Sixth Sense Spiritually Evaluated—It's Past, Present and Future," by Charles J. Hunt	1950 March 21
	Item: 6: "If I Knew You and You Knew Me," music by J.A. Parks.	
	Item: 7: A Missionary Blessing for Elder Alma Nicholas Sorensen, in the Salt Lake Temple Annex by Apostle Hyrum S. Smith"	1901 November 12
	Item: 8: Southern States Mission release certificate for A.N. Sorensen	
1 6	Diary of Elder A.N. Sorensen	1901-1904
1 7	Typescript of Diary of Elder A.N. Sorensen	
1 8	"Why Mormonism?" by Elder B.H. Roberts	
1 9	1910 Planner from the Harvard Co-operative Society	1910
1 10	Vest Pocket Diary, 1903 and Daily Reminder	1903
1 11	Small black graph paper notebook	
2 1	Background material on Professor Alma N. Sorensen, compiled by Robert N. Sorensen	2005
2 2	News clippings regarding A.N. Sorensen and family	
2 3	Literature in a Modern World, by A.N. Sorensen	
2 4	Theater Programs	
2 5	Material relating to Christianity	
2 6	Material relating to Utah State University English Courses	
2 7	Miscellaneous Material	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
2	8	News clippings of Literary Stories	
2	9	Common School Diploma for A.N. Sorensen.	
2	10	Diploma for Bachelor of the Arts from Brigham Young College for A.N. Sorensen	
2	11	Phi Kappa Phi membership certificate for A.N. Sorensen	
2	12	USU Grade books	1938-1949
2	13	Clio Club Year Books	1934-1943
2	14	Certificate from the Logan Rotary Club	
2	15	Handbook for Board Members: State of Utah Department of Public Welfare	
2	16	Voice-O-Graph record	
2	17	Wales brand wallet with Life Athletic Pass for A.N. Sorensen	
2	18	Pendant in Jewelry Co. box	

III: Materials relating to Mrs. Mary Carlisle Sorensen and the Sorensen family

11 folders are included in Series III

For additional letters from Mary Carlisle to children see Alma Sorensen box 1 folder 2

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
3	1	Letters to Mrs. Mary Sorensen Items 1-17	1926-1962
		Item: 1: Letter to Clara Carlisle from J.G.M. Donald Chocolate Co	1926 April 30
		Item: 2: Letter to David, Mark, and Mary Jean from Mr. A.N. Sorensen	1939 December 31

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Item: 3: Letter to Mr. and Mrs. A.N. Sorensen from Katie Carlisle Barber	1942 October 14
	Item: 4: Letter to Mrs. Sorensen from Katie and Carlisle	1942 November 15
	Item: 5: Letter to Sorensen family from M.J	1951 January 15
	Item: 6: Letter to Mrs. Sorensen from M.J. Nelson	1951 January 22
	Item: 7: Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen from Bob	1951 September 25
	Item: 8: Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen from Mrs. W. L. Nelson	1957 January 04
	Item: 9: Letter to Mrs. A. N. Sorensen from the Utah State Historical Society	1959
	Item: 10: Letter to Mrs. Sorensen from Robert N. Sorensen	1961 September 6
	Item: 11: Letter to Joyce, Phil and Eric from Edith and Paul	1961 December 25
	Item: 12: Letter to Mrs. A. N. Sorensen from Noble L. Chambers	1961 December 8
	Item: 13: Postcard to Mrs. Sorensen from P.E. Sorensen	1961 December 10
	Item: 14: Letter to Mrs. Sorensen from Viola A. Israelsen	1961 December 10
	Item: 15: Letter to Mom, Mark and Anne from Phil, Joyce and Eric Sorensen	1961
	Item: 16: Letters to Mrs. Sorensen from Peter and David Sorensen	1962
	Item: 17: Letter to Mrs. Mary C. Sorensen from unknown, "Aged and the Chronically Ill"	1962
3	2	Miscellaneous cards, certificates and announcements

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Items 1-9	
	Item: 1: First Baptism Certificate, Wendall Hughes Sorensen	1926 September 28
	Item: 2: Cache Valley Civic Music Association Membership Card	1959-1961
	Item: 3: Cache County Democratic Women's Club Member card	1961
	Item: 4: Utah State Farm Bureau Federation Membership Card	1961
	Item: 5: Postcard to Mrs. Sorensen from Carlisle	
	Item: 6: Photograph of toddler	
	Item: 7: Thank you card to Mrs. Sorensen from the Oline S. Hughes family.	
	Item: 8: Wedding announcement	
	Item: 9: Funeral Services Program for Mary Carlisle Barber Sorensen	1962 May 29
3	3	Christmas Cards, Bailey-Zallinger Items 1-22
	Item: 1: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Reed and Adaliene Bailey.	
	Item: 2: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Charles and Lois Buist	
	Item: 3: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Alma and JoAnn Carlisle	
	Item: 4: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mrs. Ben Carlisle	
	Item: 5: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Dick and Estrella Carlisle	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Item: 6: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Ray and Leah Carlson	
	Item: 7: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mr. Frederick P. Champs	
	Item: 8: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Jack and Ila Dean	
	Item: 9: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Alean Kemp	
	Item: 10: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mrs. Sharp M. Larsen	
	Item: 11: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Lucille and Roland Monson	
	Item: 12: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Jean and Newel Munk	
	Item: 13: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Gladys and Wesley Nelson	
	Item: 14: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Elsie and Charles Orison	
	Item: 15: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from The Orisons	
	Item: 16: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mr. D. W. Pittman	
	Item: 17: Christmas card to the Sorensen family from Dr. Robert Preston	
	Item: 18: Christmas letter to Mrs. Sorensen from Beth and Dick Romney	
	Item: 19: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mrs. L. Straud	
	Item: 20: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Aida Wayman	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Item: 21: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mr. and Mrs. George R.W	
	Item: 22: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from John Beyers and Agnes Zallinger	
3 4	Christmas Cards, Carl-Virg, Items 1-18	1961
	Item: 1: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Carl, Virginia and Mae	
	Item: 2: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Ed, Isabel and David	
	Item: 3: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from HC and Jessie	
	Item: 4: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from John and Nancy	
	Item: 5: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from John and Pearl	
	Item: 6: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Leone and Rawl	
	Item: 7: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Lew and Eleanor	
	Item: 8: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Louise and George	
	Item: 9: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Lyman and Louise	
	Item: 10: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Mildred	
	Item: 11: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from N.A. and Beatrice	
	Item: 12: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Owen and Mozelle	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Item: 13: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Uncle Cecil and Aunt Berltea	
		Item: 14: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Uncle Dell and Aunt Mamie	
		Item: 15: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Veda	
		Item: 16: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen from Virg and Eva	
		Item: 17: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen	
		Item: 18: Christmas card to Mrs. Sorensen.	
3	5	Brigham Young College Cooking Recipes	
3	6	Clippings and Pamphlets removed from Recipe Book	
3	7	Photocopies of recipe book newspaper clippings	
3	8	The Invisible Hand, by Ira N. Hayward, The M.I.A. contest play	1928-1928
3	9	Utah State University Faculty Women's League Yearbook	1953-1958
3	10	One Hundred and One Famous Poems, signed by Heber J. Grant	
3	11	All in a Teacher's Day by Parley A. Christensen signed by author and addressed to Mrs. Sorensen.	

IV: Materials relating to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Carlisle

2 folders are included in Series IV

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	1	Materials relating to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Carlisle	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Item: 1: Letter to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Carlisle from M. L. Hendrickson	1914 January 19
		Item: 2: Letter to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Carlisle from Aunt Mariah	1914 January 13
		Item: 3: Receipt of payment	
		Item: 4: Legal Notice news clipping	
		Item: 5: The Persecutions of the Jews	
		Item: 6: In the Matter of the Estate of J. E. Carlisle	
		Item: 7: Logan City Cemetery Plot Cards	
4	2	Photographs	

V: Materials relating to Robert N. Sorensen

folders 3 through 6 are part of Series V

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	3	Personal letters from Robert N. Sorensen to the Sorensen Family	
		Item: 1: 1951 July 30	
		Item: 2: 1952 December 12	
		Item: 3: 1952 January 2	
		Item: 4: 1951 January 25	
		Item: 5: 1952 February 13	
		Item: 6: 1952 April 12	
		Item: 7: 1952 June 15	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Item: 8: 1952 July 13	
	Item: 9: 1952 July 30	
	Item: 10: 1952 May 8	
	Item: 11: 1952 August 11	
	Item: 12: 1952 September 20	
	Item: 13: 1953 April 21	
	Item: 14: 1953 August 16	
	Item: 15: 1954 February 24	
4	4	News clips and General Write-ups
	Item: 1: "Bomber Crew of Mormon Youths"	
	Item: 2: "Crew of the Month Honors"	
	Item: 3: "A Young Bomber Pilot Writes Us a Guest Column"	
	Item: 4: "Logan Man Wins Commission"	
	Item: 5: "Old Classmates"	
	Item: 6: "LDS Bomber Crewmen May Worship in Clouds"	
	Item: 7: "The Sorensen Story, An unconventional autobiography"	
	Item: 8: "Mormon Crew 46, Strategic Air Command"	
	Item: 9: "We'd Climb the Highest Mountain," a "somewhat" factual accounting of our survival training at Forbes AFB in January 1952"	
	Item: 10: "Eagles Sill Flying High" news story written for Air Power History magazine	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Item: 11: "Korean War B-29 Crew," 14 page booklet	
		Item: 12: "Mission Log and Footnotes," An exact listing of missions and targets	
4	5	Christmas Letter from Robert to Christmas Mailing List	
		Item: 1: Christmas	2003
		Item: 2: Christmas	2005
		Item: 3: Christmas	2006
		Item: 4: Christmas	2007
		Item: 5: Christmas	2008
		Item: 6: Christmas	2011
4	6	E-mails	
		Item: 1: "I Remember Moma"	2004 May 9
		Item: 2: "128 Years Today"	2007 March 3
		Item: 3: "Dad's Birthday"	2008 March 3

VI: Materials relating to Philip Sorensen

1 folder is included in Series VI

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	7	"Utah Idaho Central Railroad," Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. 27	1959 April

VII: Materials relating to Mark Sorensen

2 folders are included in Series VII

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
4	8	"Watermelon Sugar," published by the Logan Herald Journal / Valley	1980 July 21
4	8	"Annie King David: her celestial betrothment" published by the Logan Herald Journal / Valley	1976 January 23
4	9	"Selected Poems" by John Mark Sorensen	

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Mormon Church--Missions--History
Mormon missionaries--History--Sources

Personal Names :

Sorensen, Alma N., 1879-1958
Sorensen, Isaac, 1840-1922
Sorensen, Mary Carlisle
Sorensen, Robert

Corporate Names :

Utah State University. English Department--History
Utah State University--History--Sources

Family Names :

Sorensen family

Geographical Names :

Mendon (Utah)--History--Sources

Form or Genre Terms :

Mormon missionary diaries.

Finding aid/Register created by Emily Gurr
2009

Utah Cooperative Association Photograph Collection., 1950-1978

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Utah Cooperative Association
Title	Utah Cooperative Association Photograph Collection.
Dates	1950-1978 (inclusive) 1950 1978
Quantity	1 box, (0.5 linear ft.)
Collection Number	USU_P0385
Summary	This collection contains photographs and slides from the Utah Cooperative Association (UCA) collected by Wilmer Burke (W.B.) Robins.
Repository	Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives Division Special Collections and Archives Merrill-Cazier Library Utah State University Logan, UT 84322-3000 Telephone: 435-797-2663 Fax: 435-797-2880 scweb@usu.edu
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on use, except: not available through interlibrary loan.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, 2007-2008

Historical Note

A cooperative is a business owned and controlled by the people who use its services. The UCA was a wholesale cooperative owned and controlled by local cooperatives throughout the state. The local co-ops organized with the assistance of the State Self-Help Board on August 17, 1936 with six employees and six local co-ops. By 1941, UCA became independent of the Self-Help Board and began operating as a wholesale supply co-op for farmers. By 1945 UCA had become financially strong enough to enable the organization to purchase its own warehouse and bulk plant. Their affiliation with the Cooperative League of the United States of America in the same year increased their buying power. By the early 1950s UCA had expanded its operation through the purchase of an oil refinery in the Uintah Basin and by becoming sole owner of the PAX trademark for agricultural chemicals through its acquisition of Kelly-Western Seed Company. UCA ceased to exist when it merged with the Farmer's Union Central Exchange (CENEX) in 1976. CENEX is now one of the largest retail/wholesale propane networks in the nation.

Content Description

The Utah Cooperative Association (UCA) collection consists of 331 color slides, forty-four color photographs, and ten black and white photographs. This collection documents the Utah Cooperative Association's various enterprises including service stations, petroleum refineries, grain mills, cooperative grocery stores, employees, and social events between the 1950s and late 1970s.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the Utah Cooperative Association photograph collection must be obtained from the [Special Collections Photograph Curator](#) and/or the Special Collections Department Head.

Preferred Citation

Initial Citation: USU_P0385; Utah Cooperative Association Photograph Collection; Photograph Collections Special Collections and Archives. Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library. Logan, Utah.

*Following Citations:*USU_P0385, USUSCA.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

This collection is organized by subject.

Processing Note

Processed in February of 2010

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated to Utah State University Special Collections & Archives by W.B. Robins in 1986 as part of the Utah Cooperative Association Papers.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Description	Dates
1:01:01-1:01:03: Enterprise, Utah Co-op station gas tanks.	
1:01:04: Huntington, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:05: Huntington, Utah Co-op station.	

Description	Dates
1:01:06: Moroni, Utah Farmers Co-op station.	
1:01:07-1:01:10: Orem, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:11: Corinne, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:12: Corinne, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:13: Vernal, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:14: Vernal, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:15: Richfield, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:16: Delta, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:17: Salt Lake City, Utah Co-op station.	
1:01:18: Salt Lake City, Utah Co-op station.	
1:02:01: Bear River Valley Co-op.	
1:02:02: Laurel Montana Petroleum refinery, Pre EPA.	
1:02:03: Cache Valley Cheese.	
1:02:04: Laurel Montana Petroleum refinery.	
1:02:05: Laurel Montana Petroleum refinery.	
1:02:06: Trenton Co-op.	
1:02:07: Home office.	
1:02:08: Moroni Cold Storage.	
1:02:09: Board Room and directors.	
1:02:10: Bear River Co-op, main store.	
1:02:11: D.C. Oil Floor.	

Description	Dates
1:02:12: Kamas Co-op station.	
1:02:13: Tire Shop.	
1:02:14: UCA headquarters.	1963
1:02:15: Moroni Feed Co-op, original headquarters.	
1:02:16: Co-op Service.	
1:02:17: Man in shop.	
1:02:18: Moroni Farmer Co-op service.	
1:02:19: Moroni Feed Plant.	
1:02:20: Moroni Feed Plant.	
1:02:21: Pipeline Refinery Fuel.	
1:02:22: Andersen's Fertilizer Center, Spanish Fork.	
1:02:23: Moroni Co-op Turkey Farm.	1975
1:03:01-1:03:06: Co-op Supermarket board.	
1:03:07-1:03:09: Interior view of supermarket.	
1:03:10-1:03:12: Exterior view of supermarket.	
1:03:13-1:03:17: Interior view of supermarket with patrons.	
1:03:18-1:03:20: Interior view of supermarket.	
1:03:21: Sales Growth Chart.	
1:03:22-1:03:24: Interior view of supermarket.	
1:03:25-1:03:29: Exterior view of Co-op store.	
1:03:30: Interior view of Co-op store.	

Description	Dates
1:03:31: Birdseye view of Co-op store.	
1:04:01: Front view of Co-op store.	
1:04:02: Interior view of Co-op store.	
1:04:03: Patrons walking into Co-op store.	
1:04:04-1:04:06: Exterior side view of Co-op store.	
1:04:07-1:04:09: Exterior front view of Smith Food King.	
1:04:10: Exterior side view of Co-op Store.	
1:05:01: Ashley Co-op, Vernal.	
1:05:02: Ashley Co-op, Vernal.	1970
1:05:03: Bear River Co-op, Corinne.	
1:05:04: Bountiful Co-op Service.	1970
1:05:05: Castle Valley Co-op, Huntington.	1970
1:05:06: Orem Co-op Service.	
1:05:07: Co-op Service, Salt Lake City.	1970
1:05:08: Kaysville Co-op Service.	
1:05:09: Kamas Co-op Service.	
1:05:10: UCA Corn dry, Brigham.	1971
1:05:11: South Dairy Co-op, Parowan.	1965
1:05:12: UCA Co-op, dry, Brigham City.	1971
1:06:01: UCA meeting.	
1:06:02: Co-op Oil refinery.	

Description	Dates
1:06:03: UCA/PAX sign, 580 West 1300 South, Salt Lake City.	
1:06:04: UCA transport.	
1:06:05: Ence Brothers, St. George.	1967
1:06:06: Unknown refinery.	
1:06:07: UCA dinner meeting.	
1:06:08: Andersen's Spanish Fork Co-op.	1970
1:06:09: Co-op Batteries.	
1:06:10: UCA board of directors.	1971
1:06:11: A UCA dealer agent.	
1:06:12: Utah Co-op main office warehouse.	1960
1:06:13: UCA tour.	1966
1:06:14: FFA tour of UCA.	1970
1:06:15: Utah Co-op warehouse, Salt Lake City.	
1:06:16: Moroni membership meeting.	
1:07:01: National Co-op, Albert LEA.	
1:07:02: Station Uinta Oil, A hyperbolic paraboloid, 3500 South 18 West, Salt Lake City.	
1:07:03: Uinta Oil station, Salt Lake City, 3500 South, 18 West, Salt Lake City.	
1:07:04: Dry Hole Uinta, UCA, Rangeley, Co.	
1:07:05: UCA Co-op trademark.	1956
1:07:06: Utah Map, Co-op's and DA's.	
1:07:07: UCA building.	1960-1965

Description	Dates
1:07:08: Montage Utah Co-op.	
1:07:09: Andersen's Farm Supply, Spanish Fork.	
1:07:10: Andersen's Farm Supply, Spanish Fork.	
1:07:11: Thayne, Wellington.	
1:07:12: Andersen's DA., Spanish Fork.	
1:07:13: Co-op literature.	
1:07:14: Universal Co-op office building.	
1:07:15: W. B. Robins.	1964
1:08:01: PAX, Crabgrass Control.	
1:08:02: PAX, Lawn Care.	
1:08:03: PAX, Crabgrass Control.	
1:08:04: PAX products.	1970
1:08:05: UCA plant, PAX product.	1963
1:09:01-05: Gro Best, Orem, Utah.	
1:09:06-10: Sevier Valley Co-op, Richfield.	
1:09:11-16: Farmer's Co-op of Southern Utah, Enterprise.	
1:09:17-21: Ashley Farmer's Union, Vernal.	
1:09:22-24: Moroni Feed Company, Moroni.	
1:09:25-27: Farmer's Co-op Service, Moroni.	
1:09:28-33: Co-op Service, Salt Lake City.	
1:09:34-36: Bear River Valley Co-op, Corinne.	

Description	Dates
1:09:37-42: Castle Valley Co-op, Huntington.	
1:09:43-44: Uintah Farmer's Co-op.	
1:10:01-25: Co-op employees.	
1:11:01-22: Uinta Oil refinery, Rangeley, CO.	
1:12:01-15: Galaxy Station.	
1:13:01-78: Unidentified Utah Co-op stations.	
1:14:01-14: Missing.	
1:15:01-54: Slides for Utah Young Couples conference.	1978
1:16:01-17: Slides from UCA group tour.	1977

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Cooperatives--Utah--UCA--Employees
 Cooperatives--Utah--UCA--Oil Refineries
 Cooperatives--Utah--UCA--Service Stations
 Cooperatives--Utah--UCA--Stores

Corporate Names :

Utah Farm Bureau

Geographical Names :

Cooperative (Utah)--History

Finding aid/Register created by Emily Gurr
 2010

DIGITAL EXHIBIT

Extension, Enterprise, and Education:
the Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah

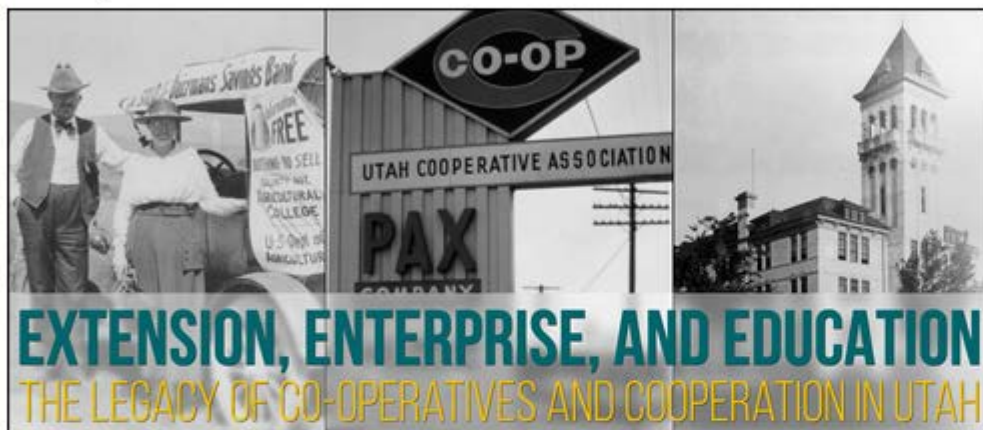
<http://exhibits.lib.usu.edu/exhibits/show/extension>

*Please note this is the second version of the online exhibit. Library staff have since added additional text and updated the formatting to interact seamlessly with evolving technology. Please see static screen captures for my specific image and text contributions.

Extension, Enterprise, and Education: The Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah

[view exhibit ▶](#)

Summary



Co-operatives are voluntary associations jointly-owned and operated for the benefit of those using their services. While the Co-operative Movement was a worldwide phenomena in the 1800s, it was particularly strong and pervasive early on in Utah. Nineteenth-century Utah pioneers embraced the spirit of cooperation, building shared irrigation systems and establishing co-op stores within their communities. The co-operative spirit exemplified in Mormon communities followed Utahns into the twentieth century as farmers continued to associate in a variety of co-operative enterprises. Utah State University, founded in 1888 as Utah Agricultural College, further promoted these principles -- even before Congress established the Co-operative Extension Service in 1914, the University was conducting conferences for Utah's farmers and homemakers.

