

FARM HOLIDAY HELD OLD CORN BELT PLAN

**Milo Reno, Organizer of Iowa
Movement, Declares Its Ob-
jective Is Lawful.**

FOOD PRICE BOOST DENIED

**Restoration of Farmers' Buying
Power Regarded as First Step in
Recovery of All Industry.**

Milo Reno, guiding spirit in the farmers' holiday, the object of which is to refuse to send farm produce to markets until prices rise above costs, tells here of the progress the farmers have made in their attempt and gives his views regarding the reasons for the movement.

**By MILO RENO,
President of the National Farmers'
Holiday Association.**

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DES MOINES, Iowa, Aug. 25.—The National Farmers' Holiday Association resulted from the experience and education which was finally drafted into a resolution by the old Corn Belt Committee, composed of practically all farm institutions in the Middle West.

As a result of the deflation program started in 1920, agriculture suffered a depreciation in values in eighteen months in excess of \$30,000,000,000.

For twelve long, weary years we have petitioned Congress for legislation that would correct the situation, and our requests have been denied. During that time promises have been made only to be broken. Finally, the farmer, discouraged, broken-hearted and bankrupt, has come to realize that he is at the parting of the ways and that if his rights as an American citizen, as an independent owner and operator of a farm, are to be restored, it will be by and through his own efforts.

No Hope for Favorable Legislation.

The record of the last session of Congress, as well as previous sessions, certainly will convince the most credulous that farmers can no longer hope for economic justice through legislation. They have been deceived, misled and betrayed. Not a single legislative act was seriously considered by the controlling powers in the last session of Congress that could possibly correct an unthinkable situation.

The Holiday Association hopes to obtain its objective without adding to the distress and desolation now prevailing in our Republic. We are simply demanding the same consideration for our industry that is cheerfully conceded to every other industry. We assume for ourselves the right to obtain this consideration in the same way other institutions obtain theirs; that is, to refuse to deliver the products of our farms for less than production costs.

We also realize that until the buying power of the farmer is restored—which can be done only by conceding him the right to cost of production, based on an American standard of existence—business institutions, whether great or small, important or humble, must suffer.

Have Had Economists' Advice.

We have never demanded the right to arbitrarily fix a price that will be unfair to the consumers of food. We recognize the right of the other groups of society to full cooperation in the establishing of cost prices.

In our initial efforts in this movement we have obtained the services of the most efficient agricultural economists possible to work out the relationship that should exist between the cost of producing farm products and all other products, and have repeatedly asked and sometimes received the unselfish and wholehearted assistance of qualified men from practically every group of society.

We do not expect to obtain our objective without some difficulties. No other movement of great and vital importance has been able to avoid these obstructions.

Counsel Obedience to Law.

The leaders in this movement invariably counsel obedience to law and peaceful picketing. In fact, the use of moral suasion is a more convincing argument than force, not only among distributors but among the consuming public. It is far more potent in showing the justness of our cause.

The demands for organization are coming in by the hundreds from every mid-Western State and as far east as Pennsylvania. Letters of interest, commendation and encouragement have been received from every State in the Union and from Canada.

The day for pussyfooting and deception in the solution of the farmers' problems is past, and the politicians who have juggled with the agricultural question and used it as a pawn with which to promote their own selfish interests can succeed no longer.