Extension Service Review

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We EAT—thanks!

■ Sure we will get enough to eat this year . . . good, nutritious food for all . . . we'll have to share it, but thanks to the farmer there'll be enough to go round if we're careful. The farmer is winning the battle of food.

Yes, thanks to the farmer, we'll eat. Thanks for the 5 percent more food he raised in 1943. That additional food meant to him sweat, toil, extra long hours . . . it meant sharing his tools and his labor with his neighbors . . . struggling against the weather, insects, diseases, against lack of fertilizers, machinery, labor. It meant sacrifice, determination, and patriotism . . . but without these typical characteristics of the United States farmer enough food could not have been produced. Nor could enough have been produced if the farmer had not followed the best-known practices of good farming . . . the technical advice, the encouragement, the "needs-and-how-to-produce-it" information given to the farmer by hard-working county extension agents, community and neighborhood leaders, specialists of the Department of Agriculture and of the land-grant colleges.

Sure, it took hard work, long hours, helping farmers to plan ways of doing the things many said couldn't be done. Some casualties appeared along the way . . . workers whose spirit was stronger than the flesh. But by and large the extension worker is a hardy soul . . . one whose long years of fighting emergencies have inured him to sacrifice of personal time and to mental and physical strain. Now that the year is over, another food production record broken, the men who shoot the guns, the men behind the guns, the men who make and take the guns, and all the rest of us can eat. For this we say thanks to the farmer . . . and thanks to the crew behind the farmer.

Wartime Extension

Extension folks . . . agents and leaders alike . . . had little time in 1943 to tell the world what they were doing or how. In every county of rural importance . . . 2,941 counties to be exact . . . extension agents were circulating, urging, helping, guiding farmers in the big job of meeting war goals.

Farmers had learned . . . in nearly 30 years and from the experience of World War I . . . to depend on the county extension agent for technical advice, advice based upon the results of research available at experiment stations and at the U. S. Department of Agriculture. They looked to the extension agent as their guide and adviser, their source of scientific farming facts . . . practical facts which could be made to work for individual success . . . and for meeting farm goals, thereby discharging a war obligation to the United Nations.

Accomplishments of wartime extension in 1943 were measurable and immeasurable. The job was bigger . . . the challenge was greater . . . than in World War I . . . 30 million more U. S. A. people . . . a bigger army . . . more soldiers of allied armies to help feed . . . a smaller rural population to draw from for farm work. Project reports don't show what farm output does show . . . success in the food production front . . . all previous records smashed . . . smashed for the fourth year straight . . . and that despite floods, drought, unfavorable weather in many places, and lack of materials and facilities. The Extension record shows successful recruitment and placement of labor to plant, cultivate, harvest, and care for crops that might have been lost and wasted . . . 4-H Club enrollment of 1,700,000 members, showing an annual increase five times the usual . . . 1,669,226 rural homes enrolled in family food supply preservation . . . 4 billion jars of fruits and vegetables preserved . . . nearly 100 percent rural participation in Victory gardening . . . 19 million city and farm gardens producing 8 million tons of extra food . . . and many, many more accomplishments.

Building programs that fit the need of the State, county, neighborhood . . . getting facts to farmers in a way to help production most . . . that was Extension's 1943 job. Such program building requires a plan . . . a grass-roots plan . . . dovetailed with national plans, worked out to help each individual farmer most.

The programs which Extension built made use of every agricultural resource and facility . . . neighborhood interest, neighborhood patriotism, neighborhood will to win. Volunteer Extension neighborhood leaders, 500,000 of them . . . took part in extension work . . . asked their neighbors what extension aid was needed most . . . helped locate and place farm labor . . . distributed information on rationing; care and repair of farm machinery; food production, preservation, and storage; nutrition . . . aided in war-bond, and salvage, and fats collection drives . . . did all that could be done to help the war get won.

Farm Engineering

Successful farm production began in the tool shed . . . the machine shop . . . the barnyard. With little chance for new machinery, Extension urged farmers to repair, care for, and share machinery . . . showed how to make at home, equipment no longer to be bought . . . helped find repair parts . . . taught how to protect gears, belts, pulleys, fans, and fast-moving wheels with shields and safety devices. Food yields in many counties exceeded warehouse capacity and brought special problems . . . problems of storage . . . of utilizing the best knowledge available to keep produce from wasting.

Food and Feed

Food production and feed production were high on the must list in the 1943 goals . . . more heads were to be fed . . . many more heads of livestock and poultry for the Nation's war larder . . . for civilians at home . . . for troops abroad . . . for lend-lease and foreign relief.

Local situations in many counties required level-headed planning—alertness against overstocking . . . early steps for a county feed program . . .

home-grown roughage, more and better hay, increased legume acreage . . . improved pastures, properly fertilized and managed, emergency pastures, rotation grazing . . . more silage for feeding dairy cows in winter to meet pasture shortages.

Hens' Eggs for Victory

Poultry and egg production has grown with extension work. Since 1914 . . . through 29 years . . . extension programs brought farmers the latest in poultry science . . . helped annual egg laying climb from an average of 85 hardshells to 113 per hen. Poultrymen last year raised 16 percent more chickens . . . showed a 15 percent rise by midyear over eggs produced a year before. Nonlayers and poor layers were culled—augmenting the meat supply . . . conserving the feed supply. Eating of eggs increased too . . . from 320 eggs per person in 1942 to an estimated 345 in 1943. More eggs for health . . . more eggs for morale . . . a contribution to Victory!

Meeting Milk Goals

The year saw increased demand for milk and dairy products . . . increased production to be met despite fewer milk hands and more feed troubles in many counties. Extension workers sponsored emergency programs . . . urged small producers to milk more cows, improve feeding practices, adopt better herd management . . . they worked with 4-H Dairy Club members to increase milk production on many farms. In the South . . . to improve farm family health and nutrition . . . a family cow program made considerable headway.

Meat Points and Livestock

Millions learned that a steer's carcass yields more than beefsteak . . . that meat growing requires more than packing plant operations . . . that good range, green grass, golden corn plus hard work, careful planning, devoted husbandry determine the value of red stamps in the wartime civilian ration book.

Extension agents early recognized the ranchman's, the farmer's, the feeder's problems . . . developed programs accordingly. Farmers were encouraged to feed hogs to heavier weights . . . feed more cattle to moderate finish . . . produce more meat through disease prevention, parasite control, worm control. Sheepmen cooperated generally with a shearling skin program in which domestic production was more than doubled. Livestock rearing and killing for farm family purposes reached peak levels . . . thus relieving wartime strain on commercial handling and transportation. Extension stressed spoilage-prevention through proper butchering . . . conservation of meat through full use of all cuts and products . . . proper curing . . . fat salvage . . . intelligent locker plant storage and full use of local meat handling and slaughter facilities. Information was furnished on farm slaughter rules, sharing, and rationing to help farmers avoid unwilling black market transactions.

More Than Production

While food production received number one emphasis, Extension's grass-roots home demonstration workers were actively engaged on the conservation front. Fat-saving, food-saving, and fabric-saving . . . proper use of wartime canning equipment . . . community canning centers to utilize Victory Garden surpluses . . . wartime nutrition . . . family health and fitness programs . . . interpretation of rationing rules . . . salvage campaigns . . . bond sales and other special wartime endeavors.

With farm women generally doing more farm work in field and barn . . . fewer hands had more to do . . . had to butcher, to preserve and conserve yields from farm Victory Gardens . . . had to work with badly needed repair parts for equipment not to be had at the factory. Extension programs to lighten these tasks made farm family life in wartime more bearable. Kitchen improvement . . . streamlined laundering . . . simplification of housework in many ways became unusually popular Extension projects among farm women.

4-H Projects

The war contribution of 4-H Club members, under the leadership of Extension workers, was vast. They made special efforts to enlarge the food and fiber supply . . . to store and preserve food . . . took an active part in helping to relieve the farm labor shortage. They served as neighborhood leaders . . . demonstrated practices of first aid, child care, home nursing . . . taught good practices of meal planning, canning, care of farm machinery, rural fire control, dairying, and poultry raising. They collected scrap iron, fats, and rubber. They raised food to feed fighters . . . did civilian defense duty . . . sold war bonds to buy ambulances, planes and ships . . . and counted 750,000 of their former comrades in the military services.

In a letter to all 4-H Club members prior to 4-H Mobilization Week in February, President Roosevelt paid tribute to their services. He said:

"The whole Nation recognizes your self-reliance, your steadfast determination to attain your goals, and your patriotic devotion as individuals and as a group . . . We know that you, like your brothers and sisters in the Service, have the spirit and perseverance that will bring victory in the fight for human freedom and a world at peace."

More Than Food

Wartime Extension in 1943 dealt first of all with food . . . but also with more than food. Practical farm forestry . . . paper and pulp production . . . fiber crops . . . new special crops like hemp, sisal, herbs . . . the war needed them . . . in growing them, farmers most frequently relied on Extension to tell them how. Care of the sick . . . child care programs . . . neighborhood planning and sharing . . . handicraft training, activities designed to welcome and reestablish disabled, discharged soldiers in farming . . . all entered into Extension's wartime service to rural people during the year.

Soil-saving practices increase

Another "front"—the good-farming "front"—has been markedly advanced by 5,881 Illinois farm operators joining for the first time with the group already using contouring and other special soil-conservation measures in their wartime food-production drive.

Contouring was carried out for the first time by 1,970 farmers on 49,902 acres, according to E. D. Walker, Illinois extension soil conservationist. On 240 farms, strip-cropping was carried out, involving 7,208 acres; and more than 57 miles of terraces were constructed on 174 farms.

Stephenson County topped the list of counties by contouring 7,735 acres on 309 farms for the first time. Grass waterways constructed in the State involved 2,021 farms and a total of 1,843,153 linear feet, and drainage operations were carried out on 249 farms in this connection. Open ditches to the extent of 133,320 feet were constructed, and 209,753 feet of tile lines were laid.

Interest in this land-saving farming system is increasing through the combined efforts of the Extension Service, the 33 organized soil-conservation districts, and the Soil Conservation Service. It was also aided by the production practice payments of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

These figures represent only work carried out by farmers starting the various practices for the first time this year, not the total for the State.

Another winter may be too late

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

With characteristic vigor, the Secretary of Agriculture here presents a challenge to Extension to speed the encouragement of farmer thinking on post-war problems. "Another winter," he says, "may be too late."

■ Winning the war has claimed so much of the time and energy of extension workers and the rest of us that there has been a natural tendency among some to think that post-war planning could wait. Until recently, at least, there has not been a general acceptance of the necessity for planning that far ahead. But my observation is that the situation has changed materially lately. There now appears to be a definite sentiment for some rather clear-cut plans to challenge post-war complacency. Many of us believe that to postpone definite planning for another winter may be too late.

For one thing, a realization is growing that sound thought intelligently directed toward our post-war problems need not jeopardize our all-out war effort. Another is, we all know that we have an obligation to our fighting men to do some straight, practical thinking about post-war problems long before the end of the war. Agricultural post-war planning has taken on a new complexion now that industry has launched an active program of after-the-war planning. In view of these developments, we need urgently to speed up agricultural post-war planning as rapidly as possible. To expedite this thinking is a challenge to you extension workers all along the line.

Appraisal of Farm Problems

The big job of the land-grant colleges and the Department is *to get facts, to make appraisals, to stimulate interest, and to get people to thinking about post-war plans.* To give impetus to this planning work, the nine regional committees on post-war programs, working closely with the colleges, are developing a State-by-State appraisal of farm problems, especially those relating to the demobilization period. Their objective is to project those problems into the future so as to arrive as nearly as possible at an approximation of the situation which will exist in each State when the war ends and to determine what measures are needed to cope with those problems.

The need for definite post-war planning was recognized by the land-grant colleges when they took steps at their fall meeting to establish a national committee on post-war problems.

In order for this tremendous job to succeed, it will require the cooperation of every group that has an interest in agriculture. In addition to cooperation at the national level, there needs to be cooperation at the State level. Some States have already set up State agricultural policy committees to work on post-war planning, bringing together all the people who are interested in this problem. These committees are sponsored and serviced by the Extension Service, and the Director of Extension is usually chairman.

Organizing Committees

I have urged the land-grant colleges through Extension to take the lead in organizing these committees in States where they are not already functioning. Membership might well include representatives of farm organizations and other private groups interested in the welfare of agriculture, as well as representatives of the Extension Service, experiment stations, State commissioners of agriculture, State planning boards, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other public agencies.

It is highly desirable for the States to organize such committees to plan for the adjustment of agriculture to peacetime conditions, and the Department offers (1) to make information available for the use of such committees; (2) to arrange for members of its staff stationed in the various States to serve on State committees; (3) to cooperate with them insofar as its facilities permit.

In order to achieve the best results at the lowest cost, there should be active cooperation by the colleges and the Department workers on the problems of mutual interest. We particularly invite the colleges to determine the problems of major State and local interest so that the colleges and the Department may cooperate in the search for solutions to them.

In addition to these State activities, I hope to see, as soon as feasible, this planning work reach down into areas and communities. Already recognized by extension workers is the fact that a very real part of post-war planning will come from the people themselves—the farmers and others who will give thought to the problems and through their experience and sound judgment contribute ideas to a common pool of post-war plans.

The first and primary step is to be sure that you establish channels through which ideas of the people can be piped to the proper groups for consideration. You should make a special effort to encourage and assist farmers and rural groups to take more initiative and responsibility in developing post-war programs applicable to their particular local problems and conditions. The colleges and the Department need to help inform the general public on agriculture's post-war interests and needs, of the significant features of the programs developed, and of rural opinion on national and international affairs.

One particular pitfall should be avoided—that is, thinking too much in terms of past agricultural problems. Of course, I don't mean to give the impression that we should overlook the things we have learned in the past. We can still profit by what we learned from the farm programs of the twenties and thirties and our more recent war experiences. But, if we look to the future, we can see potentialities of post-war trouble for agriculture which, if we were not prepared, would make our previous aches and pains seem like minor irritations.

Plan for Post-war Demands

That is why I think all of us should do some bold thinking now if we are to fashion a program that will meet the demands of the post-war period. We need to explore new patterns. For some time, I have been thinking that very likely a period of perhaps a few months will follow immediately after the war ends when we shall have a momentous opportunity to make decisions and to take new action which will be decisive so far as the future of agriculture is concerned. I am deeply concerned that agriculture be ready for such an eventuality, and I know that you are, too.

Upon you in the Extension Service will fall much of the responsibility for arousing the thinking of farm people on post-war problems. To do it now—*this winter*—is especially important. During bad weather, while farm people are doing their chores around the farm, they will have time for thinking through some of these problems. We urgently need the benefit of that counsel. When they get into the hard work of next year's staggering production job, their minds will be occupied with the work at hand. Now is the time for State and county extension workers to encourage farmer thinking along these lines and to tap farmer ideas. *To wait for another winter may be too late.*

Education faces new responsibilities

MILTON S. EISENHOWER, President, Kansas State College

On September 30, 1943, Kansas State College installed a new president. He is Milton S. Eisenhower, at one time Associate Director of the Federal Extension Service and for many years in various responsible, policy-making positions in the Department of Agriculture. Just prior to returning to Kansas State College, his alma mater, he was Associate Director of the Office of War Information. The address given by President Eisenhower, at the time of his inauguration, was inspiring. It served as a challenge to the field of higher education. It pointed out that if civilization is to survive, we must supplement technical progress with progress in the building of integrity. Thus only can we look forward to a period of prolonged peace. The EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW herewith prints parts of President Eisenhower's address, which may well serve as food for thought in discussions and plans dealing with the post-war period.

The rapid transition achieved by the people of this country in this war is one of the monumental events in history. The striking power of democracy is now felt on battlefields throughout the world. The lasting power of democracy will bring us victory.

But not merely a victory of our arms. That is not the end for which we fight. We must achieve equally the victory of our minds. War is a physical struggle between peoples of opposing convictions, and one side will prevail. Our convictions, I think, are relatively simple: Above all else, we have faith in people—in their virtues and in their potentialities. We, therefore, hold that human beings are more important than the institutions they create. We will not permit any institution or system of whatever political, economic, or military complexion to become our master. We believe government must be of the people, by the people, and for the people, if the sciences of peace are to contribute to human betterment.

Indeed, the only reason we now wage war is that these beliefs, with all that they mean in terms of human dignity and freedom, shall prevail over the concepts of our enemies. If we were willing to compromise these beliefs, no doubt we could end this war tomorrow.

But our convictions will not prevail, even with military victory, if we are complacent and take them for granted, as we did in 1918. Noble concepts worth holding are also worth working for, constantly, tirelessly. The victory of our arms in this war will do no more than offer a new generation a chance to work for a fuller life in an environment of individual liberty and social justice.

Two wars in one generation have convinced many people that knowledge, even though widely diffused, is not in itself enough to guarantee these goals. By no means do I imply that research has fulfilled its mission and that the modern task is to find better methods of applying that knowledge. On the contrary, accelerated research achievements since the last war have merely brought us to a new frontier of knowledge. Each discovery develops potentialities manyfold greater than itself. Any institution or civilization that fails to fight vigorously to push back what is still a vast area of darkness will decay.

But I do mean to say that the fruits of science and technology cannot, in themselves, automatically instill into us the wisdom, the tolerance, the integrated reasoning required for the management of individual and organized affairs in a complex and rapidly changing civilization.

The discovery of knowledge is one vital step. The widest possible dissemination of knowledge is a second vital step. A third vital step, in this modern complexity we have been long building, is the fostering of judgment. Democracy will endure only if responsible citizens are able to arrive at sound judgments in a great multitude of fields.

The discovery of knowledge requires more and more specialization. Sound judgment in making decisions requires more and more integration. Judgment requires a careful fusing of facts from a great many disciplines. It requires a broader and broader understanding of manifold relationships.

Research increases knowledge and makes judgment possible. But, I repeat, neither research nor the mere dissemination of knowledge can guarantee sound decisions by an individual or by society as a whole.

Everyone will agree, I am sure, that the noble concepts which we in this democracy hold cannot be maintained, in the face of economic complications multiplied by social complexities, unless human knowledge is matched by human wisdom. Everyone will also agree, I think, that educational institutions have as great a responsibility for fostering wisdom and tolerance as they have for fostering research and the dissemination of knowledge.

The people of France, of Poland, of the Low Countries, even of Germany and Hungary, have possessed the same fruits of research as we. They have had the same scientific tools to work with. Prior to the dark decade of the thirties, before intellectual repression in the enemy countries became so terribly efficient, they also enjoyed a wide dissemination of the results of research. Yet one nation became strong and ruthless, while others became weak, bitterly divided, and easy prey to German arms.

I do not want to overstress the point, but if we are not forever vigilant in this country, we could easily drift into some of the difficulties that held France, the Low Countries, and Poland so helpless in the late thirties. Bitter disagreements of long standing between great economic groups in the absence of the restraining hand of simple human tolerance and cool, broad judgment—are the stuff on which revolutions and the monsters of tyranny and repression feed.

One of the heartening things about this war is that, in spite of all kinds of opinions and differences of opinion, we in the United States can unite in a mighty, fighting organization, reaching from the geographical center of the United States here in Kansas to the East, the North, the West, and the South—all built in an incredibly short time and swung into action to defend our simple, understandable, human concepts.

We can, and I believe we will, do the same thing in our peaceful pursuits when this war is over. Surely we are as capable in peace as in war of defining our objectives, of determining the facts relevant to a solution of the problems involved, of laying our plans intelligently, and of rigorously carrying them out. But the task will not be simple. The generation that goes forth into a peaceful world when this war is won will face problems infinitely more complex than ours when we left college at the end of the last war.

Some of you here today remember when your most difficult economic problem involved the trading of eggs and grain for salt and sugar. The world we shall live in after this war will present to every one of us problems of agriculture, industry, labor, national and international finance, taxation, economic organization, social organization, education, employment, peaceful intercourse among nations, and a multitude of other things which will dwarf those

of the 1870's as well as those of the 1930's.

It will not be enough for a man to know how to build Grand Coulee Dam or the Golden Gate Bridge. It will not be enough for a man to know how to till the soil and protect it. It will not be enough for a man to know how to heal the sick. For every man with a useful place in society will have several great responsibilities. He will have the responsibility of using his specialized talent to make a living for himself and his family. As a citizen in a democracy, he will often have the responsibility of applying his specialized talent to the solution of community, State, and national problems within his field of special competence. And as a citizen in a democracy, he will always have the responsibility of making manifold decisions on complex problems outside his own discipline—decisions which, if made in ways compatible with our democratic methods, can spread the blessings of democracy, strengthen democracy, and guarantee its future.

American educational institutions, along with our churches, free press, and governmental agencies, have a profound duty to perform if we are to help guarantee the future. There can be no real freedom without sound education. There can be no true education without freedom. The two are inseparable.

The history of the land-grant colleges is a story of change. The history of Kansas State College, written by our devoted friend, Dr. J. T. Willard, is a story of change—change to help the people of Kansas and of the Nation to meet problems presented by onrushing development.

Our concern, then, for the immediate future is this: How can Kansas State College maintain and strengthen its excellent research; maintain and improve the quality of its technical and cultural training; and also provide to this generation, including the men and women who will return from the armed services and war industries, those methods of teaching and those broad educational foundations which will yield integrative habits of thinking, a broad understanding of relationships, and sound judgment in a complex society. Our concern is that men shall conquer machines, that machines shall not conquer men. Our concern is that men and women trained in scientific methods shall also gain tolerance, understanding, and wisdom. Our concern is with the education of men and women determined to be free.

Measuring war production

W. H. UPCHURCH, County Agricultural Agent, Randall County, Tex.

■ It was evident that the farmers in Randall County, Tex., were doing their part and more in food and feed production; but, as a matter of curiosity, a "measuring stick" was worked out to see just how much they were aiding in the war effort.

With the help of the Quartermaster General's office and several agricultural statisticians, a formula was worked out to measure the food production of a farm by a point system or food equivalent, rather than by dollar value. For example, it is possible to estimate how much of any one food a farmer would have to produce as the equivalent of 1 year's total food requirement for a soldier.

A typical example of Randall County's production in 1942, measured by this formula, was a highly mechanized farm of about three sections producing enough wheat, beef, sheep, hogs, chickens for meat, eggs, and butterfat to feed 130 soldiers. Only 6 people living on the farm did the work.

A dairy farm in the county produced enough milk, pork, eggs, chickens, wheat, and turkeys to feed 77 soldiers, with 6 people doing the work.

Four people on one of the typical small diversified farms in the county raised enough wheat, butterfat, eggs, beef, and chickens for meat to feed 32 soldiers, besides the food consumed for home use.

These figures are interesting for several reasons: The larger commercial farm in Randall County produces nearly three times as much food per worker engaged as the smaller diversified farm. It is proof of how farm production has increased in America by improvements in methods and by mechanization of agriculture.

In George Washington's time, about 6 farm people were required to produce food for themselves and 1 extra person. In Lincoln's day, 1 farm family fed 1 city family. Around 1918, a farm family was able to produce enough to feed 3 or 4 city families. By the end of 1942, American farmers were producing at the rate of more than 5 to 1. Yet, Randall County did even better—the smallest farm in the 3 examples given produced at a ratio of 8 to 1; and the largest, 21 to 1.

Randall County topped the 1942 State average of 29 percent more cattle marketed in 1942 than in 1941 and increased pork production in 1942 about 44 percent over the previous year.

Farmers in the county will have marketed or used about 1,137,000 dozen eggs in 1943, in addition to the eggs produced in towns. Gross value of the egg crop will be more than one-third of a million dollars—about the value of all crops and livestock produced in the county for 1934.

Randall County farmers planted about 70,000 acres of grain sorghum in 1943, which is about double the average for the past 5 years.

In short, Randall County farmers have put winning the war first on their list of "musts"; and, in spite of hardships, food and feed production is going to remain at top billing.

New Jersey team wins bonds at State fair

This winning team at the New Jersey State Fair in Trenton put on a demonstration of freezing fruits and vegetables, and each girl won a $25 war bond. The girls were judged on choice of subject, organization of their demonstration, presentation of subject, and results of their work. They are both 4–H Club Victory canners, which means that they have canned or frozen at least 100 quarts of garden produce or enough to feed a fighter in 1943. Mary Bernard (in the middle) has 116 quarts to her credit, and Annabelle Flitcraft (at the right) has 239 quarts.

Two other teams in the contest were rated excellent; one was composed of two boys who put on an excellent demonstration of how to can tomato juice. These teams received $5 in war stamps.

War sagas from the 1943 record

Deep grow extension roots. The war food push found agents and their trained local leaders strong and ready. Their deeds were seldom spectacular; but their skill, their knowledge, and their experience formed a sound foundation on which to build. The sum total of the work such as is described on this page is a tremendous influence in war food production. These examples could be duplicated many times in many States.

Efficiency á la carte

■ Twenty-five years ago another World War was being waged, and food was as important then as it is now.

In Fresno County, Calif., the hub of the raisin country in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, thousands of tons of luscious Thompson, Sultana, and Muscat grapes were drying on trays set out between rows in the vineyards.

The California sun beat down on the miles of trays • • • capturing the rich food values that are raisins • • • imprisoning and expanding sugar content that means energy • • • drying and shrinking the fat grapes into small, easily packed units that wedged thousands of vitamins into each small carton.

Then, one September day in 1918 it rained. And the next day it rained. And the next. And the next. Hundreds of hastily recruited workers raced up and down the rows, stacking wooden trays, rolling paper trays, covering the stacks. But there weren't enough workers, and they couldn't work fast enough • • • so thousands and thousands of vitally needed tons of raisins, nearly half of the harvest, "grew whiskers" from the damp and were lost to the fighting men of the AEF.

The Fresno area then, as now, was the hub of the raisin country and produced nearly 80 percent of all the raisins in the world. This year a bumper harvest of a million tons of fresh grapes was picked and spread on trays for the sun to convert into more than 365 thousand tons of raisins • • • 80 percent of the United Nations' supply. Eighty percent of the vitamin-rich, sugar-filled raisins ordered for their fighting men were lying out in the vineyards with the blue skies and the sun's rays for a covering. And the threat of RAIN!

With visions of the 1918 downpour before him, County Agent N. D. ("Nat") Hudson of the Agricultural Extension Service, University of California, made that "threat" his personal business • • • and did something about it.

Advance news on weather was needed; manpower • • • quickly assembled, easily moved manpower • • • plenty of it, was needed; a skeleton field force was needed; centrally located mobilization points were needed.

So, weeks in advance, Nat Hudson started to work.

The Government Weather Bureau in San Francisco was quick to cooperate. News on weather changes indicated for the San Joaquin Valley • • • signs of the slightest precipitation • • • would be flashed to Hudson at his office or residence • • • at any hour of the day or night.

For manpower • • • the quickly assembled, easily moved kind • • • well, there are a lot of Army Air Forces training fields up and down the Valley, with plenty of ground crews and trainees and trucks. Twelve thousand of them were ready to move. One call to an Air Force colonel would do the trick.

In Fresno, 2 or 3 keymen at the other end of the telephone were each ready to call 8 or 10 more keymen; each called 15 or 20 more • • • and a volunteer brigade popped out of their homes and offices and stores.

Another key group, raisin men this time, telephoned growers, and 40 of them rallied at 40 district schoolhouses to reroute the soldiers and volunteers when they arrived. Farmers with trucks picked up where army trucks left off. And 12,000 to 15,000 emergency workers were spread in a belt across Fresno County and into neighboring Madera, Kings, and Tulare Counties.

The climax • • • there's no climax. It didn't rain! True, there were four "alerts" • • • and the machinery functioned like a streak. Once, it even reached the "get ready to move" stage, but they didn't have to "move," and the United Nations will get every pound of raisins on every tray they requisitioned.

Around Fresno County they say it's a good thing it didn't rain. They say • • • "Nat Hudson would of whipped it to a frazzle."

Young recruits marshaled

■ Doing something to help win the war is practically an obsession with County Agent G. A. Roberts of Greene County, Tenn. Among "soldiers of the soil" Roberts is a four-star general; and his 4–H Clubs form an outfit of 2,112, the highest total club enrollment in the State.

"General" Roberts stepped up his recruitment program immediately after Pearl Harbor, and the 2 years since that time have seen the ranks of his boys' clubs increased by almost 30 percent. Total enrollment now includes 907 boys (highest in State among counties not having an assistant agent) and 1,205 girls, all breathing life into the slogan, "Food Fights for Freedom."

Here is the second war-year saga of "General" Roberts and his Greene troopers:

This year there were 246 members enrolled in swine projects, 136 in dairy work (highest in State), 98 in beef cattle (one of highest in State), 673 poultry club members, and 866 garden club members.

They staged the largest 4–H county club fair ever held in Tennessee, with more than 3,000 exhibits, including 88 dairy cattle, 64 beef cattle, and some 140 pens of poultry. Greene tied with Claiborne County for the most choice calves at the east Tennessee beef-cattle show and sale in February. And they have put out more new dairy calves than any other county in the State.

But to continue with the Food for Freedom story—

Greene 4–H'ers held their roaster sale and show in October, for the third consecutive year, one of the biggest in the State. They contributed some 13,000 pounds of chicken dinners to the Nation's food stockpile.

Greene County has one of the best groups of volunteer leaders in the State, and Roberts has carried on one of the best extension programs. He has found time to create much good will and cooperation between business and agricultural groups of the county.

In addition to their food, feed, and fiber output, the Greene "Mountain boys" stand among top ranks as scrap collectors and have pushed war bond sales and other drives bearing on the war effort.

Yet this is merely a one-county example of what Tennessee Extension workers are doing to help win the war and write the peace.

Leaders that led

■ Dave Williams, county agricultural agent in Sauk County, Wis., believes that neighborhood leaders are supposed to lead. Where the leader organization work was set up in his county, he saw to it that every leader selected was given a job to do and that his responsibility did not end with joining the leader movement. He was singled out for the com-

pletion of local arrangements. Sometimes he was the guinea pig upon which certain farm practices were tried; and he was, in addition, the man to whom was transferred the task of making any new practices workable in his community.

One excellent example of the results accomplished through organized groups was that of swine-parasite control. Sauk County raised nearly 70,000 hogs in 1943. This tremendous number created a real swine problem in parasite control, and Dave Williams believed that here was a field of effort in which leaders could really do something worth while.

He set up a program of education that would be carried to every corner of the county. He arranged at least one demonstration on the control of mange and swine roundworms in each township. Neighborhood leaders made local arrangements. They provided the herds for demonstration and the crowds for attendance. After a demonstration in the herd at each meeting, neighborhood leaders took hold themselves and did much of the work, thereby learning by doing. They assisted in arrangements for obtaining oil of chenopodium and castor oil for community distribution. They set up meetings of their own to keep the program alive and functioning. Interesting stunts were arranged to attract good crowds. News reels, sound movies, and motion pictures of the wartime work in Sauk County itself proved to be good bait. Insistence by neighborhood groups that women should play a big part even in this kind of work was used. The evening, probably the time of greatest leisure for farm people, was chosen for most sessions.

Twilight meetings and demonstrations in August brought an attendance of 650 people. Fifty farmers who attended dipped and dosed more than 1,500 hogs. That is a high percentage of "take," as with these demonstrations, soil conservation and poultry culling were also discussed.

To go to every township with the same program and with the local people in charge is an extremely good "cover-all" method. In Sauk County it brought results; and, to put it in the modest language of Mr. Williams, "such meetings will contribute greatly to the successful pork production in the Food for War Program."

"Warsages" for Hawaii

■ Ever hear of "warsages"? Members of girls' 4–H Clubs on the Island of Kauai in Hawaii sold $2,838.45 worth of them during the spring and early summer.

A warsage is a corsage made from war savings stamps attractively covered with cellophane of different colors and put together to resemble flowers.

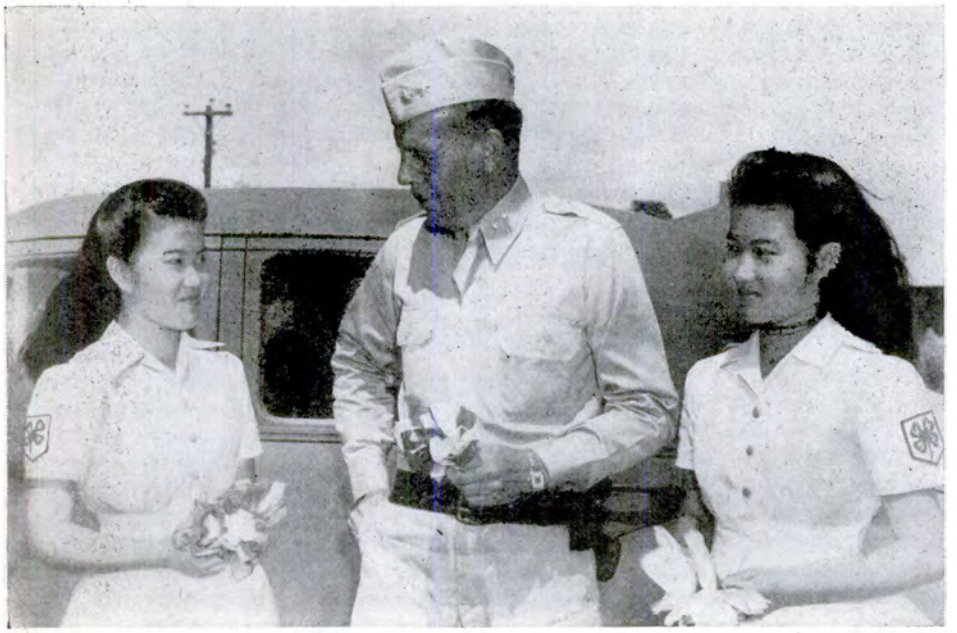
For many months the girls collected and saved bits of cellophane and wire for making the corsages. In this way the material cost them nothing, and the warsages were sold at the price of the stamps alone. Several business firms on Kauai advanced money to the clubs for purchasing the stamps in quantity. A number of women's university extension clubs helped the 4–H members to make the warsages.

The biggest selling day was May 1, which is Lei Day in the islands. In peacetime, colorful pageantry marks Lei Day—pageantry in which Hawaii's flowers play an important part. In 1942 and 1943, Lei Day in Hawaii became a day devoted to buying war bonds and stamps.

Kauai 4–H girls were on the streets early on Lei Day. The Inouye twins, Hitoe and Futae, sold one of the first corsages to Major General Rapp Brush. These girls are Americans of Japanese ancestry—"AJA's" they are called in the islands. The names of other club members and club leaders who rendered outstanding service in the warsage selling drive indicate that the AJA's in Hawaii are playing an important part in the war effort.

Of the warsages sold by the Hibiscus 4–H Club at Lihue, Hanako Koigawachi and Barbara Miyoshi each sold approximately $150 worth. Mrs. Fujiko Ota is club leader. The Friendly 4–H Club at Waipouli sold $208.75 worth. The Rainbow 4–H Club at Lawai cooperated with the Busy Bees University Extension Club in selling $313 worth of stamps. The girls in the Rainbow Club also made and sold several war-stamp leis, each containing $18.75 worth of stamps.

Esther Rugland is home demonstration agent on Kauai.



Census Bureau breaks new ground with agriculture handbook

Numerous maps, colored illustrations, examples, and descriptions of the uses made of Agriculture Census statistics in education, agriculture, business, postwar planning, and research are presented in the Agriculture Handbook published by the Bureau of the Census.

The first chapter is devoted to the mechanics of tabulation; the second to the interesting examples of the uses of Census material in schools, extending from the lower grades through postgraduate work. The business chapter describes special research tabulations made to solve advertising, marketing, manufacturing, and other industrial problems. The final chapter is an intriguing description of a new method of visual or exploratory analysis which offers almost unlimited possibilities and facilities for the study of a wide range of problems.

Extension workers may obtain copies from the Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.

Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

Arabian Farming

This is a peculiar country over here. Most of the land is excellent for farming. The main crops are wheat, oats, and barley. There are no hogs to amount to anything, partly because there is no corn, and the Arabs won't have anything to do with hogs. There are millions of cattle, sheep, and goats. The cattle seem to be a poor dairy strain or poor beef. I have seen no efforts to improve the cattle for either beef or dairy. It would take some time to acclimate some good bulls to this country, but it would be well worth the effort.

Of course there are worlds of grapes and other fruits, plenty of oranges, figs, and olives. It's lucky that the Germans were run out before the grain harvest. For the first time in 2 years the people over here are getting plenty to eat—even sugar and chocolate are on the market, but rationed. I had dinner with a French family in Tunis a week ago, and chocolate pudding was served for dessert. They explained that it was the first sweet dessert they had eaten in more than a year. I felt sort of guilty eating any of it, but it was very good.

This is a beautiful country, especially the northern coast—all the way from Tunis to Gibraltar. The Mediterranean is beautiful and offers perfect swimming. Carthage is probably one of the most interesting places I have visited. It's all in ruins, of course, but from the foundations you can tell that at one time it was a very beautiful city. Tunisia and Eastern Algeria are both covered with Roman ruins. Roman roads, buildings, bridges, and aqueducts in Constantine and Tebessa are actually in use today. I think the most interesting ruins are near Setie at an old Roman town, Djemila. Here the actual buildings remain but with no roofs. The men who built them were certainly good at cutting stone.

How wet this country can be in the winter and how dry in summer. In February and March our vehicles would get stuck most any place we left a main road. That is the principal thing that held up the campaign this winter. Even on the hills we would get stuck. It doesn't seem quite fair, but it's true. Now, though, we can drive any place and never get stuck. The ground is dry and cracked; some places the cracks are 3 inches wide and several feet deep.

The Arabs have a novel way of drawing water from their wells. They use an ox or a mule and draw the water as we would in a bucket. They use a 30-gallon bucket (wooden, but some of them use German GI cans that were left around). I have timed them on several occasions, and they can get an average of 40 to 50 gallons a minute.

These Arabs cut their wheat with a scythe, or rather a sickle, 5 or 6 inches below the head, and when they get a good handful they tie it with a piece of straw. I wish you could see them hand it in from the field. They seldom use wagons except for hauling stone or rocks. Everything else they tie on the back of a donkey—sometimes even rocks.

I don't care how much they put on the back of the donkey; an Arab always rides on top of it all to balance the load.

It's very interesting to watch the people thresh their wheat. They take the heads of grain home, and if it is in small lots they stomp it out with their bare feet on a hard dirt floor. There are some Arabs in the threshing business; if so, they hoist a white flag above

their grass hut. These fellows have spent a year or more hardening a big bowl, maybe 50 feet in diameter. It is just black dirt but gets hard as rock. The heads are put into this bowl about a foot deep. Then, with two oxen or horses, mules, or donkeys hitched to a sled, the wheat is threshed. This sled is just two boards nailed together with sharp rocks set in the bottom of it; it's about 20 inches wide and 3½ feet long. The Arab rides it as if it were a chariot and whips the oxen into a run. It takes about 5 hours to thresh this bowl of grain. Then, with forks, the chaff is removed. The wheat, chaff and all, is thrown into the air; and, of course, the wheat falls straight down and the chaff is blown to the side.—*Maj. Wilmer W. Bassett, in North Africa on leave as assistant State boys' club agent in Florida.*

KANSAS

Sam Alsop, S 1/C, Haskell County agent, Navy.

Capt. Dewey Axtell, assistant county agent, soil conservation, Nemaha County, Army.

Pvt. Evans Banbury, Sherman County agent, Army.

A/C Dwight D. Blaesi, assistant county agent, soil conservation, Lyon County, Army.

Lt. John K. Blythe, Morton County agent, Army.

S/Sgt. Dean W. Brown, DFRA field man, Army.

Sgt. Earl L. Bundy, DFRA field man, Army.

Cpl. Orville B. Burtis, Hodgeman County agent, Army.

Pvt. W. W. Campbell, Rush County agent, Army.

Lt. Lloyd M. Copenhafer, specialist, landscape gardening, Army.

Lt. W. R. Crowley, Morton County agent, Army.

Lt. Wilbert Duitsman, Osage County agent, Army.

Av/c Vernon E. Eberhart, Kearny County agent, Army.

Lt. Carl M. Elling, Hodgeman County agent, Army.

Aux. Lois Ellsworth, Clark County, office secretary, WAC.

Clarence W. Engle, S 1/C (R), DFRA field man, Army.

Cpl. Frederick D. Engler, Clark County agent, Army.

Pvt. Raymond E. Fincham, assistant county agent at large, Army.

Pvt. Taylor L. Fitzgerald, Haskell County agent, Army.

Lt. Hobart Frederick, Barber County agent, Army.

Lt. George W. Gerber, Osage County agent, Army.

Lt. Ralph F. Germann, Russell County agent, Army.

Pvt. Dave J. Goertz, Seward County agent, Army.

Cand. Ralph I. Gross, Rooks County agent, Army.

Cand. John B. Hanna, Butler County agent, Army.

Av/c Maxwell A. Haslett, DFRA field man, Army.

Roger Hendershot, Coffey County assistant agent.

Sgt. Howard M. Hughes, DFRA field man, Army.

T/5 Elzie W. Humble, DFRA field man, Army.

Lt. K. Johnson, Labette County club agent, Army.

Eugene F. Keas, DFRA field man, Navy.

Lt. Donald Kinkaid, assistant county agent, Army.

Kenneth Kirkpatrick, Rice County club agent, Army.

Capt. Arthur Knott, Montgomery County agent, Army.

Lt. A. F. Leonhard, Coffey County agent, Army.

Lt. Roscoe D. Long, Franklin County assistant agent, Army.

AVCAD Karl Ray Marrs, DFRA field man, Navy.

Capt. J. Edwin McColm, Meade County agent, Army.

Pvt. R. G. Merryfield, Cloud County assistant agent, Army.

Lt. E. F. Moody, Phillips County agent, Army.

Pvt. Wendell A. Moyer, Mitchell County agent, Army.

Aux. Norma D. Moore, Kingman county office secretary, WAC.

George A. Mullen, Jr., Russell County agent, Army.

Ensign Oscar W. Norby, Crawford County club agent, Navy.

Cand. Albert A. Pease, Crawford County club agent, Army.

Lt. Charles W. Pence, Dickinson County club agent, Army.

Pvt. Harold E. Peterson, assistant county agent, Army.

Cpl. Winzer J. Petr, Wyandotte County club agent, Army.

Cpl. Harlan R. Phillips, DFRA field man, Army.

Lt. Kenneth Porter, Rice County club agent, Army.

Cpl. Harold Reeves, DFRA field man, Army.

C. Allan Risinger, A/S, Ellsworth County agent, Navy.

Cpl. Warren Rhodes, Smith County agent, Army.

Brace Rowley, Haskell County agent.

Cpl. J. W. Scheel, assistant extension editor, Army.

Pfc. Deane R. Seaton, DFRA field man, Army.

A/C Harold D. Shull, Washington County agent, Army.

Maj. Harold E. Stover, extension engineer, Army.

Lt. Warren C. Teel, Jefferson County agent, Army.

B. W. Tempero, Marshall County assistant agent, Coast Guard.

Pvt. L. E. Watson, Rice County agent, Army.

Pvt. Dean Weckman, Doniphan County assistant agent, Army.

Cpl. Willis R. Wenrich, Gray County agent, Army.

T/5 Herman W. Westmeyer, Harper County agent, Army.

Pvt. Earl L. Wier, McPherson County agent, Army.

Lt. R. Gordon Wiltse, Miami County agent, Army.

Lt. W. A. Wishart, Greenwood County agent, Army.

Lt. S. H. Womer, assistant county agent, Army.

Lt. Frank Zitnik, Rush County agent, Army.

Lt. Joseph Zitnik, Wichita County agent, Army.

On the docket for 1944

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

1944 will be the busiest year extension work has faced in its 30 years. It will a crucial year in wartime food production. It will also be a year when, without indulging in unwarranted optimism, we must recognize that the war will be over sometime; that victory will be on our side; that our country, its people, and its institutions will be looked to by the world to provide much of the leadership needed for an enduring peace.

The Food Front

The pressure on United States food will be great, even if military action in Europe is successfully concluded in 1944. State conferences on goals were held earlier last fall than in the previous year. Farmers have a better picture of what they will be expected to do. They have more time to plan their individual production to fit into the community, county, State, and national requirements. They know that they may expect good prices for the different crops. They know that the 1944 goals place greater emphasis on the proteins and fats. What they will need most is help in applying the "know-how" of scientific farming methods afforded by agricultural research and experimentation; improved production, harvesting and conservation methods; specific and definite help in solving labor, machinery, transportation, processing and distribution problems. The liaison between the "know-how" and the farm is the agricultural extension system, with a county and a home demonstration agent in each important rural county.

The services available to farmers are many. All of them must be a part of a successful extension program, fitted to the needs of each State, county, and community. In the counties, farmers look to the extension office as the source of information, both from the college and experiment stations and from the United States Department of Agriculture. This fact is recognized in the assignment of all educational work to the Extension Service by the War Food Administrator. War Board Memorandum No. 31 means that the Extension Service will be held responsible for all phases of educational work, including production, conservation, marketing, and utilization of farm products.

This over-all assignment makes it urgent that, in addition to use of printed materials, meetings, demonstrations, contacts be established with every last farmer down the road. Great progress in doing so has been made in many States through enrollment and training of volunteer extension neighborhood leaders. They have been very important in urging their neighbors to employ better production methods. They will be even more important in 1944, when efficient farming methods will play a prominent part in determining how well United States agriculture meets its food production goals.

Early Planning Vital

From the standpoint of building a successful county extension program, 1944 is full of opportunity. The preliminaries are out of the way. National and State goals are known. Responsibilities are more clearly defined than in any other year since the war started. The important need of the moment is to insure an early start. State and county extension services have a real opportunity to develop educational plans that will definitely earmark the extension program.

What are the production goals for the county? How much machinery and what kinds of repair parts will be available to farmers in the county? What further efficiencies will be necessary in transportation? Are processing facilities adequate? Will storage facilities meet the need? What is the feed situation? What can be done toward increasing the regular feed supplies in the county? What emergency crops and pastures can help maintain the desirable livestock population? What conservation measures will help save food? What steps have been taken to reduce crop damage from insects, diseases?

These are only a few of the questions that extension people should be asking now, as the year turns, of the farmer members of their county boards; of the AAA committees; of farm people and farm leaders; of the councils of defense; of every agency, public or private, through which assistance can be had to make the local job of meeting 1944 food goals as successful as weather and Providence permit.

Machinery and Equipment

Although more machinery will be available than in 1943, farmers will still have to use the greatest care with regard to tractors, motors, trucks, combines, and machinery. During the winter months farm machinery repair schools, encouraged by the Extension Service in cooperation with vocational agricultural departments, machinery dealers and the like, are a great service. In many States training schools and community repair centers are being organized. Unskilled farm helpers are given the opportunity to learn about proper handling and care of machinery. The same applies to equipment in the home. Here, too, home demonstration agents will want to give all assistance possible toward seeing that the very best use possible is made of home equipment.

Farm Labor

The emergency farm labor program will continue to be one of the chief extension assignments. This will include everything from the recruitment of young farm people as volunteers in the United States Crop Corps to organizing farm efficiency programs; training farmers in the more economical use of labor; and holding training centers for year-round workers and inexperienced men and youth who do seasonal work. In some States extension instruction and training for women recruits for the Women's Land Army will also be given.

Finding labor short cuts, particularly during the critical periods of peak labor needs, will be an important part of the extension program. An important responsibility of extension work is to link research and experimentation to the land through encouraging farmers to adopt improved practices. Very often the organization of neighborhood machinery exchanges and the construction of home-made, labor-saving devices, can accomplish much in the way of meeting acute labor shortages.

Victory Gardens

The Nation's food goals call for greater production from Victory Gardens. There will be more gardens in 1944, but a great deal of increased production can be had through better gardens. Nearly one-third of the Victory Gardens in 1943 were on farms. In some States as many as 95 percent of the farms had Victory Gardens. In 1944 farm gardens can be responsible for a great amount of the needed increase in fruits and vegetables. In all rural counties, technical guidance and leadership for the Victory Garden program will continue to come from the county agricultural and home demonstration agents.

Home Demonstration Work

Home demonstration activities have become increasingly important as the result of war.

Without sacrificing gains made through the years in achieving improved homes and improved home life in general, the 2,930,000 women who participate in home demonstration work have adapted their whole program to meet wartime needs.

Activities having to do with food production and food preservation have had and will continue to need major emphasis. It is to be remembered that so far as food is concerned what was essential in wartime is also essential in peace and that practices we have had to correct in wartime along nutritional lines are things which should not happen again.

Home improvement, child care, and family life, and other activities having to do with the improved physical and mental health of the family will become increasingly important as the year advances.

In developing State and county extension programs, there should be included definite and specific plans to aid people in getting control of endemic diseases; to improve home sanitation; to avoid malnutritional disease. Better physical and mental health of rural people should be a goal of both war and peace.

The war has shown that operations of the farm and the home are inseparably tied together. In a like way, home demonstration programs should be a part of the complete county extension program. Home demonstration programs as well as agricultural programs have become an essential part of our farming system without which farm families could not produce so efficiently or enjoy so high a standard of living as they do in the United States.

The needs of 1944 will cement—even closer than ever before—the relationships between the agricultural and home demonstration programs.

4-H Club Work

The 4-H Clubs will stress increased food production and conservation; promote facilities for rural young people to establish themselves on farms of their own on a sound social and economic basis; provide skilled guidance for rural youth seeking agricultural employment; develop programs leading to a fuller appreciation of the values of country living; increase emphasis on recreation; stress a better understanding of world problems today.

Preparing for Peace

In 1944, as victory comes closer month by month and week by week the Extension Service will become increasingly concerned with the problems of peace. While the Extension Service will have a major responsibility in the wartime food production, conservation, and marketing programs, we must keep the implication of the coming peace in mind.

The problems facing the United States in the demobilization period will be different from and bigger than those of the 1920's. It will be more difficult to convert from wartime to peacetime production. From 8 to 10 million men and women now in the service will be back in civilian life. A considerably larger number will have to be diverted from production of civilian goods and services. This in itself will entail some great economic and political problems. We shall have a national debt which may reach or exceed 250 billion dollars.

Yes, post-war planning is a big job. Extension work has as big a responsibility in providing educational leadership in this field as it has an obligation to stimulate food production. We shall have a big educational job to do among farm people, if they are to understand and participate in the building of programs and help to determine action that will insure a lasting peace. Such programs must be based upon the presentation of facts, all the facts, and without prejudice, if education is to serve its fundamental purpose, that of providing a basis on which an enlightened public opinion is built.

Extension cotton-ginning specialists

■ Three Federal Extension cotton-ginning specialists were appointed in October by the Extension Service, War Food Administration, to carry information from the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., to cotton ginners throughout the Cotton Belt. This information concerning the selection, maintenance, and operation of cotton-ginning equipment will aid in bringing about a general improvement in grade in the cottons, especially needed for military and related uses.

These specialists will cooperate with State Agricultural Extension Services and their county agents in work with cotton ginners and farmers to bring about clean, dry picking of cotton and such improvement in ginning as can be obtained in spite of scarcity of skilled cotton pickers. In doing this essential work for the War Food Administration, they will be aided by the regional office of the Cotton and Fiber Branch, Food Distribution Administration, in determining the areas in which adverse weather or other conditions are causing losses in grade due to poor preparation of cotton.

One of these specialists, Fred P. Johnson, is stationed at the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., with field work in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and western Tennessee, with continuation of his previous contacts in North Carolina. Mr. Johnson has been employed by the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture since 1937 in a similar program in which he has cooperated with the U. S. Laboratory and the North Carolina State Agricultural Extension Service in assisting ginners to improve their ginning facilities and methods of operation, with very gratifying results in the records for upgrading the preparation of cotton in that State. Prior to 1937, he had 18 years' experience in cotton ginning, including the commercial erection of plants and the operation and management of gins.

Atlanta and Dallas Headquarters

J. C. Oglesbee, Jr., with headquarters at the Cotton Division, Southern Region, Food Distribution Administration, Western Union Building, Atlanta, Ga., is the specialist for Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, and eastern Tennessee. For the past 9 years he has been an agricultural engineering specialist for the Georgia State Agricultural Extension Service, and for 7 years of that time has conducted cotton-ginning improvement work in cooperation with the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory. This extension work developed cooperation of county agricultural agents and farmers in promoting clean, dry picking of cotton, as well as the service and advice to ginners based on the experimental work of the United States Laboratory.

Alfred M. Pendleton, specialist for the Southwest, will limit his work this season to Texas and Oklahoma. His headquarters will be at the Cotton Division, Southwest Region, 425 Wilson Building, Dallas, Tex. Mr. Pendleton has been engaged in the management and operation of cotton gins since 1932, and since 1937 has been in charge of operations of the cotton gins of the East Texas Cotton Oil Co. This work has involved modernizing as well as new installation of cotton-ginning equipment in numerous gins. His consultations with the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory in planning gin installations have given him practical experience for his Extension Service work.

Bean-picking "bees" bring out the townspeople

D. D. OFFRINGA, County Agent, Bremer County, Iowa

Because members of his own family were in the hungry Netherlands, County Agent Offringa was determined that no food should go to waste in his county. He tells how he achieved that goal.

■ First, the following radio announcement was repeated four times on July 26, 1943 by an Iowa station. Three other large radio stations repeated similar announcements.

"A bean-picking bee will be held tonight at the Harold McClure farm, north of the Children's Home in Waverly. Bremer County Extension Agent Offringa reports that 7,000 pounds of beans must be picked this evening to prevent waste of the crop. Civic organizations are cooperating. Transportation will be provided for volunteer pickers. The bean-picking bee will be held from 6 to 8 this evening, and pickers will receive 2 cents a pound. Volunteers are asked to bring a pail with them. If you do not have transportation, wait at the Waverly Post Office or at Roy's Place."

Every one of the 4,100 residents of Waverly received a large handbill on his porch by noon of that day, inviting the entire family to help. The Waverly Women's Club, the chamber of commerce, and the Masonic lodge invited their members by telephone or mail. Result? Two hundred people picked practically 8,000 pounds of beans, for which they received 2 cents a pound, cookies, a cold drink, and a stiff back, in the most extensive community effort of its kind in the history of Bremer County. It was the forerunner of 7 similar "bees" where business and professional men and their families assisted in the harvesting of 44,000 cases of beans.

When Congress, on April 29, 1943, charged the Extension Service with the responsibility of the farm labor program, the Iowa Extension Service had preliminary plans well under way.

In Bremer County, a county-wide farm-labor committee was called together for a meeting at the county farm, on May 4, to survey the farm-labor situation and to make plans. Attending this meeting were Fred F. Clark, district extension agent; and Arthur R. Porter, district farm-labor representative of the Extension Service, together with the Farm Security Administration supervisor, the AAA chairman, the county farm bureau secretary, the vocational

agriculture instructor, farm labor committee members from each community, representatives of the newspapers, chamber of commerce, and the American Legion, and representative farmers.

After the meeting, every high school in the county was asked to cooperate in obtaining enrollment of students from the fifth grade up to assist with farm work in general and the bean-picking program in particular. All rural boys and girls from the fifth grade up received a letter, together with an enrollment card, asking them for their cooperation.

On May 17, a big county-wide Food for Freedom meeting was held at Waverly, where Paul C. Taff, assistant director of the Iowa Extension Service; A. J. Loveland, chairman of the State AAA; and "Andy" Woolfries, well-known radio announcer recently returned from a special mission with the British Navy, addressed a crowd of 600. The purpose of the meeting was an appeal for still more acres of beans and the necessary labor to harvest them in the summer.

Just before the bean-picking season started, a letter was sent to all children giving them the names of the bean growers in their vicinity.

Bean growers at that time received letters from the extension office stating that, according to plans formulated by the farm-labor committee and the management of the canning factory, pickers would be invited to a free picnic at the close of the canning season. Growers reported that this proposed picnic had a definite effect on the morale of the pickers.

In the meantime, a former 4-H girl was employed as farm-labor office assistant and an assistant coach of the Waverly High School as special farm-labor field assistant.

Notwithstanding surveys, assembly talks at high schools, and the finest kind of cooperation on the part of newspapers, community clubs, commercial clubs, teachers, preachers, the canning factory, and bean growers, when the critical time came, all preliminary activities proved inadequate. It was soon found that most growers needing extra help could not depend on the usual sources. Boys and girls who had picked beans in previous years were now taking the places of men and women in the armed forces and other essential war work. Bean growers planning on picking grade I beans soon found them growing into grade II beans, thus reducing the price from $4.75 to $2.75 a hundred pounds although they were still paying 2 cents a pound for picking.

But when the situation became most serious, patriotic citizens rallied to the cause. The old-fashioned bean-picking bees dramatized the dire necessity of getting the beans picked.

An emergency call was sent to the extension office at nearby Waterloo, and as many as 108 boys and girls from that area came to the rescue daily, through the cooperation of County Agent Paul B. Barger.

44,000 Cases of Beans Canned

A final check-up showed that a total of 44,000 cases of beans were canned; and, according to a quotation from a full-page ad in a local paper by a canning company "* * * We feel certain that without the help of the Food for Freedom volunteers, not more than half this amount could have been harvested * * * Our faith was justified; and through the cooperation of the county extension service, city organizations, and individuals everywhere the task has been completed."

The job was climaxed by the bean pickers' picnic, where roast-corn-in-the-husk, ice cream, soft drinks, and chicken sandwiches featured the menu and a patriotic program included the awarding

of certificates of service to every person who helped with the bean-picking program; and war stamps were awarded to the five people who picked the most beans.

Perhaps having members of my own family in the Netherlands where, according to the last letter before Pearl Harbor, the menu excluded coffee, tea, rice, eggs, sugar, and included barely 1 ounce of meat for each person a week, and where my brother has "delivered" 22 of his milk cows to the "master race," I feel strongly about this matter of food.

Having a definite part in this food production and conservation program this year gave me the greatest happiness ever enjoyed in any project during 21 years of being Iowa extension specialist and county agent of Bremer County.

Fellow extension workers, space does not permit emphasis on the greatest opportunity ever presented to us in helping to feed a starving world. Let's thank God that we live in the United States where we can have a real part in ultimately saving millions of wonderful people to whom starvation is a stark reality.

Town and country fight infantile paralysis

■ Home demonstration club women, 4-H Club members, as well as extension agents, are particularly interested at this time in the campaign to help those stricken with infantile paralysis to recover from that dreaded disease.

Despite a widespread popular impression that infantile paralysis is largely a disease that hits the cities and congested areas, this mysterious enemy of the home front strikes in its unexplained manner on the farms all over the Nation, The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, New York, points out in making its annual appeal for funds, January 14th to 31st, through the March of Dimes.

The 1943 epidemic of this disease—the worst in 12 years—included many people from the farms among its nearly 12,000 victims. Poliomyelitis is always like that. Far from areas where other victims had been hit, a farmer's wife or his children were stricken.

In northern Colorado, polio struck swiftly last October in one family. Three times within a week it hit the same family—a little 5-year-old girl, her 17-month-old sister, and their 4-year-old cousin. In Kansas, Mrs. Norabelle Hammond, a 46-year-old farm housewife, died in the poliomyelitis isolation ward at Grace Hospital, Hutchinson, a week after she was brought there from her farm home. She had not been away from her farm for several weeks, according to her friends. When she arrived at the hospital she was in serious condition and was immediately placed in an iron lung.

But the dimes and dollars which are given by people from the cities, towns, and the countryside all join together in helping these victims, regardless of age, race, creed, or color and regardless also of whether they live in the cities where help is available or in some lonely farmhouse.

In Texas, home demonstration clubwomen found a way to meet the situation when an epidemic of infantile paralysis threatened.

With no hospital and no practicing nurse in Hood County, Tex., there was much concern recently when three cases of poliomyelitis were reported in the county. Fort Worth hospitals were overcrowded, and an epidemic threatened.

Forethought by the local chapter of the infantile paralysis foundation and interest by home demonstration clubwomen helped the county to meet this situation.

Recently, when a course in the Sister Kenney method of treatment of the malady was offered at a Fort Worth hospital, Mrs. Myrtle Negy, county home demonstration agent and member of the local chapter, got in touch with three rural homemakers who formerly had been nurses. Mrs. Ray Baker, a member of the Hill City Home Demonstration Club, agreed to go and work with "polio" patients for 1 week, studying the new method of applying hot packs. Her expenses were paid by the commissioners' court.

Meanwhile, the county health officer discussed the situation with the Hood County Home Demonstration Council. They obtained the cooperation of community clubs in raising $500 to take care of Hood County victims of the disease who could not be admitted to a hospital nearby. Mrs. Baker's services will be available if new cases are reported, and her expenses will be paid from the local emergency fund. Already, financial assistance has been given to families of three children with the disease.

To prepare for a possible epidemic, Mrs. Baker gave a demonstration of the Sister Kenney method of treatment to 100 women and girls of the county early in August.

Neighborhood leaders bring in blood donors

Incidentally, while out in the State the other day, I ran across a short item which you might find worth while for the REVIEW.

It happened in Sauk County, when the Red Cross made its regular stop for blood donations at Baraboo and found that volunteers were a couple of hundred short of meeting the 750 quota.

Farmers were in the middle of filling their silos, but the local chairman visited County Agent Dave Williams to see if rural people could be reached. Williams sent the information along to neighborhod leaders, and within 24 hours applications began to come in. Altogether, 600 farm people asked for blood-donation appointments within 5 days.

Of course that carried the supply away beyond the quota, and only part of these volunteers were called upon. But the rest are on the list for the next contribution to the blood bank.—*Bryant Kearl, assistant, Department of Agricultural Journalism, Wisconsin.*

■ New picture charts on soya flour and grits, put out by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics are just off the press. Four in number, the charts tell by action photograph, sketch, and short caption the how, what, and why of soya—how soya stretches scarce protein foods like meat and eggs, how soya enriches soups and spreads, what basic rules to follow in cooking, why soya is a valuable new food on the home front. Designed to help home demonstration agents, discussion leaders of 4-H Clubs, and others interested in introducing soya to the American family, these charts point up a "Food Fights for Freedom" theme.

Charts are 14¼ by 20 inches, printed in brown and peach ink. Order from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., and be sure to include 20 cents per set in cash, money order, or certified check.

Companion to the charts is a new folder, "Cooking With Soya Flour and Grits," AWI-73, containing recipes tested in the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics laboratories.

■ Russia Fights Famine, a 12-page pamphlet issued by Russian War Relief, Inc., 11 East 35th Street, New York 16, tells a vivid story of Russia's wartime food and agricultural problems, which will interest Extension workers.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ DR. WILMON NEWELL, director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service, and provost for agriculture at the University of Florida, died at his home in Gainesville, October 25.

Since going to Florida in 1915 to head the newly created State Plant Board, Dr. Newell figured notably in much of the State's agricultural advancement and won wide national acclaim for his able leadership of pest-eradication forces. The State Plant Board was formed during a heavy outbreak of the dreaded citrus canker disease, and this menace was forever removed from Florida groves after a few years of eradication efforts under Dr. Newell's direction.

So successful had been this performance that when the Mediterranean fruit fly was discovered in Florida in 1929 the United States Department of Agriculture chose Dr. Newell to lead its Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine forces, combined with those of the State Plant Board, in an eradication campaign which proved successful in 18 months, and freed the citrus and other fruit and vegetable industries of Florida and the South from the ravages of a severe pest.

Dr. Newell was director of the University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service since 1920. He was dean of the College of Agriculture from 1920 to 1938, when he was made provost for agriculture.

As director of the Experiment Station, he played a prominent part in the development of the tung oil industry in Florida and other Southern States, the research here having been the first to reveal that the tree could be grown successfully in this country.

For his outstanding ability and accomplishments, Dr. Newell received numerous honors. In 1920 he was president of the Association of Economic Entomologists; in 1929–30 he was president of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers. For years he was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

■ ARTHUR P. SPENCER, formerly associate director of the Florida Agricultural Extension Service, has been appointed director of extension of that State to succeed the late Dr. William Newell.

Mr. Spencer went to Florida in 1910 as district agent with the Extension Service and was made assistant director in 1916 and vice director in 1919. For the past 4 months he has served as associate director of the organization which supervises the work of county and home demonstration agents of the State.

Mr. Spencer received his B. S. and M. S. degrees at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

H. H. Williamson goes to OPA

H. H. Williamson, of Bryan, Tex., for 8 years director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, has been appointed agricultural relations adviser of the Office of Price Administration.

When making the announcement in November of Mr. Williamson's appointment, Chester Bowles, Administrator of the Office of Price Administration, said that for some months he had been concerned over what seemed to be a sincere lack of understanding on the part of many of our farmers on the problems and necessity for wartime price controls. He also believed that there have been several instances of OPA regulations which have been improperly keyed to practical farm problems.

For both of these reasons, it seemed essential to Mr. Bowles that the viewpoint of the 12 million farmers and the viewpoint of the Office of Price Administration should be brought much closer together, and the position of agricultural relations adviser was thus established to fill this need.

Through meetings and personal contacts, Mr. Williamson will stimulate discussion of the present program to develop among farm people a better understanding of the stabilization program.

Mr. Williamson, a native of Texas and lifelong farmer, is well acquainted with farm groups throughout the country. He has been associated with the Texas Extension Service for 32 years—as county agent, State boys' club agent, assistant State agent, State agent, vice director and State agent, and extension director. As State director he headed an organization of some 600 to 700 persons.

Because of the importance of cotton in the farm economy of Texas, Mr. Williamson has been especially interested in its improvement and utilization. Whereas, 8 years ago there were fewer than 30 one-variety cotton communities in the State, there are now 1,082.

When cotton surpluses were piling up, Mr. Williamson launched a "buy or make a mattress campaign" in the fall of 1939. The next spring the Government launched its national cotton mattress campaign, during which rural families, trained by extension workers, made 4,133,999 cotton mattresses in community centers; Texas leading the Nation with 550,374 completed under the program.

Approximately 60,000 neighborhood leaders make up the "human chain of communication" for Texas farm and ranch families to send and receive wartime messages related to agriculture.

Taking action to conserve food, Texas appointed special home demonstration agents in the early summer to aid with the food preservation work in 20 Texas cities, including Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, and others.

Under Extension's "Live-at-home program" Texas has increased the number of freezer lockers for storing foods from 2 in 1938 to about 130.

To avert a serious feed shortage during the winter and spring of 1944, Texas farmers were urged late last summer to plant every available acre to feed, providing moisture is sufficient. Trench silos for storing feed now number 38,054 in comparison with 5,474 when Mr. Williamson was made director.

Since a specialist in cooperative marketing was appointed by Mr. Williamson in 1937 active farmers' cooperatives in Texas have increased from 520 to 832.

At one time State leader of 4–H Club work in Texas, Mr. Williamson has been much interested in the work of boys and girls. When he became director in 1935 the enrollment in club work was 36,992 and has increased to well over 100,000 boys and girls now enrolled in 4–H club work in Texas.

Mr. Williamson's experience in working with farm people and the confidence he has won through the years will be a great asset in creating an understanding of the stabilization program and cooperation with it.

■ JOHN J. McELROY, formerly Wyoming State Supervisor, extension farm labor program, has joined the Federal Extension Service staff as senior agriculturist, Division of Recruitment and Placement, extension farm labor program. He will have field headquarters at Laramie, Wyo., by cooperative arrangement with Director Bowman of the Wyoming Extension Service. The greater part of his time will be devoted to field work on the farm-labor program, principally in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada and Utah.

Mr. McElroy joined the Wyoming Extension staff in 1927, serving as county agent of Carbon County until July 1, 1936, when he was appointed crop and soil specialist. He was executive assistant of the State AAA from 1938 to 1942, and was secretary of the National Beet Growers' Association in 1942–43.

Food markets save garden surplus

VIRGINIA BERRY, Home Economics Extension Specialist, Indiana

■ Although Madison County, Ind., is located in an agricultural area, 85 percent or more of its population comes from industrial families. In spite of many city Victory Gardens, these families created a large and ready market for canning produce during the past summer. Grocers could not possibly hope to supply enough fresh fruits and vegetables to meet the demand. However, many of the county's home economics club members had prolific gardens that were expected to produce surplus crops.

Supply and demand were brought together in mid-June when extension food markets were organized in the county's two largest towns, Anderson and Elwood. Plans for each market were developed by a committee of five women—one city and four rural homemakers. A sixth woman was selected to act as market manager. Miss Ethel Nice, home demonstration agent, who had suggested that such markets be established, served in an advisory capacity to the two committees.

Before the opening of the markets, an outline of the proposed plans went to all home economics club members, with an invitation to become sellers. Radio and newspapers announced the opening days to people throughout the county. However, only one paid advertisement was used by each market. More advertising was unnecessary, for market day brought more buyers than produce.

Each Saturday from 11 to 3 is market day. Operating hours were chosen so that fruits and vegetables brought in could be sold while fresh.

Sellers in the markets are all home economics club members, members of their families, or 4–H Club members. Members of home economics clubs may sell for other persons who guarantee their produce. Each seller must leave a health certificate at the manager's desk before being assigned to a booth. A fee amounting to a certain percentage of receipts from the produce sold must be paid to the market at the close of each day. These fees are used to meet overhead expenses for equipment, rent, and manager's salary.

Four rules govern actual selling: All produce must be fresh, booths must be kept clean and tidy; selling prices must be set by the manager for the entire market; all delicatessen products must be kept covered.

Both markets operate under store licenses. Originally, they were formed to sell only fresh fruits and vegetables, but the sales stock has been expanded to include other items such as dressed poultry, butter, cottage cheese, chicken and noodles, pressed chicken, potato salad, baked beans, rolls, pies, cakes, cookies, canned fruit, and other delicatessen items. Ration points are collected for any rationed goods. The addition of new products put the markets on a year-round rather than a seasonal operating basis, although one market closed temporarily while most of its sellers worked for a few weeks in tomato-canning factories.

Sales figures indicate that the project has been a success. During the initial 3 months of operation, sales totaled approximately $4,730, with poultry products bringing in the largest share of revenue.

Although the markets are doing well, there have been numerous problems and difficulties. At the beginning, many women were reluctant to come into the organization to sell, preferring to wait until the market was well established. The business of selling was new to many of them, and they had to learn more businesslike sales methods. Some difficulty was also experienced in getting fees adjusted to cover overhead expenses. Products were not always uniform, and uniform prices had to be worked out. But gradually both sellers and markets are solving their problems. The markets have helped to supply canning produce for a large number of industrial people. For families who are selling, the markets provide a means of additional revenue—a ready source of cash income if a financial crisis should face the family in a day less prosperous than the present.

Every 4–H member buys a bond

"Come on, 4–H'ers everywhere, let's club the Axis with war bonds," is the latest battle cry of the Baldknobbers 4–H Club of Mount Vernon, Posey County, Ind. Not satisfied with letting the tremendous job of food production they are doing represent their part in the war effort, these boys and girls, in seeking other avenues of service, hit upon the plan of encouraging every 4–H'er to buy at least one bond.

The fathers of the club members, asked to sit in on a meeting held for the purpose of formulating the project, endorsed it enthusiastically. A roll call revealed that all but one member of the club already owned bonds, and [illegible] member pledged to buy.

R. A. Burger, assistant county agent of Posey County, says the purpose of the venture is threefold:

1. To advance the cause of 4–H Club work.
2. To show that in addition to producing food, the 4–H'ers are doing an all-out job in supporting the war effort.
3. To stimulate more bond buying among 4–H boys and girls and young people generally.