This digital history of agricultural cooperatives in Utah extends from the experiences of early Latter-day Saint pioneers to formation of the Utah Co-operative Association (UCA) and its ultimate absorption by the Farmer's Union Central Exchange (CENEX) in 1976. The collection's images, papers, reports, pamphlets, and audio clips illustrate the history of farmer co-operatives throughout Utah and the movement's longstanding connection with USU.

Credits:

- [Alison Fabricius Gardner](#) – Research, writing, material selection, and digital exhibit creation (Student Assistant, Digital Initiatives Department)
- [Emily G. Thompson](#) – Research, writing, and material selection (Graduate Intern, Special Collections & Archives)
- [Dustin Olson](#) – Technology assistance (Systems Administrator, Systems)

Jump to...

- [The Mormon Village](#)
- [Cooperatives and USU](#)
- [Economic Equality](#)
- [United Order](#)
- [Utah State University Extension](#)
- [Smith-Lever Act](#)
- [The Work of the USU Extension](#)
 - [Industrial Train](#)
 - [4-H Club](#)
- [Farmers and Housekeepers Conference](#)
- [Farm Bureau](#)
- [Agriculture and Co-operative Act](#)
- [Utah Self-Help Co-operative Board](#)
- [Utah Cooperative Association](#)
 - [Amalgamated Sugar Company](#)
- [USU Department of Agricultural Economics](#)
- [Continuing Co-operative Education](#)
- [Conclusion](#)
- [For Further Research](#)

EXHIBITS

Extension, Enterprise, and Education: The Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah: The Mormon Village

▶ [Jump to...](#) ☰

The Mormon Village



Mormon villages are a cluster of homes surrounded by farming lands. The home lots were arranged on blocks separated by wide streets, laid out north-south and east-west. Public buildings were located in the center of town. Farmers lived in the town and drove out to their farming plots for work. The concept was originally envisioned by Latter-day Saint Church founder Joseph Smith to facilitate co-operative efficiency, and to maintain religious education and practice.

This seed of cooperative efficiency would blossom in Utah and lead to many economic cooperative efforts that would change how farmers worked their land and sold their crops.

[Cooperatives and USU](#) →

Lowry Nelson and The Consumer Cooperative Movement



Lowry Nelson, Experiment Station Director and Cooperative Scholar

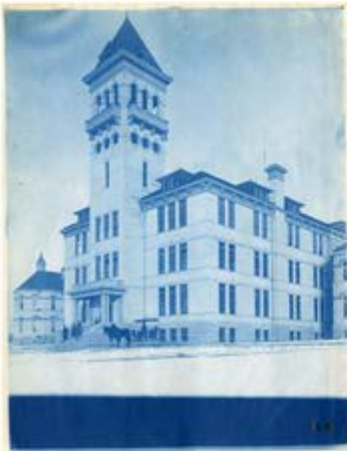


The History of the Utah Cooperative Movement

The co-operative spirit in Utah was exemplified early in the state's history by early Mormon villages and continues today in Utah State University's Co-operative Extension programs. Since the University's establishment in 1888 as the Agricultural College of Utah, its faculty have written about and helped build co-operative enterprises in Utah. Faculty member and rural sociologist Lowry Nelson emphasized the uniqueness of the Utah experience through his study of the Mormon village in 1952. Long considered a model for research on small communities and community life, his research provides rich insight on social and cultural conditions of villages and communities. He wrote *The Mormon Village* and *American Farm Life* and served as editor for the *American Journal of Rural Sociology* and *Utah Farmer*.

[Lowry Nelson writings and papers, 1948-1974 - Finding Aid](#)

USU's Land-Grant Role



Economic Equality



Joseph Smith's conception of the Mormon Village was based on a co-operative economic system and a communal society; some of these idealistic practices were implemented in Utah by the Mormon pioneers in the mid-1800s.

In Salt Lake City, Mormon Church members formed multiple co-operative enterprises, one in each ward (local church district). Other smaller settlements such as Brigham City (Utah), Hyrum (Utah), and Paris (Idaho) established community-wide co-operative enterprises that employed all the local settlers and were managed by a central board. In other communities such as Orderville (Utah) and Bunkerville (Nev.), this collectivization was carried one step further, with church members living communally. Everyone ate in a dining hall, wore similar

clothes made from the same fabric, and shared equally in the community's resources.

A cooperative economic system and communal society changed the way individuals viewed the environment and their property. Instead of a farmer staking land for his farm, the community divided up land to individual stewards or joint farming efforts. Thus farming was not just a matter of taming the environment, but a means of growing produce for economic stability.

Early Cooperatives in Utah



Weston, Idaho Cooperative Store



Defining Cooperation in Utah

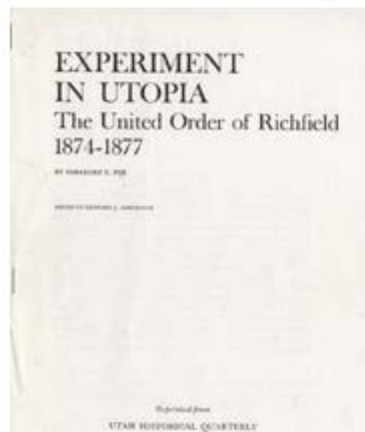
1. In certain communities every producer was asked to assign his economic property (land, livestock, tools) to a community cooperative, and the labor of all was directed by an elected board of management. Each shared in the common product according to his contribution in labor and property. This type of order had first been established at St. George during the winter of 1873-74, and was duplicated in many "Mormon valleys," including Sevier County.
2. In other communities this collectivization was carried one step further by the maintenance of communal living. Everyone ate in a common dining hall, wore clothes from the same bolts of cloth, and shared more or less equally in the common product. Reverently referred to as "the Gospel Plan," this arrangement was followed at Orderville, Utah; Bunkerville, Nevada; and at several Mormon settlements in Arizona.
3. Some of the larger and more complex communities, such as Salt Lake City, participated in the movement by forming a single cooperative enterprise in each ward or division of a city. Thus, one ward might cooperatively establish a woolen factory, another a machine shop, still another a cooperative dairy.
4. Finally, in Brigham City and Hyrum, Utah, and at Paris, Idaho, the establishment of independent cooperative enterprises multiplied until virtually all aspects of community economic life were managed by a central board of cooperatives, with almost universal ownership of cooperative shares, and with virtually all settlers employed within the cooperative network. [1]



An Interview with Arthur Anderson concerning the United Order

Arthur Anderson recounts the family's move from Sanpete to Emery and the difficulties of producing crops on the rather barren soil there. He mentions his cooperation with and appreciation for the first USU county agricultural agent there, Robert H. Stewart, and the fact that many farmers failed to cooperate and adopt improved farming methods.

Histories of Cooperative Endeavors in Utah Communities



United Order



Joseph A Geddes

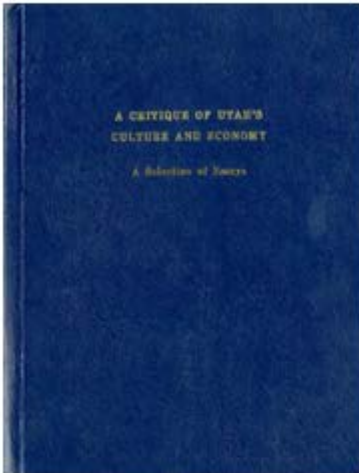
Commonly referred to as the United Order, some aspects of this communal society were promoted by Joseph A. Geddes, another USU faculty member, in his quest to revitalize rural Utah communities.

Joseph A. Geddes was influential in Utah's co-operative movement and helped establish the Utah Co-operative Association (which we will learn more about later in the exhibit). Dr. Geddes' academic interest in co-operatives, social organization and community building stemmed from his experiences as a youth in Plain City, Utah. He continued his interest as he investigated the United Order as the subject for his doctoral dissertation at Columbia University.

[Joseph Arch Geddes Papers 1914-1968 - Finding Aid](#)

[Joseph Arch Geddes Photograph Collection, 1915-1965 - Finding Aid](#)

Papers, Essays and Manuals written by Joseph A Geddes that shaped perspective on the United Order and cooperative work



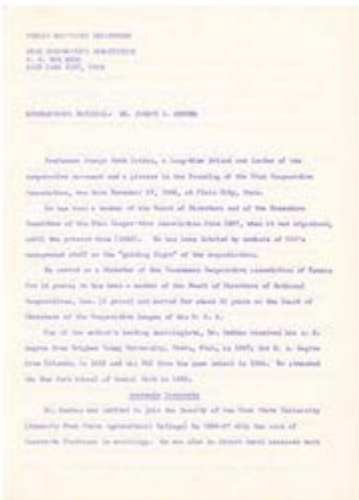
Critique of Utah's Culture and Economy: A Selection of Essays by Joseph A. Geddes



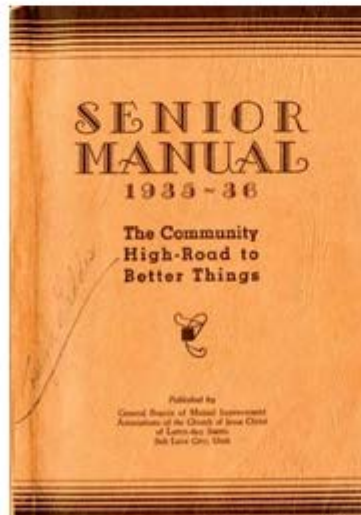
Two Contrasting Meanings of the Words "Mormon Community"

The United Order system of Latter-Day Saints in Independence, Missouri and also a system the pioneers tried to recreate in Utah, focused on 1) Individual stewardships, 2) joint stewardships, and 3) entire community economic programs.

"It also involved the following characteristics: a physical basis of a square mile; ten acre blocks with wide streets; residence lots of four rods, facing streets and extending back to the middle of the block for home and gardens; animals kept outside of the square mile limits; three full ten acre blocks in the middle of the mile square reserved for public buildings. These buildings would be conveniently located within walking distance of all citizens." [1]



Biography of Joseph A. Geddes

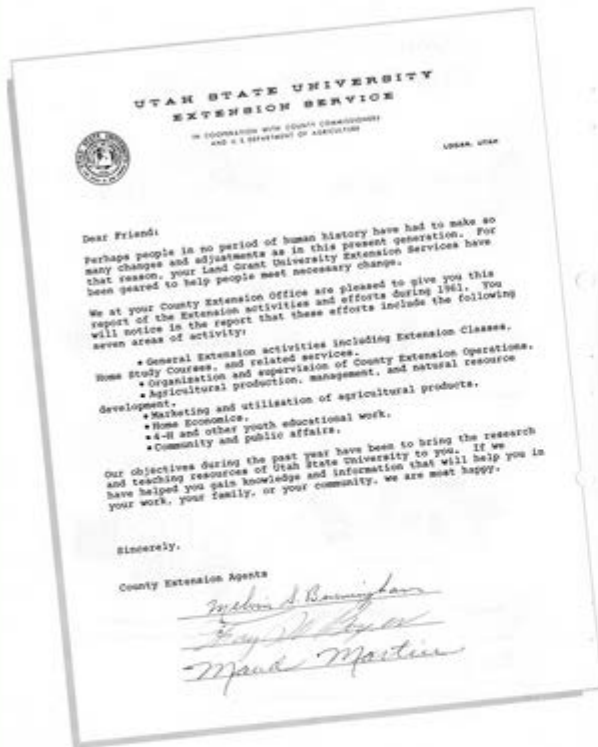


Community High-Road to Better Things

This set up focused on the community, creating ties with your neighbors and worshipping together. It also created space to encourage gardening and self-reliance. This system was re-created for the most part in small communities throughout Utah, with the exception of having space for animals within city limits.

Clicking on any item twice will allow you to read it online

Utah State University Extension



Utah State University, originally named the Agricultural College of Utah, was founded in 1888 using funds from the Land-Grant College Act of 1862. This act endowed land to each state for the purpose of funding a land grant institution which was to focus on agriculture and mechanic arts. [1] This focus invited students from farms and trades to come to school who never could have considered it previously. The Agricultural College of Utah pursued this mission of training students from all walks of life by creating Extension services which would take training to the people.

[Extended history of Utah Agricultural College](#)



The interview with Arthur Anderson County Agent gives his explanation of the purpose of a county agent and how they were received by farmers.

▶ 00:00

05:34

An interview with Arthur Anderson a County Agent

"The Cooperative Extension Service is sponsored and financed jointly by federal, state, and county governments. There is a Cooperative Extension Service in the land grant institution of each state.

The main functions of the Cooperative Extension Service are to develop leadership, resourcefulness, and initiative; to supply factual information for discovering and solving problems; and to help people become more efficient, increase their income, **improve their home and community environment**, and raise their standard of living. University Extension takes the findings of research to the people of the state and brings unsolved problems back to the research workers at the University." [2]



Joseph A Widstoe

"Carrying the principles of modern agriculture to the farmers always seemed important to me. Unused truth has little value. Farmers' institute work, now known as agricultural extension work, was therefore begun and carried on with much vigor. As time permitted, with specialists from the Station staff, I travelled over the State discussing with groups of farmers their problems. While we taught them something, they in turn set our faces towards problems to be solved."

"They needed only to be convinced that we came as bearers of truth and that "book-farmers" so-called had much to teach the pioneer who had to learn only through hard experience. Then, the old prejudices vanished."

{In A Sunlit Land}

Smith-Lever Act

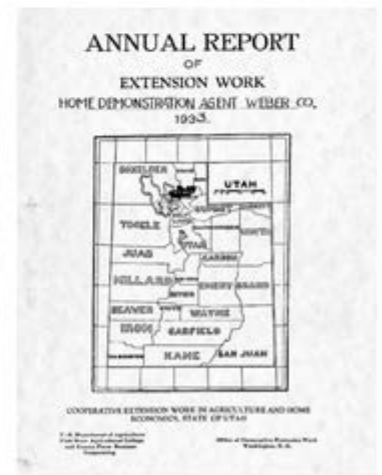
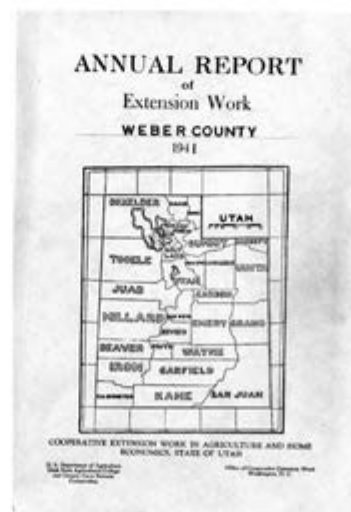
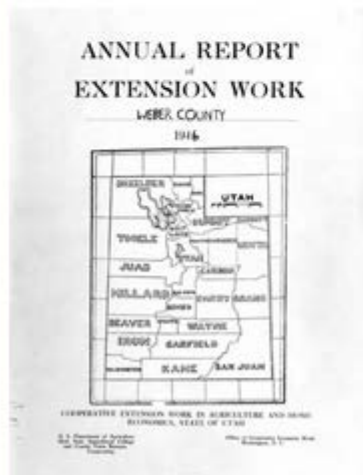
Passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 solidified the College's mandate for Co-operative Extension through establishment of Co-operative Extension offices with agents established at the county level.

County Agents organized yearly programs demonstrating new agricultural techniques to Utah's farmers. While the Extension Service's county agents helped the State's farmers, its home demonstration agents advised rural women about nutrition, homemaking, and sanitation. All agents prepared annual federal reports of the year's accomplishments and plans for the coming year. These reports contained a wealth of information on rural life in Utah: crop production, livestock, dairying, wool marketing, irrigation, weed and pest control, home economics, clubs and community events, etc.

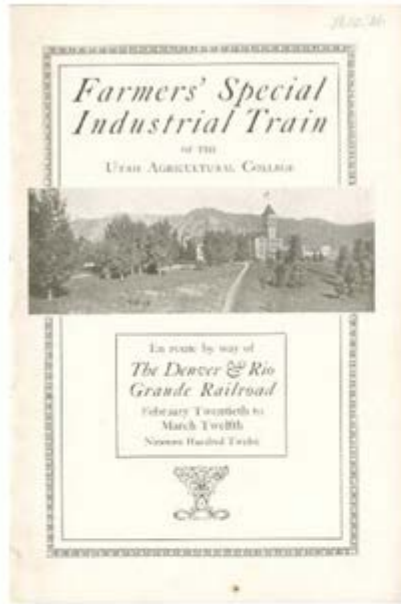


Clicking twice on any of the reports will allow you to read the report online.

County Agent Reports for Weber County



Industrial Train



Pamphlet for Farmer's Industrial Train of the Utah Agricultural College

To support the Agricultural College of Utah's land-grant mission, its faculty visited rural communities to encourage adoption of better farming practices. Extension work included instruction at schools, exhibition at local, regional and national fairs, and conducting Farmer Institutes throughout the State. The College also partnered with the Union Pacific and Denver & Rio Grande Railroads to sponsor agricultural exhibit trains: the railroad companies provided the train cars, while college faculty furnished equipment and livestock to demonstrate new farming and housekeeping practices. These special trains, variously called "industrial" or "educational" trains, stopped at railroad stations throughout Utah and eastern Nevada, lecturing and demonstrating to groups of farmers along the way.



Lecture Train from Agricultural College of Utah

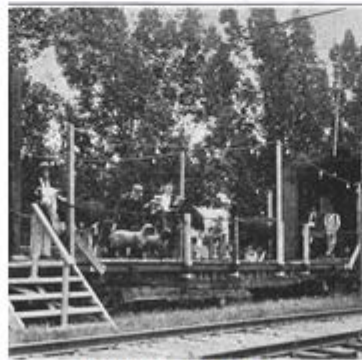
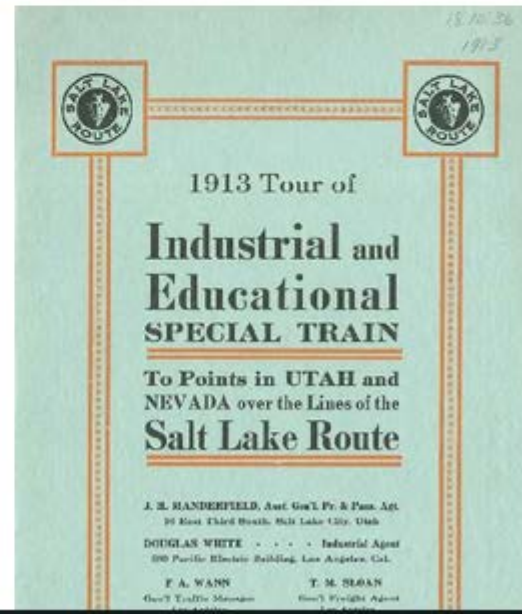


Exhibit Train at West Jordan



Farmers and Housekeepers Conference



Not only did the College bring the campus to the communities, but beginning in 1896, it began sponsoring Farmers and Housekeeper Conferences on its campus in Logan, Utah.

"The summer encampments under the direction of the extension division, replaced the Farmer's Roundups and Housekeepers Conference held in towns over the state during the winter months. These summer encampments combined profitable learning and family outings. Hundreds would gather on the south lawn; county agents, college faculty members, and imported specialists would be ready with their latest information in the areas called for at that convention. Such problems as crops, dairying, marketing or account keeping were possibilities to be included for men; child care, nutrition, home management, interior decoration, sewing, tailoring, and remodeling for the women. Dancing-folk or ballroom, swimming lessons, and supervised games were planned for the children as well as the adults. Coach J.R. Jensen

directed games during a play hour out in the quadrangle in the evening." (Remembering E.G. Peterson, p 100).

Announcements for Farmer's Conference sometimes called Farmer's Roundup

12/10/15

Blackman & Griffin Co., Ogden, Want Your Cream

Program
First Annual
Weber County Institute
 for
Farmers and Housekeepers

Third Session of the Extension Department, Utah Agricultural College, Logan, Utah
 Monday, November 22, Tuesday, November 23, Wednesday, November 24, 1915

Week November 22-December 4, 1915

Address and Director
WASCO COUNTY FARM BUREAU
 211 S. Main Street, Ogden, Utah

Directors

W. C. Johnson	Chairman	J. D. Taylor	Adviser
A. L. Johnson	Secretary	J. D. Taylor	Adviser
W. C. Johnson	Secretary	J. D. Taylor	Adviser
W. C. Johnson	Secretary	J. D. Taylor	Adviser

A Step Forward

Let us and your neighbors make one more important step in our progress by building a comprehensive farm household. The only way to do this is to have the best of the best in advice and instruction of your household, and share it with your friends, making a happy, successful home.

Come to see for us show you how your farm should run plus things that you can't get elsewhere.

The Ogden Savings Bank
 Ogden, Utah

12/10/15

Farmers' 'Round-up' and Housekeepers' Conference
 February 23 to March 7, 1914

Held at Utah Agricultural College, Cedar City, Utah, Under Direction of Extension Department, Utah Agricultural College.

A Convention of Utah's leading Agricultural Extension, and Agents in Home Science and Art, and of the leading Manufacturers and Merchants of Southern Utah. The dignifying and development of home, the most important and heretofore neglected of our life, is the object of this Convention.

Every woman who looks forward to the day when her neighbor will admit that her home is a source of her pride and of her advantage, and that she should be ready to share it with a distinguished company in the Principal Branch Agricultural College, Cedar City, Utah.

12/10/15

Third Housekeepers' Conference

Home Economics Department
 Utah Agricultural College

LOGAN, UTAH

June 19 to July 1, 1914

This Conference is designed to aid the women of Utah in their household needs. The first week of the course will be devoted to lectures by Miss Hunt and the members of the regular faculty, and laboratory work in sewing; the second week's work consists of laboratory instruction in cooking, laundry work and lectures.

12/10/15

FARMERS' INSTITUTE
 —FOR—
Sanpete County
 To be held at
Tabernacle, Ephraim,
 Tuesday, April 21st, and Wednesday, April 22nd, 1915.

