

Nat'l Farmers Union Convention set for Feb. 27

DENVER, Co. — George W. Stone, president of the National Farmers Union, announced that the 81st annual convention of the National Farmers Union will be held at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, California on Feb. 27 through March 2, 1983.

The theme of the 1983 NFU convention, "United and Strong—Farmers Union" is fitting, Stone said, because it symbolizes the farm organization's efforts to rally broad rural support for long-term policies of Farmers Union—for a stronger, workable farm program to raise and stabilize farm prices; for credit for agriculture at lower interest rates; for exports that are unrestricted and sold at fair

prices; and for programs targeted to help young farmers and to protect natural resources and the family farm system.

A highlight of the convention will be addresses by the three men who have led the National Farmers Union from its top post over the past 42 years. Joining Stone, who has served as NFU president since 1980, will be James G. Patton, 80, president emeritus of the National Farmers Union who served from 1940 to 1966, and Tony T. Dechant, 67, past president of NFU who served from 1966 to 1980.

Sen. David Boren of Oklahoma will address the convention, as will Congressman Leon Panetta of California. Both are influential

leaders of Congress and members of the agriculture committees of their respective legislative bodies.

Popular actor Eddie Albert will also speak to the Farmers Union convention delegates and guests. Albert is an internationally recognized spokesman on soil conservation, land preservation and other environmental issues.

Crucial issues for farmer-owned cooperatives will be addressed by Darrell Moseson, president of Farmers Union Central Exchange, a regional farm supply cooperative which serves 1600 local co-ops and nearly one-half million farm families in 14 states. CENEX had sales of \$1.4 billion in 1982 and ranks 265th on the Fortune 500 list.

International trade issues will be featured in speeches by E.K. "Ted" Turner, president of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and by the Hon. Sava Savov, minister of the Bulgarian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

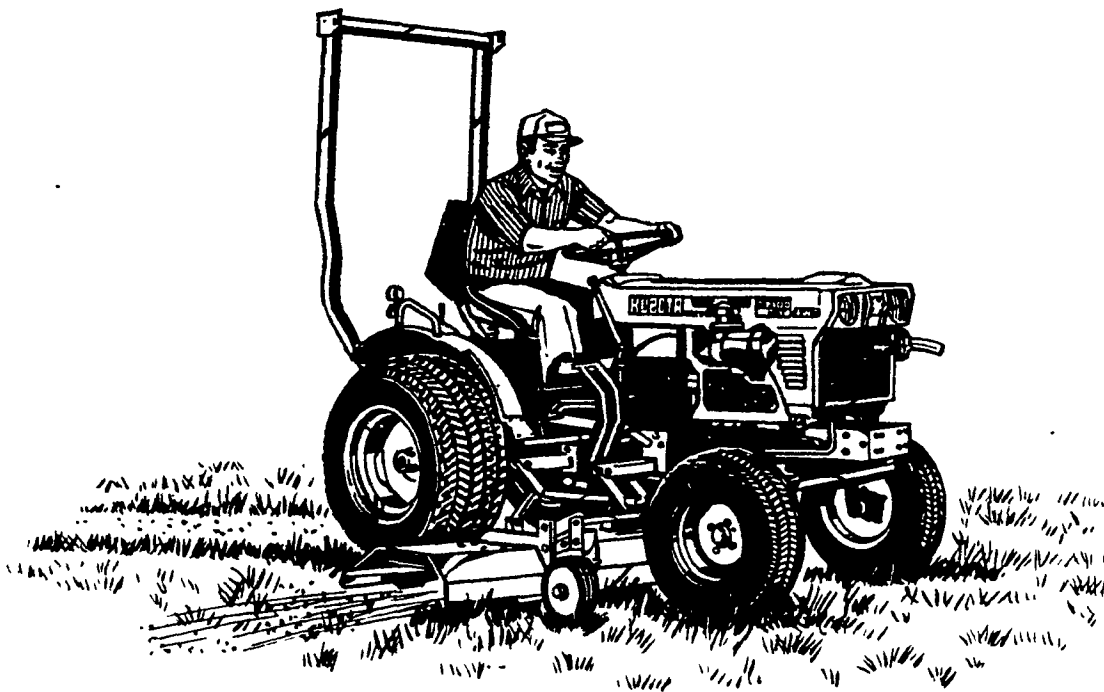
The most important task for the convention delegates, Stone said, will be the adoption of new policy guidelines for the National Farmers Union to follow through the coming year.

"The farm depression is taking a heavy toll in communities throughout rural America. The farm population, small businesses and now large businesses, major industries, financial institutions and government are all feeling its

effects," Stone said. "Farm income must be raised. It is vital that the policy makers for our organization, the nation's voice for family farmers, think and act creatively in developing new effective policies to address the serious problems facing agriculture."

Other speakers scheduled to address the convention include Morley P. Thompson, president of the Baldwin United Corporation, and Alec G. Olsen, administrator of Green Thumb, Inc., a National Farmers Union-administered program that provides employment opportunities for the rural elderly.

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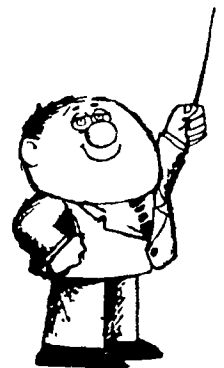
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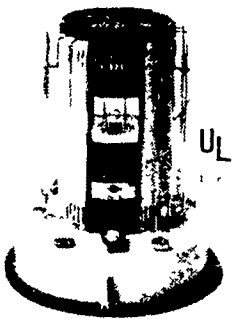
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