The Baldknobbers Club has operated for 9 successive years under the direction of Adult Leader Charles W. Schmidt.

Repair farm equipment

To keep farm machines operating efficiently on the New York State food-production front, the 15 district agricultural engineers of the State helped to repair or adjust nearly 7,000 farm machines in the first 9 months of 1943.

They answered 4,385 trouble calls from farmers whose machines had broken down in the field or did not work at the time they were needed. More than 6,960 machines were repaired in these visits. In their clinics for repair of farm equipment, each lasting 3 to 5 days, and in field showings of the proper way to adjust plows, combines, mowers, and other farm tools, they aided 29,016 other farmers.

As most rural communities now have few men skilled in mechanical repairs, break-downs of farm machines have become serious problems. The 15 district engineers work on funds provided by the New York State War Council.

The engineers have worked on practically all the major farm machines: plows, tractors, potato sprayers and diggers, manure spreaders, corn harvesters and choppers, binders, combines, drills, mowers, electric motors, and rakes. In group meetings, they have shown how to adjust the tools; and in clinics lasting 3 to 5 days each, they have supervised farmers in repair of their machines.

In farm visits, they ironed out troubles with plows, tractors, mowers, binders, and in construction and operation of buckrakes. The farmers gave the trouble calls to their local extension committeemen or extension minutemen to pass on to the county agricultural agent who made calls for the engineers.

■ Population estimates from 19[illegible] 1943 have recently been issued by the Bureau of the Census. On July 1, 1943, the estimated total population of the United States was 135,603,000; farm population, 27,821,000, and nonfarm population, 107,782,500.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

HITTING ON ALL EIGHT POINTS, the dairy program to help farmers meet war milk goals got off to a good start in a series of a dozen intraregional conferences from Boston to Berkeley. In some of the principal dairy sections, extension workers reported that they were well supplied with materials, but the personalized touch was needed to make the program effective on every dairy farm. Some States thought this might be done by using neighborhood leaders; others suggested help of feed dealers, milk distributors, cooperatives, dairy herd-improvement associations, or dairy project leaders. The meetings were attended by extension specialists in dairying, agronomy, and economics, representatives of the supervisory staff and some meetings were attended by extension directors and editors, and a representative of the Dairy Industry Committee.

A RETIRED VIRGINIA AGENT, H. B. Derr, was in the office recently and reported a busy season with his collection of 150 mounted specimens of insects most injurious to Victory Gardens. The exhibit, mounted in cases with glass fronts, was set up in the hotel lobby for the meetings of the State Grange, November 26 and 27, and aroused much interest. It was also exhibited to the State Academy of Science in Richmond during the past season. As Mr. Derr points out, 60 percent of the beans were lost to the bean beetle and 70 percent of the potatoes to potato blight, so Victory gardeners must learn to know these insects. He particularly likes to show his exhibits, which he has spent a lifetime collecting, to young folks; last year he took them to 21 schools in his county and gave several thousand young folks a chance to look and ask questions.

COUNTY AGENT INVENTOR is M. H. ...ball, assistant county agent in Los ...les County, Calif. He visualized the ...ple of using a long boom in making ...ssful walnut shaker which has ...t by the experiment station and ...emonstrated on farms in the ...n November 17, 70 farmers ...chine, made from old auto- ...second-hand pipes, and guy ...0-foot tree in 5 minutes. ...great improvement over ...men using long poles. ...also perfected a simple ...trator which is being ...Clubs in the county.

FIRE LOSSES ARE INCREASING on the farm, wasting resources needed to wage war, according to progress reports given at a joint meeting of the Agricultural Committee of the National Fire Waste Council and the Farm Fire Protection Committee of the National Fire Protection Association, held November 29 in Chicago. The estimates indicate farm fire losses 10 million dollars above the 80 million dollars of last year. However, higher valuation of losses on the basis of present replacement costs for labor and materials is involved, which indicates that the loss of farm facilities is not much different from that of last year. A report on the Extension Farm Fire Prevention Program was given by S. P. Lyle of the Federal Extension Service.

KEEP FARM BUILDINGS IN USE to produce and conserve food. Repair and keep them in good condition. Convert their construction to serve the 1944 housing and storage needs, and if new construction is needed to increase or save food, do it on time. "Keep farm buildings fit and fighting" was a special message of the War Food Administration in December to farmers, and to the building materials' manufacturers and dealers and the various government agencies that can help farmers procure and use building materials as one means of accomplishing 1944 Farm Goals.

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
M. L. WILSON, Director
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KEEP ALL FARM MACHINERY RUNNING was the theme of the recent meeting of extension engineers with representatives of other public agencies, trades, and industries interested in 1944 farm equipment. With the news that more machinery could be expected in 1944 than in 1943, many farmers relaxed their efforts to keep machinery repaired and in good running order; although the truth of the matter is that to grow and harvest the farm crops needed next year, all farm equipment that can be made to run will be needed in addition to the new equipment promised. Maintenance and repair of farm machinery is even more important.

A WAR HOUSING UNIT spread over the California hills like mushrooms and housing 3,000 families of shipyard workers furnished an opportunity to Maybell S. Eager, home demonstration agent of Solano County. Ten women volunteered as food preservation leaders. They were trained and then helped about 100 other families with food preservation problems. More than 52,000 quarts of fruit and tomatoes were put up; 3,000 quarts of vegetables were processed in pressure cookers; and 3,500 pounds of fruits and vegetables were dried. A fair on the porch of the community shoping center brought out 800 war workers anxious to compare the produce—fresh and preserved—from their Victory Gardens. Typical of the reports of these leaders is one from Nellie Johnson who says: "I had 6 new leaders at my home to dehydrate beans, potatoes, beets, carrots, and squash. Had a nice write-up in the paper and am keeping up my display of preserved fruits and vegetables for my neighbors to see."

FARMERS AND POULTRYMEN throughout the country have given wholehearted support to the wartime poultry-production program. Each of the past 2 years, poultry raisers have met and exceeded all production goals that have been set up for poultry and poultry products. For 1944, we are forced to maintain essential production of poultry meat and eggs with a less abundant feed supply. This calls for extra heavy culling during January. The War Food Administration is requesting the skilled flock owner to improve the efficiency of this year's flock by removing the low-producing birds. This calls for an extra heavy culling during January of birds not in laying condition and of late, slow-maturing pullets. This weeding out will give a 1944 Victory flock that will make efficient use of all the precious feed available and still achieve the food-production goals.

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Extension Service Review

VOLUME 15 FEBRUARY 1944 NO. 2

On the docket this month

Food production forces gather momentum with the allotment of funds to Extension, a clarification of memorandum 31, and plans for the March mobilization of 4-H Clubs.

■ The War Food Administration's allotment of $2,000,000 to the Extension Service means that the States can now strengthen their educational activities in food production and food preservation.

This allotment runs only until July 1, but there is a probability that it will be continued during the following fiscal year. This is dependent, of course, upon the congressional appropriation of funds which have been requested in the annual budget.

War Board Coordination

Steps were taken last month to clarify the responsibility and relationships of the various WFA and USDA agencies working on the food production program. The Extension Wartime Advisory Committee of State directors met with a number of State AAA directors in January and discussed relationships. As a result of this meeting, a statement of policy was issued by the WFA as a supplement of memorandum 31. This reads as follows:

"The State and County War Boards are responsible for the coordination of the participation of all member agencies in the War Food Program on the basis of assignments to the individual agencies as made by the War Food Administration.

"All member agencies of the War Food Administration and the United States Department of Agriculture are instructed to assist through the War Boards in obtaining needed food production and to perform their proper functions in the over-all food program.

"The educational work relative to the Food Production Program is the primary responsibility of Extension with the full cooperation of all other agencies in accordance with the nature of their own programs."

It is further suggested that War Board meetings with all member agencies represented to held regularly, if possible, at least once each month, at which time the activities of all agencies should be reviewed and coordination plans discussed. County extension agents should use the opportunity afforded by these meetings for the presentation and discussion of appropriate educational programs in relation to war production in line with their indicated responsibility for leadership in educational work.

"The success of the War Food Program," said Grover B. Hill, first assistant war food administrator, "depends on the willingness of the agency personnel in the field to work together for the good of all farmers and the winning of the war."

This is the month when plans for the 4-H Club mobilization, March 4 to 12, are taking shape.

National 4-H radio programs are scheduled for February 25, CBS Parade of Youth Program, and on March 4, Farm and Home Hour. The ultimate success of the roll call is up to county extension agents who are organizing to bring the work of 4-H Clubs to the attention of everyone in the county during mobilization week.

Victory Gardens

As Victory Gardens will be more important this year, the 1944 campaign got off to a good start with a series of 12 regional conferences during January and February, bringing together all the agencies, both public and private, working on Victory Gardens. Victory Garden leaders discussed such problems as the seed and fertilizer supply, the need for more community gardens, the work of State and local Victory Garden committees, and how Victory Gardens can be made to produce more.

Milk—food block buster

■ Food block busters in the form of milk and its products are on the war-production line for 1944 along with landing craft and planes.

To help get the milk needed a national 8-point milk production program has been developed. State Extension Services have ordered almost 2 million copies of a national leaflet outlining the what and why of the 8 points for 1944. The how-to-do-it leaflets and bulletins are being supplied by the States.

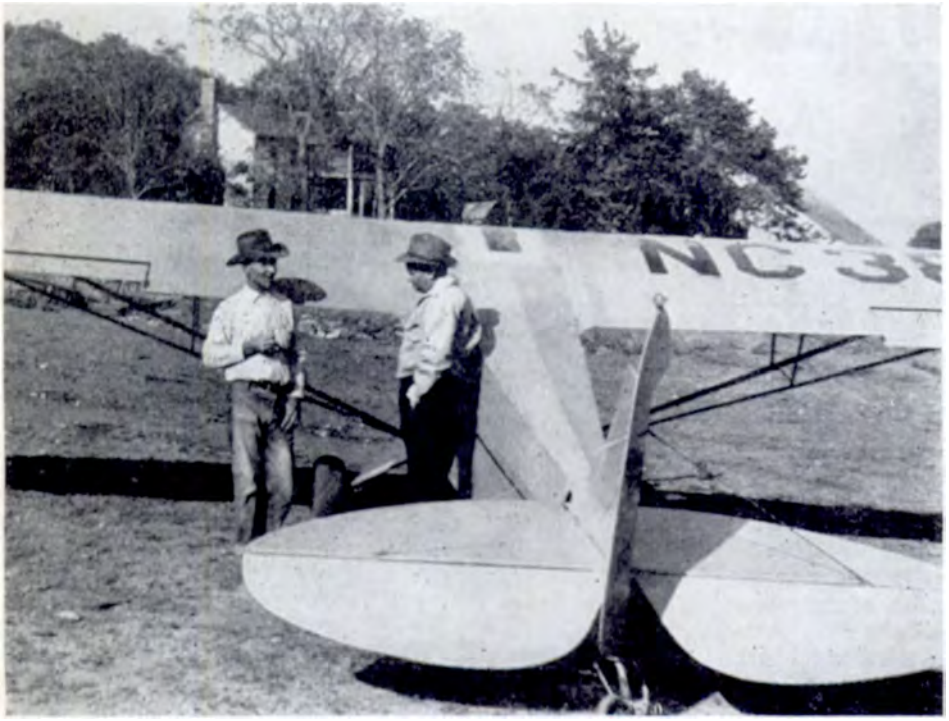
A few weeks ago, 25 county agents in Mississippi attended a short course to get first hand the information on this program. Indiana recently held 8 dairy-management schools attended by 175 managers and field men of the dairy industry to acquaint them with this big production job. South Dakota has held 25 Feed-Budget meetings in 25 counties, and county agents will follow this up with a series of such meetings. The feed budget gives farmers a definite method of figuring out their total feed needs for livestock, including dairy. Ohio has printed 150,000 copies of a how-to-get-more-milk production leaflet.

The kick-off on the 8-point program for this year was signaled by a series of 12 intraregional meetings in December. Attendance at these meetings totaled 379, made up of 169 State and Federal Extension workers, 185 representatives of the Dairy Industry Committee, 7 farmers, and 18 others interested in milk production.

To help county agents and State leaders in this educational assignment almost 5,000 information kits have been supplied. This kit was jointly developed by the War Food Administration, the Department of Agriculture, and the State Extension Services in cooperation with the Dairy Industry Committee.

Oklahoma agent takes to skyways

J. P. Rosson, agent in Rogers County, Okla., makes his farm visits in an airplane



■ Something new under the sun—at least under the southwestern sun—is a county agent who makes his farm calls by air, setting his ship down in a convenient pasture and then taking off to drop in to chat with another farmer in a different part of the county. This method is a bit startling to the horses and sheep, which have to move over to make room for the plane, but it is definitely in trend with the times. And when the war is over and travel by air is brought within the reach of almost everyone, this special county agent is going to be ready.

The agent, J. P. Rosson of Rogers County, has already completed his preliminary flight training and is now working off the necessary hours to receive his private pilot's license. He is a firm believer in the practicability of the airplane in the county agent's work.

"The county agent who has never seen his county from the air has missed seeing it as it actually is," points out Jim. "This is especially true regarding soil-erosion damage. I'll be doing a lot of my traveling that way. It is a great timesaver. Time is precious to the farm agent, and it is becoming even more so."

Rosson made his first official use of the plane in May when the great floods hit his county. Roads were impassable, but he had to make a survey of damage. He flew to the north edge of his county and followed the channel of the Verdigris River, inserting on a map the edge and extent of the floodwater. Within an hour and a half after he reached the office he had his summary made—120 sections were under water.

In February 1942, Jim took his first plane ride which was also his first lesson. He was well started when civilian training was stopped, but when it was resumed he took it up again, determined to finish the job. His training has had to be worked in during off hours and vacation time but he says it is definitely worth while, because travel by air will be essential in the very near future.

Rosson made his first official call via his new travel plan on September 20, when he landed in a triangular sheep pasture in front of the house where Will Rogers was born on a ranch 4½ miles northeast of Oologah. The pasture had to be circled three times before the sheep got the idea that they had to move over, but the landing was made, and another chapter was written into the history of the Agricultural Extension Service.

Incidentally, such a large party had been assembled for the event that the agent was accompanied by two escort planes, and Herb McSpadden—a nephew of the famous humorist—and his wife, who now live in the old Rogers home, got a big thrill out of seeing three planes land in their pasture. Excitement was also provided for a group of neighborhood small fry, including the two McSpadden boys who now have the distinction of being the first 4-H Club boys to receive a call from their agent by air.

After discussing pasture conditions and McSpadden's neighborhood-leader work, Rosson took off again (the sheep stayed out of the way this time) and flew south of Claremore to the Tom Riggs farm 3 miles west of Inola.

This time some horses had to be persuaded that their pasture was being invaded, but the landing was completed, and Mrs. Riggs was so excited that she forgot to lay down her husband's trousers, which she was mending when she ran out to see what was happening in their pasture.

Riggs is one of the leaders of the county and has practically a full-time job, aside from his farming activities, as a neighborhood leader, county chairman of the USDA War Board, member of the school board, etc.

When the flight was concluded, Rosson pointed out that it would have been impossible for him to take care of that amount of business by automobile in a comparable length of time. Leaving the airport after 4 p. m., in 1 hour and 35 minutes he traveled 72 miles, had a conference with two of his county's outstanding leaders, and was back at the airport ready to drive to town to a Rotary meeting at a quarter of 6!

He has worked in the county 9 years—long enough to be familiar with the terrain—and has the farms spotted where it would be safe to land. On several of them he could not get in with the conventional type of plane, but the small trainer cubs can be handled in a small space.

Rosson doesn't say that all county agents will be traveling in this way in the future, but he does insist that it is practical and will, if his plans materialize, be his way of doing a lot of his work.

Probably even the farm animals will become accustomed to the county agents dropping out of the sky and won't mind sharing their pastures.

No small amount of credit for Rosson's air-mindedness is due to Ed Ellis, manager of the flying school and the Will Rogers airport at Claremore. Ellis has been closely associated with county agent work for the past 15 years.

During the 13 years he lived in Okeene he worked with Floyd Dowell, the Blaine County agent. When Ellis was president of the Okeene Chamber of Commerce the Whea-Esta, an annual wheat harvest festival, was started and named. He

says it looks as though he has helped to pioneer two history-making events in county agent work.

Ellis was very much interested in Rosson's visits to the ranch and the farm and provided the two escort planes and pilots so that everyone interested, including the home demonstration agent and workers from the central extension office in Stillwater, could make the trip.

South Dakota directs itinerant combines

■ The largest number of itinerant combiners ever to enter South Dakota contributed most materially in alleviating the farm labor and machine shortage during the harvest season. Approximately 500 machines from outside the State assisted with the harvest. These machines were accompanied by about 450 grain trucks and 1,250 skilled farm hands.

The success of the program in a large measure can be attributed to the excellent cooperation and planning of State and Federal agencies involved. Operation of the program was the responsibility of the State War Board. However, the leadership and interest of Governor M. Q. Sharpe was responsible for clearing regulations and establishing working relationships among the several State and Federal agencies interested.

Plans were made early in the season. Governor Sharpe called a meeting in April which was attended by representatives of the State War Board, Office of Defense Transportation, Office of Price Administration, State Highway Department, and State motor patrol. A. R. Barnes, State War Board chairman, pointed out State and Federal regulations which had limited the effectiveness of the previous year's program. It was generally agreed that such regulations increased the operation cost of itinerant combine operators, which had to be paid by South Dakota farmers, and limited the number coming into the State.

War board members outlined procedure that was necessary with respect to tire and gasoline rationing to permit free movement and effective operation of the proposed program. The suggested procedure was submitted by representatives of ODT and OPA to their regional offices and later became the official procedure for all States in the Great Plains area. Incidentally, the procedure operated perfectly, and not a single itinerant combine operator reported any difficulty in obtaining needed gasoline or tires. Cooperation of ODT and OPA State representatives left nothing to be desired.

Governor Sharpe pointed out that, under legislation passed by the previous session, he had the authority to suspend certain regulations regarding truck license fees and highway regulations if the situation justified such action. Later in the season, by proclamation, he permitted out-of-State trucks to transport combines and haul grain without paying any South Dakota licenses or fees during the harvest season. The proclamation also permitted the free movement of outfits on State and Federal highways.

The State War Board office was made the clearing house for the recruitment and placement part of the program. A large two-color poster and a small circular explaining the South Dakota program were prepared by the Extension Service. Posters and a supply of the circulars were sent to all county agents and county war board offices in Nebraska, Kansas, and to parts of Oklahoma and Texas. The extension editors and war boards of Nebraska and Kansas cooperated in calling the South Dakota situation to the attention of custom combiners of their respective States.

Points of Entry

Seven points of entry were established on the southern border of the State. At the two heaviest points of entry, Fairfax and Oelrichs, the Extension Service established an office in charge of a farm-labor assistant. At the other points, large signs directed combiners to the local war board office for placement.

County agents telephoned their orders for custom combines to the State War Board office. These orders were telephoned to point-of-entry offices by Louis I. Thompson, assistant director of extension, who was designated by the State War Board to handle recruitment and placement.

Point-of-entry offices obtained records and directed 253 combines accompanied by 230 grain-hauling trucks and 558 men. An equal number of outfits did not bother to go to the point-of-entry offices because they had already made arrangements with individual farmers for custom work through correspondence. However, many of these same outfits reported to county agent offices for placement after they had completed the jobs they had arranged for before coming to the State.

Reports returned to the State War Board office by itinerant combine operators indicated that they combined from 400 to 2,000 acres of grain per outfit. A number of operators wrote that they really appreciated the manner in which the program was organized. A reliable source of information regarding where work could be obtained appealed to all of them.

County Agent Wilford Hermann, Tripp County, reported placing 37 combines; and James S. Hopkins, Walworth County, reported 43 machines placed. County agents and farmers have already indicated that they want a similar program in 1944.

The year's accomplishment

Members of the Columbia-Dodge County Line Wisconsin homemakers' club indicated a typically busy year as they answered roll call at a recent monthly meeting. As their names were called, they responded by listing one worth-while project accomplished during the year.

One woman mentioned as her accomplishment the papering of her stairway after hoping for many years to get it done. Two women chalked off needed surgical operations as their best achievements for the year. Another painted and papered her dining room; still another painted all the doors of the house.

"Entertaining gentlemen" was one homemaker's response. It turned out that she had done a royal job in cooking and serving for threshers, corn pickers, and haying crews.

Large gardens, supplying food for family eating and for sale, were mentioned by two women. A large cellar stocked with preserved and canned goods for the winter and early spring months was a typical 1943 contribution. Three meals a day and the washing and ironing added up to one homemaker's achievement for the year. Perhaps one of the hardest things mentioned by any of the women was the accomplishment of finally persuading a reluctant husband to build a needed hogpen.

Stasia Lonergan, Columbia County home demonstration agent, making her annual visit to the club at this meeting, was easily convinced that these women have had more than the usual amount of work this year, with so many men gone, and that they have really accomplished much that is of value to their homes and communities. This is the thirteenth year for the County Line Club.

Food preservation captains carry on

■ How can a county home demonstration agent be in 87 different neighborhoods at once, giving homemakers individual help with their food-preservation problems—not to speak of carrying on a home demonstration agent's hundred other duties?

"It simply can't be done!" would be one answer.

"Let's see how we can do it," was the approach followed last spring by Mrs. Doris H. Steele, home demonstration agent for Orange County, Vt., as she mapped out her wartime foods campaign.

Mrs. Steele went ahead and appointed 87 women as volunteer food-preservation advisers for their neighborhoods. Through these advisers, known as food-conservation captains, she was able to reach more than 2,000 homemakers in her county with latest information on canning, drying, and brining, and other methods of family food preservation. Some of these homemakers had never canned before, and most of them had the problem of preserving much more produce than usual.

Committees in Towns

Early in the year, a family food-supply committee was set up in each town in the county. Members of these town committees were asked to meet with homemakers in every community of the town to discuss the possibility of selecting captains for food conservation and to make plans for food-preservation work. As a result of these community meetings, 87 women were suggested as food conservation captains in Orange County. Their abilities as leaders and good canners were the determining factors in their selection.

Women Accept Responsibility

Mrs. Steele wrote a letter to each prospective captain asking her to accept this responsibility. One hundred percent responded favorably. A new release was then prepared for the local papers announcing the names of the women in the various towns who were to serve as captains and also telling the public what their duties would be.

A series of canning, dehydrating, brining, and krauting demonstrations was held in each town. The food-conservation captains were urged to attend. Announcement was made at these meetings of women who might be called on for further information on food preservation.

Mrs. Steele frequently sent bulletins and letters to the captains, who gave these publications to their neighbors. The material was directly concerned with the preservation of meats, fruits, and vegetables.

Although this work was started only last spring, it has become valuable; and Mrs. Steele is keeping in close touch with the captains this winter by sending them timely information. She plans to expand the food-conservation captain system this year and use it more.

From the captain's viewpoint, also, the work has been valuable. A recent letter from one of the captains states:

Captain Receives Help

"My first thought was to say 'no' when I was asked to be captain. Then I got to thinking about it and felt a little ashamed of myself, because I knew there were so few left to serve. I sent the card back to the county office saying I would accept. At that time I had no idea of what I was to do; but when I received my first lot of leaflets to give to my friends and neighbors, I felt I could really do something useful.

"I have answered many questions concerning canning, dehydration, and other food-preserving questions. I attended a demonstration on how to use the pressure cooker and the hot-water-bath method of preserving. I also attended a demonstration on canning, drying, krauting and brining, which was most interesting and helpful later. I am so pleased with the help I received from the meeting on pressure cookers, as I was not having too good luck using my own. Since then I have used it for all my canning and have passed the information on to those who did not attend that meeting—so few really know how to operate their cookers correctly.

"I have passed out leaflets to more than 35 families. All the women were glad to get them, and some called for more for their friends or relatives. I have also given the leaflets to a number of friends outside the State who had not received them previously. It is surprising how many called me and asked that I save leaflets for them. The Home Canning Guide was especially good, and I had many calls for it—just could not keep enough on hand, someone was always wanting a copy.

"Being a food-conservation captain, I have tried to help some of my neighbors with their canning, using my own pressure cooker. I helped one woman can 128 quarts, and it was a lot of fun doing it, too.

"I may not be called upon to be a food-conservation captain next year, but I should like very much to say that I have really enjoyed doing it; and I feel that I have received many helpful suggestions, as well as passing along much information to my neighbors."

New York nutrition program

■ The human nutrition program of the New York State Food Commission is closely interwoven with the regular extension program. Its budget of $200,000, appropriated by the State War Council, is divided into two parts; $100,000 is for use in counties not organized for home demonstration work and in up-State cities, and $100,000 for work in metropolitan areas.

The organization work is carried on in three areas: (1) In unorganized counties; (2) in cities; and (3) in the metropolitan area.

Emergency agents are at work in 30 cities. These agents work under the general direction of the home demonstration agent in the county in which the city is located.

In New York City, the problems are naturally different. The situation is more difficult and complicated, as there is nothing on which to build; so, of necessity, the program has gone more slowly. It is a tribute to the Extension Service that it has been able to move in without difficulty and get the program under way. Mrs. Roger Strauss, one of the commissioners of the State Emergency Food Commission, is administrator in the metropolitan area, and Frances Scudder is executive director. An emergency agent for each of four boroughs has been appointed—all of them experienced women. Besides these agents, a young Negro woman has been employed in Harlem. A woman to work with the Jewish population will soon be appointed and another to work with industry in collaboration with the State Department of Labor.

So far, the program has been chiefly that of encouraging home preservation, canning, drying, and brining. In doing this, the commission has had the services of between 40 and 50 part-time workers. The figures on the amounts of food preserved have not yet been compiled; but when they are it is estimated that the amounts will probably reach phenomenal proportions.

The department of agricultural economics has cooperated closely in developing the program for the fall months. The purpose of this program is to teach the people how they can be well fed on the available foods and to develop substitutes for foods not available.

Youth can give more on farm labor front

DR. F. B. KNIGHT, Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.

To this discussion of youth's contribution on the labor front, Dr. Knight brings his own practical experience in directing the Victory Farm Volunteers last summer and in serving as consultant for the Farm Labor Program, as well as his distinguished record in the field of education and applied psychology.

■ When an effective history of World War II is written, America's production of food will receive impressive notice. For until the scientist gives us synthetic pellets for meat and potatoes, food does fight for freedom. Food is helping to win the war; and we trust, it will help to write a just peace.

The history of food production in 1943 records large amounts of food created on our farms and in our gardens. On the whole, disaster did not clutch us. Neither fantastic nor finicky methods were used to produce our daily bread.

The scholarly historian, in his ivory tower, may well consider "Food Production in 1943" as a fascinating topic for leisurely contemplation. His philosophizing can also be of use to us—us, the men of action. For we must put historical consideration to use. Our successes, our half successes, our failures of 1943 can all be shrewdly used if we study them as sharp hints for 1944.

Our philosophy includes the assumption that it is all right for youth to work. This assumption may be snubbed by those who are soft in mind and trust a soft pedagogy. The scientific facts, as far as VFV is concerned, have been clearly stated by Dr. John Dorsey, chairman of the first meeting of the National Advisory Committee for the VFV. As a recognized authority, he has pointed out two bads and one good:

A. It is unwise to present a child with any fact, experience, or endeavor until he is ready for it. Use youth who are mature enough for work.

B. It is unwise to deprive a growing personality of facts, experience, and endeavor for which he is ready. Avoid robbing youth of the values of farm work.

C. It is wise to help youth mobilize their loyalties and energies around a cause that is genuine in its worth.

A, B, and C above are the theory upon which selection and supervision of nonfarm youth may be firmly founded, unless one believes that food production in an increasingly hungry world is not a worthy cause.

For 1944, we suggest selection better than the good selection of 1943; training for 1944 better than the good training of last year; placement by the fitting of job to worker better than the good placing of the previous summer; and a system of supervision of youth on the job, which is the honest growth and development of the experience of the 1943 supervisory program.

Anyone who believes that the typical American farmer is an extremist proves his lack of knowledge of the farmer. The farmer is not an extremist, in the sense that he is utterly set in his ways—unchangeable, immovable. Farmers can and often do change from refusing to use city youth to using them with skill and profit, nor are farmers extremists, in the sense that they are overly suggestible, taking up new fashions in labor as uncritically as a high-school maiden will change her mind.

Farmers Will Employ Youth

A mark of maturity is the practice of changing, not too slowly, not too impetuously. Experience is teaching us that farmers are, on this trait, rather mature. The agricultural year of 1943 can suggest to the agricultural year of 1944 that farmers will make reasonable use of reasonable youth when they are reasonably selected and supervised by reasonable men.

Whatever one's economic philosophy may be, 1943 suggests to 1944 that agriculture accommodate itself to the potent fact that labor, especially youth labor, must be bought in a highly competitive market. Industry competes for labor with skill and earnestness. Success in August 1944 is related to effective action during January and February 1944 in getting high-school youth selected, trained, and even placed. We may not plant corn until May 1, 1944, but simple prudence bids us arrange for labor well before May.

One last observation: We all wish and long for peace. To use our time and energy wishing and longing is being our own worst enemy. Until the guns actually stop firing, it is only hard common sense to work and plan and fight as if peace were years away. It may be, for all we really know! In addition to getting tough with our enemies, we can well get tough with ourselves.

War is violent; need for food is ever more real; labor is scarce. Violent war is best met with violent action. Small-gaged, panty-waist, timid, luck-luster farm-labor practices simply are not good enough. Men of action are well able adequately to select and train, competently to place and supervise. Anything less than the most courageous, ever-daring best should be out—way out—for 1944.

Spanish "thanks" letter

When the 3,000 or so Mexicans who have been in Oregon helping with the harvest of crops returned to their homeland last fall, each carried with him a letter of greeting and gratitude signed jointly by Gov. Earl Snell and William A. Schoenfeld, dean and director of agriculture at Oregon State College. Furthermore, the letter is printed in Spanish and contains on the reverse side two Oregon pictures, one of the State capitol and the other of Agriculture Hall on the campus.

This is the first year that Mexican nationals were brought into Oregon as farm workers. Their presence has been a valuable supplement to the local labor of neighbors and of city women and children in making possible the successful harvesting of huge crops this year.

The letter in part follows: "Neighbors of the Republic of Mexico, Greetings: The farmers of the State of Oregon salute you. They are grateful to you and your fellow countrymen who have labored in the production and harvest of the crops of this country . . . We hope that your associations here have been congenial and that you have found it as profitable to you as it has been to us . . . If similar cooperation in the war effort should seem desirable again, we should consider it a privilege to welcome you back to this State."

Home sewing pays

A total income of more than $2,000 for home sewing was earned by homemakers in Harlan County, Ky., during the past year. Some women made from 300 to 500 garments for their neighbors and friends, in addition to doing their own family sewing. A study of the care of rayon materials to get the most wear, preshrinking of fabrics before sewing, and dyeing and pressing of garments to be made over were points generally practiced by these homemakers.

Twenty-five years of growing

Home demonstration in Essex County, N. J., celebrates a silver anniversary

Classes in the use of meat extenders like this one in the home of Mrs. Aaron Combee, Caldwell Township, are showing many Essex County homemakers how to serve substantial, hearty meals despite the wartime shortage of meat. Under Mrs. Shepard's instruction, the group makes a substantial cheese casserole and a stuffed beef heart.

■ How methods of carrying on a Home Economics Extension Service program in a northern New Jersey county have changed to meet new needs as the county has grown from an almost entirely rural area to one that now consists largely of suburban homes for commuters to nearby New York and to the large city of Newark—that's the story told in Essex County's twenty-fifth anniversary of Extension Service work.

December 7, 1943—"Pearl Harbor Day"—marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Home Economics Extension Service in Essex. In those early days, at the conclusion of World War I, the western half of the county was rural, and the program established was specifically planned for farm women and girls. Hot school lunches, substantially built dress forms, permanent patterns, millinery, and canning were the main features of extension work in those first years.

As the metropolitan area of nearby New York City increased in population, much of western Essex County was developed for suburban homes. This expansion resulted in a growing demand on the part of suburban homemakers for help with their problems—problems which proved not too different from those the farm neighbors of these women were facing. But as the population of Essex County grew to 837,340, a change in methods of carrying on home demonstration work was necessary in order to make the extension program more effective.

So in 1930, the home demonstration agent, Margaret Shepard, began a cooperative program with the largest daily evening paper in the county and in New Jersey. The newspaper provided the use of its auditorium, an equipped kitchen, and its news columns. In the newspaper's rooms, the home demonstration agent trained local leaders—leaders who have helped carry on a far-reaching program in foods and nutrition from 1930 to the present time. This program was gradually expanded to include clinics in household repairs, mending, pressing, remodeling. Even a club that brought together brides and inexperienced homemakers for work with all types of homemaking problems was introduced into the Extension Service picture.

In 1932, a Newark Sunday paper became interested in cooperating with Essex County's home demonstration agent, and as a result she has been supplying material for the foods page of this newspaper ever since. Well over 50,000 letters from homemakers in all parts of the county have been sent to Mrs. Shepard in care of the paper. In addition, she has received thousands of letters sent directly to her office—all of them requesting information on everything from how to make a pop-over pop to how to plan well-balanced meals on rock-bottom incomes.

Regular extension methods—leader training meetings, discussion group meetings, demonstrations—have not been neglected in the Essex County program either. Mrs. Shepard and the assistant county home demonstration agent who was added to the staff several years ago carry this type of program in conjunction with the newspaper work that has proved so effective in Essex.

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary birthday party of the Essex County Extension Service held in the Newark Evening News auditorium on December 7 was well attended, not only by the homemakers who have enjoyed the full benefits of the extension program in recent years, but by some of the women who have seen it grow and develop over the past quarter of a century. One group was just as enthusiastic as the other about the adaptability of extension work to every need with which county women have been faced.

They have seen Home Economics Extension Service work carry Essex through the aftermath of World War I, through depression days, and through the prewar era. Now, with their Nation facing the greatest crisis in its history, these women turn again to the Extension Service—this time for help in the tremendous job of fighting the war on the home front.

Homemakers tour Mediterranean zone

A "rocking-chair tour" of the Mediterranean war zone in which the American armed forces have been active is acquainting members of homemakers' clubs in Kentucky with those areas. Prepared by Grace Snodgrass, librarian at the agricultural experiment station at Lexington, the study is presented each month by a member in practically all clubs. Kodak pictures, letters from sons and brothers in the service, and maps supplement the tours to create widespread interest.

■ Almost 4½ million quarts of food were canned by homemakers in Pike County, Ky., during the past summer. Homemakers also dried 70,331 pounds of fruits and vegetables and stored 237,568 bushels. That more than three-fourths of their food has been produced on their farms was reported by 3,267 families.

Food on the New Mexico front

MRS. DOROTHY HANNY, Extension Nutritionist, New Mexico

"Food Fights for Freedom" is more than a slogan in New Mexico; it is a living reality for which thousands of men and women throughout the State have assumed a definite responsibility.

During 1943, New Mexico families canned 11,719,593 quarts of food. This food was canned by farmers, ranchers, women living in small towns, and women living in larger centers. Some of it was the produce from the thousands of Victory Gardens grown all over the State. In addition to the food canned, there have been some 2,364,990 pounds of food conserved by methods other than canning, such as drying, storing, brining, and freezing.

These figures show what a tremendous effort has been made by the people of New Mexico to aid the war effort on the home front. In past years, according to figures received from county extension agents, there have never been more than 1 million containers canned in the State in any 1 year. There have never been more than 500,000 pounds of food conserved by other methods during 1 year.

Besides the actual work involved in this tremendous food-conservation effort, the people accomplished it under trying circumstances. There aren't enough pressure cookers to go round, and there has been a limit to the number that could be obtained. The number of containers is also limited. This situation gave rise to adopting methods other than canning by which food could be conserved. Even so, equipment in these fields, such as dehydration and freezing, has been inadequate. Everywhere people are saying "give us more food-preservation equipment."

Of the total amount of food canned, about half a million containers were put up in the 36 food-preservation centers scattered over the State. There were 22 of these centers that were available to both rural and urban people.

It seems to be the consensus among the people of New Mexico that their chief need is for food-preservation equipment. If such equipment can be supplied, they are willing to do the rest. They have shown that they can produce the food and are willing to conserve it up to the limit of available facilities.

Extension works through newspapers

HERBERT M. HOFFORD, Extension Editor, Rhode Island

Extension workers, cooperating with their extension editor, are able to cover much ground right from their desks if they use the press channels in their territory in the right way.

In Rhode Island, we have been most fortunate in gaining the confidence of the newspapers, particularly the Providence Sunday Journal—the only Sunday newspaper in the State that has a wide coverage in neighboring Massachusetts and Connecticut.

In a recent edition, the extension news was presented in a gravure spread dramatizing the emergency farm labor situation through a Pint-Sized Farmerette feature, inspired by a U. S. Crop Corps and Victory Volunteer example. Three regular Sunday features also appeared: Columns conducted by Mrs. Vivian P. MacFawn, the home demonstration agent in northern Rhode Island; by Prof. Crawford P. Hart, poultry specialist; and by Lorenzo F. Kinney, Jr., State 4–H leader. A special article by Violet B. Higbee, nutrition extension specialist who writes periodic articles on timely nutrition subjects, was also published.

How the newspaper editor works with the State extension editor is illustrated by Prof. Hart's column. Mr. Garret Byrnes, editor of the Sunday Journal, asked me, as the Rhode Island extension editor, to suggest a person who could write a down-to-earth weekly column on back-yard poultry keeping. I suggested Mr. Hart, and the Journal editor asked him to submit several samples. That was the start of the weekly series, and already Mr. Hart has received more than 1,200 letters from Journal readers requesting information and literature mentioned in his column.

Mr. Kinney, in his column, covers the news high lights of the activities of his State-wide 4–H organization, and Mrs. MacFawn is able to keep Journal readers up to the minute with her Victory menus, which are daily meal-planning outlines worked out on current point allowances.

During the summer, we have had three other gravure feature spreads on the emergency farm labor problem, in addition to daily features in the Journal and the Evening Bulletin, which is the afternoon paper published by the Journal Company.

The moral of this story is that the newspaper editor, once he realizes the Extension Service and extension workers have legitimate news for his readers, will seek the assistance of the service. I maintain that the best news service the Extension Service can give is presentation of facts. Facts are more eloquent than propaganda, which is the construction that most hard-boiled editors, who say they have been overwhelmed with Government "press releases," place upon hand-outs.

Too often extension workers themselves fail to understand the news value of facts and so do not establish confidence in their good work in the minds of newspaper editors in their communities. They fail to make the right approach, which is this: "Mr. Editor, here is a good story, I believe. These are the facts." From there on, let the editor say what he wants and how he wants it. Then you'll have the newspaper as your ally, and save effort and travel in reaching the greatest number of your constituents in the shortest possible time.

A Victory sing to sell bonds

A 4–H Victory sing was a feature of the 4–H Club program in Massachusetts during the third war bond drive. Twenty-seven older 4–H boys and girls presented a special half-hour program over Stations WBZ and WBZA. The program was under the direction of Augustus D. Zanzig, formerly of the National recreation Association, now consultant for the Treasury Department.

Special invitations were sent to a group of 4–H people known for their interest in music and their ability to sing. The Treasury Department song sheet was sent previous to the broadcast to a large number of 4–H leaders, who were urged to have their groups listen in and sing with the group in the studio. The song sheet was also distributed after the broadcast to those requesting it. A special postal card, a news story, and an item in the Gleam (4–H house organ for Massachusetts leaders) publicized the event.

Mr. Zanzig returned to Massachusetts for a similar 4–H songfest on November 20, when, with the same group of young folks, he presented songs of thanksgiving.

Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

With American Red Cross in India

I really don't think anyone was more surprised than I to discover that the foreign service I was looking forward to was going to be in India.

I wish I could write all about my trip over. It was intensely interesting in spite of the discomforts accompanying the transport of troops. We didn't go through a single thing that made me regret coming over. We were attached to our Army unit back in the States, so we traveled all the time as part of the Army, and I loved it. I learned to sleep and eat when and where the opportunity came, whether it had been 2 or 20 hours since we had eaten. I've carried packs so heavy I couldn't raise myself up steps without pulling myself up by my hands. My deepest regret now is that I have been detached from the Army and am assigned to our Command headquarters office. They say it's temporary and eventually I'll get a field assignment, and I'm only waiting for that time.

India is a huge country, and I have seen a very small percentage of it; but I have seen several very different parts of it. The countryside which I have seen is quite beautiful—so much vegetation. When we saw it, hibiscus was blooming everywhere, and the low places were full of water hyacinths. Then, of course, there were millions of plants and flowers we couldn't ever identify, strange, highly colored birds, and even monkeys in the trees. The only other of the many famous Indian wild animals I've seen so far are jackals, which are numerous and scream like the dickens at night.

The human side of the animal life is what is strangest and most interesting. There are so many people. The swarms of them are still what amaze every one of us—they are everywhere, just masses of them. I am in a city now. There are many poor people; in fact, we see them starving to death. They live right on the sidewalks, eating, sleeping, bathing right there.

We have many servants here, as the upper classes lose face if they do menial tasks, as we do back home. The boys who do the housework, wait on tables, and clean our rooms are called bearers. The women maids are ayahs, who wash our clothes, do our ironing, and polish shoes. Very few of the bearers, waiters, taxi drivers, rickshaw pullers, and coolies speak any or even a little English; and, considering how much Hindustani we Americans know, you can imagine the situation. We have had to learn several terms, but I don't learn Hindustani very fast. I'm always getting into situations where I feel so futile, and I find myself surrounded by a dozen black faces, all looking so anxious to try to understand what Memsahib wants or means.

One of the things that astound all of us is the nonchalant way in which cattle live in the city and roam around at will. They are sacred and can't be killed or eaten. They say there are 400 million people in India and 200 million cattle. You have no idea how much I'd like to see extension work started over here; but I guess, with the religious taboos, it wouldn't get very far.

Needless to say, we spend most of the time that we devote to social life with our American soldiers; and, believe me, an American girl is definitely tremendously popular over here. I have yet to run across anyone I knew back in the States, but since being in India we constantly run into men from the ship we came across on, and that is a real reunion. A familiar face around here is a

gift from heaven. Since being separated from the two ARC girls with whom I came across, I have had my lonesome times.

You will never know how much we appreciate letters here. When the mail comes in, everyone watches longingly. No mail means a blue day and night. And the boys out in the camps, away from most means of recreation and social visiting, depend on mail even more than we in town. I have read and reread time and time again every letter I have received. I'm hoping that if any of you write to boys overseas, you won't wait until you get an answer before writing again. Any contact from the States is as manna to them, and don't blame them if they are lax in writing. They are, most all of them, busy as they can be; writing facilities are bad, and there is so little they can tell.—*Laurel Sabrosky, formerly assistant extension analyst, Federal Extension Service.*

Sees the Inside of a Fox Hole

"I was unassigned in the Air Corps until last June, at which time I joined a fighter squadron and left for overseas duty soon after. We spent some time in England, were among the first troops to come to Africa, and wasted little time upon our arrival. I'll just say that our pilots come out better than a draw. It wasn't all grapes with the ground personnel either, and I'll admit that I've seen the inside of a fox hole more than once."—*Lt. Otis B. Magrill, Texas.*

The Roll Call

ARIZONA

Charles M. Cochran, Army.
William A. Steenbergen, Army.

ARKANSAS

W. S. Barabin, Mississippi County Negro agent.

CALIFORNIA

Lt. W. M. Herms, Yolo County assistant agent, Navy.

COLORADO

John P. Bee, Phillips County agent, Second Air Force.

Lt. Clayton A. Bishop, assistant agent, Weld County, Army.

Capt. Allan H. Bostwick, Teller County agent, Army.

Sgt. Jack N. French, Prowers County agent, Army.

Ensign David Greenwald, Alamosa County agent, Navy.

Maj. James P. Hartman, Montrose County agent, Army.

Maj. George R. Henderson, district agent, Army.

Lt. Albert M. Lane, assistant agent, Mesa County, Army.

Capt. Chas. W. McIlvaine, Jr., Gunnison County agent, Army.

Euena Thostesen, home demonstration agent, Washington County, WAVES.

Lt. Jeanne Warner, assistant State 4–H Club agent, WAC.

DELAWARE

Pvt. John E. Lafferty, extension editor, Army.

Ensign W. C. Skoglund, extension poultry specialist, Navy.

Maj. L. A. Stearns, extension entomologist, Army.

INDIANA

Ens. Tom Parkinson, Henry County assistant agent, Navy. Missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

KENTUCKY

Harry Baker Atterbury, Jr., county agent.

Ray R. Brownfield, assistant county agent.

Howard Campbell, assistant county agent.

S. Louis Clarkson, assistant county agent.

Glenn W. Clay, assistant county agent.

Wallace Coffey, county agent.

George D. Corder, county agent.

John W. Cowgill, assistant county agent.

Frank R. Cox, Jr., assistant county agent.

Ralph Cundiff, county agent.

Sidney DeLong, assistant county agent.

J. Maurice Drake, associate county agent.

James G. Dye, county agent.

L. Holmes Ellis, county agent.

Franklin Frazier, assistant county agent.

Warren H. Gardner, assistant county agent.

William F. Griffin, assistant county agent.

Charles E. Griffy, Jr., assistant county agent.

Curtis Hancock, assistant county agent.

George M. Harris, field agent in dairying.

Joe M. Howard, county agent.

Woodrow Hughes, assistant county agent.

Ernest L. Janes, county agent.

William D. Kleiser, county agent.

William Charles McClure, county agent.

Joseph R. McCord, county agent.

Louise McGoldrick, home demonstration agent.

Laymon Miller, assistant county agent.

Kermit Mills, county agent.

James O. Moynahan, assistant county agent.

Reginald L. Prather, assistant county agent.

W. Russell Reynolds, Jr., county agent.

Wayland Rhoads, field agent in animal husbandry.

Clyde M. Richardson, associate county agent.

Wilson M. Routt, assistant county agent.

H. Grady Sellards, field agent in animal husbandry.

Harold H. Simpson, assistant county agent.

William F. Threlkeld, assistant county agent.

Graham Wilkins, assistant county agent.

Maurice K. Williams, assistant county agent.

Glynn E. Williamson, county agent.

Mary Frances Wilson, clerk in county agent's office.

Ralph D. Winchester, county agent.

MAINE

A/C Raymond Delano, Army.

Helengrace Lancaster.

Pvt. Walter E. Potter, Army.

4-H Club members buy Mustang fighter

■ Cortland County, N. Y., 4–H Club boys and girls who served as "salesmen for victory" in the spring war bond drive of 1943 will receive a picture of the P–51 Mustang fighter ship which their bond and stamp sales bought. The pictures are being presented to them by the Cortland County War Finance Committee for their record for selling more than $100,000 worth of bonds and stamps, far more than their $75,000 goal, the amount essential to buy a pursuit ship.

Each photo of the pursuit airship will be accompanied by a sheet of information describing this fighter, called the Mustang by the British and Apache by the United States Army Air Force.

Working with their local war finance committee, these boys and girls, in addition to buying bonds and stamps themselves, sold them to persons in their communities in a competition for club prizes of bonds and stamps and for individual awards of gold, blue, and red stars.

After the first 31 days of the contest, a check-up at the end of March by county 4–H Club Agent Joe S. Taylor and his assistants showed that the 4–H boys and girls had sold more than $35,000 worth of bonds and stamps and had surpassed all expected achievements.

Result of this fast start was the setting of a higher goal, sales of $75,000 in bonds for the 3 months, enough to buy a Mustang fighter plane.

Sales jumped in the spring when a rally-day box social was held in which the boys bid stamps for the lunches packed by the girls, and through 4–H auctions of farm produce, chickens, pies, and other goods. Two box socials alone netted more than $3,800 in sales. The May 31 accounting showed total sales had passed the goal by more than $25,000.

Best 4–H bond salesmen in the county were the members of Beaver Meadows Senior Club of Homer, with $10,911.45 in sales. Runners-up were the River Valley Senior 4–H Club of Homer, with a $7,582.30 record; and the Preble Merry Maids 4–H Club, with $7,267.20 in sales to their credit.

Food for 332 soldiers

Sedgwick County, Kans., has proved itself to be a veritable arsenal of food production during the 1943 4–H Club year under the able leadership of Edwin A. Kline, county club agent. Concentrating their efforts on the projects that would contribute most directly to the prosecution of the war, the 25 clubs in the county produced food for all the breakfasts, lunches, and dinners for 332 servicemen for a year by completing projects valued at $67,554.

Visiting in hundreds of the farm homes that dot the Sedgwick County landscape, interspersed with oil derricks and defense plants, Mr. Kline supervised 706 busy youngsters in the feeding of half a carload of lambs, in raising 4,500 chickens, and in growing 48 acres of garden and 1,000 bushels of potatoes. With an eye to supplying their fighting brothers and friends with plenty of pork chops and steaks, club members raised 2 carloads of beef and fattened 2 carloads of hogs. Much army bread and breakfast cereal can be made from their 7,200 bushels of corn and 2,580 bushels of wheat.

In their project talks at club meetings, the girls reveal a realistic grasp of the wartime food situation. By preserving 6,000 quarts of food this year they have demonstrated their understanding that a home-produced supply of food releases commercial stocks for others.

Scrap drives and bond sales are prevalent in Sedgwick County 4–H circles, also. Members enrolled in the war effort project alone purchased almost $3,000 worth of bonds and stamps, and the county made a sizable contribution for purchase of the ambulance presented to the Army by the 4–H Clubs of America.

Prospects for "making their best better" are good, as Mr. Kline and his one hundred adult club leaders plan together for an even more successful year in 1944.

No inactive period in 4-H Club work in Indiana

Indiana 4–H Club members are wide awake and "rarin' to go" all the time. There is no place in their 4–H program for an inactive period. Because of the many important and interesting things they have to do in planning and carrying out their 4–H Club program, club members and leaders have no time during the full calendar year for their interest to lag.

There cannot be a dull day in the year-round 4–H program, which is planned in the fall. Their program includes 4–H projects, recreation, social events, club meetings, preparation for and participation in 4–H judging, demonstrations, camps, tours, exhibits, achievement recognition events for 4–H leaders and members, training meetings for leaders and for officers, and participation in State and national 4–H contests.

This "natural as life" year-round program requires careful planning and persistent performance on the part of 4–H Club members and leaders.

■ Ability of extension workers to make rapid adjustment to wartime programs is strikingly portrayed in North Carolina Fights With Extra Food, a war bulletin of the North Carolina Extension Service. This bulletin, geared to the Food Fights for Freedom campaign which was launched Nation-wide in November, has a November 1943 date line. That is a quick follow-through on a campaign.

Have you read?

I Knew Carver. A pamphlet. G. Lake Imes. 24 pp. J. Horace McFarland Co., Harrisburg, Pa.

Condensing the life and work of the late Dr. George Washington Carver into a 24-page brochure, Dr. G. Lake Imes, Presbyterian minister and director of the radio program, "My People," tells a simple, intimate story of the great scientist.

For 25 years Dr. Imes and Dr. Carver were associated on the staff at Tuskegee. Both were deeply interested in improving rural living. Dr. Imes approached the problem through the church, devoting a large part of his time to the training of rural ministers. Dr. Carver's approach, which has become a legend of the Southland, was through the peanut, the sweetpotato, and the soil of Alabama.

The booklet is more than a catalog of biographical information on the peanut wizard. It pierces the veil of secrecy that surrounded much of Dr. Carver's research and presents the challenge which urged the eminent scientist onward relentlessly in quest of new discoveries.

More than this, the author goes beyond the laboratory and test tubes and paints a portrait of the human, laughing, joking, sometimes reticent George Carver whose high-pitched voice, high stiff collar, and high-top shoes singled him out in the crowd as someone markedly different from the ordinary run of men. It isn't a reporter's story after two or three interviews; it is a distillation of years of intimate experiences with the great chemurgist.

With penetrating discernment, Dr. Imes has selected a few of the highlights of Carver's brilliant career and carefully outlined them in bold relief to serve as guideposts to better living.—*Sherman Briscoe, editor, Press Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

Bulletins—How to Make Them More Attractive. A pamphlet for the part-time editor; aimed at improving processed bulletins and leaflets. 24 pp. Catherine Emig. Social Work Publicity Council. New York, N. Y. 1942.

Another of the series of pamphlets for social workers containing much material of value to Extensioners. A pertinent line is "—every time you write a story think of (an average person) and don't write a word he wouldn't understand—that's newspaper English." An interesting section is devoted to "tired words and phrases." Another section is devoted to the use of illustrations, lay-out, and similar art phases. The chapter on production is fundamental.—*Don Bennett, Visual Education Specialist, Federal Extension Service.*

Photographs and How To Use Them. A pamphlet about making pictures that talk. 32 pp. David Turteltaub, Ph. D. National Publicity Council. New York, N. Y. 1941.

There is a difference between taking pictures and making pictures. The difference lies in the mind of the photographer. Dr. Turteltaub has tried to define this difference and has succeeded. Liberal use of photographs, together with analyses of why they are good, help the potential picture maker. These are the basic principles; these are the kinds of pictures that tell stories, that produce emotions and reactions in the readers; we need more of these kinds of pictures.—*Don Bennett, Visual Education Specialist, Federal Extension Service.*

Uncle Sam Versus Inflation. The problem and its solution in cartoons. Otto H. Ehrlich. 159 pp. Harper & Bros., New York and London. 1943.

As inflation is an outgrowth of the complex operation of economic forces, its cause and effect are sometimes difficult for the average layman to understand, whether he be the man on the street or behind the plow.

Through the use of 80 simple cartoons, accompanied by a minimum of reading material, Otto H. Ehrlich, instructor in economics at Brooklyn College, in his book, Uncle Sam Versus Inflation, has done an excellent job of using the visual process in explaining inflation in simple terms.

This is not a textbook. It is unique in that it pioneers in the field of utilizing pictorial devices as an aid in interpreting abstract ideas to the lay mind and, as such, merits study by extension workers. After illustrating clearly in cartoons the forces that cause prices to rise during a war period, Mr. Ehrlich visualizes the disastrous effects of inflation upon various groups of people in our society and upon the National Government as well. From this point it is but a short step to showing why inflation should be controlled during periods such as we are now experiencing. Finally, the author picturizes the necessary procedures of inflation control such as higher taxes, bond buying, voluntary savings, forced loans, price control, rationing of goods, and other controls designed to keep our domestic economy in balance. True, the necessary measures of inflation control mean sacrifice on the part of civilians for the present, but such sacrifices are shown to be insignificant compared with those which we shall be forced to undergo during the aftermath of the war if inflation is not controlled.

A few minutes spent in reviewing the excellent arrangement of interesting and informative cartoons carried in Uncle Sam Versus Inflation should swiftly portray to the casual reader the story of inflation and why it is a serious menace to America.—*Dr. W. B. Stout, principal farm economist, in charge Economics Section, Federal Extension Service.*

Businessmen portray extension work

County extension agents of Juneau County, Wis., cooperated with Mauston business organizations in providing a constructive homecoming - Halloween - week end program. The purpose was to emphasize what various groups were doing toward war activities and, at the same time, to provide an outlet for what otherwise might be destructive energies.

Helen Davis, home demonstration agent for Juneau County, reports that businessmen in Mauston conceived the idea of putting up displays in various windows of stores in town, assigning a window to each organization such as the 4-H Clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, and other clubs. These windows were judged for originality and neatness and best presentation of what the organization was doing as its part in war service. One of the 4-H windows won third place with a display of fresh vegetables, butter, milk, and eggs against a green-and-white background. A small manikin was borrowed from a department store and dressed in a miniature 4-H uniform, illustrating the part 4-H boys and girls are playing in producing Food for Freedom.

In addition to the store-window displays, the program for the week end of Halloween and homecoming in the high school included a bond auction for the community where a pair of nylon stockings went to the buyer of $800 in war bonds. The high light of the week end was a dance held for young people of the town.

The businessmen of the town and the county agents, representing a large number of the young people, have worked together to make this a successful project.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION of American Industry and business to the Victory Garden Program, the National Victory Garden Institute is offering a certificate to those companies which have participated in a substantial way.

Unlocking manpower problem

■ There may be counties with better soil and other agricultural resources than Dubois County, Ind., but there is none surpassing Dubois County when it comes to its farmers' will to work for Victory on the Food Front.

Ranking in the top bracket of county agricultural agents in Indiana who turned in a fine performance on the emergency farm-labor program during the past year, C. A. Nicholson did his share in helping his farmers to step up their livestock and crop production and in administering a broad program for 4-H Clubs and extension home economics clubs.

During the past year, he and his cooperating organizations recruited and placed more than 1,000 farm workers, many of whom were made available in other agricultural areas of the State where manpower was needed. His record shows that he actively participated in a wider range of farm-labor program activities than perhaps any other agent.

Just about the time the county was being organized last spring for its farm-labor program, the strawberry crop appeared on the seasonal horizon for harvest. County Agent Nicholson helped find men to get the job done. The spring flood along the Wabash River brought calls for tractor drivers and workers from counties nearby, and many of these orders were filled with Dubois County workers. Some of these farm helpers continued to work through the summer in the adjoining counties.

Tomato Crop Harvested

Dubois County had a 1,200-acre tomato crop. Pickers were supplied. The U. S. Employment Service office at Evansville, nearly 70 miles away, asked "Nick" for help in recruiting canning-factory labor. The county agricultural agent came through with flying colors.

In July, State Farm Labor Supervisor J. B. Kohlmeyer of Purdue University issued a call for detasselers for hybrid seed corn. "Nick" selected 63 boys for that job. He could have supplied more, had they been needed. Then he spent his vacation supervising "his boys" while they worked. It was a big day in Jasper on July 28 when "Nick" and the detasselers left for the big Victory Farm Volunteers camp at Kentland, some 180 miles away. Signs were hanging on their school busses reading: We Are Victory Workers and Detassel Corn and Demoralize Hitler. The group worked as a unit throughout the period.

Here is what the seed producer had to say about the Dubois County boys: "The Dubois County unit certainly gave a good example of cooperation and realization of a job to be done. There wasn't a slacker or a 'panty-waist' in the Dubois County outfit. Every boy did his job."

C. A. Nicholson, county agent of Dubois County, Ind., with J. B. Kohlmeyer, State farm labor supervisor, as "Nick's" bus, which carried 63 boy corn detasselers, was ready to leave Jasper.

More recently, "Nick" has been recruiting from the ranks of underemployed farmers to supply help for some of Indiana's big corn-producing counties. Thirty-five experienced men from this group have been picking corn and helping with the hemp harvest in northwestern Indiana. The hemp company officials were so pleased with these workers that on Thanksgiving Day they provided them with a big turkey dinner. After the fall and winter work has been done in this area of the State, these workers will return to their own farms in the spring.

What are the keys "Nick" uses in "unlocking" the manpower problem? They are few and simple: Hard work, intimate knowledge of his county and farmers, desire to boost income of his farmers, matching farm jobs to the farm workers, and inspiring farmers' confidence in his leadership.

Curb markets for Negro farmers

■ Negro farm families in Edgecombe and Nash Counties, N. C., now have an outlet for their surplus produce, and those who live in the towns of Tarboro and Rocky Mount have a convenient place where they may buy fresh produce directly from their country brethren. Due largely to the efforts of Negro Farm Agent F. D. Wharton of Edgecombe County, the two curb markets were established during the past summer but actually were made possible through the long years of his constant endeavor to teach better farming methods and practices to the Negro families in Edgecombe County.

The Tarboro market was opened on July 8 when 11 sellers brought in their produce and sold it for $49.95 in cash. This was twice what anyone had expected; but it gave Agent Wharton and the Negro home agent, Mrs. Hazel S. Parker, much encouragement.

When it was seen that the Tarboro market was successfully launched, those Negro families living in the western half of Edgecombe and in adjoining Nash County wanted a market established at Rocky Mount, largest town in Edgecombe-Nash Counties. Last September 18, this additional market was launched with opening sales of $139.89 made by the same number of sellers as at Tarboro.

Since then, sales have continued to climb at both markets; and the Tarboro market reports 15 families selling $112 worth of produce, with 16 sellers at Rocky Mount also reporting increased sales.

"Professor" Wharton, as he is affectionately known by both white and Negro families in Edgecombe County, got permission from the owners to use a lot in Tarboro for the duration of the war. An old house on this lot was torn down; and, using most of the timbers and planking, a new building was constructed by 12 men who are heads of families first invited to begin the sales on the Tarboro market. Their labor was entirely voluntary, and timber that could not be used was sold to pay for other materials needed in the construction work. The Board of County Commissioners were so much impressed by Wharton's work at the Tarboro market that they appropriated $200 to aid him in preparing for the Rocky Mount market.

The leading products which have been sold, so far, at the first market have been vegetables, $925; poultry, $545; eggs, $425; corn meal, $171; watermelons, $122; fruits and berries, $109.

In contrast, the most popular products at the later established Rocky Mount market are poultry, $317; eggs, $245; vegetables, $137; butter, $49; fruits and berries, $48; and meats, $29.

Money from these sales has gone into the repair or building of brooder and poultry houses; the purchase of baby chicks, feed, calves, or heifers; the reduction of debts; improvement of homes; new furniture; jars, and equipment for canning; garden seed; insect poisons; clothing for the family; war bonds and stamps; the United War Fund; local churches and schools; and into innumerable other necessary channels.

AMONG OURSELVES

County agents honored

The National Association of County Agents, meeting in Chicago late in November, heard the heads of the principal farm organizations discuss the pressing wartime problems of agriculture. Director M. L. Wilson discussed the role to be played by county agents, and Grover Hill, representing the Department of Agriculture and the War Food Administration, talked about the responsibilities of education on war programs. E. D. Beck of Alice, Tex., was elected president for the coming year; A. F. MacDougall, Concord, Mass., vice president; W. H. Sill of Parkersburg, W. Va., secretary-treasurer; and L. V. Toyne, Greeley, Colo., member of executive committee.

One of the high lights of the meeting was the recognition given the following 77 agents for the distinguished service they have given to agriculture in their counties: Arkansas, W. B. Vinzant, H. S. Hinson; Colorado, Sherman S. Hoar, A. F. Hoffman, Jr.; Florida, J. R. Gunn, E. H. Finlayson; Georgia, W. E. Neville, C. W. Wheeler, A. J. Nitzschke, Dallas Spurlock; Idaho, B. E. Kuhns, D. T. Bolingbroke; Illinois, Guy H. Husted, Daniel E. Warren, Virgil J. Banter; Iowa, M. Glen Birlingmair, Harold Montgomery, George Rosenfeld, Rex B. Conn; Kentucky, Troll Young, S. A. Porter, W. B. Howell, R. T. Faulkner.

From Maine, W. Sherman Rowe; Michigan, John Allen Brown, D. L. McMillan; Minnesota, C. Eugene Stower, Carl G. Ash, Alfred L. Sjowall; Missouri, Dan E. Miller, J. Robert Hall, J. A. Fairchild; Nebraska, C. W. Nibler; New Hampshire, Ed W. Holden; New Jersey, George E. Lamb, A. C. McLean, Dwight M. Babbitt; New Mexico, Stuart Stirling; Ohio, O. D. Sands, George W. Kreitler; Oklahoma, A. R. Jacob, Claud S. Sullivan; Puerto Rico, Juan F. Acosta; South Carolina, J. Ward McLendon, R. H. Lemmon; South Dakota, Floyd A. Haley.

From Tennessee, G. C. Summers, C. W. Robinson, F. G. Vickers, I. T. Elrod, C. F. Arrants, G. C. Baker; Texas, N. H. Hunt, Frank Newsom, W. S. Foster, R. O. Dunkle, J. O. Stovall, V. L. Sandlin, G. R. Warren, Jack Williams, V. F. Jones, S. Whitsett; Utah, Robert H. Stewart; Vermont, E. M. Root; Washington, H. C. Burgess, A. M. Richardson, Vey J. Valentine; West Virginia, T. H. McGovran, J. M. Pierpoint, W. N. McClung, H. L. Riggle, A. H. Lough; Wisconsin, A. D. Carew, J. N. Kavanaugh, R. W. Hurley, Ira V. Goodell; Wyoming, Clyde A. Johnson.

■ HOWRY H. WARNER, director of the Hawaii Extension Service, has been granted a leave of absence and has been assigned as an area representative in the South Pacific by the Foreign Economic Administration. Among other things, he will supervise United States cooperative efforts to help increase vegetable and other food production, commercial fishing, and lumber production. After Pearl Harbor, Director Warner played an important part in organizing the wartime food resources of the Hawaiian Islands and in helping the people of the island to become self-sufficient, as far as possible, in food production. He is well qualified to assume the important responsibilities placed on him by the Foreign Economic Administration.

■ WALTER GILLING WARD, well-known extension engineer in Kansas, died November 22, 1943. A graduate of the Kansas State College, he was in charge of the Architecture Department of the North Dakota Agricultural College for 6 years before returning to Kansas as extension architect in 1920 and in 1925 was put in charge of the Department of Engineering Extension. In 1931, he received the degree of Master of Science in Architecture from Iowa State College. He was a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and the American Institute of Architects.

■ WALTER S. BROWN, director of the Georgia Extension Service, was selected "man of the year in Georgia agriculture" by the Progressive Farmer. Among the reasons for honoring Director Brown, the magazine listed the following facts: Georgia broke all records, both its own and those of other States, in peanuts produced; Georgia increased its sweetpotato production another 20 percent to continue to lead the Nation; Georgia set new records in hay and Irish potatoes produced; livestock income is about the highest it has been since records have been kept; last year was a banner year in soil improvement, and pastures were about doubled; about 150,000 town people cooperated with farm families to save the crops.

As director of the Georgia Extension Service, the agency that has carried the heaviest responsibility in taking this 1943 program to the 200,000 farm families of the State and in helping them to put it over, Walter Scott Brown has exhibited unusual leadership, organized ability, tact, and perseverance.

■ MRS. ELLA SHANNON BOWLES was recently appointed extension editor in New Hampshire. Mrs. Bowles has worked with the Federal Writers' Project in New Hampshire and served as managing editor of the American Cookery Magazine.

■ Maine home demonstration agents are conducting meetings this fall and winter on how to care for a patient in the home. These meetings are held in any community in Maine where homemakers wish instruction and are unable to devote time to or obtain instructors for the more comprehensive home-nursing course given by the American Red Cross. Knowledge of the basic principles of home nursing would be of vital importance if an epidemic should occur similar to the epidemic of influenza, which took such a ghastly toll of civilian lives during the first World War.

Flag ceremony

Mrs. Ed Larson, Juneau County, Wis., has developed a flag ceremony to use at 4-H meetings that has won State-wide approval.

Mrs. Larson worked out the ceremony for the Armenia 4-H Club. Its successful use there has led to its use on a county-wide basis. Mrs. Larson was asked to present her ceremony at the State 4-H leader camp at Green Lake.

The flag ceremony—used to open 4-H Club meetings—is very simple, easily done by the 4-H members, yet very impressive. After the call to assembly, or calling the meeting to order, the president asks the flag bearers to present the flags. The Armenia club made their 4-H flag the same size as their American flag and put it on a standard. These two flags are brought in, put in place, and the group gives the pledge of allegiance, after which the 4-H Club pledge is recited. Singing of some song such as "America the Beautiful," "God Bless America," or a 4-H song follows the pledges.

Mrs. Larson explains that the clubs then proceed with their regular business meeting and entertainment. She likes using the rest of the ceremony at the end of the meeting because it makes the meeting more businesslike, provides a definite finish to the evening, and gives atmosphere. A song similar to those mentioned above is sung by the group, and the flags are retired.

Helen Davis, Juneau County home demonstration agent, says that Mrs. Larson's flag ceremony has been well accepted by other clubs in the county and is a practical and fitting ceremony for use in 4-H meetings.

Some thoughts on simplifying extension leaflets

■ I was very much interested in the story on page 110 of the July issue of the Extension Service Review entitled "Simplifying Extension Leaflets."

Although we strive for simplification in the use of words, two factors are constantly at work to defeat our purpose: One is our association with words that has developed during our period of formal education or during our period of professional work. Words become a part of us, and we sometimes fail to realize that these words are not common in the vocabularies of persons not in the professional field or in those of persons who have not been exposed to as much formal education.

In the second place, there is a tendency on the part of subject-matter writers to use the words common in their professional fields. They feel that the words have a specific meaning and are the words that can be used without danger of misinterpretation. Take, for example, "larvae" and "amino acid." If these words seem extreme, we must, nevertheless, deal with them, for they do appear in manuscripts prepared for popular consumption. Specialists sometimes argue that by using these words they are "educating" their readers. Our argument is that the only way they can "educate" the reader is to include with the word an explanation of it. Then, we feel, some progress can be made. Without an explanation, the tendency will be to skip over the word; and, though a vague idea of the meaning of the word might be gained from the sentence as a whole, the reader will remain in doubt as to its actual meaning.

Word choice and syntax are two of the great contributors to easy reading.

But, from our point of view, there is a third contributing factor to easy reading, and that is typography.

The first problem confronting those responsible for a piece of printed matter is creating in the reader a desire to read it; the second is to get him to read it.

Creating a desire to read a printed piece is the job of the cover. The desire can be achieved by the use of a catchy title which summarizes in a few words a problem confronting the person to whom the piece is directed or will stimulate his interest in a potential problem. An illustration that bears directly on the point involved in the printed piece should be used, either to amplify the title or give a general idea of what the printed piece contains. Getting the person to whom the printed piece is directed to read it depends to a large extent upon type selection, distance between lines, and margins. We should have grave doubts regarding the effectiveness of a printed piece if it were set 8-point solid, 26 picas wide,* even if the manuscript were written in single-syllable words. We have seen a printed piece prepared by an agricultural agency for strictly farmer consumption that was set in Memphis light, 10-point solid, 24 picas, which, to our mind, successfully defeated readability.

In summing up, we should say that after the manuscript has been written in terms that are readily understandable and that after the author has mastered the detail of syntax, it then becomes the job of the typographer (or designer, if you wish) really to "sell" the job. Let him write the cover-page title, select the cover-page illustration, choose the type face, determine the length of line, the space between lines, and the margins, and edit the inside illustrations and their cut lines so that they become an integral part of the whole. To put it all simply, a job must be not only capable of being read and understood from the standpoint of word selection and syntax, but must create a desire to be read.

We have not introduced color into our argument because we doubt if the possibilities of black and white have been exploited. Too often color is used on a cover and not followed through in the text. This always gives us a letdown that might be described as a "resounding thud." Color can be effective, but a lot of work is still to be done with black and white.—*B. H. Mewis, assistant extension editor, Arkansas.*

* So, you wanted proof! Here, Mr. Mewis wrote in the language of his specialty. Could you understand? Well, 8 point is a type size; solid means lines close together; 26 picas is a measure, 6 picas to the inch.—*Editor.*

Negro youth set the pace

■ Through 4-H Club boys and girls, Sandy J. McCorvey and Effie Belle, Negro farm and home agents, were successful in getting farm families in Tallapoosa County, Ala., to increase food production for home use plus some for fighting men, war workers, and allies.

Four years ago the agents assisted 35 Negro boys and girls in borrowing $175 from a local bank for use in purchasing pigs for 4-H projects. This resulted in club boys and girls producing 225 hogs at a profit of more than $1,000 during the next 3 years.