PROGRAMME
 Tuesday, April 21, 1915

8:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.	Prayer
9:30 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:00 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:30 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:00 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:30 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
1:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
2:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
2:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
3:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
3:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
4:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
4:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
5:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
5:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
6:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
6:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
7:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
7:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
8:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
8:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
9:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
9:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
12:00 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent

Wednesday, April 22, 1915

8:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.	Prayer
9:30 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:00 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:30 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:00 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:30 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
1:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
2:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
2:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
3:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
3:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
4:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
4:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
5:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
5:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
6:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
6:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
7:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
7:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
8:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
8:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
9:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
9:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
10:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:00 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
11:30 p.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent
12:00 a.m.	Address by Mr. J. C. Johnson, County Agent

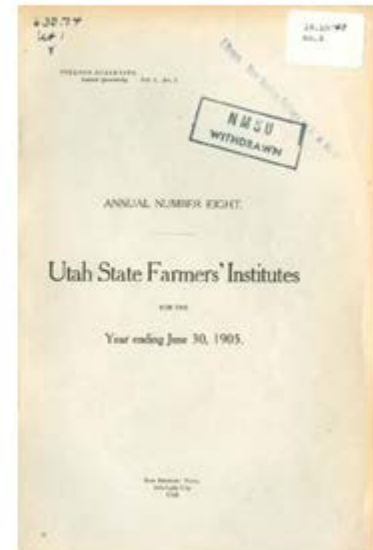
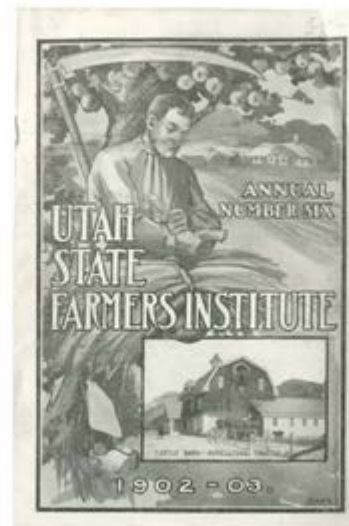
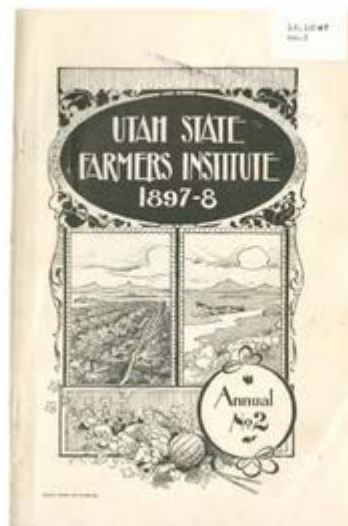
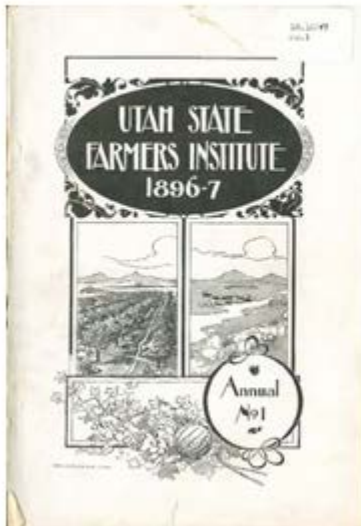
Encampment News



Family Goes to College: Silent Film made by the Extension Office



Utah State Farmer's Institute Program



Farm Bureau

"The Bureau has put forth a strong effort for Better Farming, Better Business and Better Living, to represent the farmer's interest and to develop a permanent system of agriculture..." Annual Report of Weber County



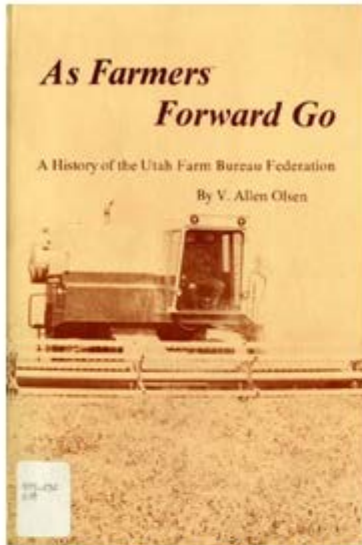
W. Preston Thomas

W. Preston Thomas worked as Weber County's first agricultural agent from 1915 to 1925. Thomas was a leading proponent of Agricultural Co-operatives.

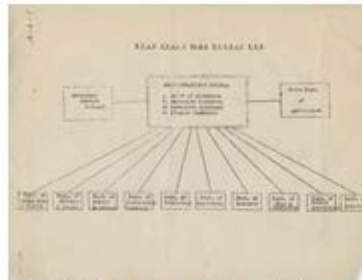
In 1915, Thomas collaborated with farmers to establish the Weber County Farm Bureau. A year later, he joined with representatives from other counties to officially establish the organization statewide. The state and county bureaus assumed the responsibility of representing the farmers in their efforts to collectively market sugar beets, canning goods and dairy products. The bureaus also enabled members to collectively purchase farm products at wholesale cost. In Weber county Thomas conducted educational programs to teach farmers about co-operative marketing, rural credit, and purchasing. Thomas was instrumental in organizing the Weber Central Dairy a seminal example of a co-operative enterprise.

[Utah Farm Bureau Federation Collection, 1920-2004 - Finding Aid](#)

Organization and Publications about the Utah Farm Bureau



A History of the Utah Farm Bureau Federation



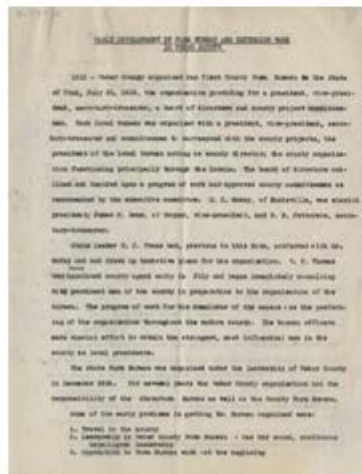
Utah State Farm Bureau Organization



The Activities of the Utah State Farm Bureau



List of W. Preston Thomas Publications



Early Development of Farm Bureau and Extensions Work in Weber County



Economic Efficiency of Utah Dairy Farmers

Annual Report of Farm Bureau in Weber County



A Local Farm Bureau in Weber County, Utah



Weber County Farm Bureau News Volume 2



Farm Bureau News Vol II



Farm Bureau, Men's Department Vol III

"The farm bureau organization is certainly filling the needs of the people in certain of the dry-farm areas, in a social as well as mental and material way. It is filling a real need and the Lockerby bureau took up with the movement very enthusiastically this year. It is practically the only thing they have to fill their social needs. They had dances, picnics, sports, etc. all under the supervision of the farm bureau." (San Juan County Report) [5]

Interviews with Farm Bureau Agents



Alph Chambers interview on the history of the Farm Bureau



Ward Holbrook interview on the history of the Farm Bureau

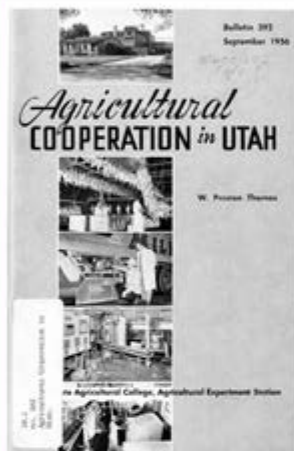


Robson and Thompson History of Farm Bureau;

Agriculture and Co-operative Act

"H.B. No. 2, by Mr. Atwood,

"An Act to provide for the organization of associations with or without capital stock and not for pecuniary profit, but for the mutual help and benefit of its shareholders or members in the production, handling, storing, shipping and marketing of agricultural and related products and by-products; and for supplying members with machinery, equipment, and materials, and to provide and advance funds to members to aid in carrying out said purposes." [1]



By 1920, co-operative marketing had proven to be very popular throughout Utah. In 1923, Representative Lawrence Atwood of Utah County sponsored a bill in the State Legislature to provide farmers a means of organizing co-operative associations. Following the passing of the Utah Co-operative Act, the Farm Bureau actively supported and organized co-operatives. Between 1923 and 1953, 308 co-operative associations were incorporated under the Utah Co-operative Act.

[Franklin County Beet Growers papers, 1898-1981 - Finding Aid](#)

[Amalgamated Sugar Company-Lewiston Sugar Company records, 1905-1921 - Finding Aid](#)

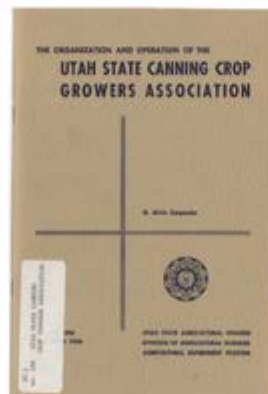
[The Utah Beet Growers Association Papers, 1960-1980 - Finding Aid](#)

[Farmers Cooperative Irrigation Company papers, 1902-1932 - Finding Aid](#)

Agricultural Cooperative Efforts in Utah



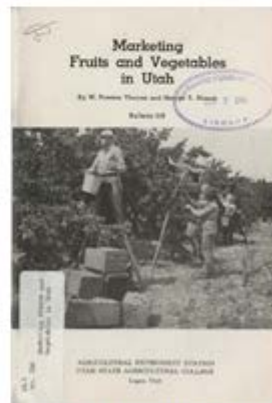
Articles of Incorporation of the Utah Industrial Reconstruction Association



Operation of the Utah State Canning Crop Growers Association



Egg Marketing in Utah



Marketing Fruits and Vegetables in Utah

Utah Self-Help Co-operative Board



In response to the deepening 1930s economic depression, the State Legislature created the Self-help Co-operative Board in March 1935. The state Self-help Co-operative Board consisted of one member named by the State Engineer, one by the chairman of the Public Utilities Commission, three members named by the Self-Help Co-operatives, and two named by the Presidents of the University of Utah and Utah State Agricultural College (i.e. USU). Joseph Geddes served as the USU appointee.

The Self-Help Board's goal was to fight unemployment through Self-Help Co-operatives, but it found that the economic problems could not be solved just by putting people to work. In fact, Geddes reflected in later years that "During the first year, the Board's efforts increased imbalance rather than curing it." "Economic health," he said, "could come only as consumer power was increased to absorb the additional productive power we were adding." In other

words, it was necessary also to boost the demand side of the supply and demand equation. Strategies to boost demand included creating a wholesale co-operative and purchasing a gasoline co-operative which could sell products from some of the other Utah Self-Help Co-operatives (for example, coal from the Coalville producers' Self Help). -- "I Remember the Utah Self-Help Co-operative Board," by Joseph A. Geddes.

Purpose of Self-Help Cooperative Board



I Remember the Utah Self-Help Cooperative Board



State Self-Help Cooperative Board General Data

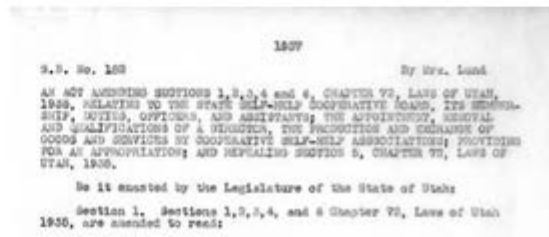


Coordination of Cooperative Supply Purchasing Activities in Utah, Special Report



Works Projects Administration Materials Committee

Notes from Congress On Cooperative Self-Help Board



Utah Cooperative Association



The State Self-Help Co-operative Board helped pave the way for organizing the Utah Co-operative Association in 1936.

To centralize the existing system of Self-Help Co-operatives, the Self-Help Board created the Utah Co-operative Association (UCA) by merging in August 1936 the Consumers' Co-operative Association and the Farm Bureau Supply Co-operative. The UCA helped market farm produce, buy farm supplies, and assist farm families with persistent credit problems made worse by the Great Depression.

While for its first five years UCA was financially unstable, its fortunes improved after 1942 when it separated from the Self-Help Co-operative Board and affiliated with the National Co-operatives, Inc. UCA began supplying farmers with barbed wire, paint, and milking machines. In 1945, it increased its buying power by purchasing its own warehouse and then affiliating with the Co-operative League of the United States of America.

In the early 1950s, the National Farmers Union invested substantially in UCA enabling it to expand by acquiring the Kelly-Western Seed Company and an oil refinery in the Uintah Basin. In 1976, UCA merged with the western regional Farmer's Union Central Exchange (CENEX) which brought even greater buying power to its store affiliates, but also ended a chapter in the history of co-operatives in Utah.

Utah Cooperative Association Photograph Collection, 1950-1978 - Finding Aid



W.B. Robins Interview on the UCA merger with CENEX

W. B. Robins' interview discusses the changes coming to Utah farmers as those with shares in the UCA voted in support of the merger with CENEX. He explained that farmers' buying power would increase and their ability to sell would improve. This merger brought an end to individual farmers working to support the UCA and became farmers participating in a business.

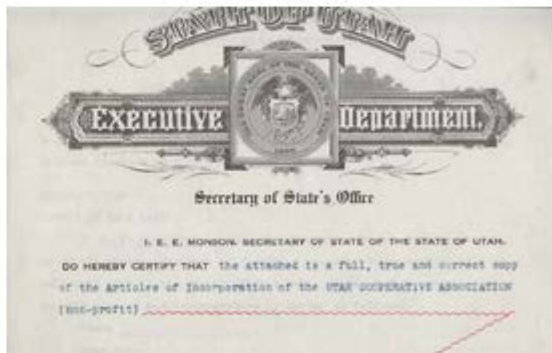
Utah Co-operative Association Minutes, History and Articles of Incorporation



Board of Directors Memoranda



W. B. Robins Biography



I, E. E. HANCOCK, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF UTAH,
DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED IS A TRUE, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY
OF THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE UTAH CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
(1936-1937)



RECORDED
FEB 11 1936
BY [illegible]

Varied Accounts Concerning UCA Uinta Mischief

VACUUM



Employees Adopt New Medical Insurance

A new plan has been adopted and will be effective on January 1, 1934. The plan provides for the payment of medical expenses for employees and their families. The plan is a group-term life insurance plan and is one of the best in the industry.

Christmas Party Tonight

The employees of the Vacuum Oil Company will have a Christmas party at the company headquarters tonight. The party will be held from 7:30 to 11:00 p.m. and will feature a dinner, music, and dancing.

Recall "Honor The Flag"

With the onset of winter, it is a good time to recall the words of the national anthem. The Vacuum Oil Company employees are encouraged to honor the flag and the country.

VACUUM

STORY I



The Vacuum Oil Company is proud to announce that it has been awarded a contract for the supply of vacuum oil to the United States Army. This is a significant achievement for the company and a testament to its quality and reliability.

The contract covers the supply of vacuum oil for the next five years. The Vacuum Oil Company is committed to providing the highest quality products and excellent customer service.

VACUUM

STORY II



The Vacuum Oil Company is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a contract for the supply of vacuum oil to the United States Navy. This is a significant achievement for the company and a testament to its quality and reliability.

The contract covers the supply of vacuum oil for the next five years. The Vacuum Oil Company is committed to providing the highest quality products and excellent customer service.

VACUUM

STORY III



The Vacuum Oil Company is proud to announce that it has been awarded a contract for the supply of vacuum oil to the United States Air Force. This is a significant achievement for the company and a testament to its quality and reliability.

The contract covers the supply of vacuum oil for the next five years. The Vacuum Oil Company is committed to providing the highest quality products and excellent customer service.

Notes and Reports on the UCA

NOTES AND EXCERPTS FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Vacuum Oil Company is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a contract for the supply of vacuum oil to the United States Army. This is a significant achievement for the company and a testament to its quality and reliability.

The contract covers the supply of vacuum oil for the next five years. The Vacuum Oil Company is committed to providing the highest quality products and excellent customer service.

REPORT FOR THE UCA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The contract covers the supply of vacuum oil for the next five years. The Vacuum Oil Company is committed to providing the highest quality products and excellent customer service.

MEETING MINUTES OF UCA, PAX COMPANY AND UICAH OIL REFINING COMPANY

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Notes and Excerpts from the Annual Report

Report for the UCA Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes of UCA, PAX Company and Uicah Oil Refining Company

NOTES AND EXCERPTS FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT

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UCA PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT

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Notes and Excerpts from the Annual Report

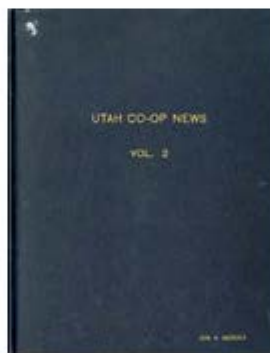
UCA Plan of Development

Meeting Minutes of UCA, PAX Company and Uicah Oil Refining Company

The Utah Cooperator



Utah Co-op News



Utah Cooperative Association Annual Reports



Photographs of Utah Co-operative Association Affiliated Buildings



USU Department of Agricultural Economics



Agricultural Economics Class

The USU Department of Agricultural Economics taught students to become articulate and effective in uniting and achieving objectives necessary for implementing successful co-operative farm enterprises.

In 1921, USU began offering courses in a newly-created program called Agricultural Economics, jointly administered by the School of Agriculture and the School of Commerce (predecessors to the College of Agriculture and the Huntsman School of Business). By the early 1930s, the College taught courses on the co-operative marketing of agricultural products. Co-operative marketing increasingly became a focus for graduate work; five Masters of Science degrees on this subject were awarded in 1948.



Broadcast of George Blanch on USU Radio

Faculty understood that for farmer cooperatives to be as successful as they could be students, future farmers, needed to understand both the economics and agriculture of farming. George Blanch discussed this uniting of economy and agriculture in his broadcast on USU radio.

The same year that Utah State Agricultural College became Utah State University (1957), Agricultural Economics moved wholly under Agriculture's administration. The program remained there until 1976 when it once again became jointly administered by Agriculture and Business. The curriculum expanded in the 1980s to include courses on consumer and worker co-operatives. These were taught by two former Aggies who returned to Logan as Economics professors: Deevon Bailey, an extension specialist in agricultural markets and rural industry and Gary B. Hansen, who specialized in worker co-operatives. In May 2008, Agricultural Economics moved back to the College of Agriculture where it now functions as part of the Department of Applied Economics.



Address by Stanford Casler to the Utah Farm Bureau Federation at the Marriott Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah, on 14 November 1924.

Continuing Co-operative Education



W. B. Robins



W. B. Robins' Biography

In 1977, former President of the UCA, W.B. Robins, donated the Association's records to the Special Collections Department at USU. Simultaneously, he endowed a fund within the College of Business for a curriculum to study and teach the principles of co-operatives.

Contributors to the development of USU's Co-operative Education curriculum included W. B. Robins and Gary Hansen, among others. Robins contributed monetarily by endowing the College of Business to study and teach the principles of co-operatives. Economics Professor Hansen contributed not only by teaching new classes in international and worker co-operatives, but also by donating materials on co-operatives to USU Library's Special Collections and Archives and funding development of a Co-operatives Archives, including this digital collection.

Gary B. Hansen graduated from high school in 1953, he attended Utah State Agricultural College (now Utah State University), and graduated with a BS in Economics in 1957.

Hansen received a masters in Economics in 1963. During that summer he authored an article on "Industry of Destiny: Copper in Utah," based on his Master's thesis at Utah State University, which was published in the Summer 1963 issue of the *Utah Historical Quarterly*. He also co-authored *The Richest Hole on Earth: A History of the Bingham Copper Mine* with Prof. Arrington, published as a research monograph by Utah State University.

During his 31 years at USU he served as a Professor of Economics, and from 1993 to 1998 as a Professor of Management and Human Resources. During the 1970s and 1980s, he conducted research and worked extensively to improve labor-management cooperation, the use of innovative approaches to collective bargaining and workplace democracy, and to promote the use of worker-owned cooperatives and other forms of worker ownership (ESOPs). [1]

[Gary B. Hansen Papers, 1911-2005 - Finding Aid](#)



Gary Hansen

Papers on International and Worker's Cooperatives



Conclusion



Utah's celebrated legacy of cooperation began with the first vanguard of Mormon settlers, and extended through much of the Twentieth Century. The same spirit of cooperation that characterized Utah's early settlers also came to distinguish Utah State University following its founding as the Utah Agricultural College in 1888.

As early faculty members disseminated agricultural information to the State's farmers they created models of extension that were later embodied within the College's Co-operative Extension Service. Concurrent with the Extension Service, county farm bureaus were established to organize farmers. The Utah Farm Bureau became important in the promotion and formation of farmer co-operatives during the 1920s.

During the depths of the 1930s depression, the State Legislature created the Self-Help Co-operative Board to allow for a greater diversity of co-operative enterprises. In 1936, the Board formed the Utah Co-operative Association to develop and administer these co-operatives. The Utah Co-operative Association played an important role in sustaining and developing rural

Utah through 1976, when it merged and was absorbed by the Farmers Union Central Exchange (CENEX).

While Utah's halcyon days may have passed, co-operatives remain an integral part of the national economy, where four in ten Americans, according to the National Co-operative Business Association, have some affiliation with a co-operative.

The Farm Bureau, Extension services and cooperative efforts gave farmers a voice and helped them be more economically sound. These efforts also changed how farmers and their families used their land and how they viewed it. The extension service especially changed how farmers and their wives divided roles on their land and used the resources to make farms self sustaining. Each group in their efforts to teach and encourage agriculturalists changed the land of Utah both economically and environmentally.



