

The organizational meeting of the Farmers' Grain Dealers Association of Missouri was held at Moberly, Missouri on February 25, 1920 and was attended by representatives from seventeen leading elevator companies of the state.

B.A. Brown of Versailles was chosen chairman of the meeting that was called by Ralph Loomis, Extension Agent in Marketing, Univ. of Missouri, and a committee of elevators of Missouri. J.M. Mehl of the Bureau of Markets, Washington, D.C. spoke on the importance and essentials of elevator accounting and gave attention to the application of the patronage dividend plans. He urged the farmers present to organize the Farmers' Grain Dealers' Association for Missouri and align it through the National Association with similar organizations in other states.

Lawrence Farlow, secretary of the Farmers' Grain Dealers Association of Illinois, followed with an address on the development of the farmers' elevator movement.

In reviewing the work of the National Association he spoke upon the reduction of the price of surety bonds; freight victories; price fixing; and other services. Farlow spoke upon the advantages of the co-operative plan over the joint stock co-operation plan for farmers' elevators. His talk was well received by the delegates. Before adjournment the chairman appointed Credentials, Resolutions, and Constitution and Bylaws Committees

R.W. Taylor of Kansas City spoke on Federal Grain Standards. He reviewed the USDA grain grading standards and said, "The Government is bending every energy to make inspection of grain uniform in all markets. To do this they have introduced the use of standardized scales, testers, and other machinery."

Judge P.E. Donnell, vice president of a Farmers' Interstate Elevator & Commission Company of Waco, Missouri spoke on the subject of Farm Bureaus and Farmers Elevators. In outlining the duties of the farm bureaus he stated that it was their intention was to back up as fully as possible, farmers' elevators and all other marketing organizations of farmers.

M.R. Meyers spoke on the benefits of the farmers' grain dealers movement. He took the position that each industry should create and sustain each organization as were necessary to improve, extend and protect the industry. He reviewed at length the benefits that had come to the grain grower through the medium of successful Farmers' Grain Dealers' Associations in twelve organized states with their national associations and educational department. After his address, the delegates deliberated and unanimously decided that a permanent organization should be formed by those present. The following were elected unanimously for officers and directors:

President- P.E. Donnell of Waco

First vice president- G.A. Brown of Versailles

Second vice president- F. A. Walton of Troy

Treasurer- M.B. Runyon of Barnett

Directors- Homer Musselman of Jamesport;

W.W. Fuqua of Monroe City; J.F. Parker of

Ladonia; W.D. Walkup of Greenridge; and

Wm. E. Wagenbreth, Jr. of Chesterfield.

The directors met immediately after the adjournment of the convention and elected **E.E. Evans** as the **state secretary**. **Mr. Evans** is a young business man of exceptional ability. He is **manager** of the **Farmers Elevator & Exchange Company**, also the **Live Stock Shipping Association** at **Monroe City, Missouri** which is doing an annual business of more than a million dollars. The directors start out with a slogan:

'One hundred per cent of the farmers in Missouri elevators in our association in one year.' They may not reach all but this sort of an ambition will carry them far on the way. We show you here with a photograph of the board (shown above) and we think you will agree with us when you see them that they are the kind of farmers that the other farmers of Missouri will entrust with leadership. We have shown Missouri, and they are now proceeding to show us.

(Taken from the March 10, 1920 issue of The American Cooperative Manager, the official publication of the organization of managers of Farmers Cooperative Associations.)