Seeing the success of the pig projects, 39 Club boys and girls and 69 individual families became interested in growing poultry. They borrowed $3,000 from the Production Credit Association for the purchase of chicks and set out to build their own brooders, houses, and equipment. Results were that they obtained a nice profit from the 20,000 pounds of broilers they produced and sold during the year.

When the Club boys and girls started producing pigs and chickens for sale, many of their fathers and mothers objected, thinking that they had better stick to their one-crop cotton system. They soon saw that they were wrong and joined with their daughters and sons in caring for the pigs, chickens, vegetables, peanuts, and sweetpotatoes.

Here is a specific example of what has happened. Kattie Hill, Camp Hill, wanted to borrow $30 with which to start a poultry project. Her parents were hesitant in permitting her to do so but finally consented. Her project was a success, and her profits more than paid the loan. The next year she borrowed $100 to finance a poultry, pig, and peanut project. At the end of the year, this loan was repaid with enough left to enable her to produce 1,200 broilers in 1943 without outside financial help.

In the meantime, Kattie's mother, Martha Ann Hill, became interested in growing chickens. She produced 300 hens in 1943.

Her record book, which she keeps hung behind the calendar in the kitchen, revealed that from November 6 to 18 she sold $42.60 worth of poultry products and vegetables to people coming to her home. With the profit from poultry she has modernized her home, bought a living-room suite, and added other conveniences.

■ Last year the Bond County, Ill., 4-H Club members brought in 128.9 tons of old iron, a large pile indeed, but a comparatively small one if placed alongside the 322.67-ton pile collected this year by 170 of the 249 members from 16 clubs that participated in the contest. Clubs were rated on a per-member basis; thus the larger club had no advantage over the smaller one. The Victory 4-H Club, led by Otto Fox and Ora Roe, won the contest. The 14 members in this club each averaged 6,537 pounds of scrap. One hundred and two of the 170 members competing each brought in more than 4,000 pounds of scrap and received a 4-H Club automatic pencil.

VFV's make good on Vermont farms

It's a big change from living in a large city to living on a farm away from family and old friends. But urban boys and girls who lived and worked on Vermont dairy farms last summer enjoyed their new farming experiences. With a few exceptions, the 41 boys and girls interviewed in a survey made in Chittenden County, Vt., seemed satisfied with the living and working conditions on the farms where they were employed. They want to return to the farms next summer.

Nine of the ten Vermont farmers interviewed want the young people back again this year if the farm-labor shortage continues. Although the farmers felt the Victory Farm Volunteers were not so good as hired men because they were inexperienced and lacked physical strength, a number of farmers said they didn't know how they could have operated without the youth. In general the farmers and their families liked the VFV's and appreciated their help.

The days seemed very long to the VFV's at first, for they were not used to such long hours of work. The work was hard on some days, while on others it was easier, depending largely upon the weather and crop conditions. In general, the boys were not given too difficult or distasteful work at the beginning. On the average they worked 11 hours a day for a 69–day period. They had adequate time for meals and for a rest period. Sundays between chores was their own time.

Their wages started at $25 a month with room and board. A few were given increases. A good farm hand gets about $70 a month in Vermont with room and board.

In addition to their wages, the youngsters learned many farm jobs that were new to them and increased their skill in others. They felt they had a valuable experience in adjusting themselves to new situations. At the end of the summer they had a better understanding of the farmers' life.

All the VFV's interviewed were 14 years of age or older. Nearly two-thirds were 16 or older. Most of them were in high school or had completed high school.

The supervision of the Victory Farm Volunteers was especially good. The faces of the youth lighted up when they saw Esther Isham, the county VFV supervisor, on her visits to the farms. She visited them within a week after placement and several times later. Both the farmer and the VFV liked to have the supervisor come.

At the close of the harvest season, R. P. Davison and Mrs. Martha Buttrick, State farm labor supervisors, called a meeting of all county VFV supervisors to discuss the summer's work. This meeting was a valuable procedure in bringing out many suggestions for improving the VFV program for next year.

The Volunteer Land Corps sponsored by Dorothy Thompson in Vermont during the summer of 1942 was the basis of the VFV program last year.

This survey is one of a series of evaluation studies of the Victory Farm Volunteers program. It is concerned with the type of program in which youth are placed individually on farms where they live for the work season.

The study was made by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey of the Federal Extension Service and Dr. Frank W. Lathrop of the U. S. Office of Education.

EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

Leaders serve in meat-sharing program

The part played by wartime leaders—extension neighborhood leaders in rural areas, and OCD block leaders in cities—in personally informing their neighbors on the "what," "why," and "how" of the share-the-meat program, is brought out in recent surveys of urban and rural families selected at random in Missouri, Rhode Island, and South Carolina.

The families generally had a good understanding of the program. Urban families in Missouri and South Carolina were better informed on the program than were rural families. In Rhode Island, however, a higher proportion of rural and village families knew about the Government's request to share meat than did those in the cities studied.

Though the majority of families had heard of the meat-sharing program from some other source—usually through the press and radio, sometimes through schools and theaters—the families who knew their leaders or had been visited by them had more knoweldge of the meat program than those not reached personally. Families who were best informed on the meat program were those who had been visited by a leader and had also received one of the "leave-at-homes" explaining the program. The combination of home visit and "leave-at-home" helped people to grasp the significance of the program and to visualize the part each had to play in sharing meat for Victory.

The share-the-meat program was promoted in rural areas by several different face-to-face contact methods. Home visits were made by neighborhood and community leaders, and by home demonstration club leaders. In addition to the personal contact of the leaders, many rural areas were covered through group meetings. Mailing lists also were used in some States.

Families generally were interested in attending the follow-up food demonstrations on the use of meat extenders, and on the preparation of meat alternates, glandular meats and other less popular cuts. This interest was greatest among families who had been reached by block and neighborhood leaders. As the program got under way, many families voluntarily reduced meat consumption and reported an increased use of poultry, fish, meat organs, and meat alternates, and an increase in the use of foods that can be combined with meats to make them go further.

Though the coverage of neighborhood and block leaders in Missouri, Rhode Island, and South Carolina was far from complete, results indicated that the face-to-face method was of definite value in promoting the meat-sharing campaign. Not to be used alone, the leader-contact is a worthy adjunct to other methods of disseminating information.

In analyzing the results of the Rhode Island program, the author reports on the study as follows:

"Wartime food programs that involve considerable explanation or guidance can best be handled by block and neighborhood leaders. In the share-the-meat program, local leaders would have been of greater service if they had been entrusted with the job of acquainting housewives with recipes and menus that would help them share meat by using nonrestricted foods obtainable locally.

"Food programs that are Nation-wide in scope should be flexible enough to permit States and communities to make the best use of their available resources.

"Present trends indicate that the Extension Service, through its neighborhood-leader organization, is reaching many more rural families than in the past."

Separate reports of the 1943 studies of the share-the-meat-campaign in Missouri, Rhode Island, and South Carolina are available in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

AFTER THE WAR, farm youth will need help and should be considered in post-war plans. Francis J. Brown of the American Council on Education, speaking at the annual conference of the Federal Extension staff, said he was more concerned with civilian youth than with veterans, as plans were under way for the latter group in many places. He thought the real problem was with boys frozen on farms who did not want to stay there, those who could not get into the armed forces, and the boys who left school to work in war industry and must return to the farm afterward.

DIRECTOR MUNSON OF MASSACHUSETTS, who represented the State viewpoint at the Federal conference, felt that more help must be given rural youth who for some reason or other do not get into 4–H Clubs. As an experiment, he hired two young men to work with rural youth in two Massachusetts towns. The result proved without doubt the value and the need for more such work.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, reports on the outlook for agriculture after the war with recommendations for action to meet some of the issues will be completed and turned into the Department of Agriculture by February 29. These reports have been developed by working groups representing both State and Federal agencies working on an area basis. The next step will be to get these facts and recommendations out to farmers where they will do some good. A new Bureau of Agricultural Economics Bulletin, What Post War Policies for Agriculture, based on some of the material worked out at the Milwaukee conference on post-war planning, is now available.

THE BUCKEYE 4–H BOMBER, a big 4-motored flying fortress, fully equipped, and financed by Ohio 4–H Club members who bought $510,041 in war bonds in August and September, was christened at Lockbourne Army Air Base November 12. Lt. Richard Brandt, for 9 years an Ohio 4–H Club member, home for a well-earned rest after successfully completing 50 bomber missions over Africa, Sicily, Italy, and Greece, took part in the ceremonies.

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE for the purchase of slidefilms took effect on January 1, 1944. No longer is it necessary to file a Request for Authorization to Purchase. It now requires only a simple order to the current contractor. The lecture notes will be sent as usual without special action on the part of purchasers.

Inquiries regarding the special or specific use of slidefilms to meet special problems in the counties should still be addressed to the Visual Aids Section, Extension Service. The only difference is that you no longer need to file two orders for each purchase.

New slidefilms are issued each month, and the extension editor in your State has a file copy which you may inspect on request to him. Your district supervisor may have a list of the latest films in the State office.

The contractor is still Photo Lab. Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D. C. Prices in the 1943 catalog hold until June 30, 1944.

HOME FOOD PRESERVATION was the theme of an important conference called by the War Food Administration under the leadership of the Extension Service, January 13–15, in Chicago. Representatives of 43 State Extension Services, of numerous colleges, experiment stations, vocational education, and all Federal agencies concerned, took part, as did representatives of the equipment trade and women's magazines. The recommendations adopted by the conference will be widely distributed.

2,700 FIGHTERS WERE FED by the 4–H Clubs in 23 southwestern Kansas counties. Feed a Fighter, the theme of last year's 4–H mobilization, was taken seriously there, with some experienced club members providing enough to feed 50 fighters. The 1944 plans call for more new members and larger projects by the old-timers.

OUTFITTING THE OUTFIT 29 times is the triumphant report of the Mahaska County, Iowa, 4–H Girls' Club. In 30 days the girls sold bonds totaling $208,839, or enough to supply 29 outfits for each former 4–H Club member now in the armed forces. The girls decorated store windows in all parts of the county, gave programs at community meetings, sold bonds on the street, at community sale barns, parent-teacher association meetings, and in schools.

ANOTHER 4–H LIBERTY SHIP was launched on December 7, sponsored by the thousands of South Carolina 4–H Club members who raised nearly 4 million dollars in war bond sales in 7 weeks to pay for the ship. Director D. W. Watkins was master of ceremonies as the new vessel was christened the *A. Frank Lever*, in honor of the South Carolinian coauthor of the Smith-Lever Act creating the Extension Service. The leading bond seller and the youngest bond seller among the 4–H Club members took part in the ceremonies.

The S. S. *Hoke Smith*, in honor of the other author of the Smith-Lever Act was launched under the sponsorship of the 4–H Clubs of Georgia in August 1943.

FARM WORK SIMPLIFICATION COURSE for extension workers in the field of farm labor was held at Purdue University, December 6 to 17. Twenty-four persons, representing 18 States with a wide variety of problems and activities, enrolled. The main theme of the course was motion and time study, as used in job-analysis work in industry. Sufficient practice was given in the various techniques to familiarize the group with the methods used, the principles involved, and the place of each method in the study of farm jobs.

1944 FARM RECORDS will be the basis for the 1945 farm census schedule now being planned. The Bureau of the Census and the Extension Service are cooperating to encourage every farmer in the United States to keep records on his farm business in 1944 to help answer the questions on the schedule. Good farm records are an efficient means of pointing out weak places in a farmer's business organization. They are now even more essential for filing income-tax returns as adequate records are required when income-tax returns are filed on the accrual basis. Added impetus will be given to the keeping of farm records in 1944.

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This is my country, and I love it

■ The week of March 4 is mobilization week for all 4–H Club members. Agnes Doody, 13 years old, of Connecticut, writes: "I seem to be too young for all regular war jobs, yet I want to do my bit for America. I can't wear a uniform, so I've put on overalls and worked on the farm. I've saved my money and bought six war bonds to help 'pass the ammunition' to the boys in the front lines. This is my country, and I love it."

Yes, 4–H Club members put on overalls and went to work on the farm last year. County Agent Joe Hurt of McCracken County, Ky., reports that the work done by 4–H Club boys and girls in his county was equal to 75 men working 10 hours a day for 142 days. Alabama boys and girls raised more than 3 million pounds of beef; Connecticut members grew 300 acres of vegetables; and the boys of Antigo, Wis., brought 27 hogs to their first Victory Meat Show. All together their record of production is magnificent.

This year again they are called to service to put on overalls and work on the farm. The Commander in Chief, President Roosevelt, says to every 4–H Club member: "This year more than ever, members of the 4–H Clubs will be among the shock troops on the food-production front to give that extra impetus to the war effort so essential to ultimate victory."

Maj. Gen. E. B. Gregory, the Quartermaster General, also is depending on 4–H Club members. He writes: "We of the Quartermaster Corps do not evaluate a contribution such as yours on a dollars-and-cents basis or in terms of pounds or bushels. Our yardstick is the number of soldiers clothed, fed, and equipped by the product of your toil and sweat.

"The coming year is destined to be one of the most important in all our history and will demand the utmost from each of us. I am confident that in 1944 you will again acquit yourselves in a manner that will reflect creditably upon you and uphold the principles of the 4–H Clubs. In so doing, you inevitably influence others, quicken their sense of public duty, and assist in making this a better Nation for our servicemen when they return after Victory is won.'

4–H Club members of yesterday, fighting on every battle front, are also looking to the capable, energetic boys and girls of today's 4–H Clubs. They have distinguished themselves in battle. Two 4–H Club members, one from Texas and one from Montana, were with the Doolittle raiders bombing Tokyo; and Capt. Paul V. Williams, formerly an Erath, Tex., 4–H Club member, is reported to be the first American to bomb Berlin.

Some have made the supreme sacrifice just as has William Lloyd Nelson, who was awarded the medal of honor, the Nation's highest decoration for gallantry in action. He was a Delaware club member for 5 years, the first president of the Middletown 4–H Club and an authority on Holstein dairy cattle, corn, and potatoes. He was cited for self-sacrificing devotion to duty and heroism in Tunisia. "Under intense artillery, mortar, and small-arms fire," his citation read, "he advanced alone to a chosen observation position from which he directed the laying of a concentrated mortar barrage which successfully halted an initial enemy counterattack. Although mortally wounded, Sergeant Nelson crawled to a still more advanced observation point and continued to direct the fire of his section." Sergeant 4–H Club member Nelson gave his life. Can 4–H Club members in 1944 do less than to make their best better? They will not let their comrades down, for it is their country, and they love it.

On the docket this month

■ Plans for a greater production in 1944 are taking shape. Food production in 1944 is expected to be somewhat above the record reached in 1943 if yields are normal. However, both military and lend-lease requirements will be larger in 1944 than in 1943, and shipments for European relief may become a more important factor than in the past.

With these facts in mind, extension directors met last month in a series of regional conferences beginning in New York City February 17 and finishing in Denver March 1. The responsibility of the Extension Service is great in stepping up production by a more intensive educational effort on better methods, efficient management, elimination of waste, and help with the labor problem.

With the signing of the new farm-labor law, the Extension Service again undertakes a big farm-labor-recruitment program which was one of the main topics of discussion at the regional meetings. The set-up is much the same as last year, but will be carried on more intensively. It looks as though 4 million additional workers will be needed to supplement the usual labor if war food goals are reached. This is 500,000 more than the 3,500,000 recruited last year.

Women and youth will be counted on even more than last year. The Women's Land Army, this month, is appealing especially to teachers and college girls who have the long summer vacation, calling their attention to the need for farm workers through national magazine articles, radio broadcasts, meetings, personal contacts, and other ways.

Victory Farm Volunteers are already training for their summer's work in thousands of schools throughout the country. March is the latest that such courses should be started to give adequate prefarm training to these city and town boys and girls.

Neighborhood leaders will contribute on practically every phase of the food-production front. To facilitate the work in 1944, the Federal Extension staff is working on the neighborhood-leader problems in six subcommittees.

The part that the Extension Service is to take in post-war planning was discussed at the directors' conferences.

When a community gets a pain

C. R. ELDER, Extension Editor, and K. R. MARVIN, Professor of Journalism, Iowa State College of Agriculture

■ When a man is sick, he goes to the doctor to get fixed up. When a community gets a pain, the chances are that the local newspaper editor is the first man called upon.

So it was in Iowa last year.

When adverse weather kept the normal number of workers out of the canning-crop fields for several days; when the need arose for the recruitment of a large number of workers to detassel corn for the State's seed crop, something had to be done and done quickly. We went to the newspapers.

Here is how it worked in one community:

This particular community had a large acreage of canning crops which had to be picked within a week if the crops were to be saved. To add to the trouble, corn detasseling was demanding immediate attention.

Two members of the State extension editorial staff were sent out to lend their assistance. Cooperation of the county-seat newspaper was obtained, and a special labor-recruiting edition was put together to promote a mass meeting for recruiting volunteer workers.

A series of ads was hastily written to support a liberal use of news copy. These ads were readily sponsored by canners, hybrid-corn companies, local service groups, and business firms. The most popular was one captioned "It Must Not Happen Here," and showed a picture of a farmer in another State plowing up a field of beans.

With the help of volunteers enrolled and some imported labor, all crops in the county were saved; and we were convinced that we had something that would help other Iowa communities to solve their own labor problems.

Immediately after this experience, the extension editorial staff prepared a kit of materials to be used in special labor mobilization campaigns wherever the need arose. The kit contained 10 advertisement lay-outs varying in size from 30 inches to 100 inches, along with as many skeleton stories.

Proofs of these kits were sent to newspapers and to the county agricultural agent in 25 crucial food-producing counties. For reasons of economy, the mats of the illustrations were not mailed until ordered by the newspapers. Eighty mats were mailed to fill requests the first day after the proof sheets went out; 200 mats were sent out the first week. Kits were later sent to newspapers in 25 other counties.

Several publishers took time to write complimentary letters to show their appreciation for the kits which, for once, enabled them to solicit some financial help in promoting the cause.

The advertising series was so well received by newspapers, businessmen, and civic organizations that the kits will be revised and republished this year. And we know that in Iowa we shall be using ad campaigns for local sponsorship to promote some of the other educational campaigns.

Although we are strong for local sponsorship of such advertisements, we believe that the Extension Service should think twice before it starts to buy space for farm-labor recruitment. Community cooperation is what is needed. When local civic organizations and businessmen buy space to promote food production and conservation, there is good community cooperation, and this is a product that cannot be bought with money.

On the farm machinery front

A new farm machinery distribution program provides for actual rationing of considerably fewer items and sets up a more flexible system for distributing the relatively greater amount of machinery available in 1944.

To get an up-to-date farm machinery picture, New York sent brief questionnaires to 18,000 minutemen. In addition, reports from 14 district enginers, and records from ration boards showing what machinery was sold and delivered in 1943 were checked against research data showing the normal lifetime of different types of machinery. A surprising amount of old equipment has been repaired and most of the replacements needed are for tractor-drawn machines to replace smaller horse-drawn equipment.

A series of tractor and machinery repair schools covered practically every county in Tennessee by the middle of March. These schools were conducted by specialists and agents in cooperation with vocational agriculture teachers, dealers, supply houses, machine shops, and blacksmiths.

Every agent an editor

SAM WHITLOW and MARGARET HEISER, Associate and Assistant Extension Editors, Oklahoma

Release your good news stories locally is the advice of Oklahoma editors

■ Each Oklahoma county and home agent functioning as a county extension editor!

That was the purpose of a series of meetings held in Oklahoma about 3 years ago when the extension editors set out to sell the idea to extension agents that extension information can best be sold in the county because of the factor of "local interest."

At the meetings, agents were strongly advised to arrange to write regular weekly columns for newspapers in their counties or to supply material regularly to newspapers and radio stations. The response to these suggestions far outdistanced even the hope of the editors. Agents took hold, and today 48 agents maintain regular columns in newspapers, and practically every one of them uses newspapers and radio to further the extension program.

A number of the agents will tell you frankly that these outlets are the most profitable they have in extension work. As one agent put it: "I really hadn't thought about the power of this outlet until I talked to one local editor in my county. I found I could reach 2,000 farm families in the county weekly, so I simply couldn't afford to overlook this golden opportunity."

Rather than presenting any cut-and-dried plan for relations between the agents and media, the agents were advised to work out these relations with newspaper and radio representatives. Consequently, many different types of cooperation are being practiced, but they are all getting results. The agents have been "sold" on the idea of making the material newsy as well as informational.

As a result of this widespread news handling by agents, the Oklahoma extension editor's office has stopped sending out mimeographed releases directly to newspapers. Instead, any general material of this type is released through the agents to the newspapers or radio.

As an aid to extension agents, a regular "weekly news kit" is released to the agents pertaining to the work that extension specialists consider most timely. Agents are advised to make local application of this material, either through results of demonstrational work or successful practices of this type carried on in the county.

Another service maintained by the extension editor's office is that of making mats available to be distributed by the agents to papers within their own and surrounding counties. These mats accompany feature or straight news stories obtained within the counties and prepared by the editor's staff and are made from cuts which are used later in the Oklahoma Extension News for Statewide-distribution.

The only direct relations maintained with newspapers, magazines, or radio by the extension editors are where the medium covers more than a one-county area. In these instances, the supply is "tailor-made" for the particular medium. In other words, direct arrangements are made with the editors of the publication. For instance, the extension editor's office supplies to larger newspapers in the State, three weekly columns dealing with timely and helpful agricultural information for the territory served by the medium. Six radio stations are served in the State regularly, and several others on special occasions. Material through five of the stations is handled directly by county and home agents.

Local Stories Handled Locally

The Oklahoma plan works on this assumption: Leave the local handling of stories to the local extension agents. Stories of sectional, regional, or Statewide interest will be handled through the State extension editor's office.

All in all, the Oklahoma Extension editor's office has the following main functions: News and features to the newspapers, magazines, and radio stations; photography; publications; and relations.

Pictures usually are made on order for a county or home agent or for some publication. This calls for very close contacts with the work of the agents and of the publications. But the editors are finding that these close contacts pay. Very few pictures are made that are not used. As an additional service, prints can be furnished quickly because the Extension Service maintains a darkroom and developing and printing facilities.

Publications include the Oklahoma Extension News, which has a circulation of more than 65,000 among farm families in the State. This is a 4-page tabloid paper printed on news stock and released monthly. It deals with the high lights of the extension program in the State as reflected in personal experience stories and achievements of farm people.

Circulars are "pared to the bone," and many of them are cut down to pamphlet size. An OP (Oklahoma Pamphlet) series, started about 3 years ago, has proved successful. This series deals briefly but fully with one idea or phase of a subject on a timely agricultural or home economics topic. Agents all over the State report that these condensed editions are well received by farm people.

All circulars and other printed materials are handled by a committee which checks them for content and against the author's printing budget. The extension editor is chairman of this committee. Before material is approved for publication by the director, it must have the approval of this committee.

After it is approved, the editorial staff does the editing, supervises the art work, orders the engraving, and keeps an eye on it until the finished job is delivered from the print shop. Practically all of the printing is done on the campus by the college printing department.

A large mimeographing department is maintained in the extension building, but its work is largely confined to letters, some forms, and other routine materials. The editorial staff has found printing is the cheaper medium for subject-matter material in large quantities.

Relations form an important part of the Oklahoma plan for dissemination of information. In order that material may be "tailor-made," extension editors maintain the closest possible contacts with media and extension agents in the field. These contacts form the basis of the plan of procedure. In a sense, this particular factor is considered most important by extension editors.

As an outgrowth of this method of handling information through agents, the agents have become very much news-minded, and today they are sending in an abundance of outstanding news tips from their county. Many tips have sectional and State-wide importance and are used accordingly by extension editors. The development of agents as a source of news tips is considered a very important part of the over-all extension information program in the State.

So here you have the Oklahoma plan for dissemination of information. Or to put it in another way: "This extension information should originate, so far as possible, in the field. For it is in the field and on the farm front that the most important functions of the Extension Service are in operation."

Live and learn with the farm labor problem

ROBERT P. DAVISON, Extension Farm Labor Supervisor, Vermont

When the emergency farm-labor program got under way in Vermont last April, many problems were to be solved. Notable among these were the need for regular year-round dairy help, the need for workers during the haying season, and the need for seasonal workers to harvest apples, potatoes, and canning-beans and corn.

In helping farmers to find regular farm workers, the county emergency farm-labor assistants worked in close cooperation with the local U. S. Employment Service offices and Selective Service draft boards. Through referrals of men from these 2 sources, and those who came to the county offices for jobs, 644 year-round placements were made in the first 6 months of the program's operation. Some difficulty was encountered in the placement of year-round workers because of lack of adequate tenant houses in some sections of the State. Because the custom has been to hire single workers who live with the farm family, in some areas no tenant houses were available. In other areas, the tenant houses were there, but lacked electricity, plumbing, and other conveniences.

The State War Board has been consulted relative to this matter and is now trying to work out ways whereby farmers can more easily obtain needed materials, both to modernize tenant houses and to build new ones.

Obtaining the needed workers for the summer haying period presented a problem. Because many men who had normally been available for such work were in industry or the armed services, such jobs had to be filled with local volunteer labor and high-school youths, both from within the State and from cities in other States.

A law passed by the Vermont Legislature permitted the payment of State school-aid funds to towns if high-school youths who were absent were employed in agriculture. This law made it possible to place many Vermont high-school youths on farms before the close of the school year. Of course, many Vermont youths worked on farms during the summer season.

Those working on the farm-labor program in Vermont had some practical knowledge of the use of out-of-State youth on farms from their association with the Volunteer Land Corps in 1942. Early in the spring, plans were made to use as many of the out-of-State youths as possible. Final reports show that 608 youths from New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and other eastern centers were placed on Vermont farms. These and the in-State youths made a total of 2,236 youths who worked on Vermont farms in 1943.

This year's operation of the Victory Farm Volunteers' program indicates that further steps are needed:

1. A better recruitment job in the cities.
2. An orientation or training course for youth who come to the farms.
3. A closer check-up on the health of recruits.
4. A better understanding on the part of the farmer of the type of work he can expect from youth.

These needs have been discussed with farmers, supervisors, and recruits; and it is hoped that some solution can be reached. Among some definite suggestions made to date are:

1. Have youths come to the farms late in May and thus give the farmers and workers a chance to get into the swing of things before the rush of summer's work.
2. Give youths some training during the winter on the operation of tractors and trucks.
3. Give youths a better preparation during the winter for what will be expected of them and what they can expect on a farm.

When the fall harvest period started, it became necessary to rely almost entirely on local men and women in their off-shift hours, during vacations and week ends, as well as on high-school youth who could be released from classrooms for a period of 1 day to 3 weeks. In a few areas, members of the armed forces, who were issued 3-day passes, were employed.

The principal impression gained in this period was that some farmers lack ability to estimate correctly their needs for labor. This resulted in overrecruitment in a few areas and underrecruitment in others. A few farmers expected emergency workers to do as much as their experienced hands did. The results in some cases were not good, and the workers were moved to other places where they were employed to better advantage.

Use and abuse of the circular letter

MOORE VALOIS County Agent, Assumption Parish, La.

Congress, in the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, under which cooperative extension work is carried on, gave as the purpose of our work: "To diffuse among the people practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage the application of the same." Therefore, merely to give information is not enough. The act provides for encouraging or even persuading people to do the things that will be good for them.

We can give information in a hundred different ways, but we can persuade people to use it in only a limited number of ways. Writing effective circular letters is one way.

By writing and distributing a circular letter to his people, an agent is trying to accomplish in 1 day something that would ordinarily take him 8 to 12 months if given by personal contact. Therefore, an agent is justified in devoting 3 to 5 days of his time in preparing even only one circular letter.

Before I write a circular letter, I ask myself: Is this information necessary, needed, and applicable in my parish? Can I present this information in a form simple enough for all my people to understand it? Can I make my people want this information? If my people actually use this information, what will it be worth to them in dollars and cents?

When I am convinced that I should give my people this information, I classify it as: New and up-to-date; repeated, because not all of it was understood when I gave it the first time; or a reminder.

Certainly, the reminder type should not be loaded down with details. In such a case the people already know how to carry out the information. People resent being told how to do what they already know.

The repeated type of information should be written more simply than it was the first time and should be explained in different language. We must remember that this information had to be repeated and redistributed because not enough people understood and carried it out the first time it was given. Maybe the agent had overestimated its importance; in which case, naturally, the people did not take much interest. But if that information is still of great importance, then there is no doubt that the agent had failed to present it properly.

In presenting the new type of information, of course, we necessarily have to offer explanation in detail. But such explanation should be restricted to those facts which will interest the people, those which will activate the people, those and only those which the people can understand and are able to apply.

Arouse Interest of Reader

I like to begin an informational letter by arousing the interest of the reader or by making him aware of his problem. Make him see in a forceful way what will be his loss in dollars and cents unless he does something to solve his problem. Unless an agent can make a farmer see that he has a problem, that he has an opportunity of gaining something by solving that particular problem, then he is not justified in sending information to that farmer. If he does, he should not expect any results.

I sometimes find it necessary to resort to what I call "innocent trickery and mild exaggeration" in order to make people open their eyes to something they ought to know. It is not that I want to deceive or misinform my people, but oftentimes a shock will create attention and curiosity when nothing else will. After all, it is for their own good. For example: A year or so ago, the Assumption Parish Rationing Board asked me to get information for them. They had to know how many sugarcane carts and tractors mounted on rubber tires were in the parish. I immediately prepared a circular letter, which was to be sent to all cane farmers. The letter stated in simple language what information we wanted on the return self-addressed card. But my motivation was in the form of a large illustration. That illustration was the picture of a large tractor tire held upright by Uncle Sam, and Uncle Sam was saying: "You had better let me know what you have, or else you will not get any more." That circular letter brought results. Ninety percent of the farmers responded immediately. I still think that the few words that Uncle Sam had said on that circular letter was the reason for the results.

The actual information to be given, of course, should be simple and to the point; and only the practical steps that the reader can understand should be given. All theories should be left out. And these steps that the farmer is to carry out in actually performing the operation should be listed in the order that they would ordinarily be performed. This is done to avoid confusing the operator. This information should, however, answer all questions that may confront the reader. When I prepare a circular letter I always think of the fact that many of my farmers do not know how to read and write and often have to depend upon their 12-year-old boy, who is in the fifth grade, to read and explain the text to them.

The last paragraph of the circular letter should certainly suggest but not dictate action. Such action can be suggested by citing what this or that farmer gained when he carried out that same information. Let the person be one that he knows, if possible. Action might be suggested by even implying a challenge or a threat, as I did in my circular letter on the rubber-tire survey. Such a threat or challenge, however, should never be directed at any one person or group of people. Rather, it should be mildly put and applicable to just anybody. If we do not take this precaution, someone may call upon the agent for explanation.

At no time should an agent write a circular letter implying that he had to tell farmers what to do because they were too ignorant to know it or because they were not skillful enough to do it. The farmer, like all of us, likes to feel that he did something on his own initiative. It is always better to write a letter in a suggestive sort of way, leaving the reader to believe that he did it because he knew it already. This style of writing will breed good will and closer friendship.

Use Illustrations and Color

I can think of nothing that will attract attention quicker than illustrations and colors. Pictures and colors create curiosity in the prospective reader. And if pictures suggest the subject of the information contained, they will lead the reader to the written information. Illustrations should always be those which create imagination and curiosity in the reader. Illustrations can often suggest even more than reading matter that would occupy the same space.

Farmers, particularly those who do not know how to read and write, like to receive illustrated circular letters. Some time ago, I prepared and distributed a circular letter on "AAA Facts for 1944." A few days after I had released it, a farmer (incidentally, one who did not know how to read and write), called at my office with the letter in his hand. After the usual "Hi-You-Do," the farmer slowly opened my circular letter to the page where I had a picture of cows, and of a boy riding horseback. He said in French: "Cette vache la"—"This cow here—where could I buy a good milk cow?" I had illustrated the cows in connection with better pasture under the Triple-A program. But, as the farmer could not read, he had understood the picture of the cows to mean that I knew where he could buy a good milk cow. Of course, I settled the question of finding him a good milk cow first, but later politely explained to him what the circular letter was all about. I mention this incident to illustrate that pictures will create thought and curiosity in the reader. That particular farmer was driven to my office not by what was written in my circular letter but by pictures which conveyed some meaning to him. Otherwise, I never should have seen him.

Questions and Answers

I find the question-and-answer style valuable because it directs information more exactly to the questions that would confront the reader. It leaves the reader with more simple and exact information. Yet, even in this style of writing circular letters, we must not forget to motivate the reader. In this case, however, the motivation is prepared in the form of questions, the answer to which will reflect a problem.

The war has jeopardized the effectiveness of our circular letters. This is a bold statement to make, but I have found it to be true. Many of us have distributed a circular letter once every month because we had pledged to do so or because we had nothing else to do. It is certain that our farm people have been sent too much information since the war began, information which they did not read, did not want, and which was never read. It is like the shepherd who "hollered" "Wolf! Wolf!" merely to amuse himself with his neighbors. Every agency in the United States has sent all sorts of information to the farm people. Piles of it were distributed without regard to whether the farmers needed it or not. Now a farmer pigeon-holes nearly all information we send him. I still maintain that necessity for and practical use of information make an effective circular letter. The most delicious thing I know of is one single piece of good old coconut, home-made, Christmas cake. Two pieces fill you up. Three pieces make you despise it. I know, because I have tried it. Circular letters also are most appreciated when used in moderation.

Improvement program doubles value of cotton

M. D. AMBURGEY, County Agent, Pemiscot County, Mo.

■ The value of the cotton crop, around which the economy of our county is built, has been doubled during the past 18 years under the improvement program sponsored by the Extension Service. Proceeds from cotton lint alone amount to 7 million dollars annually at present prices compared with about half that amount received prior to the time this improvement program was started. The production of better grades of longer staples has not only increased the value of each bale by $15 to $25, but has also provided the types of cotton needed in the war effort.

Cottonseed at $50 a ton adds another 2½ million dollars to the total value of the crop.

Improvement has been accomplished largely through the use of pure seed of adapted varieties; improved methods of production, harvesting, and marketing; and extensive plantings of legumes for green manure. The numerous demonstrations of these practices have convinced farmers of their value. Widespread adoption has resulted in increased yields and improved quality.

Much of this work has been done through the cotton improvement associations, the first of which was organized in 1935 with 125 members. In 1943 there were 29 organized groups in the county with slightly more than 2,500 members.

Leaders in each community sponsored demonstrations which indicated clearly the advantages to be gained by using the new varieties recommended by the University of Missouri Experiment Station. Each demonstrator became a center for information; and, through field meetings and publicity, farmers learned of the results and slowly began to swing over to the more productive cotton obtained through the use of pure seed.

The difficulty of obtaining a sufficient supply of pure seed was overcome through a seed certification program. Large operators or groups of small farmers planted their entire acreage with seed procured direct from the breeder. The Missouri Seed Improvement Association provided field inspection, arranged for germination tests, worked out agreements with ginners to see that mixtures were avoided, and supplied tags to show that all reasonable precautions had been taken to keep the seed pure. In order to maintain a continuous supply, seed from parent stock each year is now being used under careful supervision to plant one-third of the entire cotton acreage, and second-year seed is available for the rest of the crop. This has been found to be a key point in any extension plans dealing with crop production.

The quality of cotton is based upon its staple length, grade, and character. The variety planted largely determines the length of staple and, to some extent, the character. The grade, however, is a matter of the amount of trash in the cotton, and producers were urged to hold this down to the minimum. At the time this improvement program started, 28 percent of the cotton was graded middling or better; now 50 percent is middling or better as the result of careful harvesting.

And finally, through the work of the cotton-improvement associations, a free classing service has been provided under the Smith-Doxey Act to enable producers who are wary of cotton buyers to determine the market value of their cotton.

This improvement program has stimulated a healthy spirit of rivalry among individuals in these improvement-association groups and between groups in various communities. The county extension office keeps each improvement group informed on what other groups are doing so growers can compare records and make improvements where necessary. Common scenes around gin centers this past season were small groups of farmers comparing reports and arguing about who had the best cotton.

The farm leaders working with the Extension Service have had an important part in doubling the county's income from cotton, but they are not resting on their laurels. The seed multiplication and distribution program, improved cultural practices, and maintenance of soil fertility still demand considerable attention. Leaders are also endeavoring to further improve quality by expanding the classing associations to take in all producers in each community.

The fourth R

ANITA GUNDLACH, Home Demonstration Agent, La Crosse County, Wis.

■ A fourth R has been added this year to the usual readin', ritin', and 'rithmetic in La Crosse County, Wis. Right eating is sharing a place this year in the school curriculum with the standard three.

Among home economists, this new subject is better known as nutrition, and the official title in the La Crosse County school curriculum is "school-lunch program." All schools, beginning last fall, were required to include this program in the curriculum.

The school-lunch program, as worked out by La Crosse County, is designed not only to improve the health of the county's boys and girls during the present emergency but to make the health program as essential as the three R's.

The La Crosse County program began about a year ago when the county school officials and the county nutrition committee pooled their efforts to improve the county's school-lunch program.

The first step was to set up a county school-lunch committee, made up of the county superintendent of schools, the county home demonstration agent, a representative of the outdoor relief department, and a member of the county nutrition committee chosen because of her training and previous experience with school lunches.

Workable Plan Developed

This school-lunch committee developed aims for a school-lunch program, and outlined a workable plan for La Crosse County. The county home agent and the county nutrition chairman were made responsible for working out details of the plan, and the initiative in carrying out the program was given to the schools. Schools, in turn, were to seek the cooperation of any existing agencies in the county, including mothers' clubs, parent-teacher associations, homemakers' clubs, 4-H Clubs, Scouts, Girl Reserves, church groups, vocational homemaking groups, community clubs, Red Cross classes, AAA, FSA, garden clubs, and the Farm Bureau. The committee believed that a school-lunch program could be effective only if all agencies would cooperate.

Teachers in schools throughout the county have at hand a manual prepared especially for them. A bulletin, Teaching Nutrition Through the School Lunch, was prepared by the school-lunch sec-

tion of the La Crosse County nutrition committee for La Crosse County; and copies were available to all school teachers and agencies.

Seven aims were stated in this bulletin, aims that kept in mind not only the immediate objective of giving each child in the schools an adequate lunch but that went into community interests in good health and the desire to give La Crosse County school children a part in the campaign "to build a stronger America."

This bulletin has proved especially valuable to the teachers in that it contains suggestions for activities that teachers can adapt to their own schoolrooms. Teachers in La Crosse County have reported that, although they have access to many detailed bulletins on the school lunch, sifting this material to find workable activities that will hold pupil interest, demands more time and effort than they have for the task. Such definite suggestions as are contained in this La Crosse bulletin are being put to use this fall in the schools.

Among the suggestions for pupil activity are the keeping of a food selection score card, making a nutrition yardstick, and making a school-lunch score card, with a card worked out.

A rat or guinea-pig feeding experiment, with children doing the work of making the pen, choosing the menu, caring for the animals, charting results, and taking pictures of animals at the beginning and end of the experiment, is another device suggested to increase interest in nutrition. A more simple device, and one which would be used daily, is a victory lunch ticket for each child. The ticket would be punched at mealtime as a reward for a good lunch. A simple reward might be given for a completed ticket.

Another suggestion included in the bulletin is that the school lunch hour be used to teach simple rules of etiquette. Posters, plays, bulletin boards, essays, and games can all be used to stress the relationship of proper food to good health, with the children using their own originality. Interest may often be gained by charting the height-weight gains of the children over a period of time, perhaps working with the county nurse.

The bulletin also lists the simple types of school lunches with the advantages of each, to give each teacher an opportunity to choose the type of school lunch that best fits her school equipment and the family situation in her community.

As schools opened this fall, the school-lunch program was included as a required subject of the curriculum for the first time. Each teacher was supplied at the time of the teachers' fall round-up with a nutrition folder containing information for the teacher's use as a basis for her school-lunch program. The teachers will also keep the school-lunch committee informed through simple questionnaires as to the progress being made. By keeping in close contact with the teachers this year, the committee will be able later to include in the preliminary manual practical experiences.

■ The Fairview 4–H Club of Fairfax County, Va., just as thousands of other 4–H Clubs, is making plans for National 4–H Mobilization Week, March 4 to 12. With a fine record of community service, they are planning to do even more this year in utilizing the youth resources of the neighborhood.

Negro nursery school sponsored

After a 4-year study and practice in correlating child study and family relations into regular home demonstration programs, Westside, Tex., home demonstration clubwomen have promoted their church circles' sponsorship of establishing in Midland, Tex., a Negro nursery school and kindergarten. Preschool-age children whose parents were working away from homes were enrolled. The wife of the Negro Baptist minister had direct charge of the school, and the white women cooperated by helping to furnish the two-room building lent for the purpose.

Thirty-two children who ran about the streets all day undirected, unfed, and dirty were brought into the school and given meals and kept clean and under supervised play. The school was equipped with hot plate, tables, small seats, and toys. A fee of 10 cents a day for each child was paid by the parents who were able, or where parents could not pay, the two Negro Baptist Churches contributed for them. About 50 percent of the children were pay students, but no difference was made in school. The white Baptist Church contributed $5 a week toward expenses of the school, which included purchases of milk, meat, and vegetables during cold weather. With the coming of warm weather, parents prepared sandwiches for children to bring from home, and the school furnished milk.

When regular school closed the last of May and older children were free to take care of the young brothers and sisters, the preschool-age school was closed for the summer.

The nursery school reopened in September better equipped with bathroom and more spacious playrooms. The public-health nurse is cooperating by visiting the school once a month and taking care of children with contagious infections.—*Alpha Lynn, home demonstration agent, Midland County, Tex.*

■ Each of Indiana's 60,000 4–H Club members is urged to write at least 1 letter a month to some member of the Nation's armed forces throughout 1944.

Besides producing and conserving food and helping in the home and on the farm, Hoosier 4–H'ers are being encouraged to adopt this activity to help bolster the morale of men and women in the armed services, as the Nation heads for the Victory drive.

The 4–H "letter a month" idea was suggested by W. Robert Amick, associate in the State 4–H Club office at Purdue University who, after serving several months in the Army, was revently given an honorable discharge to return to his State 4–H duties on the home front.

Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

Extension Gets Under the Skin

I don't know who was responsible for my name getting on the mailing list for the EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW, but when the August issue caught up with me over here in Great Britain today, I couldn't resist sitting down and writing thanks a million. It is great to get the sheet and see what is going on. Sometimes one gets the idea the whole normal world has stopped. I really enjoyed it and will read it all through with a great deal of care. I think it's a swell idea for you people to send the sheet to our military addresses so we can have a little touch with things.

My assignment in the Navy is just about as far from extension work as one could imagine, but I like it. You see, I am supposed to be a "gunnery officer" and am in Armed Guard, which means riding the merchant ships around the world, keeping a crew of 28 seamen under command, and handling some pretty high-powered guns. I really like it, though, and am really getting a chance to view the world. So far, my tours have included several of the South Sea Islands, Australia, New Zealand, and now Great Britain. From here—who knows?

Being in Extension seems to get under one's skin, because I constantly keep looking at things from that angle. This is really giving me a chance to see what people do in other places and learn a little about how they think. I am trying to make the most of things whenever I can, so that I can really bring back to the Service something of value whenever we get this mess straightened out.—*Calvert Anderson, formerly extension editor, State College of Washington.*

The Roll Call

MARYLAND

Dr. C. E. Cox, assistant plant pathologist.

1st Lt. Laurance E. Downey, marketing specialist, Army.

E. L. R. Gilbert, entomologist, Navy.

Howard M. Gross, agronomist.

Dr. W. S. Jeffers, assistant professor plant pathology.

Rufus King, assistant county agent.

M. P. Lewis (inducted and later discharged from service).

H. F. McCrory.

Lloyd McGehee.

Joe D. Miller.

T. M. Montgomery, Jr.

V. P. Moore.

H. B. Parker.

Gerald Purvis.

L. T. Peeples.

Hattie Ratcliff.

Herbert Ray.

Luther W. Revere (inducted and later discharged from service).

Maj. William R. McKnight, county agent, Army.

Rufus H. Vincent, entomologist.

1st Lt. F. B. Whittington, assistant professor of entomology, Army.

W. Sherrard Wilson, assistant county agent and assistant in farm-labor program.

MASSACHUSETTS

Ensign Stella Crowell, Plymouth County home demonstration agent, WAVES.

Capt. Carl A. Fraser, Barnstable County club agent, Army.

Aux. Nancy E. Luce, Worcester County assistant club agent, WAC.

Lt. Kenneth Slocum, associate county club agent, Middlesex County, Army.

George Russell.
C. O. Weeks.
Shed H. Weeks.
N. G. Wiseman.
Ensign J. W. Spaven, extension editor, Navy.

MISSISSIPPI

J. A. Bozeman (inducted and later discharged from the service).
Paul Brown.
B. H. Dixon.
S. L. Ducker.
W. R. Dykes.
O. B. Elliott.
H. H. Entrikin.
A. M. Eubanks.
W. T. Gilbert.
J. B. Gill.
E. E. Grissom.
N. S. Hand.
F. L. Hogan, Jr.
W. D. Howell.
O. A. Hoxie (inducted and later discharged from the service).
A. J. Huff (inducted and later discharged from the service).

MISSOURI

Wynard E. Aslin, assistant agent, Cooper and Pettis Counties, Army.
Gene A. Bales, St. Genevieve County agent, Army Air Force.
Ensign Freida Mae Bennett, clothing specialist, Navy.
Lt. C. M. Bowen, extension forester, Army.
Lt. R. W. Bushnell, Lincoln County agent, Army.
Ensign Victor L. Carothers, Maries County agent, Navy.
Lt. Norman R. Clizer, Grundy County agent, Army.
Pvt. (1st cl.) William H. Cloninger, dairy specialist, Army.
Robert L. Curtis, extension forester, Navy.
Norman L. Dickey, Ph. M. (2d cl.), Cedar County agent, Navy.
Lt. Frederick C. Durtschi, Maries County agent, Army.
Lt. (j. g.) John W. Ferguson, soil conservation specialist, Navy.
Sgt. Ray Hargrave, Camden County agent, Army.
Capt. Earl Bertrand Hope, assistant agent, Pemiscot County, Army.
Maj. Kenneth B. Huff, extension agricultural engineer, Army.
Floyd Ingersoll, Franklin County agent, Navy.
Lt. Harvey L. Johnston, assistant agent, Jackson County, Air Force.
Capt. George D. Jones, extension entomologist, Army.
Jessalee Mallalieu, St. Genevieve County home demonstration agent, American Red Cross.
Lt. R. J. Martin, McDonald County agent, Army.
Capt. L. E. McCormick, extension forester, Army.
P. M. Mebane, assistant agent, Dunklin County, Air Force.
Capt. James D. Meyers, Camden County agent, Army.
Corp. Perry D. Moorman, assistant agent,, Cass County, Army.
Lt. William J. Murphy, assistant agent, Greene and Lawrence Counties, Army.
Alva L. Preston, Jr., Macon County agent, Air Force.
Lt. J. M. Ragsdale, St. Genevieve County agent, Army.
Lt. Sam H. Rowe, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Army.
Ensign Willard Rumburg, Douglas County agent, Navy.
Sgt. S. S. Russell, Shelby County agent, Army.
Lt. Harold W. Smith, assistant agent, Lafayette County, Medical Adm. Corps.
Lt. Estel G. Thacker, Putnam County agent, Army.
Second Lt. Frances M. Todd, Ray County home demonstration agent, Marines.
Lt. Leonard A. F. Voss, Caldwell County agent, Army.

NEBRASKA

Thomas D. Aiken, Army.
S. W. Alford, Army.
Harold Bacon, Navy.
Don W. Baird, Army.
Melvin R. Beerman, Army.
Mildred Camp, Army.
Arnold E. Carlson, Army.
Louis R. Clymer, Army.
Philip V. Eshelman, Navy.
William Fager, Army.
Arnold W. Gadeken, Army.
E. F. Gee, Army.
Arthur G. George, Army.
Harry Holdt, Army.
Vincent Jacobson, Army.
R. N. Jordan, Army.
M. L. Kruse, Army.
Jesse A. Mason, Army.
Victor B. McClure, Army.
Paul E. Miller, Army.
Doris Nelson, Army.
H. K. Newton, Army.
Emanuel A. Olson, Army.
R. D. Pelkey, Navy.
Frank C. Shipman, Army.
J. W. Skinner, Army.
John W. Swanson, Army.
Eric Thor, Army.
Wayne E. Thurman, Army.
L. W. Tremain, Army.
Leo M. Tupper, Army.
Edgar E. VanBoening, Army.
Chester I. Walters, Army.
Winifred Yates, Army.

NEW YORK

Robert J. Ames, assistant agent, Jefferson County.
Lt. (j. g.) C. A. Becker, agricultural economist, Navy.
Capt. R. Boehlecke, assistant agent, Ontario County, Army.
1st Lt. Ernest J. Cole, 4–H Club agent, Cattaraugus County, Army.
Pvt. Jesse Dalrymple, assistant agent, Orleans County, Army.
A. H. De Golyer, agricultural engineer.
Pvt. H. N. Evans, assistant agent, St. Lawrence County, Army.
Pfc. Max B. Exner, rural sociologist, Army.
Capt. W. J. Hamilton, Jr., extension specialist in zoology, Army.
Pvt. P. B. Jones, assistant agent, Suffolk County, Army.
Pfc. Rodney S. Lightfoote, 4–H Club agent, Orleans County, Marines.
Capt. C. W. Loomis, assistant agent, Seneca County, Army.
Capt. Max Myers, agricultural economist, Army.
Ens. H. Brooks Naylor, assistant professor of dairying, Navy.
Capt. A. J. Nichols, assistant agent, Orleans County, Army.
Corp. Leslie S. Nichols, assistant agent, Orleans County, Army.
A. P. Parsell, rural sociologist.

(Continued next month)

Wartime health in Maine and Texas

■ Since Pearl Harbor rural health programs have become an important extension activity. For instance, Maine is holding care-of-the-sick courses this winter, whereas in Texas cooperative associations are forming agreements with doctors, dentists, and hospitals for medical care.

Maine Has Courses in Home Care of Sick

The Maine Extension Service is doing its part in helping rural families to meet wartime health problems. Conferences with established health agencies of the State, such as the American Red Cross and the State Department of Health, revealed that they could not meet all the requests for instruction in care of the sick. This winter Maine extension agents are assisting community groups in obtaining elementary instruction.

The need for helping rural women with one of their major problems—care of the sick—was brought forcefully to the attention of extension agents during the past 2 years. As they worked with people they found that there had been much sickness, especially during the winter. They also received many reports of the serious situation that was developing in rural areas as more and more of the younger physicians entered the armed services. These reports showed definitely that it would be physically impossible for the remaining doctors and nurses to serve personally all the people who would need their assistance should a serious epidemic occur like that of influenza during the First World War. The only possible means of relieving this situation even slightly would be to teach homemakers how to report symptoms to physicians by phone and how to give at least essential care to patients in the home.

Survey of Doctors

A survey made in May 1943 in 390 rural areas of Maine showed that while about 400 doctors serve these areas, only 119 communities have resident doctors. A total of 241 of these communities have a doctor no nearer than 5 miles, while in some areas the doctor must travel 10, 20, 30, or even 35 miles to reach the community. In 1 section of northern Maine 2 doctors are serving 12,000 people. As of June 1943, 178 physicians had left the State to enter military service.

Previous to the taking of the survey, during the winter of 1942-3, an experimental health program was carried in 1 or 2 rural communities in each county. The home demonstration agents received prior training at the University by a registered nurse on the procedures they would teach. The Maine Public Health Association cooperated in giving instruction on How to Recognize Signs of Communicable Diseases. The reaction to this type of program was favorable. About 325 women attended the meetings and said that such information helped to answer some of their problems.

This winter, home demonstration agents, 4-H club agents, and other qualified persons are conducting two types of health programs; the 2-day courses in Care of the Sick which are increasing in demand, and an emergency program whose purpose is to inform people of simple methods to take to combat the common cold and lessen the severity of the influenza epidemic. These are public meetings planned in cooperation with the Citizens Service Corps.

The groups discuss family diets that help to build resistance to colds, hygienic methods that help to prevent the common cold and ways to keep it from spreading when and if it is "caught," as well as caring for the person ill with a cold.

Edna M. Cobb, extension home management specialist, is in charge of Statewide arrangements for the series of emergency health meetings; and Dr. Kathryn Briwa, extension foods specialist, prepared the subject matter on foods. During the upswing of the flu epidemic in January the courses increased in popularity.

Texas Tries Prepaid Medical Service

Farmers in two counties of Texas—Cass and Wheeler—are carrying on an experimental health program sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture, which has the approval of the county medical societies. In Georgia, Arkansas, Nebraska, and Mississippi, similar programs are being conducted on an experimental basis.

Financial aid is extended by the Department of Agriculture to enable lower income farmers to participate.

As an example of how the program is conducted, in Cass County a cooperative association of farm people pool their funds in advance for medical service.

These individuals are set up like any cooperative—they take out membership, elect officers and a board of directors, who in turn hire a business manager and obtain necessary office space and help. The name of the association is Cass County Rural Health Service. The board of directors arranged with doctors, dentists, and hospitals to furnish the members and their families with medical care. This includes office and home calls, maternity care, surgical and specialist care, hospitalization up to 21 days for any one person, and limited dentistry.

This means that any one of the member's family has the privilege of calling a doctor to the home or calling at his office at any time and will be assured the necessary treatment, whether it be professional advice, or major surgery and hospitalization, without additional cost.

This gives the member the added incentive to go to his doctor before he is seriously ill. Thus, early treatment saves money and time for the patient and saves the doctor's time—not a small item for a Nation at war.

Association Pays Bills

All bills are handled by the association; that is, the doctor submits a statement of services rendered which is reviewed by a committee of doctors selected by the participating doctors themselves. This professional committee "puts the knife" to any bills which appear unreasonable, and recommends payment by the manager. Thus, there is no financial dealing between a member and his doctor.

A lot of people, agricultural workers, doctors, and even the farm leaders themselves feared that members would abuse the privileges and would insist upon home calls when they could go to the doctor's office. These fears were soon dispelled for during the first year there was an average of seven office calls to one home call, which is a considerably higher ratio than was found generally.

As can be seen readily, this is making efficient use of medical facilities at hand. With the limited supply of doctors it is impracticable for a doctor to spend his time driving when he could be administering to patients in his office.

A brief study of services rendered shows that the number of cases of illness receiving care of physicians was three times higher than the prevailing rate among the general population, both rural and urban.

During the first year the profession did a lot of clean-up work. Much of this work is out of the way now, and work done in the future will be more or less a maintenance proposition.

Cooperation is the key to the successful operation of this prepaid medical care plan—cooperation on the part of farm people, doctors, dentists, and hospitals. The people wanted it, and they got what they wanted.

How to get hot lunches for the school

■ In the fall of 1942 the Goshen County, Wyo., nutrition committee was organized. After making a survey of the nutritional needs in the county, the need for establishing and maintaining hot-lunch projects seemed a most vital problem because most of the school children in the county were from rural areas and, therefore, could not have hot lunches unless they were provided at school.

Almost all consolidated schools in the county already had lunch projects under way except for the Torrington school—the largest school in the county.

More than 500 children rode to school in Torrington on busses and often had to leave home by 8 a. m. and could not get home before 5 p. m. This made a very long day for youngsters, and a cold lunch was not at all adequate.

The nutrition committee, working with the school board, rural extension clubs, women's clubs, and other interested groups, after many set-backs and delays, started a hot-lunch project in the Torrington Grade School in September 1943. Owing to wartime restrictions, many difficulties were met in obtaining equipment, dishes, and other supplies. The loan of a large industrial refrigerator and a stove from a sugar company solved one major problem. Tea towels, silverware, and jars donated by various individuals and club groups helped considerably also. Boy Scouts made a house-to-house canvass to collect these donations.

At first, about 200 youngsters took advantage of the hot lunches provided, at a cost of 10 cents a day for a complete lunch. The number steadily increased until cold weather when from 300 to 400 were getting the hot lunch.

The rationing program and curtailment of government commodities presented new problems for all lunch projects in the county. Early in the spring of 1943, the county homemaker's council, representing 16 rural extension clubs and the nutrition committee took this problem into consideration and resolved to assist with community canning projects wherever possible. As Goshen County is strictly an agricultural area, an abundance of garden produce can be produced. With food available, it seemed advisable from the standpoint of economy of food, money, and points, to can surplus foods on a community basis. This venture has proved to be far more successful than anyone anticipated.

The State Department of Education made community canning centers possible by providing funds to pay supervisors for the nine different communities cooperating. Training meetings presenting approved canning and drying methods were given in each community by Mrs. Evangeline J. Smith, State nutrition specialist, and Avis Campbell, home demonstration agent. Rural women from sponsoring club groups, lunchroom cooks, or home economics teachers supplied able leaders for community supervisors.

The Department of Education, the Extension Service, and the Farm Security Administration provided county-wide supervision and checked the progress of the canning centers throughout the summer.

Most of the food canned and many jars used in the centers were donated. Over the county more than 2,000 quart jars were donated. Many kinds of vegetables and fruits were donated, including beans, peas, corn, Swiss chard, carrots, beets, tomatoes, apples, rhubarb, and currants.

At the county fair in September, the nutrition committee prepared an exhibit showing the results of the county canning project at that time. Since the fair, quantities of tomatoes have been canned, about 1,300 quarts in all. At the close of the season, the total amount canned and dried in the county for school-lunch projects reached a total of 5,220 quarts of fruits and vegetables. The money value of this food amounts to well over $1,200, and the point value reaches the sum of 135,000. The nutritional value, most important of all, cannot be measured so easily; but, as a result of the project, we know that more than 1,100 children in 8 different schools will have more fruits and vegetables in their diet during winter months.

From the standpoint of production and conservation of food, the project has contributed much to the war effort. The success of the program was possible because of community and county cooperation of the people of Goshen County.

Credit for efficiency

One of the most effective promotions in the farm-labor publicity campaign in Iowa last year was an idea to stimulate the wider use of mechanical corn pickers and combine harvesters in doing custom work.

The Extension Service and the State Farm Bureau Federation worked out the plan and the resulting awards were made entirely by the federation.

Radio, newspapers, and all farm bureau publications were used to announce the offering of War Harvest Certificates to owners of combines who harvested 100 acres or more of soybeans for neighbors and to corn-picker owners who harvested 150 acres or more for neighbors. In addition, the farm bureau offered framed pictures of "Our Flag" to the champion harvester of each crop in each county.

Four days before the dead line for nominations to be sent in by county extension directors the last of January, more than 1,300 harvesters qualified for the certificate awards.

The State newspaper has asked for pictures of the county champions. Radio station WHO will present the State champions in a 15-minute program. Every county newspaper is giving a front-page column or two to announcing local certificate winners. The farm bureau staff considers this one of the best promotions it has attempted. It will be repeated next year unless the need for it disappears.

As this idea emphasized individual effort primarily, the Extension Service supplemented it with another one to stimulate community cooperation in saving Iowa's two most important war crops, corn and soybeans.

Supplied to all newspapers on request through county extension directors were one-column mats displaying a combine, a broom, and the heading, Clean Sweep Honor Roll. With the announcement went a skeleton story for local release explaining that county newspapers would list townships in this honor roll in the order in which they completed the harvesting of all soybeans and all corn.

The announcement story tied the idea to the war program by explaining how United States destroyer crews display the broom when they have made a clean sweep of enemy submarines.

Requests from newspapers for clean-sweep mats were gratifying. The open fall throughout most of the State made it inadvisable to promote the idea as much as might have been desirable with an earlier winter.

The reception of the idea was satisfactory enough to warrant repeating it another year if circumstances make it advisable, *C. R. Elder, State extension editor, and K. R. Marvin, Professor of Journalism.*

PUERTO RICO IS CARRYING ON A CAMPAIGN for increased food production, with emphasis on raising more nourishing food such as soybeans, yellow sweetpotatoes, and vegetables. In 1 of the 4 zones, 58 meetings were attended by 1,576 farmers. Soybeans and sweetpotatoes will be given special attention at demonstration and test farms. Demonstrations in preparation of soybeans were given at nutrition meetings.

Developing an Extension service for all

H. B. STEVENS, Director, New Hampshire Extension Service

A few years ago, the late President Fred Engelhardt of the University of New Hampshire asked the State Extension Service to expand its program into a general extension service for the university. Consequent developments were first reported to the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities in November by President Engelhardt and Director H. B. Stevens.

■ We were not without such misgivings as are felt by many a student of mathematics who, having struggled with arithmetic and algebra, sees looming ahead of him the intricacies of geometry, trigonometry, calculus, and differential equations. But this, alas, is what the field of mathematics involves. We cannot escape the logic.

As a matter of fact, the agricultural extension system is in itself a complex affair, embracing such a wide variety of fields that no man can be a master of them all. One has only to look at the recent issues of the United States Department of Agriculture Yearbook—each volume a monument of research with all the implications of soil, plants, animals, food, and climate to realize the scope of this science. We can administer only by delegating authority. We are no stronger than our staff of trained assistants.

The land-grant college has, like a tree, put forth branches on all sides—a well-rounded system of growth—so far as resident teaching is concerned. But below ground the roots into the life of the people have been established on only two sides, into the life of the farm and into the life of the rural home with agriculture and home economics, respectively. In other areas the roots have not kept pace with the branches.

The development of more fields into an integrated program takes time. In New Hampshire, we feel that we have only just begun.

One of the clearest advantages resulting from this tying together of all extension work has been greater efficiency in the field of communication. In a small State such as ours, for example, we could hardly afford to duplicate offices of publications, news, radio, and visual aids. Thus, persons who already handle agriculture and home economics on the radio can enlarge their scope to include any new extension courses. In other words, we can think in terms of a specialist in each of the afore-mentioned fields. We may now employ an editor of all bulletins—handling the publications of the Extension Service, the agricultural and engineering experiment stations, and the university administration. We have developed a combined news service covering all campus and off-campus interests with special attention to informational copy. We can afford a university broadcasting studio with adequate recording and amplifying equipment. We have rather quickly achieved a satisfactory photographic studio operated on a professional level and a motion picture library with several hundred 16-millimeter educational sound films.

Such developments would have involved too great a tax on our agricultural extension budget, but because they provide services for other extension efforts we are able to afford them.

In the field of home economics, we have gone on State funds into each of our cities and have started organization which can bring some of the benefits of improved practices into urban as well as rural homes. Our State home demonstration leader supervises both country and city work. In cooperation with Civilian Defense, we have developed a system of urban neighborhood leaders that parallels our rural set-up.

Our agricultural agents have found the way easy for a State-wide Victory Garden program in city as well as country.

We have just published our first catalog of extension courses to be promoted throughout the State on a fee basis; similar catalogs for our motion-picture library and for lecture service have been printed; and the county extension offices are being encouraged to serve as headquarters for enrollment.

Motion-picture projectors and film service also radiate from county headquarters. We dare to dream of a day when that county office will, in fact, represent the State university in all its varied interests.

Records are farmers' first defense

Z. R. PETTET, Chief, Agriculture Division, Census Bureau
Z. L. GALLOWAY, Senior Extension Economist,
United States Department of Agriculture

■ There is no getting away from it, farm record keeping has become a major item with county agents and other agricultural leaders. Many thousands of farmers are keeping records on their business each year. Other thousands will start farm records this year for the first time. They are looking to county agricultural workers for help.

As the middle of March approaches, when Uncle Sam must have a report from every operator of a profitable farm, the farmer has to sharpen his pencil and figure out what he has made. Lucky is the farmer who has good records, for without them he finds difficulty in figuring his taxes. His first source of aid is the county agent, the vocational teacher, or some other local agricultural worker. When farmers find out how hard it is to work up a year's record from memory or fragmentary notes, the time is ripe for the discussion of suitable record books which will record their operations in 1944 and supply all the information needed in making their income tax returns next year. At the same time, the record book will give the facts needed in studying the farm business.

Farm record books, which provide space for keeping the right kind and amount of records to give the needed information with a minimum of effort, have been prepared by extension workers in practically all States. These books are arranged in a way to provide information for all purposes. With the greatly increased demand for record books, a shortage has developed in many States. Although an ordinary blank book may be used, it is much easier to keep farm records if one of the especially prepared books can be had. Of course, an ordinary daybook or ledger which may be used for recording purchases, sales, and other pertinent information is much better than nothing.

For many years, the Bureau of the Census has recognized the need for actual farm records and, as each census

approaches, has taken part in the campaign to obtain better farm records. In preparation for the 1940 farm census, farm-record posters, advertising material, and sample schedules were furnished all cooperators, including county agricultural workers, agricultural associations, farm organizations, bankers' associations, farm papers, and other local farm associations interested in the development of better farm records.

The 1945 census will cover the uses of land, acreage, and production of principal crops, fruits, and vegetables and the principal classes of livestock and livestock products. Copies of the tentative schedule will probably be available by the first of April.

Present plans call for radio talks, magazine editorials, stories, and press releases of interesting items on census resources and on the value of farm records. The Census Bureau will welcome suggestions from county agents on how statistical material can be made more useful to them and also how the Census Bureau can be of most assistance in encouraging the keeping of good farm records.

To make a living today, a farmer raises produce to sell in competition with producers all over the world. With the return from sales, the farmer buys the necessities and luxuries of life. Under our modern production methods, the farmer sells to and buys from businessmen who keep a record of their business as a matter of course. It is obviously just as essential that the farmer keep records on his business if it is to be kept geared to current needs and producing at maximum efficiency. The farm business is even more involved than many small manufacturing, merchandising, and transportation businesses in the local county seat. Hence, in order to understand the factors making for farm efficiency and success, alert farm managers rely upon their own records of production, sales, and purchases for guidance.

Records of Business

It is recognized that the modern farmer needs good records of his business operations in order to plan intelligently for his future. Men who have the responsibility of carrying through national policies for agriculture also need records of the total farm business operations of the county, State, or Nation as a basis for intelligent decisions.

Farm records are being used every day to give a basis for determining profit and loss on the farm; help to locate leaks in the business; furnish proof of compliance with contracts; show acreage and production of each crop planted; show production of each class of livestock on the farm; save time in making out crop reports; prevent the paying of bills more than once; help to avoid hard feelings between neighbors and friends; furnish a basis for credit rating; furnish a basis for net-worth statement; furnish data for making plans for the year ahead; supply information for State and Federal income-tax reports; provide a basis for fair leasing arrangements; furnish a basis for settling sliding-scale lease contracts; serve as a basis for budgeting; show the amount and value of produce furnished the family by the farm; and to help keep attention focused on the farm business.

In a word, by keeping records the farmer establishes his first line of defense economically. He thus helps to solve his own problems as well as those of agriculture as a whole. Like any other bookkeeping system, farm records are a valuable aid to successful farming.

"Successful is he who knows what things cost,
Who knows where he profits, and where he has lost,
Who knows what might pay, and what never can,
For he plans his work, then works his plan."

Women farm hands

Charlotte Goodwin, assistant Women's Land Army supervisor, Connecticut, visits one of the year-round farm workers on a dairy farm. Mrs. Carol Fairbanks, at left, though a New York City girl, likes farm work. With a husband in Australia, she believes this is one way she can help. The farm manager likes her work, and says, "She milks the cows, chops the wood; she can just do anything."

She is just one of a small but select group of women farm workers. Many of them took the Women's Land Army short course given in 9 States last year; others learned just as Mrs. Fairbanks learned by working on a farm. Though inexperienced at first, they are "making good" with the farmers.

On one large Connecticut dairy farm, the three tractors and two trucks are driven almost entirely by two members of the Women's Land Army. Litchfield County, where these women work, now has about 8 women workers, but 50 more dairy hands are needed if milk production is to be maintained in the county, reports Frederick Hallerich, the farm-labor supervisor.

Conservation of food textiles, and equipment, and healthy farm families in 280,000 rural homes in North Carolina were the objectives of the home mobilization drive which began in October and continued until January 1. About 90 percent of all farm families in North Carolina were contacted. The leadership developed in the neighborhood-leader system played a big part in the success of the drive.

Do you know . . .

CLARA BRIAN

Home Demonstration Agent, McLean County, Ill., who has been twice honored recently for her outstanding service to the women of her county

■ On November 27, Clara Brian was presented with a life membership in the Associated Country Women of the World. The membership was a gift from the home bureau in recognition of Miss Brian's service to the rural women of the county.

Each life member of the international organization is given a page in a permanent book, especially designed and beautifully bound, which is kept in London, England. On this page is recorded the story of the work and the accomplishments of the member. A permanent record of Miss Brian's work will now be a part of the book.

In presenting the membership, Mrs. Spencer Ewing, past president of the McLean County and Illinois Home Bureau Federation, and a charter member of the country group, explained that it was given as a tribute "to your untiring service and devotion for many years to the betterment of rural life in McLean County."

Miss Brian accepted the membership as the representative of the county home bureau, stating that the honor belonged to the members as much as to her. Without their help and cooperation it would have been impossible for her to achieve very much.

On December 31, Miss Brian became a member of Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, national honor society for women in education, because of her outstanding work. Only 10 percent of the educators of the county are eligible for membership, and selection is based on the quality of work done.

Miss Brian has one of the longest continuous records of service for any home demonstration agent in the United States. In 1918, she went to McLean County to aid in a food-conservation program which led to the organization of the home bureau. She was named its first adviser and has held the position ever since, with the exception of 1 year when she was granted a leave of absence to study at the University of Minnesota. Miss Brian has served as president of the Illinois Home Advisers' Association and of the National Association of Home Demonstration Agents.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ DON BENNETT, who for the past 2 years has been specialist in visual education for the Federal Extension Service, leaves many friends among extension workers both in Washington and the field. Director M. L. Wilson wrote to him, "On the occasion of your leaving, I want to say that I greatly appreciate the contributions you have made while you were here on the Federal Extension staff. I value highly the technical information which you possess, and the energy and enthusiasm with which you gave of it so generously. Not only here but in most of the States, we are just beginning to see the good results emerging from your contacts."

■ GEORGE C. PACE is the new visual education specialist for the Federal Extension Service. From Oberlin College, George entered the theatrical field and then operated his own industrial picture studio. He entered the Government service as photographer for the Soil Conservation Service. One of his jobs was the camera work on the film, Men Who Grow Wheat. When AAA and SCS were combined, George went into the over-all information set-up and emerged as special photographer working on feature stories. He succeeds Don Bennett who leaves Government service for educational and promotional work for a photographic equipment firm.

■ TOM J. BROOM, veteran county agent, Union County, N. C., was named the State's man of the year by the magazine, Progressive Farmer. Working in his native county since 1907, he was one of the leaders in introducing lespedeza to North Carolina, in the practice of seeding hay mixtures, in the one-variety cotton community, and in many other good farming practices now an essential part of agriculture in the county.

■ DR. BENJAMIN WESLEY KILGORE, first director of Agricultural Extension in North Carolina, from 1914 to 1925, died on December 27. As director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, 1901–07 and 1912–25, and Dean of Agriculture at State College from 1923–25, he fashioned the pattern on which agricultural work was conducted in the State. He was one of the founders of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers serving as the secretary from 1899–1911. He was honored by many agricultural organizations and his leadership will be sorely missed.

Fun for the young folk

Langlade, a small crossroads community about 25 miles from Antigo, Wis., is providing a planned social program for its young people.