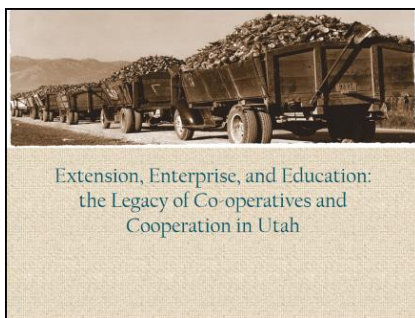
POWER POINT LAUNCH + SCRIPT

Extension, Enterprise, and Education:
the Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah

Delivered Spring 2010



Extension, Enterprise, and Education:
the Legacy of Co-operatives and
Cooperation in Utah

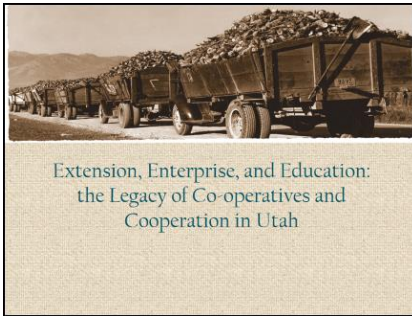


W.B. Robins, a Utah native, devoted his life to the study and promotion of cooperatives. Robins served as the first and last general manager of the Utah Cooperative Association. (Hereafter called UCA). The UCA served as a central buying or rather wholesale organization for rural farmers. It improved the methods and provided economical ways for buying, selling, distributing, storing, manufacturing and producing, on a cooperative basis. The association grew out of the State Self-Help Board, a New Deal program with the goal of fighting unemployment through self-help cooperatives. 23 year old, LDS Business College graduate W.B. Robins was the associations first book keeper in 1937 only year after its organization. After only three years Robins was promoted to general manger and dedicated his life to improving the organization. Under his direction UCA sales increased from 200,000 to more than 4.5 million. Robins provided a voice for liberal agriculture in Utah, He believed the economic interests of both farmers and consumers were compatible and necessary for cooperatives to grow and expand. Robins served on multiple national councils, committees, and advisory boards.

In 1970, Robins endowed the USU Economics Department with the residual funds left over when UCA disbanded, as a true cooperater he asked the money be used to initiate an educational program teaching the principles of cooperation in the Economics Department. Two professors, Dee Von Bailey and Gary B. Hansen instigated course work concerning Agricultural and Worker cooperatives. These courses not only taught the nuts and bolt of operating a cooperative but offered classic examples such as the Rochdale pioneers and the Basque Mondragon worker cooperative system to demonstrate successful and non-successful historical attempts to cooperate.

Part of Robin's endowment went to USU's Special Collections and Archives to develop this digital exhibit. The purpose of this exhibit is to showcase the extensive collections of individuals and associations that promoted various forms of cooperation and also to highlight the work carried out by the USU Extension Service. Digital history is an emerging field created from the intersection of History and New Media. It allows the public to access materials they otherwise would not easily be able to view. It also encourages readers to investigate materials of the past and formulate their own opinion. The reader can immerse him/herself in the past, surrounded with primary sources evidence, and from it create new meanings.

One of the main goals of the digital exhibit was to make it as interactive as possible. "Interactive" may be to generic of a term to define the quality of this history. The notion of "participatory" is much closer. Users can make decisions with a series of links, this allow users to engage with the past in a way they could not otherwise by bringing so many different sources together in one place.



The best analogy may be like unto a choose your own adventure book or perhaps gaming—users can control where their characters will go and what they will see and do. BUT. In the end the creator/author controls the parameters of that experience.

This project was designed on those two concepts: that it would first host an abundance of primary sources and second organize the material into a sequence that makes navigation and access more simple and enjoyable. It is inviting towards the tourists and explores alike, whom; view it as an experience, a process, and a spatial, virtual-reality encounter with the past.

The exhibit's unique aspects include its vast collection of Utah's agricultural images, newspapers, stand-alone documents, maps, and converted audio and video footage from reel to reels and VHS.

The creation process proved to be a challenging and rewarding experience, because of the extensive amount of materials, which needed organization and effective presentation. A number of collections were processed, reordered and preserved before the digital project ever began. It is now quite clear that 21st century historians have to grapple with abundance, not scarcity of material. This project was no exception. After completing this project I've come to admire the Library of Congress and ProQuest whose staff have scanned and made available online millions of images and documents from their collection;

A special thanks to the staff who contributed to this exhibit include staff in Special collections, the digital library staff who scanned and created metadata for each image, Cheryl Walters and Jenn Pitcher, who organized all the content material, images and content DM framework, Garth Mikesell the brains behind the computer, Kristin Heal, for design and special thanks to Bob Parsons for his oversight at every level and Brad Cole for making this project possible.

Now let me take you through my journey of discovering Extension, Enterprise, and Education:



What is Happening



Library Catalog
Catalog now requires a login...
[Read more](#)



Off Campus Connection
Access to proprietary online sources...
[Read more](#)



LibGuides
Quick guides to library research by course or subject.
[Read more](#)

Exhibits & Events

Faculty Author Book Exhibition



The Library will host an exhibition of recently published faculty books. [Read more...](#)

Copyright Essentials for Faculty



Merrill-Cazier Library will host a 3-part webcast series. [Read More..](#)

Session 1: Monday, April 12, 11:00 - 12:30

Copyright for Classroom Teaching

Session 2: Wednesday, April 14, 11:00 - 12:30

Copyright Regulation Outside the Classroom

Session 3: Friday, April 16, 11:00 - 12:30

Faculty Rights Under Copyright Acts

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Find Articles

Quick Search

- [Find a Database](#)
- [Course Reserves](#)

Spotlight

2009 Tax Forms and Help



Tax forms are available in the Merrill-Cazier Library, room 108, from February 1 to April 15, 2010. You may also meet with a student tax assistant who can help you choose the correct forms, during scheduled hours beginning February 1 through April 15. Tax forms will be available during the regular hours of the library.

[Read more....](#)

Digital Commons

DigitalCommons@USU



Information & Links for the Unique Collections Sub-Menus



- [Art Book Room](#)
- [DigitalCommons@USU](#)
- [Digital Library Collections](#)
- [Electronic Theses & Dissertations](#)
- [Government Documents](#)
- [Fife Folklore Archives](#)
- [Special Collections](#)

Sub-Menu Information

When the mouse rolls over the submenu above, information about menu items will display here.

Welcome

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Find Articles

Quick Search of Library Databases

Keyword(s):

- [Find a Database](#)
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UtahStateUniversity
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Utah Co-operatives



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UtahStateUniversity DIGITAL INITIATIVES

Extension, Enterprise, and Education: the Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah

Co-operatives are voluntary associations jointly-owned and operated for the benefit of those using their services. While the Co-operative Movement was a worldwide phenomena in the 1800s, it was particularly strong and pervasive early on in Utah. Nineteenth-century Utah pioneers embraced the spirit of cooperation, building shared irrigation systems and establishing co-op stores within their communities. The co-operative spirit exemplified in Mormon communities followed Utahns into the twentieth century as farmers continued to associate in a variety of co-operative enterprises. Utah State University, founded in 1888 as Utah Agricultural College, further promoted these principles – even before Congress established the Co-operative Extension Service in 1914, the University was conducting conferences for Utah's farmers and homemakers.

This digital history of agricultural cooperatives in Utah extends from the experiences of early Latter-day Saint pioneers to formation of the Utah Co-operative Association (UCA) and its ultimate absorption by the Farmer's Union Central Exchange (CENEX) in 1976. The collection's images, papers, reports, pamphlets, and audio clips illustrate the history of farmer co-operatives throughout Utah and the movement's longstanding connection with USU.

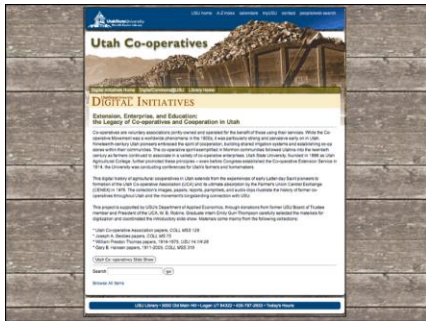
This project is supported by USU's Department of Applied Economics, through donations from former USU Board of Trustee member and President of the UCA, W. B. Robins. Graduate intern Emily Gurr-Thompson carefully selected the materials for digitization and coordinated the introductory slide show. Materials come mainly from the following collections:

- * Utah Co-operative Association papers, *COLL MSS 129*
- * Joseph A. Geddes papers, *COLL MS 75*
- * William Preston Thomas papers, 1914-1975, *USU 14.1/4:26*
- * Gary B. Hansen papers, 1911-2005, *COLL MSS 319*

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The materials that comprise this project are drawn from four main collections, all are housed in Special Collections. The W.P. Thomas collection, UCA collection, Joseph A. Geddes collections, and the Gary B. Hansen collection. The finding aids to these collections are found online at the Spec Collections website or there are links build into the exhibit.

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Co-operatives and USU



The co-operative spirit in Utah was exemplified early in the state's history by early Mormon villages and continues today in Utah State University's Co-operative Extension programs. Since the University's establishment in 1888 as Agricultural College of Utah, its faculty have written about and helped build co-operative enterprises in Utah. Faculty member and rural sociologist Lowry Nelson emphasized the uniqueness of the Utah experience through his study of the Mormon village in 1952. Long considered a model for research on small communities and community life, his research provides rich insight on social and cultural conditions of villages and communities. He wrote *The Mormon Village and American Farm Life* and served as editor for the *American Journal of Rural Sociology and Utah Farmer*.

[Lowry Nelson Collection Inventory](#)

[The Consumer Co-operative Movement](#)

[<< Conclusion](#) | [The Mormon Village](#) >>

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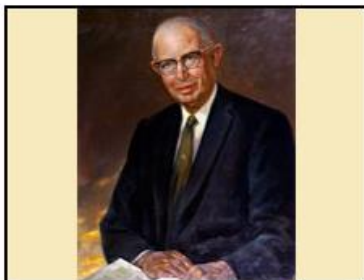
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Farm Bureau

W. Preston Thomas worked as Weber County's first agricultural agent from 1915 to 1925. Thomas was a leading proponent of Agricultural Co-operatives.



In 1915, Thomas collaborated with farmers to establish the Weber County Farm Bureau. A year later, he joined with representatives from other counties to officially establish the organization state wide. The state and county bureaus assumed the responsibility of representing the farmers in their efforts to collectively market sugar beets, canning goods and dairy products. The bureaus also enabled members to collectively purchase farm products at wholesale cost. In Weber county Thomas conducted educational programs to teach farmers about co-operative marketing, rural credit, and purchasing. Thomas was instrumental in organizing the Weber Central Dairy a seminal example of a co-operative enterprise.

[History of Utah's Farm Bureau](#)

[W. Preston Thomas University Archive Collection](#)

[Utah Farm Bureau Federation Collection](#)

[Selected Writings, Publications, and Materials Relating to or Published by W. Preston Thomas.](#)

[W. Preston Thomas Class Materials](#)

[The Utah State Farm Bureau- Its Activities: 1924](#)

[Annual Bureau News](#)

[Farm Bureau News](#)

[Farm Bureau Re-organization Papers; 1932-40's and 50's.](#)

[Interview with Ward Holbrook](#)

Audio

[Interview with Alph Chambers](#)

Audio

[Interview with Robson and Thompson](#)

Audio

[<< Smith-Lever Act](#) | [Agricultural Co-operative Act](#) [>>](#)

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Agricultural College Extension Division in Weber County



W. P. THOMAS
County Agricultural Agent

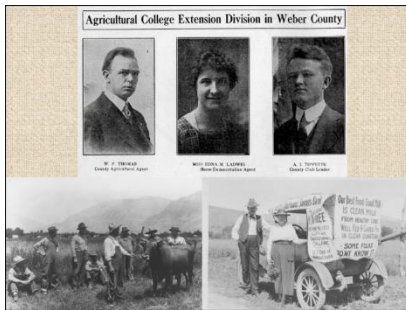


MISS EDNA M. LADWIG
Home Demonstration Agent



A. I. TIPPETTS
County Club Leader





The Farm and Home demonstration law in 1913 appropriated \$6000 for placing agents in each county. The job of the farm demonstrator was more than teacher it was his/her duty to investigate problems in the area, contact farmers personally and bring him the benefits of his experience. Home demonstration agents worked with the farmers' wives and occupied the same relation to her as the county agent occupied to the farmer. She worked in areas of food preparation, home economy, hygiene and family care. Agitating for help from the Federal Government in aiding demonstration work began as early as 1909 but not until 1914 was the Smith-Lever Act passed. This bill provided each state with \$10,000 annually. Supplemented with contributions from within

each county, college and local precinct. The bill also required that all programs and projects be approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. The boost given to the extension by Smith-Lever notably joined three basic units of government-federal-state-and county in spreading practical education to the agricultural community.

come acquainted with all the scientific principles pertaining to farming. And it is with this object in view and for this pur-



We are aware, too, that there is no business that is more menaced today than agriculture, staple agriculture particularly. That being true, and agriculture being the foundation stone of success and prosperity to a country, it is of great importance that the farming community should become acquainted with all the scientific principles pertaining to farming.

that there should be no points in the State, and that the provision of these various farmers, in order to get the best results may be derived from the products from different parts of the State, during the session, giving you the experience of the most practical and you the experience of the most practical. Through the experiments upon all branches of agriculture in Utah, together and discussing these questions we may be able to realize the very best results out of our labor, and by pursuing this course one of the great objects will have been accomplished, viz, to meet successfully the competition we are forced to come in contact with. We will be able by following up these lectures carefully and closely, by studying the nature and the chemical properties of our soil, to know exactly the kind of crop that is most profitable for us to grow. We will learn that it is essential to have our soil analyzed and then combine in a scientific way the results with our practical experience.

Address of Welcome.

By Mayor Lafayette Holbrook.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: I feel very much honored in being called upon to make a short address of welcome in behalf of the citizens of Provo and, I may say, of Utah county, upon this very important occasion. I received notice but a very short time ago that I would be expected to occupy this position, therefore have no prepared speech to offer. I will endeavor, however, to make such remarks as I hope will be suitable to the occasion.

I regret that we should not have more of our citizens with us this morning. I realize the fact, however, that it is the first time that we have been honored with a session of the institute in our city, and that small beginnings often end in great success; and I believe such will be the case.

We as a nation, and not only as a people of the world, are today struggling in the face of competition. It is met with in all the branches of business, and we can only make a success of any business this day by being prepared to meet it and overcome. We find that in order to do it in a manner that is satisfactory to the employer, every precaution and care should be taken, and that every legitimate advantage that is offered should be seized upon. It is of every opportunity that presents itself in our environment.

We are aware, too, that there is no business that is more menaced today than agriculture, staple agriculture particularly. That being true, and agriculture being the foundation stone of success and prosperity to a country, it is of great importance that the farming community should be-

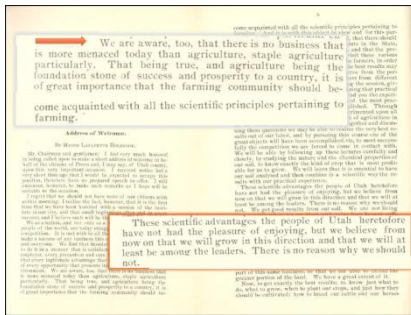
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These scientific advantages the people of Utah heretofore have not had the pleasure of enjoying, but we believe from now on that we will grow in this direction and that we will at least be among the leaders. There is no reason why we should not. We get good results from our soil. We are not living in a land that is barren, but a land that is rich with rains from heaven sufficient to grow all the crops that we desire.

These scientific advantages the people of Utah heretofore have not had the pleasure of enjoying, but we believe from now on that we will grow in this direction and that we will at least be among the leaders. There is no reason why we should not.

part of this same business; so that we are able to utilize the greater portion of the land. We have a great extent of it.

Now, to get exactly the best results; to know just what to do, what to grow, when to plant our crops, and just how they should be cultivated; how to breed our cattle and our horses



This was not the first time that practical education was advocated for the Agricultural College. The College from its birth embraced this mission.

Education has been expected to play many roles, but ultimately its purpose is to impart knowledge and give people the information society deemed essential. Formal learning in western Civilization was not always a concern of the majority, kept alive only by monastic orders in the middle ages and restricted to wealthy or wellborn in later years, education did not concern and was not concerned with masses of people—the peasant or laboring class. Finally, by the nineteenth

century the concept of educated men to keep up with rapidly changing society was widely accepted. In order to survive the diversified economic situation, people trained for the work they were engaged in.









Image:	Title:	Subject:	Description:
<input type="checkbox"/>		1901 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work--Utah; Housekeeper's Conference--Utah; Dairying--Utah; Fruit thinning--Utah; Fruit trees--Utah; Livestock--Utah; Sanitation, Rural--Utah; Soil management--Utah; Alfalfa--Utah; Communicable diseases in animals--Utah; Irrigation--Utah	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual number five, for the year ending June 30, 1901. College Bulletins issued quarterly, Vol. 1, no. 3, October 1901. Annuals of Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1904 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work; Home economics extension work--Utah; Irrigation--Utah; Reading; Poultry; Dairying--Utah; Horses;	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual number seven, for the year ending October 31, 1904. College Bulletins issued Quarterly, Vol. 4, no. 3, October 1904. Annuals of Farmers Institute and Housekeepers...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1906 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Farm equipment--Costs; Bromegrasses--Utah; Alfalfa--Utah; Fruit trees--Utah; Animals--Diseases--Utah; Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work; Home economics extension work--Utah; Children--Books and reading--Utah	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual number nine, for the year ending June 30, 1906. College Bulletins issued Quarterly, Vol. 6, no. 4. Annuals of Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference recorded...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1910 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work--Utah; Housekeeper's Conference--Utah;	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual number thirteen, for the year ending June 30th, 1910. College Bulletins issued quarterly, Vol. X, no. 8. "This number contains a review of the Utah County Farmers'...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1898 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work--Utah; Housekeeper's Conference--Utah; Dairying--Utah; Fruit trees--Utah; Horticulture--Utah; Livestock--Utah; Poultry; Sewing; Sanitation, Rural--Utah; Sheep--Utah; Soil management--Utah; Canning and preserving--Utah;	Second annual of the Utah State Farmers' Institutes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898. Annuals of Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference recorded the season's institute work, which contains...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1905 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work; Home economics extension work--Utah; Agricultural education--Utah; Livestock--Utah; Horticulture--Utah; Dairying--Utah;	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual number eight, for the year ending June 30, 1905. College Bulletins issued quarterly, Vol. 5, no. 5. Annuals of Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference recorded...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1909 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Poultry; Home economics extension work--Utah; Housekeeper's Conference--Utah;	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual twelve, for the year ending October 30, 1909. College Bulletins issued quarterly, Vol. 9, no. 5. "This number is devoted to poultry." Annuals of Farmers Institute...
<input type="checkbox"/>		1898-99 Annual of the Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference Agricultural College of Utah; Agricultural extension work--Utah; Farmers' Institutes--Utah; Home economics extension work--Utah; Housekeeper's Conference--Utah; Dairying--Utah; Fruit trees--Utah; Livestock--Utah; Irrigation--Utah; Alfalfa--Utah; Dairying--Utah; Sheep--Utah	Utah State Farmers' Institutes, annual number three, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899. Annuals of Farmers Institute and Housekeepers Conference recorded the season's institute work, which contains...

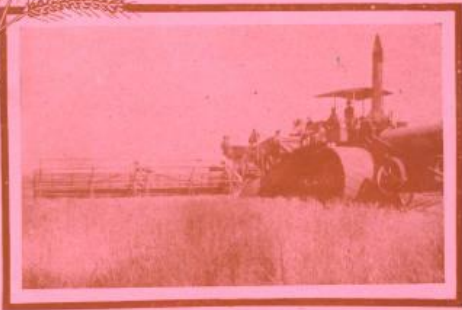
Image	Title	Author	Description
	The Agrarian Movement in America	John R. Brinkman	Examines the agrarian movement in America from the late 18th century to the 1930s, focusing on the role of the farmer and the impact of industrialization.
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A movement to improve agricultural conditions and educate the agriculturalist began in the late eighteenth century when Agrarian experiment schools opened all throughout Europe. In America the beginning of Agricultural education came with the formation of privately organized societies and clubs. Societies sprang up in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Virginia. All having illustrious backers such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and John Marshall. By 1852 there were estimated 300 active local and county organizations. In the movement for the advancement of agriculture grew the establishment of State Boards of Agriculture, the first in New York in 1820. With their development of State Board a new

movements to carry information to farm communities was underway. The idea of a 3-4 day series of meetings which came to be called Farmer's Institutes. These programs were an important part of the college's Agricultural extension program through the latter part of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century.

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UTAH STATE FARMERS' INSTITUTES



Combined Harvester and Thresher on a Utah Arid Farm

Annual Number Ten

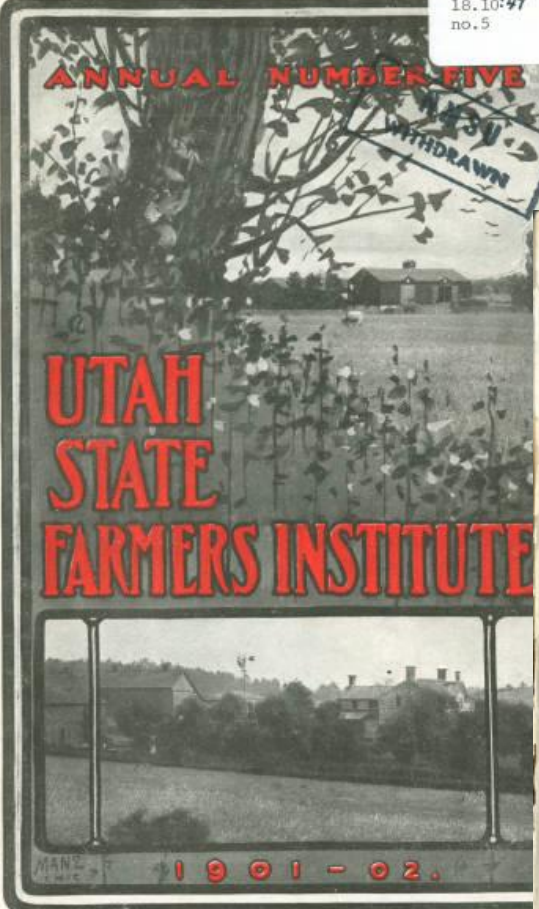
For the Year Ending June 30, 1907

College Bulletin Board Quarterly
Volume 7, Number 4

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ANNUAL NUMBER FIVE



UTAH STATE FARMERS INSTITUTE

1901-02.

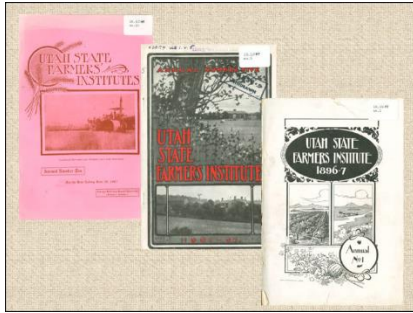
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UTAH STATE FARMERS INSTITUTE 1896-7



Annual
No 1

WITH GARNER & CO., LONDON



Agricultural Extension work in Utah has been exclusively carried out in connection with the land-grant college. This was not always the case in other states where extension work was first carried out through State Boards of Agriculture or privately organized farmer's organizations supported by county or local funds. Utah shared the experience of several other states of the West and mid-West. In 1888, the Utah Legislative Assembly passed a bill providing for the establishment of an Agriculture College. A board of trustees was appointed and responsible for setting up the experiment stations to carry out experiments and for conducting research into problems particular to Utah agriculture. By 1896 the real function of the college was outlined by the Board of Trustee

Reports "to place within the reach of the masses of the people an education in subjects pertaining to agriculture and mechanic arts." That year the Utah legislature passed a bill authorizing Farmer Institutes to be held in various towns and counties in the state "for the instruction of citizens of this state in the various branches of agriculture." (Laws of the State of Utah (SLC; 1896 pg. 182).

Farmers Institutes were conducted by members of the college faculty. The idea was that one Institute be held in each county, but in the first years, 1897-1900 this was impossible due to minimal funding. The first general institute was held in Provo, Utah Feb 23-27, 1897. Mayor Lafayette Holbrook in his welcoming address, praised the efforts of the college and expressed a need for experts to meet personally with farmers and bring "scientific advantages to the people of Utah heretofore have not had the pleasure of enjoying" He goes on to say that the United States was a nation struggling in competition, and that "no business was menaced by this more than agriculture....Therefore, the people needed to take advantage afforded them, and it was of great importance that they should become acquainted with the scientific principles of farming."

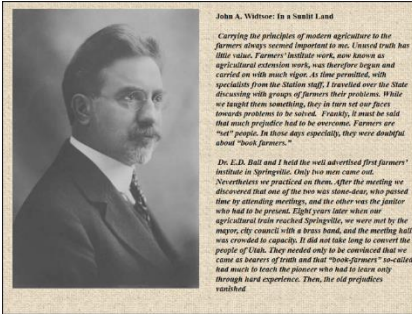
These lectures at the Institutes were concerned with the needs of the local people and talks centered on current issues such as variability of Utah soils, crop rotation, irrigation practices, animal disease and plant diseases. The proceedings of the Farmer's Institutes were published and distributed free of charge to interested persons. All the publications 1897-1910 have been digitized and made accessible online for your convenience so you too may become a technologically-savvy farmer.



John A. Widtsoe: In a Sunlit Land

Carrying the principles of modern agriculture to the farmers always seemed important to me. Unused truth has little value. Farmers' institute work, now known as agricultural extension work, was therefore begun and carried on with much vigor. As time permitted, with specialists from the Station staff, I travelled over the State discussing with groups of farmers their problems. While we taught them something, they in turn set our faces towards problems to be solved. Frankly, it must be said that much prejudice had to be overcome. Farmers are "set" people. In those days especially, they were doubtful about "book farmers."

Dr. E.D. Ball and I held the well advertised first farmers' institute in Springville. Only two men came out. Nevertheless we practiced on them. After the meeting we discovered that one of the two was stone-deaf, who passed time by attending meetings, and the other was the janitor who had to be present. Eight years later when our agricultural train reached Springville, we were met by the mayor, city council with a brass band, and the meeting hall was crowded to capacity. It did not take long to convert the people of Utah. They needed only to be convinced that we came as bearers of truth and that "book-farmers" so-called had much to teach the pioneer who had to learn only through hard experience. Then, the old prejudices vanished.



The largest problem faced by promoters of the new “take the college to the people” idea was apathy. Few farmers attended the conference.

John A. Widtsoe recalls from his autobiography his experience teaching at the first farmer’s institute in Springville that:

“Only two men came out. Nevertheless we practiced on them. After the meeting we discovered that one of the two was stone-deaf, who passed time by attending meetings, and the other was the janitor who had to be present. Eight years later when our agricultural train reached Springville,

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This movement was a relatively new idea to farmers and being a government sponsored program rather than a program instigated by farm people themselves. It became necessary to “sell” the idea to farmers and show how improved agriculture would improve their economic and social position. By 1901, 43 cities in 11 different counties were being visited by Farmer’s Institutes.



By 1905 the movement had mushroomed and a need was seen to enlarge the programs. In 1907, an official Extension department was established at the College. The department organized different college agencies in agricultural extension teaching. The magazine *Rocky Mountain Farming* began as the official organ of the Extension department. The Farmers Institutes were re-organized into a state-system with branches located in each county. 1907 and 1908 Institutes were held over 2-5 day periods, 288 sessions were conducted with an attendance of 26,926 that is approx. 7.6% of Utah's total population and approx. 14% of the rural population. Two years later the program was renamed "Farmers and Housekeepers Schools" and included full sessions for men and women. Borrowing an idea used successfully in Iowa, the Department ran a demonstration train to every town adjacent to railroad lines in 1908. The train contained cars carrying exhibits and lectures. The philosophy behind this kind of extension work was one of showing the farmer the correct farm methods rather than trying to convince them just through lectures.

18.10.5
1912

Utah Agricultural College

LOGAN, UTAH

The Annual Farmers' Roundup and Housekeepers' Conference

Two Weeks

February 5th to February 17th, 1912

In coming to Logan buy your ticket one way and get a certificate from the agent and you will be able to return home for one-third fare.

The music throughout is furnished by students of the U. A. C. Music Department under the direction of Professor George W. Thatcher.

★THE ROUNDUP★ PROGRAM

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5th.

9 A. M. to 12 M. President's Office, Main Building.
Registration and Get Acquainted.

1:30 P. M.—Room 280, Main Building
Address of Welcome—President J. A. Widtson, U. A. C.
Response in Behalf of Farmers—Mr. John Hall, Ogden, Utah.
Water Measurements and Measuring Devices—Mr. L. M. Winsor, Extension Division, U. A. C.
The Duty of Water—Mr. Don H. Bark, Irrigation Engineer, United States Department of Agriculture.

7:30 P. M.—Room 280, Main Building.
Home Work for the Boy and Girl—Dr. E. G. Gowans, Supt., Utah State Industrial School.
Crop Improvement—Prof. Amos N. Merrill, of the Agricultural Department, Brigham Young University.



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6th.

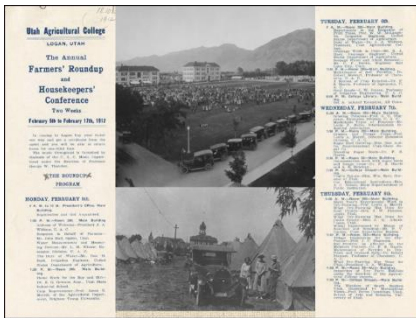
9 A. M.—Room 280—Main Building.
Experiments in the Irrigation of Fruit Trees—Prof. W. W. McLaughlin, Irrigation Engineer, United States Department of Agriculture.
Duty of Water—Dr. J. A. Widtson, President, Utah Agricultural College.
Drainage Work in Utah—Mr. R. A. Hart, Drainage Engineer, United States Department of Agriculture.
Sewage Water and Alkali Removal—Mr. C. P. Brown, Engineer, Salt Lake City, Utah.
1:30 P. M.—Room 280—Main Building.
Maintenance of Soil Fertility, Dr. Robert Stewart, Professor of Chemistry, U. A. C.
A System of Crop Rotation—Dr. F. S. Harris, Professor of Agronomy, U. A. C.
Good Roads—J. W. Jensen, Professor of Irrigation Engineering, U. A. C.
8:00 P. M. College Library, Main Building.
Get A. unanted Reception, All Coms.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7th.

9:00 A. M.—Room 280—Main Building.
Growing Potatoes—Prof. J. C. Hoggson, Extension Division, U. A. C.
Marketable Types of Potatoes—Mr. Louis F. Boyle, Intermountain Industrial Association.
1:30 P. M.—Room 280—Main Building.
Grasses and Forage Crops—Prof. Louis A. Merrill, Director Extension Division, U. A. C.
Sugar Beet Growing—Hon. Geo. Austin, Superintendent Utah-Idaho Sugar Co.
Breeding Sugar Beets—Dr. F. S. Harris.
3:30 P. M.—Room 33—Main Building.
Demonstration work with sugar beets and forage crops—Dr. F. S. Harris and A. E. Bowman.
7:30 P. M.—College Chapel—Main Building.
Utah's Future—Hon. Wm. Spry, Governor of Utah.
Our Educational Institutions—Hon. A. C. Nelson, State Superintendent of Public Institution.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8th.

9:00 A. M.—Room 280—Main Building.
Eight Year's Experimental Work in Dry-Farming—Prof. Lewis A. Merrill.
What Dry-Farming Has Done for Juah County—Hon. J. W. Faxman, Joseph, Utah.
What Dry-Farming Has Done for Cache County—Hon. J. Q. Adams, Pogan, Utah.
Wheat Improvement by Means of Selection and Breeding—Mr. F. V. Cardon, Utah Experiment Station.
1:30 P. M.—Room 280—Main Building.
Tillage Implements for the Dry-Farmer—Prof. J. C. Hoggson.
Soil Fertility as affected by the Moisture Content—Dr. F. S. Harris.
Maintenance of Fertility in Dry-Farm and Orchard Soils—Dr. Robert Stewart, Professor of Chemistry, U. A. C.
What Dry-Farming Has Done for Utah—President J. A. Widtson.
4:00 P. M.—Room 33—Main Building.
Inspection of Dry Farm Exhibits under the direction of the Agricultural College experts.
7:30 P. M.—College Chapel—Main Building.
The Wonders of South Eastern Utah, Illustrated by Stereoscopic Views—Prof. Byron Cummings, Dean, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Utah.



With the increased cooperation work, counties came together for “Farmers’ Roundups” for the purpose of sharing experiences and stimulating new ideas. The first conference was held in Old Main Jan 26-Feb 7, 1914 and included addresses by the Extension division as well as various activities for every member of the family. I was fortunate to run across a silent film in a library. This film was created by the Department of Agriculture to increase awareness of these land grant Round-ups. Family Goes to College.

-And so the extension work grew, penetrating every facet of farm and community life. (Film)

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Smith-Lever Act

Passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 solidified the College's mandate for Co-operative Extension through establishment of Co-operative Extension offices with agents established at the county level.



County agents organized yearly programs demonstrating new agricultural techniques to Utah's farmers. While the Extension Service's county agents helped the State's farmers, its home demonstration agents advised rural women about nutrition, homemaking, and sanitation. All agents prepared annual federal reports of the year's accomplishments and plans for the coming year. These reports contained a wealth of information on rural life in Utah: crop production, livestock, dairying, wool marketing, irrigation, weed and pest control, home economics, clubs and community events, etc.

[County Agent Reports for Cache County](#)

[County Agent Reports for Davis County](#)

[County Agent Reports for Weber County](#)

[Images of Home Demonstrators and County Agents](#)

[<< Farmers and Housekeepers Conferences](#) | [Farm Bureau](#) >>

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Extension is unlike other farm movements such as the Grange or Populist movements it stressed education rather than government reform. It has always been basically a government sponsored program rather than a grassroots movement. Extension was instigated by legislature. Over the years it has acted as a veritable go-between for the Agriculture programs of the state, and federal government, and farm population. These Agent reports were submitted annually from each county by home demonstrator and county agent. The reports contain narrative reports with pictures as well as summary records with only quantifiable numbers in it. We have only digitized reports from three counties but anticipate future reports will be scanned.

Search results for **Agricultural Extension Work Weber** [search again](#)

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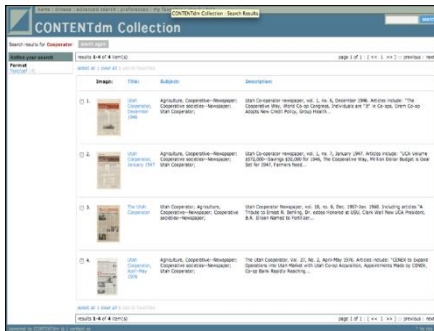
Weber County Farm Bure...

(2)

Robinson, e.w (1)

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Image:	Title:	Subject:	Description:
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. 	First Annual Weber County Institute for Farmers and Housekeepers	Agricultural extension work--Utah--Weber County; Farmers' institutes--Utah--Weber County; Home economics extension work--Utah--Weber County; Housekeeper's Conference--Utah--Weber County; Lectures and lecturing--Utah--Weber County;	Program for Farmers' Round Up and Housekeeper's Conference at Weber County, Nov. 29 - Dec. 4, 1915.
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. 	1918 Weber County Farm Bureau News	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County; Home economics extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County; Irrigation--Utah; Weeds--Control--Utah--Weber County	Farm Bureau News, Weber County, annual edition, December 1918, vol. II.
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. 	1919 Weber County Annual Report of Home Economics Extension Work and Weber County Farm Bureau News	Home economics extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County; Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.); Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County;	Report of Home Demonstration Work for Weber County, Utah from December 1, 1918 to June 1, 1919, by Edna M. Ladwig, County Home Demonstration Agent. Also included is the Annual Report of Weber County Farm...
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. 	1917 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural Extension Work	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County;	Annual report of the Weber County Farm Bureau for 1917, by W.P. Thomas, County Agricultural Agent. Annual reports narrate the agricultural extension work carried out in Weber County, including reports...
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. 	1916 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural Extension Work	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County;	Annual report of the Weber County Farm Bureau for 1916, by W.P. Thomas, County Agricultural Agent. Annual reports narrate the agricultural extension work carried out in Weber County, including reports...
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. 	1919 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural Extension Work	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County; Parker, A.F.--Pictorial works	Annual report of agricultural activities, 1919. Weber County Farm Bureau, State of Utah. From December 1918 to December 1919. Annual reports narrate the agricultural extension work carried out in Weber...
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. 	1918 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural Extension Work	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County;	Annual report of the Weber County Farm Bureau for 1918, by W.P. Thomas, County Agricultural Agent. Annual reports narrate the agricultural extension work carried out in Weber County, including reports...
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. 	1920 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural Extension Work - Unsigned	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County;	Annual report of agricultural activities, 1920. Weber County Farm Bureau, State of Utah. From December 1919 to December 1920. Annual reports narrate the agricultural extension work carried out in Weber...
<input type="checkbox"/> 9. 	1920 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural, Home Demonstration, and Boy's and Girls Club Extension Work	Agricultural extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County; Home economics extension work--Publications--Utah--Weber County; Boy's Club (Weber County); Girls Club (Weber County)	Signed annual reports of the Agricultural, Home Demonstration, and Boy's and Girls Club extension work for Weber County in 1920. Annual reports narrate the agricultural extension work carried out in Weber...



Let's take a minute and circle back to W.P. Thomas and his role as a Weber County Agent. Agents not only encouraged participation in the colleges agricultural extension work but they encouraged local communities to create farm organizations in which to cooperate. These local organizations were called Farm Bureaus which organized into County and State Bureaus and finally an American Farm Bureau Federation in 1920. The bureau became one of the major organizations cooperating with the Extension service and did more than any other organization or agency to promote agricultural improvements, economically, socially and politically. Unlike previous farm organizations that had formed during times of financial stress, the Farm Bureau emerged during a period or relative prosperity, introducing a business approach and stressing education into farming methods. The county agent became a principle advocate of the bureau. Over the years the bureau became a framework in rural Utah society however, I should note, Utah, as in the nation generally it did not represent a cross-section of all farmers but tended to include those who, because of its educational and technology based nature tended to attract those who were more progressive and better educated.

One of W.P. Thomas's accomplishments was to organize the Weber County Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau came to represent all the rural interest in Weber County it created better relations between farmers and the canners, packers, businessmen and manufactures." If we look into the county agent reports we find one of Thomas's projects --the Weber Central Dairy.

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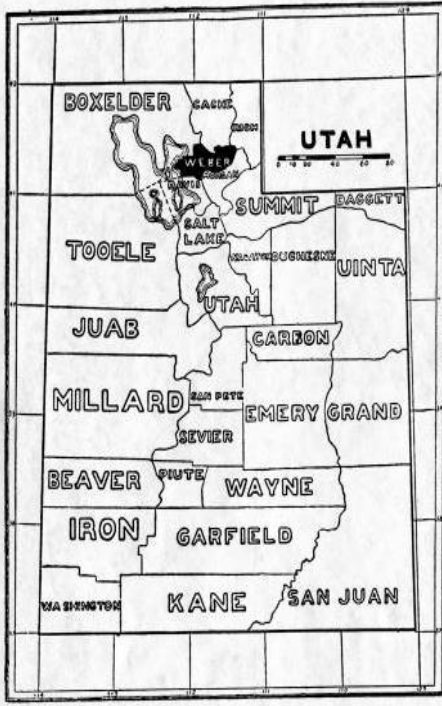
1929 Weber County Annual Report of Agricultural Extension Work

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ANNUAL REPORT OF EXTENSION WORK

AGRICULTURAL AGENT WEBER CO.
1929



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME
ECONOMICS, STATE OF UTAH

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Utah State Agricultural College
and County Farm Bureaus
Cooperating

Office of Cooperative Extension Work
Washington, D. C.



P0138
18:14:01

Dairy Herd Improvement Association Exhibit at Farm Bureau Day
Cows All Look Alike
Production of Two is Almost Double the Other Two

(b) Weber Central Dairy Association Testing:

Covering the four counties with Ogden as the business center, the Weber Central Dairy Association has a strong membership and is the dominating factor in the dairy business of the district. Through the cooperation of this organization, 111 herds, totaling 906 cows have been tested for production during the past eight months.

The organization of this work was arranged by the cooperation of the dairy and the Extension Service. The dairy employed a field man who has taken care of the testing as well as the field activities.

Members of the Weber Central Association signed an agreement to conduct the test at an expense of \$1.50 per cow. The field man leaves the sample case with the member who then takes his own sample of milk and records the weights on a card which is enclosed in the sample case. The field man collects the cases the following day. The testing is done in the laboratory of the dairy by a girl who is employed to do that work. The records are figured in the office and checked by the field man. Report of the test is mailed back to the member and he is visited by the field man on his next trip to leave the sample cases.

locals. 218 Farmers Bulletins on Dairy Barn Construction were given to interested dairymen. Blue prints were furnished to three farmers.



Barn blueprint
Project
4-2-20
Built by Merwin
Thompson

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18:14:09

Dairy Barn
Built by Merwin Thompson of Plain City

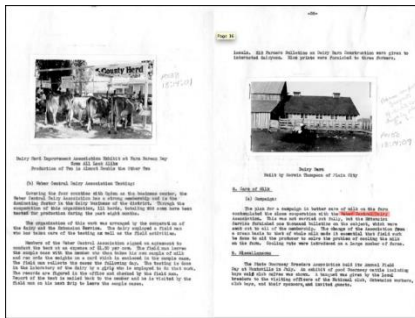
8. Care of Milk

(a) Campaign:

The plan for a campaign in better care of milk on the farm contemplated the close cooperation with the Weber Central Dairy Association. This was not carried out fully, but the Extension Service furnished one thousand bulletins on the subject, which were sent out to all of the membership. The change of the Association from a cream basis to that of whole milk made it essential that field work be done to aid the producer to solve the problem of cooling the milk on the farm. Cooling vats were introduced on a large number of farms.

9. Miscellaneous

The State Guernsey Breeders Association held its Annual Field Day at Huntsville in July. An exhibit of good Guernsey cattle including boys calf club calves was shown. A banquet was given by the local breeders to the visiting officers of the National club, Extension workers, club boys, and their sponsors, and invited guests.



Prior to 1923 a number of small dairy cooperatives had been organized in Weber County to help market milk. Skimming stations were operating where they gathered the milk, separated it and returned the skim milk to the producer and manufactured butter from the cream. These cooperatives did very little retail marketing and the market was unstable. In an interview with Robson and Thompson (which is available online) a veteran dairyman in Weber county Robson recalled these skimming stations would take milk from some of the producers but other producers would be cut off. He said, "There was a company in here who had a creamery in Slaterville and they would take the milk when they wanted it when they didn't want it, why it was up to you to

keep it." It was this setting that Weber County Farm Bureau stepped in with the assistance of W.P. Thomas. The Farm Bureau organized dairymen into cooperatives for the purpose of buying and selling. The advantages in group marketing and purchasing were obvious. And with the passing of the Utah Co-operative Act of 1923 cooperatives were recognized legal businesses. The county agent acted as a mediator in setting up cooperatives. They began holding public meetings, gathering information, and exploring the possibility of establishing a central dairy unit through which all the milk in the county could be marketed. In 1924 the bureau helped to incorporate the Farr West Creamy, Harrisville Dairy, Huntsville Dairy, Eden-Liberty Dairy, Plain City Dairy and Slaterville Dairy into Weber Central. Because of this incorporation better sanitation practices were instituted. This particular report on the screen describes standardized milk testing and milk cooling with Weber Central. Weber central would later merge with Federated Milk Producers of SLC in the 1960's to become Federated Dairy Farms. Among other Farm Bureau projects were the organization and price controls of the Utah Beet growers association, The Farmers Irrigation Company, Amalgamated Sugar Company, and the Canning Crop growers.














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<input type="checkbox"/>		Wasatch County Farm Bureau News Letter, 1920	Newsletters--Utah--Wasatch County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Wasatch County Farm Bureau News Letter, June 1920-December 1920.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Salt Lake County Farm Bureau News, 1917-1922	Newsletters--Utah--Salt Lake County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Salt Lake County Farm Bureau News, August 1917 - April 1922
<input type="checkbox"/>		Box Elder County Farm Bureau News, 1917-1922	Newsletters--Utah--Box Elder County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Box Elder County Farm Bureau News from June 1917 (Vol. I, no. 1) through October 1922 (Vol. V, no. 4) and a March 18, 1922 (Vol. I, no. 1) semi-Monthly issue.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Sevier County Farm Bureau News, 1920	Newsletters--Utah--Sevier County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Sevier County Farm Bureau News, June 1920-October 1920.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Morgan and Summit Counties Farm Bureau News, 1920	Newsletters--Utah--Morgan County; Newsletters--Utah--Summit County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Morgan and Summit Counties Farm Bureau News, May 1920-October 1920.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Sanpete County Farm Bureau News, 1919-1921	Newsletters--Utah--Sanpete County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Sanpete County Farm Bureau News, October 1919-November 1921.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Beaver County Farm Bureau News, 1917-1918	Newsletters--Utah--Beaver County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Beaver County Farm Bureau News May 1917-September 1918.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Uintah County Farm Bureau News Bulletin, 1920	Newsletters--Utah--Uintah County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Uintah County Farm Bureau News Bulletin, May 1920-June 1920
<input type="checkbox"/>		Utah County Farm Bureau News, 1916-1922	Newsletters--Utah--Utah County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Utah County Farm Bureau News, November 1916-December 1922
<input type="checkbox"/>		Carbon and Emery Counties Farm Bureau News, July 1917	Newsletters--Utah--Carbon County; Newsletters--Utah--Emery County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Carbon and Emery Counties Farm Bureau News, July 1917, Vol. I, no. 1.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Davis County Farm Bureau News, 1920-1923	Newsletters--Utah--Davis County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Davis County Farm Bureau News, dating from August 1920 through January 1923.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Iron County Farm Bureau News, 1917-1920	Newsletters--Utah--Iron County; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Intermittent issues of the Iron County Farm Bureau News, June 1917 - August 1920.