Ellen Krueger, home agent in Langlade County, reports that 53 young people between the ages of 10 and 16 years are in the community. The nearest center of any size is Antigo, which is too far away to go for recreation.

A homemakers' group has planned a program for the young people, which started with a Christmas party, at which mixer and active games were played, as well as folk dancing and carol singing. A recording of Dickens' Christmas Carol was played, and a lunch of Christmas cookies brought by the boys and girls was served.

So far, no regular committees have been set up; the children see that the hall is clean and warm.

The party planned for January 21 included games and movies as entertainment. A sleigh ride and a costume party were suggested for February and March. Miss Krueger reports enthusiasm for the program and interest of the young people up to 20 years of age.

Victory farm volunteers train

The farmers of Yellow Medicine County, Minn., did not expect the VFV's they hired to be experienced farmers. However, they were pleased when they found that these town boys could handle horses, drive a tractor, and had some familiarity with general farming activities. The boys had been trained in the Minneapolis high schools. These were some of the factors brought out in interviews with 23 farmers and 37 VFV boys.

Last spring, a selected group of boys was taken to nearby farms on Saturdays to work all day under the instruction of a teacher. During the week, the boys attended an after-school class on farm work. In addition, they took special trips to the University of Minnesota farm where they ran tractors and worked with livestock. This training did not make them skilled farmers, but it did acquaint them with things they would encounter on the farm.

Training Course Organized

Arthur V. Storm, appointed by the Minneapolis schools, organized the training course in cooperation with the State Board of Vocational Education. Twenty-five teachers of nonagricultural subjects were carefully chosen. Some had taught agriculture previously, some had taken agricultural courses in college, and some had only a good farm background. All had an interest in the possibilities of training city boys for farm work.

The training program was well received, not only by the farmers who hired the boys, but also by the parents and the school administration. The boys themselves appreciated the training they received. When they were asked what advice they would give to other boys who were planning to work on farms next year, practically everyone said, "Tell them to take the training course."

Neighborhood Leaders Serve

When C. E. Bublitz, assistant State farm-labor supervisor for the VFV, notified the counties of the potential supply of boys trained in the Minneapolis schools for work on the farm, County Agent George Gehant got in touch with his neighborhood leaders. These leaders visited the farm families in their neighborhoods, explained to them that a source of labor was available and asked them if and when they wanted any of the boys being trained. As a result, 41 boys were placed on farms. Mr. Gehant said he placed the boys on farms where he would be willing to have his own boy

live and work. All the farmers who hired VFV's had cars, most of them had radios and subscribed for a newspaper, and more than half had electricity and a telephone.

Big Stone County, Minn., also had a good VFV training program. The boys were recruited from Ortonville, the county seat. Local farmers attended meetings of the boys and explained the kinds of work a town boy would be expected to do on their farms. The boys obtained part of their training by going out to farms over week ends. Farm women also attended training meetings. They explained farm family life and how a town boy can adjust to life with a farm family. The early beginning of the training program made it possible to have 25 meetings. The boys were placed early in the summer and averaged 3 months of work on the farm where they lived.

Schoolboys Did Chores

Some town boys were employed on farms nearby during part of the school term. They did the morning and evening chores and rode the bus to school.

R. H. Hoberg, vocational agriculture teacher in Ortonville, conducted the Big Stone County training program which started early in January. The program was in its second year when the study was made in cooperation with County Agent Clarence Quie.

All the farmers interviewed in the Minnesota surveys liked the city boys who had trained in Minneapolis and the town boys trained in Ortonville. Nearly all thought the boys did good work and want the same boys back again next year. About one farmer out of four thought their VFV was equal to, or even better than the usual hired help. The farmers realized that the boys were not so strong nor so experienced as usual farm hands. The majority of the farmers thought the boys were not so good as the usual hired help, but good enough. The farmers' approval of the VFV's work in general was expressed by the fact that all want some VFV's again next year.

These 14- to 17-year-old boys worked about 11 hours a day. Nine out of ten went to live and work on a farm because they wanted farm work experience. They helped with haying, dairying, and chores. They worked with livestock, poultry, small grains, and corn. They took care of horses and drove a team. They greased machinery and helped repair fences. Many VFV boys did these things for the first time last summer. Work experience, in their opinion, taught them "how to work on a job," "get along with strangers," and "what a good day's work is." One boy said, "It was an education not found in books." Some said it helped them develop self-confidence, and they could "be on their own and make good." Others said they learned more about how farmers live and the work they have to do.

The boys gave more reasons for doing farm work. "To help out in the war," was an important one. More than half of the boys mentioned the health benefits of summer work on the farm. "It builds you up," they said.

Helped Do the Threshing

The boys started work for $1 a day and room and board. Their wages were raised as they proved their worth. During threshing season, many took their places with other hired hands in the field and at that time were paid wages of regular hired help. The money earned, however, was not the chief reason for doing farm work. Less than half said they went on the farm to earn money.

The effective coordination of the training and supervision functions of the VFV programs in Yellow Medicine and Big Stone Counties produced good results.

These studies were conducted by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey of the Division of Field Studies and Training and Dr. Frank W. Lathrop of the U. S. Office of Education. They are part of a series of nine VFV evaluation studies which are being published in one volume. (Oregon and Vermont studies of this series were run in December and February REVIEWS).

Farm women sell on homemakers' market

Approximately $6,911 worth of farm and home produce was sold by 7 women last year at the Christian County, Ky., homemakers' market. Other records reported at the annual meeting of the 19 homemakers' clubs included $40,587 invested in war bonds and stamps, 56,804 quarts of food canned, 16,486 articles made for the Red Cross, and 26,351 surgical dressings made by club members.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

STEPPING INTO THE EDITORIAL SHOES, the former associate editor of the REVIEW takes up another notch in her belt and stands ready to serve you. These are busy times—stirring times, full to the brim of vital war activities. The REVIEW continues the policy of giving news on important developments in Washington and reporting on how the job is getting done in the county, briefly and to the point, for busy agents. Is it useful to you? Letters, notes, marked copies showing items that you found valuable, tips for stories, short articles that you think would be useful to other agents, any and all will be gratefully received by the editor.

DANGER AHEAD, says the Post Office to agents who pay too little attention to postal laws and regulations in using the free mailing privilege. The situation has become so acute that a special committee of State extension workers appointed by the Land-Grant College Committee on Extension Organization and Policy met recently in Washington to study the situation and recommend remedies. They saw that unless something was done immediately, the right to use the penalty privilege would be denied all extension employees. Each State is now working out a system of checking on the material mailed free in the State and is designating a member of the staff to study up and become an authority on regulations that govern use of the Federal penalty privilege. Penalties for violation are very strict. For third offenses, regardless of whether the violation is intentional or unintentional, the Federal appointment will be revoked. Get the leaflet on the use of the penalty privilege by writing to your State director.

USE V-MAIL and save precious cargo space for arms, munitions, blood plasma, surgical dressings, and other necessities of war. The men need frequent letters telling the news from home, and the Government intends to see that they are carried promptly and safely to them. However, 20 to 30 percent more letters could be carried V-mail with a great saving of cargo space. In fact, 2 transport planes could do the work of 100 similar planes carrying the same number of standard and air-mail letters. Write to extension workers overseas, but write V-mail and encourage others to do the same.

NATIONAL CHILD HEALTH DAY, proclaimed as May 1 by the President, will be celebrated in a little different way this year. Many young people, including 4-H Clubs and other extension groups, will meet either on May 1 or during that week to discuss the responsibilities of young citizens to the community and the responsibilities of the community to them, giving special attention to health. Such a meeting can be both a tribute to the magnificent contributions young folks are making and an invitation to share in plans for the future.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES of Colorado women, as discussed at the thirteenth annual meeting of the State Home Demonstration Council held in Denver January 18, were maintaining homes for the men at war, keeping farm factories operating at full production, and raising money to buy bonds. Among the 500 clubs represented, 16 were honored as master home demonstration clubs and 28 as associate master home demonstration clubs. The awards were made by Director F. A. Anderson. With 10,000 women now enrolled, the clubs are beginning a drive for 2,000 new members this month.

NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK, May 7 to 14, will give an opportunity to emphasize some phases of the home demonstration program as it relates to family life in wartime. The committee in charge of materials and arrangements for National Family Week is headed by Dr. Harry Monroe of the International Conference of Protestants, and includes Catholic and Jewish representatives. Federal agencies taking part are the Children's Bureau, Office of Education, Office of Civilian Defense, and the Extension Service, which is represented by Mrs. Lydia A. Lynde.

"AN OUTSTANDING JOB in the United States in supplying useful, practical information to the press and other mediums" is the way Editor Ferdie Deering of the Farmer-Stockman, published in Oklahoma, wrote of the work being done by the Extension Service editorial office. Curious, we asked for more information, knowing that REVIEW readers would want to know more about it. The article on page 35 of this issue is the result.

A FRENCH 4-H BROADCAST was recently beamed to France on one of the regular OWI programs. Jean Benoit-Levy, who wrote the talk from material supplied him by the Extension Service, became enthusiastic about the "excellent program of the 4-H Clubs in preparing farm boys and girls for citizenship and for their future work as farmers." The program was well received, he reports, though he did not have time to do justice to the theme. His letter concluded with "every good wish for the continued success of the 4-H Club work."

TO HONOR THOMAS JEFFERSON for his contributions to farming and agricultural sciences, a Jefferson Bicentennial Agricultural Commission was recently authorized by Congress, with Secretary Claude R. Wickard acting as chairman. On April 13, Jefferson's birthday, exercises will be held at Monticello, his home, with Members of Congress on the commission, Department of Agriculture officials, representatives of land-grant colleges, and farm leaders taking part. County Agent T. O. Scott of Albemarle County, Va., where Monticello is located, is working with the Virginia committee under the leadership of Governor Colgate Darden in making arrangements.

A SPRING CLEAN-UP to remove all fire hazards from the farm and the home is a wartime antiwaste measure, which should not be overlooked. The National Fire Prevention Association with the cooperation of WPB, OCD, chambers of commerce, State fire marshals, and the Extension Service, will bring this to the attention of rural people.

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"Gung Ho"—work together

H. W. HOCHBAUM, Chairman, U. S. Government Victory Garden Committee

■ The Chinese say "Gung Ho." We say "Work Together." It works in China, and it works here. County agents know that working together is one way of getting a big job done. In the Victory Garden movement, the idea of working together is becoming firmly implanted from one end of the Nation to the other. In the Cleveland metropolitan area, for instance, County Agent Harold S. Ward of Cuyahoga County worked with a good many people in the 1943 program and this year is working with them again to get more gardens, and more productive gardens, to meet the increased food needs in this third year of war. Gardening in this area is headed by the Cuyahoga County Victory Garden Committee.

County agents took such an active role in the Victory Garden program last year, not only in rural areas but in urban areas as well, that it will be well to consider where major emphasis will have to be placed in reaching this year's goal. Minnesota made a survey of Victory Gardens in 1943 and found that in that year more than 99 percent of all farm families in the State had gardens. With local variations, that picture is pretty true of the Nation as a whole. To continue this Minnesota survey: Among village families, it was found that 96 percent had gardens; in small cities, 75 percent; and, in large cities, only 33 percent of families. An intensification of the Victory Garden drive in both small and large cities is needed this year.

In a talk before the recent regional Victory Garden conference in St. Paul, W. H. Alderman, chief of the division of horticulture of the University of Minnesota, said: "City gardens are usually small; and, even though their number is considerably increased, it is not likely that they alone can give us the 25 percent increase in production needed this year . . . the most significant increase in production must come from better gardening on all gardens." He estimated that in 1943 the yields per square foot of both farm and nonfarm gardens was very low, that from farm gardens being 0.16 of a pound per square foot and from nonfarm gardens, 0.1 of a pound per square foot. To show how productive gardens can be, he estimated that the yield from a well-managed farm garden, based on actual yields of crops at the University Farm, would be 13,000 pounds or 0.43 of a pound per square foot from a garden 0.69 of an acre in size. This yield would be nearly 3 times that of farm gardens throughout this country. For the intensively cultivated small city garden, with low-yielding crops omitted, he stated that the yield per square foot should be much greater than from a larger garden. To back up this statement, he kept accurate records of the 1943 production from a garden of 108 square feet. This garden yielded more than a pound and a half per square foot, or 15 times the average yield from nonfarm gardens throughout the Nation. "There was nothing remarkable about this yield from a very small garden," said Professor Alderman.

I have every confidence that if we all work together, we can produce 10 million tons of produce from Victory Gardens this year to add to the Nation's war food larder. The Extension Service, and particularly county agents, can help to get this job done. There is work for all—for garden club leaders, OCD block leaders, newspapers, radio stations, American Women's Voluntary Services, local and State garden committees, and 4–H members and their leaders. Above all, it is a task for the 22 million families who will garden this year.

"Gung Ho!"

On the docket this month

"Grow More in '44" is the spring theme song on the food front. "Grow more in '44" week, being observed April 2 to 8, is focusing public attention on the vital war need of more food to fight for freedom.

National support is offered through radio programs, press releases, suggestions to national advertisers, and contacts with national organizations. Farm production goals, Victory Gardens, and the Crop Corps will be emphasized. Local production activities can get added impetus by tying into the national "Grow more in '44" week.

Plans for recruiting the Crop Corps are being perfected in all parts of the country, with some of the Southern States already launched on their labor-recruitment campaign. A useful aid to county agents is the kit of information material which contains sample fill-in radio scripts, fill-in releases, 15 sample radio station breaks and spot announcements, suggested newspaper advertising copy which can be submitted to local newspapers, letters to civic clubs, photographic copies of the 4 new posters now in preparation, and suggestions for almost every publicity medium.

A report to the Nation on food production in a series of Farm and Home Hour radio broadcasts gets under way on April 10 when New Jersey will report on the production of poultry, truck crops, and milk. Director Bevan and a committeeman from the AAA will discuss the general feeling of farmers toward the production goals as they have observed it, and a typical New Jersey farm family will present the plans they are making to increase their production to help meet the goals. The series of broadcasts will continue every Monday noon for 11 weeks, giving reports from different parts of the country.

April 13 marks the birthday of Thomas Jefferson. 4–H Clubs are honoring Jefferson this month in many ways—on radio programs, by studying his life and contribution to agriculture, or by planting a tree in his honor.

Income tax schools gave timely service

■ Missouri's farm income tax schools, held jointly by the Agricultural Extension Service and the Internal Revenue Service last year, contributed much to the solution of a difficult wartime problem. Extension specialists, county agents, and Internal Revenue Service deputies, in 615 meetings, trained 24,251 farmers and leaders, who in turn assisted fully half the farmers of the State in filling out their tax returns.

Robert E. Hannegan, Internal Revenue collector of the eastern district of Missouri last year, said that the schools of instruction not only gave assistance in filing returns but also rendered more fundamental service in teaching farmers how to keep records. As a result, farmers are now supporting income-tax returns with authentic evidence to a greater degree than ever before, thereby reducing the unit cost of filing and auditing farm returns and collecting the taxes.

"I can envisage continued progress by these methods," he said, "and I believe that the heavy burden of assisting farmers in preparing income tax returns will become a relatively light task when farmers generally learn to keep records and assume their own responsibility for the returns."

Missouri's success in the income tax schools is but another proof of the effectiveness of the neighborhood-leader system. Schools of instruction in wartime projects generally are attended by representatives of more than half of the 9,000 to 11,000 recognized neighborhoods of the State.

The increased number of persons who were required to file returns and the local-leader system naturally fitted into the picture for the income tax schools. Arrangements were made with the Internal Revenue Service for advance notice of definite schedules around which county agents could arrange schools for their leaders. The county agents then publicized the dates and visits of deputies in their counties and reported good attendance of the responsible leaders.

As another assistance to the Internal Revenue Service and to Missouri farmers, the Extension Service issued a farm record book prepared especially for use by farmers in assembling material for filing an income tax return. Through keeping such a record, specific information on income, purchases, expenses, investments, depreciation, and deductions was available for reference purposes when the time came to compile the income tax return.

The farm record book provides on left-hand pages a reproduction of the Internal Revenue Service income tax return forms, section by section. On the opposite pages of each section a corresponding form for the individual farmer's record is provided, which is used to supply the required totals for the income tax section. The record book was prepared for the specific purpose of simplifying the preparation of an income tax return on a "cash receipts and disbursement" basis, and its usefulness is largely limited to that objective.

Whereas the interest of the Internal Revenue Service was in collection and enforcement, the Extension Service's interest in the tax meetings was in helping the farmer to get a better understanding of business activities involved in his operations. From an educational standpoint the Extension Service would have been interested in a farmer judging his own operations through the keeping of records, even if no tax had been involved. So the tax schools served the purposes of aiding the Internal Revenue Service, the Extension Service, and the farmer; and thus helped to bring a closer understanding and better cooperation among all three.

Also, by means of the tax schools and leadership system, the Extension Service protected county agents from being "buried alive," figuratively, with the chore of assisting individual farmers in compiling their tax returns.

Neighborhood leaders—10,000 strong—locate seed stocks

■ More than 10,000 men neighborhood leaders have helped materially in an intensive campaign for Minnesota farmers to plant seed oats of two improved varieties this spring.

First, at the request of their county agents, they made a survey to locate seed of Vicland and Tama oats. Tests made by the Minnesota Experiment Station and substations proved that these two new varieties of oats are far superior to any variety now commonly grown on Minnesota farms. During 1943 a limited number of farmers grew Vicland and Tama oats, the former being an introduction by the Wisconsin Experiment Station and the latter an Iowa variety, but both of identical parentage. The yield of these varieties averaged approximately 20 bushels an acre more than that of those commonly grown in the State.

Director Miller says that because increased production of feed crops is all-important during 1944, and as the acreage in crop production cannot be further expanded, it is highly essential that maximum yields be obtained from each acre; especially, oats, the acreage will be further restricted this year as some oats acreage will be diverted to corn, flax, and soybeans.

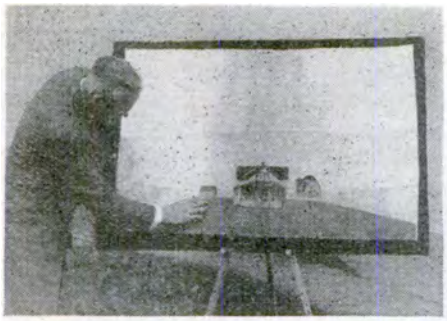
Approximately 11 million bushels of seed oats are required to plant the Minnesota oat crop in 1944. Of the estimated 11 million bushels of Vicland oats produced in the State in 1943, between a third and a half of this amount will be available for seed. To make the most effective use of seed stocks available and to insure that they would be saved for seed, county agents sent a letter to more than 10,000 men neighborhood leaders, asking them to make a neighborhood survey of Vicland and Tama seed oats available and to report the surplus to their county agents. County agents, in turn, made this information available to farmers requesting seed of these varieties.

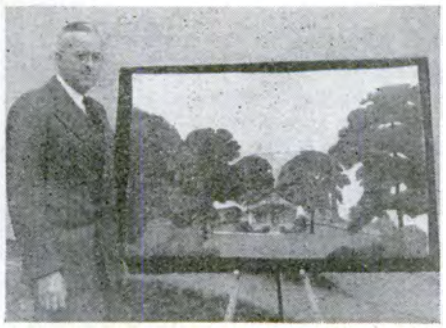
During the last of January, Director P. E. Miller met with all county agents in eight district conferences. County agents reported that the neighborhood leaders had done such a thorough job that every bushel of available seed would be planted by farmers in the county where the seed was reported or in neighboring counties. There was still a lack of available seed to supply the demand, and agronomists got busy to locate more seed in both Iowa and Wisconsin.

Although not every acre of oats will be planted to these varieties, there will be a substantial portion of the oats acreage changed over to these varieties this year. This change will result in a step up in production to a marked degree, and it will be done on less acreage than has been used for oats during the past 2 years.

Director Miller says that he and the agents believe that the intensive campaign conducted through the neighborhood leaders and through other publicity channels is responsible for this change.

The flannelgraph





A device successfully employed in extension teaching in Wisconsin—the flannelgraph—is being used in agricultural missionary work among the Navahos in Arizona.

A former home demonstration agent in Wisconsin, Mrs. Willard Gray, nee Doris Clark, found the flannelgraph effective in her Bible lessons at Moody Bible Institute. Recently married, the former extension worker and her husband are doing agricultural missionary work among the Navahos in the school and hospital station at Ganado, Ariz.

The base of the flannelgraph is a large board about 3½ feet by 5 feet, covered with flannel and set up on an easel. When this flannel-covered board is slightly tilted back, other pieces of flannel in various shapes can be made to stick to it, and by the manipulation of the demonstrator illustrate right and wrong ways of doing whatever line of work may be considered. These pieces can be moved around and serve in a very effective way the purposes of the demonstration.

This is well illustrated by the home-grounds flannelgraph which has been used by L. G. Holmes, G. W. Longnecker, and other extension landscape workers at the University of Wisconsin.

A large light-colored cloth with a horizon drawn upon it is used as a basis for a picture. Then strips of flannel upon which have been painted a house, a barn, and other farm buildings are placed in position. Using trees of different kinds, shapes, and colors, fences, sidewalks, and shrubs, the house on the bare lot is soon transformed into a well-landscaped home. Flower beds and hedges can be added to frame the house.

This before-and-after method of demonstration is valuable in showing audiences why one arrangement may be better than another. The completed picture tells the story.

An idea that pays dividends

The home demonstration agent in Jasper County, who is one of the smallest agents on the Mississippi force, has gained 5 pounds; and she is "able to live with myself," as the result of starting a new program which is really paying dividends. The war had created problems which had the home agent "down but never out."

Main trouble was getting women to attend council and leader-training meetings. The women were vitally interested in the program offered by Vela McKinley, home demonstration agent; but the county seat is located on the extreme side of the county, and the town, Bay Springs, is not the natural trading location for many sections of the county.

Miss McKinley decided that if the women could not come to her, because of gasoline and tire rationing and labor shortages, then she would go to them.

Instead of having the leaders from over the county come to Bay Springs, the leaders and the home agent decided to divide the county into four districts according to trading areas and school districts. Originally, the greatest travel distance was 35 miles for some of the members to attend leaders' or council members' meetings. Now 10 miles is the greatest travel distance for any one member to attend meetings.

Although the new program has been in operation only a short time, the number of home demonstration clubs has increased from 15 to 22; and Miss McKinley expects to have 28 clubs by spring. The membership has increased from 302 to 444 members, and an additional 100 members are expected soon.

Here is the kind of attendance which was usual before the new plan was put into operation. Only 2 to 12 leaders out of 90 used to attend the leaders' meeting which represented from 1 to 4 clubs out of a total of 15 clubs. A machine-cleaning clinic attracted the record attendance of 12 members.

Attendance Increased

Now about 40 members from 14 clubs out of 22 groups attend. Most of the women come on the school bus, and the members are proud of the new program and take more interest in club work.

Before the new plan was started, council and leaders' meetings were held on separate days. Now the leader-training meetings are held in the morning when subject-matter discussions are featured, and the council program is conducted in the afternoon of the same day.

Definite programs are outlined at the district meetings so the home demonstration clubs will have well-planned programs to carry on, even though it may be impossible for the home demonstration agent to attend a particular club meeting for 2 months. At least one-half of all club meetings are held by local leaders without the home agent being present.

District Meetings Held Monthly

The district meetings are held on the first Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of each month at Rose Hill, Montrose, Heidelberg, and Stringer. Miss McKinley tries to have an extension specialist from State College attend as many of these district meetings as possible.

Council leaders analyzed the situation as to the number of neighborhoods needing organizations, after an analysis of the present membership was given by the home agent. In the four districts, the women leaders listed 18 neighborhoods that needed an organization. For the 18 groups, 31 women agreed to make the contacts and set up a temporary organization for the home agent to meet at a later date. These leaders were responsible for organizing 5 of the new clubs.

The leader training for the 4-H Club program is being carried out on the same plan and coordinated with the home demonstration club program.

Jewell Garland, State rural organization and recreation specialist, attended three of the organization meetings and assisted with the organization and planning of the programs.

Madam cow tester appears

■ One of the war jobs that women and girls have stepped into naturally is that of the cow tester. As modern circuit riders, they drive their "jalopies" from farm to farm, testing the milk and keeping accurate records on the farmers' cows, as well as making friends with the farm families. Trained in a short course of about 2 weeks, they work for the members of the dairy herd-improvement associations, an important link in the chain of increased production for an essential war commodity—milk.

Defense industry and the armed forces early drained off many of the cow testers. As early as 1941, the first New York girl tester was trained at Cornell and took a job as supervisor of a dairy herd-improvement association. Now in New York there are 96 full-time supervisors, and 20 of them are women. At one time, there were 22 girl testers in the State, but the report is that "marriage, moving out of the community, and moving to other work make replacements of women testers as necessary as those for men."

Chautauqua County, which had the first girl tester, had all four associations in the county run by women at one time; but now only half of them are women.

Although many farmers at first expressed some reluctance about employing women for the job, many have come to find that the girls do a good job, winter or summer. They get the job done.

Regular Training Schools Held

Training schools have been regularly scheduled for testers at Cornell University in alternate months. Some students hear about it from county agents or associations, and many have come in response to news items sent out by the State office. Sometimes the women students outnumber the men and boys, and sometimes only a few register.

Often the new woman tester takes her husband's place, as did Mrs. Leo Crittenden of Springville, N. Y., who finished dairy testing school on the same day her husband was called into the Army. She received her initiation into the service by helping her husband for the last 3 months he worked. She tested 19 herds of 441 cows each month.

The first Wisconsin woman tester took over her husband's job when he marched off to war. She wasted no time in hiring another farm girl, Rosemary Janacek, to help and took over the testing for the Richland County Dairy Herd-Improvement Association. These two girls test 1,700 cows on 88 farms. The testers go to 58 farms, take samples and make their tests, and for the remaining 30 farms, the owners bring the samples to the testers for measurement.

Pennsylvania has 15 women testers. Most of these girls have a farm background, and many have had some vocational agricultural training or have been members of 4-H dairy clubs.

Conservative farmers of the Keystone State will tell you that these girls are doing as good work as the men did in pre-war days. They keep their outfits cleaner and write more neatly. The girls themselves feel that the experience is valuable to them. For example, two girls who plan to study nursing think the experience they are getting in making adjustments to the different homes they visit is excellent for a prospective nurse.

Gertrude Curley, a Pennsylvania tester, likes it but finds she has very little time left on her hands after taking care of her association and filling out the 718 records for her herd-analysis work. Another tester, Ada Mary Symington, has brought her association to a much higher standard than it has had for many years. One association reports that their tester, Ellen G. Sheldon, small in stature, may have trouble keeping the milk bucket from dragging; but, nevertheless, she has completed a year's work in as satisfactory a manner as any of her neighboring testers of the opposite sex. Another quiet but efficient young lady, Hazel Kutz, handles one of Pennsylvania's large associations with entire satisfaction to the membership.

C. R. Gearhart, extension dairy specialist, believes that the girls deserve a great deal of credit for the work they are doing. The job was not considered suitable for women and girls in prewar days, but now these 15 girls are doing just as good a job as any 15 men placed at the same time.

New Hampshire dairy herd-improvement associations are served 100 percent by women testers. Seven of these girls made the trip to Boston to appear on a Women's Land Army radio program last September. Dressed alike in the Women's Land Army uniform, they were pictured in Boston papers and drew considerable attention to this phase of war work carried on by women.

Three Michigan women are now on the cow-testing job. The first woman supervisor went to work in the spring of 1942, but the Michigan climate did not agree with her, so she accepted a position with a California cow-testing association and has been doing good work there. Since then, seven other women have worked as cow testers in the State, but some have had to return home to help with the farming. None left because she was incompetent.

These women have had a background of progressive dairy farm experience and some agriculture training in high school, college, and in 4-H Clubs. Dairy farmers like them because they are neat and accurate with their work. Sometimes the association is without a tester for a few months and is very glad to welcome the girl tester as the South Eaton Dairy Herd Improvement Association in Michigan did Jean Bostedor, a former 4-H girl.

Courses of training are given in most States where the dairy industry is important, and there is a big demand for women with farm experience in this field. They are doing a good job through the rigorous winters of New England, Michigan, and Wisconsin; they keep their cars rolling on all kinds of roads and in all kinds of weather. They know dairy farming and get along well with the farmer because their careful records enable him to do a better job of production. Many are members of the Women's Land Army which holds an important sector on the food front.

A new record book

A "Ten-Year Capital and Inventory Record" for use by farmers in computing those tricky problems of depreciation and capital gains and losses for Federal income-tax reports has recently been published. This book is designed for use with record forms used only for recording day-to-day receipts and expenditures.

It is so organized as to permit wide latitude in the classification of capital and inventory items. Provision has been made for space in an organized way for recording all depreciable items and capital transactions. This information is becoming increasingly valuable for income-tax reporting and measuring financial progress. After the record is set up, 2 or 3 hours devoted to it each year will keep it up to date. It is ideal for conducting inventory and credit statement demonstrations by neighborhood and other local leaders, as well as for use by farmers not now keeping complete farm records. The forms were prepared in collaboration with members of the Bureau of Internal Revenue to insure their adaptability for tax purposes.

Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 15 cents a copy in lots of less than 100. A 25-percent discount is allowed for orders of 100 or more. Payment must accompany order.

Market in a potting shed

VERA COX, Marketing Organizer of Britain's National Federation of Women's Institutes

A market held in a potting shed, or in a garage or a barn! Maybe that sounds queer; but it is, nevertheless, one of the features of wartime life in rural Britain today. And for this novel form of trading, Britain's Women's Institutes are responsible.

Women's Institutes are societies of rural dwellers who band together to encourage social amenities and to improve the conditions of village life. When they were first formed, in World War I, one of their main objects was to increase the food supplies of the country by teaching their members to make the best use of their holdings and gardens.

It was natural, therefore, that during the years of depression following the Armistice when the produce from holdings, allotments, and gardens was being wasted through lack of marketing facilities, that Women's Institute members should demand their own organization through which they could market the produce they had learned to grow and preserve.

Market Plan Set Up

At an annual general meeting of 1932, a resolution was passed asking the National Federation of Women's Institutes to set up W. I. markets. A temporary grant toward expenses of the new marketing department was received from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees, and a full-time marketing organizer was appointed.

Until 1939 the markets were held mainly in market or residential towns, the produce being supplied from the surrounding villages. The character of the stalls varied from the larger markets with a turn-over of £2,000 a year to the small trestle-table type of stall with a turn-over of about £200.

Every kind of home produce was sold, home-made brawns, cakes, cream, butter, eggs, poultry, vegetables, flowers, and all kinds of preserves. In order to keep the "trading for private profit" side of the markets separate from the educational, the N. F. W. I. advised the larger markets to register under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

Shares were issued to the producers who elected their own committees of management, and the markets became businesslike and practical examples of cooperative rural enterprise. In all cases, the value of the produce sold, less a commission, usually a penny to the shilling, went back to the producers, the commission being kept by the Committee of Management to pay the running expenses of the market. The annual meeting of the market producers decided how any profit was to be allocated. Emphasis was laid on the need for education in the right kind of produce to grow for markets, and on the necessity for proper grading and packing; and the market controller was given authority by her committee to refuse produce not up to the required standard.

Since 1939, the markets have increased to more than 200 but have changed somewhat in character. Rationing has limited their sales mainly to vegetables and fruit. It is no longer possible to sell dairy produce or jam; poultry is limited, and only markets in existence before the outbreak of the war are allowed an allocation of fat and sugar for the manufacture of cakes and cooked foods; transport is also greatly restricted. Yet, individual market turn-overs have increased, sometimes as much as £500 in a year. Horsham W. I. Market Ltd. in Surrey, in southern England, provides a good example. There in 1941 the turn-over was £2,903, and last year it was £3,179. Essex, on the East Coast, with a County Marketing Society of 14 affiliated markets, has reached a monthly turn-over of £1,300. Kidderminster, a market started since the war, had a turn-over in 1941 of £1,317, the last balance sheet showing £2,391.

Makes Parish Self-supporting

The duty of country people at the present time is to make their parish as self-supporting as possible and never to buy food in a town if they can produce it themselves. Thus there has arrived a smaller and simpler development of the peacetime market, the village stall, organized often by the Women's Institutes but essentially a village concern. Often it is run in cooperation with the village produce association, a committee of men and women whose job it is to plan a supply of food for their village during the lean winter and early spring months.

The success of these market stalls depends on their being as simple as possible.

Stalls are growing up in the most unlikely places—in villages where one would think that everybody had a garden and could grow everything needed for their own use—until one remembers how the present-day village has grown. It may now include evacués, servicemen's wives, the crews of searchlight units, Land Army hostels, and sometimes small factories. Many village schools are now serving a hot dinner to the children. All are extra people who should be supplied from large and small village gardens.

The produce is brought in by hand, on bicycles, in wheelbarrows, in babies' prams, and sometimes by pony cart. The question of automobile transport seldom arises, for autos are rare in Britain now. The markets are held in many different places—in the village or W. I. hall, in someone's garage or potting shed, in the porch of a house, in a barn, or, in fine weather, on trestle tables on the roadside or village green.

Conform to Government Regulations

The village stalls must conform to Ministry of Food regulations, as must the retail stores, and it is not always easy to get up-to-date information on price regulations into the remote villages. County council staffs and larger W. I. markets are helping by passing on price information as quickly as possible.

Without the W. I., most of these stalls would not have come into being, but having once started, they are very much a village concern. It is common to find the village schoolmaster as chairman; we have a former director of education and the institute president jointly in charge of one village stall.

The village policeman can be seen proudly bringing in his cauliflowers, old-age pensioners telling the younger members of the village the proper way to market their produce. School children are constantly helping, and indeed all kinds of people are working together in this enthusiastically practical form of cooperative work.

Kodachrome slides

Kodachrome slides, 2 by 2 inches, have been used with effect in reporting 4-H Club work in two New York counties. Wesley Smith, club agent in Yates County, prepared a brief page-and-a-half summary for the board of supervisors and presented it with slides showing the activities throughout Yates County. C. G. Small, assistant county agent in Wayne County, used the same method of presentation to the county committeemen. The pictures were taken in all parts of the county so every committeeman would recognize one or more of the pictures as coming from his locality, usually on his own farm. Mr. Small received many favorable comments based on this presentation.

Children enjoy meetings, too

MRS. ELSA B. BATE, Specialist, Child Development and Family Relationships, Wisconsin

■ How many times we hear mothers of young children say: "I'd like to go to the meeting, but I haven't anyone with whom to leave the children." It is a very real problem in many homes, especially these days when it is almost impossible to get extra help. However, there are very few problems that cannot be solved through ingenuity and planning.

Believing this, an experiment was tried in Waukesha County, Wis. Meetings were being planned in this county for the mothers, who were in the habit of bringing their children to the local preschool clinics. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss such child-guidance questions as "Developing and Improving Eating Habits," "Discipline," and the like, with me. It was thought that more mothers would attend if they could bring their children, so several agencies cooperated to make the meetings a success. Ione Ripley, the county nurse, arranged for the places of meeting and invited the mothers to attend. Winifred Eastwood, home demonstration agent, consulted 4-H girls and selected four, who were interested in young children, to supervise their play. The place of meeting at Muskego was a rural school building in the basement of which were two adjoining rooms. In one, chairs were arranged in a semicircle for the mothers. In the other, a large, clean, rag rug was placed on the floor for the children to sit on.

4-H Girls on the Job

Play materials of the less active, less noisy types were assembled and brought to the place of meeting an hour ahead of time. The 4-H girls came early, too, giving me an opportunity to discuss with them their responsibilities for the afternoon. Each girl was given a copy of the Wisconsin leaflet, "Care of Children at Meetings," and the parts which it was thought would be most helpful to the girls were emphasized, including the ways in which they could expect the children to use the materials and the difficulties the girls might expect to encounter with the children during the afternoon. Suggestions were made for dealing with various difficulties that might arise.

Fourteen mothers attended the Muskego meeting, along with 17 children of preschool age. As the mothers and children came, the youngsters were welcomed by the 4-H girls. They were introduced informally, both to the girls and to each other, and their attention was drawn to the play materials. When some children were extremely shy, the mothers stayed in the room for awhile until the children were interested in playing with something. However, it was not long until all the children were busy playing or working with various materials, and the mothers were free to enjoy their meeting, while Miss Ripley kept an eye on both the children and the girls supervising them.

In addition to enabling mothers to attend meetings, this kind of project bears fruit in other ways. Just seeing their children together with other children of the same age is valuable to mothers. From the standpoint of the youngsters themselves, the experience is worth while. Many children, especially rural children, live too far apart for the children of "younger than school" age to play together often. After the age of 2½ or 3 years, youngsters need companions of their own age in order to learn to give and take, with consideration both for their own rights and those of other people. Arranging for children to accompany their mothers to meetings and play together under careful supervision is one way of providing this experience. It was a valuable experience from the standpoint of the 4-H girls, too; and as time goes on it may be a way of interesting them in working with children and studying them more thoughtfully.

Pack gifts for service men

MRS. CAROLINE BOOGHER, Home Demonstration Agent, Hillsborough County, Fla.

■ This year the stores in the city were unable to get tin containers for packing candy and cookies for the boys overseas at Christmas time. By the latter part of September we began to get many calls for help in packing boxes, which could be sealed so that they would arrive in good condition for the boys in service.

The service started in a small way with no publicity; but those who obtained help told others, and soon we had a large group. After we had been working about 2 weeks, a newspaper reporter stopped in the office one day and, seeing about 10 busy women packing candy and cookies into cans, asked what they were doing. She immediately wanted the recipes for fudge and cookies that were good for sending overseas. We had the recipes, and I told her about cooking the fudge to a temperature of 240° F. to assure having it in good condition when it reached the boys, and also gave her our recipe for cookies that keep well.

The newspaper reporter wrote an account of our work for the paper, and then we really went to work. People from every walk in life came to the office to pack gifts for their boys. Working at the same table would be one woman wearing huge diamonds on her hands and a woman with red, rough, workworn hands; but each one had the same thoughts for her boy in mind—a Christmas gift made with her own hands. If one needed an extra cooky or piece of candy to fill her can, the one next to her always insisted on filling the can. It made me realize that the women of America do have something in common and will stick together when there is need.

Both mothers and wives packed their gifts in our office. A girl with a small baby came one day and, with tears in her eyes, said that her husband had written her that he knew he could not be with her at Christmas but that if he could only have a dish of her chop suey, he could stay on the job of fighting the Japs. She made the chop suey, and we canned it for her. You have never seen anyone happier than she was when she knew he would have her chop suey for Christmas.

After the 15th of October, we thought packing gifts for overseas was over but, a few days later, a woman called and asked if we would pack some things for her. When we told her the dead line for sending gifts had passed, she asked us if we had forgotten we had a Navy. We had to start all over again so that the boys in our Navy would not be forgotten.

We packed 600 cans here in the office, and two of the home demonstration women opened their canning centers, canning 200 cans—making a total of 800 cans of food for the boys overseas.

■ 4-H Club boys and girls of Madison County, Ala., sold $140,710 worth of war bonds at a 4-H war bond sale. One bale of cotton donated brought $50,000 in bonds, another $20,000, and a bull, $10,000.

The agricultural Jefferson recognized

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ More than a year ago, when plans for the Jefferson Bicentennial were discussed and exercises were being planned for the dedication of the Jefferson Memorial as the south point in the Great Cross on the Washington Mall, considerable thought was being given to recognizing Thomas Jefferson's notable contributions to agriculture. Similar recognition had been given to George Washington in the bicentenary staged for him in 1932 and to Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Centenary celebration.

In the case of Jefferson, Americans realized that we were at war on the date the bicentenary commenced officially, April 13, 1943. At the same time, every true believer in democracy recognized that the war in which we are engaged involved the continuation of the very kind of democracy for which Thomas Jefferson stood.

Congress Lays the Groundwork

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard and Members of Congress, under the leadership of Senator Harry Flood Byrd of Virginia, proposed that, in addition to recognizing Jefferson as a statesman and patriot, as symbolized in the Jefferson Memorial, appropriate steps should be taken to honor him for the great contributions he made to American agriculture. A bill introduced by Senator Byrd in the Senate and by Representative Howard Worth Smith of Virginia in the House was passed as a joint resolution of Congress and approved December 3, 1943. The bill provided for appointment of a National Agricultural Jefferson Bicentenary Committee. Under the direction of this committee, of which Secretary Wickard is chairman and which includes five Members of the United States Senate and five Members of the House of Representatives, plans are now under way for launching Nation-wide recognition of Jefferson, farmer and agriculturist. Though the official life of the committee comes to an end on April 13 of this year, the activities are to be of the kind that need not and should not terminate on any given calendar day.

As believers in rural democracy, all agriculturally minded persons should be interested in the permanent establishment of our own agricultural traditions because of the important part in building the kind of America—and the kind of world—we are fighting for. All farmers and agriculturists of the Western Hemisphere should have considerable pride in the contributions of Thomas Jefferson. He said many times that he was more interested in farming than in politics. He believed that through science and education agriculture could become the noblest following of man.

Thomas Jefferson was one of the richest personalities in the whole history of civilization. Like Leonardo da Vinci, he knew a great deal about the knowledge and learning accumulated up to the time he lived. He was well balanced in the many phases of life. Students of personality say that one rich in it has a wide scope of interest. Jefferson had such a personality. He grasped the true possibilities which science and enlightenment can bring to mankind. His idea of democracy was always coupled with the idea of science and education. Science could be used to lighten the load of man, or to enslave him. Through education that would be available to the high and the lowly, that would emphasize ethics and principles as well as knowledge in the purely physical sciences, Jefferson envisioned freedom, progress, and an advanced civilization.

An Early Extension Worker

Jefferson's interest in science was spurred on by his devotion to farming. He saw great possibilities in agricultural science if this could be available to the people who did the actual working of the land, and he also relied on such people for the perpetuation of democracy. The more we study Jefferson, the more we appreciate that he truly had extension blood in his veins. Extension people, as leaders in the rural educational field which follows a typically Jeffersonian pattern, can well afford to contribute freely, insofar as wartime circumstances permit, toward making Jefferson stand out as a symbol of the culture known as rural democracy.

An important subcommittee of the committee authorized by Congress is one on "activities in the colleges of agriculture, the agricultural experiment stations, and the agricultural extension services." The recommendations of this subcommittee include a memorial ceremony at Monticello on April 13; similar ceremonies at the colleges sometime during the year; planting of a Liberty Tree in honor of Jefferson's contributions to agricultural science on college campuses or experiment station grounds; appointment of Jefferson committees at each State agricultural college; and cooperation on the State level with farm organizations in promoting programs recognizing the agricultural Jefferson.

It is my hope that extension people everywhere will take an active part in the recognition of the Agricultural Jefferson being sponsored by the National Agricultural Jefferson Bicentenary Committee.

Singing on the home front

Suldal 4–H Clubs of Mauston, Wis., are sponsoring a project to make vocal group singing of patriotic and inspiring songs a feature of all community gatherings in the county.

Mrs. Ed Mauer, leader of the Suldal Club of 21 members, reports that a quartette of high-school-age members has been singing "Songs for the Home Front" at the club meetings. They have also been asked to sing before various community groups such as community clubs and church organizations and are ready to teach others part-singing.

Community fairs

The 9 Schuyler County, N. Y., 4–H community fairs and achievement nights were successful, especially from the standpoint of community spirit and parent participation. Club members made 1,115 exhibits, and 1,057 persons attended. These figures represent a considerable increase over last year's corresponding events, when 845 exhibits were made at the county fair, and 537 persons attended achievement night programs. Several parents and leaders stated that they thought these community fairs and achievement nights should be continued after the war because they enabled more parents to learn more about club work. It is apparent that communities are looking for worth-while things to do together, and it seems that community activities sponsored by the Extension Service will not only strengthen communities, but will also strengthen the Service itself in the years to come.—*R. P. Blatchley, Schuyler County, N. Y., club agent.*

■ Eight members of the Aubrey 4–H Club, Richland County, Wis., do folk dancing regularly every 2 weeks at the 4–H meetings. They have such a good time that they often dance for an hour and a half. They are now teaching other groups in the county how to dance the figures. Four members of the same family furnish the music with a piano, accordion, violin, and guitar. Folk dancing has spread to surrounding counties and is fast becoming a popular recreation with young and old.

Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

A look at Scotland

At last I have succeeded in landing overseas. It's what I've wanted ever since I was first inducted but never seemed able to achieve. The people over here are very friendly. I visited Glasgow a couple of week ends ago on a pass. Also saw the remains of Crooston Castle where Mary, Queen of Scots, is alleged to have been held prisoner. Hope to see Loch Lomond, too. The Ayreshire cattle are plentiful and really look very well-bred. The traditional crops of oats here beat anything I've ever seen in the States.—*Les Nichols, 4-H Club agent, on leave from Montgomery County, N. Y.*

Food from home

The weather hasn't been too hot yet. The old country is awfully dry, but we have a wonderful breeze in the late afternoons and nights.

The dry weather (no rain in more than 2 months) has about dried up all plant life except trees and a few crops in small irrigated areas.

All the grain crop has been harvested; the grape crop will soon be ready for wine; and I suppose that will about end crops, except the few vegetables, until fall.

One of the surprising things is how the cattle manage to keep fat on apparently dead grass.

I can't mention locations, so won't be able to say much about my whereabouts. The old cities over here are interesting but, of course, are not as usual, due to present circumstances. Some of them took quite a "shellacking," and to look at them reminds one that Sherman wasn't too far wrong on his description of war. Also some of these cities are quite different from what I imagined from the ancient history I was exposed to in high school.

We are still eating practically all American processed foods. The only exceptions are occasional vegetables such as onions, tomatoes, and carrots. A few nights ago I got in late for supper and went to the kitchen for a can of tomatoes. To my surprise, the tomatoes were packed by a canning company in Ruby, S. C., and this, by the way, seemed to make them taste better.—*Maj. J. C. McComb, North Africa, formerly on South Carolina extension staff.*

From North Africa

This is quite a country over here. One can see almost everything in the farming line—all the way from threshing wheat with a combine on down to the natives tramping it out with their feet. It looks as if a lot of the United States' ideas on windbreaks, shelterbelts, irrigation, etc., came from here. They do quite a little irrigating, and the fields are protected from the wind by trees.

I see that Morton County has another Cowley County man as an agent. I should like to try it again. I wouldn't take anything for my trip over here, but now I am ready to go home and settle down.—*Lt. Wilbur Crowley who was county agent in Morton County, Kans., at the time of the first lottery following the first registration and whose number was 158, the very first one drawn in the lottery.*

■ Even though we cannot be with you and the farm people, I believe I speak the sentiments of all of us in the service when I say: "You and your work are in our minds and hearts" . . . I have tried to enter into the spirit of the training,

to like their method of instruction and cooperation. The association with these fellows has meant much to me—something like going to college again, with somewhat of a serious accent . . . I'm glad that I can look forward to working with the Extension Service, as well as looking backward at my pleasant experience with the farm people and their problems . . ."—*Lt. John T. Whitfield,* formerly assistant county agent, Tarrant County, Texas.

The Roll Call

MISSISSIPPI

(Continued from last month)

M. P. Lewis (inducted and later discharged from service).
H. F. McCrory.
Lloyd McGehee.
Joe D. Miller.
T. M. Montgomery, Jr.
V. P. Moore.
H. B. Parker.
Gerald Purvis.
Mrs. Judson Purvis, American Red Cross.
L. T. Peeples.
Hattie Ratcliff.
Herbert Ray.
Luther W. Revere (inducted and later discharged from service).
George Russell.
C. O. Weeks.
Shed H. Weeks.
N. G. Wiseman.

NEVADA

Corp. Fred Batcheldor, clerk in State Extension office, Army.
Sgt. Thomas B. Glazebrook, extension forester, Army.
Sgt. John A. Patti, extension financial clerk, Army.

NEW MEXICO

J. W. Donaldson, Luna County agent, Army. Fought in the Philippines and is now a prisoner of war in Japan.
Rey Gonzales, Taos County agent, Army. Fought in the Philippines but no word has been received from him.
Paul McGuire, associate editor.

NEW YORK

(Continued from last month)

Dawn Rochow, district home demonstration agent, WAFS.
Capt. Robert G. Smith, 4-H Club agent, Orleans County, Army.
Lt. H. W. Welch, assistant agent, Ontario County, Army.
Pvt. R. E. Wingert, assistant agent, Steuben County.
W. T. Winne, botany specialist, Army Air Force.
Corp. G. A. Woodruff, assistant agent, Delaware County, Army.
Pauline Young, associate 4-H Club agent, Cortland County, WAC.

OREGON

Maj. W. S. Averill, Benton County agent, Army.
Leeds C. Bailey, Malheur County assistant agent, Coast Guard.
2d Lt. Marjorie Ellsworth, Union County home demonstration agent, WAC
Capt. Harry J. Endicott, Malheur County assistant agent, Army.
2d Lt. Mary Holthouse, secretary, agricultural economics, WAC.
1st Lt. W. J. Jendrzejewski, Klamath County assistant agent, Army.
Capt. R. C. Kuehner, Lane County club agent, Army.
Capt. Harry L. Riches, Marion County agent, Army.
2d Lt. Robert H. Sterling, assistant specialist in land use, Army.

RHODE ISLAND

Ensign Richard H. Bohning, assistant county agent, southern Rhode Island. Navy.

PENNSYLVANIA

Capt. James H. Book, assistant county agent, Army.
Capt. Eugene G. Hamill, county agent, A. M. G.
Corp. Kenneth Hood, extension economist, Army.
Capt. J. F. Keim, assistant State 4–H Club leader, A. M. G.
Lt. R. W. Kerns, extension rural sociologist, Marines.
Maj. Harvey W. Rankin, extension pathologist, Army.
Lt. Edna A. Stephany, county extension representative, Army.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Lt. W. L. Abernathy, Jr.
Lt. E. C. Abrams, Army.
L. M. Asbill.
Roscoe C. Bacote.
Capt. E. B. Baskin, Army.
Lt. M. A. Bouknight, Army.
Lt. T. O. Bowen.
Maj. F. W. Cannon, Army.
Lt. D. H. Caughman, Army.
Maj. L. O. Clayton, Army.
Capt. Thomas M. Clyburn, Army.
Capt. J. L. Cochran, Army.
Lt. R. A. Cole.
Lt. F. W. Corley, Army.
Maj. R. H. Crouch, Army.
F. M. Fleming.
Lt. B. J. Funderburk.
Ensign C. P. Guess, Navy.
Lt. F. K. Hinnant.
Ensign Winston Holliday, Navy.
Lt. J. M. Jeter.
Ensign E. M. Johnson, Navy.
Capt. D. K. Josey, Army.
Lt. J. C. King, Army.
Lt. R. H. Lemmon, Army.
H. P. Lynn, 2/c, Navy.
Maj. W. J. Martin, Army.
Capt. J. W. Matthews, Army.
Capt. J. C. McComb, Army.
Lt. M. C. McKenzie, Army.
W. R. McKinney.
Capt. G. C. Meares, Army.
Lt. J. D. Miller.
Capt. Ruby Pearson, WAC.
Lt. W. H. Pressly, Army.
Maj. B. E. G. Prichard, Army.
Lt. Dratyford Richardson, Army.
L. W. Riley, Specialist 2/c, Navy.
Capt. J. T. Rogers, Army.
Capt. D. Austin Shelley, Army.
Lt. J. C. Shelley.
Capt. T. A. Stallworth, Army
Capt. G. H. Stewart, Army.
Lt. D. C. Sturgis.
Lt. M. H. Sutherland, Army
Lt. J. W. Talbert, Army.
Lt. S. B. Walker.
Lt. S. A. Williams.
Lt. J. C. Willis.
Lt. J. R. Wood, Army.

JIT for West Virginia apple growers

A practical demonstration shows the right and wrong ways to instruct green workers in using a ladder safely.

■ Thirty-two West Virginia apple growers and orchard foremen postponed pruning long enough in February to attend two 2-day job instruction training sessions at the West Virginia experiment substation near Kearneysville where hospitable Ed Gould is in charge. Eighteen of the 32 organized and put on sample training for the criticisms and suggestions of the others. Three men postponed for a day a scheduled hog killing in order to give their demonstrations.

Ben Creech, Extension's farm labor supervisor in West Virginia, organized the JIT program because of the difficulty experienced last year in training green employees to handle apples with the care and respect due $5 fruit. W. N. McClung and Neil Bolton, county agents in the neighboring counties of Berkeley and Jefferson, spread the news among the orchardists. R. H. Copeland, farm labor assistant in both counties, arranged the details and made the excellent coffee to go with the home-packed lunches at noontime.

Among the orchard jobs that were broken down for the practice demonstrations were the use of pruning shears, pruning, setting ladders, picking apples, the use of the picking bucket, dumping apples, loading and stacking apple boxes, facing apples, turning and shaking apples, and making and labeling boxes. Ben Creech, the West Virginia farm labor supervisor, and K. F. Warner from the Washington extension office, who led the JIT discussions are both animal husbandmen. They made perfect material for testing the efficiency of correct instruction as used by the apple growers.

Job simplification was presented at two evening meetings by Dan Braum of the U. S. Department of Agriculture personnel office. Time and motion economy is Dan's hobby; and his rope, scoop shovel, and sturdy thigh muscles were used to emphasize the fact that there often is an easier way to do a job.

The Kearneysville meetings are to be followed by a series of JIT sessions for West Virginia extension personnel.

One-day stands

Charlie Sayre, county agent in Kingsbury County, S. Dak., has a system of carrying on extension work in wartime. Encountering the common difficulties of getting farmers out to meetings and dwindling office calls owing to well-known causes, Charlie has set up temporary stands in far corners of the county, something on the order of traveling photographers, dentists, eye or foot doctors who advertise they will be in a named hotel in a town on a certain date for 1 day only.

One of Charlie's best extension communities is Badger, 25 miles northeast of De Smet, the county seat. Not many folk are driving to De Smet now from Badger. A few days before January 11, the first day he tried it out, Charlie sent cards to the farmers around Badger that he would be in Chris Larson's trucking office in Badger all day Tuesday, January 11.

The results were gratifying. By actual count, Charlie did business with 27 farmers that day. Many more than that number were in the little trucking office during the day just for a visit with Charlie, and at times the little office was not large enough to accommodate the visitors.

Here are a few of the major extension jobs accomplished on that 1 day. Charlie talked the new oat varieties—Tama, Boone, Vikota, and Vicland; and as a result, 3,500 bushels of certified Vicland will be brought into Badger and seeded this spring. That is enough to plant 1,750 acres. If the added yield is 20 bushels an acre, Badger will have 35,000 extra bushels of oats.

Charlie also advised farmers on livestock feeding and management problems, helped with their farm record books and income taxes, gave sympathy and guidance on hog-marketing problems, got organization steps for a 4-H Club started, organized a fox hunt to stop sheep and poultry losses from these predators, and then also got approval for shotgun shells for use in the hunt. He also demonstrated to one farmer how to dynamite crows.

Conserving the feed supply

Eight hundred Wayne County, N. C., farmers put on a rat-killing campaign sponsored by the Agricultural Workers' Council through its neighborhood-leader system, County Agent C. S. Mintz reports.

The rural neighborhood leaders visited farms throughout the county, and 2,750 pounds of mixed bait were distributed. The success of the campaign showed the ability of the rural leaders to organize their communities in cooperative effort.

L. C. Whitehead, rodent-control specialist from State College, worked with County Agent Mintz in obtaining the poisoned bait and in carrying out the campaign.

"At this time we need all the feed possible for our livestock, and we are sure that this rat-killing campaign will save many bushels of corn and other feedstuffs which would have been eaten by the rats," Agent Mintz said.

Pictures used more

Pictures have been used even more in Henry County, Mo., during these times of shortage of films and other photographic material. The local papers here publish many of my pictures, paying for the cuts. The two papers in Clinton go to practically every home in the county, so that has been an excellent way of doing wartime extension work. Soon we shall publish a large-page booklet with about 30 or 40 of our 4-H Club pictures and mail it to all our rural homes.—*J. Robert Hall, county agricultural agent, Henry County, Mo.*

■ Rural women in Routt County, Colo., have been learning how to give emergency treatment to wounds, snake bites, and frostbite, with the cooperation of Jean Knowles, county home demonstration agent, and the assistance of leaders of the home demonstration clubs.

Girls study child care

ESTHER R. HART, Home Demonstration Agent, Venango County, Pa.

■ Six girls in Rouseville, Venango County, Pa., organized a 4–H child-care club last June. The number of members soon increased to 23, the girls ranging in ages from 10 to 16 years. Rouseville, a community of about 700, lies in the oil region; and oil, of course, is its chief industry.

Child care was a new project in the State 4–H Club program last year, and Rouseville had the first child-care club in Venango County. The purpose of the child-care project is to help girls acquire an understanding of children so that they really enjoy caring for them.

Just as the 4–H's stand for the four-fold development of the club member—head, heart, hands, and health—so this project aimed toward giving an understanding of the child's needs and daily routine, principles in planning meals based on the "nutritional yardstick," selection of toy equipment for children of different ages, children's clothing, and helping the child to achieve independence.

Girls Were Enthusiastic

The girls joined the club voluntarily and were enthusiastic as they started in their new venture. Members worked individually in caring for their younger brothers and sisters or for neighbor children.

At club meetings, held every other week, the girls related some of their various experiences in caring for children. These naturally presented some problems in behavior, eating, whether or not a child should dress and undress himself, when he should be put to bed, how to get acquainted with a young child, and why a 15-month-old child and his 3½-year-old sister wouldn't like the same toys.

A mother of a child was invited to one meeting of the club to tell what she expected of a girl whom she would hire to take care of her child. She emphasized such points as being clean and neat in appearance; free of colds or other illnesses; feeling a sense of responsibility; not having the girl's friends call while she is working; and realizing that a child's sense of danger and the need for the proper caution is undeveloped and that, consequently, he needs constant supervision.

At another meeting, one of the mothers in the community demonstrated the proper method of giving a baby his daily bath.

The topic of one meeting was "toys." The girls made toys, using materials which they already had on hand at home. These included nests of tin cans painted in gay colors, and balls made from water-soaked newspapers. Finger painting was popular both with the 4–H Club girls and their young clientele. Deciding what toy to make involved a study of the relationship between the child's age and the toy he would like.

An exhibit of children's clothing, which showed good selection of color and material, and designs which encourage self-help as well as simplicity and roominess, was the foundation for another meeting. The girls made 14 garments. The younger 4–H members chose easily made ones, such as self-help bib and play aprons with two large pockets to hold all sorts of trinkets. Two girls used discarded felt hats and bits of bright yarn to make slippers to put in boxes for British children.

At another meeting, four of the girls, under the supervision of the home demonstration agent, prepared a meal for a 3-year-old child. All sorts of questions as how to get a child to eat certain foods and the like were stimulated among the club members.

Of particular interest to the club was the meeting on "Picture Books and Stories for Children." Marguerite Little, child-care specialist of the Pennsylvania State College Agricultural Extension Service, showed books for the 18-month-old child on up to the age where imaginative stories and pictures might be used. Pointers in story telling were illustrated in the tale, "Angus and the Cat."

Spent 722 Hours in Child Care

All in all, do you wonder what was accomplished in this 4–H Club? The 15 girls reporting at the final meeting before they started back to school revealed that they had spent 722 hours in caring for children. The children they cared for ranged in age from 7 months to 8 years. Each girl cared for from 1 to 10 children. They planned 2 schedules and 77 meals. They made 14 garments, 17 toys, and 4 scrapbooks. They prepared 25 meals for children, gave 23 baths, and 2 girls arranged storage for children's toys and clothing.

And why should these girls be taking care of children? One said that she cared for a little boy while his mother pitched hay in the field. Some club members cared for younger brothers and sisters while their mothers did the washing and other routine home jobs. Other girls took care of children while the mothers were working at the control center, shopping, or working away from home.

Although this is not solving the problem of what to do with children of working mothers in the large war-industry areas, it has helped to solve problems of child care in a small community. While these 4–H girls were learning how to care for our citizens of tomorrow, they were also gaining a better understanding of themselves and how they could become better American girls. They are giving a patriotic service to their country in helping to protect little children from wartime pressures. The girls were so enthusiastic about their work that they continued their meetings through the winter months.

4–H leader honored

Among the winners of the award for the five "outstanding citizens" of the Niagara Frontier is Noah Henry, Indian 4–H leader of the Tuscarora Reservation in Niagara County, N. Y. He is the first Indian to be given this annual award.

Nursing classes in Georgia

Eight Red Cross community home-nursing classes were conducted in Elbert County, Ga., in the fall of 1943, with the American Red Cross and home demonstration clubs cooperating. The course took 20 hours, and enrollment ranged from 15 to 26 in the various communities. Nine of the 20 hours in each class were taught by the home demonstration agent or a home economics teacher, whereas the more technical material was taught by a professional nurse. This instruction in home nursing, touching both personal and community health problems, meets a distinct need; and its value will be reflected in the homes, schools, and communities of the county.

■ Old seed loans are being repaid now, reports Deputy Governor C. W. Warburton of the Farm Credit Administration. As director of the Extension Service, Dr. Warburton had charge of the seed loans for many years; and county extension agents in areas of farm distress had an active part in helping farmers to get these loans. The only security was a lien on the crop for which the loan was made. In 1942, collections of principal and interest on seed loans made in 1936 and earlier years, including the 1934–35 drought feed loans, were slightly more than 10 million dollars. Collections on these loans in 1943 were considerably in excess of 12 million dollars.

EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

VFV'S answer the call to farms

■ Studies made of the VFV programs in Cumberland County, Maine, Berks County, Pa., and Terrebonne Parish, La., show that most of the farmers were well pleased with the farm work these young people did.

In Terrebonne Parish, La., about a thousand nonfarm youth—400 boys and 600 girls—worked an average of 3 weeks helping the farmers harvest their crops. They saved the bean and Irish potato crops, and were very proud of their work. Eighty-eight percent considered their farm work as war service. Their patriotic impulses to help harvest war crops had been considerably stimulated by the recruiting talks made by County Agent M. J. Andrepont at various schools. He stressed the importance of food in winning the war and the need for boys and girls to help produce it. Most of the farmers said the youth did as good work or better than the usual hired help. The response of the farmers in this study was unusually high.

In Cumberland County, Maine, about 1,200 boys and girls were recruited in and around Portland for day work on the farms. Shortage of labor and high wages in industry made it difficult to get older youth.

The children were permitted to set the tempo of their work. However, they were encouraged to pick 100 pounds of beans a day and thereby become a member of the Century Club. They were paid 1½ cents a pound for picking beans. Some picked 200 pounds a day and earned $3. A supervisor weighed the beans as the young folks brought them in and gave them credit to the next quarter pound. The VFV liked this because they watched the scales and the entry in the record and found that they were never "short-changed."

The younger children were well supervised by teachers from the school. The supervisors were selected with excellent judgment and received $5 a day from the growers.

A training program in the schools is being contemplated for this year. This should increase the working efficiency of the boys and girls and the educational value they derive from farming.

In Berks County, Pa., the VFV's were older. In several of the high schools of the county the youth workers had been enrolled in regular agricultural courses. The teachers of agriculture had made adaptation of their courses, recognizing the need of these nonfarm boys and girls to prepare for wartime food production.

They were transported to the farms by the day, and did nearly as great a variety of general farm jobs as VFV's who lived and worked on the farm for the summer season. Their jobs included not only harvesting vegetables but also, harvesting small grains, picking fruit, haying, dairying, handling a team, running a tractor, and caring for poultry.

The VFV program in Berks County was an outgrowth of the Emergency Agricultural Project carried on in the county in 1942. The success of the 1943 program was due in large measure to the cooperation of the farmers and local people working through the county farm labor committee.

More details on the VFV evaluation studies are given in the mimeographed circular NONFARM YOUTH WORK ON FARMS. *The studies of the 1943 Victory Farm Volunteers Program were planned and directed by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey, of the Federal Extension Service, and Dr. Frank W. Lathrop, of the U. S. Office of Education.*

How have neighborhood leaders helped in the war?

Information from 43 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico gives the high lights of neighborhood-leader activities during the second year of the war. This is the second study of neighborhood leaders made on a Nation-wide basis to determine the status of the work.

Thirty-six percent of the programs carried on pertained to the use and conservation of resources, 24 percent to food and feed production and preservation; 11, to inflation and war financing; 10, to salvage; 6, to health and morale; 4, to nutrition; and 9 percent to other programs.

Programs pertaining to food production, Victory gardens, salvage, and War bonds, were reported most frequently as being best in coverage of the number of families receiving the information. These programs were likewise the best in response of the number of families taking the recommended action. "Share the meat" and inflation were the poorest programs in both coverage and response.

Belief on the part of the families that the program is important is, by far, the leading factor in getting good response. More than one-half of the factors reported as being responsible for getting the best response pertained to the nature of the program. Thirteen percent of the factors pertained to the training of the neighborhood leaders, and an additional 8 percent related otherwise to the leaders, making a total of 21 percent. Ten percent concerned organization, planning, and timeliness; and 9 percent, publicity.

The factors reported as being responsible for poor response followed about the same pattern as did those responsible for good response. More than one-half of the reasons given pertained to the nature of the programs, 13 percent to organization and planning; 11, to the neighborhood leaders; 11, to the literature used; and 6, to poor publicity.

The number of programs carried on by neighborhood leaders from the beginning of the work to August 1943 ranged from 2 in Arizona to 41 in Utah. The median number is 12. Nearly two-thirds of all programs reported were carried on in at least half of the counties with neighborhood leaders.

For the country as a whole, the number of counties with neighborhood leaders increased during the year from 93 percent in August 1942 to 96 percent in August 1943. Twenty-seven States reported no change in the number of counties with neighborhood leaders, 14 reported a gain, and 4 reported a loss.

Only 38 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico reported on the number of neighborhood leaders for both years. They show a gain of 17 percent in the number of leaders, increasing the total in the 38 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico from 416,433 in August 1942 to 487,830 in August 1943. Twenty-nine of these States reported a gain, 6 a loss, and 5 no change. Men leaders outnumbered women leaders in both 1942 and 1943 by about 15 percent. The number of youth leaders almost doubled during the year, a total of 17,874 being reported for August 1943. Nineteen States reported youth leaders.

A community committee to guide the work of the neighborhood leaders was reported by 7 out of 10 of the States. One-third of the States reporting community committees indicated that they have such committees in some, but not all, of the counties.

Checking as we go

Informal checking, spot studies, and workshop conferences help county extension workers find the strong and weak points of their neighborhood-leader work.

Informal checking is particularly useful in obtaining information to "true-

up" the work, and to check our "guestimates" on its success or failure. To supplement informal checking and to provide a systematic check on personal judgment in servicing the neighborhood leaders, county extension workers have found it helpful to conduct special studies from time to time in cooperation with State and Federal extension workers. Workshop conferences of extension workers have been conducted in several States and have proved successful in clarifying and attacking problems.

Ten important points for county agents to check in appraising and servicing their neighborhood leaders are suggested in EVALUATING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP, *by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey of the Federal Extension Service. Ext. Serv. Cir. 414, December 1943.*

Have you read?

Exhibits. A pamphlet primarily for health and welfare workers but containing much useful information on building simple exhibits. 32 pp. H. E. Kleinschmidt and others. National Publicity Council, 130 East Twenty-second Street, New York, N. Y., 1943

Dr. Kleinschmidt says: "Visual aids help us to educate in the present tense." He tells how to plan an exhibit, all the way through to the end. Dr. Gebhard tells how to use an exhibit. Miss Tolleris gives descriptions of successful exhibits that are rich in ideas. Miss McKinney contributes several pages of useful hints, particularly about adapting materials at hand. While prepared for the welfare worker, extensioners who use exhibits and window displays will find much that is useful.—*Don Bennett.*

Annual Reports. A pamphlet designed to improve the interest and readability of reports. 24 pp. Edited by Mary Swain Routzahn. National Publicity Council, 130 East Twenty-second Street, New York, N. Y.

This pamphlet analyzes six annual reports. They were selected because "they really reported. They told in interesting narrative form 'what we did last year' rather than 'what we always do.' They were not expensive to produce." The editor emphasizes putting interest over cold statistics. She shows where the human angle brings the figures to life. The cases studied are at all levels—county, city, State, district, and regional.—*Don Bennett.*

A Cooperative Economy. A study of democratic movements. Benson Y. Landis. 197 pp. Harper & Bros., New York and London, 1943.

Relatively few people realize or sense the extent to which cooperative effort (working together) is present in a democratic economy. To most people, cooperative effort has to do only with cooperative buying and selling. The sense of working together is not generally associated with broad democratic processes of government and its various activities. In this book, the author presents a splendid thumbnail description of cooperative effort in the broad field of economic relations in cooperatives, public and governmental institutions, controls, and regulations, as well as international relations.

The book is a well-written, understandable descriptive enumeration of cooperative effort, and serves well as an introduction to the broader application of cooperative effort for the thoughtful, socially minded person. The appended list of references and bibliography will be useful in further explanation of this field.

The approach is largely from the consumer's angle, using the argument that everyone is a consumer. It perhaps overlooks the fact that everyone is also a producer, unless he is a parasite.

A cooperative economy is suggested as a possible solution for our present problems. Individuals would work together voluntarily in associations and more or less involuntarily, but intelligently, in governmental activities in the interest of general welfare. The profit motive is discounted as a desirable incentive, and the broad social attitude is suggested. Such a social philosophy is to be developed by sound educational effort.

Consumer cooperation is discussed as cooperative purchasing and finance. Producer cooperation is treated under the titles of labor unions, cooperative marketing, and productive homesteads. Possible cooperation among professional groups and independent businesses is suggested. Public cooperation involves the citizen's relations to regulations, public ownership, public credit, taxation, and the national social minimum in standards of living. The question of "in what direction?" encourages thinking in terms of international cooperative duties and rights of individuals, problems beyond State control, and finally a summary of the aims and objectives of the cooperative economy.

Finally, a set of thought-provoking questions on the topics covered in each chapter is prepared for use in informed discussion. This book lends itself well to use as a basis for consideration by informed discussion groups as an effective means of achieving the desired understanding and appreciation of cooperative effort on a broad basis.—*D. C. Dvoracek, senior extension economist, Federal Extension Service.*

Letters to service men

Service men and women from Wood County, Wis., will soon be receiving letters from the 4-H Club boys and girls of their home county. At the county's achievement exercises held recently 4-H Club pencils bearing the club pledge were given to members.

H. R. Lathrope, county agent, suggested that the members write to some former 4-H Club member who is now in the service, or to friends and relatives in the service. Then, after the letter is written, he suggested including the pencil in the letter and sending both to the service man or woman. The pencil, which can be sent in an ordinary envelope, is green and white, with the club pledge and the name of the county 4-H Club printed on it.

For healthy work stock

Fifty-nine counties in North Carolina have held horse and mule clinics this winter to condition work stock for essential work on the farm under wartime conditions. Neighboring farmers cooperate in bringing their work stock to the clinic because the greater the number of animals treated the less is the cost per head.

■ Household-equipment clinics to train leaders to assist farm families in repairing and conserving household equipment were held in eight Georgia towns in February by the State Extension Service.