Year	Month	Document Title
1920	Jan	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Feb	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Mar	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Apr	The Farm Bureau News
1920	May	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Jun	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Jul	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Aug	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Sep	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Oct	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Nov	The Farm Bureau News
1920	Dec	The Farm Bureau News

Throughout the 1920s the Utah Farm Bureau published “The Farm Bureau News” these 3-4 page papers were published monthly or bi-monthly. Usually, edited by the county agent the paper explained the Farm Bureau and extension program and preached the farming gospel!

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Davis County Farm Bureau
News, 1920-1923

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FARM BUREAU NEWS

DAVIS COUNTY, UTAH

VOLUME II

Kaysville, Utah, January 27, 1920

NUMBER 7

WORK DONE BY BUREAU IN 1920

1. Proposed formations of 49,000-acre irrigation district.

2. Proposed organizations of its second drainage district at North Salt Lake, co-operating with Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County.

3. Co-operative drainage being done at North Farmington, Clearfield and Syracuse.

4. Hay, feed grain, Dixie molasses, and farm machinery co-operatively bought at a saving of \$6273.45.

5. Four cars of Early Ohio potatoes contracted, grown at Morgan and shipped in.

6. Successful negotiating of sugar beet and tomato contract.

7. Assistance given in controlling rats, sparrows, ground squirrels and grasshoppers.

Work to Be Done by County Bureau.

1. The bureau will negotiate a sugar beet and tomato contract. A campaign will be made to control diseases of the sugar beet.

2. The county will co-operate with the State Bureau in a campaign for better milk, better conditions in dairying and work for a dairyman's league.

3. The irrigation district will be formed.

4. Co-operative drainage will be done where needed.

5. Some of the labor problems in beets and tomatoes will be solved.

6. Civic conditions will be improved such as better sidewalks, cement sidewalks along the highway, cleanup days in the various locals and furnishing educational amusements.

7. Campaign for weed eradication.

8. Campaign for controlling sparrows, ground squirrels and grasshoppers.

9. Representative committee will try to obtain state ownership of the experimental farm.

One man says: "When your Farm Bureau becomes a strong organization I'll join." When it does it won't need his support as bad as it does now. Now is the time that it needs support. Join NOW.

EARLY OHIO SEED POTATOES

Since the Bureau unloaded the car of Early Ohio and Irish Cobbler Minnesota Certified seed potatoes in the fall there has been quite a call for some more of the seed. Another car of certified Ohio can be shipped in for the same price as the last car if sufficient orders will be turned over to the Bureau presidents. If you want any seed, see your president now, for the car must be sent far before February 10 in order to have it arrive when the seed is needed. Make your plans for planting now and avoid the spring rush by buying your seed. The Bureau cannot order a car of seed unless sufficient orders come in for a car.

WAYS TO KILL THE

FARM BUREAU

1. Stay home and kick about the Farm Bureau.

2. Never join or support the Bureau in any move.

3. Come late to meetings and take no part when you do come.

4. Listen to others, who are selfishly opposed to Bureau work, and say — ?

5. Not helping your Bureau or committeemen in their work.

6. Keeping still about some good work the Bureau has done for you.

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN

Utah is going to have 15,000 Farm Bureau members in 1921. The National Bureau will have about 3,000,000. Davis county's quota is 696.

We have 1172 farmers in the county and surely it is not too much to expect over half of these to join, especially when in the past some business men have seen enough in the Bureau for them to join. You are figured in on this quota. JOIN NOW.

Physical side of farming is developed, but the business side is undeveloped. Under present uncertain conditions, farming should be financed up.

JOIN THE BUREAU NOW.

IS FEE TOO HIGH?

A non-member of the Farm Bureau has suggested that the fee should not be increased. We wonder how a farmers' organization can do the big amount of business that it is now doing on less capital than any other organization.

The Farm Bureau has grown faster than any other organization the last ten years and has done it on less money. It is now in a position where it has representatives in the state and national capitals solving farmer's problems and bettering the farmer's conditions. In the past these men have been sacrificing part of their time for the farmers. If we demand all their time to make the work bigger, shouldn't we pay their expenses. Would you be willing to stand your own expenses and time, constantly, as they are doing?

Farm Bureau members want to pay for maintenance of the organization, but it is their duty to convince others that we cannot expect something continuously for nothing. Are we going to be satisfied with the present size of the Bureau or are we going to help it expand?

Farming now is a business proposition.

Dues paid by some local business organizations are: Railroad men, \$72 per year; Japanese association, \$37 per year; Weber club, \$36 per year.

In eastern states the Bureau fee is \$25. There is very little complaint about it; they have money to do business with and they are doing things. Join now.

BABY CHICKS

Baby chicks should be bought now for April delivery. The old hens, unless producing heavy should be replaced every three years with young stock. This can best be done in many instances by buying incubator chicks.

If any large amount is wanted or if a local will pool their orders, a shipment of Leghorns can be shipped in from California for about 15 cents a piece.

Two women, six men and a dog standing outside the Richmond Cooperative Mercantile Institution, 1900.



Providence, Co-op store, 1890.



Brigham City Mercantile and Manufacturing Association built in 1890 on the corner of Main and Forest Streets. Co-op Store Wholesale and Retail building seen in the background.



Hyde Park Co-op store. Lee & Sons General Merchandise store built in 1879.



Cooperative enterprises were not new in the state of Utah. As early as 1868 the LDS church instituted a highly centralized system of cooperatives that dealt with production and consumption of commodities. Retail stores were organized in virtually every community and ward in the West. About 164 stores located in 132 towns and cities in the Utah Territory. Other communities in AZ, ID, and Nevada also had stores. Membership in a co-op was generally limited to LDS organizations and members. When there was a shortage of cash in the local economy and more money was leaving the valley than coming in. Merchants substituted currency for due bills. They were issued in 1873 and 1874 but recalled in 1875 because the fed government tried imposing a tax. So they made a script out to certain people and payable to the bearer... in this format script was untaxable. The ZCMI branches issued script along with some of the major coops such as the Provo Woolen Mills and Brigham City Cooperative. The popularity of these scripts was evident when they came back into circulation a second time in the 1930's as a response to the market slump in 1929.



THE UTAH INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION.

No 675

Series B

This Coupon is Good For

ONE DOLLAR

In Merchandise or Services
Provided Bearer will affix one three
Cent Stamp to the back thereof.
The Trust Co. Will redeem this
Coupon when 36 Stamps are attached

FOR ONE DOLLAR IN CASH

James H. ...



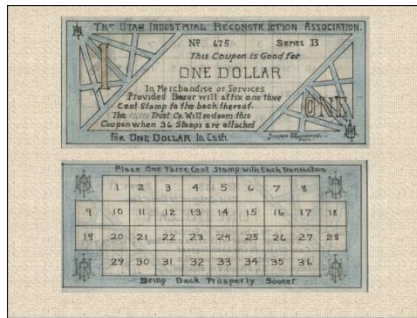
Place One Three Cent Stamp with Each Transaction



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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Bring Back Prosperity Sooner



A bartering movement in 1930's developed they called themselves the Natural Development Association (NDA). Money had no place in the system because they exchanged goods and services. The movement grew and by 1932 they incorporated. The Association began issuing script or valler to facilitate the business. There was nothing of value behind the issues except the exchange of commodity. The association increased their business from 57.20 in Jan of 1932 to 20,000 by July and three months later up to \$72,000. The NDA began to branch out in the production field, operating a small refinery, coalmine, leather tannery and canneries. By the summer of 1934 it had ceased all operations. The reason being the issuing of script got out of control and was inflated by repeated issues naturally it became worthless. The same situation that occurred with the LDS script.



MS 129 Oct 1 Pd 5
 UCA *Wardner*
 TOWARD ECONOMIC UNDERSTANDING
 By Dr. Joseph A. Geddes - *April 91*
 Feb. 1976
 46

Almost desperately, because he had avoided facing the issue so long, Brigham Young tried very hard to correct a misconception his people had fallen into. The misconception was agrarianism (agriculture by hand labor) as the Lord's plan and rising industrialization is of the gentiles and not of the Lord. How to go about the correction was his problem. Brigham Young had been so right in resurrecting ancient irrigation and tying it to community planned village settlement. Could he now serve his people and the Church but by turning them toward (1) cooperation and (2) the United Order? Would the joint stewardship and the co-op tied together hasten industrialization as fast or even faster than the private profit system? Some things about the co-ops he was not too clear about but experience is a

certainly lay ahead so he turned his people toward the United Order. Now one hundred years later, the United Order is very closely tied to private enterprise and has a long way to go toward both the co-ops and the United Order, but the principles of both for future inspiration.

GROUP INTEGRATION: A NECESSARY STEP
 IN BUILDING STRONG COOPERATIVES

Clarification of Integration:

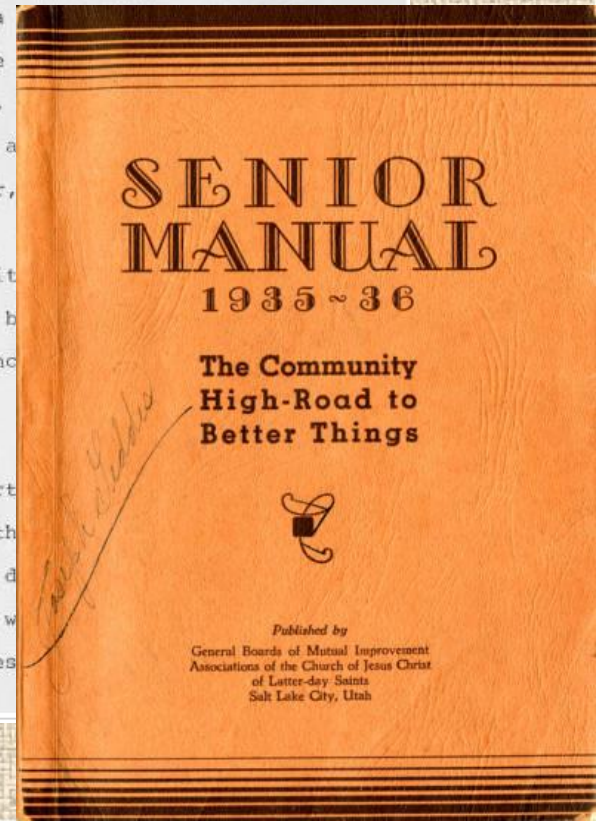
A group is said to be well integrated when all its members become involved in its programs and contribute to the accomplishment of its purposes. A group may be well integrated for worthy or unworthy purposes or it may be successfully integrated for purposes lying anywhere between completely worthy and completely unworthy ends. As time passes, large effort is usually given to rationalization of questionable purposes, practices and programs. Rationalization is a large word in present day culture. Agencies of considerable repute like the American Bar Association, the American Medical Association, churches, big business, some types of cooperatives, CIO, American Federation of Labor, women's clubs, athletic conferences, etc., make wide use of it.

Every group has an ideology of some kind. Active ideologies, in spite of the abuses to which they are subjected, are closely related to integration. They constitute some of the social current that ties the membership together. Ideologies provide the framework into which is fitted whatever structural integration is achieved in patterns and habits.

Where ideologies are themselves successfully unified, antagonistic elements are forced out as is now taking place in school integration in the South. Where portions of ideologies are allowed to lie dormant and are not unified over long periods, antagonistic elements in the form of residues multiply and cause increasing strains which retard integration and invite stagnation. The institutional

undoubtedly shown brotherhood and spirit
 mate how much. It is the writer's hope
 may be found one of the best evidences
 n as well as a prophet.

school the people in collective effort
 ration with the United Order. If this
 lives as the Rochdale pioneers have done
 a success of the United Order and with
 creating superior (Zion) communities



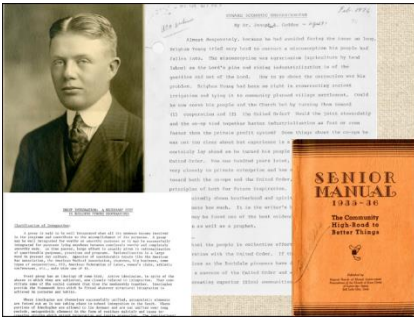
**SENIOR
 MANUAL**

1935 ~ 36

**The Community
 High-Road to
 Better Things**



Published by
 General Boards of Mutual Improvement
 Associations of the Church of Jesus Christ
 of Latter-day Saints
 Salt Lake City, Utah



Joseph A. Geddes, a rural sociologist joined the faculty of Utah State in 1926 where he remained for most of his career. Geddes interest in cooperatives began early growing up in Plain City Utah. His dissertation at Columbia solidified his interest as he researched the United Order among the Mormons, Geddes believed the United Order historically and at his present time was the solution to the problem of rural poverty. He would say, "Zion building properly interpreted meant community building." Throughout his life he reminded the church and the community of their obligation to revitalize the rural community through cooperative community building. Geddes served as an active member of the Consumers Cooperative Associations where he served as chairman and the State Self-Help Board. Many of his publications have been scanned and are available online, particularly his manuscript and photograph collection material relating to the UCA and Cache Valley Cooperative.

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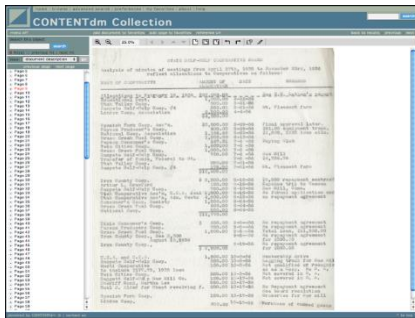


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STATE SELF-HELP COOPERATIVE BOARD

Analysis of minutes of meetings from April 27th, 1935 to November 23rd, 1936
reflect allocations to Cooperatives as follows:

NAME OF COOPERATIVE	AMOUNT OF ALLOCATION	DATE	REMARKS
<u>Allocations to February 15, 1936</u> \$57,086.85 - See C.G. Latham's report.			
Educational Dept.	1,000.00	2-15-36	
Utah Valley Coop.	500.00	3-21-36	
Sanpete Self-Help Coop. #4	550.00	3-21-36	Mt. Pleasant farm
Lindon Coop. Association	2,300.00	4-4-36	
	<u>\$4,550.00</u>		
Spanish Fork Coop. Ass'n.	\$3,500.00	5-29-36	Final approval later.
Payson Producer's Coop.	600.00	5-29-36	\$81.85 equipment trans.
National Coop. Association	1,166.69	5-29-36	\$1,500, 1935 loan allo.
Grass Creek Fuel Coop.	1,000.00	6-13-36	
Payson Consumer's Coop.	167.31	7-6-36	Buying Club
Twin Cities Coop.	1,600.00	7-6-36	
Grass Creek Fuel Coop.	1,000.00	7-6-36	
Sanpete Self-Help Coop.	750.00	7-6-36	Saw Mill
Transfer of funds, Federal to St.		7-6-36	\$4,736.76
Utah Valley Coop.	250.00	7-21-36	
Sanpete Self-Help Coop. #4	175.00	7-21-36	Mt. Pleasant farm
	<u>\$10,209.00</u>		
Iron County Coop.	\$ 3,300.00	8-10-36	\$2,000 repayment contract
Arthur L. Crawford	120.00	8-10-36	Expense trip to Tacoma
Sanpete Self-Help Coop.	750.00	8-10-36	Saw Mill, Comm.
Utah Cooperative Ass'n, C.C.A. deal	1,000.00	8-15-36	No formal application and
Utah Cooperative Ass'n, Adm. Costs	4,000.00	8-15-36	no repayment agreement
Consumer's Coop. Society	1,500.00	8-24-36	
Grass Creek Fuel Coop.	600.00	8-24-36	
National Coop.	500.00	8-24-36	
	<u>\$11,770.00</u>		
Dixie Consumer's Coop.	\$ 250.00	9-5-36	No repayment agreement
Payson Producers Coop.	750.00	9-5-36	No repayment agreement
Grass Creek Fuel Coop.	1,900.00	9-5-36	Total loan, \$11,500.00
Iron County Coop., See 3,300		9-5-36	No repayment agreement
August 10, 1936			for \$300.00
Iron County Coop.,		9-19-36	No repayment agreement
	<u>\$ 2,900.00</u>		for \$250.00
U.C.A. and C.C.S.	1,500.00	10-3-36	Membership drive
Sanpete Self-Help Coop.	550.00	10-3-36	Logging truck for Saw Mill
Manti Cooperative	150.00	10-3-36	Not qualified or recognized
to include \$177.75, 1935 loan			ed as a Coop. No R. A.
Twin Cities Coop.	225.00	10-3-36	Not covered in R. A.
Daggett Self-Help Saw Mill Co.	125.00	10-17-36	Not covered in R. A.
Sheriff Bond, Martha Lee	550.00	10-17-36	
Ruel J. Alder for Wheat revolving f.	200.00	10-17-36	No Repayment agreement
			See board resolution
Spanish Fork Coop.	150.00	10-17-36	Groceries for Saw mill
Lindon Coop.	200.00	10-17-36	Purchase of canned goods



The time between the two wars was a trying times for American farmers. With the collapse of the stock market the farm prices fell. Conditions for the farmer which until that time had been seen as a passing slump now became un bearable. Government relief program like the AAA, WPA, CCC, CWA, and FSA greatly benefited farm populations some of these programs were, and many more.

After the failure of the Natural Development Association, the organizer joined with Joseph Geddes and assisted in organizing an aid program for cooperative movements. With the aid of the president of the Utah State Federation of Labor, a bill was passed establishing a self-help board in Utah with \$40,000 in state apportions. Groups in various parts of the state organized themselves into cooperatives under this plan. In one month of operation 4 units had been approved. By the end of 1935; 37 units had set up business. The types of organizations formed included, Fruit and vegetable production, canneries, and many orchard projects.

The difference between a self-help cooperative and farmer cooperatives set up through the Farm Bureau is that farmer's cooperatives were organized by property owners or producers of a particular line of goods. In contrast the self-help groups were "property-less" and banded together to acquire property and produce a living from their own labor.



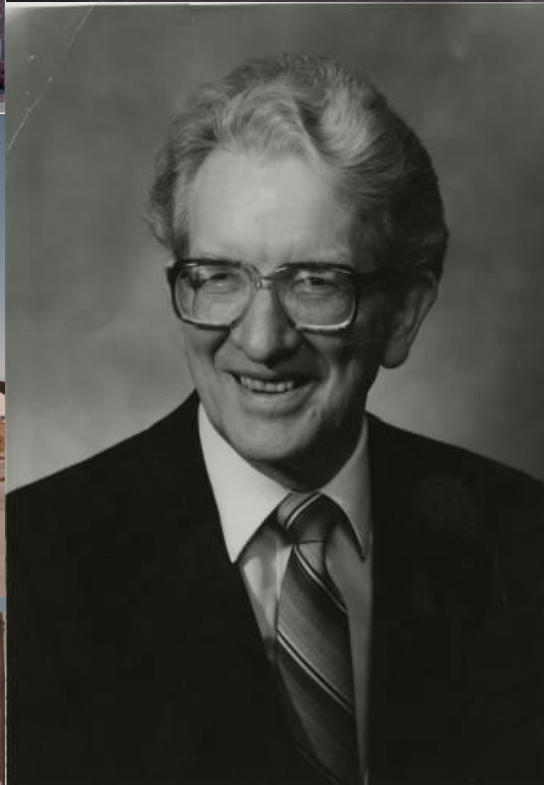
Pace Service Co-op, Coalville, Utah



Davis Farm Co-op



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P0385010916



Galaxy Gas Road Sign





The Utah Cooperative Association was a central association formed in 1936 under the State self-help program to hold together the existing system of self-help cooperatives and to start a consumer development through which products could be sold. Board members of the UCA were from affiliated local units so ultimate control was placed in the 15 coop member units. The UCA could make purchases for local units through the CCA (Consumers Co-operative Association a strong regional type located in Missouri) they offered competitive pricing and educational services. In the early 1950s the National Farmers Union invested in the UCA enabling it to expand and acquire a seed company and an oil refinery. The UCA merged with the Western Regional Farmers

union Central Exchange or for short and more familiarly named: CENEX in 1976 which brought even greater buying power to its store affiliates but ended a chapter in the history of cooperatives in Utah.

CONTENTdm Collection




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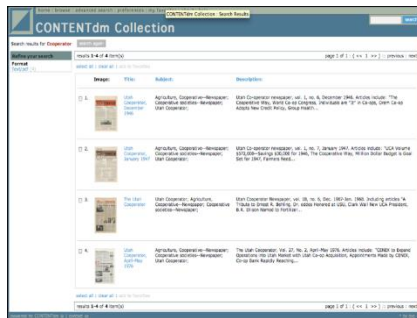
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	Image:	Title:	Subject:	Description:
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.		Utah Cooperator, December 1946	Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper; Utah Cooperator;	Utah Co-operator newspaper, vol. 1, no. 6, December 1946. Articles include: "The Cooperative Way, World Co-op Congress, Individuals are "It" in Co-ops, Orem Co-op Adopts New Credit Policy, Group Health...
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.		Utah Cooperator, January 1947	Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper; Utah Cooperator;	Utah Co-operator newspaper, vol. 1, no. 7, January 1947. Articles include: "UCA Volume \$572,000--Savings \$30,000 for 1946, The Cooperative Way, Million Dollar Budget is Goal Set for 1947, Farmers Need...
<input type="checkbox"/> 3.		The Utah Cooperator	Utah Cooperator; Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper;	Utah Cooperator Newspaper, vol. 18, no. 6, Dec. 1967-Jan. 1968. Including articles "A Tribute to Ernest R. Behling, Dr. eddes Honored at USU, Clark Wall New UCA President, B.R. Ellison Named to Fertilizer...
<input type="checkbox"/> 4.		Utah Cooperator, April-May 1976	Agriculture, Cooperative--Newspaper; Cooperative societies--Newspaper; Utah Cooperator;	The Utah Cooperator, Vol. 27, No. 2, April-May 1976. Articles include: "CENEX to Expand Operations into Utah Market with Utah Co-op Acquisition, Appointments Made by CENEX, Co-op Bank Rapidly Reaching...