Six leaders from each of 48 counties, and home demonstration agents from certain other counties were given information at these clinics to demonstrate to other farm families the care and repair of simple electrical appliances; plumbing fixtures; oil, wood, and electric stoves; refrigerators; and other household equipment. Willie Vie Dowdy, home improvement specialist; G. I. Johnson, agricultural engineer; and H. S. Glenn, rural electrification specialist, conducted the clinics.

■ G. L. PONDER, past president of the Oneida 4-H Club in Clay County, Ky., now overseas in the armed forces, sent $5 as an award to the member of his club who had the best project and record for the year.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ GLADYS M. MARTIN, formerly county home demonstration agent in Eastland County, Tex., was selected to fill the newly created position of home dairy specialist. Working through the 220 county home demonstration agents in the State, Miss Martin assists farm and ranch families in producing good-quality milk in sufficient quantity to meet home needs as prescribed by the Texas food standard. Her work includes the fundamental principles of feeding and management of cows, care and use of milk products and equipment, and also the manufacture of dairy products for home use. It is estimated that about 90 percent of Texas farms and ranches have dairy cows, but only about 50 percent of them have adequate supplies of milk. Development of the home milk supply is an important objective in extension educational work this year in view of the increase in the State and national milk production goals in 1944.

A native of Nebraska, Miss Martin has been in the employ of the Texas Extension Service since June 1929, serving successively as home demonstration agent in Tom Green, Presidio-Culberson-Ward, Coryell, and Jones Counties before assignment in Eastland County in November 1941. She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska with the B. S. degree in home economics.

■ M. H. COE, State 4–H Club leader of Kansas for the past 18 years, has been granted a 6 months' leave of absence to accept a position as director of the farm division of the National Safety Council. In his new work, Mr. Coe will direct and carry out a program of accident prevention among farm families. His headquarters will be in Chicago.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Coe came to Kansas in 1922 as an extension specialist in livestock. In 1925, he was named acting State 4–H Club leader and the following year became State club leader.

During Mr. Coe's leave of absence, J. Harold Johnson will act as State club leader. Mr. Johnson has been in club work in Kansas since 1927.

■ W. H. CONWAY of the Federal extension staff is being honored by his fellow workers at a luncheon on April 5, the anniversary of his 35 years of service in the Department of Agriculture. He came into the Department as a clerk in the Bureau of Plant Industry in 1909 and began his extension career in the Southern extension office of the States Relations Service in 1915. Since that time his responsibilities have steadily increased until at the present time he is chief of the Division of Business Administration of the Federal Extension Service. Mr. Conway is known both in Washington and in the field for cooperation and friendliness in all his dealings with his associates. His constructive outlook is always helpful to his coworkers. His friends everywhere wish him many more years of successful service.

■ DIRECTOR WILSON was featured in the March 18 issue of USDA on the first page. Under the title "M. L. Wilson, Social Engineer," the article called attention to the fact that 1944 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the Extension Service and continued "At its head is one of the Nation's foremost proponents of agricultural democracy . . . who has had perhaps as much to do with the basic planning and direction of departmental programs and American agriculture as any other person alive today.

"In 1914, M. L. Wilson was, as he is in 1944, a leading exponent of the philosophy that agricultural science should serve as a tool for building higher living standards among rural people. After getting practical experience as a tenant farmer in Nebraska and as a homesteader in Montana, Wilson began his extension career in 1914, as county extension agent in the grass-roots county of Custer, Mont. Today, more than ever, Wilson sees agricultural technology as a combination of science and education to provide the means whereby those who labor and live on our farms can free themselves from much unnecessary toil and drudgery.

"As student and follower of both Lincoln and Jefferson, as farmer and teacher, with great confidence in the power and influence of education as the molder of freedom and progress, M. L. Wilson continues as 'social engineer' and champion of democratic rural life."

Wisconsin towns on the job

Here's one Wisconsin town that knows just where it stands on manpower.

Sun Prairie, with a population of just over 1,600, has completed a house-to-house canvass, through the efforts of block leaders, which shows every labor reserve in the community.

The block leaders worked under the direction of Mrs. Alice Dyne Feuling, retired national home-economics leader, who is now living in Sun Prairie. They covered the whole town and found 250 recruits who were willing to work either full time, part time, during vacations, or after hours this summer.

Each volunteer specified the jobs he could and would do. Most of them asked for work in canning factories—an important war job.

The survey emphasized something that is troubling Wisconsin farmers—the shortage of people who can be called in for farm work. Only a handful of the 250 registrants signified availability to help on the farm. They were placed immediately.

The Kewaunee Junior Chamber of Commerce organized a local recruiting set-up.

Jaycees, with, they admit, a great deal of help from other service groups, will handle the job of mobilizing labor in Kewaunee to help hard-pressed farmers of the county. The young businessmen's committee is getting in touch with rotarians, foresters, members of churchmen's groups, firemen, labor unions, industries, and members of the senior chamber of commerce, reports County Club Agent V. W. Peroutky.

Committeemen include, among others, a garage man, the district attorney, a furniture manufacturer, and an electrician.

Jaycees are using a registration card upon which volunteer city workers show what farm machines they operate, what farm work they prefer, and what hours they are available.

The volunteers are encouraged to work in groups.

Besides the county-seat committee, four other trade-center farm labor offices will operate in Kewaunee County, Peroutky reports. One is being set up in the southern part of the county and others are to be in Luxemburg, Casco, and Algoma. John Paska, principal at the Casco high school, is heading the county-wide program.

On the Calender

American Country Life Conference, Chicago, Ill., April 11–13.

American Dry Milk Institute, Inc., Chicago, Ill., April 19–20.

American Management Association, Production Division, Chicago, Ill., April 19–20.

Child Health Day, May 1.

Midwest Safety Conference, Chicago, Ill., May 2–4.

4–H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, May 6.

Family Life Week, May 7–14.

National Fire Protection Association, Philadelphia, Pa., May 8–11.

Farmers and businessmen build a post-war livestock industry

CARY J. RICHARDSON, Editorial Assistant, Louisiana Extension Service

The Businessmen's Better Sire Club of Alexandria, La., in the last few months has raised more than $10,000 to help buy purebred bulls for farmers. The businessmen insist that there is nothing philanthropic or "good-neighborish" about their project—they regard it as a longtime investment, and on that basis they have sold it to the townspeople.

The principal goal of the Better Sire Club is to replace every scrub bull or boar with a high-class purebred by 1945. If this goal is reached, the members believe, it will put the livestock industry in the parish 25 years ahead. A well-developed livestock industry could easily add $2,000,000 to the annual cash income of the farmers and stockmen of Rapides Parish. It is easy to imagine what that $2,000,000 would mean to the merchants, the doctors, the lawyers, and the insurance agents of Alexandria!

Alexandria is a boom town now, surrounded by Army camps, with every hotel full and the lines in front of the town's picture shows stretching halfway round the block. Thousands of soldiers swarm the streets, and the local merchants can sell more of practically everything they can get.

But it was not always so. And a group of far-sighted businessmen are looking ahead to the time when the war is over and their town settles back into normalcy.

Alexandria, with a pre-war population of 27,000, is still a small enough city to be close to the soil. Its citizens realize that any permanent prosperity must be built upon the foundations of a stable agricultural system. And so they propose to cement more closely the already existing bonds between the merchants of Alexandria and the farmers and cattle raisers of the surrounding areas in Rapides Parish.

When the war is over, and the soldiers have gone back home, most of the frame barracks are torn down, and the last householder has given up her couch in the living room to return to her own inner-spring mattress, what then for Alexandria? It'll be a much more peaceful place to live, but old-timers shake their heads and predict that the town will be as dead as the proverbial doornail.

In the middle of the wartime hustle and bustle, one man had been very quietly working on his own post-war plan for Rapides Parish. He was Ben W. Baker, assistant county agent, doing 4–H Club work, and he believed ardently that the best thing the farmers in that section of the State could do to insure a lasting improvement in their condition was to improve the quality of their livestock.

With the eradication of the cattle fever tick in the late thirties, the way had been opened for the development of a real livestock industry in central Louisiana. Mr. Baker had immediately organized a 4–H baby-beef project, and the club boys and girls had accomplished remarkable results.

Grown out and fattened almost altogether on home-grown rations of corn, cob, and shuck ground together, oats, cottonseed meal, milk, and grass or hay, the Rapides Parish calves had taken top honors at five State baby-beef calf shows in succession.

Following the organization of the 4–H baby-beef project, 105 registered bulls, 320 baby beef calves, and 300 purebred females, nearly all of the Hereford breed, had been placed in the hands of 4–H livestock club members. Each year more and more of the baby beef calves have been home-grown, whereas none were home-grown at the beginning of this project.

The success achieved by the 4–H livestock club members gave ample demonstration of the fact that Rapides Parish was well adapted to the raising of fine livestock. The enthusiasm of the boys and girls had made the farmers of the parish "better-livestock minded," and the stage was all set for a tremendously stepped-up livestock program.

As club agent, Mr. Baker had been concentrating his efforts on the 4–H livestock club boys and girls; but he realized that if the program could be expanded to include all the farmers, it would be much more effective and would reach a successful conclusion much more rapidly. He was encouraged, therefore, when a group of businessmen called upon him and offered their cooperation.

Bill Cotton, head of the largest baking company in this section of Louisiana, was one of the businessmen most interested, and he decided to get things started right away. He called together 25 of Alexandria's most prominent citizens—bankers, merchants, doctors, and lawyers. He reminded them that their future depended in large measure on the future of Rapides Parish as a whole, and that Rapides Parish was essentially an agricultural parish. He suggested that every dollar they invested now in the long-range improvement of livestock would pay big dividends in the future. He hinted that there was plenty of loose change floating around which could well be invested in something solid and substantial, like bulls!

Ben Baker took up where Bill Cotton left off. He first presented his 5-year, six-point livestock program:

1. To place good purebred beef cattle, dairy cattle, and hogs with each 4–H livestock club member in order to demonstrate that it pays to raise good livestock and to care for it properly.

2. To encourage the eradication of every scrub or grade bull and boar in Rapides Parish, replacing them with high-class purebreds.

3. To organize sire circles or exchanges throughout the parish in order to prevent inbreeding, and to promote economy in maintaining good sires.

4. To establish one or more purebred herds of beef cattle, dairy cattle, and hogs in each ward of the parish to be used as the source of breeding animals for distribution in that ward, in order to economize on transportation from breeder to buyer.

5. To establish a good pasture or improve the present pasture on all farms of the parish.

6. To grow on the farms practically all the feed needed for the livestock.

Two goals were set: First, to double the income of every cotton farmer in Rapides Parish by raising a fat yearling to sell for every bale of cotton produced; and, second, to replace all scrub sires with purebreds by 1945.

That very day, these 25 businessmen organized a better-sire club and adopted a plan of procedure. For young bulls costing $150 or less, the farmer pays one-third of the cost in cash when he gets the animal and the other two-thirds in equal payments, without interest, 1 and 2 years from the date of purchase. For bulls costing more than $150, the buyer pays one-fourth the cost of the animal in cash and the other three-fourths in three equal payments, without interest, 1, 2, and 3 years from the date of purchase. Thirty bulls already have been placed in the parish.

Ten thousand dollars was agreed upon as the working capital which would insure the success of the plan. Charter members each agreed to contribute $100, and they invited scores of other businessmen at the same membership rate. Some firms contributed much more than the $100 they were asked for, whereas a great many interested individuals contributed amounts from $10 to $50. More than $10,000 was raised.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

MILKWEED FLOSS IS NEEDED for such uses as life vests and aviators' suits. 4-H Clubs can do a vital war service by helping to collect the pods which will be bought by the War Hemp Industries, Inc. If the needs of the armed forces are met this year, every bag of pods that it is possible to get must be collected wherever milkweed grows. Last year, County Agent L. R. Arnold in Ottawa County, Mich., reported 893 bushel bags of pods collected. The program will be set up in 21 States this year.

FROM A CANADIAN READER, R. M. Putnam, Director, Alberta Extension Service, comes an account of a successful hog project, carried on in cooperation with the Dominion Department of Agriculture. At some country shipping point in the province where the quality of hogs is not considered as good as it might be, a carload of hogs are tattooed and shipped to a packing plant. While the carload is passing through the packing plant, about 10 representative carcasses are selected, and after they have been cured into Wiltshire sides, they are returned to the shipping point where a Wiltshire Bacon Show is conducted with specialists discussing the factors which influence quality. "This is really a result demonstration to show the farmers the product which is made from the hogs grown on their particular farms. The shows are well attended. The production of hogs is the foremost wartime activity among Alberta farmers, and production has been increased about a million and a half in the last 4 years."

REPORT ON RETIREMENT by a committee of the honorary extension fraternity, Epsilon Sigma Phi, showed that 35 States and territories have some system of retirement for extension workers. Four more States are in the process of perfecting plans for retirement. Georgia lacks only the ratification of a constitutional amendment this year to make its retirement system effective in 1945. Colorado and North Carolina permit extension workers who have joined the armed forces to keep up their payments, thereby maintaining their status in the system. Health and accident insurance, or some form of group insurance, is available to extension workers in 24 States.

THE 8-POINT DAIRY PROGRAM is explained to Georgia dairymen in a new how-to-do-it folder by Extension Dairyman Frank W. Fitch who is working with all agencies and organizations interested in improving quantity and quality of milk produced.

Reports from State after State indicate wholehearted support of the 8-point program. At a short course attended by 100 dairy fieldmen in Kentucky, the 8 points were presented and each fieldman assigned to assist 1 or 2 county agents in his territory to help boost milk production. Each month, 5,000 copies of "Timely Tips" are sent to dairy project leaders.

Missouri extension dairymen since late fall have held meetings at key points in 38 counties to help county agents and local leaders push the 8-point production program.

AMONG THE 40 WINNERS in the third annual science talent search, who recently visited Washington, were three 4-H Club members. When the final awards were made at a banquet in Washington's Hotel Statler, one of them, Amber Charles Davidson of Fort Bridger, Uinta County, Wyo., stepped forward to receive top honors, a 4 years' scholarship of $2,400 to pursue further his scientific studies. Two scholarships are awarded to a boy and a girl each year. Another 4-H representative, Mary Ruth Bond from Chenango County, N. Y., won the $400 scholarship and was also named as alternate to the top girl winner. 4-H Clubs can be proud of these two representatives.

ONE HUNDRED SERVICE CLUBS in New Jersey have heard about the food program from speakers from the experiment station and extension staff. Dr. Martin, dean of the college and director of the experiment station, the heads of a number of college departments, the director of extension, and a number of extension specialists have taken part. "This service was begun about Christmas time and has seemed to arouse considerable interest," writes Director Bevan of New Jersey.

4-H ACTIVITIES are varied in Massachusetts. The Clover Leaf 4-H Hostess Club of Buzzards Bay raised $310.45 for the infantile paralysis fund. The Handy Homemakers of Middleton collected about 50 books for the Merchant Marines. Stoughton 4-H Clubs helped to make red heart-shaped bags to be filled with candy for the veterans' hospitals for Valentine Day. The fifth-year knitting club of Westwood is doing British war relief knitting.

INTERESTING FIGURES from Wayne County, N. Y., via Merle Cunningham, the club agent, who says that a total of 35,000 tons of food was produced by 4-H Club members, or enough to feed Wayne County's 3,000 soldiers for 10 years. These same boys and girls worked for 37,723 hours on farms, and this is equal to 51 years of 12 hours a day. They also invested more than $35,000 in bonds and stamps and collected 174 tons of salvage. How's that for a record!

RECRUITMENT OF COLLEGE GIRLS for farm work is getting under way. Placement officers from New England colleges met with Women's Land Army supervisors in early February to formulate plans. Last year, units of women workers from Smith College, Vassar, Massachusetts State, and other colleges developed skilful, reliable farm workers who proved satisfactory. Several institutions arranged for a Women's Land Army day in March when the WLA supervisor was on hand to talk with and advise the girls who were interested.

NATIONAL NEGRO HEALTH WEEK, April 2-9, will be observed for the thirtieth time. The special objective is the health of the children in the home, school, and community. The observance is sponsored by the Public Health Service, and many Negro extension agents find it a good time to focus attention on their health program.

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Producing to the utmost

Maximum production calls for an intensive educational program in efficient production and conservation

■ The month of May finds the 48 States, Puerto Rico, and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, putting into action well-worked-out plans for an intensive educational campaign in war food production and conservation. More than 3,000 additional war food extension workers are now on the job. More and better leaflets and bulletins on food production are coming off the press every month than the Extension Service ever produced before. Leader training, farm visits, production meetings fill the agents' busy days as the growing season really gets under way.

Some States have had difficulty in finding well-trained war food assistants; but in general excellently trained persons have been found among the ranks of retired farmers, former teachers, agents, or trained leaders. Former home demonstration agents, farm security supervisors, or teachers whose husbands are in the armed services have proved an excellent source of new women workers. Soldiers returning from the front are filling some of the vacancies in the ranks of war production assistants.

One of the biggest problems is the training of this large group of new workers. The magnitude of this problem is increased by the wartime accelerated turn-over of regular agents. Normally, about 825 new workers are trained every year; but in this year of the war 1,500 replacements are being made, and this number has to be added to the more than 3,000 new war food assistants and secretaries, making a total of something like 4,531 new extension workers who must get an understanding of what the war food program is and how it is to be put into effect, as well as learning about the extension organization, policies and methods.

Some States have simplified the problem by clearly defining the jobs in war food production and conservation which the new workers are to do. For example, in New York State these assistants will organize and help with community meetings at which experiences in increasing food production are exchanged by farmers, and plans made for greater cooperative use of equipment and labor. They will organize custom spray service or spray rings; conduct seed-treating services; make soil tests; arrange for the most effective use of the time of the district engineers for machinery-repair service and clinics; and also hold demonstrations and answer questions on problems of disease control, building and remodeling to save labor, and emergency rotation plans.

In the State of Washington, these food production assistants are being given the job of giving demonstrations in garden practices, insect control, harvesting, building equipment, poultry culling, canning, drying, freezing, and storing. They will also train 4–H leaders, assist in developing the 8-point milk production program, and assist in organizing community canning centers.

JIT Courses Help

The numerous job-instruction training courses now scheduled in every part of the country are training many specialists who will help to train the new workers. Extension leaders trained by former agents are also carrying some of the load in familiarizing the new workers with local problems and extension organization.

The extension program in war food production has necessitated the hiring of about 1,200 additional county secretaries and clerks. In many States, special training conferences are being arranged to help these secretaries contribute to the general extension program.

War food production and conservation among Negroes is being given a boost through the appointment of nearly 400 Negro workers. North Carolina, having the largest number, has developed an intensive program in production and conservation of food, marketing surpluses systematically, using farm labor to the best advantage, and using the basic 7 foods to improve family diet. The majority of the new workers were put in counties which never have had Negro extension agents.

Neighborhood Leaders Prepared

Plans for reaching every farmer have been well worked out. Iowa, for example, plans to reach every farmer at least once by June 30. Approximately 28,000 neighborhood leaders—1 man and 1 woman for each 4 square miles—have been trained to this end. Meetings are being held in every community using 2,000 sets of 2-color charts to explain the food situation and a check card for each farmer so that he can see for himself how nearly he is ready to meet his best production efforts. Leaders make personal visits with the check card to farmers not attending meetings. The leaders are also responsible for arranging the meeting places and getting attendance.

Neighborhood leaders are being used successfully in a number of States. A Minnesota agent tells how his neighborhood leaders organized 74 neighborhood meetings during February and March, with a total attendance of 1,110 neighbors, to work on feed production.

In Oklahoma, the question of what insecticides are available is a live issue, and leaders are helping to get the proper information to farmers during the growing season. Illinois' wartime motto is "maximum food production with good soil management," and leader-training meetings were held in every county.

With the additional funds made available by the War Food Administration, extension work in war food production, and conservation is functioning in every county, work with Negroes is expanded, and the information program intensified.

Agent streamlines draft-deferment work

■ For timesaving, County Agent S. B. Thomas recommends the eight meetings of 3 hours each that gave all 2–C and 3–C deferments of Livingston County, Mich., opportunity to receive explanations, bolster their morale as essential workers, and fill out their questionnaires.

County Agent Thomas set up a series of meetings running from January 17 to 24. Sessions began at 8 p. m. A letter written by the county agricultural agent was authorized, signed by the Selective Service Board, and sent to 653 resident deferments and to more than 200 who were registered elsewhere but had moved into the county.

Three to 8 notaries public were obtained for each meeting so that questionnaires could be notarized and collected that evening. A representative of the county Selective Service Board also was present to answer questions at each of the sessions. Attendance ranged from 65 to 200. A pep talk, a showing of the motion picture Soldiers of the Soil, and an explanation of procedure were included in the program before questionnaires were distributed. The questionnaire was placed on a large chart so that it could be more easily explained.

Questionnaires have been checked for errors, and the clerical work of processing to determine total work units has begun. Probably nowhere else in Michigan or in the United States is there a device like the one Agent Thomas created to facilitate this job.

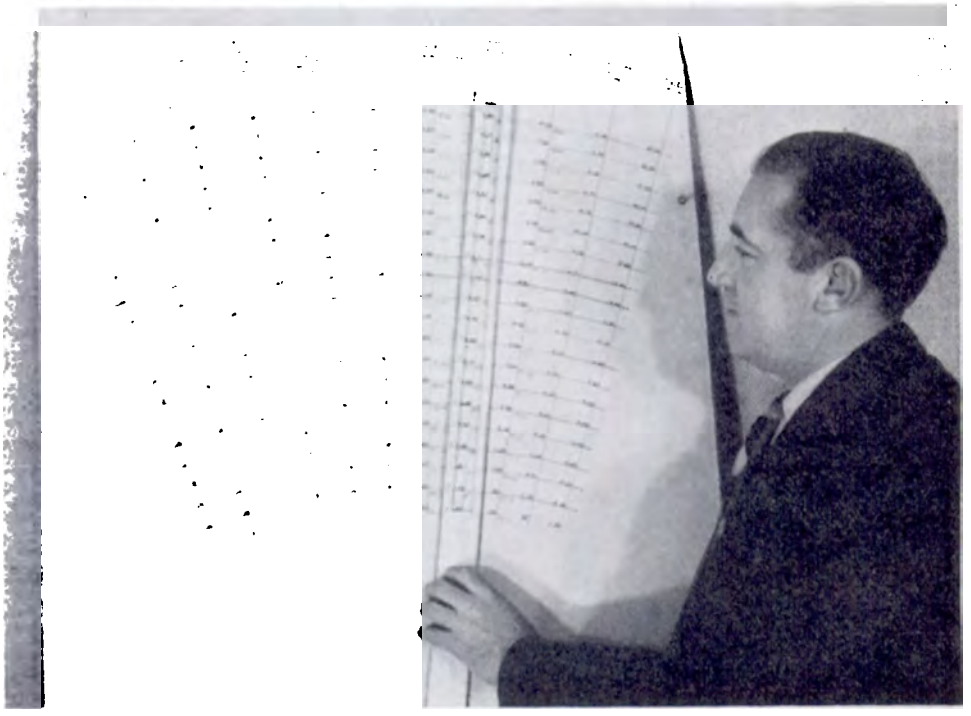
Converging lines were drawn on a piece of beaverboard. Cross lines represent work units and the allotted multiples for the crop acres or animals reported. At the bottom, a marked piece of lath is pivoted on a small bolt, permitting the lath to swing over the various index lines.

In the courthouse at Howell, the county agent and his office secretary, Mrs. Margaret Manley, have worked out an efficient processing system.

A secretary reads off the commodity and the number of units. Another person stands at the board and swings the slat to the indicated commodity, which makes a reading of the work unit value. This is called off to the first secretary; and, at the same time, the value is punched on an adding machine. When the work sheet has been tabulated, the adding machine total is recorded, and the process is repeated on the next questionnaire.

One tribute that Mr. Thomas pays to his streamlined method is that it gives him more time to devote to his other necessary duties as a county agricultural agent. When interviewed, he reported that more than 200 questionnaires had been processed and that all but 4 or 5 seemed to have sufficient farm work to justify deferment consideration by the county Selective Service Board. Some farms were running as high as 90 work units to a farm, although those top-notch farms carried high livestock loads and were manned by several workers.

No patent or even a name legends the device that a Michigan county agent fashioned to process 850 2–C and 3–C agricultural deferments, but the gadget will save an estimated two-thirds of the time that normal checking would take.



Following through with deferred workers

■ Does the responsibility of the Extension Service end with obtaining the facts for Selective Service on the number of war units being handled by an agricultural worker? asked New Hampshire extension workers. The answer was "No," for they decided that obtaining the facts on the number of units is only half of the job that needs to be done. The other half is a definite program to work with the deferred men to determine whether it would be feasible to keep even more units through better planning and organization of the business and whether the productivity of the units being kept could be increased by the adoption of more efficient practices. Accordingly, special forms have been developed on which to record not only the numbers and kinds of crops and livestock now being kept on the farm but also the increase that could be made in the size of the different enterprises.

The total supply of labor on the farm is also determined on these forms and its accomplishments compared with an acceptable standard of performance for the State. Determining with the farmer whether output could be increased with the labor available involves many considerations. Perhaps a better balance between labor needs and labor supply throughout the year can be obtained by putting less emphasis on some crop enterprise that adds to a summer labor peak and expanding an enterprise that

requires labor in the fall and winter slack seasons, such as dairying.

On some farms, output could be increased if machinery were repaired and seed and fertilizer obtained during the slack seasons so that there would be no interruptions when the rush season arrived. Other farmers have been able to accomplish more by rearranging their buildings and equipment to cut out unnecessary steps, by adopting labor saving devices, and even by eliminating certain parts of a job that are really not necessary for efficient production.

Labor efficiency certainly deserves the consideration it is receiving in New Hampshire, but their follow-up program with deferred agricultural workers is not limited to the above phases of the problem. The possibilities for increasing production through higher crop yields per acre, greater milk production per cow, and increased egg production per hen are also recognized in their program. The deferred worker is asked to check the type of work on which he desires assistance for each of the major enterprises on the farm. In addition to this, he is asked to indicate whether he would attend a series of agricultural schools to increase production; the days in the week and hours in the day he would prefer to attend; and, finally, the courses in which he would be most interested. As soon as 10 men in an area are willing to take the same course, a teacher is obtained. The interest and sincerity of the deferred workers is indicated by the fact that in February there were 15 schools in the State. These schools are being carried on in cooperation with the State Board of Education.

This program in New Hampshire provides another good example of the fact that increased responsibility also provides additional opportunities.

Youth plan for health and recreation

■ America's boys and girls held forums on May first to talk about what they can do to make their communities healthier, and what they want communities to do for them. They did this on invitation of the President of the United States.

May Day, by resolution of Congress and Presidential proclamation, is celebrated each year as Child-Health Day. In past years, adults have put on May Day campaigns to improve the health of young people. This year, it is youth's turn to say what should be done to protect health in our communities.

Young people, all over the country, accepting the challenge, arranged for gatherings at schools, clubs, churches, town halls, and in homes, to talk about this vital home-front problem. Knowing that good health is not just a matter of having strong bodies, but that having good spirits is a mark of fitness, too, they explored in these forums all kinds of ways of making neighborhoods, towns, and cities better places in which to live.

Previous to the May Day forums 12 boys and girls from 11 States came from schools, farms, and factories to take part in a panel discussion on youth problems, March 17 and 18, as part of the meeting in Washington of the Children's Bureau Commission on Children in Wartime. Their ages ranged from 16 to 19 years. Members of the youth panel were chosen from a group of more than 300 nominations made by adult leaders familiar with the Children's Bureau programs and working closely with young people in some 100 communities.

When announcing the meeting on youth problems, Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, said: "One of the significant things we are witnessing in these war days is the way our boys and girls are assuming a larger and larger measure of responsibilities in their homes and communities. These 12 boys and girls coming to Washington have first-hand knowledge of what youth is up against. They can help the rest of us plan and act realistically and vigorously for all boys and girls."

Goals for children and youth in the next 2 years will be the main theme of the 2-day session, Miss Lenroot said. She described those years as a time of transition "when we shall be dealing with problems of demobilization even though we are actually increasing our war activities in many areas."

"We cannot wait until the end of the war to deal with post-war problems," she said, pointing out that already well over a million inductees and enlistees have been separated from the services and sent back to civilian life. Here and there some factories are closing down on war production. Though some women are leaving home for factory work, others are going back to their homes. Many families are still on the move, some to war centers, others back to their old homes. Other necessary adjustments from wartime to peacetime activities are going on in the midst of war.

"We must scrutinize our community and national plans for young people and for mothers with these changes in mind," she said. "The better we plan for these transitions, now, the better prepared we shall be for the major post-war readjustments."

In summarizing the panel discussions, C. B. Loomis, head of the Department of Sociology of Piedmont College, Demorest, Ga., who led the panel, said that the consensus of the boys and girls seemed to be that education should be made more attractive so that young people would want to stay in school rather than leave as soon as they had reached the required age. Many young people have discontinued school in order to get big pay in industries or to work on the farm. There was also a feeling that the school curricula would be enriched if there were more of the work-study plan carried out.

The young people believed that there were not enough recreation and health facilities in many communities, and that conditions would improve if more homes were opened to them for recreation.

The two girls who represented rural youth at the panel were Deloris Staven, Park River, N. Dak., and Mary Lee Phillips, Barnes City, Iowa. Miss Staven, a senior in agricultural training school, is active in Farmers' Union junior classes, State and county camps, and youth conferences.

Iowa 4-H Club Girl

Miss Phillips, who has graduated from high school, is president of Mahaska County 4-H Clubs. She has had 6 years of 4-H home-economics projects and was a member of the State championship demonstration team in 1942. She expects to enter Iowa State College in the fall. Besides doing her farm work, which includes milking 4 cows morning and night and helping to care for 1,100 broilers and 600 laying hens, she is active in all scrap and bond drives. Miss Phillips owns a local newspaper which she publishes weekly with a duplicating machine. During the panel she told of the constructive work that 4-H Club boys and girls are doing, of the discussion groups that meet in the homes, and of the desire of rural youth to meet oftener with larger groups in the towns.

Miss Phillips believes, as do other members of the panel, that youth should have an active part both in planning and carrying out projects and that when they have something constructive to do they are not doing destructive things.

The tomato serves Hawaii

LOUISE JESSEN, Extension Editor, Hawaii

■ "Here are some tomato seeds, new varieties that I've just received from the university's experiment station. Will you plant them and keep a careful record of their yields?"

The county agent who said this gave the farmer a small paper bag of seeds. The bag bore a number, one put there by horticulturists at the University of Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station to distinguish the seeds in this bag from other seeds in other bags that the farm agent has in his car. Those other bags will go to other farmers down the road. These special seeds are from hybrid plants—new varieties created by pollinizing by hand the flowers of one variety with those of another. The offspring of these matings have not yet been given names. Like newborn human babies in some hospital they are known by number. Naming will come later, if and when they prove themselves worthy to be perpetuated and take their places in Hawaii's crop picture.

As extension farm agents distribute the seeds to farmers in their districts and supervise the test plantings the farmers will make agent and farmer together play important roles in this latest act in Hawaii's Drama of the Tomato. This drama is part of Hawaii's struggle to save cargo space on trans-Pacific ships by producing as much food as possible for consumption here in the Islands.

Other players in the drama are Dr. William A. Frazier, horticulturist at the University of Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station, his co-workers, Fuyuki Okumura, west Oahu farm agent, and the farmers in his district.

If a visitor had dropped into Dr. Frazier's office in the basement of Gilmore Hall at the university a few weeks ago, he would have found the horticulturist sitting over a messy-looking bucket half full of tomato juice. Seeds were floating about in the juice. Beside the bucket of juice was another bucket containing the outer shells of the tomatoes from which the seeds and pulp have been scraped. Dr. Frazier has his sleeves rolled up and his hands are dripping with juice.

"Just saving some seed," he says when asked what he is doing. These are some of the seeds the extension agents are giving to farmers.

The tomatoes Dr. Frazier is cutting up came from a 2-acre field out at Poamoho, the university's experimental farm. More than 200 tomato varieties and hybrids were planted in this field. Altogether they yielded more than 40,000 pounds of tomatoes—20,000 pounds per acre.

Many individual plants in the field produced from 15 to 20 pounds of fruit.

This big crop was harvested in July. Before the war, farmers in Hawaii thought they couldn't grow tomatoes in summer, and the local markets depended upon imports.

Most of the high-yielding plants in the Poamoho test area are the offspring of the Bounty tomato crossed with one of several other varieties.

The Bounty made its first appearance in the Islands in the spring of 1941. The first seed was brought into the Territory by the experiment station. When Fuyuki Okumura, west Oahu farm agent, saw the heavy-fruit vines of the county growing in the garden on the university campus, he went back to his district and told every farmer, "Plant Bounty tomatoes. I'm convinced they'll set fruit in the summer, plenty of fruit."

At first the farmers shrugged their shoulders. After a while one or two of them said:

"Well, I'll try a little plot. Okumura's so sure about this Bounty. Maybe he's really got something there."

"Now all of west Oahu is Bounty crazy," Okumura says.

Oahu's estimated tomato production for September 1943 was 226,000 pounds. In September 1941, this island's estimated output was 28,000 pounds.

The purpose of the trial plantings now being made from the seeds in the numbered packages that have been distributed by the extension farm agents is to determine whether some of these new hybrids developed by the experiment station are even better than the Bounty. Notwithstanding its high yields, the Bounty is subject to most of the tomato diseases prevalent in the Territory.

Hawaii's tomato story really began back in 1936. In that year farmers in the Territory began to learn something about packing and grading. For many years prior to 1936 they had raised small amounts of tomatoes in winter, but no one had thought of grading them or of trying to pack them attractively. Green, rotten, and ripe tomatoes were thrown together in the same container and sent off to market, where they sold slowly at a price that barely covered the farmers' cost of production.

In 1936, Ross H. Gast, then Extension's agricultural economist, and H. H. Warner, Extension Director, became convinced that tomatoes could be profitably grown on a large scale in Hawaii, at least in winter. These men advised Hawaii's farmers to grow more tomatoes and to grade and pack them properly.

For a long time the farmers received Extension's advice with apathy, and local agricultural scientists greeted it with an

For several months now Hawaii has raised all the fresh tomatoes consumed in the Territory. Itsuo Saiki of Wailua, Island of Kauai, is a successful tomato grower.

attitude of defeatism. Asserting that melon flies and spoted wilt would doom to failure any attempt to grow tomatoes here on a large scale, these scientists often told the extension men that they were wasting their time.

"The tomato is a temperate zone vegetable. It's folly to try to raise it in Hawaii," they said.

Extension people stood their ground. County agents conducted grading demonstrations in all the tomato-growing districts in the Territory. Most farmers who watched the demonstrations had never seen a lug box, a sorting bin, a box hatchet, or box nail until extension agents showed them these articles.

Gradually the tomato acreage in the Territory increased. By the winter of 1940 and 1941 no mainland tomatoes were coming in. Hawaii growers were supplying the market. With the advent of the Bounty in the spring of 1941, they took a long step toward supplying the summer market.

Perhaps the persons who most appreciate Hawaii's tomatoes are the wounded men in the military and naval hospitals. The Territory's farmers are supplying thousands of pounds of tomatoes to these hospitals every month. These tomatoes are not occupying precious cargo space on trans-Pacific ships. They are coming straight from Hawaii's fields to hospital wards. Extension Service men have played a big part in getting them there.

National family week to be observed

■ May 7 to 14 is being featured throughout the country as National Family Week. Initiated and sponsored jointly by the various religious communions, the observance of the week and the responsibility of the community for safeguarding family life and protecting the home against wartime hazards are called to the attention of the whole community. Religious and civic forces are uniting their efforts to insure every family a wholesome, healthful home environment for all its members, to stabilize home conditions as the best curb upon the threatening increase in juvenile delinquency, to provide wholesome recreational opportunities for all, and to see that care is available for the children whose mothers must work. Neglect of these essentials will be costly, not only to families but to the whole community and the Nation.

Many phases of extension work strengthen rural family life. For example, a definite effort was made in Kansas as in many other States to reinforce the health of the family as a defense measure; and nearly 12,000 individual Kansans enjoyed improved health last year because of the efforts of the home demonstration clubs. More than 2,000 took some positive preventive measures such as immunization against typhoid, diphtheria, and fever; and nearly 5,000 took some preventive measures against colds and other communicable diseases. Nearly 3,000 screened their homes against the housefly and used control measures against rats and mice as measures of home sanitation.

Thousands of Kansas mothers have also met to discuss problems of child development and guidance and the special problems of adolescence. They have learned to direct recreation at meetings and in the home. They have made good literature available to their families and helped to establish 39 libraries.

The family life department of the New York Extension Service also recognized the family's strategic position in the war effort. In reporting their work, the specialists say: "Families continue to face decided changes, due to break-up of family unity with men in the service or in war industry and wives and children faced with new plans and new pressures. Instability, strain, and tensions have resulted." In the face of these facts, homemakers were asked what help they needed. They asked for help with play group activities for young children, recreation for the school-age child in after-school hours, help in training for character development, and family health.

Following these suggestions, a family life leader in Oswego County reported a neighborhood recreation program planned at the leaders' meeting. Thirty-two people ranging in age from 9 to 81 years came to the community fun-fest. A supper with all seated at one long table was the high light of the evening. A study club on family life in Erie County, seeing the need for more recreational facilities for school-age children, started the wheels turning to build a skating rink for children of the community. The work was done by Boy Scouts and supervised by firemen. The rink was under the direction of the study group.

These are but samples of activities under way which need to be extended and expanded to meet wartime need. Family life week gives all extension workers a chance to inventory the work they are doing to reinforce family life and to plan to meet their own local needs.

Expanding 4–H enrollment

In Winnebago County, Ill., we are planning to increase 4–H Club enrollment by 25 percent this year and are already off to a good start.

A 4–H Club assistant was needed but manpower shortage caught up with us and no assistant was available. So Eunice Gale, one of the office secretaries, is doing the job. She is a former 4–H Club member with both agricultural and home economics experience, and has also had a great deal to do with the county program since she came to the office 2 years ago. She is well qualified to help with the county 4–H program this season.

One of the first steps in reaching more boys and girls of club age on our farms was to obtain the active support of the county superintendent of schools. A personal letter briefly outlining the plans for 4–H Clubs was sent to him. He sent this, with his own personal letter and enrollment cards, to each of the 90 rural schools in Winnebago County. Though it is too early to report results, we already have promise of two new clubs if leaders can be found. This is our job and, of course, we propose to get leaders for these and any other clubs starting this year.

Last year, several hundred boys and girls were recruited from the high school in Rockford, Ill., for work on farms during the summer season. They were a salvation to farmers who used them.

Again this year, we are recruiting in the high schools with the cooperation of the board of education. Five high schools and junior high schools are conducting classes with the help of the agricultural labor assistant and the vocational agriculture department. Those enrolled in this training school will begin actual work on the farms over week ends to acquaint them with jobs that need to be done and prepare them for work this summer.

Along with the grand job our boys and girls are doing in 4–H Club work and on our farms, these city youngsters are working shoulder to shoulder with their rural cousins to help feed a fighter in '44. We're proud of them all and know that the sons and daughters of America who are in uniform will also be proud of the job the "youngsters" at home are doing to keep the bread basket full.—*H. R. Brunnemeyer, county agent, Winnebago County, Ill.*

Leads the way in food preservation

■ Open all the year round and taking the lead in all kinds of food preservation, the Pueblo County, Colo., center is serving effectively on the food front, from planting the seed to serving the meal. Success is due to cooperation of many agencies and individuals and the excellent management of the supervisor.

The center was opened in April 1943 in a building formerly used for a NYA housing project, centrally located and equipped with electricity, sinks, and four stoves, and having plenty of light. There was also sufficient parking space. The garden committee of both city and county were responsible for the equipment and obtained from WPA storehouses 24 canners and such other equipment as stockpots, colanders, dishpans, and pitchers. Commercial firms donated 17 stoves and a large ice box. Two experienced home demonstration club members served as supervisor and assistant.

The center was soon a hive of activity. It was open every day and sometimes at night so that women who could not leave their children in the daytime and those who were employed could use the center at night. Beginning with the preservation of grapefruit, rhubarb, and asparagus, the center was soon ready to swing into the strawberry season.

Victory gardeners wholeheartedly supported the center, bringing their own produce to can and posting notices of what they had to sell at the center. Up-to-date lists of produce people, truck gardeners, and people having large gardens were also kept in the office with a record of the produce they had to sell. Orders are made through the center and produce delivered directly to the center, saving money, time, and transportation.

In June the canning center held open house, with exhibits on the entire Victory Garden program, including suggestions for fighting insects and plant diseases. Demonstrations of the actual canning of pineapple, peas, and rabbit and the preparation of peas for freezing, as well as the operation of the pea sheller, were featured in the kitchen.

In the fall, many pounds of venison and elk were brought to the center for canning. Much of this meat would have spoiled had the center not offered the opportunity for preserving it. This was just a forerunner of the large amount of meat brought to the center for canning and curing when the butchering season got under way. Chili con carne was especially popular, with sometimes 100 pounds of beans handled for this purpose in a single day.

Recipes, prepared by the supervisor, for canning these meats for barbecued ribs, chili con carne, and mincemeat, as well as for the usual steaks, roasts, and stews, were available at the center.

After learning how to preserve meat, people at the canning center desired to know how to cut meat properly, and soon meat blocks and other equipment were obtained. A demonstration in meat cutting was given in November by the extension animal husbandman, Harry Smith. Exhibits in connection with this demonstration included the equipment needed, ways of using the head and organs, and what could be done with a pig's head in the way of scrapple, panhas, headcheese, canned pork and beans, and canned meat stock for seasoning.

The pig used in the demonstration was raised by Joe Garcia of Salt Creek, a Mexican town. His experience shows what a Victory Garden can mean to one family. The Garcias became interested in food production when they began to hear so much about Victory Gardens and food production. They decided to start a Victory Garden and, with the help of Mrs. Garcia's parents and by following instructions, had a garden which grew lustily, even though it was their first experience. Mrs. Joe Garcia and her mother canned 800 quarts of vegetables and fruits at the center, and this was their first experience at canning, too. Then Joe built a cellar in which to keep the canned goods, leaving space for stored produce. Besides the 309-pound hog used in the demonstration, they also fattened a steer to butcher and raised some chickens. They are proud of their accomplishments, and their enthusiasm is spreading to the neighbors in the Mexican village, who are saying: "We are going to have a garden and a pig next year, too."

When cold weather came to this part of Colorado, a winter garden appeared at the center. A large tub was planted with rhubarb, and boxes were filled with parsley and other greens. The large sunny windows were ideal for such a garden.

The records show that about 2,000 people have used the center and canned nearly 64,000 jars. More than 2,000 recipes were given out on request, and 25 to 75 telephone calls were handled every day. Nineteen demonstrations in canning, freezing, and butchering were given at the center, and 80 pressure cookers tested at the center for home canners. Sixty persons planned an entire food-canning budget.

The center is truly a center of all food-preservation activities and grows naturally out of the Victory Garden effort. The county agents assist with the Victory Garden program and the food preservation center. The nutrition specialist acts as technical adviser on food preservation. Their advice and help in correlating the activities of the various organizations taking part have contributed to the success. The setting up of the center was assigned to the American Women's Voluntary Services. The Recreation Commission assumed financial responsibility for installations, cleaning, and placards, charging 50 cents for a half day and 75 cents for a whole day to cover these expenses. The OCD, Associated Garden Clubs, Associated Women's Clubs, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, the Chamber of Commerce, the Farm Council, county commissioners and city commissioners, PTA, schools, 4–H Clubs, and FSA were among the many local organizations making the Pueblo County Food Preservation Center serve the community well.

4–H Liberty ships go to sea

■ Liberty ships named by 4–H Club members who raised the money to pay for them are being launched on both coasts; but it is not only seacoast youth who are making them possible, for the North Dakota ship named the *Arthur A. Penn* slid from the ways in Richmond, Calif., on February 16, sponsored by a North Dakota 4–H Club member. Minnesota, too, boasts her 4–H Club launching.

From Tennessee comes the report that the outstanding accomplishments of Tennessee 4–H Club members in food production, salvage collection, bond buying, and other wartime contributions have been recognized by the name of a new Liberty ship for the late Charles A. Keffer, former extension director in Tennessee.

The ship was launched at Savannah, Ga., in March, with two 4–H Club members, a boy and a girl, and a home demonstration agent participating.

The name of the new ship recognizes the contribution which the late Dr. Keffer made to 4–H Club work in Tennessee while he was director of the Extension Service, from 1914 until his death in December 1935.

Typical of the 4–H war bond drives to finance Liberty ships is that of the 4–H Clubs of the State of Washington, reported by Charles T. Meenach, acting 4–H Club agent. This campaign was climaxed when the good ship *E. A. Bryan* slid triumphantly down the ways of the Richmond, Calif., shipyards on February 29. This ship was named for the late Enoch A. Bryan, president of State College of Washington from 1893 to 1916.

Washington club members sold $3,370,555 in war bonds between January 3 and March 1 to finance this ship, and then dedicated it to all former 4–H Club members now serving in World War II.

Washington club members made thousands of personal contacts. They appeared before public meetings and in special programs all over the State. At the start of the campaign, each county was given a quota or goal to reach, the total goal for the State being $2,000,000. Twenty counties exceeded their quotas.

Garfield County led all others by exceeding its quota more than 10 times. The assistance which Garfield County Agent Philip E. Bloom obtained from the county bond committeemen and the leaders in the various communities of the county made the record possible.

Spokane County club members, under the leadership of Walter Click, associate extension agent, alone sold more than half a million dollars worth of war bonds. Similar results were accomplished by club members in Yakima, Whitman, Skagit, Pierce, San Juan, and Lincoln Counties. The 35 high club members sold three-fourths of a million dollars worth of E Series bonds.

As a reward to the winning club members in the State contest, they were invited to take part in the christening and launching of an aircraft carrier at a shipyard in western Washington. Gold recognition pins were also awarded to 4–H Club members who were outstanding in the war bond drive in each county. All club members taking part in the drive received a special certificate of award for wartime service signed by the Governor and others in the State connected with the war bond program and 4–H Club work.

A State-wide bond-selling contest sponsored by a radio station awarded 3 purebred dairy calves to winners based on the greatest number of bonds sold to different people. In addition, many counties gave special awards to club members who were good bond salesmen, as in Whatcom County where the county agents made arrangements for club members to participate in the launching of an auxiliary Navy ship in Bellingham, which was attended by more than 100 Whatcom County 4–H Club members.

Former 4–H Club members join State staffs

■ Three former 4–H Club members have joined the State 4–H Club staffs in their respective States.

Mrs. Cleo E. Scott was appointed March 1 as assistant in club work in charge of the 4–H meal planning project in South Dakota. Mrs. Scott, formerly Cleo Eller, was a 4–H Club member in Sully County for 8 years and served as a junior leader 2 years. She represented the State at the 1934 National Club Congress, Chicago, as a county project winner and was one of the four State delegates to attend the National Club Camp in Washington, D. C., in June 1937. She graduated from South Dakota State College in 1940, taught home economics in Wessington Springs high school and served as home demonstration agent at St. Cloud, Minn., for 2 years.

Marylee Holmes, formerly home demonstration agent of Jasper County, Mo., was appointed to the Missouri 4–H Club staff on March 15. Miss Holmes graduated from the University of Missouri in 1937. Her outstanding record as a 4–H Club member, officer, and leader, and her successful experience as home demonstration agent for almost 7 years provide a good background for her new work as State club agent. As a club member she achieved recognition first in Buchanan County, then at the State 4–H Club round-up at the Missouri College of Agriculture, and finally as a State delegate to the National Club Congress at Chicago and later to the National Club Camp at Washington, D. C.

Milo S. Downey of Maryland has recently been named State 4–H Club leader in his State. Mr. Downey was born on a farm near Williamsport, Md., was a 4–H Club member from 1920 to 1923, specializing in swine and dairy club work. He was a member of his county 4–H dairy judging team, which team was an alternate to the one which represented the United States in the international dairy cattle judging contest in England. Mr. Downey was graduated from the University of Maryland in 1927. He taught vocational agriculture in the high school at Thurmont, Md. From 1929 to 1934, he was assistant county agent in Allegany County from 1934 to 1936, was district club agent for Allegany, Washington, and Carroll Counties. He became assistant State club leader of Maryland in 1936, and now is State club leader, succeeding E. G. Jenkins, who recently retired.

WLA tractor schools

Tractor schools for women are being planned by the Women's Land Army supervisors and the State labor assistants in many States. Katherine L. Potter, assistant State farm labor supervisor, Women's Land Army in Maine, reported a campaign in Aroostook County to recruit 300 women for a tractor-driving course. These women are needed as a shift crew for harrowing the Maine potato fields during the month of May. Employed women will give from 3 to 5 hours in the late afternoon or early evening to relieve men who have been harrowing long hours. Kansas plans to conduct about 100 tractor schools for women. These women are to be taught by vocational agriculture teachers who prepared for the job by training older school boys to act as assistants. Nebraska also reports spring activity in this field.

Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

Read from cover to cover

Copies of the REVIEW containing "Extension agents at the fighting front" have been sent to each of the names on the list for whom an address was given. Letters like the following make it worth the extra effort:

"The copies of the Extension Service Review were forwarded to me here. I surely appreciate receiving them, for it was about like seeing an old friend from home. Thank you very much for sending them. All copies have been read from cover to cover.

"Before entering the service, I was county club agent in Butler County, Kans."—*Lt. John B. Hanna, 745th Sanitary Co., Camp Carson, Colo.*

There are still copies available for former agents now in the armed forces, which will be mailed out whenever an adequate address is supplied.

From Africa

One of the boys came home with a monkey the other day, so now we have a monkey and a dog in the company. The dog and the monkey have become great friends. The boys take a great interest in their care and general welfare. Reminds me of the 4-H Club boys and their calves. They are good creatures to have around. Believe they help the war effort considerably.

The oranges and tangerines are ripe now; and they use a lot of them for the same purpose as they use grapes—much stronger and a much higher proof than the grape vintage. These boys take very good care of their vineyards and orchards. They prune, weed, and spray very religiously. Arab labor is very cheap, so you see Arabs doing all of the field work, including plowing with oxen—sometimes a skinny mule and oxen hooked up in tandem.

There is plenty of work over here in the line of sheep production; and as far as hogs—well, you have to go back to the mountains and go wild boar hunting to even find a fair resemblance of a pig. Plenty of light horses used over here, especially on the streets and the highways. The Arab teamsters are always forming a bottleneck. Think they derive a great delight in doing it.

It might be of interest to the home demonstration agents to know that coffee is made of date seeds over here; but I don't advocate putting that in their program—unless they want to join the WACS. They do have some needlework over here that is really nice, but their dressing certainly doesn't show it.

Oh, yes, the owner of this monkey wanted to know which specialist he should write to.—*Lt. Carl M. Elling, Army, formerly Hodgeman County agent Kansas.*

■ Out in the Desert, . . . I don't know when I'll get another chance to come home. Maybe none until this conflict is over. The sooner the better, because I'd still rather do county agent work than anything else, back in old McMullen County . . . If you could get a copy of the music to "Good-bye to Texas University," I sure would appreciate having it to give to our band."—*Lt. Ernest J. Botard, Texas.*

From India

"Rice, cattle, and kids are the principal crops. Cattle are low quality—about one-half of them Brahma, one-fourth buffalo, and the balance a mixture of the two. I can see now why some of our Brahma cattle have turned-down horns. They inherit that from some of their ancestors, the water buffalo. Rice is all paddy. Over the centuries, the terraces have been built by humans (mostly wo-

men), with hand tools and baskets. I've had occasion in my work and on Sundays while hunting to visit the hinterland of this part of India, and the sights in the villages in the jungle are something I'll never forget.

". . . The houses are of mud or bamboo construction (the termites eat up wood in 2 years), and almost invariably the bullock is in the house with the family. This fact reminds me of my first impression of India—it stinks of manure. If they would use it properly instead of for fuel, the soil would be a lot more productive.

"On the two recent hunts (Sundays), I've killed a bear on each occasion. It was quite a thrill—the last one at 16 paces. We use army rifles, so you can imagine that a poor bear hasn't much chance. Deer are very plentiful; and so are bear, leopard, hyena, and smaller game. Tigers are not plentiful but numerous enough to make hunters careful . . .

"I've said a lot about India. It's fine, provided the prospect for a quick return to the U. S. A. is possible. We had canned corn for Christmas and New Years dinner. The boys here hadn't seen anything like that in so long they almost cried. Chow generally is fair, but I haven't seen a steak in 2½ months." *Capt. A. K. Smith, Jr., Army, formerly county agent in St. Landry Parish, La.*

The Roll Call

(Continued from last month)

SOUTH DAKOTA

John F. Neu, Hutchinson County agent.

TENNESSEE

Lester O. Akers, C.M. 3C, assistant agent, Stewart County, Navy.

Lt. Joe D. Beasley, assistant agent, Loudon County, Army.

A/S Charles Benziger, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Fred Brehm, college clerical staff, Army.

Cumi Campbell, college clerical staff, WAC.

Lt. Joe E. Carpenter, assistant agent, Hancock County, Army.

Pvt. G. W. Franklin Cavander, assistant agent, Henry County, Army Air Corps.

Capt. H. J. Childress, Putnam County agent, Army.

Ensign Gordon L. Chute, assistant forest specialist, Navy.

Lt. Raymond E. Cobble, assistant agent, Rhea County, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Harry R. Cottrell, Houston County agent, Army.

Ella Mae Crosby, WAVES.

Lt. Edwin C. Duncan, assistant agent, Dickson County, Army.

Robert B. Elwood, assistant economist, Army.

Maj. Oscar L. Farris, Davidson County, Army.

Lt. William H. Fisher, assistant agent, Gibson County, Army.

Lt. Arley Hamby, Van Buren County agent, Army.

Lt. Sam L. Hansard, assistant agent, Claiborne County, Army.

Maj. H. H. Harmon, assistant agent, McMinn County, Army.

Lt. Oliver Harmon, college clerical staff, Army.

Maj. Reuben B. Hicks, assistant, rural electrification, Army.

A/C Carothers House, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Lt. N. H. Houser, college clerical staff, Army.

Lt. Ralph Hudson, college clerical staff, Marines.

Pvt. Tom Jones, college clerical staff, Army.

Sgt. Joe Keller, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Ensign Woodson King, college clerical staff, Navy.

Louise Landess, Greene County home demonstration agent, Marines.

Lt. William Leach, college clerical staff, Army.

Capt. James W. Long, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Woodrow Luttrell, assistant agent, Houston County, Army.

Pvt. Robert W. Moore, Jr., assistant agent, Stewart County, Army.

Mary Joe Moran, Perry County home demonstration agent, WAVES.

Lt. Col. N. B. Morgan, farm management specialist, Army.

Lucille Moser, college clerical staff, stenographer, American Red Cross.

Corp. Claude Norris, assistant agent, Johnson County, Army Air Corps.

Lt. David B. Price, assistant agent, Henry County, Army.

Capt. Alfred E. Pugh, assistant agent, Dickson County, Army.

Midshipman Rodney Purnell, college clerical staff, Navy.

Midshipman F. R. Robertson, assistant agent, Decatur County, Navy.

Pvt. James H. Robinson, assistant agent, Loudon County, Army.

Capt. Ben Rowlett, S. K. 3d Class, assistant agent, Gibson County, Navy.

Sgt. W. C. Sharp, Jr., college clerical staff, Army.

Ensign Joe W. Sloan, assistant agent, Bedford County, Navy.

Ensign George H. Stephenson, assistant agent, Polk County, Navy.

Capt. William B. Stewart, Smith County agent, Army.

Maj. Buford T. Strawn, Bledsoe County agent, Army.

Capt. Sam Stubblefield, college clerical staff, Army.

Marvin Tarpey, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Ensign James D. Taylor, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Navy.

Second Lt. Floyd E. Timbs, assistant agent, Stewart County.

A/C P. A. Turner, Houston County agent, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Howard D. Turrentine, assistant agent, Giles County, Army.

Pvt. J. W. Vaughn, assistant agent, Benton County, Army.

Wesley N. Williams A. S. (R.), assistant agent, Cocke County, Navy.

Maj. Paul J. Wood, assistant agent, Roane County, Army.

UTAH

William H. Bennett, Carbon County agent, Army.

Max Conrad, Weber County assistant agent, Navy.

LaVal S. Morris, landscape architect, Army.

Charles W. Warnick, Box Elder County agent, Army.

Keep farm land moving from tenants' to owners' hands

JAMES L. ROBINSON, Extension Economist, Farm Credit Administration

■ Farm land is moving into farmers' hands. Farm operators are the buyers of a majority of the farms in the most rapid country-wide transfer of agricultural land in the Nation's history. Except in a few areas, there are more farmers buying than farmers selling. This is a wholesome reversal from the depression period when thousands of owners lost their homes. It is one of the greatest long-time gains that can come out of the good wartime farm incomes.

A danger signal, however, is already out. The percentage of urban buyers has been continually rising for 2 years or more. Each sale of agricultural land by farmers to urban buyers directly reduces owner operation, for each farm so sold means changing to a tenant basis. Should this trend continue, we shall soon be back to the old situation—the gradual growth in tenancy and a decreasing ownership by farmers of their businesses and their homes.

Tenant operators are buying a large number of farms. Everyone is glad of this, for each sale of land to a tenant or other operator by an urban owner, estate, or corporation adds to family ownership and operation of our farms—a tradition we as a people are anxious to maintain. Corporations (chiefly mortgage lenders) now have either sold out their holdings or greatly reduced them, and many estates that have been held for a number of years are now being settled. Individually, too, the purchase of a farm is usually the best place for a tenant operator to put his savings—that is, as long as the price of the land is reasonable.

From Farmer to Farmer

A number of these land sales are from one farmer to another. This may help by increasing the size of a unit that is too small, or it may get a farm into younger, more vigorous hands. The average age in 1942 of sellers of farms mortgaged to the Federal Land Bank and commissioner in the Springfield district was 56, whereas the buyers averaged 41 years. Other farmers, however, expecting to remain in the business, are sometimes tempted to sell because they can realize a nice profit on the price they paid. Then, when they try to buy another farm, they usually find that they must pay an even higher price for comparable values. Much trading of this kind took place in the land boom after the last war and helped fan the fire of inflation in land prices.

Preliminary estimates indicate that farmers spent 12 hundred million dollars for war bonds during 1943, probably double the amount they used in land purchase—a ratio that should be increased. It is better for farmers who own the land they need to operate to use their higher incomes during the war period to buy war bonds than to purchase additional land; better for farmers in general because it reduces the upward pressure on land prices, and often better for them individually because most of those who buy will not sell out at a profit and will have more land than they want to manage in their later years. That 12 hundred million in war bonds is a net addition to the wealth of farmers as a group, which if used in buying farms from each other would have resulted only in putting a higher dollar mark on the agricultural land in the country.

Nearly half a billion dollars was applied to net debt payment in 1943, a use of farm income that greatly improves the land ownership position of the farmers. This reduction in outstanding debt is in direct contrast to what happened during World War I. During and following that war, farm mortgage debt more than doubled. How long, however, will this continue? The number and amount of farm mortgages recorded are increasing. In a few areas they have already become greater than the amounts paid off.

Milkweed floss needed for war

■ Milkweed floss is so urgently needed this year for life vests, aviators' suits, and such war uses that a pod-collecting campaign is being organized among school children, 4-H Club members, and, in fact, any who know where the milkweed grows.

Last year, 150,000 pounds of floss was collected largely by school children in Michigan. A number of 4-H achievement awards in Michigan last year were based on milkweed collection. These young folk tried to collect at least two bags each—enough for one Mae West life vest, which might save the life of a brother or a friend, perhaps a former 4-H Club member now fighting at the front.

Last year, in a few counties in Michigan, War Hemp Industries, Inc., of the Department of Agriculture set up buying stations and drying yards, conveniently located, where individuals could obtain without deposit empty 50-pound, 1-bushel, open-mesh onion bags for picking, and where the full bags could be turned in as soon as filled at 15 cents a bag, with no worries about the drying, which was handled by the corporation.

Elsewhere, the drying of the bags of pods was done by the school or club, and an additional 5 cents a bag was paid for this. The only really important point to the drying was to get the bags hung up in full sun and wind, at least 12 inches off the ground, and within 24 hours after picking. This job was usually handled without difficulty; though unnecessary work was done by some people who did not realize that dew, rain, or snow would not hurt properly hung bags of pods.

Most of the 1944 collection will have to be dried by individuals, schools, and clubs participating. The vocational agriculture teacher, the 4-H Club leader, the Scoutmaster, or someone else may be designated as the authorized buyer for the War Hemp Industries, Inc., and will make cash payments to the collectors.

Young folk in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri are asked to take part in this necessary war activity.

It is important to collect even in localities where milkweed is not abundant. County Agent L. R. Arnold of Ottawa County, Mich., had never considered milkweed as one of Michigan's major weeds, but 893 bushel bags of pods were collected. It is certain that many counties in the 21 States named have more milkweed than Ottawa County.

Full information as to State and local representatives will soon be available and will be sent to county agents. Definite instructions for handling and other information can be obtained from the Petoskey, Mich., office of War Hemp Industries, Inc., in the meantime.

Although other materials can be substituted for kapok in many uses, milkweed floss is the only available substitute

light, buoyant, and waterproof enough to be acceptable for use in lifesaving apparel by the armed services, and the only way to get it is by collecting it wherever it grows wild. At least temporarily, milkweed is elevated from a bad weed to an essential war crop. Pick milkweed pods and save a life.

Farmers honored for war work

Recognition for their work in producing food under war conditions was given to 25 farmers of Middlesex County, Mass., at a meeting in Concord, the county seat, on January 27, reports County Agent A. F. Mac Dougall.

The farmers and their wives were guests of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture; and the president, Nathaniel I. Bowditch presided at the meeting and presented the "A" pennants to the farmers with a framed certificate and individual button for each person working on the farm. Mr. Bowditch is also president of the Middlesex County Extension Service.

The 25 farmers were chosen by the trustees of the Extension Service as examples of the farmers in Middlesex County who are producing food under extraordinary war conditions. The reasons for the citation were read as each award was made.

Governor Leverett Saltonstall was present and paid high tribute to the farmer's place in backing the fighting men at the front.

The recognition for war service and the enthusiasm of this meeting will help farmers to continue to do all they can to keep production high and hasten the end of the war.

Newspaper issues 4–H Club edition

The Skagit County, Wash., 4–H Club Builder edition of the Mount Vernon Daily Herald appeared on Saturday evening, March 11, an annual event looked forward to by all Skagit County club members and their families. There was news of what 4–H Clubs are doing and planning, features and fillers based on last year's report, a copy of the President's letter to 4–H Club members on the occasion of 4–H mobilization week, March 4 to 11, a letter from the county commissioners, and articles by Director Knott and the county agents. The record made by some of the bond sellers in the recent campaign to buy a Liberty ship was given recognition, and there were plenty of pictures to illustrate the activities of these wide-awake club members. This is one of two Washington counties having such special editions, reports Charles T. Meenach, acting State 4–H Club agent. The other is in Lewis County.

Grover B. Hill sworn in as Under Secretary

In the picture, from left to right, are Vice President Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, Under Secretary Grover Hill, Chief of Plant and Operations Arthur Thatcher, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, and Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones.

■ On April 3, 1889, Grover Bennet Hill was born in the range country of Cooke County, Gainesville, Tex., and moved a year later to Amarillo. On February 29, 1944, Under Secretary Grover Hill was sworn into office in the presence of Vice President Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, and several hundred friends and associates. Present also was Jennie B. Hill, wife of the new Under Secretary. When called upon to make a speech, Mrs. Hill said: "I do my talking from behind the scenes."

In that brief sentence, Jennie B. Hill revealed a secret which Grover Hill's friends from Amarillo had known for a lifetime. Grover Hill is a ranchman and a farmer. But he is, first of all, a family man who believes in the democracy and rugged character of rural family life. In the words of War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, whose family has known the Hill family since before the Judge and Grover were born: "Grover is a man of his word. When he tells you that he will do something, he will do it. He might do more, but he will never do less."

Is a Friend of Extension

Grover Hill has been a lifelong friend of extension work. As a successful ranchman and farmer from the Texas Panhandle, he has learned through personal experience and success the importance of using scientific methods of agriculture to improve the practical operations that underlie modern food production on farm and range. In all programs he has worked very closely with Extension Service. He is a great believer in local committees of farmers and in letting them decide the policies to be followed in meeting local agricultural problems. "The committee system," he says, "is democracy. It's our form of government."

Grover Hill's first connection with the Department was in 1934 when we had the first great drought. The cattle country was drying up. Livestock had to be sold fast, moved, or provided with emergency feed. As a practical ranchman, Grover Hill joined in grass-roots action to get faster motion out of Washington. He spearheaded the development of the first range program. Although he has lived in Washington for more than 10 years, he still maintains that down-to-earth philosophy of farmers and ranchmen.

He knows personally practically all the State directors of extension and counts them as his friends. He looks to the Extension Service for leadership in all educational phases of the food production program as outlined in Memorandum 31. In addition to his duties as Under Secretary of Agriculture, he also is First Assistant War Food Administrator, in which capacity he has done much to help War Food Administrator Jones bring about unity and understanding among the various agencies serving United States farmers in the tremendous job of meeting wartime food production.

Town youth train for farm work

■ Victory Farm Volunteer training courses are under way in many States. They range from orientation sessions in the regular school program, as in the Salem, Oreg., public schools, to intensive work on farms and at agricultural schools where farm skills are taught.

An effective combination of both types of preparation is illustrated by the farm orientation courses at 6 centers in Indiana. Nearly 300 boys and girls are already enrolled; and recruiting is being done for a seventh course, with several more to be organized in the near future. The courses are not expected to produce skilled farm hands, but they will acquaint the boys and girls with farm life, teach them to operate some farm machinery and clear up many of the false impressions about farming that they may have, according to A. C. Sharp, State VFV supervisor.

Classes are organized by school officials, in cooperation with county agricultural agents, and are offered for 30 hours, after school, and on Saturdays. Ten hours are devoted to classroom instruction on the nature of farm life, farm jobs, farming as a business, personal care, and farm safety. The other 20 hours are spent on farms, learning different kinds of jobs such as livestock feeding, the handling and care of livestock, and farm machinery operation and maintenance. The young people are also being encouraged to plant gardens either at school or at home to give them experience in working with crops.

C. E. Bublitz, State VFV supervisor in Minnesota, and A. V. Storm of the Vocational Education Department of the Minnesota Department of Public Instruction have organized training programs in 120 schools throughout the State, including classes after school and week-end trips to nearby farms. When school is out, the boys who have been trained will be placed for all summer jobs with general and dairy farmers in the State.

New York public schools are organizing farm clubs which will become the centers both for enrollment and for preparation training for farm work. Meetings are being held weekly. Members who have worked on farms in previous years discuss their experiences; and use is made of a selected list of books, periodicals, bulletins, charts, and slide films. Trips are taken to nearby farms wherever possible. New York City schools are sending groups to the Newtown Agricultural School for a week's training in farm skills, and some of the State agricultural schools will also be used for this purpose.

New Jersey is undertaking two training programs for VFV boys. Sixteen groups of four boys each are being given a 3-week course at the Beemerville Experiment Station and nearby farms. The first week is spent at the experiment station; and the other 2 weeks are spent on individual farms, under the supervision of two vocational agriculture teachers and the county agent. Occasional meetings of the entire group are held at the experiment station. The boys are recruited by the Department of Agricultural Education and placed by the Extension Service. They are expected to work at least 2 months during the summer. A training program is also being carried on in Hunterdon County, N. J. There the boys are placed directly on farms for the 3 weeks' training period.

To help relieve the shortage of dairy farm workers in Connecticut, a program for training nonfarm youth for live-in jobs has been organized by the Extension Service and the Vocational Agriculture Department. A minimum of 250 boys and girls will receive training. Youth who worked on farms in 1943 form a nucleus for the training groups, and courses are being given in schools all over the State. Nearby farmers cooperate by allowing trainees to acquire work experience on their farms. Such skills as handling forks and hoes, tractor harrowing, handling farm animals, and cleaning barns are taught at the local centers. As farmers are reluctant to allow inexperienced youth to operate milking machines, a training course has also been organized at the University of Connecticut. Although the use of milking machines is the principal objective of the course, other skills will also be taught. The university course lasts a week and is given to boys and girls in groups of 20.

After completion of the university course, the young people return to their local groups and continue training until the end of the school term. Wherever possible, they are placed for week ends on the farm where they will work during the summer, so that they can become acquainted with the farm family and the kind of work to be done. Farmer training in the handling of inexperienced hired help is being carried on in connection with this program.

Minnesota agent gets coverage

■ "I think you will agree with me that this is really getting coverage," writes Director P. E. Miller of Minnesota of the February report of County Agent Raymond Aune of Olmsted County. Agent Aune, as the other Minnesota agents, is emphasizing the need for more feed production. In the month of February, he assisted in some way with 102 meetings, bringing together more than 3,300 in the county. Not all of these meetings were attended by the county agent, but he did attend 43 and worked with leaders, Soil Conservation Service men, Farm Security advisers, and vocational agriculture teachers in planning the others. The 102 meetings included the regular organized groups such as 4-H Clubs and township organizations.

At these schoolhouse meetings, neighborhood leaders were elected. The system set up 2 years ago did not use the school districts, but neighborhood leaders are now being elected by school districts, which gives a more definite boundary line to the neighborhood and gets the closest to any resemblance of a neighborhood, in the judgment of Agent Aune.

In the first 3 months of the year, these leaders arranged for about 85 schoolhouse meetings and stimulated attendance at the meetings. They assumed the responsibility of collecting at least $10,000 for the Red Cross from rural Olmsted County. The women leaders took part in the wartime foods and clothing projects. "With these definite contributions made, if the neighborhood leaders do nothing else in 1944, I am inclined to think they have been very much worth while," says Mr. Aune; and he continues, "We have to give these neighborhood leaders a definite job to do at least once in a while instead of dealing too much in the abstract."

In addition to the 102 meetings, he reported 4,381 office calls and 476 telephone calls. Twelve newspaper articles were published during the month on extension activities, 4 radio talks broadcast, and 3,700 bulletins distributed. It would look to the uninitiated that Director Miller is right and County Agent Aune did get coverage in Olmsted County. The need for greater feed production has come to rural people at meetings, in visits from leaders, in the newspapers, and over the radio.

We Study Our Job

VFV's farm in New Jersey

One of the most diversified plans for utilizing the services of in-school youth on farms in 1943 was found in New Jersey. Of the nine VFV studies made by the Extension Service and the U. S. Office of Education, two were in New Jersey, one in the area surrounding the Peddie School, and the other in Essex County. In these two studies three different types of Victory Farm Volunteers' programs were found, namely, the farm labor camp, the live-in, and the day-haul groups.

Peddie School Houses VFV's

On June 14, 1943, the Peddie School opened its doors to boys who volunteered for farm work in that area. The boys lived at the school, where they paid $11 a week for their board, room, and laundry.

The Peddie School, a private preparatory school for boys, is in an important farming section of New Jersey. Large amounts of vegetables and fruits are raised in the area. Consequently there is a large demand for peak-load harvest labor.

The administration of the Peddie School became interested in the farm labor project because they desired, first, to aid in the war effort by working on food production; second, to give nonfarm boys the educational experience of learning to adjust themselves to farm life; and third, to be an educational influence in the community. The project started on a small scale in 1942, and was so successful that the school continued in 1943.

At the time of the study, which was late in the summer of 1943, 76 boys were still in the project; 98 had returned home for various reasons. Some of the boys had returned home because it was nearly time for their schools to open.

The Peddie School project was well staffed. The staff consisted of the director, a person in charge of supervision and placement, an accountant, a part-time nurse, and five field supervisors who also had supervisory functions at the camp. This staff was very carefully selected and was an important factor in the success of the project. As stated above, there were five field supervisors. These supervisors worked with the larger groups, small groups were supervised by the farmer-employer. The five supervisors had made a very careful study of their job and were using excellent procedures for giving instruction on the job, improving the morale, obtaining effective work by the boys, and maintaining good relationships with the employer.

Excellent Living Conditions

The living conditions at the school were excellent. The Victory Farm Volunteers utilized the recreational facilities of the school, and they lived under the rules and regulations which the school maintains for its regular students. Farmers furnished the transportation between school and farms.

The boys in the Peddie School project worked 6,266 days. Their total earnings were $17,572. The highest amount earned by any one boy was $278.72, earned by Robert Lewitter. The highest daily wage, $9.09, was earned by Walter Crooke. The Peddie School project is a demonstration of how a private or public school can participate effectively in the farm labor program.

Essex County

Essex County is a vegetable area primarily, although there are other important farm enterprises. The county is in the New York metropolitan area. Most of the boys worked in day-haul groups, going back and forth from their homes each day. There were no girls in the program.

The Essex County Vocational School conducted a training course in 26 junior and senior high schools, beginning March 29 and ending June 18. In addition, each trainee took three field trips. Small groups under the supervision of some teacher visited selected farms and did farm work like weeding, wheel hoeing, and candling eggs. Thirty different farms were used for these trips. The teaching was done by a staff of three special teachers of agriculture.

The Essex County Vocational School has a junior employment service which handled the placement of these day-haul groups. Many of the boys trained in Essex County were placed in adjoining counties. The junior employment service was successful in handling this difficult problem. In Essex County a prospective worker who is enrolled in high school is interviewed by the Junior Employment Service which has complete information on the student's personal record form. This information enables the training officer, before the training program opens, to eliminate many prospective workers who are ill-adapted to farm work. The training program itself also serves as a selective device. Seven hundred and sixty-seven placements were made, part of them in other counties. The Junior Employment Service cooperates effectively with the State and local extension services.

During the study, 45 day-haul workers were interviewed. They worked on an average of 8.8 hours per day and did on an average of 51.9 days of work. The average highest wage received per day was $2.62.

Help Sussex County Farmers

A special training program was carried on at the Beemerville Experiment Station. Small groups of boys from the Nutley High School in Essex County were taken to Beemerville for periods of 3 weeks. It was possible to do this while school was in session under the 15-day provision in the New Jersey law. The board of these boys was paid by a group of Sussex County dairy farmers, and they were employed by these farmers during the summer of 1943. Members of the experiment station staff gave the instruction. The fact that the boys who were interviewed worked an average of 65 days indicates that the project was successful.

These Nutley High School boys who worked in Sussex County put in on an average of 10½ hours per day. They were paid about $30.00 per month in addition to board and lodging. These boys worked at 4 to 50 different farm jobs during the summer, the average being 27 different jobs.

Most of the boys had joined the VFV's to get farm-work experience as well as to help in the war effort. In general, they were satisfied with their working and living conditions on New Jersey farms. Farmers thought the VFV's did good work, and half of them said the boys took the place of former hired help—THE VICTORY FARM VOLUNTEERS DO GOOD WORK, *by Fred P. Frutchey of the Federal Extension Service, and Frank W. Lathrop of the U. S. Office of Education, December 1943. Limited distribution.*

Profiles of successful extension leaders

MRS. LAURA HAHN, a hard-working neighborhood leader near Yelm in Thurston County, Wash., made it possible for farmers to get their snap beans and berries harvested last year.

In an ordinary season, dairy and poultry farmers around Yelm who grow beans and berries as a side line can expect from 2,000 to 2,500 migrant workers to harvest these crops. But of course things have changed now, and these folks realized early in the season that any of the food they could save to help win the war would have to be gathered with little or no outside labor.

A short time before the crops were ready for harvest, Mrs. Hahn was asked by County Agent Allen Johnson to find out from every family around Yelm these things: Whether any member of the family had time to pick beans and berries or had made plans for working on any particular farm, and whether they needed transportation. Growers were asked whether they needed pickers and, if so, how many; whether they had any way of transporting them to and from the farm, and what living accommodations were available.

This request seemed like a big order, but Mrs. Hahn takes this neighborhood-leader business seriously and realized this was the type of job she agreed to do when she became a leader. Of course she could not do it alone, so she rounded up the 92 other neighborhood leaders who were serving in the Yelm district, explained the job, and casually mentioned that it would look mighty bad for a community to have some of its people loitering in stores and on sidewalks when there were food crops to be saved.

This seemed to do the trick; and after a thorough canvass of the area, practically 100 percent of the home folks worked in the bean and berry fields.

County Agent Johnson and the Yelm growers give Mrs. Hahn a great deal of credit for organizing this labor-recruiting drive and lining up other neighborhood leaders to help. They are especially pleased because the job was done without arousing any antagonism in the community.

But Mrs. Hahn likes to keep busy; so, in addition to being a "leader of neighborhood leaders," she did most of the work in raising and harvesting 2 acres of snap beans during the summer months when she usually takes a vacation from her 9 months of teaching school.

THE MORTON TUTTLES, leaders in Prairie Home, Cooper County, Mo., are living exponents of long tenure of the land, good farming, and community service. They are typical of the best local leadership now supporting extension work and the war effort in that State.

In their community and county, the Tuttles give continuously of time, effort, and understanding through voluntary leadership. Since the low ebb of acre yields after World War I, they have applied 1,400 tons of limestone, terraced the entire 460-acre farm, used legumes and high-analysis phosphate with all small-grain crops.

On the home place and 200 acres that they rented during the past year, the Tuttles raised and fed out 60,710 pounds of pork and 11,110 pounds of beef, produced 2,322 pounds of wool and 413 dozen eggs, and fed out 56,525 pounds of lamb. All crops are marketed through livestock except seed grains for crop improvement. Last year, 1,000 bushels of registered hybrid corn were grown, and 15 acres were used to produce inbred and single-cross corn for future planting.

Mr. Tuttle has been a member of the county extension board since the day the first county agent was employed on a permanent basis. Long a leader in farm cooperatives, he is now president of the county wool-improvement and marketing association and an officer in the county mutual insurance company. He is president of the Missouri Seed Improvement Association and a director in the State Livestock Association. He is a member of the County Council of Civilian Defense and a leader in the work of the community 4-H Club, the church, and the Sunday school in his home community. He is general chairman of several districts in the neighborhood leadership system.

Mrs. Tuttle is an officer and project chairman in her home economics extension club, president of the local school board, sponsor of young people's activities in the local church, and neighborhood leader in wartime campaigns. All members of the family accept community responsibility. Billy Tuttle was president of the community 4-H Club in 1942, and Roy was his successor in 1943. The eldest son, the late Ens. Joseph M. Tuttle, a Navy pilot, gave his life for his country early in the war. His death occurred June 4, 1942, as a result of a fight with six Japanese zero fighters near Dutch Harbor.

MRS. J. A. DUBARD, president of the High Point Home Demonstration Club of Louisville, Miss., a 4-H Club leader for 15 years and a leader in growing the food to fight for freedom, believes in example and last year planted every available acre to food and feed. She reports:

"We planted long staple cotton to help in the war effort, length of staple, 1¼ inches. We planted a 1-acre patch of peas for use green, to can, and to save dry for food. I saved 3 bushels of dry peas and canned 30 quarts green. I had three other smaller patches of peas that furnished green peas from July until October.

"We planted 15 acres of soybeans for feed and to sell for producing oil. We planted 2 acres of sweetpotatoes. We did not plant any peanuts due to the shortage of labor and unsuitable ground. We produced 120 gallons of sirup.

"During the year, I had 42 varieties of vegetables growing in my garden. The first of October, 20 of them were growing and ready to eat.

"Early frost got some of the summer vegetables. I had an acre of turnips and mustard, in addition to the garden, for sale. We had at all times of the year from 9 to 42 varieties of vegetables growing in our garden.

"Five hundred strawberry plants and 35 youngberry plants supplied us with fresh small fruits and plenty to can. Eight pear trees, 50 peach, 10 apple, and several plum and apricot trees furnish us and our neighbors plenty of fruit in season and to can for winter and some to sell. Stored in my pantry are 225 quarts of vegetables, 185 quarts of fruit and berries, 65 pints of preserves and jellies, 42 quarts of pickles and relishes, 35 quarts of meat, 200 pounds of dried vegetables, 25 pounds of dried fruit, and 900 pounds of cured meat.

"We have fenced 40 acres for hog pasture and increased the number of hogs since last year. We sold 61 pigs and hogs last year. We now have 3 brood sows, 5 hogs for meat, and 13 pigs, and 2 gilts. We sold for beef 12 animals and have on hand 5 cows and 4 registered beef animals, 6 heifers to increase production this year. We had no beef animals for sale before last year. We have 6 dairy cows, whereas before the war we had only 2. I sold $58 worth of cream, and we used plenty of milk, cream, and butter at home for our family of 7. We used approximately 2 gallons of milk and 1 pound of butter each day. The skim milk was given to hogs and chickens.

"I increased my number of hens from 20 to 60 by buying U. S. record of performance sired pullets. I sold a flock of White Leghorn pullets, 50 for breeders and 100 dozen eggs."

AMONG OURSELVES

■ GOODRICH S. WALTON has recently been appointed extension editor and information specialist for Wyoming. He comes to Wyoming from New Mexico where he served as assistant extension editor, and before that as information specialist for the AAA.

■ ARTHUR M. HAUKE, acting extension economist in New Mexico, turned back the March 15th page on his desk calendar and grinned with relief.

Away back in September 1943, before anyone but Congressmen had thought about income taxes, Mr. Hauke was assigned to assist farmers and ranchmen in making out their 1943 income tax returns.

He went to work. Eight thousand copies of his circular, "Let's Talk About Your Income Tax," were distributed after its publication in September. When it was revised in January, 6,000 more copies found their way over New Mexico.

In the meantime, Mr. Hauke began to "take the road"—from Hidalgo to Union, from San Juan to Lea—talking income taxes to farmers and ranchmen all over the State. The trips became more frequent as the dead line approached. From January 1 until March 11, Mr. Hauke addressed 44 meetings with a total attendance of 885. But, that wasn't all of it. Community leaders went back home from those meetings to explain difficult points to their neighbors and friends.

By the middle of February, Mr. Hauke was in the habit of talking and couldn't stop. He addressed 60 members of the New Mexico A. & M. College staff. His subject? Hah, you guessed it! "The 1943 Income and Victory Tax Return." And early in March he tossed off two more speeches at Albuquerque.

If New Mexico farmers, ranchers, housewives, and college teachers preserved their sanity during those difficult days in early March, you know one of the secrets. And if Mr. Hauke wanted to grin like a schoolboy when he tore that March 15th page from his desk calendar, no one could blame him.

He threw it into the trash basket and lighted his pipe. And then a memorandum for March 16 caught his eye. "Don't put your feet on your desk, old man. You're due in Carrizozo to address the women's club on 'Women in the Postwar World.'"

■ CHARLES ZEIGLER BATES, forester of the Agricultural Extension Service of Puerto Rico, died recently. A native of Pennsylvania, he graduated from the School of Forestry of Mont Alto, Pa., and served as forester for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for a year before going to Puerto Rico in 1921 to establish a forestry service. He established the first nursery of forest trees for distribution to the farmers of Puerto Rico. He collaborated with the North American botanist, Dr. N. L. Britton, in studies of the Puerto Rican flowers and classification of the trees of the Island. He became extension forester in 1929 and in 1930 attended the National 4–H Club Camp in Washington. On his return, he organized the first 4–H forest clubs on the island.

In speaking of his work, Extension Forester W. K. Williams wrote: "He laid a firm foundation for farm forestry in Puerto Rico. Seeing the great need for trees and wood products on farms, he developed tree nurseries and encouraged the planting of trees on small areas for fuel wood, charcoal, and lumber for other farm uses. He encouraged the planting of trees producing valuable cabinet woods on a community production basis which could supply small furniture factories. Farm tree crops, as thought of by Mr. Bates, would lead to a better economy in rural communities."

■ COUNTY AGENT CARL DALE of Valley County, Nebr., marked his twenty-fifth anniversary in that county in February. His friends in the county and in the State, including Director W. H. Brokaw, helped him to celebrate the occasion with a silver anniversary party.

He has seen agricultural development in the county, but he gives credit for this to the local folk, who have been interested in new methods of farming and homemaking. Recalling some of the high points of the quarter century, he spoke of two national champion 4–H crops-judging teams of the county. Of the first winning team in 1940, two members are now in the armed services. The coming of irrigation to the county in recent years with the development of the North and Middle Loup projects has increased the problems of the farmers and made activities in new fields necessary, but County Agent Dale kept up with the times and helped to bring an alfalfa mill to the county—an industry which irrigation made possible.

■ T. M. CAMPBELL, Negro field agent with headquarters at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., recently visited this office, enthusiastic for his coming trip to West Africa and the Belgian Congo as one of a group of internationally known missionaries and educators who will make a 6 months' survey of education and rural life there.

Neither the lengthy, but successful, passport tussle with the State Department nor the yellow fever inoculations dampened his eagerness for this interesting assignment which is financed by the General Education Board of New York City. The study is planned by the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland. Most of the group of about half a dozen taking the trip are British, and the Extension Service is honored to have an agent chosen to take part in this survey.

"Many of the missionaries in these countries have visited our work among southern Negro farmers," said Mr. Campbell, "and have felt that our methods might be adapted to their uses. One man, after visiting our movable school, said that was an idea they could use but as there were no roads, they'd have to call it a donkey-back school."

"I'll try to get out and visit the homes," he continued, "and get acquainted with the people, to find out what kind of people they are, what type of farming they are doing, and whether their health and housing or other conditions detract from maximum production." His 30 years of extension work visiting Negro farmers in all parts of the South has given him a fine background for this work.

He will visit Sierra Leone, Liberia, the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Cameroons, Angola, and the Belgian Congo. He promises to write of his experiences for publication in the REVIEW. He will travel by air most of the way, saving a great deal of time traveling in these countries of slow surface transportation.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

FARM LABOR NEEDS are being brought to the attention of everyone throughout the country through national press and radio, magazine articles, posters, advertisements, motion pictures, and in other ways. May was chosen as the month for special emphasis nationally because it was felt that this was about the right time, considering the country as a whole, to prepare the ground for the intensive local recruitment needed in the first peak labor month of July. All national publicity urges or emphasizes the national need for farm products and the emergency need for more labor. It is designed to prepare the way for the local recruitment, and persons who hear or read the appeal are urged to watch for the local call.

THE COUNTY AGENT'S KIT of material to help in planning for recruiting local emergency farm workers was mailed out in April and contains a number of suggestions for local newspaper stories, radio talks, display ads, and visual aids.

CITY FOLKS THIS MONTH CAN READ of farm labor needs, in street cars and busses, their favorite magazines, and newspapers. They will see posters in the post office and other public buildings, as well as in their beauty parlors or the Y. W. C. A. They will see a 10-minute short at their favorite motion-picture house and hear it along with their favorite radio program. Interest aroused will be directed to the local needs.

STATE-WIDE ACTIVITIES are also reported this month. Kansas is holding a series of 9 regional conferences in which the Governor and other farm labor leaders are taking part, in cooperation with the Governor's Farm Labor Commission. Indiana reports 300 city boys and girls taking special farm-orientation classes at 6 centers over the State. Typical of these classes are those in Muncie, where 10 hours are devoted to classroom instruction, and 20 hours are spent receiving actual training on farms. Last year, 75 Muncie boys formed a camp work unit to detassel hybrid seed corn and were so satisfactory that farmers want them again this July.

LATE NEWS FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE coming in after the article on page 66 was sent to press, tells of meetings of fathers and sons or employers and hired men to get across to deferred men that the reason they are deferred is because their work on the land is as essential to the war as their efforts anywhere else could be. These meetings are bringing excellent results, reports Kenneth E. Barraclough, State Supervisor of Farm Labor. County agents are working through committees of young men organized at these meetings.

ANOTHER 4–H LIBERTY SHIP, the *O. B. Martin*, sponsored by the Texas 4–H Club boys and girls, was launched the first day of this month. The late O. B. Martin, formerly director of extension in Texas, was one of the early extension pioneers active in formulating the national organization for both 4–H Clubs and home demonstration work. He was in the Federal office before the passage of the Smith-Lever Act until 1929, when he went to Texas.

ON MAY 8, THE LIBERTY SHIP *Howard Gray* slips down the ways at Panama City, Fla., sponsored by the 4–H Clubs of Alabama and named in honor of a former extension worker and former president of the Alabama Farm Bureau. The South Carolina 4–H Liberty Ship, *S. Frank Lever*, has just returned from her maiden voyage, successfully delivering a large and important cargo to one of the major European theaters of war. J. H. Nickerson, master of the ship, wrote a letter to all South Carolina 4–H Club members reporting on the thrilling voyage and saying: "Your making possible this Liberty ship and presenting it to our Government is a fine memorial to one of your prominent native sons whose voice, I understand, was often heard in our national halls of Congress championing the cause of South Carolina farmers." The letter was signed by every member of the crew.

BRAZILIAN STUDENTS of farming, 14 of them, have now been placed by county agents in 10 States. They are in Marianna, Lee County, Ark.; Fort Collins, in Larimer County, and Weld County, Colo.; in Newark and Georgetown, Del.; in New Castle and Noblesville, Ind.; in Lincoln, Nebr.; State College, N. Mex.; Hunterdon County, N. J.; Columbus, Ohio; Shelby County, Tenn.; College Station, in Brazos County, and Jim Wells County, Tex.

A FARM LABOR SURVEY was probably the most thorough job done this spring by neighborhood leaders, reports Director J. W. Burch of Missouri. The survey included labor needs and surplus labor available and was done in most of the counties. The leaders were visited by the farm labor assistant, or they received a letter from the county agent giving directions for making the survey. The 1944 plans call for leader-training meetings on the major phases of food production and preservation. This worked successfully last year when Missouri agents held an average of 33 leader-training meetings per county with an average attendance of 14 leaders.

TESTIMONIAL FOR LEADERS was given by Director P. E. Miller of Minnesota in a recent letter in which he says: "I am inclined to think that the neighborhood-leader organization can be made a sound foundation for Extension if we put the necessary energy into its organization, use, and maintenance during the formative years. It will take some time; but, in the end, I am becoming more and more convinced, it will be worth the effort."

MAY 8, 1944 is the thirtieth anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, the law which provides for cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics. President Woodrow Wilson signed the bill on May 8, 1914. The late Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia and the late Representative A. F. Lever of South Carolina were the joint authors.

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Extension Service Review

JUNE 1944 NO. 6

VOLUME 15

Gar... to hasten victory

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...ch. ...e on ...April that ...weather has ...onth; in fact we ...reparing our largest ..., and have 40 more gar- ...last year."

...weather and heavy spring rains ...ed operations in Chicago gardens, ...t in spite of this more and better gardens are planted. Anyone doubting the enthusiasm of 1944 Victory gardeners is invited to visit Chicago parks, where parents and children clamored for one of the 30,000 garden plots, 5 by 12 feet. About 200 new allotment or community gardens have been added to last year's 2,000.

Kansas floods failed to dampen enthusiasm there, and it is felt that the earliness of the flood will permit nearly normal main-season vegetable cropping. The same number of farm gardens and slightly more city gardens are prophesied this spring from the Kansas prairie. Though Iowa gardens were set back 3 or 4 weeks by abnormally wet weather, the 2-percent increase predicted at the beginning of the season is still expected.

Connecticut agencies are working in a businesslike manner with no "ballyhoo." In New London County alone, 18 meetings were held with an average attendance of 60. In the cities of New London and Norwich, the largest in the county, from 125–150 were present at meetings.

San Bernardino County, Calif., has noted a 25-percent increase in applications for special water rates on gardens of 2,000 square feet. Nurseries and feed stores in the county claim that sale of vegetable plants, seeds, and fertilizers indicate 1944 production will be approximately 25 percent above that of last year.

The vegetable-garden specialist in West Virginia, W. H. Conkle, asks every group of school children he meets how many have gardens this year, and practically every hand goes up. He then asks how many had gardens last year but not this year, and a few hands go up. When he asks how many have gardens this year for the first time, he usually can count more hands than were raised in reply to the previous question. While Mr. Conkle travels in busses and trains, he has made a practice of asking everyone about his garden. Men and women, black and white, railroad workers, coal miners, or office workers, usually have a garden and are ready to talk about it.

Texas boys and girls have figured that they raised enough vegetables last year to keep their Victory ship the *O. B. Martin* busy for 6 months carrying vegetables across the sea. This year they think they can load her more than six times.

Seed houses throughout the country are making substantial gains over last year in seed sales. March sales were slow, due partly to delayed buying because of a late spring. However, the demand for vegetable seed picked up strongly in April and May. The 1944 Victory Garden program is off to a good start.

On the docket in June

Emergency labor problems—committees for advising prospective farmers

■ Emergency farm labor situations spring up with increasing frequency as the season advances. Last month in Wyoming, South Dakota, and Nevada the need for help during lambing season became critical. The Navajo Indians—traditional shepherds—in Arizona and New Mexico came to the rescue, 260 of them.

County placement offices are operating, and recruiting is active where labor problems are acute. The intensive national campaign of last month on the radio, in magazines and press will help if the prospective recruit with the impulse to help can find his county agent easily—and it isn't always easy. A listing in the telephone book under "county agent," items in the paper, posters featuring the name and address of the county agent, and conspicuous signs all help.

■ Returning soldiers, sailors and war workers are beginning to bring up the question of how to get help in locating on a farm where there is a chance of success. A recent issue of "Bos'n's Whistle" of the Kaiser shipyards states that 37 percent of shipyard workers want to buy homes, farms, acreages, or other property with their wartime savings. A Minnesota soldier writes that 60 percent of the farm boys in his outfit plan to farm when the shooting is over.

Advisory committees are being set up, or committees already in existence are getting ready to service these prospective farmers. Many are beginning with an inventory of local farming opportunities. Sargent County, N. Dak., found several farmers who wanted to retire; others with large holdings who were anxious to subdivide into smaller farms large enough to support a family; and still others anxious to get assurance that they could employ a hired man. This job has been assigned to the Extension Service by agreement of the Selective Service and the War Food Administration and will be of growing importance.

Labor-saving equipment demonstrated

An average of 475 Washington farm folks attend each of the 23 meetings held throughout the State

■ What real worth-while contribution can Extension make in its educational job for the 1944 food program?

This question was discussed at several different extension staff meetings at the State College of Washington, and discussions nearly always boiled down to two points in which every farmer and homemaker were vitally interested—labor and machinery.

Without either, food producers were virtually "licked before they started" meeting this year's goals.

The next question was what Extension could do about it. By recalling last year's experiences it was determined that farm families who did the most outstanding food-producing job were the ones who did something to help themselves.

They were the ones who made a buck rake to reduce the size of their hay crews, or they made a power manure loader to cut down hand labor, or they rigged up some other ingenious device in the farm shop to eliminate the need for a hired man or two.

Or they were the homemakers who developed ideas or made use of various methods to reduce time and effort in housework, canning, cleaning, meal preparation, or some other household task.

With this as a background, Extension set out to make this information available to all farmers of this State; and a series of farm and home labor-saving equipment demonstrations held in the counties was considered the best way to do it.

This method was also selected because county agents had repeatedly requested some outstanding program which would help their educational work. As it developed, more than 10,000 farm men and women attended the 23 demonstrations, and this program turned into one of our most successful ones.

At the same time, these demonstrations showed that our farm families know they face a tough assignment—the hardest job they ever have been asked to do—but they are very eager to learn how they can accomplish this tremendous food-producing job in spite of the many difficulties.

In other words, the meetings proved that our farmers haven't given up. They are going to do their best to raise the food asked of them, but they still need and are anxious to get all the educational assistance available. They are literally going after ideas to help them over this critical period and are looking to Extension to supply them.

The demonstrations were truly extension education, especially the "learn by seeing" type.

The State staff collected and furnished what they believed were the most outstanding labor-saving devices—mostly home-made—they could find in the State. The subject-matter specialists also supplied panels picturing several different methods to help meet food goals. For example, the entomology exhibit featured cattle-grub control; and the nutritionist dealt with short cuts in canning and food preservation.

In addition, the State staff supplied five special demonstrations on ways to save time and labor in homemaking. They included a complete kitchen unit, home-made kitchen utility wagon, portable wood box, portable sewing cabinet, cleaning basket, and kitchen utensils especially needed around canning time.

For the agricultural side, the State supplied a buck rake, power manure loader mounted on a tractor, electric hay hoists, truck barrow, feed cart, buzz saw attachment, hog self-feeder, horn fly

rap, silage cutter attachment, range
poultry waterer, feed mixer, bale wire
stretchers, tractor post hole digger, bat-
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buck rakes and the manure loader
be demonstrated. Farmers who bro
in their own equipment were always as
to "say a few words" about it and the
answer questions. This proved to be one
of the high lights of the tour.

While the men (and many women) were out in the field watching machinery demonstrations, a similar program was held especially for the women. This was usually in a grange hall adjacent to the field where the outside demonstrations

County Agent Floyd Svinth, Grays Harbor County, Wash., shows some of the folks his labor-saving demonstration.

were held. At every meeting it was surprising to see how many women were interested in the machinery or "outside work," and the same for the men with the home economics exhibit. Few men left the demonstrations without seeing the home economics display and getting ideas on how to "make a few things" to relieve some of the burdens of homemaking.

From 5,000 to 10,000 printed copies of plans for the different pieces of equipment were distributed at these meetings. It is interesting to note that at one session alone 700 people left their names and addresses for 1,520 different copies of extension bulletins. The agent reports he is also receiving more requests for such material nearly every day.

Whatcom County had the largest crowd with attendance estimated at from 1,000 to 3,000, but county agent L. N. Freimann places the figure at 1,500.

Approximately 6,200 people attended the 13 demonstrations in western Washington, or 475 average. The 10 eastern Washington meetings were about as well attended.

Enthusiastic reports have been coming in ever since the meetings. The Clallam County agent, F. D. Yeager, said he has never before had so many farmers congratulate him after an extension gathering and report it so worth while.

A Pierce County farmer said to Agent A. M. Richardson: "I've been attending extension and experiment station meetings for the last 20 years, but this is the best I've ever attended."

A dairyman in Grays Harbor County told Agent Floyd Svinth that it was worth his time and trip to drive more than 100 miles to see these demonstrations.

And to determine how the agents feel about it—they are already casting about for something similar for next year.

Clinic demonstration

Some 300 Georgia home economists and others interested in nutrition attended a clinic demonstration conducted by Dr. Walter Wilkins of the U. S. Public Health Service and the Georgia State Health Department. This meeting was sponsored by the Georgia State Nutrition Committee and the State Health Department. Lurline Collier, State home demonstration agent, is the State nutrition chairman.

A unique part of this particular meeting was a follow-up panel held in the evening session of the State nutrition committee meeting. Those taking part in this panel included specialists in the field of agriculture, pediatrics, medicine, health, nutrition, and education.

North Carolina farmers helped themselves

North Carolina farmers solved over 75 percent of their farm labor problems last year by helping themselves. Here is how it was done. Last spring each county agent talked with neighborhood leaders about analyzing their local production problems for the season. They discussed the good land in the neighborhood which might be in production and the steps which might be taken to get it into production. They listed all the machinery in the neighborhood and how it could be made to operate at capacity.

They Discussed all Angles

They discussed when the heaviest load on labor and machinery would come and whether the staggering of planting and harvesting would help. The possibilities of neighborhood exchange of labor and machinery were gone over. They checked on whether repairs and such things that could be done before the peak load arrived were accomplished.

After doing this, they listed the actions which the neighborhood people could take to relieve the situation and recorded also those problems on which they needed outside help. The latter included a record of the idle land on farms which could not be cultivated by persons in the neighborhood, the outside help needed in locating machinery or equipment, the farms which actually needed additional labor which was not available locally, and where any labor which might be available could be placed to contribute most to total production from the neighborhood.

As a result of this approach to their production problems, farmers in North Carolina realized that they were not using local resources to their fullest capacity. They found good cropland right in their own neighborhood that was not going to be farmed. They discovered that their own labor, machinery, and equipment would not be used to its fullest capacity. Thus the ground work was laid for an extensive program of exchanging labor, sharing equipment, and custom work. And this is what happened. More war crops were grown. All across the State farmers helped each other by exchanging labor, machinery, and equipment. Small farmers, tenants, and sharecroppers planned their farming to use the equipment of their big neighbors. In turn, they helped these bigger operators who were short of labor. All in all, North Carolina became one of the "swappingest" States in the country.

How much did it accomplish? A survey was conducted at the end of the season by 20 white county agents and 8 Negro agents in counties representing the type of farming areas in the State and the different problems that arose during the year. They found that 2 out of every 3 white or Negro farmers had a labor problem. However, three-fourths of these white farmers and over 95 percent of the Negro farmers were able to solve their own labor problems through the neighborhood exchange of labor and equipment. By interviewing 236 white neighborhood leaders in the survey, it was found that these leaders had listed 2,446 families with labor problems, or 66.2 percent of all the families visited. The 95 Negro leaders visisted 968 farmers and found 676 of them with some labor problems.

Yes! North Carolina also had to use youth, townspeople, intrastate, interstate, and foreign workers, and prisoners of war in some areas; but farmers of the State helped themselves most of the time.

California 4–H All-Stars meet

Two 4–H All-Stars from Tulare County, one from San Joaquin, and one from Los Angeles County are proudly wearing Diamond Star pins awarded them as California's outstanding 4–H Club members at the fifth annual All-Star conference which ended last week in Berkeley.

The Diamond Star quartette was selected from among a group of All-Stars whose 1943 achievement records, citizenship, character and judgment, war work, and 4–H projects earned them highest consideration from the award selection board.

The 59 All-Stars who attended the conference on the University of California campus amassed an impressive food-production record. Surpassing their own slogan, they produced not only enough "Food to Feed a Fighter" but enough meat to feed 1,000 fighters for 65 days, and eggs for 422 days. In addition, the same 59 All-Stars produced 670,722 pounds of fruit and vegetables and 139,243 pounds of milk, as well as large quantities of home-canned foods, honey, wool, field crops, and high-grade breeding stock.

Their war bond and stamp purchases exceeded $20,000, all from money earned from their own 4–H projects.

Timber Salvaged in Texas

Farmer Dwight Campbell (left) inspects his ice-damaged timber with County Agent John Moosburg and decides he can do this much for war and plans to get the 3,000 cords to the mill.

■ An ice storm hit east Texas January 14 to 16—one of the heaviest on record. Timber was down on more than 300,000 acres of forest land, and timber was a strategic war material. High-ranking army officers, officials from the War Production Board, and forestry experts flew to the scene of the catastrophe, thinking of the war goal of 14 million cords of pulpwood needed in 1944. After examining the damage, they figured that 1 million cords could be salvaged; but more than a third of this fallen timber was on small farms and much of the salvage would have to be done within the next few months to prevent loss.

C. W. Simmons, Texas extension forester, and Frederick J. Shulley, of the pulpwood branch of WPB and formerly Arkansas extension forester, talked to county agents. They went with them to visit 17 farmers in the 6 counties, inspecting 952 acres of damaged timber.

County Agent John Moosburg of Shelby County, a forestry-minded agent, was one of the first to work on the problem. He found a good demonstrator in Dwight Campbell who, with his brother, owns 300 acres of damaged timber. They figured that about 3,000 cords could be salvaged enough to make smokeless powder for 72,000 rounds of 16-inch naval shells.

They also interested 4-H Club members like Lamar Ponder, a 15-year-old member of Chumley 4-H Club. He cut 36 units at $4 a unit on his father's 8 acres of timber, earning $144.

The cutting of pulpwood looked like a good thing to Lamar's brother Jack, president of the Chumley 4-H Club, and the club as a whole decided to cut wood on Saturdays for farmers in the neighborhood, thus adding to the club treasury and sending more pulpwood on its way to war factories.

It didn't take long to organize a demonstration on a one-tenth acre of woods in Nacogdoches County where Felix Burton is county agent. This salvage demonstration brought out 13 farmers who, working together, salvaged 6 pens of pulpwood valued at $6.38, which figured out as 70 cents for each man-hour spent that day.

The farmers had not realized the use which was being made of such pulpwood. They did not know that 1 cord of pulpwood would make 90,000 rounds for a Garand rifle, and 24 rounds for 16-inch naval shells. It was news to them that blood plasma had to be packed in containers made of pulpwood—1 cord makes 4,200 weather-proof packages or 300 V boxes used for shipping food for service men overseas, or 1,800 shell containers. Many of the farmers have boys at the front and are glad to hear about this way of helping them.

Wheeler Caver of Nacogdoches County got the idea early; and, working as a one-man team, soon had all the fallen timber off his 40 acres and on its way to the mill—about 6 carloads. He did most the work on rainy days. He also kept up to date on his plowing, got his corn planted, and cut his sprouts and his stovewood. "There are bound to be rainy days," he says, "and if you can earn $4 or $5 and help to win the war at the same time, why not?"

J. M. Collins, a farmer in San Augustine County, had 150 acres of timber damaged and a 40-acre tract almost a complete loss. When he got the salvage idea, he figured that he could cut and haul his own timber. He bought the wagon in the picture to haul the wood to the railroad. With one Negro helper, he cut and hauled 25 units, receiving a check for $212.

Naturally, these stories get into the papers; a good county agent sees to that. Demonstrations have been scheduled, and farm folks in these six east Texas counties are becoming more and more conscious of the war importance of salvaging this timber. The value of the program will be seen when it is realized that in this damaged area 75,000 acres of timber are in national forests, 115,000 acres in large holdings, and 115,000 acres on small farms. More than one-third of this war asset is on small farms; and if extension agents can help it, none of it will go to waste—it will go into the sinews of war.

County Agent P. S. Goen of San Augustine County discusses the timber-salvage situation with Farmer J. M. Collins who, when he learned of the need, decided to cut and haul damaged pulpwood from 150 acres.

Hoosier farmers discuss the situation

Economic conditions in post-war considered in 41 counties

■ Indiana farmers know that their No. 1 job still is to help win World War II. They, therefore, are putting forth every effort to produce maximum amounts of needed foods, feeds, and oil. But they also know that many groups are doing a lot of talking and thinking these days about post-war planning with regard to the Nation's public affairs and agriculture's part in the whole economic pattern.

The agricultural economists at Purdue University decided last September that farmers needed some basic facts if they were to discuss intelligently post-war problems. A 39-page mimeographed booklet was prepared containing tables and charts about basic facts, with no interpretation. After discussing the information in the booklet with the county agricultural agents of the State at district conferences and further discussing the information at the State extension conference in December, 21 county agents requested county meetings so their respective county farm leaders could have the benefit of the discussion.

The winter and early spring months of 1944 were thought to be the best time to discuss questions of economic conditions during the post-war period, because the people would not have been committed to national policies on post-war and public affairs problems by then. Thus, political implications could be avoided.

Forty-five Meetings Held

Forty-five meetings in 41 counties were held during the period of December 1943 to April 1, 1944, 24 more being scheduled at a later date. No speeches were given at these meetings. Discussion was the thing emphasized. As questions arose about the fundamental problems, the Purdue specialists supplied the basic facts. The Purdue men who worked on this project were J. C. Bottum, assistant chief of the agricultural economics department, and J. B. Kohlmeyer and R. H. Bauman, also of the department. The meetings ranged in size from 10 to as many as 250 persons in attendance, with the average around 60, and lasted from 2½ to more than 5 hours each. Everyone had his say and freely expressed his opinion on matters of public policy and post-war problems. The meetings were limited mostly to invitations extended to the county's agricultural leaders, post-war planning committeemen, and representatives of industry, business, labor, finance, churches, newspapers, schools, and women's organizations.

What was talked about at these meetings?

Well, most of the discussion revolved about three principal questions the answers to which would largely determine whether post-war hogs will bring $5 per hundredweight or $10—whether it will be necessary to have a huge public works program to cope with unemployment of urban workers and overproduction of farm products or the normal economic life that would permit the handling of needed improvements in a normal manner.

Three Questions Asked

Here are the questions discussed:

1. Shall we as a nation be able to consume all American-produced food that can be raised on our farms in the post-war period? The farmers said the facts led them to believe the Nation's consumers could keep the American farms busy at reasonable operations after the war, providing full employment was maintained. The only crops requiring export markets, they thought, would be cotton, wheat, and tobacco. All other major crops and farm products could be sold profitably for consumption within the Nation, should full employment continue. The larger the urban income, the better off were the farmers, because the consumers bought larger quantities of farm products. Therefore, the welfare of the farmer depended on the welfare of the consumer, the farmers thought, and not vice versa, as so often thought in past years.

2. Will American agriculture be interested in having the Nation enlarge its foreign trade during the post-war period? The answer was "Yes." The farmers saw a particular need to sell surplus American wheat, cotton, and tobacco in the world's export markets, as our country apparently will not be able to consume all that is produced here.

3. What interest should the farmer have in the Nation's post-war debt and its relationship to the price level? It was agreed the national debt is a problem that agriculture will need to share with society as a whole, and its intelligent handling will be most important. If poorly handled, the alternatives will be either a more regularly controlled economy than at present or runaway inflation. Should the farmers at the close of the war find themselves with relatively heavy indebtedness, they will, undoubtedly, be interested in seeing the national general price level maintained, said these Indiana farmers.

After an analysis of these problems was made, attention was given to the barriers to obtaining intelligent action along these lines. It was pointed out that if we have intelligent action we must have fewer restrictions and more protection from entrenched pressure groups and at the same time more support for these policies that are in the interest of society as a whole. This means liberal education among the rank and file of the people so that they will support their leaders on the policies in the interest of the national welfare.

It was pointed out that farmers would perhaps always have such problems as soil conservation, land use, low-income farmers, tenancy, land inheritance, and troubles associated with credit and land ownership. But these problems in the last analysis boil down specifically to farm questions, needing constant attention. In contrast, however, the foregoing three questions have a fundamental bearing on the national economic pattern that affects all persons—both producers and consumers of food.

Community Public Works Listed

At some of the meetings a list of rural community public works projects was prepared for use in the post-war period should the Government find it necessary to give a "blood transfusion" with public monies to the national body to maintain its economic "health." But it was agreed that the size and number of these "transfusions" will be a measure of the extent to which the Nation has failed to handle properly its fundamental post-war economic problems.

4–H repairmen trained

4–H Club members of Los Angeles County, Calif., are learning the essentials of repairing electric cords and their attachments. They will demonstrate acquired knowledge to groups of adults, thus assisting in conservation of electric appliances, increasing safety in the home, and helping to solve the manpower shortage, according to Dorothy Preston, assistant home demonstration agent. Need for this kind of working knowledge is emphasized by statistics showing that 80 percent of home electric appliance failure is due to cord or cord-attachment breakage. During February and March electrical repair was the special feature of 4–H Club work.

Negro extension work expands

■ Efforts to develop man's ability to help himself in 16 Southern States—in communities where Negro population is relatively large—are now being geared directly to the war food program.

These communities, linked together in cooperation with the Extension Service, are providing sinews of war to keep our fighting men supplied with food, to help keep us fed on the home front, and to furnish eatables for hungry people overseas who are caught in the toils of war.

Emergency Fund Set Aside for Negroes

When Congress recently appropriated $2,000,000 to be used through the Extension Service to encourage production and conservation of our food resources, much of it was earmarked for these Negro communities. Already staffed with 312 Negro county agents, assistants, and State leaders, 198 more emergency specialists have been employed to concentrate on production and conservation needs. In home demonstration work in the Southern States, there are 256 county agents, assistants, and State leaders; and in boys' and girls' club work there are 7 county agents, assistants, and State leaders, all of whom are regular Negro Extension Service employees.

Thousands of well-stocked shelves of canned vegetables, fruit, and meat; root cellars full of garden produce; smokehouses filled with ham and bacon bear eloquent testimony to the spirit of self-reliance and self-sufficiency of these communities. Since Pearl Harbor, these shelves are not only being filled, but the added goals which call for growing more to help feed our fighting men are being reached and excelled.

A group of extension agents discussing the question of morale among Negro farmers in Montgomery, Ala., in January agreed that it is surprisingly high despite the continued loss of manpower on the farm. Those who are left are putting in longer hours, and many more of the older people and young folk are working.

In Florida, at a meeting under the auspices of the State War Finance Division of the Treasury, of State-wide scope for Negroes, Pres. J. R. E. Lee of Florida A. & M. College for Negroes showed that Negroes in 21 counties bought $500,000 worth of war bonds. Florida Negro families also made a fine record in food production, according to Floy Britt, supervising agent for Negro work.

They grew 4,510 Victory Gardens, planted 2,815 fruit trees, canned 171,657 jars of food, dried and stored 613,724 pounds of food, cured 253,117 pounds of meat, made 12,562 pounds of sausage, saved 2,662 pounds of lard, raised 98,570 chickens, produced 375,774 dozen eggs, and kept 1,840 cows to provide milk for the home. In addition, they collected and turned in 30,289 pounds of scrap metal and 706 pounds of surplus fats.

State Agent A. A. Turner reported at the same meeting that 250 acres were planted to oats and rye by Sumter County Negro farmers in December, to be used, according to Alonzo A. Young, Negro farm agent, for spring grazing of pigs, milk cows, and calves; also that Columbia County Negro families have raised more than $800 as their contribution to the war fund, according to McKinley Jeffers, Negro farm agent. These are examples taken at random.

4-H Club work among Negro children is particularly succesful. Many of these boys and girls, because of valuable experience gained in dairy, poultry, Victory Garden, hog raising and other 4-H projects, are able to step into the places of brothers, fathers, sisters, and other relatives who have been called to the colors or who have taken wartime jobs in the cities. According to 1942 figures, there were 212,999 Negro boys and girls enrolled in 4-H Club work, of whom 168,142 completed projects during the year. Figures for 1943 show a total enrollment of 250,364 Negro club members—an increase of 17.5 percent. Completion figures for 1943 are not yet available.

As the scope of these activities broadens and new neighborhoods join the ranks, the pioneering work done by such men as the late J. B. Pierce of Hampton, Va., and T. M. Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala., continues to bear fruit.

Though done with little fanfare, these accomplishments are contributing much to the winning of the war and constitute one of the brightest chapters in the history of World War II

Negro farmers buy bonds

During the recent Fourth War Loan Drive, Alabama Negroes in many counties oversubscribed their quota, reports T. M. Campbell, field agent. For example, in Montgomery County, they set $100,000 as their goal. A final check showed $140,000. Dallas County pledged $100,000 and subscribed $111,668. Jefferson County set as its goal $1,000,000 and subscribed $1,500,000. The young people also did a good job in the war effort. Records show that they bought war bonds and stamps to the value of $53,238 and helped to sell $40,000 worth to their neighbors.

Dedication of a canning factory on the Negro 4-H Club site near Dublin, Ga. The structure was built and equipped by funds raised by people of Laurens County as a tribute to Mrs. Effie M. Lampkins, Negro county home demonstration agent, who was killed while conducting a farmers' meeting in a church in the vicinity when a storm wrecked the building 2 years ago. T. M. Campbell, Negro field agent of the Extension Service, Emery C. Thomas, Negro county agent, who sponsored the idea, and a city official of Dublin, took part in the program, described by Mr. Campbell as "a splendid gesture in race relations."

4-H camping in wartime

BRUCE R. BUCHANAN, County Club Agent, Windham County, Vt.

Many 4–H camps have closed for the duration, but in my part of the Green Mountains we believe that camping is even more important for our farm boys and girls in wartime than in peace. The fact that Camp Waubanong, the 4–H camp for Windham County, last August had an enrollment 25 percent larger than we planned for indicates that the club members and their parents feel the same way about it.

We believe that the greatest contribution which the camp can give our rural boys and girls is the ability to meet and live with other people, opportunities to develop a clearer understanding of the war purposes, and the responsibility of each member to understand the problems of lasting peace. Good citizenship can be developed much better by active participation in a democratically organized camp than in any amount of talk without practice.

Wartime restrictions and shortages made many difficulties for us. We were fortunate in owning our own camp equipment, located in the Townshend State Forest, so we were able to carry on as usual. We met the travel difficulties by patronizing the public busses which cover our county with a network reaching nearly every section. The bus management gave us very fine cooperation; and, though the busses were crowded, everyone was satisfied. We asked the campers to send their blanket rolls to camp by mail several days ahead of the opening date of camp. Imagine the surprise of the postmistress in the little post office in Townshend when nearly 50 bulky rolls of blankets arrived. Her office was so crowded that she could scarcely move around.

The trucking concern which carries on the business of our valley gave us excellent service; and milk, groceries, vegetables, ice cream, and everything else needed arrived on time and in good condition.

The food problems were more serious. We have always provided a very high standard for our table. Last year we found it necessary to adapt and to change our menus but were able to provide satisfactory meals. The ration board allowed us an adequate number of points as a class 3 institution, but we could not find the necessary food in the market to spend our points on. We began early to anticipate our needs. In fact, we began canning food at the close of the previous camp; and when camp opened, we had home-canned apples, apple juice, squash, carrots, plums, and pears. At the present time, we have a large part of the food needed for this year's camp safely stored away in cans.

Our local merchants were most cooperative. They shopped all over among wholesale dealers for our supplies. We, ourselves, wrote letters to them saying, in effect, "Please give our dealers a little more meat so we can have some," and again we received courteous and helpful replies. We even had a chocolate bar apiece for our campers—a real surprise for everyone.

Camp Waubanong is equipped to care for about 100 campers and leaders. Last year we had a big response, and the total enrollment reached 126. It crowded the place, but by setting up 2 additional tents we were able to care for them all. The most surprising thing to most of the staff was the fact that the boys outnumbered the girls by more than 50 percent. The farm boys have been working hard and seemed to have the money for their camp fees, but the girls have not been so fortunate in earning spending money as their brothers.

Older Members Are Leaders

Our philosophy in setting up a camp organization is to enroll a comparatively large number of older club members as leaders, giving each one a definite responsibility. By enlisting more members, the danger of overburdening any individual is avoided, and the larger group instills more enthusiasm into the program. Last year we could not enroll any college boys, for they were either in the Army or Navy or on the equally important farm front. We did enroll a good group of high school boys and girls who planned their farm work so that they could take a week's vacation to attend camp. We were fortunate also in enlisting a very congenial and capable group of adult leaders, including a popular rural pastor and his wife, a retired high school biology teacher, a registered nurse, and an extremely capable teacher of handicraft. Two college girls also added very much to the program; and our home demonstration agent, Frances Clark, used the camp as her headquarters during the camp session, working out around the county during the day. With their help, a fine program was arranged for the older girls in camp.

Early last spring I saw a prospectus of one summer camp, which stated that the subject of the war would not be allowed to appear during the summer. We believe that there are right and wrong ways of approaching the subject which is uppermost in all our minds and that constructive thinking in our camping can do much to develop right attitudes now and in the post-war world. We adopted as our program theme "We are builders, Master. May our hands ne'er falter when the dream is in our hearts"; and we tried to show how every boy and girl has a real opportunity to build a better world through daily life at home, at school, in 4–H Clubs, and through a better understanding of public problems. At the flag-lowering ceremonies each day, we discussed the four freedoms, with Norman Rockwell's pictures to illustrate our points.

Carrying out our policy of exposing the boys and girls in camp to as many features of international and interracial life as we can, we drew upon at least 20 different peoples for music, art, and stories. Special guests of the camp were 2 Negro children, Barbara Steenbruggen and Lonnie Bristow of New York. Many of our campers had never had any contact with Negroes in their lives, and their presence made the racial problem seem more personal and not simply something affecting people far away.

The climax came on Saturday evening when Lillie Mae Johnson, who has 3 brothers and a sister in the service, unveiled a service flag bearing stars for 81 former members of camp. Extracts from letters received from a number of former campers and 4–H members were read urging the campers to carry on the home front in support of their brothers who are scattered all the way from Australia to a German prison camp.

Problems of rural youth studied

4–H Club leaders of the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles County, Calif., held a 1-day leader's round table to discuss ways and means of providing character-building activities which would occupy out-of-school hours of children and youth in the valley, according to Dorothy Preston, assistant home demonstration agent in Los Angeles County. Vital war-connected activities such as food production and preservation, better nutrition, clothing conservation, and simple electrical and home appliance repair will, it was thought, do much to instill a sense of responsibility and tie rural young people more closely to their homes and their communities. Club leaders believe that such constructive programs can be included in 4–H Club activities and will reduce problems of youth delinquency.

Extension agents join fighting forces

The roll call of extension workers at the fighting front now includes 1,164 names, on every field of action. Additional names will be printed as they are received and the list kept up to date with the cooperative help of REVIEW readers. The Service flag for all extension workers with its six gold stars hangs on the fifth floor of Agriculture's South Building in Washington.

The six gold stars on the flag represent the following extension workers:

Lt. A. D. Carlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, kill in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Letters from the front

■ I understand that the Extension Service is keeping pace with the changing times. The War Department has placed much responsibility on the agricultural workers in the procurement and preservation of foodstuff which is vital to our war machines, and I know from all reports that they are delivering the goods in fine shape . . . I have been doing O. K. on this quiet, so far, outpost.—*Cpl. Henry F. New*, formerly assistant acting county agent, Nueces County, Tex.

In England

At the present, I am enjoying the scenery in "Jolly Old England." It is rather damp and cool here, as you might expect. Sorta makes you feel as if perhaps you should have on your long underwear. Even so, it beats the semi-tropics of Africa or Sicily. The English seem to drink tea here about as the Swedes at Lindsborg and McPherson drink coffee.

The English people impress me as being reserved and not having that cocksure attitude that Americans seem to be noted for. Food and clothing and numerous other items are rationed here. You can't help but admire the English people, knowing what they have been through. You never hear them complain. The papers here seem quite optimistic about the early ending of the war. The conference between Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt really dominated the headlines for a few days. The general opinion seems to be that the war with Germany will probably be over next summer. Most of the boys seem to be aware of the fact that we have some "unfinished business" across the channel.

I am with company headquarters and during the recent months have learned the Morse code and attended a school on map and compass reading. Guess they don't want me to get lost over in France.

Anyway, I am seeing part of the world; and if I get back all in one piece, it will be O. K. I have ridden a boat so much since leaving the States that I sometimes think they are trying to drown me.

You are probably attending annual meetings about this time and getting ready for big things in 1944. Victory

Gardens will be in order again, I presume, for the coming year.

Say "hello" to all the otners for me.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year.—*Pvt. Earl L. Wier, formerly McPherson County agent, Kansas.*

Into shape for sure

They are pouring the physical at us faster than ever now, and I can almost take it. Went on a 20-mile hike Friday after supper, after running the obstacle course twice with full pack, going into the gas chamber, and getting two injections—typhoid and tetanus, in addition to the day's work and drill. They are about to get us into shape for sure.—*Pvt. William G. Campbell, Texas.*

The Roll Call

(Continued from last month)

VIRGINIA

Capt. C. C. Adkins, Army.
Capt. Alex V. Allen, Army.
Lt. W. T. Barns, Army.
Capt. John W. Beard, Army.
Capt. Joseph E. Beard, Army.
Lt. A. G. Birdsall, Air Force.
Lt. P. S. Blandford, Jr., Army.
Lt. R. R. Boyd, Army.
Lt. J. S Buchanan, Army.
Capt. Boyd C. Campbell, Army.
Lt. Paul M. Carper.
Capt. Wm. R. Carr, R. O. T. C.
Staff Sgt. Stephen S. Cassell, Jr., Army.
Sgt. Ralph A. Cleek, Army.
Capt. Richard S. Cofer, Army.
Lt. Robert J. Copenhaver.
Lt. Guy R. Davis, Army.
Lt. Roy B. Davis, Jr., Army.
Lt. Col. Glenn G. Dickenson, Army.
Lt. Peyton Douglas, Army.
Capt. Homer B. Eller, Army.
Capt. Werdna W. Eure, Army
Lt. Peter H. Fitzgerald, Army.
Pvt. John W. Freeman, Army.
Lt. Col. E. C. Greene, Jr., Army.
Maj. Frank M. Halsey, Army.
Lt. John L. Henderson, Army.
Pvt. Charles W. Henry, Army.
Lt. Tilman L. Hepler, Army.
Capt. Richelieu C. Hines, Army.
Pvt. Thomas M. Jackson, Army.
Lt. Andrew J. Jessee.
Capt. James M. Johns, Army.
Capt. Ed. M. Jones, Army.
Capt. Daniel J. Kelly, Army.
Maj. G. Dan Kite, Army.
Capt. Samuel B. Land, Army.
Lt. D. W. Landford.
Pvt. (1st cl.) George A. Lee, Army.
Lt. William H. Lyne, Army.
Capt. Charles C. Mast, Navy.
Lt. J. L. Maxton, U.S.N.R.
Lt. Gilbert A. McLearen
Capt. James L. Montague, Jr., Army.
Maj. Fitzhugh C. Moore, Army.
Capt. Edwin B. Morse, Army.
Pvt. Martin F. Osborne. Army Air Force.
Lt. Albert H. Phillips.
Lt. Henry B. Powers, Army.
Lt. Fred L. Price, Army.
Sgt. B. M. Priode, Army.
Pvt. (1st cl.) William A. Quick, Jr., Army.
Pvt. William B. Ramsey, Army.
Capt. Paul W. Rose, Army.
Pvt. L. R. Russell, Army.
Pvt. E. H. Schabinger, Army.
Lt. Robert D. Sears, Army.
Ph.M. (2d cl.) Eugene L. Seay, Jr., Navy.
Pvt. Robert G. Shipley, Army.
Capt. William E. Skelton, Army.
Battery Officer N. C. Terry, Merchant Marine.
Capt. Woodrow W. Turner, Army.
Capt. Vernon A. Watts, Army.
Cecil Wheary.
SP (2d cl.) Clopton Wilkenson, Jr., N. A. T. T. C.

Additional names received recently

ALASKA

Harold W. Rice, district agricultural agent for the Matanuska Valley, Army.

CONNECTICUT

Maj. William L. Brown, New London County agent, Army.
Capt. Floyd M. Callward, associate professor of forestry, Army.
Maj. James K. Case, Fairfield County 4–H Club agent, Army.
Lt. Col. Howard Johnson, Windham County 4–H Club agent, Army.
Corp. John T. Merrill, assistant extension editor, Army.
Capt. Rex J. Morthland, assistant agricultural economist, Army.
Lt. Loy L. Sammet, assistant agricultural engineer, Navy.
Maj. Henry Sefton, Tolland County 4–H Club agent, Army.
1st Lt. Ralph Sturtevant, New London County agent, Army.

HAWAII

Lt. David A. Akana, extension farm forester, Molokai, Army.
Pvt. Robert C. Eckart, county agent, Kauai, Army.
Pvt. Edward T. Fukunaga, county agent, South Kona, Army.
Pvt. Satogi Hotta, extension stenographer, Maui, Army.
1st Lt. Gardner Hyer, county agent, Molokai, Army.
Pvt. Jay Kaneshiro, county agent, North Kona, Army.
Pvt. Norito Kawakami, assistant county agent, Kauai, Army.
Pvt. Kenichi Murata, assistant economist, University of Hawaii, Army.
Pvt. James Shigeta, assistant county agent, Maui, Army.
Corp. Shiro Takei, assistant economist, University of Hawaii, Army.

IOWA

Robert Rinehart, Air Corps.

LOUISIANA

Pfc. I. C. Borland, Army.
Kenneth Brumfield, Army Air Force.
Pvt. Jack B. Smith, Army.

NEBRASKA

Pvt. Ray Cruise, Army.
E. D. Fahrney, SK2c, Navy.
Gustaf W. Hokanson, S 2 c, Navy.
Ensign Paul Sindt, Navy.
Lt. Elouise Fisher Walters, M. C. W. R.

PENNSYLVANIA

Capt. James H. Book, Army.
Capt. James F. Keim, Army.
Lt. R. Willis Kerns, Marine Corps.
Maj. Harvey W. Rankin, Army.
Lt. Edna Stephany, Army.

Home demonstration work as I saw it

T. Swann Harding, editor of USDA, veteran editor of Government bulletins, as well as prolific magazine writer on agricultural and scientific subjects, recently visited extension activities in four Southern States—North Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, and Tennessee. His report on what he saw and heard included the following remarks on home demonstration work.

■ A pamphlet pamphlet on D. Lo - Using Little or No Meat appears to be all right here insofar a we can see, though we sometimes wonder what becomes of it after it leaves Washington. At meetings of home demonstration clubs I found out. There were demonstrations made of the recipes and reports from women who had tried out the dishes and found them valuable additions to the menu.

Distilling Bulletins in Few Words

Again, I came across numerous talks and mimeographed sheets in which the complex scientific information produced as a result of work by many specialists is translated into the simplest possible action terms. The content of whole bulletins is distilled into a few words of instruction and advice that can be printed on a single sheet of paper. These are distributed individually, by neighborhood leaders, and during meetings of farmers, along with such oral information and advice as seem pertinent. Not only are subjects like increasing the yield of corn, producing more pork, and increasing cotton yields covered in such material, but also the details of food conservation and preservation.

The home demonstration clubs have club leaders on such subjects as nutrition and health, home gardens, home poultry, food preservation, house furnishings, home management, home beautification, clothing, family relationship, war service, education, recreation, and so on, all of whom report at intervals and give worth-while information. The meetings often take place around a potluck luncheon or an evening dinner with the men present. Sometimes they are held in clubhouses that the clubs themselves have constructed, sometimes in the homes of members. The poise and composure of these farm women as they discuss their problems with strict parliamentary procedure, and their general appearance, contrast sharply with the old-fashioned stereotype of farm people.

Leaders Inspire Their Neighbors

Convincing home demonstration agents somehow inspire previously indifferent women to become interested in home beautification and then tackle the husband, no matter how old, busy, or uninclined to help, and before he knows it they have him beautifying the yard, learning the names of shrubs, and cackling over them when they grow well. Calls may come late in the evening, and a tired home demonstration agent will patiently go out to advise on room redecoration, new placement of furniture, making diagrams of yards to show where shrubs and trees should go, and so on. The agent must be on call all the time; she never can tell when a farm family may be inspired to revolutionize their environment and thus become a living demonstration for a neighborhood, many members of which will see and imitate what was done.

It's Like Getting Religion

The thing is almost like getting religion. Once the farm woman is convicted of sin about living in unattractive surroundings nothing will stop her; she will not only bring a recalcitrant husband around to her views subtly aided by the home demonstration agents, but she will go to work in a nearby store or plant to get the money to carry out her plan. Some places that appeared to have been veritable shacks have become strikingly modern and tremendously attractive owing to new but inexpensive color schemes, decorations, and changes in placement, color, or size—they'll saw down a bed while you wait—of furniture. I freely predicted ultimate lynchings of some of the home demonstration agents when resentment, long smothered in the hearts of obstinate old farmers and produced by the extra work required of them, would cause them to rebel.

Actually nothing of the kind will occur because the farmers no matter how gruff superficially, really like these goings on. Even middle-aged farmers and some in old age yield to the gospel of house and yard beautification and go to town. They then show you around the place half sheepishly, taking infinite, quasi-indifferent pride in the fact that they know the correct botanical names of a lot of shrubs, or often insisting they don't know them, and asking the wife to say them though they themselves do know them well. The home demonstration agents frequently get shrub clippings from large estates or commercial establishments and can distribute these free, many of them soon grow into plants worth $10 to even $50 and $75.

One farmer speculated interestingly on how the advent of the school bus had destroyed the old-time farm communities and how neighborhood leadership had brought them back into being, much to his satisfaction. You stop in at a clubhouse in midday and find 30 to 60 farm women from all round there making bandages in a building, they proudly inform you, that was built without any Government aid of any kind, and they

T. Swann Harding takes tea with Louisiana home demonstration agent (standing) and a farm woman in one of his busy days on the home demonstration job.

have marked on blackboards the fabulous numbers of bandages of certain types they have made.

You are told of one instance where a son, home from the Army on furlough after he had long been abroad, could not recognize his own home after his mother's work on it under the home demonstration agent's guidance, and burst into tears after he looked it over, wondering why and how they could have lived there so long without doing some of these things. Ideas of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics cease to be formal text and pictures in bulletins, but come to life in the form of curtains, redecorated walls, more attractively placed furniture, more conveniently arranged kitchens, and more abundant and better prepared foods.

Many of the farmers are proud that they produce all their own food except a little coffee, tea, pepper, sugar, salt, and flour. The women as proudly display their food pantries—often newly built and glowing white—bursting at times with left-overs from last year's canning campaigns. They also pitch in freely in labor shortages and undertake and perform field labor like men—taking courses in running tractors and so on, and then doing the job.

Here and there in Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico belongs with the Southern States from the Federal administrative standpoint and is, therefore, in the region where Mena Hogan is field agent in home demonstration work. After a little more than a year on the Federal staff, Miss Hogan recently made her first trip to the Island and here describes some of the things she saw and heard.

■ A month's stay on this small island is a rather wonderful experience—certainly one never to be forgotten.

The first impression of Puerto Rico, especially from the air, is that it isn't especially large. (It is only about 35 miles wide and nearly a hundred miles long.) By the time, however, you travel over the narrow, circuitous, mountainous highways, the island becomes, in your mind's eye at least, the size of the average Southern State. The population of nearly 2 million people bears out this impression.

Fortunately, I was able to travel over much of the Island and to observe the regular day-by-day activities of 18 home demonstration agents, accompanied by María T. Orcasitas, assistant director in charge of home demonstration work, and one of the district home demonstration agents. Visiting representative farm homes, talking with farm people, attending 4-H and home demonstration club meetings, visiting extension handicraft centers, seeing milk and feeding stations in operation—all were included in the 3 weeks' field trip.

Extension agents in Puerto Rico go literally where there are no roads. Walking was the answer in our case. Often the home demonstration agent, however, has a horse waiting for her at the highway's end. After a walk of some 4 or 5 kilometers, it was a very gratifying sight to pass house after house with the 4-H emblem displayed on the outside walls or to step inside and see, above a charcoal stove, a home demonstration food-production pledge. And we saw so many of these! Once we walked in the mid-afternoon sun for what appeared to be many miles, due to its up-hill nature, to the St. Joseph Church in the Franquez Barrio. Here Rosa Mario, 4-H Club president and one of a family of several children, presided over an excellent 4-H Club meeting. Twenty-six girls in their reports told of projects in swine, poultry, rabbits, gardening, and room improvement. Later, we visited many of these projects. Antonia Díaz Porto, their home demonstration agent, beamed as she told of achievements. Poverty in the homes was almost incredible, and yet these 4-H Club members had managed to do very creditable work with very little to do with.

Indeed, this was true with the adults as well. Home demonstration club members, of whom there are some 6,000 on the Island, have with so limited means made great changes in their living conditions. "We try to begin improvement demonstrations," Miss Orcasitas said, "with work designed to result in cleanliness and sanitation—then build from there." Barrel sinks, scrap-wood corner cupboards, orange-crate and nail-keg furniture represent a wonderful improvement in homes where there has been little or no furniture.

Examples of the ways home demonstration agents adapted their work to the Island's needs were numerous. Ana Victoria Jiménez, home demonstration agent at Río Grande, for example, in introducing the needs for additional greens in the diet, demonstrated before a group of foods leaders the cooking of yautia greens (only the root of this plant is commonly eaten) with coconut milk and achiote seed in a typical Puerto Rican method of cooking.

As meat is scarce and space is at a minimum, rabbit growing is very adaptable to the Island's needs. Agents are fast breaking down the prejudice against this food. Here again, however, they are introducing a relatively new food with old, well-established cooking methods.

Demonstration practices are particularly well used by the extension worker. One hardly needed to understand the Spanish involved to know what a demonstration was all about. Giving a demonstration in insect control before 4-H members, the insular extension horticulturist, Pedro Osuna ended up by saying in English for my benefit, "Goodbye, Slug." His graphic presentation, however, had already left me no doubts as to the identity of the pest. And all Latins are a natural for group discussions! This seemed to be a very effective method which county agricultural and home agents often used.

"Good nutrition for our families remains the biggest problem Extension has to deal with," commented Extension Director Medina.

After visiting rural milk stations named locally by home demonstration club leaders and seeing the hundreds of children, age 2 to 7 years, being fed in these centers, it seemed that much was being done about this problem. The insular nutrition program in general is an excellent one and apparently involves the cooperation of all agencies. I was impressed, too, with the interest county agricultural agents and extension specialists showed in this program. Commented Extension Agronomist F. Joglar Rodriguez: "At last we are coming to see the important relationship between the soil and nutrition."

Food production and conservation took on new meaning to all the Island as a result of the German submarine menace. Now, although food can get to Puerto Rico, the inhabitants remember their blockade and continue to plant every available inch of space for food production. Said Agricultural Agent Juan Arrillaga: "There is little waste land in Puerto Rico. Unfortunately, however, it is not always used to the best purpose. This is a problem we work on."

War has left its imprint in Puerto Rico as in the United States. Extension workers have redoubled their efforts to obtain increased food production and conservation without soil loss. There, as here, their whole program is geared around the war effort.

I find myself a broadcasting station

FRANCES RAE OPP, Home Demonstration Agent, Lake County, Ind.

■ Every Thursday at 1:15 p. m., from Radio Station WIND, Gary, Ind., the announcer begins: "We present The Homemakers' Hour, a weekly visit with your home demonstration agent, Miss Frances Rae Opp, from the Lake County Extension Office in Crown Point, Ind.," and I am on the air.

The program, a husky infant of the Extension Service in Lake County, was heard at first rather weakly, but now more lustily. The program, a 15-minute broadcast, has now been on for 14 months.

I have been at the "mike" for all but 4 of the 60 broadcasts since the program was established. I prepared transcriptions to fill 2 of those absences, and the other 2 were cared for by home bureau project leaders.

The purpose of the broadcast, simply stated, is to reach more women with approved homemaking practices than would be possible through personal contacts. The idea of publicizing Lake County home economics extension work is also in the foreground, along with the plan of being of greatest service to the 746 members of Lake County's 32 home economics clubs and many others as well.

Although without radio broadcasting experience, I was prompted to go "on the air" by the gasoline and tire situation and the attending travel difficulties. I believed that I could reach far more women by driving the 30 miles round trip from our office in Crown Point to Gary once each week than by driving to meet with the women personally. Were the travel situation too severe, the trip could be made by bus.

The results have been most gratifying. The radio station staff informed me that The Homemakers' Hour brings the most mail of any public service feature on their station. Thirty-nine mail requests have come from women in nearby Illinois, 2 from the State of Michigan, and 9 from Wisconsin asking for additional information. Indianapolis is the southernmost point from which mail has been received. Of the 59 Indiana "fan letters," 48 have been from Lake County.

Home bureaus in the county have obtained new members as a result of the broadcast. There are known instances of women at card club meetings inquiring of their home bureau member friends the best method of food preservation. When they learn that methods are given by the home demonstration agent in her

Homemakers' Hour broadcast, they listen in and often enroll.

I often meet strangers who tell me they have heard the program and obtained many timely bits of information on the ways to do home tasks.

"Fan mail" tells me that many practices recommended in the program broadcasts have been adopted by Lake County women. One recommended practice that has been widely adopted has been that of cooking meat at a lower temperature.

Many food-preservation practices recommended last summer, during a year of intensive food preservation to aid the war effort, were put into wide use by both farm and urban women. Use has also been made of recipes broadcast on the program. Some farm families who formerly lunched early are now having their lunch hour later so that they will be able to listen to the broadcasts.

Two home bureaus in the county which have their monthly meetings on Thursday listen to the broadcasts, and a third has changed its meeting hour from 1:30 to 1:45 o'clock to permit the members to listen to the broadcasts in their own homes.

The program is usually carried on from script, with the radio announcer interviewing me in conversational style. Frequently, however, I have a guest-studded program. Recent guests were: H. W. Hochbaum, from Washington, D. C., a Federal agricultural extension official who is in charge of the Nation's Victory Garden drive; also Associate Extension Director L. E. Hoffman of Purdue University; O. B. Combs, garden specialist from the University of Wisconsin; and L. C. French, agricultural editor of a Milwaukee newspaper. The program on which they appeared came to the radio audience from the Chicago studio of WIND.

Other guests have included State extension leaders from Purdue University, outstanding 4-H Club girls, home bureau project leaders, ministers, physicians, and extension choruses. More specifically, distinguished guests have included Miss Rachael Reed of New York City, national director of public relations for the Borden Company, and Miss Marguerite Downing, director of the Twin City unit of the National Dairy Council, Minneapolis-St. Paul.

An interesting local guest on one program was Mrs. Charles Breyfogle, large-scale asparagus grower, who discussed asparagus and canning with me.

We still are far from reaching the last woman down the road, but I believe radio is the best bet for so doing. By this method a home demonstration agent may have contact with any homemaker who will just turn the dial. And oh! What a thrill! It's the high spot in extension work. Only two things are necessary: Establish a known time, and then give your listeners your best. So, find yourself a broadcasting station, and let's "extend Extension."

Negro youth show fine stock

This was the second year that a department for Negroes was included in the South Carolina Fat-Stock Show held annually at Florence.

A creditable showing was made by Negro 4-H Club members the first year; but this year their show was remarkable, according to Director D. W. Watkins.

Out of 123 fine halter cattle shown in the entire show, 70 of them belonged to Negro 4-H Club members. Six of these graded U. S. Choice, 14 of them U. S. Good, and 30 of them U. S. Medium.

This department of the State show was in charge of H. S. Person, local Negro county agent; and the work was promoted over the State by Harry E. Daniels, Negro district agent.

The grand champion in this department was shown by Leana Mae Fore and the reserve champion by Alfred Graves, both of Marion County. This county had 18 Negro 4-H members with fat cattle on exhibit at this show, and they were under the supervision of G. W. Dean, Negro county agent for Marion County. William Thompson of Clarendon County beat this one when he showed up with 19 youngsters with fat cattle.

We Study Our Job

Poultry school of the air

Some 200,000 people tuned in regularly on Purdue's 10 radio broadcasts on Raising Victory Chicks, according to a study made of the Indiana Extension Poultry School of the Air. It was estimated that approximately 500,000 heard at least one of the broadcasts. A total of 3,995 enrolled students living in all of Indiana's 92 counties, 17 other States, and Canada enrolled in the school. Nearly 61 percent of the enrolled audience and 82 percent of those receiving certificates were rural homemakers.

Each poultry broadcast was a lesson directed at some wartime need and practice, such as, kinds of chicks to buy; furniture for the chick "nursery"; preparation and sanitation of the brooder house; and arrival, growth, and management of chicks.