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Among the associations records from the Robins collection and Joseph Geddes collections is found: The Utah Cooperator: the official newspaper of the UCA; The Utah Cooperative News 1936- 1939 and an employee newsletter published from 1936-1959. Along with many reports and histories. The newspapers in their entirety are online the reports, letters and histories are partially scanned by the majority of the collection is only accessible through the reading room.

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Utah Self-Help Cooperative Board
and
Utah Cooperative Association

UTAH COOPERATIVE NEWS

October 28, 1936
Vol. I, No. 1

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, J.A. Geddes,

The appearance of this modest, unpretentious news letter which bears the name of the Utah Cooperative News bridges a gap which has seriously limited and circumscribed the efforts of the State and local officers to keep in close touch with each other. Through the medium of the cooperatives, it is hoped that the State Self-Help Cooperative Board, the Utah Cooperative Wholesale, and the local units can supplement day-to-day business relations with an occasional direct means of contact so that a clearer understanding of objectives, of policies, and of programs may be had, looking to a firmer growth of a spirit of solidarity. The cooperative development in Utah has so many positive worthwhile things to do that it must not waste time or delay with misunderstandings a steady march forward. Unity and cooperation are twins. Essential as is the achievement of solidarity, the maintenance of unity is the very essence of movements which heal and help.

Cooperation based on proved principles and with able leadership should do for the masses, including the under-privileged, what capitalism has done and continues to do for the middle classes -- create satisfactory standards of living and make possible a reasonable participation in the good things of life. Cooperation should also enable this area to keep a larger share of the surplus which tends to be drained away to the larger financial centers.

The Utah cooperative groups are not political groups. We are not in politics. We are, however, like all other American social and economic institutions, influenced by the political situation. It is only right and proper to keep ourselves informed concerning the political record of public servants particularly with reference to their attitudes toward cooperation. So at the meeting of the cooperative units that is being held Friday, October 30, it is our duty and our privilege to consider the cooperatives in relation to the election. The printing of the information concerning Governor Blood in this news letter does not mean that the officers of the central cooperative organization do not feel that other candidates for the office of governor would not be friendly to the cooperative movement if they are elected. Our hope is that they would be. We simply feel that we should let the numbers of the cooperatives know before the election what Governor Blood has done as the Chief Administrator to sustain the organized Self-Help Cooperatives in this State.

The winter months is the time to plan for next year's projects. Most of the producer units provide supplemental work and supplemental income for their members. Next season this will continue to be true. There is no reason, however, where success has been achieved this year why enlarged projects should not be organized for next year so that the supplemental returns may really augment in a substantial way normal earnings. A number of consumers stores have been organized by

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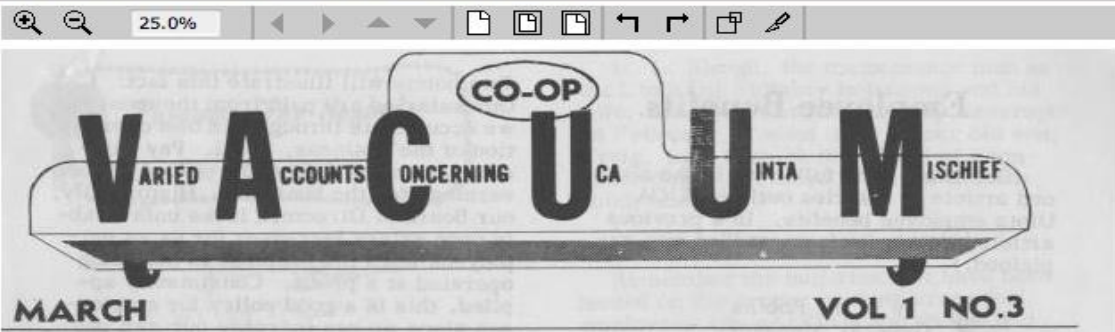
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Varied Accounts Concerning Uca Uinta Mischief (VACUUM), March, Vol. 1-No. 3

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And The Water Came

Excitement reigned (or rained) supreme last Friday at the warehouse of UCA and at the same time we received a real verification that our new sprinkler and fire alarm system really works.

Dick Muller, working in the warehouse stacking PAX, happened to strike a 4" main water line with the fork lift truck and received for his efforts an unprecedented cold shower that nearly washed him into the next county. Through the quick thinking of Charles Galer who was working nearby, extensive water damage was avoided by his rushing to the main valve and shutting the water main off. The water depth was measured in the main part of the warehouse to be slightly over two inches in depth and because the merchandise was stacked on wooden pallets about three inches off the floor, considerable less damage was realized than would have been if the water had kept coming any longer. Approximately 100 bags of PAX that were piled near where the break occurred had to be re-bagged.

The automatic alarm system really sounded off and everyone was surprised at the speed with which the Salt Lake Fire Department arrived on the scene. The firemen obliged by helping to swamp out the warehouse after the flood was over.

We're all glad to see that familiar curly head of Keith Caldwell's back on the job. Keith recently underwent his fourth kidney stone operation and was off work for four



Miss PAX, Miss Viv

Miss PAX (Marilynn Crowley) and Miss Viv (Jeane Garritson) will soon be seen in trade magazines across the country. Pictures of the two lovely girls who acted as hostesses at Kelly-Western Seed's recent dealer show in Salt Lake City have been sent to trade magazines and newspapers.

K-W's dealer show, which attracted more than 200 Utah garden supply dealers, was hailed as a tremendous success by staff members working on the project. Joe Bailey, the work-horse behind the scenes, said that only 75 dealers were expected when the show was first proposed. But enthusiasm grew and soon the list of 75 was expanded to more than 200.



While researching this project I found a 1950's court case that vividly narrated the animosity between the Farmers Union (whom the UCA had affiliated through) and the American Farm Bureau Federation.

By the end of World War II, The Farmers Union had gained a reputation as a strong voice for grain farmers who were much less affluent and conservative than those who joined the Farm Bureau. In 1940's the National Farmers Union was a major critic of the Truman administration's foreign policy plan. The organization endorsed the United Nations, world peace and social justice and was committed to peace and friendship with the Soviet Union. The increasing hostility between the US and the Soviet Union made the Farmers Union organization uncomfortable; as it threatened the Unions position as a spokesman for American Farmers. Many critics of the Farmers Union suggested the Farmers Union as communist sympathizers. Among the unions critics were the American Legion, Farm Bureau and many private individuals.

The Farm Bureau hoped to reinforce the negative image of Farmers Union and damage the chances for Utah Democratic candidates Congressman Walter Granger's chances for a Senate seat. The Utah Farm Bureau in 1950 published a statement in the newspapers that "Representative Granger had exhibited his evident animosity toward farm organizations (except the communist dominated Farmers Union)." The National Farmers Union objected by taking the Utah Farm Bureau to court for slander. The National Farm Bureau Federation stepped in to back the Utah Farm Bureau---I'm sure eager to prove the Farmers Union *were* advocating communist causes and were involved in communist activities. The American Farm Bureau Federation produced an abundance of witness to prove their case that the communist party had infiltrated the Farmer's Union. One witness claimed that Senator Grangers picture was hung in the Farmers Union office next to Stalin's pictures. The court case lasted a week in 1951. Judge Ritter ruled for the Farmers Union stating that in light of the anticommunist hysteria "the label of communist today" in the minds of people....makes them a symbol of public hatred, ridicule and contempt." As a result of this criticism the Farmers Union became an increasingly marginal voice in political affairs but the Farm Bureau's attack shed a negative light on their organization.

Gary B. Hansen papers, 1911-2005. USU_COLL MSS 319

For more EAD files

Utah Statewide EAD Index

Mountain West Digital Library

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Collection Overview

Creator: Hansen, Gary B.
Title: Gary B. Hansen papers,
Dates: 1911-2005. (inclusive)
Collection Number: USU_COLL MSS 319
Quantity: 62.75 linear ft. (149 boxes)
Summary: The materials in this collection have been divided into 11 series. Series I: Cooperatives, Series II: Plant Closings/Worker Dislocation, Series III: Eastern Europe, Series IV: Economic Development, Series V: Manpower Training, Series VI: Labor-Management Relations, Series VII: LDS/Utah Topics, Series VIII: Newsletters, Series IX: Office Files, Series X: Helen Foster Snow, Series XI: Clarence J. Hansen WWI Materials. Series I-IX consist largely of articles, correspondence, essays, and reports collected during Hansen's career and travels as a labor scholar. Series X includes articles, correspondence, and typescripts amassed over the course of Hansen's correspondence with China advocate and Utah native Helen Foster Snow. Series XI is composed of materials gathered during WWI by Hansen's relatives, Lt. Clarence J. Hansen and Ruth Hansen Bruerton.
Repository: Utah State University. Special Collections and Archives
Address: Merrill-Cazier Library
 Utah State University
 3000 Old Main Hill
 Logan, UT 84322-3000
 Phone: 435 797-1663
 Fax: 435 797-2880
 Email: scweb@usu.edu

Collection Inventory

Container List

Series I: Cooperatives

USU Special Collections has a variety of materials on the cooperative movement in Utah, through the work of Joseph A. Geddes and the records of the Utah Cooperative Association that he helped organize. It also has the papers of Leonard J. Arrington who co-authored a book on the cooperative movement in the Pioneer period in the LDS Church and early Utah. Dr. Hansen's donation augments these materials by adding a substantial number of items and documents about the lesser known but very significant worker-owned cooperatives in the United States and Europe, and especially the story of their expansion in the 20th century.

The worker cooperative movement in the United States and Canada was revitalized in the 1970s and 1980s with the help of a number of people, including Frank T. Adams and Gary B. Hansen. This section includes the correspondence and materials that Dr. Hansen accumulated in his 23 years of collaboration and friendship with Frank Adams, writing about worker cooperatives. Their cooperative work, together with the development of Employee Stock Ownership Plans promoted by the 1971 Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) legislation passed by Congress, are now important components of the worker cooperative, workplace democracy and job creation movements in North America, Europe and elsewhere.

The section also includes the documentary materials generated by Dr. Hansen during his work with the International Labor Organization (ILO) Cooperative Branch from 1990 to 2004. During that time he helped conduct workshops and wrote documents on worker cooperatives for use by the ILO at their headquarters in Geneva and at the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok to assess the need and interest in using cooperative forms of entrepreneurship to generate jobs and employment in several of the countries in the region as well as in other parts of the world. Also included are materials about the Mondragon Cooperative, a worker-managed manufacturing and retail company based in Spain. The materials in the Helen Foster Snow Section add an important dimension to those contained in this Section.

These materials can provide researchers and scholars of worker cooperatives and the cooperative movement in general with an extensive set of published and unpublished materials about the expansion of these unique forms of economic activity in the latter part of the 20th and early 21st centuries and complement the other cooperative materials at USU.



The final collection the library digitized and is a part of the exhibit are the Gary B. Hansen Papers. Hansen's papers are by far the largest collection of the three previous mentioned. Economics professor Gary Hansen, with other faculty members studied and taught the principles of co-operatives at Utah State University. He contributed not only by developing curriculum and teaching classes in international and worker cooperatives, but also through his generous donation of cooperative materials to the Merrill- Cazier library.





Cooperative principles and practices have historically responded to certain adverse economic conditions, economic and social which existed at the time of their inception. While Utah's days of cooperation seem behind us, cooperation is still an integral part of the national economy, where four out of ten Americans, according to the National Cooperative Business Association, have some affiliation with co-operatives.

Thank you for sharing the Legacy of Co-operatives and Cooperation in Utah. I would encourage you to visit the digital archive to delve further into this collection.

Women of the Weber County Home Bureau, 1917-1920

Emily Gurr Thompson

In October 1913, David F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture mailed letters to fifty-five thousand farmwomen across the United States, asking how his department could better serve these women. Of the fifty-five thousand letters sent, twenty-two hundred women replied. The letters came back in all forms: typewritten, scribbled on the back of the original letter, or written on scraps of wrapping paper. Letter after letter consistently illustrates a life of long, hard hours of work; the absence of over fifty thousand responses also testify to the busy lives of farmwomen. It is impossible to overstate the significance of the letters in this collection as they reveal the hidden lives and attitudes of American farmwomen prior to World War I. They contain reports of isolation from lack of reliable roads and telephones and hours of endless labor. A farm wife from Missouri wrote: “I have been a farmer’s wife for 30 years and have never had a vacation.”¹ A Virginian farmer reported: “Isolation, stagnation, ignorance, loss of ambition, the incessant grind of labor...are all working against the farm woman’s happiness.”² Often, women did not share equal credit with the men for their farm work or drudgery, which is commonly addressed in the letters. Within agricultural production, chores were sex-differentiated. While women might do men’s work when the male was absent and, conversely, men might fill in for women, farm labor was ordinarily divided along gender lines. Despite the partnership required, only male work was highly rewarded with economic compensation, political recognition, or social esteem. In the letters, women suggested a means to equalize and recognize women’s labor through organization, suggesting that the government sponsor homemakers’ clubs just as they had sponsored men’s and youth

1. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Secretary, *Social and Labor Needs of Farm*, Report 103 (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1915), 47.
<https://archive.org/details/sociallaborneeds10unit/page/30>

2. U.S. Department of Agriculture, *Social and Labor Needs*, 14.

programs. These clubs or rather home bureau's as they came to be called could provide a supportive and inclusive place for women to band together and learn skills, time saving methods to reduce laboring time, and flourish in the twentieth century modern household and farm. The bureaus provided an added benefit for women as a social outlet to dispel isolation and loneliness.

Annual, two-week Farmer's Roundups and Housekeepers Conferences hosted by the Cooperative Extension Service (CES) marked a first attempt to gather and educate local farm families. However, much more would be required to answer the women's call for organization. The Smith-Lever Act, coauthored by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia and Representative A.F. Leaver of South Carolina in 1914, created the extensions service, with the purpose of extending agricultural and home economics education taught at the Land-grant schools into the community. Through cooperation with the local farm bureaus in conjunction with the county and home demonstration agent programs, CES could disseminate scientific information into the countryside. While a federal act created the program and assigned the Cooperative Extension Service to monitor the organizations, the actual growth and control of the bureaus took place locally rather than at the national level.

Many scholars concentrate on the national political power of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) to explain its powerful influence; however, the bureau's local programs were equally important.³ Members participated in a bureau for various reasons, and

3. Orville M. Kile, *The Farm Bureau Through Three Decades* (Baltimore: Waverly Press, 1948); conversely see Eric Mogren, *Native Soil: A History of the DeKalb County Farm Bureau*. (Illinois: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005). Mogren argues the DeKalb Bureau grew to the wealthiest and most influential in the nation because of unique farming environment and community additionally he argues the quality of the county agents to react and create solutions kept the bureau fluid.

this broad appeal established a solid base of political capital for the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). As public recognition of the county farm and home bureaus expanded, particularly during World War I, their activities in the local communities began to revolve around the organization, which had important economic, gender, and educational implications. These activities promoted cooperation in agrarian life for the entire farm family. The Home Bureaus, which provided a space for women's activities, mostly functioned as separate entities from the Farm Bureaus; however, they did reinforce ideas that members believed necessary to agriculture: rural home, family farm, and community. The Utah farming experience roughly paralleled that of several other states in the West and Midwest. Therefore, an analysis of Home Bureaus at the local level not only can demonstrate the relationships between agriculture and national trends in science and technology and how the Farm Bureau base solidified within a community but also how the home bureau agents played a critical role to meet the social, political and financial needs of farmwomen and consequently, claimed a particular authority in their gendered spheres.

The county agent and home demonstrator programs were particularly critical in the successful cooperation of the Farm Bureau and Extension relations. The earliest experiments in this type of demonstration in Utah began in the Uintah Basin in 1911, when L. M. Winsor was assigned as the first county agent. The job of the farm and home demonstrator was more than teacher; it was the demonstrator's duty to investigate problems in the area, contact farmers personally, and bring the farmer or housewife the benefits of experience. Three men were employed as county agents in the state by 1913, and eight agents were working full time by 1914. Weber County was the first operational Home Bureau in the state that employed female home demonstrator agents. The Weber County

Home Bureau provides a case study to answer how homes bureaus served the needs of the women in their county. This case study will reveal the opportunities for young women to lead out in a government agency as home demonstration agents, and by expanding the role of housekeepers and farmwomen to participate economically and politically in their communities. This paper will examine the education, role and projects of the home demonstrators in the Weber County Home Bureau in Utah from 1917 to 1920 and illustrate how the agents overcame tensions of social class and claimed a uniquely gendered economic and political power for themselves and the housekeepers and farmwomen in their county. First this paper will discuss the educational opportunities and pathway to becoming a home demonstrator, second, it will investigate the tension between the home demonstrators and the women they were assigned to assist caused by differences in education, financial and marital status. Finally, this paper will show how tensions temporarily resolved during World War I because of the popularity of the extension projects in rallying war time causes. Thus, the complexities of the role and relationship between the home demonstrator and farmwomen is characterized and pathways to expanded political and economic power for farmwomen, housekeepers and home demonstrators illustrated within this paper.⁴

The Land-grant colleges pioneered domestic science curricula for women, which became widespread, fulfilling the 1862 Morrill Act's goals for scientific education for the American laboring class. Female students found a place within the colleges to train for domestic careers. For example, the Domestic Arts degree at Utah Agricultural College was a

4. This paper is building from Greg Osterud, "Putting the Barn before the House," 2012 and most recently Nancy Berlage, *Farmers Helping Farmers*, 2017.

curriculum offered to female students requiring classes in cutting and sewing, cooking and nutrition, dairy practice, horticulture, reading, elocution, mechanical drawing, photography, fancy work, music, and painting.⁵ This form of education sought to train women—in their separate, gendered spheres—to be more efficient and productive in the home arts. Historians of women’s education have made a variety of arguments concerning the ultimate effect of domestic education in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Historians Jill Conway and Margaret Rossiter argue that domestic science education forced women into traditional domestic roles and enforced institutionalized sexism. Conway asserts that coeducation did not create progress for women because: “women’s intellectual energies were channeled into perpetuation of women’s service role in society rather than into independent and self-justifying intellectual endeavors.”⁶ Evidently, domestic science reinforced traditional female gender roles; however, as female reformers argued, domestic education was an important step for women’s progress because it validated the “female work” that women had been performing for centuries. The domestic science programs at least offered women opportunities to train in the field scientifically as young professionals.

Education opened a professional door for many of these young women. Historian Radke-Moss has studied the domestic science graduates of the Utah Agriculture College (UAC) to determine their post-graduate activities. Her research reveals that women most often chose between two professions: teaching home economics in other institutions or pursuing

5. A study of the early catalogs of UAC, “Our University as I Know It,” talk prepared by Mrs. David A. Burgoyne (Allie Peterson Burgoyne) for the Utah State University Faculty Women’s League Program, November 7, 1958 (unpublished manuscript), 6.

6. Jill K. Conway, “Perspectives on the History of Women’s Education in the United States,” *History of Education Quarterly* 14 (Spring 1974): 9; Margaret Rossiter, *Women Scientists in America: Struggles and Strategies to 1940* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1982), 65.

home economics extension programs.⁷ As young professionals, home demonstration agents held a degree in domestic science. In return for sharing their expertise they received a government job and the stability of a monthly paycheck. They were responsible for educating homemakers and farmwomen in methods how to reduce the amount of labor spent through the use of modern conveniences, in a sense asking them to imitate urban women's consumer roles. The extension home agents taught bureau women how to think quantitatively about their homes and farm in decreasing labor and increasing profits. They encouraged homemakers and farmwomen to think in terms of managing a business, rather than in romantic terms of keeping house.

The duties of a home demonstrator were, in some ways, the same as those of a county agent, their male counterpart. Both agents met with the Farm Bureau commissioners and organized annual programs. At the end of the year, they both prepared lengthy annual reports that contained a narrative of the Farm Bureau's plans and methods for reaching out to the rural community. These reports contained photographs, maps, diagrams, blueprints and other material the agent found valuable in documenting the year.⁸ Further, the summary report recorded statistical evaluations of members, number of projects, participants, and results of their projects.⁹ While home economics education spread across the country—and could therefore be seen as enforcing gendered labor roles—it also educated women to the point that

7. Andrea G. Radke-Moss, *Bright Epoch: Women and Coeducation in the American West* (Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2008), 167-172.

8. Utah State Farm Bureau—its activities: you and your neighbor—that's all it is, Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, 1925, 631 Ut1, 31, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

9. Annual Report 1917-1918, 19.1/1:47, box 88, Weber 1918, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 2.

they could successfully drive demonstration vehicles, collect data, write reports on scientific research, adhere to “strict business principles” and communicate the needs of farmwomen to the Farm Bureau commission board, county agent leaders, and Extension directors.¹⁰

In August 1917, the county commissioner appointed Miss Edna Ladwig, a graduate of the Colorado Agricultural College, as Weber County’s first home demonstration agent.



Figure 1. Miss Edna Ladwig, home demonstrator.