Considerable advance publicity was given the Poultry School of the Air to secure enrollment. A news story was put out by the county agents. Another news story with a mat was distributed through the Purdue information department. A series of spot radio anouncements was prepared by the information department and used by all radio stations. Special transcriptions in the form of interviews were cut and sent to two stations to encourage enrollment. The county extension office distributed 30,000 copies of a special letter with a franked enrollment card enclosed. Direct contact by poultry specialists in 30 counties prior to the 10 broadcasts produced many enrollments.

More time was required by the specialists in preparing and presenting the radio material than was used in conducting meetings on the county level. However, on the basis of people reached per man-hours of travel and work the balance is probably in favor of the radio method. During the same period covered by the poultry school the extension poultry specialists contacted 5,408 people personally at 83 county meetings. Many poultry raisers were reached by radio who either would not, or could not attend county meetings.

Immediately upon enrollment each student was sent a schedule of the poultry broadcasts from all stations; franked cards for requesting bulletins or for asking questions; and 6 different bulletins and leaflets giving poultry pointers. Ten illustrated lesson plans were mailed to each listener enrolled about 3 days ahead of the time when the lesson was broadcast. Several key questions were left unanswered in each lesson plan and the only way to get the answer was to listen to the broadcast. The tenth lesson plan was in the form of an examination which the student could answer and return at his own expense. Those who successfully passed the examination were awarded an appropriate certificate.

Timeliness of the radio programs was important. Several schools taking up small phases of the poultry business appeared to fit the needs better than longer schools covering more material. Two broadcasts a week maintained interest better than weekly broadcasts. The noon hour was objectionable to many women listeners.—A REPORT OF THE PURDUE POULTRY SCHOOL OF THE AIR *by L. A. Wilhelm and J. W. Sicer, Indiana Extension Service. Purdue University Publication.*

Induction training of county workers

The Extension Service as a whole is now faced with one of the greatest tasks in its history—that of providing carefully planned induction training for its new county workers. The problem involves the need for training an estimated 825 new workers in normal years, and for the duration, approximately 1,500 a year, not including those employed with Farm Labor and emergency Food Production and Conservation funds.

Few, if any, of the States depend wholly upon any single method in their induction-training programs. A careful analysis of State induction-training procedures indicates the following methods being used:

1. Training period in State office before reporting to county.
2. Special visits from supervisors and subject-matter specialists.
3. Overlapping the period of employment of the new and old agents.
4. Apprenticeship with or help from experienced agents.
5. Schools or conferences for new agents.
6. Reading assignments and reference material for use on the job.—SUGGESTIONS FOR INDUCTION TRAINING OF COUNTY EXTENSION WORKERS *by J. P. Leagans, Federal Extension Service. Ext. Serv. Circ. 417. April 1944.*

Cumulated bibliography on extension research

This classified bibliography contains references to 418 research studies pertaining to the organization, administration, and methods of doing extension work. A brief annotation accompanies each reference, telling the phases of the subject covered, how the data were obtained, and the size of the sample.

For the first time a detailed index to the specific findings in these studies is made available. There are more than 4,700 references presented alphabetically by subjects.

The index of authors contains the names of 348 extension workers whose contributions to the field of extension research are included.

This bibliography, which supersedes others on the subject issued previously, includes references to all extension research studies available to the author up to November 1943. It is the plan to issue supplements to this bibliography as the accumulation of studies warrants.

The Division of Field Studies and Training in the Federal Extension Office maintains a reference file of extension research material. All but a very few of the 418 studies included in the bibliography are in this reference file. Those missing are theses of which no extra copies are available. However, these theses were borrowed long enough to make a short summary of the findings and these summaries are included in the reference file. An effort is made to keep this file up to date. Not only are the research reports catalogued, classified, and filed, but as each new report is received a detailed index is made of the findings and these references become a part of the cumulative subject index. It will be helpful if extension workers will send in copies of their studies as they are made so that all may have the benefit of the information contained in them.

Due to the size of this bibliography and the current shortage of paper only a limited number of copies have been duplicated at this time. One copy has been sent to each State Extension Director, agricultural college library, and experiment station library.

This Bibliography on Extension Research was compiled by Lucinda Crile of the Federal Extension Service and will be issued soon as U. S. Department of Agriculture Extension Service Circular 416, 1944.

Every home has a garden

When the Victory Garden leaders met in Cleveland, Ohio, early this year, one of the reports which made the others sit up and take notice was given by Paul G. Swayne, chairman of the Middletown, Ohio, Victory Garden Committee. "A wonderful report," said Mr. Hochbaum, chairman of the National Victory Garden Committee, who obtained a copy which is here highlighted for readers of the Extension Service Review as a sample of what can be done in industrial and community gardens.

■ Middletown, Ohio, is a manufacturing town of about 30,000 which boasts a Victory Garden for every home, for a check shows that there is some produce growing in every back yard. The town points with even more pride to its community and industrial gardens—1,500 industrial gardens, 2,500 community and home gardens, and an additional 1,000 or more in the immediate vicinity under the direction of the Victory Garden committee.

These gardens are large ones, too—50 by 50 feet, 50 by 100 feet, and 100 feet square. The percentage of failures was relatively small last year in spite of a tremendous labor turn-over. There was a reason for this which included organization, follow-up, and education

The general educational program includes leader-training meetings, open forums, many newspaper articles, a Victory Garden bulletin service, and personal service for garden problems. This year, authorities on each phase of gardening such as planning, the varieties to plant, insect control, preservation, and other vital garden subjects will come to Middletown under the auspices of the committee to talk to Victory gardeners. Garden clinics and open forums are already being planned.

The nutrition aspect of gardening is not neglected. Nutrition specialists are brought to town, and the facilities of the local utilities auditorium and kitchen are in constant use. Last year, demonstrations were given in the largest theater; and motion pictures, especially "Canning the Victory Crop," proved popular with the local gardeners. Nutrition leaders worked with a large number of housewives, helping them to follow the slogan, "Plant to conserve; can to preserve."

To understand the garden program, you have to understand Middletown, which Mr. Swayne, Victory Garden chairman, describes:

"We have as the focal point, our Civic Association, an organization which combines, under one head, all of the welfare, social, patriotic, and civic institutions. Each workman contributes voluntarily a small sum each month to the Civic Association fund. Also unique to Middletown is the Industrial Defense Council composed of the top-ranking officials of every Middletown industry. It is from this organization that we receive our 100-percent industrial cooperation in the garden program. Our committee was organized under the OCD and functions as part of the war program."

The executive committee was kept small because it was felt that a small committee of specialists would function better than a large committee. Last year there were eight members; this year three more were added, and each one has a specific part to play. Besides the chairman, there is a vice chairman and coordinator; a secretary who is secretary of all committees under OCD; a nutrition head who is the head of the OCD nutrition program also; a procurement and preparation officer; a civil engineer supplied from the city engineer's office as the garden lay-out authority; an assignment officer who takes care of all community garden-plot assignments; a technical adviser who is one of the county's leading greenhouse operators; an industrial coordinator who is elected by the industrial coordinators' group to represent them on the executive committee; a chemist who is in charge of the fertilizer and insecticide work; a representative of the garden clubs, and a representative of the municipal gardens for municipal employees.

Each industry appoints a man as industrial garden coordinator who heads up the company's garden committee and works with the executive committee. Everything which affects the industrial gardens is worked out jointly with these coordinators. Industries alone had 118 acres in gardens last year and are increasing their acreage this year. Many have land adjacent to their buildings that is suitable for gardening, and one corporation has used a whole farm where some of the most successful community plots are located. The municipal government also has a farm near enough for a large number of people to utilize the garden plats.

The city gardening department not only surveys and plots the gardens but provides the committee with scale prints of each group. All garden plots are fertilized. A nominal fee covers the cost of fertilizer and land preparation. Last year, the cost per garden was $2. Middletown has found that where a charge is made there is a better garden.

The success of the program, according to Mr. Swayne, is due to the cooperation of individuals, industries, schools, Boy Scouts, garden clubs, and service clubs. With the individual and collective planning of the executive committee, Middletown has a Victory Garden program with an over-all coverage.

An idea grows into trees

It isn't very often that an idea grows into 2,250,000 trees, but that is what happened in Wisconsin in the school forests now growing in many parts of the State. The idea was transplanted by Harry L. Russell who, as dean of the college of agriculture and director of the Agricultural Extension Service, made a trip to Australia in 1925–26 and saw school children there busily planting trees in school forests. It looked to him to be a good idea for Wisconsin where thousands of acres of forests had been cut over.

He brought the idea back and interested Wakelin McNeal (Ranger Mac), assistant State 4–H Club leader, in it. Since then the idea has grown, until now 208 schools have planted and are caring for forests of their own. More than 2,500,000 trees grow on these 14,000 acres of school forests, and more are being planted every year.

The village of Laona, in Forest County, was the first to plant a forest, mostly pine, on an 80-acre tract near the village. These trees now stand more than 20 feet high. When the trees reach maturity, they are logged on a selective basis, cutting the "ripe" trees to insure perpetuation of the forest.

Tracts of land vary from 5 to 10 acres to more than 100, reports Ranger Mac who has charge of the program. Some are bought by outright purchase by the school, whereas others are given to the schools by persons interested in forestry. One 80-acre tract near Stevens Point was willed to several school districts in Portage County.

Trees are provided without charge by the Wisconsin Conservation Department to schools that meet requirements. More than 300,000 trees were planted last year.

Junior forest ranger clubs under the direction of the 4–H Club leader plant and care for the trees. In these forests, many Wisconsin 4–H Club members learn practical forestry and an appreciation of nature in their Wisconsin woods.

Among Ourselves

■ RUTH T. RUSSELL, the new Connecticut home demonstration leader, is a former Massachusetts 4–H Club girl. Born in Townsend, she was a club member and also a local club leader. She was a charter member of the 4–H Service Club of Middlesex County. After graduation from the University of Connecticut, she served as home demonstration agent in Grafton County, N. H., and in New London and Hartford Counties, Conn. Miss Russell succeeds Edith L. Mason who recently retired from the Extension Service.

■ THORA V. EGLAND is the new State 4–H Club agent in Minnesota. She was born, educated, and achieved distinction in 4–H Club work in Hennepin County, Minn. Graduated from the University of Minnesota, she taught for a year in Wisconsin and then came to Freeborn County, Minn., as home demonstration agent, where she has served for the past 8 years.

■ CARLTON C. ELLIS, native of Meriden, Conn., and graduate of the Connecticut Agricultural College, now University of Connecticut, has been appointed extension poultry pathologist at the Massachusetts State College at Amherst. He is a graduate of New York Veterinary College at Cornell, receiving his degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1931. He received his Ph. D. from Cornell Graduate School in 1936. From 1937 to 1944 he was veterinary pathologist with the Vermont Department of Agriculture. He has also had commercial experience.

■ CLYDE C. NOYES, county agent in Red Willow County, Nebr., was recently presented with the McCook Junior Chamber of Commerce gold key for community service in 1943. He has carried on a comprehensive agricultural program and has been successful in 4–H Club work, the pasture-forage-livestock program, soil conservation, and other things.

■ F. M. RAST, veteran county agent of Clarendon County, S. C., died recently.

Going to Clarendon 20 odd years ago, he found marketing to be the main problem of that strictly rural county. With the aid of a few interested farmers and businessmen, he organized what he called the Clarendon County Market Bureau and launched out on a career of growing usefulness in selling all manner of things that the farmers grew, but for which there did not exist any other marketing facility. This organization is now housed in its own handsome brick building, where a manager handles the varied details of the marketing work with the full cooperation of the county and home agents.

Mr. Rast was the first to organize what is called a "100-percent community" in which local leaders are enlisted to carry out certain extension projects as nearly 100 percent among the people living there as possible. All counties in the State are now doing some of this same sort of thing.

A few years ago, he received the distinguished service award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. He became interested in retaining one of the work camps used in constructing the great Santee-Cooper power plant as a 4–H camp or for use by all sorts of extension groups. The camp was acquired by Clemson College and is now being modernized and changed to best suit that purpose. The vast lake was mostly in his county, and he was in charge of this camp project from its inception to his death. It was one of his chief interests. It contains 72 cabins, along with other adequate buildings, and is situated on a peninsula that juts away out into the lake.

■ WAKELIN McNEEL, "Ranger Mac" of radio fame, who was written up in the August 1943 REVIEW, succeeds Thomas L. Bewick as Wisconsin State 4–H Club agent.

McNeel entered the 4–H Club office in July 1922. Before entering 4–H Club work, Ranger Mac was a school superintendent, a Y. M. C. A. secretary, and always in contact with youth. In the last war, McNeel served overseas with the Y. M. C. A. and later did forestry work in Germany.

The school forests of Wisconsin are largely due to Ranger Mac's interest and enthusiasm in conservation. His work in 4–H Clubs includes conservation, tying in forestry and home beautification programs, and wildlife projects. Ranger Mac has been active in promoting outdoor camp programs.

In addition to the school-forest activity, thousands of native trees, shrubs, and flowers have been planted by rural boys and girls in projects sponsored by the 4–H Club office and the State conservation department, in which McNeel's interest has helped to create the unusual response.

Ranger Mac carries his enthusiasm for the outdoors into his own home life and has created a home of natural beauty. A sportsman, he is a canoeing fan and has made many trips on Wisconsin rivers.

His appointment as State 4–H Club leader assures 4–H members and leaders that the program of 4–H Club work in Wisconsin will be continued and improved.

■ DANIEL W. WORKING, a pioneer extension worker, died recently at his home near Denver, Colo. A graduate of Kansas Agricultural College, he received his master of arts degree from Denver University. He was master of the Colorado Grange from 1892 to 1894, secretary of the Colorado State College of Agriculture at Fort Collins from 1893 to 1897, superintendent of Arapahoe County schools from 1905 to 1907, was in the U. S. Department of Agriculture farm management office from 1911 to 1913, and from 1914 to 1919 was field agent for the Western States in county agent work. He was the author of numerous books and articles on agriculture and collaborated in writing a history of Colorado agriculture.

■ MRS. ANNETTE T. HERR, who retired as State home demonstration leader in Massachusetts on February 1, has been in Washington for the past few months helping to prepare for the annual meeting of the Home Economics Association in Chicago this month. For the past 17 years Mrs. Herr has been State home demonstration leader in Massachusetts, and during that time she has been instrumental in developing the home demonstration work to its present usefulness in the State. She has been particularly interested in analyzing the work of the county home demonstration agents and studying the participation of rural women in the work.

On her retirement, Director Wilson wrote her: "In your position as State leader for Massachusetts, you have not only proved to be an able leader, but you have helped the College and the State Extension Service to establish the field of home economics on a sound and permanent basis. As an extension home demonstration leader, your influence has extended far beyond your State."

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

REPORTS OF NUTRITION CLINICS conducted by Dr. Walter E. Wilkins, such as those in Georgia described on page 83, continue to come in. In South Carolina, Dr. Wilkins assisted the State extension service in conducting clinics before all State and county extension workers and the State nutrition committee.

In Mississippi, all State extension staff members attended a clinic at Jackson. Later, the State nutrition committee and the State public health department sponsored a nutrition clinic for approximately 300 home economists of the Mississippi Home Economics Association.

Dr. Wilkins appeared in January before all Arkansas extension workers at their annual extension conference. During April, a series of six nutrition clinics sponsored jointly by the Arkansas consumer interests and nutrition committee and the Arkansas Public Health Service were held in the State.

Other nutrition clinics in the South have been held at Louisville, Ky.; Columbia, S. C.; and Memphis, Tenn.

BALANCED FARMING was the subject of discussion at a conference in Chicago April 20–22. As the war is throwing many farming operations out of balance, the group discussed how the feed and livestock balance, the soils and crop-production balance, and the labor balance might be restored in farming. The conference included four farm-management specialists, two extension supervisors, two farm-crops specialists, one soils man, one county agent, one animal husbandman, one assistant director, and one agricultural engineer.

BETTER RADIO PROGRAMS was the object of a series of five radio conferences completed in New York State during May to help home demonstration agents with their local radio programs. Each of the 1-day training schools was geared to meet the problems of radio stations of different size and facilities. Agents attended those which best met their own local needs. The problems, policies, and point of view of station managers was emphasized, and the station manager was there to explain it in person. About 40 agents took advantage of the training school and are beginning to report results.

A RURAL-URBAN women's conference held May 9 and 10 in Washington proved an inspiration to those who attended. Mrs. Lillie M. Alexander, home demonstration agent in Madison County, Ala., now studying at Columbia University, took part and has promised to write what the conference meant to her for an early issue of the REVIEW. Many of the rural women present spoke of home demonstration clubs.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of Family Relations and the National Council of Parent Education will meet with the American Home Economics Association, June 20, to discuss some of the problems war has made acute in these times and the adjustments that will be necessary to meet them. Many extension specialists in parent education and child care and other home demonstration workers will take part and plan to develop a program which all extension workers can use.

SIXTY-ONE ELECTRICAL REPAIR SCHOOLS were held in South Carolina last year where 1,826 pieces of electrical equipment were cleaned, repaired, and adjusted. This equipment included everything on a farm from electric clocks to ensilage cutters. Eighty percent of the counties participated. A representative of a power company assisted with approximately 25 of these schools, helping not only in his own territory but in other parts of the State where the power company and electric cooperative there were not able to supply the demand.

SLIDEFILMS—NEW AND TIMELY—See Nos. 626, Forest Fires Delay Victory; 642, Prevent Farm Fires; 643, Step by Step in Everyday Tasks; 645, Join Us on the Farm Front; No. 644, Wartime Food Conservation Among Negro Farmers; and No. 647, Help Wanted!!! Women's Land Army Needs Workers.

These new slidefilms are available in both single and double frame. The double frame is recommended, especially if you desire to mount the frames into slides. A strip of each slidefilm has been deposited for your inspection with the extension agricultural editor at your State agricultural college.

"OUR EXTENSION JOB FOR 1944 and My Part in It" is the title of a little Massachusetts two-page folder written for extension workers. After seven features of the 1944 job are given briefly, it reads: "My part is to keep myself well informed and, with an open mind, to plan my work in advance so that it may be effective and I may waste no effort, seek the counsel of those I serve that knowledge of the local situation may keep my program sound, develop rural leadership that the work may not be limited by my own time and strength—work in coordination with other organizations—use each teaching method as skillfully as I can, making each demonstration, talk, letter, and news article an effective unit, use several methods in each teaching effort, for people learn through repetition and respond to varying approaches."

LOUISIANA FARMERS' ALMANAC for 1944 is a new extension publication full of interesting information arranged by months. Timely advice is given on what to do in the month of May on field crops, truck crops, livestock, poultry, food preservation, and farm and home management. This was distributed through neighborhood leaders as well as in other ways.

THREE UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE bulletins recently received in the office are the colorful Nebraska leaflet, Fruit for Home Use, which has all the glamour of the popular seed catalogs; Short Cuts in Food Production, an Iowa bulletin profusely and well illustrated, which is easy to read and attracts attention with its use of blue backgrounds; and Frozen Foods from Freezer Lockers which was brought back from Utah by Reuben Brigham on a recent trip, and is, as he says, a gem in every way.

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Three decades of extension work July 1, 1914–July 1, 1944

Two tidal waves of war, and the backwash of the first World War have set the stage for extension work. Only a short time before the first conflict began, the Smith-Lever Act was passed by Congress and signed by the President. It is doubtful if this Nation could have turned out the tremendous quantities of food and fiber during the present war if it had not been for the painstaking spread of scientific research into actual farm practice developed between two world wars. Milestones along the path fall into three general periods.

The First World War 1914–1918

- Crop failures in 1916 were accentuated by hungry armies and devastated farms in war-torn Europe.
- More food must be produced . . . conservation is the watchword . . . Food Administration set up to conserve food and eliminate waste.
- 1,600 new emergency demonstration agents, men and women, set to work.
- The prairies are plowed to sow wheat . . . food and more food is the message carried by extension agents to farmers.
- Seed is a problem . . . 132,000 farmers helped to obtain seed . . . labor is scarce . . . 66,000 laborers supplied in Northern and Western States . . . war gardens flourish . . . 160,000 helped with war gardens.
- Canning schools are everywhere . . . agents demonstrate canning in every hamlet and crossroads . . . 335 canning centers established in 33 States . . . 3 million women reached with the war message of conservation.
- 300,000 cattle moved from dry Texas to good pastures in the East to conserve meat supply.
- November 11, Armistice Day, and the war is over . . . the farms must go back to a peacetime program.

Between Two World Wars 1919–1938

- Armies back to work . . . devastated farms in Europe again planted . . . food exports shrink . . . farm plant geared to big production . . . surpluses accumulate.
- Drought . . . plowed-up prairies blow . . . great Dust Bowl develops, bringing hard times for farmers.
- Surpluses mount . . . too much cotton, too much wheat . . . agents work on marketing problems . . . help with cooperative marketing . . . economic and marketing surveys . . . more economics . . . education program strengthened.
- Farm Board struggles with surplus problem . . . agents give wholehearted cooperation.
- Seed loans, relief measures . . . 1931 drought lays barren vast farm areas . . . Secretary designates drought counties . . . agents help move cattle out of drought area or get hay in.
- Depression grows . . . relief for low-income farmer . . . canning centers, home food supply.
- AAA tackles surplus problems . . . agents work early and late explaining regulations, straightening tangles.
- New agencies multiply to meet increasing needs. FSA, SCS, FCA, REA, and others set up in counties with help of agent.
- Surpluses still haunt agriculture . . . conservation of the soil looms large . . . parity payments, liberalized credit are part of agents' work.
- Farm income goes up . . . again war clouds gather in Europe.

The Second World War 1939–1944

- Conflagration in Europe vitalizes defense . . . food is first line of defense . . . strengthening the weakest link . . . nutrition becomes extension watchword . . . make America strong by making Americans stronger . . . 5 million cotton mattresses a monument to home demonstration work in effort to cut the cotton surplus.
- Land use planning to solve problems . . . county land use planning committees appointed . . . reports bring together valuable information . . . discussion groups flourish.
- Food is a weapon . . . defense goals set, more milk, more pork, more dried beans, more tomatoes, more eggs . . . lend-lease brings demand from war-weary countries . . . extension staff go all out in achieving goals.
- Bumper crops of 1942 quickly absorbed by war needs . . . more food needed . . . work longer, harder . . . several thousand extra personnel helped enlist emergency farm labor in 1943 . . . 6,150 farm placement offices opened . . . 3½ million workers placed.
- Neighborhood leaders trained to carry war messages to farm families . . . anti-inflation information . . . help with rationing, draft deferment.
- Victory Gardens planted on farms and city lots . . . agents talk seeds, fertilizer, insects, to many million gardeners.
- Conservation in the limelight . . . save metal scrap, save fat, machinery clinics save farm machinery . . . eliminate fire and accident waste . . . save food, 4 billion cans preserved in 1943 . . . save money and buy bonds.
- Grow more in '44 . . . 800 war food production and conservation specialists go to work . . . 1,164 former agents fighting their country's battles at front . . . Extension Service still carriers on to win the war.

The next 30 years

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

Extension work grew out of the needs of rural people. Its record for 30 years has shown it to be an instrument for good which rests primarily in the hands of rural people. Extension work is not an instrument of pressure groups or an agency for which any political party can claim special interests. Its success goes back to the principle of cooperation, which was basic in its founding. Even before the Smith-Lever Act became a reality, farmers in many parts of the country had learned that most of the problems facing them could be solved through obtaining an intelligent understanding and appraisal of the facts, coupled with a sincere effort at cooperation. Providing the facts became the job of the Extension Service.

In the past few years we have seen tremendous developments in the field of applied science. Right now we are holding our breath to see whether scientific man can organize the conditions under which people live on a human basis, or whether man is to go back to a new form of barbarism.

The present world-wide war represents a climactic phase which will show whether science shall be allied with good or evil. Any thoughts about the future must, therefore, hinge on the outcome of the present world struggle. Any looking ahead must be on the basis of hope and faith in Victory, rather than in the form of predictions of things to come.

Adult Education Will Expand

Currently we hear educational leaders say frequently that the post-war period will require a great deal more emphasis on adult education. The results achieved in the training of military personnel make it obvious that education should not stop at the fourth or the eighth grade. As we look into the future, we can see an ever greater use of extension principles in the whole field of adult education.

When hostilities cease, we may expect a world-wide movement in agriculture which will express an interest in extension work among the working farmers of many countries. This world-wide interest in better farming and farm living will draw considerably from the experiences we in the United States have acquired in 30 years of extension work.

Science will continue its forward march. Application of science in agriculture will move with greater rapidity than at any time in the past. We need only to mention developments such as those coming out of the experiments carried on at the Beltsville Research Center and at some of our State agricultural experiment stations. They demonstrate the power of scientific progress that is not confined to improving germ plasm.

On a recent trip to the West Director B. H. Crocheron of the California Extension Service showed me a settlement of Portuguese farmers in the San Francisco area. These farmers today have the same number of cows they had in 1920; but during the short interim of 24 years, the milk production of their herds has been doubled through the use of scientific feeding, sanitation, and breeding—a splendid example of extension work meeting its responsibility.

Time and Distance Spanned

Today man can fly from Los Angeles to New York in 6 hours. Any distance between two points in the entire Western Hemisphere can be spanned under satisfactory conditions in 48 hours. In the matter of communications, distance and time have been practically wiped out. Think seriously about these developments. What scientific agriculture has done with genetics and improvement in livestock management is fully as important as what our engineers have done in aviation or in industrial manufacture. All are a part of the kaleidoscopic changes we may expect in the whole field of science and technology.

Whether extension work will continue to be largely concerned with the transfer of science and research into applied practice; whether we shall continue to be concerned chiefly with the technology of the farm and household; or whether we can continue our leadership in these fields and add to it something deeper than science are questions we shall have to face after the war. According to geologists, the human family has inhabited our planet for approximately 700,000 years. Those figures are not supposed to be exact. They merely express magnitude and give us the picture that man has been man for a long time. Through these centuries, scientific progress was very slow—until about 150 years ago. Since then, developments in science have been ever more rapid. After the first World War, for instance, much emphasis was placed on agricultural economics. Today we know that an understanding of agricultural economics is important for all who want to engage in teaching agriculture. But, in the face of technological developments, we need to go beyond economics.

Definitely linked with the welfare of mankind is a field which I like to call the science of man. I should like to see our agricultural colleges develop a course in the science of man. Such a course would bring together all that science tells us about the nature of man. By the time the student had completed such a course, he would have found that a considerable amount of knowledge about our existence is not covered in present-day textbooks. He would find that religion and environment play as important a part in our spiritual development as nutrition and chemistry do in our physical well-being.

Such a course could be made the elementary stepping stone toward greater interest and participation by those who graduate from our agricultural colleges, particularly extension workers, in efforts to work out patterns of living in an age of modern technology. For, if we use wisdom as well as knowledge about technology and science, if we stress philosophy and ethics as well as physics and mechanical knowledge, we have it in our power to develop a higher form of civilization than mankind has yet seen. Placing emphasis on how to live as well as on how to make a living provides the Extension Service with a real challenge.

Things Will Be Different

Yes, things will be different in the next 30 years from things as they were in the period, 1914 to 1918. In the past 10 years, numerous administrative agencies have come into the field. Most of these, in my opinion, are here to stay to the extent that they provide certain services which farmers need and want. This means that though the Extension Service is not the only agency serving the rural public, it is agriculture's educational agency, on which farmers and the other agencies rely cooperatively for educational leadership.

So extension work in the future will require an even higher degree of professional training than in the past. We may expect an expansion of the services we are called upon to render especially in county offices. With such an expansion of services and programs will come improved opportunities in the way of working conditions, income, security, and retirement provisions, and other features that are commensurate with the degree of responsibility involved.

All these are things to which we and those from among us who are now in the military service may look forward.

History repeats itself

ANDREW W. HOPKINS, Editor, University of Wisconsin

Extension, like history, is repeating itself.

For, strikingly similar to those offered 25 years ago to war-weary housewives are the suggestions given today by extension workers to busy homemakers.

Although ration books have added perplexities to 1944 food shopping, homemakers of a quarter of a century ago were also confronted with certain shortages. Five extension bulletins issued by the University of Wisconsin in the last war reflect the food situation in 1917 and 1918, and a similar number indicate some of the food problems of the shopper of today.

On the cover of a 1917–18 circular, How to Cook Soybeans, are the words: "Soybeans have long been used in this country as a food for animals. The United States Department of Agriculture has recently suggested them as a food for man."

Since then, we've certainly come a long way in our regard for the nutritious soybean, for today it is high up in the list in public interest. We find Wisconsin homemakers have recently been offered a "best seller" in "Soybean Dishes—New and Old."

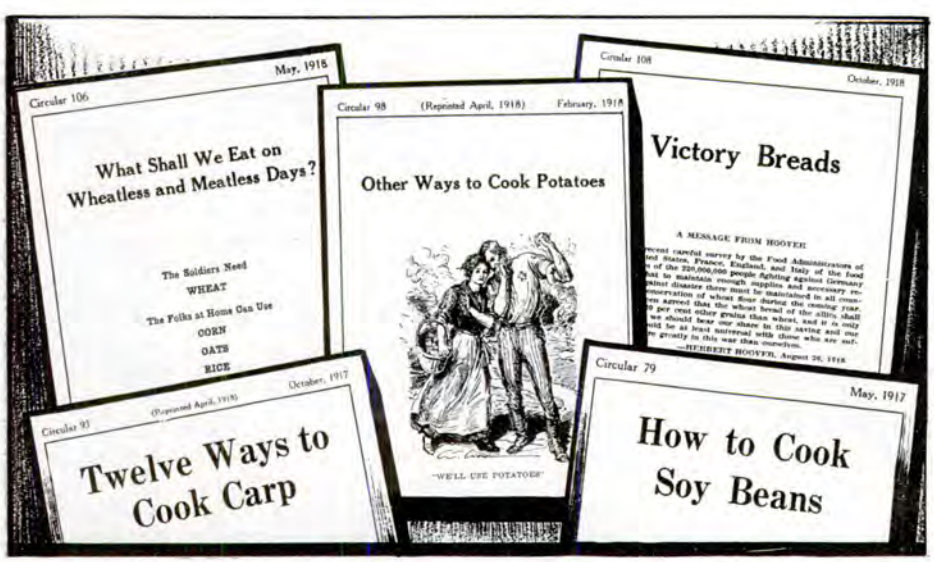
What Shall We Eat on Wheatless and Meatless Days? was the subject of a World War I extension circular when cooks contended with wheat as well as with meat shortages. Offered in 1918 were oatmeal-flour bread, barley bread, corn-flour bread, and even rice bread! Victory bread was the common loaf of the Allies, says another circular, made of at least 20 percent substitute flours and 80 percent of wheat flour. The housewife, it seems, had to purchase 20 pounds of substitute flours for each 80 pounds of wheat flour or buy the Victory mixed flour made up in those proportions.

The following sentence from another 1918 bulletin might have been taken from a 1944 bulletin: "Not only are fats needed to feed a fighting army, but they are also necessary for making many kinds of munitions for that army. Wasting fats now or using more than necessary is unpatriotic."

Again, a World War I circular has been echoed in World War II. Other Ways to Cook Potatoes was designed to put across the tuber in place of wheat, though this time there is emphasis on the potato for good nutrition in thrifty meals. A current USDA circular suggests "Potatoes in Low-Cost Meals."

Fish to fill in on meatless days was common in the last war, and homemakers are using it again. A unique approach to the fish problem was suggested in 1917, 'Twelve Ways to Cook Carp!"—a fish sometimes found in Wisconsin waters. Scalloped carp, carp salad, and savory carp stew were three of the ways cited. Although carp has not had much attention as far as food use goes, recent studies have shown that carp liver is very high in Vitamin A and may be used commercially.

No matter what the year, or the circumstance, homemakers are always faced with some food problem. And often the solution, whether in World War I or World War II, has proved "There's nothing new under the sun."



Extension anniversary in Mississippi and Nebraska

The Mississippi and Nebraska extension people observed the thirtieth anniversary in different ways.

Mississippi Extension Service observed the anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act by having supper. The celebration was postponed from May 8 to May 15 as most of the workers were to be at State College for a conference at that time. Six present Mississippi extension workers, who were members of the extension force at the time of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act, were honored at the supper. These workers were H. A. Carpenter, county agent, Sunflower County; J. W. Whitaker, county agent, Washington County; J. W. Willis, extension cotton specialist; L. A. Higgins, extension dairyman; J. E. Tanner, administrative assistant; and W. C. Mims, northeast district agent, State College.

Other present members of the staff who were also extension workers in 1914 included G. C. Mingee, county agent, De Coto County; May Ellen Haddon, extension nutritionist, State College; Mary Ella Doney, extension food preservation specialist, State College; A. E. Terry, county agent, Tate County; M. M. Hubert, Negro district agent, Jackson; and Harris Barnes, county Agent, Coahoma County.

The interesting program of music and talks included a historical sketch of the Federal Extension Service, by Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director of the Federal Extension Service, who was taking part in the conference.

In Nebraska extension workers commemorated the anniversary by a story on Turning Back the Clock in the May issue of the Nebraska Agricultural Extension Service News. Names and pictures of extension workers employed before 1919 are given. These include V. S. Culver, C. W. Pugsley, C. E. Gunnels, W. H. Brokaw, E. H. Hoppert, Mary Ellen Brown, Harry G. Gould, J. F. Lawrence, LaVern Henderson, Neva England, George H. Kellogg, A. H. DeLong, J. H. Purbaugh, L. I. Frisbie, Jessie Greene, N. W. Gaines.

Appreciation event

This year for the first time, the Orange County, N. Y., 4–H Council sponsored the appreciation banquet for 4–H Club leaders with an attendance of 50 leaders and guests. The council gave the leaders 4–H pencils, place cards, 4–H napkins, and a year's subscription for the National 4–H Club News. Flag sets of the 4–H and American flags were given to three 20-year leaders.

How many workers?

B. H. CROCHERON, Director, California Extension Service

■ The State Farm Labor office in California and all of its 130 county farm labor offices are planning and working as diligently and as intelligently as possible to anticipate the needs of California farmers and growers.

A comprehensive survey, made last winter and during the early spring by the field personnel of the farm labor offices, has provided the first detailed picture of our seasonal labor needs by crops, by area, and by weeks and months.

The survey, unique in the annals of agricultural labor reporting, is a practical attempt to determine the actual number of workers that should be on hand in local areas to handle the specific farm activities of that area.

California, with more than 200 different commercial crops, and with farming activities going on in every month of the year, is vulnerable insofar as available manpower is concerned. It will be necessary to plan into the future if the harvests of the peak months of August, September, and October are to be gathered.

It is hoped that the farm labor survey will prove a valuable guide in determining local needs well in advance of an emergency and will enable the farm labor offices to route migrant workers and to recruit volunteers in their own communities and from large cities to meet the situation.

Survey Shows Labor Needs

In agriculture, needs arise suddenly and recede as suddenly. If a critical local labor situation arises, we suffer serious losses. The farm labor survey, based on acreages, production, crop distribution, and worker outputs, will indicate the approximate numbers of workers needed.

Volunteers and migrant workers, the crux of California's agricultural picture this year as in 1943, must be depended on for a major portion of the seasonal harvest work.

Forty-five harvest camps for girls, women, and boys are already scheduled to meet peak needs. The first of the camps opened early in June in Kern and Contra Costa Counties, with others opening later in June. Fifteen camps are to start in July, 11 in August, and a few are scheduled to start in September and October.

Increased interest in harvest camps for this season is reflected in the greater number scheduled.

Twenty-three counties, from Tehama in the north to San Diego in the south, have filed requests for 45 camps, an even dozen more than in 1943 and with 7 additional counties participating. About 4,000 women, girls, and boys will be needed to fill the camps.

Most of the camps are for periods of 2 to 4 or 5 weeks; although many of them will be open for nearly the entire summer, and a few will be in operation for several months.

The work entails picking and packing fruit, berries, nuts, and some of the vegetable crops.

Last year, farm labor reports reveal, more than 55,000 high school and college boys and girls engaged in harvest work, with the great majority in day-to-day jobs near their homes. Nearly 30,000 women spent some time in the harvest fields. Demands on workers this year are expected to double these totals.

Army Wives Volunteer

In the Lompoc and Santa Maria areas of California, wives of army men are volunteering for the Women's Land Army; and, according to Irene Fagin, State leader of the Women's Land Army, "the army women were performing very satisfactorily in field and harvesting tasks."

Mexican nationals, those fine workers from south of the border, again will contribute largely to the harvesting of the crops; but, as in 1943, their numbers are necessarily limited. California's quota, as set by the War Food Administration, is not expected to reach maximum figures, 33,000, until September.

Farmers and growers, as early as May 15, had requested more than 48,000 for September's peak harvests, but no more than the 33,000 maximum may be expected.

It is hoped that war prisoners may provide some relief as the peak harvest months of August, September, and October approach. These men are being considered, and plans are being completed for the utilization of their services; but, frankly, we are not certain how efficient they may desire to be or how successful will be their participation.

Last year hundreds of men on leave from the armed services contributed valuable aid during both short and extended leave periods. In addition, other hundreds were available in areas where a definite emergency threatened service-allocated crops and potential food supplies.

The farmers have again responded to a patriotic appeal to do more than their share; the fertile soil and the sunshine are doing their share; the rains, slow in coming, were a help during the late spring months.

Prospects in most counties are reported as better than good. Fruit, notably apricots and peaches, despite the heavy hail damage, probably will be very good. Truck crops loom large. Farmers, largely, have done their best to meet increased agricultural goals for 1944. The acreage planted, the current advance crop reports, and estimates of probable yields all indicate that California's share of the Nation's food-production responsibilities will be met.

The 1944 harvests, if favorable factors maintain throughout the next few months, may produce another record crop which, in turn, will produce a compelling need for seasonal workers beyond anything this State has ever experienced.

100-percent membership record

The Minnesota Home Demonstration Agent Association held its annual meeting at the University Farm Campus Cafeteria, St. Paul, Minn., on April 26, during the State Food Preservation Working Conference, with 31 agents present.

The association pointed with pride to its 100-percent membership record. New officers elected were: President, Elizabeth Burr, Hennepin County; vice president, Mrs. Eleanor Loomis, Winona County; secretary, Barbara Molmen, Brown County; treasurer, Lenore Golden, Redwood County. Elizabeth Burr was authorized to attend the National Home Demonstration Association Convention in Chicago in June.

One activity of the association is the maintenance of a fund for lending a specified amount to a number of deserving home economic students at the university.

The 4-H Club and rural youth committees worked out resolutions for unifying policies of those organizations in the different counties.

While mothers meet

Children attending the Ever Ready Home Demonstration club in Benton County, Ark., have their own good time when the better-babies leader tells them stories and teaches them nursery rhymes and songs. Later, during the social hour, the children entertain their mothers with the rhymes and songs they have learned. The leader says the club members are pleased and the children trained.

VFV's keep 'em rolling

Coach Lou Bostick, football player on the University of Alabama team playing at Rose Bowl in 1937, came with the 57 boys he recruited at Bessemer High School.

■ Alabama city and town boys took their places on the farm front to help save the Irish potato crop in Baldwin County in May.

Farmers having planted 24,000 acres, a 60-percent increase over 1943, expected a bumper crop.

G. J. Fowler, Alabama farm labor supervisor; Frank C. Turner, Baldwin County agricultural agent; and Howard Blair, assistant county agent, got the cooperation of schools in recruiting boys for farm work. In late winter high-school teachers and athletic coaches hung the posters "Join us on the Farm Front! Be a Victory Farm Volunteer of the U. S. Crop Corps." They told boys between the ages of 14 and 17 that they could help keep their brothers in the Armed Forces well fed by getting this vital food crop out of the ground. If they would finish their school work and pass their examinations the boys would be excused two or three weeks early to go to the Baldwin County potato fields and shipping sheds.

Patriotic and enthusiastic for jobs in the open air the boys concentrated on their studies. When the day came for embarking on their new adventure, 817 healthy, fine lads had qualified and were ready for the big job ahead.

Boys representing 38 counties of Alabama boarded the train at Birmingham, Bessemer, Auburn, and other towns and cities. Sons of business executives, professors at Auburn, and of men in different walks of life were ready for camp life and work.

Trains unloaded these VFV's at Bay Minette and at towns farther down the line. Baldwin County school busses transported them from the stations to camps that had been set up in schoolhouses, a farmers' community building, and one camp was in a 4-H Clubhouse. The same busses carried the boys back and forth from camp to work.

Previous to the boys' arrival, 11 camps had been put in readiness. A convoy of approximately 40 State Highway and U. S. Army trucks had taken cots, mattresses, and blankets to the several VFV camps. Supervisors—one for each 26 boys—came with the boys. Cooks and other help had arrived.

Teachers, athletic coaches, assistant county agents, and other men served as camp supervisors. They trained the boys for their work and emphasized safety measures.

Duties of supervisors varied. Some supervised the boys in the fields, others in the shipping sheds, whereas others purchased food and planned meals, which were well balanced, with good nourishing food essential for men doing hard work. All were responsible for supervision and recreation while boys were off duty.

Thirty days of rain and blight took a tremendous toll of the potato crop, the production being only 30 percent of normal, 980,000 bushels. Stem rot necessitated extra care at the grading machines, some shipping sheds washing and drying potatoes before sacking them.

Of the 817 boys, 543 worked at the sheds grading, trucking, or sewing sacks, and 274 picked potatoes in the fields. They picked in wire baskets and emptied into 100-pound sacks. Of the 11 camps, 3 were for the 133 Negro boys who picked in the fields.

At the sheds the older boys did the harder work, such as trucking and piling the 100-pound sacks of potatoes into the cars, while the smaller boys worked on the grader or sewed sacks.

VFV's graded potatoes at the sheds.

Camps had a democratic form of government. The boys made their own rules and abided by them. They elected their president, their mayor, squad leaders, and other officers. Their own camp songs and cheers indicated the school spirit that prevailed. Few accidents and little sickness occurred. If there were any sickness that the nurse who visited each camp daily, could not take care of, the boys were taken to a doctor. Probably more sunburn lotion was used than was any medicine.

Average earnings, after living expenses at camps ($1.00 a day) were deducted ranged from $1.55 a day for picking potatoes to $3.50 a day for work at the sheds. The largest amount cleared by any of the boys was $104.00.

Each week they deposited the bulk of their earnings with one of the supervisors who acted as banker, bought war bonds and stamps, or sent their money home.

Baldwin County farmers said they could not have harvested the essential food crop without the assistance of the VFV's. Besides being satisfied that they had done something in the war effort the boys had earned good, cold cash and had enjoyed camp life. The older ones had hardened their muscles to be in better condition for entering Uncle Sam's armed forces or to work in essential industries while the younger ones were better fitted for work on later crops and stronger for their part in athletics at their schools next fall.

Black locust growers have their "3,000 Clubs" in Idaho

VERNON F. RAVENSCROFT, Assistant Extension Forester, Idaho

■ Potato growers have their "spud" kings; dairymen have their record-holding cows; and, although there is no official organization, Idaho black locust growers have their "3,000 Club."

The "3,000 Club" is composed mainly of demonstration wood-lot owners who have become acquainted with one another through extension forestry work and who now compete with one another to see who will turn in the greatest yield from his demonstration wood lot. Probably not more than 1 man in 15 obtains a yield of 3,000 posts per acre or more on a grove that is less than 15 years old. Most recent comer to this select group of locust growers is Frank Inlow of Wendell, Idaho, who recently cut one-third of his demonstration wood lot and found that, on the basis of this sample, the fence post yield in his 14-year-old black locust grove was equivalent to 3,120 fence posts to the acre.

Of course Mr. Inlow saved the extra straight trees for wagon tongues; he cut the large 8- to 12-inch logs extra long for gate and special corner posts; and he salvaged several cords of fuel wood, single-tree sticks, hammer handles, and similar raw-wood items from his wood-lot harvest. In order that this grove might be compared with other outstanding locust wood lots, all the trees were measured in terms of 6½-foot fence posts. The logs from 6 inches to 7.9 inches at the small end were measured as two first-class split posts, from 8 to 9.9 inches as three first-class splits, and from 10 to 12 inches as four first-class split posts. By harvesting only the lee-side section of the grove first, Mr. Inlow adequately conserved the wind protection which this grove provides for his farm buildings, garden plot, and stockyards.

The wood-lot harvest at the Inlow farm serves as an excellent demonstration of locust utilization in many ways. For instance, the harvested section was clear-cut after the trees were dormant. The trees were cut with a Swedish bow saw and were cut as near the ground line as possible. Such a procedure assures several fast-growing sprouts from each stump during the coming growing season. Mr. Inlow will thin this sprout stand to one healthy stem per stump some time next summer (preferably in August); and in 2 years' time this newly cut section of the grove will provide adequate wind protection, and at that time the remainder of the grove can be harvested. In from 7 to 10 years the new sprout growth will have again reached post maturity, and Mr. Inlow will be ready for his third substantial timber harvest in less than 25 years.

This outstanding grove was established 14 years ago in cooperation with the University of Idaho Extension Service and has served as a demonstration unit to point out the proper care, composition, and spacing for a south-central Idaho farm wood lot. The grove was planted on clean cultivated land. Small 1-year-old seedlings were used as planting stock. For the first few years this grove was cultivated just like any other farm crop. It was protected from grazing for the first 3 years, but since that time it has been used as a shade ground for a limited number only of the Inlow livestock.

Grove Is Grazed Sparingly

Grazing of locust wood lots is not usually recommended; for most people overstock the grove, and the trees suffer. It is known that in some wood lots overgrazing is so severe that many of the adult trees are actually killed by cattle trampling or using the trees as a rubbing bar. When grazed conservatively and carefully observed, a grove can give valuable protection to the livestock, and they in turn will keep down the heavy weed growth which represents a very serious fire hazard. Under no circumstances should a grove be grazed before the trees have grown beyond the reach of livestock and are sufficiently strong to withstand any attempt by a hungry animal to ride them down. It usually takes from 3 to 5 years for trees to reach this size.

Pruning accounts for the quality yield of the Inlow grove. These trees had been so pruned as to give one tall, straight, clear trunk. The straight wagon tongues and the 12-inch gateposts which Mr. Inlow took from his grove can be attributed to his careful pruning work.

Southern Idaho was originally a treeless desert country, and farmers on the irrigated lands have always turned to the university for recommendations as to where, when, and what trees to plant. They recognize the fact that Mr. Inlow's demonstration represents University of Idaho recommendations, and it has been of value to them to have an actual example in the community from which they could draw conclusions and obtain information. Inlow's grove is recognized throughout the Wendell neighborhood, and farmers frequently visit the demonstration to obtain pointers as to what they should do in the management of their own groves. Having actual concrete examples in the field where farmers can study them has also served as an excellent means of encouraging the establishment of new windbreaks and wood lots.

1,133,000 trees planted

This spring 4-H and vocational agriculture boys and girls will plant 1,133,000 evergreen trees on farm lands and waste areas in New York. Varieties selected, in order of popularity, are red pine, Norway spruce, white spruce, Douglas fir, white cedar, and larch.

Large gardens help feed Mississippi folks

In spite of a late spring, Mrs. T. A. Hamilton, Center Grove garden club leader, had large heads of cabbage and lettuce by the middle of May.

While his daddy is fighting overseas in Uncle Sam's armed forces, Ben Allen Douglas, 3 years old, helps his grandmother, Mrs. J. W. Douglas, of Center Grove, select the biggest turnip in her garden.

■ Folks in Center Grove Community, Oktibbeha County, Miss., really "live at home." They have large vegetable gardens, sometimes growing as many as 42 varieties in a year. Their home demonstration agent, Nannie R. Sullivant, is proud of the women's garden club and of the hundreds of quarts of vegetables and fruit that the women can and put on their shelves for eating after frosts have killed garden and fruit crops. Some of the women can 300 or 400 quarts of vegetables and fruits and a hundred quarts of meat.

All families have a few cows that they milk, and they raise livestock and poultry for their meat supply. They cooperate in the activities of their church and community and help each other with garden and farm work.

Food-preservation training

Three food-preservation training schools were held at the New York State College of Home Economics during April, one for professional home economists, one for county leaders who will serve as teachers of food preservation in their own counties on funds provided by the New York State Emergency Food Commission, and one for recently appointed Extensin Service workers. Approximately 250 women were trained at these three conferences. Most of this trained personnel will return to their counties and hold local training schools where thousands of other local leaders and food preservation consultants will be trained.

County home demonstration agents, serving as nutrition coordinators in their counties, are working with county nutrition committees in setting up a coordinated food preservation program. Such a program will take into consideration the contribution which each agency can make.

At the State level, a directory has been compiled which includes the contribution which each State agency can make to a food preservation program. This directory will be sent to all county nutrition chairmen, homemaking teachers, Red Cross nutritionists, extension workers, Farm Security supervisors, home service representatives, and others in an effort to avoid duplication of effort in the county and community.

Country stores help

Operators of country stores in several Missouri counties are making their places of business rallying points for extension programs in food production. The Douglas County agent and FSA supervisor held vegetable and poultry production demonstrations at all country stores in the county, announcing the visits well in advance and spending a whole day at each place. In Barton County, all but two country storekeepers now are women, so the home demonstration agent has enlisted all these women and the two men as canning aides.

Bangs disease control

Regarded by livestock conservation authorities as one of the Nation's most significant programs, the brucellosis (Bang's disease) control project of the California Extension Service is now in the fourth year, with more than 65,000 dairy calves vaccinated.

The calfhood vaccination program, launched in 1941 with the voluntary cooperation of dairy operators, reported nearly 10,000 calves treated the first year. The number was more than doubled in the next year, and by 1943 the total number of vaccinations reached nearly 30,000, Dr. Kenneth McKay, extension specialist in veterinary science, reported. During the 3 years, more than 2,000 dairy operators participated in the program.

"A lot of credit for our showing goes to the fine cooperation farmers have shown in helping fight this trouble," Dr. McKay said. He also paid tribute to practicing veterinarians in 26 counties who have cooperated and to the extension agents and the university experiment station.

Extension agents join fighting forces

The roll call of extension workers at the fighting front now includes 1,164 names, on every field of action. Additional names will be printed as they are received and the list kept up to date with the cooperative help of REVIEW readers. The Service flag for all extension workers with its six gold stars hangs on the fifth floor of Agriculture's South Building in Washington.

The six gold stars on the flag represent the following extension workers:

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, kill in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Gardening between bombings

■ You folks on the home front have made a success of the food-production program, as is indicated by the fact that recently we have been receiving excellent rations. Lately, we have been getting fresh meat two or three times a week. It is quite a contrast to the food situation when we first landed over here. We are now getting one bottle of a favorite soft drink a week, which is as welcome as a letter from home. Our fresh vegetables come from local supplies, mainly; and we are able to get some local supplies of fruits, especially of oranges.

In spite of the fact that my workday is long, I still find a little time to satisfy my agricultural and scientific inclinations. I have a Victory Garden, too. I usually get about a half hour to an hour just before dark to work in my garden. So far, my plantings include radishes, cabbage, lettuce, cucumbers, squash, onions, garlic, peas, spinach, carrots, and tomatoes. Already I am harvesting lettuce and radishes. My seeds and plants are obtained from a local Italian farmer. I have to barter for them. My garden is my recreation, and I get a big kick out of it. I have some good pictures of myself working in my garden—"Former extension worker grows Victory Garden in Mussolini's back yard," or "Victory Garden, front line, hobby of fighting extension worker." Not bad, eh?

My brother, Tobe, surprised me a few days ago when he dropped in on me unexpectedly. He is fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy now. I had not seen him since our chance meeting in North Africa 7 months ago. He hitchhiked a ride over in an airplane, and I got a ride for him on one of our own aircraft back to Italy. He spent 2 days with me. Tobe has been overseas 22 months, and he has seen quite a lot of combat service. He expects to return to the States soon on rotation.

A recent news story about our group reads: "At A B–26 Base in Sardinia—The bull's-eye-blasting 319th Bomb Group of B–26 Marauders celebrated its 200th mission April 1 by attacking the railroad bridge at Incisa, Italy, just southeast of Florence on the main line to

Rome." Since this story was published, we have done an even bigger job against the enemy. Recently, we have received two important citations for outstanding services, the details of which I cannot give in a letter. I am proud to have been a member of such a famous group—since its activation—and I am proud of our part in the final Victory which is impending. If it were not for the very effective work done by the Air Forces, the progress now being made in Italy could not have been possible.—*Maj. J. O. Rowell, formerly extension entomologist in North Carolina.*

A Yank in China

■ Being a 4-H Club agent must be an interesting challenge these days trying to obtain maximum production of foodstuffs and, at the same time, to develop character in the midst of all this hate propaganda. Now, as never before, young people need to learn to think clearly and constructively.

I wish there were some way the 4-H program could be put over in China. There are thousands of boys and girls who work hard but have no incentive other than getting enough to eat and something to wear. They have a lot of ability and can learn jobs that are not too complicated in an amazingly short time. Most of the methods they use seem a bit primitive to us, but they do get the job done. As far as I can learn, most of the work with young people that has been accomplished so far has been done by missionaries. Of course, they are strictly limited as to scope due to limited funds and a lack of trained personnel. However, none of us can praise the missions too highly for the results of their work that we have seen and for their kindness and helpfulness to all of us. They seem to be the unofficial U. S. O. and are doing a marvelous job, as such.

This is an amazing country in many ways. The scenery is beautiful, with many mountains and much of it as it must have been hundreds of years ago. There are no hard-surfaced roads, and most of the travel is by foot over stone paths that wind around the hills between villages. The coolies are fascinating to watch. They look rather frail but can carry enormous loads at a pace that few people can keep up with, walking light—and all on a few bowls of rice and a sort of pancake with vegetables inside. They seem to get the biggest kick out of living, are never in a hurry, and nothing seems to bother them.

The C. O. sent me on a trip to a village about 15 miles away. It took less than an hour to take care of the business details, and one of the interpreters thought it very strange. He says that a Chinese businessman would require a day to travel, two for making the acquaintance of the man with whom he wished to do business, two for the transactions, and one for saying goodbye to his friends. I asked the manager of a bank to communicate with his main office by telegraph and was informed that I could expect an answer in about 10 days. You can see why they think we are crazy to do things in a rush.

It is a lot of fun to eat with chopsticks, but I am far from an expert as yet. The food is all put in the center of the table, and everyone works from there. The dishes are mostly fish, fowl, and vegetables; but some are a combination such as bamboo shoots and pork or beef. Although the dishes taste a bit strange, we do fare pretty well but will all be glad to taste an American steak once more. From what I hear, you are probably saying "who wouldn't?"

Am trying to learn the language but can't report too much progress to date. The characters are much more difficult, but I want to be able to write a few simple sentences before I go back. Got to prove in some way that I have been out in the Far East.—*Lt. S. K. Benjamin, formerly district club agent in Cumberland, Cape May, and Atlantic Counties, N. J.*

■ As I am in England, I will give you my 2 pence worth. After some 8,000 miles of oceans, Africa, and Sicily, I find myself in England. Coming from a warm climate to a cold one was not so good. However, I am getting more accustomed to it now. I am living in barracks for the first time since crossing. They are heated by fireplaces, and if you ever built a fire in the open to heat all the outside, you know what we have. We went through Scotland and can say that it is beautiful. They raise very good livestock here, especially their Clydesdale horses. The people here are grand and take the war and all its terror as a necessary evil. They are proud and tell you that you should see England in peacetime.

I am somewhat amused at some of the boys wanting to see foreign service. You might put my name down for a swap; as it is, I guess I can take it.—*Lt. Joseph Zitnik, Army., formerly Wichita County agent, Kansas.*

The Roll Call

(Continued from last month)

FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Julian Bartolini, Navy (Seabees).
Robert H. Bond, Navy, reported missing in action in Southwest Pacific.
Sgt. William D. Cratty, Army.
Robert Duncan, Navy.
Oral J. Fisher, Army.
S/1c. George F. Forrest, Navy.
Cpl. Eugene W. Gantt, Army.
James Gray, Army.
T. Sgt. Ralph E. Groening, Army.
Bn. Sgt. Frances Kern, Marines.
Jack Kidwell, Army.
Ida E. Kotchevar (field), WAVES.
Cpl. William H. Michaelis, Army.
Newell B. McDevitt, Army (Air).
Chester A. Nauminow, Army.
Richard L. Nealis, Navy.
T. Sgt. Sam E. Plattner, Army.
Delmar F. Reid, Marines.
Bernard Robinson, Army.
Laurel K. Sabrosky, American Red Cross.
Lt. (j. g.) Luke M. Schruben, Navy.
Cpl. Lawrence L. Shrader, Marines.
Ray F. Snapkoski, Army.
S/2c. John B. Speidel, Navy.
Lt. William E. Suber, Army.
Charles Taylor, Army.
Lt. Theodore W. Taylor, Navy.

4-H soldiers on their home front

■ School's out! Children from 6 to 16 years old go home. The younger children run to find their gang to play war, build airplanes, or hunt around the neighborhood for some excitement.

Mother and Dad will not be home until 6 o'clock. Older girls and boys from 12 to 16 are expected to look after younger brothers and sisters, prepare the supper, and help with the dishes and cleaning. These are America's 4–H soldiers working on the home front. It is this group of girls in Nassau County, N. Y., who offered help in the Hempstead Child Care Center, the summer day camps, and playgrounds, also to take care of the children of working neighbors.

The girls wanted to get some training in the care of children; so the 4–H leaders, Girl Scout leaders, and 4–H Club agent, assisted by Mrs. Ina Dillon, family life specialist at Cornell, worked together in developing a child-care course. The aims of our 4–H child-care course are: To help girls to be more skillful in caring for children in their own homes, in the homes of others, in child-care centers, summer camps, schools, and playgrounds; and to give girls a basic philosophy in child care.

The course is given in six 2-hour lectures with discussions on a child's needs and problems in guiding behavior, habit formation, and discipline. The girls learn how to study the child through observation. They become familiar with arts, crafts, games, and stories for different ages.

The home work consisted of making two 10-minute observations of a child or a group of children doing some activity each week and keeping these observations with the lecture notes in a notebook.

A quiz was given at the close of the course, and the girls who had attended regularly and showed that they had acquired some understanding of child-care principles received child-care certificates.

One hundred and twenty girls completed this 4-H child-care course in 1943 and are carrying on the following activities:

Taking care of younger brothers and sisters at home and of neighbors' children at their homes; helping at the Hempstead and Williston Park child-care centers, summer camps, and playgrounds; helping at school, supervising lunchrooms and kindergartens at Elmont Road School, Elmont. As child-care aides, they also organized 4-H neighborhood war job clubs of children from 6 to 10 years old. The girls teach the children crafts, sewing, nature study, and recreation. There are four clubs organized in Hempstead, one in Mineola, and two in West Hempstead.

The girls meet every 3 weeks and plan their activities and programs with the county 4-H Club agent, Mrs. Dorothy P. Flint.

Growing up in Kiowa County, Okla.

■ Young people growing up within reach of the Searchlight Home Demonstration Club of Kiowa County, Okla., are lucky; and they know it.

First, these women of the Searchlight Club turned their attention to the young people in the neighborhood who had left to serve their country, many from Searchlight homes. They built an honor board for them, a 5 by 10-foot weatherproof pressboard with a gold waterproof painted frame and decorated with the American eagle and the flag. They had the names of 67 service men who had gone out from the community inscribed on the board. The unveiling, last September 7, which was quite an event in the community, was made more impressive by the participation of one of the boys home on furlough.

Then, it seemed to the women that there must be something they could do that would really help these boys and girls. They talked it over with the home demonstration agent, Eva A. Stokes. The idea of a newspaper for the service men and women called "Searchlight Chatter" was suggested. The women decided to try it, and three editors were chosen who wrote down all the news they could dig up about the boys away from home and the happenings in the community, just the way they wrote letters to their own sons. A high school girl typed it, and the first edition was sent to 8 boys. In a few months the paper was mailed regularly to 40 boys and now 60 boys get the "Chatter." The extension clerk offered to mimeograph the paper; but the copy, the paper, and the stencils are supplied by the club. The paper goes to many States and also to India, Australia, Africa, China, the South Pacific islands, New Zealand, England, and the Aleutians. First-class mail is used so that it will be forwarded to the boys who have moved to new locations.

To get an idea on how it is working out and whether it really was a morale factor with the home-town boys, the club wrote a letter to each of the boys asking if he wanted it another year and enclosed cards for his reply. Twenty-three boys answered immediately. Many found the card too small to express their appreciation and wrote long letters urging the continuation of the "Searchlight Chatter." Others have not been heard from because of the time necessary to reach their outposts. Definitely, the paper will carry on for another year.

Each month now brings in 15 or 20 letters from readers. The boys write about the strange things they see; they tell of Oklahoma boys met in camp, of the food they get in the army, and many other things. Their sentiments about the paper are well expressed by a soldier writing from India:

"Just finished reading the 'Seachlight Chatter' for about the fourth time. I really enjoy those little sheets of paper. It kinda makes one feel like the folks back home are thinking about him and that helps a lot."

Members of the home demonstration club then turned their attention to the boys and girls at home. After talking things over, it seemed that the adolescent boys and girls were more deeply affected than any other group at home. Recreation was one of the major problems of the neighborhood teen-agers, so the women decided to ask the Thrift and Research clubs to join with them in sponsoring a Teen-Town.

Teen-Town is composed entirely of boys and girls in their teens and now has 68 members entirely self-governed. Any teen-age boy or girl is eligible, and service men and parents are always welcome. The school board granted the use of the school gymnasium for Teen-Town which meets every Friday night. The Clubs bought some games and equipment and got others donated. Badminton, table tennis, shuffleboard, monopoly, Chinese checkers, and various card games are available for those who like games and dancing for those who like that. Memberships are bought at 50 cents each, and 5 cents is charged for each admittance thereafter, with two free admittances each evening. Chaperons are always provided, but they quickly tell you there have been no discipline problems.

Community picnics for all provide recreation during the summer and are popular with the young folks. Altogether, the young folks in the neighborhood of the Searchlight Home Demonstration Club of Kiowa County, Okla., are lucky, and they know it. War has laid its heavy hand on the homes of the Searchlight Club, but they are valiantly fighting on the home front and holding their own.

Custom spraying organized to aid the potato grower with few acres

O. D. BURKE, Extension Plant Pathologist, Pennsylvania Extension Service

In the autumn of 1938, Bert Straw, county agent in Potter County, Pa., voiced the need for more efficient use of potato spray equipment. In this mountainous area, late blight occurs annually, and growers know that profitable production depends on potato spraying. And yet, when each grower must own his sprayer, even if he has but 10 acres or less, it is anything but efficient.

Working on the problem, Agent Straw and I evolved a plan for trial. The farmers of a community would pool their acreages, making a full-time job for a community sprayer and would then hire an operator who would supply the best equipment available, furnish fungicides and water, and make the application weekly. The spraying was to be paid for on an acreage basis, with a minimum of 140 gallons to the acre application of 8–8–100 bordeaux.

Four communities were selected in Potter County as a proving ground in 1939. Their success was immediate and gave effective disease control on some 670 acres on more than 100 farms. In 1942 and 1943, the plan was tried again, with the added incentive of conserving materials and labor, as both are essential to the war effort.

Spray Rings Served 1,834 Farmers

The year 1943 was outstanding. Seventy-five spray rings served 1,834 farmers and sprayed approximately 13,250 acres of potatoes—about one-thirteenth of the State's 176,000 acres.

The average amount of steel used in the construction of 1 of the community tractor-mounted sprayers used is approximately 2,200 pounds. A trailer or horse-drawn outfit that would have been used by each of the 1,834 growers averages 2,400 pounds of steel and 2 rubber tires. This means 4,401,600 pounds of steel and 3,168 rubber tires that would have been needed under the old system of spraying. The 165,000 pounds (82.25 tons) actually used is a negligible amount compared to the 4,236,600 pounds (2,218.2 tons) saved.

Actually, there is a much greater saving than just the sprayers when one considers the supply pumps and tanks that were made unnecessary by community use of equipment.

The saving in labor was just as marked as that of steel. The operator of a commercial sprayer averages about 4 acres an hour with the use of 2 men. The home operator must first get his equipment cleaned and ready for use, must prepare the chemicals used, and after the application the sprayer must again be prepared for storage. On the average, the small grower has been able to spray his 3 to 5 acres in slightly more than half a day, using 2 men, or from an hour to an hour and a half per acre. This means some 26,000 man-hours saved in each application of all the spray rings in the State, or approximately 260,000 man-hours for an average of 10 spray applications during the season.

Yield Increased 100 Bushels Per Acre

Sprayed potatoes in 1943 in Pennsylvania showed an increased yield of more than 100 bushels per acre, even on early varieties, over unsprayed potatoes in the same field. This means that the 13,250 acres sprayed produced 1,326,000 more bushels than would have been produced had the spray rings not been in operation. This is about one-fifteenth of the State's total production.

Five years' work with this type of spray ring has led to recommendations that have been successfully used in "commercial type spray ring" organizations in Pennsylvania and New York.

First, a closely knit organization, with directors and a president having power to hire the operator and to take the responsibiltiy of seeing that everything operates smoothly, seems essential.

Spray rings have been run on the commerical basis, with the operator purchasing and owning all equipment. Operator ownership promotes better spraying methods as satisfaction is essential to the continuation of the program. The farmers take no responsibility for this equipment.

Acreage necessary for successful operation cannot be definitely set; but the closer these acres are together and the larger the fields, the lower the per-acre price may be. The price set in rings in 1943 ranged from $2 to $2.50 per application. The lowest acreage in any one spray ring was 125, and the largest more than 250. The selection of 150 acres permitted the operator to make his rounds on time and to give satisfactory blight control under the serious blight-epidemic conditions prevalent in 1942.

As to minimum acres per farm, again no definite figure has been set; but, rather, accessibility of the acreage to the normal spray route has determined small-patch acceptance into the spray ring. As low as 1 acre has in many instances been sprayed.

Ten-row outfits mounted on a rubber-tired tractor have proved most satisfactory and have been quite usable even on sidehill land. Two and one-half gallons per minute per row at 350-pound pressure is the minimum requirement for a pump used throughout the rings organized in Pennsylvania. A flexible, light boom easily adjusted is essential. Tubular construction has been satisfactory. Tractor make and size must, to a certain extent, depend on manufacturers' guarantees, prices, and adaptability to the job. Four-wheel tractors have been most practicable. It is difficult to overpower but easy to underpower.

Filling equipment to be used on the supply truck can be a rotary pump gasoline engine powered or power take-off from truck transmission. Rotary pump should be capable of pumping 100 gallons per minute. A supply truck on which the filling pump and also a supply tank are mounted is an essential. Size of tank of the truck should be at least 600 gallons. One thousand- to 1,200-gallon capacity is not too large for economical operation.

Bluestone in the form usually sold as "snow" has been most satisfactory in our experience for making "instant bordeaux," and rapidly made bordeaux seems essential.

Hydrated lime especially prepared for spraying purposes has been used. The lime should be as fine as 300 mesh and freshly prepared. The bordeaux mixture in our spray rings is prepared by the sprayer operator.

Nutrition exhibits

Tompkins County, N. Y., is illustrating a year's program of nutrition exhibits in the windows of a vacant store in Ithaca. These exhibits are sponsored by different civic organizations led by the Tompkins County Nutrition Committee and the Tompkins County Home Bureau. Between the windows, the home bureau maintains an information booth with free recipes and such homemakers' helps as pressure cooker gauge testing. The April and May windows were in charge of the extension office and the Victory Garden committee so that preservation aids will follow garden information material. The home demonstration agent and the nutrition assistant take turns working at the information booth.

A day in Minnesota

T. SWANN HARDING, Editor, U.S.D.A. visits a county agent!

■ In late May I had an opportunity to ride circuit all day with a county agent. This took place in Hennepin County, Minn., and the agent was Harold C. Pederson. He maintains an office in downtown Minneapolis and had already stopped by for an hour or so of work when he picked me up at my hotel at 9 a. m. Our first call took us some little distance out into the country.

Here we were to see a farmer who became riled because, while his boy was in the Navy, other farm boys nearby appeared to have been deferred unnecessarily and, besides, they kidded him and his wife for having to do all their own work now. The farmer and his wife, both of whom seemed over 50, were cutting asparagus when we arrived and lugging the heavy baskets around the field.

Agent Visits Irate Farmer

The man turned out to be sincere. His agitation was real, and he was no crank. He had written the local draft board a pretty peppy letter and they had asked the county agent to investigate. While the mother told me about her son on the old battleship Texas, the agent got details from the enraged farmer and reduced his temperature below that of spontaneous combustion. He seemed to be quite mollified when we left and to feel that honest investigation would be made.

A Call for Farm Help

Our next call concerned placement of a high school girl on a farm, but the farmer had already scared up a hired man from somewhere. He was young and talked to us awhile with a suspicious eye. Then we dropped in on another farmer, who with his wife, was bunching asparagus in a shed. That's no easy job either, and rubber bands of inferior quality, which often break, and have to be processed in hot water before using, make it no easier by costing three times what good ones formerly cost. The agent joshed the farmer about getting crooked stalks in the middle of the bunches, and he said: "You've been bunching asparagus somewhere else; you didn't learn that trick here!"

Suddenly he looked up: "My neighbor says some kind of bug is getting in his strawberries." He described it a little and the agent said "sawflies." The farmer hopped up and started off at a good imitation of a trot. "Come on down and look at mine and see if the bugs in 'em," he hollered back. We went. The bugs were there. The agent prescribed a spray and we left.

We went back into Minneapolis to lunch with the FFFF Committee of the Minneapolis Defense Council's Consumer Interest Division, Mrs. A. N. Satterlee, chairman. Reports were rather mournful. General public lethargy seemed to obtain on the urban front. Lifting of rationing from meats and processed foods had made the public think rationing was over for the duration. Why can? Why garden?

Early sales of garden seed were down. It looked as if there would be 15 percent fewer instead of the goal, 100 percent more, gardens this year than last. Inquiries for canning equipment lagged. The weather had been bad too. Plans were made to give out information that would help to dissipate the lethargy. The committee chairman was competent and well-informed; the committee members interested and helpful.

Running Down a Draft Rumor

Then, about 2 p. m., we went out into the county again driving perhaps 50 to 75 miles all told, visiting various farmers and chasing down the draftee situation reported by the first man visited. Nearly all the farmers greeted the agent with happy expectancy and he was always quietly competent, helpful, and reassuring. He knew the answers to practically all questions they brought up, and they were wide in scope. Should they inoculate their soybeans and, if so, how? What spray was best for this or that? Then questions concerning labor, regulations, WFA orders and all sorts of things were asked. The agent was all the time plugging a pasture carrying-capacity survey and giving out mimeographed forms to be filled in. This county is devoted mostly to truck farming and dairy production for the Twin City milkshed. Many of the farmers are prosperous; one had a gross cash income of $850 monthly and others were not so far behind.

We dined on the shores of Lake Minnetonka, but didn't see the lady who liked the waters thereof. That evening we attended a "farm bureau unit" meeting in a village town hall. The weather had turned good that day and the farmers were working hard. They arrived late, and the meeting didn't get under way till after 9 p. m. They went out and bought pop and candy bars for "refreshments."

Pederson spoke on spring and early-summer spray schedules for fruits. I spoke just to give them an idea of what a live bureaucrat looked like. The meeting chairman said there were too "durned" many bureaucrats in Washington anyway, and made me feel rather superfluous facing these earthy producers who stood firm in the soil. But it was all good-natured joshing.