Ladwig occupied the position until June 1919. The commissioner hired Miss Edith Hayball as her assistant and Miss Hattie Peters as the clerk for all the Weber County extension agents. In December 1917, the *Weber County Farm Bureau News* ran an excerpt about the new home demonstrator, praising her many qualifications to work with housewives and advertising her

10. Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, “Utah State Farm Bureau- Its Activities: You and Your Neighbor, 12.

responsibilities so the community knew she was available to solve individual home problems and give lectures and demonstrations on household science.¹¹

During Miss Edna Ladwig's tenure as home demonstration agent, she took a lead role to organize the fledgling home bureau, survey the county, give demonstrations, and supervise scaling to fulfill wartime food deficiencies, which in itself was a monumental task. Outside of the war, one of her key projects was the eradication of the housefly. In response to the influenza epidemic outbreak in the fall of 1917, a countywide sanitation campaign, including twenty-six female members, was organized to eradicate the housefly, the perceived carrier of the disease. Under the direction of Ladwig, the farmwomen and housewives initiated and carried out the program independent of the men's campaigns. They called on municipal and state governments to support their program and engaged in civil life as never before forging political relationships outside of their husbands.

The housefly eradication campaign included newspaper articles published in the *Bureau News* and *Ogden Examiner*. M. H. Welling, of the House of Representatives, noticed how the women were using the *Farm Bureau News* to publicize their campaign and donated 250 posters to their cause. The posters illustrated the perceived dangers of the housefly and were distributed throughout the communities along with the ladies recipe for housefly poison. The Weber Home Bureau showed educational slide presentation at all three Weber County schools for parents and children. The women in the campaign also drew on their religious connections through the local churches and organized programs and school groups to make flytraps through the Latter-day Saint Relief Society. They urged male ecclesiastical leaders to make announcements to their congregations encouraging members to participate in their

11. Weber County Farm Bureau News, December 1917, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 6.

appointed “Arbor Day Cleanup Day.” The women staged this community event to destroy the houseflies’ breeding places.¹² Calling upon their religious organizations and males in leadership positions to support their campaign fostered small changes to the established male - female dynamic. The women who drove the fly campaign reached out to the communities to gain widespread support; as well as exterminating houseflies, they also broadened their public recognition and role. This campaign demonstrates how with the assistance of an enthusiastic home demonstration agent the farmwomen and housewives created an alternate form of women’s public and political engagement. Expertise in domestic science provided women alternatives to farm production roles and provided them opportunities to exercise their authority for various reform activities. Participating in municipal domestic work allowed women to spread activism throughout their communities. Firmly grounded in scientific action, through direct contact with the home demonstration agent the women of Weber County organized clean milk campaigns, hot school lunches, health programs, fly and disease eradication, and a number of other programs. With this partnership formed with the Farm Bureau, government, and the Extension programs, the women’s home bureau continued to make valuable municipal contributions throughout Utah.

Agricultural colleges, experiment stations, and the USDA, channeled home economics education to farmwomen through home demonstration agents. The intention of this approach was to upgrade the lives and activities of farmwomen by using technology to reduce farm “drudgery” and create a home life as enjoyable to that experienced in urban regions. This type of technological approach and systemization of tasks was made popular at industrial sites in

12. Report of Home Demonstration Work for Weber County, from December 1, 1918 to June 1, 1919, 19.1/1:47, box 88, misc. news clippings, reports, and posters. Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

cities by Frederick Taylor in 1911. The term “taylorism” was coined to characterize the labor process of the reorganization of tasks to a timed-efficiency.¹³ While there were no factories involved in agricultural production, the same ideology of time management, record keeping, and scientific knowledge to streamline industry slowly developed in industrial agriculture.¹⁴ This modernization of the agriculture process was maintained by a new class of progressive professionals in the twentieth century working at banks, insurance companies, land-grant colleges, farm managers and home and rural demonstrator programs. Because the movement was relatively new and quasi-government sponsored program rather than a program instigated by farm people themselves, it became necessary to “sell” the idea to farm peoples and demonstrate how improved agriculture and home economics could improve their economic and social positions. The home demonstration agents attempted to *show* the farmwomen and housewives correct scientific methods, rather than trying to convince them through theoretical lectures.

Personal contact between home demonstration agents and farmwomen in the communities helped break down the distrust some members felt toward outside expertise. The home bureaus built regularized meetings, demonstrations, and publications into a network, making information more accessible to farmwomen and modern techniques easier to understand. Yet, despite the long hours of work that the home agents put into bridging the

13. Samuel Haber, *Efficiency and Uplift: Scientific Management in the Progressive Era, 1890-1920* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1964), 24-29.

14. The development was slow because agriculture contains so many biological processes, that the agricultural sector could not industrialize all at once. Instead, industry and technology worked hand-in-hand to remake different elements of agricultural production. For example, while tractors slowly replaced horses, horses were sometimes used when they proved more convenient and cost effective than tractors; similarly, fertilizers gradually replaced manure—see David Goodman and John Wilkinson.

social divide between themselves and farmwomen, there remained a sense of “them and us.” Historian Megan Elias suggested a cause for the divide, saying that, “because home economists styled themselves as experts in a field in which each woman was supposed by her very nature to be adept- they often seemed to overturn the only authority ever granted to woman.”¹⁵

Another point of tension between farmwomen and the young single, extension agents was differences in life choices. The stereotypical home demonstration agent was young, single, and either a recent graduate or working her way through a college program. She drove a car, lived in an urban community and took advantage of modern technology such as vacuums, cameras, and washing machines. A farmwoman noted: “We wonder why the extension workers do not realize that our life scheme is entirely different from that of city women. The surveys and reports emphasize the divergence of our life from that in a city as if we should use that as our standard. There should be two separate and distinct standards, for our conditions must necessarily be different.”¹⁶ Women and girls whose daily agricultural work proved vital to farm family enterprise often saw contradictions in the ideals of domestic science that demonstration agents taught versus hard lessons won through practical experience. Again, this tension was realized by Allison Comish Thorne, a Utah native, who remembered growing up in the 1920s and finding it “rather strange that home economists

15. Megan J. Elias, *Stir It Up: Home Economics in American Culture* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008), 79.

16. Anna Gilbert, “Journal of an Extensionized Farm Woman,” *Journal of Home Economics* 13, no. 7 (July 1921): 303.

were teaching about homemaking but did not themselves have husbands and children.”¹⁷

Stigma rendered by age and marital status certainly proved a challenge for home demonstration agents to overcome. In spite of the work the home demonstrator agents performed in remaking rural communities and reducing “drudgery” for farmwomen, their lifestyles as progressive single women with independent salaries created a division between themselves and married homemakers.

Aside from the stigma, and the inherent dissonance created between farmwomen and extension agents as government sponsored experts who supposedly intended to straighten up the backwards farm folk, one final hurdle remained for the home demonstrator. The demonstrator unintentionally promoted herself to young farm girls as a progressive woman who prioritized education and a career independent of the family farm and home. Weber Counties own Enda Ladwig fit the bill as she relocated from Colorado to Utah to secure her bureau position. Director William Peterson of the UAC Experiment Station noted that: “The movement from country to the city is a women movement, and the reason for this is to avoid the hardships associated with the home in a country life...the home must be made more convenient, more attractive and allow for some leisure.”¹⁸ Some fretted that those who left the farm during the war would never return contributing to the eventual demise of rural communities and farm industry. “How ya gonna keep ’em down on the farm after they’ve seen Patee?” asked Sam Lewis and Joe Young, in their 1918 hit song: “How ya gonna keep

17. Allison Comish Thorne, “Visible and Invisible Women in the History of Land-Grant Colleges: 1890-1940,” MSS 458, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 5.

18. Cynthia Sturgis, “How’re You Gonna Keep ‘Em down on the Farm?” Rural Women and the Urban Model in Utah,” *Agricultural History* 60, no 2 (Spring, 1986): 182-199. Sturgis quotes William Peterson from the Utah Farmer, 14 February 1925 : 23.

‘em away from Broadway, jazzin’ around and paintin’ the town?’¹⁹ Despite the inherent contradiction of home demonstration agents leaving their homes to seek education and employment they generally did endeavor to make life in the country more like that in the city and with reformers alike hoped to stem the tide of female migration away from the farm. By creating more efficient households and reducing the amount of labor through modern conveniences, farmwomen could compete against urban conditions, which undermined the appeal of the city.²⁰ Despite the allure of life in the city, many wartime migrants did return to the small towns and farms of their childhood after the war ended. Rural migration in a sense proved that farmwomen were not isolated from the “New Woman” movement. Farmwomen and city women alike accepted better jobs, used birth control, moved away from home, moved back home, attended universities, and controlled their own lives.

In effort to lessen the hardships of farm life for women and create more efficient households, the Weber County Home Bureau and demonstration agents enlarged their scope of their work to promote consumer products for home beautification projects. In addition to managing the household and being responsible for food production, clothing, shelter, and medical care for her family, women found time for home beautification projects. Women could now purchase washing machines, vacuums, and other products directly through the bureau, as well as participate in demonstrations covering topics on purchasing, product reviews, home and clothing remodeling, water in the home, and safe sanitation practices.²¹ In 1918, Francis Willard published an article entitled: “A Modern Home for Every Farm In the

19. “How Ya Gonna Keep ’Em Down.” National Jukebox, Library of Congress, <http://www.loc.gov/jukebox/recordings/detail/id/7001/>, accessed October 11, 2018, 23.

20. Cynthia Sturgis, quoted in “How Ya Gonna Keep ’Em Down.”

21. Minutes 1920. MSS 213, box 2, folder 1, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 57.

County: The Mission of the Ideal Woman is to make the whole world home-like” in the Weber County Farm Bureau. This article made it clear that women were not only responsible for creating a home environment that exemplified happiness, but also one that represented comfort, progress, rest, and order. Willard encouraged every women to pattern her home and self after Mrs. C. F. Larkin in Far West, Utah, after all Mrs. C.F. Larkin was awarded the title of “ideal home and woman”.²²

The Larkin home was a model of efficiency –outfitted with large windows to naturally warm the house and circulate fresh air through the small kitchen. The small kitchen saved both physical and temporal energy and was furnished with modern technology to save time. As a result Larkin could use her surplus of time to address “more interesting problems of the home.” The article demonstrates how the home bureau used consumerism as a tool to teach farmwomen how to reduce time spent on housework and ultimately gain more economic freedom in their own spheres of influence. Willard estimated that the monthly salary of a farm housewife was about \$75.00 and she urged women to recognize “that they are also producers.”²³ Her assessment assigned economic value and, again, described a way in which farmwomen could claim a measure of economic power. The second half of Willard’s article was devoted to the discussion of the role of the husband in home beautification projects. Husbands and wives were encouraged to cooperate in upgrading the farmwife’s surroundings so that she could better expend her labor and time. The article called for co-operation with men to assist women in “securing better working conditions.” Asking men to take an interest

22. Francis Willard, Weber County Farm Bureau 1918, A Modern Home for Every Farm in the Country, 19.1/1:47, box 88, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

23. Ibid.

in women's work was a novel thought, and helped blur the gendered boundaries of labor. Interestingly, this does not convey ideas of shared space or gendered use of interior space (i.e., the domain of the sitting rooms versus that of the den or basement), but rather suggests that the home and family is considered a job site for women: the men's domain remains outside. However, in this, the home bureau was asking men to recognize and value the work of women as having economic value and demonstrates how traditional labor roles began to shift through mutual cooperation.²⁴ Mutual cooperation is evident in the example of the Larkin home, and likely on other homesteads in Weber County, as men were encouraged to assist their wives in creating efficient households and reducing women's labor through modern conveniences.

When America joined World War I in 1917, the administration clarified that food was a central issue. President Woodrow Wilson created the United States Food Administration and appointed future President Herbert Hoover to lead it. Hoover's rallying cry was: "Every little one helps, food will win the war." This mantra appeared on posters and signs all over the country. The Weber County Farm and Home Bureaus answered the plea to avoid wasting food so that enough of it could be shipped overseas to feed U.S. troops and their allies.²⁵ The surge in farm activities triggered by the war proved a transformative period for the Weber County Farm and Home Bureaus. The organized war time activities helped to popularize the

24. Mary Neth, *Preserving the Family Farm: Women, Community and the foundations of Agribusiness in the Midwest, 1900-1940* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1995), 231. Neth examines how men and women in Midwestern farm families developed systems of mutual cooperation. This inter-family cooperation allowed for a redistribution of labor and resources among family members. However, along with this redistribution of labor, traditional roles began to shift, and men, women, and children increasingly shared household duties.

25. Campaign Posters, MS 75, folder 1, Joseph A. Geddes Papers, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

Bureaus status in the community and subsequently membership numbers increased. The increase in membership may have been in part because demonstration agents conducted door-to-door communitywide surveys to determine the amount of seed, tillable land, and livestock that was available for wartime food. In 1917, the Bureau taught over 1,433 farm families how to increase food production and added 125 local and county committeemen and assistant agents to assist the regular county agent staff.²⁶

The women's home bureau, which was separate from the men's bureau at this time, reorganized their community branches to add a committee of women to oversee war projects. At a special war meeting held on March 31, 1917 the new committee implemented a special food production campaign to escalate production of nonperishable crops as well as programs to advocate for family gardens. The committee accepted assignments from the Weber County Farm Bureau, the American Home Economics Association, the Red Cross, the Government Food Conservation program and the aforementioned War Emergency Food Survey.²⁷ The Weber Home Bureau busied themselves holding bazaars to make bandages, collect clothes and demonstrate how to conserve various food items: "One hundred demonstrations and lectures were given through the county by home demonstrators on the making of substitute breads, planning and serving of meatless and wheatless meals, saving of sugar, food requirements for proper nutrition of the body and other food subjects."²⁸ The U.S. Food

26. Weber County Annual Report 1917, 19.1/1:47, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 17.

27. Hazel T. Craig and Blanche M. Stover, *The History of Home Economics* (New York: Practical Home Economics, 1946), 35.

28. The Weber County Farm Bureau News, 1917-1918, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 19.

Administration campaign printed and distributed patriotic posters of homemakers engaged in farm labor and food preservation. Food preservation was advertised as a family affair, which even included the dog.

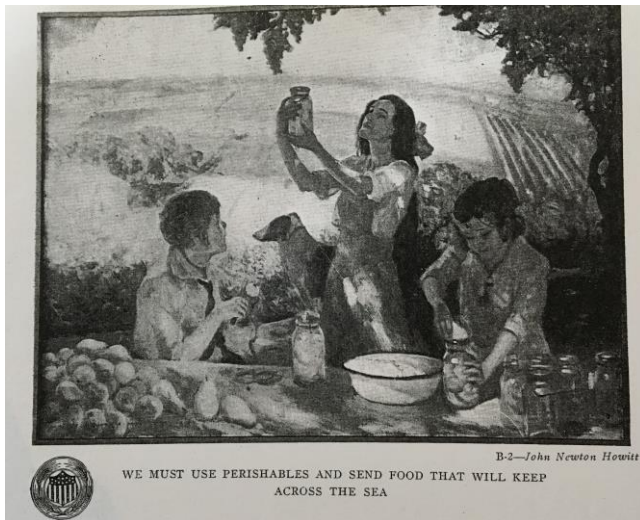


Figure 2. U.S. food administration campaign patriotic poster encouraging food preservation.

The women of the Weber County Home Bureau responded to this call, and enthusiastically canned eighty thousand quarts of fruit and vegetables, brined twenty-eight thousand quarts of vegetables and 302,400 pounds of dried vegetables.²⁹ Edna Ladwig estimated a value of eighty-thousand dollars on the women's canned fruits and vegetable production. Comparatively, the Weber County Farm Bureau canned six thousand quarts of fruit and vegetables dried fifteen hundred pounds through their cooperatives.³⁰ Besides the products the women's sent abroad, the women of the Bureau also sent canned fruit as a

29. Women's 1917-1918 Report, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 4.

30. The Weber County Farm Bureau News 1917-1918, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 19.

special treat to their own sick and wounded soldiers at Fort Douglas.³¹ The growth of the Home Bureau during the war helped solidify the presence of the Farm Bureau in the Weber communities and also pushed out lingering skepticism towards demonstration agents as the women in the Weber County neighborhoods worked side-by-side with extensions agents building trust and working towards a common goal.

During the war, women's conservation efforts placed them in a production role in the farm and community. An article published in the *Weber County Farm Bureau News*, "Housewives make Patriotic Response to Government's Appeal for Conservation," praised women for efficiency in productivity in brining vegetables because it saved time, labor, and cost. The article alerted the community, and maybe more importantly, the women themselves, to an important appraisal of the value of women's time and labor in producing goods. World War I expanded public awareness of home economics and, under the umbrella of the Farm Bureau's programs, rural women asserted economic power through a variety of home production projects.

World War I served as watershed moment in women's history because their wartime contribution improved perceptions of their labor in comparison to that of men. It emphasized the moral and rational equality of women and undermined the belief that women should not participate in the work force.³² Approximately two thousand Weber County men served in the war, which left a labor shortage in the county. In response, the Farm Bureau set up a central labor office that supplied 675 farm hands. However, in some areas, such as Riverdale, the

31. The Weber County Farm Bureau News 1917-1918, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 21.

32. Whites, Leeann, Elizabeth York Enstam, Judith N. McArthur, and Jacquelyn Masur Mcelhaney. "Women and the Creation of Urban Life, Dallas, Texas, 1843-1920." *The Journal of American History* 87, no. 2 (2000): 676.

acute labor shortage drove women and girls to the fields. Their efforts prevented crops from going unharvested and loss of funds due to the need to hire outside help.³³



Figure 3. Riverdale women harvesting crops (Reproduced from Weber County Farm Bureau News, Dec 1917, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 26).

The home bureaus praised the work of these women and recommended the Riverdale area as a model after which to pattern other bureaus. Farmer's wives typically no longer milked cows, worked in the fields, or assisted in fruit or berry harvesting and since the Civil War, women and children farm laborers had mostly been forgotten.³⁴ A gendered divide of labor placed women indoors and men outdoors caring for the farm. However, the war allowed for exceptions to this rule. As women entered the fields, a typically male space, they challenged their prescribed domestic roles in the home. Simultaneously, the home bureaus encouraged women to reclaim their lost roles as economic producers on the farm: if not in the fields, then by other means. A Farm Bureau article on remodeling clothing reported that:

33. Weber County Annual Report, 1918, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 40.

34. George K Holmes, "The Supply of Farm Labor," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 33, no. 2: 142.

“War time has given an added interest to the methods of “Grandmothers” times.”³⁵ Women undertook clothes remodeling to save money and earn a side income. However, the home bureaus encouraged these roles to be temporary, and implied that, in the postwar years, women should leave the fields and return to their homes. Despite the changes that affected many women during the war the basic ideas about gender remained fairly consistent. While the women were celebrated for keeping the home intact while their men were absent all of their contributions during wartime underlined the fact that such labors were only part of doing their bit for the duration.

The changes to and expansion of roles that farm women undertook during the war made it impossible for some to resume the roles they had prior to the war. Economically, returning men displaced women of their wartime work but the war served as a catalyst for social changes including gender expectations and behavior. Women were an integral force that emerged during war; for example, the women of the Weber County Home Bureau made valuable contributions by performing essential and complex functions on the farm and communities. Because the women had taken center stage during the war harvesting crops, preserving food stuffs and hosting community benefits, many came to believe that they were equally valuable participants in their state, setting in motion a future of farm and rural activity. Following the war, the home bureaus represented a new sense of women’s social, economic, and political importance. While old time Victorian values were still being taught, farm women were cautiously encouraged to continue as producers and activists in their homes and communities.

35. The Weber County Farm Bureau News, “Remodeling of Clothing Takes on New Interest as War-Time Measure,” 1917-1918, 21.

The post-war period proved to be tenuous for the Weber Home Bureau and likely many other bureaus in the state. For a few months, the Weber County Home Bureau did not have an appointed home demonstrator because the Commissioners was unable to appropriate sufficient funds for all county extension expenses. Responding to the possibility that women's farm work would be discontinued, Mrs. Maycock, the Utah Home Bureau president, met with J. R. Beus, the President of the County Farm Bureau, and Mrs. E.A. Barnes, Vice-President of the County Farm Bureau, to plead the women's case and demonstrate the value of the bureaus to the women of Weber County and their communities. Under pressure, J. R. Beus found the funds to hire another demonstrator thanks to the persistent efforts of Maycock.

While home bureaus delved into broader political and economic issues, they also stressed women's identities as rural citizens with a stake in rural life and agriculture. Home demonstrators and lady bureau members used special bureau events as platforms for their own special political interests. As an example of the changes the home bureaus produced for women in pursuing their own rural agendas and political interest, it is relevant to discuss the annual farm day that the Weber Farm Bureau held at the end of each summer. In 1920 five thousand people attended the festivities held at Lorin Farr Park in Ogden, Utah. At the two-day event, farmers heard speeches from Congressman Milton H. Welling and other prominent agriculturists discussing how to solve farm problems. Exhibits from the boys and girls club and women's demonstration work from the past year competed for awards. The women's Home Bureau furnished all the luncheons and held demonstrations, which showcased female speakers who collapsed divisions between farm issues and domestic issues. The bonds and social network created through community activities formed the building blocks for the American Farm Bureau on a local scale as it fostered friendships and garnered new

memberships. As the dominant farm group in the state, the Farm Bureau promote the bureau's viewpoint through social and recreational activities that improved and unified rural life. The showdown between the Hooper A and Clinton B baseball teams, for example, was the highlight of Farm Bureau day drawing the largest crowd of over 850 people-- who lingered late into the night dancing at the Grand Ball.³⁶

At the family farm day, the demonstration agents, with collaboration from their members, created a space to showcase their family and community comradery they had fostered through the Home Bureau. This was an event the agents showcased their success from the previous year in spreading home domestics and community action. Farm day was a manifestation that the women who participated in the Weber County Home Bureau had time for leisure and were no longer laden with farm chores and "drudgery" they had time to watch a ball game, dance 'til midnight, attend a political discussion, and participate in sewing and cooking competitions. With cooperation from farmwomen, extension programs, and home demonstration agents, the Weber County Home Bureaus in 1920 came to reflect a new sense of women's social, economic, and political importance. This groups was a community of women who had come through a war together; as more women joined and assumed a variety of roles in their local and state reform campaigns, they found new ways to participate that brought added value and meaning to their families, schools, neighborhoods and their own personal lives. No longer were the lives of Weber County farmwomen hidden and lonely but rather with the help of the home demonstrators they were celebrated and recognized for their economic contributions and political endeavors.

36. Annual Bureau School Outing and Exhibit included in 1920 Activities Report, Special Collections and Archives, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University, Logan, UT.