We got back to the hotel at 11:15 p. m. The agent then started out to see whether his family still recognized him. The day was not unusual. Five days a week he does something like this, attending 30 to 35 meetings and making 40 to 50 farm visits monthly. Monday he spends in his office. Saturday evening and all day Sunday he reserves to be with his family. County agents really work. So do farmers. I wouldn't know about Washington bureaucrats.

No more V Garden speeches

Mrs. Maud Doty and Cecil Pragnell, extension agents of Bernalillo County, N. Mex., have come up with a practical demonstration technique that will pay dividends in Albuquerque Victory Gardens this summer.

Recalling their sand-table days in school, they pulled a trick out of the hat that is making new "V" gardens grow on plots that produced only bindweed and ash piles last year.

It goes like this: You put down a large piece of cardboard and cover it with 2 inches of dirt. Then you go through the gardening process, planting seeds at the approved depths, cultivating the soil, and applying fertilizers and other commercial preparations designed to give "oomph" to your Victory vegetables. You do everything but grow and harvest the crop right in front of the audience. As Mr. Pragnell says, the harvest comes later.

"We've quit making speeches," Mrs. Doty said. "The demonstration is working too well. We just hold our breath and watch the audience's interest grow. People ask us so many questions that the garden program never takes less time than an hour and a half.

Mrs. Doty and Mr. Pragnell began their work with the 225 members of the 12 women's clubs in the county, but recently they've branched out. They have given their demonstration before more that 41 clubs, besides several groups of school children. Now they're planning to demonstrate chicken culling in the same way, although they'll probably wait until they get home to knock the poor producers in the head.

Extension work reaches Brazil

Dr. Clara Sambaquy (left) accompanies Mrs. Celia S. Hissong on a visit to a home demonstration club in Jones County, Miss.

■ Home demonstration and 4–H Club work, as conducted in the United States, has reached Brazil. Wanting to learn more about such work to help them in starting similar work in their own country, two doctors of Brazil, Edison Cavalcanti, M. D., director of the Social Welfare Nutrition Service, and Clara Sambaquy, M. D., pediatrician and nutrition specialist, Rio de Janeiro, recently spent about 4 months in the United States studying extension work.

Dr. Cavalcanti's organization is trying hard to improve the homemaking and nutrition habits of the mass of the Brazilian people. While here, Dr. Cavalcanti and Dr. Sambaquy were shown methods and results of nutrition work among poorly nourished people. Both having been trained in medicine, they were much interested in seeing the cooperative work between the county health service and extension work in the States.

Dr. Sambaquy is especially interested in 4–H Club work, food, nutrition, and child care. While here she spent most of her time in Mississippi and Georgia with county home demonstration agents and extension specialists.

During her stay in Mississippi she visited for about a month in Jones County where Mrs. Celia S. Hissong, home demonstration agent, showed her methods of conducting home demonstration and club work, especially those relating to nutrition and child care. She also attended a short course in nutrition in Jackson and visited schools to learn more about school lunches.

Dr. Cavalcanti and Dr. Sambaquy were accompanied for a short time by June Leith of Ames, Iowa, who acted as interpreter when they first arrived in the United States. Miss Leith spent several years in Brazil as nutritionist for the Food Supply Division of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. Before the three came to the United States, Miss Leith gave a nutrition course to 50 girls in Brazil. Some of these girls have been chosen to do extension work in that country and are now in Rio de Janeiro taking specialized training. When Dr. Sambaquy returns to her own country she will train one girl for each State in Brazil where extension work will be organized.

Indiana works on a milk-production program

An educational program launched last year and designed to stimulate interest in dairying in Indiana has proved markedly successful, according to E. A. Gannon, extension dairyman at Purdue University. This program played a substantial part in enabling Hoosier dairymen to meet the milk-production goals set for Indiana last year. It is said to be helping even more toward meeting this year's goal of 3½ billion pounds of milk.

The educational campaign was supported through the Indiana newspapers and farm publications, with more than 2,000 articles published last year.

Sixteen dairy schools were held throughout January and February for managers and field men. During the first 8 meetings, in which the Indiana Food-for-Freedom program was discussed, 175 of a possible 200 representatives of manufacturing concerns attended. The agronomy department at Purdue cooperated in holding the last 8 meetings, the subject of which was pastures.

A mimeographed publication by the Indiana Milk and Cream Improvement Association was distributed to managers and field men, and creamery field men were urged to hold schools for route drivers on the subjects of the Food-for-Freedom program and pastures. Eight meetings on "quality" were held in April. Series of 12 monthly calendars or news letters were prepared for the dairy industry to be sent to farmers with their pay checks. This subject matter also is printed on tags and wired onto the empty milk cans returned to the dairymen.

The dairy industry is also cooperating in holding 110 meetings with dairymen throughout the State, discussing ways to boost milk production.

At district extension conferences, Indiana county agents have been informed of the eight-point program and the Purdue extension dairy program. A total of 150,000 eight-point dairy production program leaflets published by Purdue are being distributed.

Many dairy plants have arranged to buy Sudan grass and other pasture grass seeds for distribution to their patrons, deducting the costs from the patrons' checks. An envelope stuffer prepared by the Purdue agronomy department on Sudan grass pasture has been distributed.

Fast-milking demonstrations have been held in 40 Indiana counties, and a fast-milking leaflet is available. Many counties are getting out a one-page leaflet for distribution to producers.

A goal has been set to put a "foundation" under the dairy industry with a long-time pasture program and a quality winter roughage program. A bull program is being developed along club lines with the cooperation of breeders. By this means, Indiana is working on a sound educational program to increase milk production.

■ Thirty-two of the 71 4–H county club agents of New York State are former 4–H Club members, including 14 of the 24 women agents and 18 of the 47 men. As 4–H members, they lived in 21 New York State counties, 1 county in Vermont and 1 county in Massachusetts.

Among Ourselves

■ THE "FOUR OLD MEN" among Maine's county agents—old in the sense that each has served more than 20 years—have had a unique opportunity to observe the changing Maine farm scene and, indeed, to help bring about many of the desirable changes.

The four are W. S. Rowe, Cumberland County; R. H. Lovejoy, York County; R. C. Wentworth, Knox and Lincoln Counties; and Verne C. Beverly, Aroostook County. Collectively, they have served for more than 86 years as representatives of the College of Agriculture and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

All have about the same conclusion after their varied experience in two decades devoted to "giving of instruction and practical demonstration in agriculture . . . and imparting information through field demonstrations, publications, and otherwise."

They believe that the extension program, as adopted by farmers themselves, is essentially sound although unspectacular.

■ RAY LOVEJOY, located in York County, has been a neighbor of "Sherm" Rowe for 17 of his 20 years as county agent. Ray says:

"I look back over a period of remarkable changes in farming. For example, certified seed potatoes introduced by the Extension Service at that time boosted the 100 to 150 bushels an acre yield up to 200 or 300 bushels. Dairy herd-improvement associations set the stage for an increase in milk production from about 4,000 pounds a cow to the present level of more than 6,000 pounds in herds now being tested for association members.

"Poultrymen seem to be feeling a bit downhearted right now because of high feed costs and low egg prices, but how would they feel if it were 20 years ago when 120 eggs per bird was high production? During these years we have, by better breeding, feeding, housing, and general management, come to look upon 175- to 200-egg birds as just good producers.

"And finally there are the apple growers. I have followed the production of apples through the rapid transitional period when several hundreds of family-size and small commercial orchards producing 50 to 500 bushels of fruit of the old varieties have given way to the smaller number of more specialized and large-size orchards of 1,000 to 10,000 trees, chiefly of the McIntosh variety. Disease-free and worm-free apples that bring good farm incomes are now the rule, rather than the exception as was the case 20 years ago. Tractors, radios, electric service, good gravel, and hard-surface roads have also come to our farms mostly in the past 20 years. And what a difference they make in the life of the farmer!"

■ VERNE BEVERLY, at the other end of the State, has had an unusually good observation post to study the Aroostook potato industry. He says:

"One of the most satisfying angles of my job is to assist in the development of leaders. I have watched many farmers, some of them not outstanding at first, as they developed an interest in the extension program and did a better job because of that interest. Many of them have been ready when the call came from other organizations for capable leaders in the county. I don't say that we trained these men, but we worked with them; and because of what they learned they have been valuable to the county.

"Another thing that has impressed me is the fact that the extension program is sound; and, although much of the work is not spectacular, I think we have shown progress. Our farm bureau membership this year is approximately 1,980. This indicates that the Aroostook farmers and homemakers are supporting this organization."

■ RALPH WENTWORTH sums up his 23 years in Knox and Lincoln Counties in these words:

"In looking back over the past 20 years of Extension Service work in these counties, I see many changes.

"The farm people are living better, have more money. Electricity is now available to most farm homes, and with electricity came labor-saving equipment for the farm as well as in the home.

"Poultry, the outstanding farming enterprise in the county, has shown many changes. In the early days, a 25- to 30-percent loss in chicks raised was not considered serious; now a 10-percent loss is too much. Size of flocks has increased.

"The dairy herds have also shown an increase as well as better production. The first year the dairy herd-improvement association was in operation in the county the number of herds tested averaged 8.3 cows and 385 pounds of milk, and 19 pounds of butterfat per month. For the month of January 1944, the herds in the county under test averaged 20 cows and 677 pounds of milk and 29 9 pounds of butterfat."

■ SHERMAN ROWE says:

"About 23 years ago I started in—green as grass—as county agent in Cumberland County. I bounced around in my brand new flivver, bounced because there were then some 100 miles of hard-surfaced roads compared with 1,523 miles today.

"I have seen many changes. We have fewer farms, fewer cows, and better cows. Instead of cream and butter, we market fluid milk. Tuberculosis of cattle has been eradicated, pullorum disease of poultry controlled, and old pastures converted to abundant sources of feed. Better bulls, dairy herd-improvement work, and cooperative breeding associations have become available. We lost 168,346 bearing apple trees; now I see Ben Davis and Stark trees growing McIntosh apples. Acres that once grew peas and potatoes now produce top-quality Iceburg lettuce for the local and Boston markets.

"Waste cropland has been planted to forest trees, and improved wood lots produce better-quality timber.

"But I have seen more than crops and livestock grow. Most important of all, I have watched with pride the development of rural leadership."

■ RACHEL MARKWELL takes up the duties of State home demonstration leader in Michigan to replace Edna V. Smith who retires from this position July 1 after being associated with the Extension Service for 26 years.

Miss Markwell has been serving on the Federal staff as emergency war food supervisor for the Central States since February 1944. Born on a farm near Oklahoma City, Okla., she received her educational training in Oklahoma schools, graduating from the State A. & M. College and later receiving her master's degree in home economics education from Columbia University.

Before entering extension work, Miss

Markwell taught home economics in the high schools of Oklahoma and Kansas and then entered the Extension Service as home demonstration agent in the same two States. For 3 years she was district home demonstration agent of the Kansas Extension Service at Manhattan and for 4 years was State extension agent in Missouri.

Edna V. Smith joined the extension staff at Michigan State College in 1916 as a general specialist. Later, she became extension specialist in home management, and in 1930 she was appointed State home demonstration leader. As organizer and supervisor of home economics extension in Michigan, Miss Smith, through her staff, has taken better home management practices to Michigan's 83 counties.

In announcing Miss Smith's retirement, Director Baldwin stated:

"Miss Smith has exemplified the spirit of extension work in her desire to be of service. She knows and likes rural people and feels that she is one of them. She has a keen understanding of their lives, their problems, and their needs. No homes were too poor and none too rich to be reached by the program she developed. Homemaking to her was more than housekeeping. The development of the family and the fundamental satisfaction of living were strong objectives in all her efforts. Her influence will be greatly missed in extension circles."

■ JOSEPH B. TURPIN, Mercer County, N. J., 4–H Club agent, was honored on April 27 by his friends and coworkers for 25 years of successful service to 4–H Club work in his county. The county club agents, the State director of extension, and other extension workers met in Trenton to take part. During his quarter of a century, the 4–H Club work has steadily grown in the hearts and affections of the people of the county. His early club members in the county have grown to maturity and married, and many of their children are now in 4–H Club work. Mr. Turpin was presented with gifts and many testimonials of regard from every part of the State. Dr. C. B. Smith, formerly chief of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work in Washington, D. C., represented the Federal office in honoring Mr. Turpin.

VFV's tackle the asparagus

■ School youth saved more of the early asparagus crop in the asparagus area in eastern Illinois than any other group of cutters, according to University of Illinois Agricultural Extension Farm Labor representatives. Before the canners received assistance from the Army's prisoners of war the VFV's made the greatest contribution in cutting the crop.

Approximately 275 boys and girls from Hoopeston, Milford, Rossville, and Watseka, were transported every day in busses to the fields over the area comprising more than 1,000 acres. The VFV's start to cut at 6 a. m. and cut from 4 to 6 hours. Girls are believed by some of the supervisors to be more efficient cutters than boys. Most successful supervision was given by high school coaches or teachers acquainted with the youth.

According to canning representatives, a good VFV cutter can handle 1¾ acres a day. The average, however, would be more nearly an acre. On the week end of May 14 and for a few days following, summer temperatures after several weeks of cool, wet weather caused the asparagus to jump out of the ground, figuratively speaking. Had it not been for the VFV asparagus corps, a tremendous loss would have occurred. The cutting season ends about July 1.

As a result of this experience, the canner's respect for the ability of youth when properly trained and supervised is a very happy surprise when contrasted to their pre-war customs when labor was plentiful. It wasn't a seller's market then.

The VFV's have carried out a successful "blitz" in asparagus cutting, and in Illinois they have established a firm beachhead on the farm-labor front.

George Hooper—a happy lad from Watseka, Ill., is sorting his cutting at one of the Milford Canning Company fields.

The tables reversed

The Franklin County, N. Y., 4–H Clubs voted to help support the local Kiwanis Club drives in obtaining clothing for Belgium. As the Kiwanis Clubs have contributed much support to 4–H in the county, it was felt that here was an opportunity for the clubs to do something for Kiwanis. Girls in homemaking received an additional unit of credit for clothing if they washed, cleaned, and mended the garments which they collected. When the drive ended on April 28, much more than a ton of clothing had been turned in by the various 4–H Clubs and totaled a little more than 900 articles. This was nearly as much clothing as the total collection made in the village of Malone by the Kiwanians themselves, reports J. Frank Stephens, 4–H Club agent in Franklin County.

4–H teaches soil conservation

One hundred and forty-three 4–H Club boys in 23 Mississippi counties are conducting demonstrations in soil conservation. Each boy is taught to make or use a map of his farm showing conditions at the start of the program and then each year thereafter to show changes effected. Following the establishment of the necessary mechanical erosion-control measures, other soil-building practices consistent with a good farm conservation plan are added. Members of these clubs are receiving assistance from soil-conservation districts. Each member is eligible after 2 years of successful work to compete for a scholarship to the State College of Agriculture.

Land-use planning committees revived

Rural policy committees are being set up in most rural counties in New York State. Generally, these county committees are the former county land use planning committees reorganized to fit needs. They are made up of farmers, homemakers, and some other persons interested in rural needs and representing all locally important rural organizations. One of the first jobs for these county rural policy committees will be to recommend procedures in the relocation of war veterans and industrial workers returning to the land.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

FIRST RURAL SERVICE conference to be held in South Carolina was held early in the new year with 70 persons present representing Clemson College, REA, the utilities, the cooperatives, manufacturers, and the Grange. The conference was called by W. J. Ridout, Jr., extension specialist in agricultural engineering, just the day before he reported for duty in the Navy. It was an educational conference with a committee of 4 utility men and 4 co-op men appointed to arrange for another meeting of the group later.

THE 8-POINT MILK PRODUCTION PROGRAM gathers momentum. Folders from Vermont, Washington, and Alabama are straws in the wind. The Vermont publication carries especially attractive photographs and uses orange color effectively. The red and blue printing on white stock gives the Washington bulletin a patriotic flavor, and the cartoon gives it pep and humor. The Alabama leaflet also uses cartoons effectively and presents the eight points briefly and understandably.

FIRST COUNTY to go over the top in South Dakota Fifth War Loan Drive was Gregory, a strictly rural county. The intensive efforts of 173 4-H Club members were among the big factors in this record. Two days before the war loan drive opened officially, the quota was $7,000 oversubscribed, making the fifth county in the United States to meet its quota. Three war bond auctions held June 2 and 3 plus a farm-to-farm canvass by 4-H Club members brought in $385,000 in war bonds. Heavy rains made roads next to impassable; but in spite of it, the young people called on every farmer in the county and decorated store windows.

SERIES OF ADVERTISEMENTS on milk production have been worked out in Minnesota by Paul C. Johnson, the extension editor, and the dairy specialists, cooperating with the Minnesota Editorial Association. They are not mere slogans but contain good educational material on such subjects as too early grazing, cutting hay a week or 10 days early to increase protein content, efficient ways of keeping milk sweet and clean, or a 2-minute method for washing the cream separator. The secretary of the State Editorial Association is enthusiastic and anticipates a 100-percent coverage from the 445 daily and weekly rural newspapers in the State.

IS THIS A NATIONAL RECORD? ask St. Louis County, Minn., farmers of the radio record of County Agent August Neubauer who has been giving weekly broadcasts to farm people for the past 11 years. There are seven [illegible] county who, over the 11 years, have put on 1,500 15-minute broadcasts.

INTEREST IN HANDICRAFTS grows with rehabilitation plans. The seventh session of the National Weavers' Conference, to be held in New York City August 22–31, and the fifteenth annual session of the Penland School of handicrafts, June 14 to August 29, are emphasizing occupational therapy in rehabilitation service. The weavers are also emphasizing the spinning of native fiber. Information on the New York conference is available from Mrs. Osma Gallinger, director of Creative Crafts Weaving School, Guernsey, Pa.

FOR FOLK FESTIVALS in the community, useful suggestions will be found in a new 64-page handbook giving definite directions for organization and how to search for material, as well as something of the background of the major folk songs, music, and dances. A bibliography of about 600 books indicates how to get more detailed information when it is needed. The Community Folk Festival Handbook may be obtained from the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, 621 Bulletin Building, Filbert and Juniper Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

SUPERVISORY PROBLEMS were under discussion at an extension conference in Ohio, June 27 and 28, when four New York extension supervisors met with Ohio supervisors and Charles Potter and Karl Knaus of the Washington office to exchange experiences on some of the problems arising out of rapid personnel turn-over and the accelerated wartime program.

NEW SAFETY LEAFLETS for inexperienced farm workers, issued by the National Safety Council, are proving useful for Victory Farm Volunteers and Women's Land Army members. The small check list for VFV camp and day-haul workers folds up neatly to fit the pocket. The red-white-and-blue bulletin for those who live on the farm spreads out into a poster to be tacked on the wall. They both bring out the essentials of keeping fit on the farm front. July 23–29 is National Safety Week.

A RURAL YOUTH PROGRAM for the Extension Service is under discussion July 7 and 8 in Washington with the Land-Grant College Association subcommittee on rural youth taking part. Members of this committee are Director H. C. Ramsower of Ohio, chairman; Director W. A. Munson, Massachusetts; Director D. W. Watkins, South Carolina; Ella May Cresswell, State leader, home demonstration agents, Mississippi; Myrtle Davidson, State leader, home demonstration agents, Utah; Onah Jacks, State Girls' club agent, Texas; E. W. Aiton, assistant State 4-H Club leader, Minnesota; Pauline M. Reynolds, specialist in older youth work, North Dakota; and A. B. Poundstone, farm management specialist, Kentucky.

SOUTH DAKOTA has listed as the principal 1944 labor goals: (1) to help obtain more efficient use of present labor in such ways as simplification of farm jobs and greater exchange of labor and machinery; (2) to step up the tempo of local mobilization programs to attract a greater number of nonfarm youth and women for farm jobs, as well as business and professional men, during the rush seasons to help in the production and harvesting of the crops; (3) to obtain greater numbers of interstate and foreign workers when and where they are needed.

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Labor needs step up with approaching harvest

■ With the peak harvest season just around the corner, the Nation's 6 million farmers are anxiously keeping one eye on their fast-ripening crops and another on the labor supply, cut so sharply since pre-war days.

But August finds things rather well in hand. It was generally agreed that no appreciable amount of food had been lost through lack of harvest labor. Farm labor people in Washington said State supervisors and county agents had laid their plans well.

Farmers also had shown a greater willingness to make the best of the situation. That meant more patience in helping to instruct inexperienced workers. It also meant longer hours for themselves and more neighborly cooperation in the exchange of labor and machinery.

As for town and city people, they were rallying to the cause as never before. In some places they were ready and anxious to volunteer before crops were ready for harvest.

But the major harvest season still faces farmers, and county agents know that their demands for additional labor will be stepped up from here on. Some wheat remains to be harvested, most of the corn, and millions of bushels of fruits and vegetables, to say nothing of cotton, peanuts and many other crops.

Latest BAE crop reports indicate an all-time record wheat harvest and the fifth-largest corn crop in United States history. The expected average apple crop this year will be 37 percent larger than last year's extremely short crop. Peaches also were scarce last year, but this year's crop is estimated at 64 percent above the 1943 yield and is 20 percent above the 10-year average.

These crops call for large numbers of workers, and fruits and vegetables, especially, require much hand labor. Most of the lighter jobs have been taken over by women and youth, while the men are doing the heavier work.

Extension's well-planned attack on the farm labor problem is exemplified by the migrant labor program along the Atlantic Seaboard. A mutual agreement to cooperate among the States involved has resulted in an orderly flow of farm labor, replacing the old haphazard movement.

Key point of the new plan was the establishment of information stations at Wilmington and Fayetteville, N. C., and at Norfolk, Va. These were operated by extension personnel. Migrants passing these points on their way North were given assistance in finding employment, obtaining the necessary gasoline to complete their journey, or other help needed. This plan gave extension people valuable information on the farm labor movement, so the results were mutually beneficial.

To summarize the present farm labor situation, the number of workers up to now has been sufficient, and necessary farm work has been completed in good shape in most places. However, the big part of the job still remains to be done, and efforts cannot be relaxed until all the crops are in.

When GI Joe comes home

■ Extension workers along with other forward-looking agricultural leaders are planning to lend a helping hand to returning veterans and war workers.

Many of the States now have set up county advisory committees for those who think they want to be farmers. A few county committees have already made reports on specific opportunities. Other county committees are busy getting this information together. Some have written to local boys to see if they have plans for locating on farms in the county. In addition to these local boys, there will of course be many from other parts of the country or from cities who want to change their occupation and their home location.

Former county land use planning committees that functioned successfully have on hand a wealth of economic and social data about the county which is proving invaluable, and in some cases these same committees serve as the advisory committee. In other places the county Victory Councils, the agricultural program planning or county defense committees are doing the job.

Besides their economic problems, veterans will have many social and personal adjustments to make. The recent conference of 29 extension parent education specialists from 21 States, meeting in Chicago, studied these questions. It set down 21 distinct problems, such as those resulting from the return of disabled soldiers, the war widows and children who must carry on alone, or the disillusionment of young people returning from high war-industry wages to low rural wages. Although many of these problems relate to veterans' families, their successful solution will have much to do with the readjustment of the veterans themselves.

Realizing that constructive and skillful counseling might prove helpful, the conference developed a simple technique which will be useful to extension agents and others, who are bound to be called upon to help out in some of these situations.

Milk — and how Wisconsin keeps it coming

The little gadget which times 3-minute eggs is proving useful in timing the milking machines in Wisconsin, says Werner.

■ A few weeks ago George Werner, extension dairyman at the University of Wisconsin, stepped into a country general store to buy a small egg timer. He planned to use it in demonstrating fast milking, one of the important practices being recommended in Wisconsin under the war milk-production program.

Werner and his coworkers had found that consistent, regular timing is important when a herd is being handled by the fast-milking method. They had also found that the little 3-minute egg timers offer an easy way to time the milking machine.

But in this particular store Werner had no luck. "Sorry, mister, I haven't a single one left," the clerk said.

"You did have some?" Werner asked.

"Sure; 2 dozen. Imported from Japan; I never thought I'd get rid of 'em."

"What happened?"

"Danged if I know. But farmers have been buying 'em right and left. I've sold the whole 2 dozen in the last 2 weeks."

Sure enough, when Werner went into the local county agent's office he found that fast milking was getting wide practice from dairymen all over the county, and they were enthusiastic about it. And the Japanese egg timers were helping to produce the food to feed America's fighting men.

Fast milking is one of 29 practices that have formed the heart of the Wisconsin dairy program.

It's been a three-way job, with the dairy husbandry and agronomy departments cooperating to work out a program for feeding the herd, managing the herd, and producing more and better feed.

During March and April the county extension workers held meeting after meeting with dairy farmers. In all, 479 were held by April 30, and the total attendance was almost 20,000.

Other dairymen were reached through their dairy plants and through personal visits from extension dairy assistants. Indications are that the goal to reach every dairyman in the State is being achieved.

Each dairyman has received a copy of the herd check sheet, which lists the 29 key Wisconsin dairy practices. Each herd owner also has a copy of the brief circular, MILK—Keep It Coming, which amplifies the 29 points.

Dairy leaders E. E. Heizer and Werner and agronomist F. V. Burcalow won't estimate how the program is going. The credit for dairy production increases can't be pinned to any one thing, as the weather and many other influences are concerned.

On the other hand, they do get an indication now and then of real results. Werner's experience in trying to buy an egg timer is a case in point. Totals of ammonium nitrate shipped into the State to give permanent pastures a "shot in the arm" are also impressive, and there are signs that others of the 29 practices are spreading.

Then there is the testimony of the manager of one of Wisconsin's biggest dairy processing plants. "In 1943 our average daily milk production per herd was lower than in 1942. But this year it has been different. By March the average herd was delivering 18 pounds more milk daily to our plants than in 1943, and by April 23 of this year the average daily deliveries were 24 pounds per herd above last year. We think the WFA-Extension-Dairy Industry program deserves much credit."

In the next few months of hot weather, the program will vary its approach.

"We are giving more attention to quality now, trying to reduce the amount of milk rejected by dairy plants," says Emil Jorgenson, district county agent leader aiding with the program.

In that connection the home-economics extension staff will help, with farm women discussing the design and planning of milk houses. Farmers are mighty busy at this time of year—and so are farm wives, Jorgenson explains. But the women seem especially interested and willing to take a little time off to consider the milk-house question.

Dairy assistants are still holding meetings, and farm visits will continue throughout the summer.

In some counties the dairy production program has helped in the setting up of county-wide cooperative herd-testing laboratories, which give dairymen concrete figures to go by in culling their herds and in feeding efficiently. Extension leaders say they hope to see still more of this trend. Already about seven counties have worked county-wide testing into their programs. All together, the outlook for more Wisconsin milk is bright.

Indiana is a singing State

County home demonstration chorus wins fame

Some pleasantly satisfying memories came sharply into focus when the members of the Tippecanoe County Home-Economics Chorus celebrated its tenth anniversary.

Just 10 years ago, County Agricultural Agent S. B. Pershing called upon Albert P. Stewart, director of choral music at Purdue University, to lead an informally organized chorus of Tippecanoe County rural women in singing a few songs for a radio program over Purdue's WBAA. He consented. Recognizing the quality of the voices, Mr. Stewart, who was then booking the music over WBAA, asked the group to sing on other programs, provided they would be willing to rehearse a bit.

The Chorus Is Organized

Then one of the women suggested that a home-economics chorus be organized formally with Mr. Stewart as the director. The success of the venture far exceeded anyone's expectations. The fame of this one chorus is known throughout the Nation—from coast to coast. The chorus has been the subject of leading stories in all the important music publications and in nearly every Indiana newspaper, in farm papers, and newspapers in New York, Washington, Chicago, and Baltimore.

The example set by this chorus has stimulated the organization of similar choruses, 82 in Indiana and 13 in other States. The chorus members find it hard to believe that 40 technically untrained singing voices could possibly have done so much in 10 short years.

A feature of the anniversary program was the singing by the 10 women who were charter members of some of the numbers sung in the early days of the chorus. Movies were shown of a few of the long trips taken, including those to Washington, Baltimore, and New York.

The chorus is on a sound financial footing, with a substantial balance in its checking account and four $100 war bonds. The chorus members pay dues, and each of the 21 home-economics clubs of the county also contributes funds. To show what rural women can do when they really want to, the chorus, in 1939, raised $2,000 in 2 weeks to defray the expenses of a trip to New York for an appearance.

Besides, there is a special memorial fund, in honor of the memory of deceased members. This fund is used to sponsor worth-while music projects. Part of the fund was used 2 or 3 years ago to help support a scholarship for a promising young male singer at Purdue, so that he could attend a music college.

Over the decade the chorus has been composed of about 40 voices, the present number, each of the local home-economics clubs being represented. The average age is 45 years. Once a year, Director Stewart holds a try-out—on June 5 this year. Every effort is made to obtain for the chorus the best rural voices in the county. Rehearsals—an afternoon in the Purdue Hall of Music—are held every 2 weeks. Getting full attendance at rehearsals is no problem.

During the past 10 years, the chorus has appeared on national radio networks and on numerous Indiana and Chicago radio stations. It has given concerts throughout Tippecanoe County and at many other points in Indiana as well as in Chicago, New York, Washington, and Baltimore, and at a wide variety of meetings and conventions.

Singing at the White House

The chorus first attracted national and world fame when it went to Washington, D. C., in 1936 to sing at the third triennial conference of the Associated Country Women of the World, attended by 3,000 women from 40 countries. At one session, Mrs. Roosevelt interrupted the program to ask if the chorus would give a "command" performance at the White House for the President. Thus, the chorus was a feature at the President's garden party reception for the world guests. It sang selections by Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms, and, as a special token for the President, his favorite—Home on the Range.

The women were invited to Chicago in 1937 for the convention of the Associated Country Women of the United States. In 1939, they went to Baltimore to sing at the biennial convention of the National Federation of Music Clubs and the National Music Festival. The same year, they sang at the New York World's Fair. Other engagements have been at the annual meetings of the Indiana Federation of Music Clubs, the Indiana County Agricultural Agents' Association, and at Purdue and the Indiana State Fair. For several years they have participated in the Chicagoland Music Festival before audiences of nearly 100,000 persons.

The war has curtailed activities considerably because of travel restrictions. However, besides appearing at township and county home-economics achievement day programs, the chorus has decided to make the rounds of all rural churches in Tippecanoe County, selecting a church a month and appearing as a feature of the morning worship service.

Honored by Music Clubs

Recently the chorus was awarded the Chorus Rating Cup, presented by the Indiana Federation of Music Clubs in recognition of service and activity rendered during the past year.

Director Stewart, who is national chairman of rural music for all county and State fair music for the National Federation of Music Clubs, has said:

"We have proved that city limits and cultural boundaries are not synonymous. We have demonstrated that music is not a possession exclusively for the technically trained; that it is a universal possession, to be understood, used, and loved. Indiana is a singing State."

A Letter From Washington

A few months ago, Mr. Stewart, who, in cooperation with the Indiana Extension Service, has charge of all county home-economics choruses received the following letter from Mrs. Roosevelt:

"I have been greatly interested in the Home-Economics Chorus project which you have been directing in Indiana, and I have personally witnessed on various occasions the splendid results which have been achieved.

"It is my opinion that, in times like these, music plays an important role in the building of morale; and I wish it were possible for similar projects to be initiated in all our 48 States."

Arkansas women plant forest trees

■ Arkansas home demonstration forests are expanding in number, and the trees are achieving a lusty growth under the skillful care of the sponsors. The first forests were planted in the spring of 1939 and described in the August issue of the REVIEW by Extension Forester Frederick J. Shulley. With fitting ceremony, nine county home demonstration councils planted their trees. Each year since then, additional forests have been planned and planted at the yearly council meeting, until now 31 forests are growing beautiful trees. The plot is usually about 1 acre, though Benton County boasts a 2-acre forest. Each forest is plainly marked with the name of the council, and a chart shows the location of each tree so that the sponsor can find hers whenever she wishes.

Each fall, the council members and as many other home demonstration club members as can get there, meet for a yearly picnic and to work on their trees. There is a good deal of friendly rivalry among the women concerning the growth of their trees. A woman often will stop on her way to and from town to do a little work on her tree, show it to her family, or just look to see whether it has made any growth since her last visit. At the yearly picnic, pruning and renewing the fire-protection strip around the plot are in order.

The White County Council planted the most recent forest to 2,000 shortleaf pine. Five hundred of these trees were planted in honor of the boys and girls of the county who are now in the armed service. One service mother from each home demonstration club worked with the Army Mothers' Club in planting the trees. All service men at home on leave were honor guests.

Among the first-year forests of 1939 was that of Grant County which entertained Assistant Director Brigham at the planting and allowed him to plant a tree of his own in its forest.

At the yearly picnic last November, 23 were present, 12 of them being the same members who planted their trees April 7, 1939. Reuben Brigham's tree had attained a height of 9 feet, but didn't compare with the tree planted by Freda Reynolds, a 4-H Club girl, which measured 12 feet, 8 inches. His tree did compare favorably however with the one planted by Connie J. Bonslagel, State home demonstration agent, which was only 8 feet, 6 inches tall.

This acre of shortleaf pine showed an 88-percent survival and an average height of 8 feet. The women raked a safety strip 6 feet wide around their forest as a protection against fire and cut sprouts and double leaders to improve their trees.

Yellow tulip-poplar seedlings have been among the favorites of these home demonstration foresters along Crowley's Ridge, where this tree is native. Poinsett County started its acre with 1,000 yellow poplars last year; 55 members representing nine county home demonstration clubs took part under the leadership of Miss Iva Harness, agent. Three rows were planted for boys serving in the armed forces, generally the brothers, sons, and husbands of home demonstration club members. Three women traveled 31 miles to represent Wildwood Club at the tree planting. 4-H Club boys helped by digging the holes for the trees.

The Miller County forest of loblolly pine planted in 1941 shows a 95-percent survival, and the Searcy County acre planted to black locust the same year shows a 90-percent survival.

A shortleaf pine forest belonging to the Pike County Council was planted in 1941 and now shows an 82 percent survival with the average height of the trees 58 inches.

War food production scrapbook

■ M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, shows Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard and War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, a scrapbook of educational materials prepared in support of the 1944 Food Production Program by 48 State Extension Services and those of Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Accompanying the scrapbook were the 51 individual reports to the War Food Administrator made by the respective extension directors on progress being made in their areas.

How to interest people in nutrition

LUCY A. CASE, Extension Specialist in Nutrition, Oregon

Deep down in every person's nature is a desire for something that he or she wants very badly. The bricklayer wants steady nerve on his scaffolding high above the city street. Perhaps he has never called it "steady nerve" to himself, but when the nutritionist describes the feeling, something "clicks" in his mind, and he recognizes an aim that is of extremely vital interest to him. The salesman wants poise and a smile to greet the public. The young businesswoman wants good appearance—beautiful skin, hair, and figure. The football player wants speed to carry the ball down the field a little faster than those who are chasing him. The homemaker wants endurance, strength, patience, and judgment to meet the many problems each day brings. Parents want understanding, ideals, self-control, and many other virtues in order that they may guide their children to become good citizens. Everybody wants more energy for work, for enjoyment of living, and for doing his part in this confused and complicated world in which we find ourselves. Everybody wants to do something to help defend our country, to keep it strong, great, and free.

The Right Food Will Help

How can we use these fundamental desires in interesting people in nutrition? The answer seems crystal clear. Whatever a person wants in life (unless it be the moon or some other thing beyond human possibility), good food and rest habits will help him to get what he wants; and they will help him to be what he wants to be. Although we have yet to learn many facts in nutrition, it has been well established that good food and rest habits play an important role in the development and maintenance of steady nerve, poise, and courage, a lovely face and figure, strength and keenness, and so on throughout the many desires and needs of our people. Nutrition is the most practical helper so far discovered in getting what you want out of life.

Showing the actual needs is more effective in mobilizing a community for better nutrition than trying to create a sense of need. County and community nutrition councils have found it helpful to start a nutrition campaign by gathering a few facts about local and State needs. Public health nurses have statistics that reflect nutritional condition. Teachers in some States have made routine inspection for physical fitness and have kept records. Their attendance records show health conditions. Many teachers have made special studies of the food habits of children. Several counties in Oregon conduct regular medical examination of 4-H Club members in connection with the growth and health project. Dentists, doctors, and druggists often have statistics that could be used. Data are fast accumulating on draft rejections and their causes. Physicians vary in estimating that from 30 to 90 percent of the cases of physical unfitness in Army rejections are due to faulty food habits, either on the part of the man concerned or of his parents.

A simple score card on daily food and rest habits could easily be prepared and used in any local group. Such a score card should indicate the accepted standards on daily food requirements, with space for the person to score himself. He might be encouraged to use percentages and add his score to see if he has a passing grade. A great deal of interest has been aroused in Oregon by the use of a score card with health credits, or good food and rest habits, listed on one-half of the card, and health debits or common deficiency ailments on the other. The question, "Are you irritable," in the latter section, almost always "gets under the skin." Below the score columns is the question, "Can you raise your credits and lower your debits?"

After the nutritional needs have been shown, the nutritionist should be on hand with concrete data showing where food has made a difference in actual cases. England has furnished a recent example, where 834 young men, who had been rejected by the Army because of physical unfitness, were conditioned by good food and rest in a camp. The result was that 87 percent of them passed the physical examination and were inducted into the Army. Major Byrd's two expeditions furnish interesting nutrition data. He used the best information on nutrition in feeding his expeditionary force, and his men came back in fine shape. A western trucking company reports that it has achieved reduction in the number of night accidents by providing all of its driver crews with bags of raw carrots at the beginning of every trip. They are capitalizing on the value of vitamin A to eyesight after dark.

It's Fun To Eat Good Food

In arousing interest in nutrition, great strides can be made by remembering that eating nutritious food can be great fun. The nutritionist can make people's mouths water by word pictures of a delicious meal that is good for them without telling them so. Much more interest can be aroused by preparing and serving such a meal.

Participation by women, and even by men, in food preparation, especially in something new and different, adds greatly to interest.

Simple nontechnical language is an important factor. The scientific facts of nutrition must be explained in terms of foods that people know.

Slogans, catch-phrases, and epigrammatic statements often stick in people's minds, and the idea is carried home and used, perhaps because it is easy to remember. Tell the nursing mother that "milk makes milk," and tell the overweight woman that "fat makes fat." Arouse a community to search for its "hidden hungers."

Children like to look at pictures, especially moving pictures. Exhibits at fairs or general meetings and in store windows arouse interest, and there is no end to interesting exhibit subjects.

One of the mistakes that may kill interest and "queer" a nutrition program is to promise too much for nutrition. It is not a cure-all. Poor nutrition is not the only cause of poor teeth. Fortified food is not a panacea for all ills. Other killers of interest are conflicting statements on nutrition from various agencies, and implying that nutrition knowledge is at present settled, final, and complete. Taking part in poor nutrition practices, such as candy sales at schools, setting a poor example in daily food habits and unhealthy appearance also kill interest.

Eggstravaganza sells bonds

MRS. LENNA M. SAWYER, Home Demonstration Agent, Tulsa County, Okla.

As a climax to an intense campaign in Tulsa District to "Eat more eggs to have more eggs," the Tulsa County Council of Home Demonstration Clubs, in cooperation with a local radio station and the War Food Administration, Office of Distribution, held an egg and cake show in connection with the "take-off" for the Fifth War Loan Drive. The event was publicized as an "eggstravaganza." On Thursday, May 25, the full day was given to improvement of the egg-marketing situation. An exhibit of cakes using the greatest number of eggs was offered. Angel, sponge, and butter cakes were included. Classes of cakes were opened to junior girls, and a standard recipe was supplied. The show was open to everyone. City and country women competed against each other, and honors were equally divided after the judging. Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and 4-H Club girls were eligible to compete in the junior class.

In addition to setting up the plan to use large quantities of eggs in making many varieties of cakes and to exhibit eggs, the program included a banquet which featured eggs to maintain flavor and balance in the meal. The menu included: Deviled eggs en casserole, English peas, rolls, coffee, and jelly, spring salad, angel cake, and boiled custard.

Recognizing the difficulties of wartime transportation, the committee in charge, in the expectation that a large group would be present, conceived the idea of using the time to launch the Fifth War Loan Drive.

The program was much like Jack's bean stalk—it grew and grew and grew.

The home demonstration agent and the staff in her office met with representatives of the other cooperating agencies, and a bare outline of the program was decided upon. Immediately following that meeting, the home demonstration agent called a meeting of members of the home demonstration clubs of the county. A representative group met and filled in a number of the details needed to complete the plan. Committees were appointed for specific tasks. This group agreed to serve the banquet; ask club members to donate, food; charge every person who ate a meal, including the women who donated and prepared the food, 50 cents to defray the expense of premiums; and ask the cooperation of as many organized groups as possible. All details were assigned to these committees. Each chairwoman had full information of her duties and went out to do her own job with the help of a capable committee of women.

The job was a big one! The plan was to serve at least 250 meals. The premiums offered amounted to $87.50, and enough tickets had to be sold to assure the premiums and cover the additional cost of the meal. Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, and 4-H Club girls, to be dressed in full official uniform, were asked to serve the meal. The response was superb. Food for the banquet and cakes to assure a big show were contributed generously. The garden clubs of Tulsa were asked to decorate the tables.

Men's civic and service clubs of the city became interested and lent their support toward publicizing the bond sale. The cakes and eggs winning ribbons were offered for sale for war bonds—they sold that night, and at great prices. The champion adult-class cake sold for $25,000 in war bonds. More than $50,000 worth of bonds were sold.

This successful bond sale was made possible by the cooperation of fine cake makers and the businessmen of the city. The aim of using eggs was attained. More than 700 eggs were used in the preparation of the meal, and numbers so large they could scarcely be computed were used in the cakes exhibited. Scores of dozens of eggs were exhibited and sold for war bonds. Bond sales exceeded any reasonable expectations; and sitting with friends, old and new, around a table of good food prepared by willing hands developed the spirit of good-fellowship that is characteristic of America.

Victory gardeners register farm workers

N. L. BOWEN, Victory Garden Committee Chairman, Ridgewood, N. J.

Within a radius of 5 miles of our village are many excellent farms which will be short of labor this season. This means a part of the acreage will be withdrawn from cultivation unless we can raise a "land army" to help.

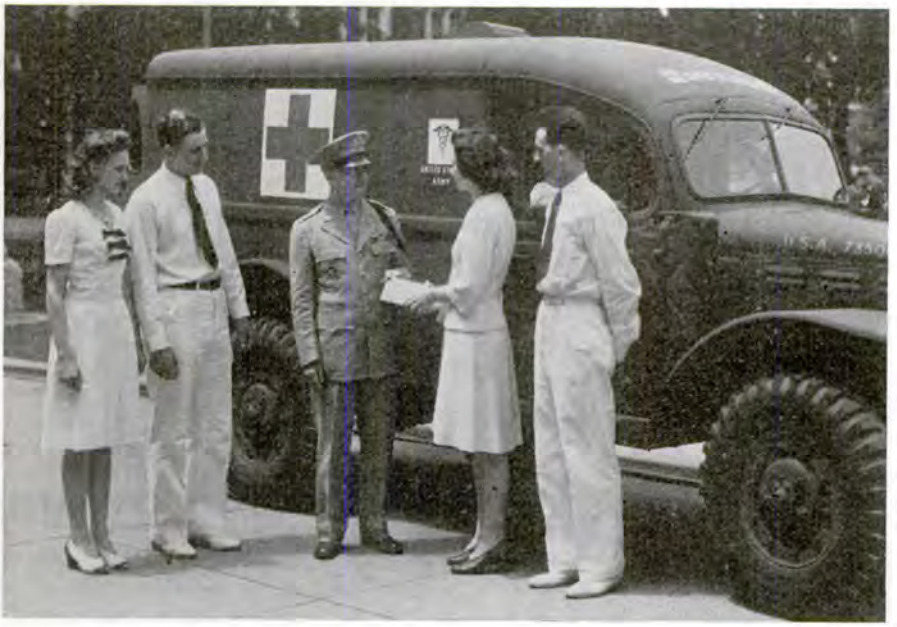
Last year about 60 men of Bergen County gave up their annual vacations and worked on farms in this neighborhood. Some of them also gave up their Saturday holidays. This year our county agent is speaking wherever there is a large gathering of men such as American Legion meetings. The senior commander has said he would be glad to make a place for our agent on the next program. The air-raid wardens and the Elks and other organizations also have indicated their willingness to make a place on their programs for a report on the local farm-labor situation.

If the men of our county have no land to garden, they can put in their Saturdays or vacations, or both, on a farm where the land is highly productive, and a practical farmer will direct them. It is only reasonable to suppose that they will raise as much produce in this way as they would if they put in the whole summer on their own back-yard garden.

The local Victory Garden committees are thoroughly behind recruitment of the needed crop corps. They receive registrations of the men who can work on farms, and the county agent registers the farmers who need manpower. The county agent acts as a clearing house to connect the two.

In our village of 15,000 people, we have 4,050 homes. Last year we had 2,300 registered Victory Gardens and probably several hundred not registered. This shows that we have active and capable Victory Garden committees which are looking forward to more gardens and bigger production this year.

Illinois 4-H Clubs give an ambulance



An ambulance was bought with $1,539, made up of nickels and dimes earned by 4-H boys and girls in 660 Illinois clubs. It was given to the Army on June 5 and dedicated to 11,700 former Illinois 4-H Club members now in the armed forces.

The ambulance was the second given the Army by Illinois club members, whose youthful energy and enthusiasm earned the money through scrap drives, "bake" sales, minstrels, and similar events. A third ambulance was presented on July 29. The first was given in May 1943.

A colorful ceremony marked the June dedication, held in the University of Illinois auditorium, when Col. Leonard C. Sparks, commandant at the university, accepted the ambulance on behalf of the War Department. The four Illinois club members chosen as delegates to National 4-H Club Camp in 1944, made the formal presentation.

Veterans of both World Wars spoke on the program. Miss Fannie M. Brooks, extension health education specialist, University of Illinois College of Agriculture, who served overseas for 15 months during World War I, as an Army nurse, was a keynote speaker. Also among the speakers were Capt. Steve Varner, veteran of the North African campaign, wearer of the Distinguished Service Cross, and former Illinois 4-H Club member and leader, and Lt. Jean Linke, Army nurse who served abroad for 20 months in New Guinea and Australia.

Musicians from Chanute Field, Ill., an installation of the Army Air Forces Training Command, presented special music for the program.

Montana weather outlook

To keep farmers and ranchers informed on the weather outlook so that they can plan the most efficient use of their time and labor, 5-day weather forecasts are being broadcast twice weekly over Radio Stations KRBM at Bozeman and KGHL at Billings through a cooperative effort of the Montana Extension Service, the U. S. Weather Bureau office at Billings, and the radio stations.

The forecast service is experimental; and should it prove of real value to farm operators in the counties served by the two stations, it is possible that a more State-wide system may be worked out.

Each Wednesday and Friday the Weather Bureau prepares 5-day forecasts for the Gallatin Valley and the Upper Yellowstone Valley. The forecast for the Gallatin area is telegraphed to the extension editor at Montana State College at Bozeman who prepares the script for the forecast and weaves in an interpretation of the weather outlook in relation to current farm and ranch activities. This script is then turned over to Joe R. Anderson, acting Gallatin County agent, who uses it in his regular Wednesday evening broadcast over KRBM. The Friday report is processed in a similar manner but is given direct to the radio station for use Friday evening on its Defense Bulletin Board program. At Billings the forecast is handled direct from the Weather Bureau to the radio station.

How to grow a garden, in braille

Four New Jersey Garden Club radio digests are being transcribed into braille and sent to the National Institute for the Blind in London, England. Sponsored by the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, the digests were hand-brailled by the Service for the Blind, American Red Cross, New York Chapter. They were also press-brailled, that is, transcribed on zinc plates, from which any number of copies can be printed. All the distributing libraries in the United States and some smaller libraries have been sent copies.

For England, the pamphlets were hand-brailled because only grade 2 (advanced) braille is read over there; the press-brailled copies are in grade 1½.

"The Radio Garden Club" was the title of a program presented by the New Jersey Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with the Federated Garden Clubs of New York, the Garden Club of New Jersey, the Federation of Garden Clubs of Bergen County, N. J., and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. It was broadcast over a Nation-wide hook-up twice weekly for almost 10 years, and gave practical timely information on gardening for the amateur. The programs were discontinued in 1941.

Project Day

April 15 was set aside in Randolph County, Ala., as 4-H Project Day for the 760 members of 16 organized clubs in the county. On that day all members worked on their home projects, thus making a real contribution to the war effort.

Wrangling buffalo — an extra thriller

R. LELAND ROSS, County Agent, Ellis County, Okla.

What a thrill to be invited to be one of the official wranglers for the buffalo round-up held right here in Ellis County on the G. E. Davison ranch! This buffalo herd of some 125 animals was to be rounded up and driven to an adjoining ranch some 3 miles distant, where they could be corralled. Mr. Davison desired to cut back those buffalo he wanted to keep, and leave them in the buffalo pasture. Plans were made to have a load of hay on hand to feed the buffalo on each side of the fence where a let-down had been made, thus keeping the herd intact until the ones Mr. Davison wanted to keep had been separated from the rest and put back into their pasture before the herd was moved down to the corrals.

By 10 o'clock we were in the buffalo pasture, only a short distance from headquarters, drifting the herd in an easterly direction to the site of the proposed cutting grounds. Things moved along peacefully as the buffalo followed the load of hay; not much "cowboying" was necessary. Finally we reached the proposed cutting grounds; the fence was let down, and the fun was on. In some respects, buffalo are handled more like hogs than any other livestock; that is, they have their heads on the wrong end. They even have a grunt somewhat like that of a hog, but aside from these characteristics, they are similar to cattle in their habits.

The herd was all together by now, and the cutting operations were proceeding fairly well, when out of nowhere came an old one-horned cow, with her "governor" wide open, after one of the wranglers. The wrangler heard us holler and put spurs to his mount, but what that buffalo lacked in catching the horse was a matter of inches. The horse's tail was bouncing about on her horns, and the wrangler's face was white from this close call.

It came handy for me to cut-back some of the buffaloes that were to be kept, and in doing so I once put on quite a show with my star-gazing mount when a buffalo started down a 15-degree slope and, the horse running away with me, there was more daylight between me and my saddle than sunup and sundown. A buffalo can really turn on the speed going downhill. I thought I was a "goner" for sure, but the horse stopped just in time to save my good reputation.

The herd had drifted some one-half mile from the cutting grounds by now, so we drifted them on to the corrals. Everything went fine on the drive except when once in a while the old one-horned cow would let out a grunt and take after someone.

When we got the herd almost to the corrals it threatened to stampede, but Mr. Davison let out a few sweet words, "Come darling, sweetheart," and the buffaloes started following his car right into the corrals.

After it was safe in the corrals and we had our "chuck," the herd was divided so that the State Fish and Game Department, Hal Cooper, George Howlett, and Davison all had some buffaloes. Cutting them out was a chore, as Cooper got most all of the bulls under 3 years old. The others took the cows and heifers with an occasional bull thrown in.

When I get to be an old man, this will be a great tale to tell my grandkids about, because it will be improved upon with age and be a "killer diller."

A by-product of the war program

Phenothiazine treatment for nodular worms and other internal parasites of sheep is well on the way to becoming standard practice among Minnesota sheep growers as the result of a wartime campaign.

It all started with the announcement by the United States Department of Agriculture that there was great need for more surgical sutures, or catgut, made principally from the intestines of sheep. A large proportion of intestines were made unusable because of the activity of the nodular worm which damaged the intestine walls. Phenothiazine had been established as the best control.

The Minnesota campaign was launched early in 1943 under the direction of W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman, with the appointment of sheep committees in most of Minnesota's sheep-raising counties. These committees helped county agents to canvass sheep growers, promote interest in the phenothiazine treatment and make arrangements to obtain bulk supplies of the compound for flocks either by veterinarians or by farmers armed with the necessary knowledge. In the campaign, more than 350,000 head of sheep were treated in the State.

Fortunately, a packing company in southern Minnesota which handles many sheep from various parts of the State, ran tests which brought forth amazing proof of the results from the Minnesota campaign. Check lots of feeding lambs showed that 1 year's treatment increased the number of "clear" intestines from 5 to 81 percent. Comparison was of 718 head of 1942 lambs from untreated flocks and 673 head of 1943 lambs from treated flocks. The company also kept records on its entire lamb kill. The drive to rid native flocks of nodular worms appeared to have increased the number of usable intestines from 60 percent in 1942 to 95 percent in 1943. This spread was noted in September, when a large number of native lambs were on the market.

The winter drench to clean up the ewe flock was pushed vigorously in Minnesota again this past winter in a letter sent by Mr. Morris to 30,000 sheep raisers notifying them of the packing company's tests. As soon as the sheep went on pasture, emphasis was switched to feeding a 9 to 1 mixture of salt and phenothiazine in order to maintain the beneficial effect of the winter drench. Phenothiazine treatment was included in all the extension literature as a standard method of controlling parasites; a salt-feeding box protected from the weather was designed, and plans were distributed in large quantities. The demand for phenothiazine has increased to such an extent that a leading company distributing insecticides, vermifuges, and livestock supplies has arranged to mix it with salt and market it as a standard product.

A home demonstration agent in Hawaii

The war is very near to Pearl Harbor and to the work of Home Demonstration Agent Martha L. Eder of Kaunakakai, Molokai, Hawaii, who tells of her activities in a recent letter to Madge J. Reese, field agent for the Western States including Hawaii.

A year ago we were completely blacking out our houses at dark, and we were driving cars with the headlights blacked out, except for a small opening of one-eighth inch by one inch. If you want to develop a good case of jitters, just fix your headlights like that and try driving your car on curved roads with deep ditches and gullies on either or both sides. Several months ago when the Japs had been pushed back nearer to Tokyo, the headlight restrictions were lessened to what we thought a wonderful degree. We were allowed to have an opening of three-eighths of an inch in width and all the way across the headlights. That made driving wonderful. Then, a short time ago, they told us that we could take all the paint off the headlights and leave the metal shield at the top so that the lights will not shine up. This is so much like pre-war driving that I haven't any words left to tell you what a wonderful feeling it is now to drive a car at night.

Last spring, David Akana, the county agent, was called into active service in the Army; and for 2 months there was no farm agent here. During the interval before a county agent was hired, I did the crop survey, visiting all the farmers to make an estimate of the crops that were produced and the anticipated production for each of the next 3 months. This truly was a headache for me, and I don't think I was ever so tired as at the end of those days. But the experience was priceless for me. The greatest difficulty was that so many of the farmers do not speak English, and my pidgin English is in the primary age. However, I did locate each of the farmers and got acquainted with them and with their families. Of course I knew many of them before, and I got a lot of information that I have been able to use for the benefit of my extension clubs for women. June 1, Richard Lyman, Jr., the new county agent arrived. He works hard and is about the most amiable individual one could have to work with. At present, Mr. Lyman is spending most of his time supervising the growing of 4,000 acres of food crops, mostly corn and potatoes.

My club members are much interested in food preservation which is so important because of the short growing season. We now have 50 new pressure cookers, and many more women have their orders in for cookers. This past few months I have spent all of my time showing how to can vegetables and meats, using the pressure cookers. I keep urging the people to plant more vegetables, but this has been rather discouraging due to the lack of rain. I am pleased at the interest that the women are taking in canning and the number of different kinds of things they are preserving. In December we sent 48 different kinds of preserved foods, 1 jar of each, to Honolulu to the Victory Food Show, and at the same time we filled a large glass cabinet here in the office with the surplus. We have a record of a total of 71 different preserved foods, and as the weeks go by the women keep bringing in more new varieties.

It has taken a long time to get the confidence of the oriental people who operate all our stores but I have almost made the grade. You may be interested in one story: Mr. Imamura had received three dozen bottle cappers, and I notified the club members who wanted cappers. One day I went in to see if all the cappers were gone, and he told me that he had at least two dozen left. I suggested that he put some of them in the window so that people going by would know that he had cappers. His comment is interesting: "No, Miss Eder, I think it will be better if I keep the cappers back behind. I know some of the people who bought cappers are using them to make home brew; and if I keep them out of sight, only your club members will get them." This same store gives me boxes of garden seeds which I carry around with me so that the people who have no transportation can get seeds.

Last summer the administrative officer in the Army headquarters asked me if I would help the mess sergeants and cooks learn how to use local fruits and vegetables. Of course, I said I would. He called a meeting of all the mess sergeants. I was the only woman present. Since that meeting I can appreciate how a preacher feels when he has to talk to a ladies' aid meeting. I later taught the mess sergeants how to make guava jelly and jam. From then on, the help was mostly informal discussion groups when we went over the 21-day G. I. menus so I could help them with their special problems. Every mess has trouble using evaporated eggs; and some of the other foods that they wanted help with are Vienna sausages, ham loaf, corned beef, and corn meal. You see, even in the Army they do not get all their supplies, and they cannot always follow the G. I. menus.

What is Extension?

Dr. C. B. Smith began his talk on What Agricultural Extension Is, before the annual conference of the Federal Extension staff, with the story of the Chinese poet, Wang Wei who lived 4,000 years ago and who upon being asked, "What is the most worth-while thing in life?" replied:

"I am old.
Nothing interests me now.
Moreover, I am not very intelligent,
And my ideas
Have never traveled farther than my feet.
I know only my forests
To which I always come back.
You ask me
What is the supreme happiness here below?
It is listening to the song of a little girl
As she goes on down the road
After having asked me the way."

What is agricultural Extension? It is an educational organization that sends rural men, women, and youth singing down the road of life because it carries to them knowledge and helps them to develop their farms, their homes, their children, their institutions, and themselves. Sending rural people on down the road singing is the spirit and the heart of Extension. It is what agricultural Extension is.

One Way ——— To Do It

Rural education featured

Serious consideration of the problems facing rural education today, as well as post-war planning for colleges, occupied the minds of approximately 85 women leaders who attended the third annual assembly of the Kansas Home Demonstration Council in Manhattan, May 23 to 25.

President Eisenhower discussed the building plans for Kansas State College in his address to the women, and encouraged and praised their efforts to raise $200,000 for erecting a women's residence hall on the campus after the war.

Looking after the children

Convinced of the importance of educating and training their young children, members of a Willacy County, Tex., home demonstration club have expended time and energy to provide play equipment for their children's use during club meetings.

At one meeting, the Stillman Home Demonstration Club women made toys and play equipment. These are stored on shelves constructed by the women in their own clubhouse. The children use a card table with shortened legs and have small stools improvised out of oilcans. Toys that pull with a cord, blocks, balls, crayons, and rag dolls are among the playthings that amuse them while their mothers learn and share improved homemaking practices. The children also enjoy a swing suspended from a large mesquite tree.

Mrs. Hazel Martin, Willacy County home demonstration agent, says that the mothers "take turn about" caring for the children at club meetings.

To aid of neighbor

The spirit of community cooperation that solved a labor shortage was demonstrated May 22 on the farm of R. R. Gabbard in the Darden community, Henderson County, Tenn. Because of the serious illness of Mrs. Gabbard, no spring farming had been done on this farm.

The neighbors, 31 strong, met with 9 tractors and 16 teams to aid their neighbor in distress. The work of cleaning up fields, cutting off ditch banks, preparing and planting 22 acres of corn and beans and 4 acres of soybeans was easily accomplished. Some pasture fences were repaired and cattle transferred to the new pastures.

All of this was sparked by the leadership of E. E. Wallace, a Victory Committeeman and member of the Henderson County Program Planning Committee. Mr. Wallace got in touch with his fellow farmers and aroused their sense of cooperation. This spirit is present in all farm communities and is manifested when a leader with energy and vision is developed.

On June 12, the farmers of the community continued their cooperative solution of their acute labor shortage. Twenty neighbor farmers met on Mr. Gabbard's farm and gave the crops planted at the previous working a complete cultivation. They assembled 1 tractor with tractor cultivator, 11 cultivators (2-horse), 7 single plow teams, and 1 extra pair of mules. The total numbered 20 men, 1 tractor outfit, 30 mules and horses, 11 cultivators, and 7 1-horse plows.

The 22 acres of corn and beans planted May 19 were all well cultivated before 11 a. m. These two community operations got Mr. Gabbard's crop where he can easily cultivate it the rest of the way.

OCD Victory Aides help

Parents of boys 14 to 16 years of age in St. Paul, Minn., were visited by Victory Aides—the OCD block leaders there—who brought a message from the City Department of Education, the agricultural Extension Service of Minnesota, and the county agents, who planned to recruit, train, and place boys on farms. The need for more farm workers to harvest war food was emphasized as well as the plans for training and caring for boy workers.

The St. Louis County OCD is also cooperating with the county agent in establishing registration centers where farm workers can sign up.

Testifying to his patriotism

■ Every young man in Douglas County, Wis., who is refused a release from agriculture to enter the armed forces receives the following letter:

To Whom It May Concern:

At its meeting of May 15 the Agricultural War Board took the case of *John Doe* into careful consideration.

The War Board unanimously gave as its decision that this man is doing more by keeping his Wisconsin farm in production than he possibly could by enlisting in the armed forces, as he desired.

No one can doubt his patriotism, and it is with regret that the War Board finds that it cannot permit him to enlist.

Yours truly
(War Board Member)

The idea came from Claude Ebling, county agent, and grew out of the fact that a number of farm youths who want to get into uniform have had to be turned down because they are urgently needed on the home farm.

"Maybe the Bong influence is partly to blame, because Major Bong is a former 4-H Club youth born and raised on a farm in this county," Agent Ebling explained.

Anyway, Douglas County War Board members, like those elsewhere in the country, have found that farm youths are sensitive about their service status.

"The letter sort of helps them to straighten out their thinking on the question of helping the war effort," board members say.

New slidefilms

The Use of Logs in Farm Buildings (648), A Simple Way To Iron a Shirt (649), Thomas Jefferson, the Farmer (653), and Learning About Farm Jobs From Pictures (652), which presents the identical illustrations published in the pamphlet of the same title, will soon be released, both in single and double frame. Keep in touch with the extension editor at your State agricultural college, who will receive copies for inspection.

A county leadership system that works

VIRGINIA TWITTY, Home Demonstration Agent, Pemiscot County, Mo.

The neighborhood leadership system now serving the 13 communities in Pemiscot County, Mo., includes 490 leaders chosen by the people of 64 neighborhoods. These leaders have been instrumental in giving authentic information on various phases of production and conservation to the county's 5,000 families at a time when such service means most in getting greater production of food, feed, and fiber.

At the outset of the war it was obvious to the local farm organizations that the greatly accelerated program of farm production could not be handled by the extension agents without the voluntary assistance of hundreds of trained local leaders whom the people would be willing to consult for help on their farm and home problems. At a joint meeting of the County Rural Planning Committee, Farm Bureau Board, and the Home Economics Extension Club Council, one man and one woman were selected as cochairmen from each of the 13 communities included in Pemiscot County.

The county agents met with these cochairmen and others who were interested to select neighborhood cochairmen to serve the 64 neighborhoods making up these communities. Job leaders were also appointed for each neighborhood according to its particular requirements. For the most part, these job leaders were selected for work on gardens, poultry, hogs, corn, cotton, soybeans, foods, clothing, and 4-H Clubs. In neighborhoods where home economics extension clubs were already organized, their food and clothing leaders were chosen as neighborhood leaders, too.

During 1943, these 490 leaders held 689 meetings with a total of 10,174 people in attendance. Their combined efforts represented 1,315 days of work. In the field of home-management, lessons in cleaning and adjusting sewing machines, in remodeling garments, and in home dry cleaning, the results were equally satisfactory.

Leaders or boosters were selected in many neighborhoods to provide much-needed adult support in 4-H Club work; and, as a direct result of their efforts, six new 4-H Clubs were organized in the county. Fifty percent of the total corn acreage in the county was planted to hybrid seed last year as a result of demonstrations and the distribution of information establishing its advantage over open pollinated corn. In addition, much valuable work was performed by these leaders in promoting the adoption of soil conservation measures, in improving the quality of cotton, and in assisting their neighbors in the preparation of the 1943 income tax return.

Our invaluable canning aides furnish a good example of this leadership. They were trained in canning methods and given an up-to-date kit of material to help in answering questions. A survey last year showed an average of 75 quarts per person canned in the county compared to 27 quarts in 1941. Extreme weather is cutting down yields, but late gardens are growing and will fill the cans for winter.

It is evident that the leadership system has a place in extension work, both in and out of wartime; for it closely approaches the ideal of extension work, which is to guide rather than to direct the work of keeping the farm people well informed and closely knit in community efforts furthering their common interests.

Farming under fire in Pacific

H. H. Warner, on leave as director of extension in Hawaii, is pioneering in a new food production venture for Uncle Sam. As chief of the Forward Area District of the Foreign Economic Administration, he has been directing production of fresh vegetables for our fighting men in the South Pacific. Somewhere in numerous islands taken from Tojo, large-scale operations are today producing, under Warner's supervision, such a variety of fresh vegetables as corn, cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, cantaloups, Chinese cabbage, radishes, peppers, and eggplant. When the facts of these projects become available for publication, the report will unfold a new pioneering chapter, both in the feeding of our military personnel and in the application of volume production methods to vegetable farming.

The primary purpose of the FEA project is to satisfy the craving of troops for fresh food. Wherever they may be, our soldiers and sailors get plenty of solid, rib-sticking food in their rations. But after long periods of living on dehydrated and canned foods, they want fresh vegetables whenever possible.

The project covers many islands. Here is what Mr. Warner reports regarding one of the islands:

"This island is unique in that there are vast level plains covered shoulder-high with kangaroo grass. We are farming this land which runs right up to the jungle and turning over the soil for the first time in history. It is rich black soil, entirely devoid of weed seeds so that cultivation has been no problem yet. The grass is easily killed with one plowing and disking. It is far different from the usual conception of farming on cleared jungle areas. . . . To date we have produced good crops and have not found it necessary to use fertilizer. We have no corn earworms, very few aphids, no melon flies, but plenty of chewing insects."

Director Warner goes on to tell about the employment of native labor, the aid given them by privates and non-coms of the service forces, quite a few of them former 4-H Club members, chosen because of their farming experiences in the States. The projects are adequately supplied with the necessary tractors and implements. All in all, what the censor has allowed to come through so far reads as though the South Sea Islands are a county agent's paradise. But Jap patrols have had to be flushed out of some cornfields. And occasionally a tank battle will ruin a tomato patch. However, if you have a brother, or husband, or son in the South Pacific, you'll be happy to know that Uncle Sam has taken steps to satisfy his craving for fresh stuff from the soil.

Extension agents join fighting forces

The roll call of extensioners in the armed services is completed in this issue with 1,216 names listed. Seven of these agents have made the supreme sacrifice. Additional names will be printed as they are received, together with excerpts from letters telling of the life and experience of agents at the battle front.

Coconuts at the door

I thought I would drop you a line from my new home. I am now in New Guinea living in a tent in the middle of a coconut grove. When you want a coconut, all you have to do is to reach out and pick up one; and, as you can imagine, it is quite an experience. We saw a good many Jap barges that were shot up when things were hot here.

We have fresh fruit every day, and bananas and pineapples grow wild here. I have seen a good many native men but no women as yet. I have been so busy that I haven't had time to talk to any of them.

I have had a lot of experiences that one can't write about until after the war. For electric lights, I am writing this letter by a candle. We have jungle all around us; but, nevertheless, things are fairly nice, considering everything.—*Lt. Charles W. Pence, formerly Dickinson County, Kans., club agent.*

THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

OHIO

Richard Baker, assistant in rural economics, Army.

Earl G. Bell, driver of extension cars, Army.

Forrest A. Brown, assistant county agent, Tuscarawas County, Navy.

Charles E. Hamrick, Vinton County agent, Army.

Gerald E. Huffman, Butler County agent, Navy.

George W. Kreitler, Licking County agent, Allied Military Government.

Marian McElhaney, Licking County home demonstration agent, WAVE.

Francis L. Miller, assistant county agent, Cuyahoga County, Army.

Oscar E. Share, Guernsey County agent, Navy.

OKLAHOMA

Fred Amen, Army.
Wilson Ball, Army.
L. H. Brannon, Navy.
D. C. Brant, Army.
Robert S. Carmack, Army.
Maj. Wm. Cleverdon, Army Air Corps.
Vaughn Costley, Navy.
Lt. Col. Murray Cox, Army.
Thomas H. Divine, Navy.
Dot Engle, WAVES.
Capt. J. B. Gregory, Army.
Harold C. Haines, Navy.
Capt. Theo Krisler, Army.
Hubert A. Lasater, Navy.
D. P. Lilly, Army.
Maj. Francis K. McGinnis, Army.
Forest Nelson, Army.
M. Lee Phillips, Army.
Walter N. Schnelle, Navy.
Harold K. Shearhart, Navy.
Maj. Sewell Skelton, Army.
Edith Smith, Marines.
Pauline Tanksley, WAC.

TENNESSEE

Lt. William S. Allen, clerical staff, Army.

J. Merrill Bird, assistant agent, Knox County, Navy.

R. S. Burns, assistant agent, Bledsoe County, Marines.

Thomas B. Carney, assistant agent, Claiborne County.

Wm. B. Carter, assistant agent, Carter County, Army.

Ens. J. J. Crane, assistant electrification specialist, Navy.

V. W. Darter, Johnson County agent.

Frank B. Felts, assistant agent, Gibson County, Army.

Lt. Bobby Harrison, clerical staff, Army.

Lt. (j. g.) J. C. Hundley, assistant electrification specialist, Navy.

M. N. Manley, assistant agent, Roane County.

Ens. Webster Pendergrass, Henry County agent, Navy.

C. C. Simonton, assistant agent, Cumberland County, Navy.

Pvt. John B. Stone, assistant agent, Grainger County, Army.

EXTENSION'S GOLD STARS

J. L. Daniels, formerly assistant county agent in Madison County, Ala., died, as a result of wounds received at Guadalcanal, in December 1942. He was in the Marines.

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

'44 outlook for Negro farm production

On a brief tour from Texas to North Carolina visiting Negro farmers with their extension agents, Sherman Briscoe, Negro information specialist with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, finds much that is hopeful for 1944.

■ Although an unusually wet spring may have dimmed the prospects of bumper crops this year, it certainly hasn't dampened the enthusiasm of hard-working Negro farmers who, despite having to plant and replant, are determined not to let our fighting men down.

In a 3 weeks' hop-skip tour from Texas to North Carolina, I got the impression from what I saw and from what I heard from Negro State extension leaders, county farm and home demonstration agents, and from the farm people themselves that Negro farmers are making a contribution to the winning of this war above and beyond the call of duty.

It's not unusual to see women plowing in the fields, harnessing the horses and mules, or in the saddle rounding up the cattle. Talk with them, and they'll tell you: "My husband's in Philadelphia or Seattle working in a shipyard, or a war plant—Me and the boy here are running the farm."

"My husband's sending money home so we can buy a little piece of land," the women often say. And in Texas that dream of landownership is rapidly becoming a reality. Dr. E. B. Evans, Negro State extension leader for Texas, took me to an area in Wharton County where Negro County Agent N. N. Tarver and Home Agent Mrs. Bonnie Savannah showed me a number of 1- to 5-acre plots which former sharecroppers have bought with wages from war plants.

Already 10 of these small owners have formed a cooperative and are growing various single-variety truck crops year round for market. When asked why they had not taken the money with which they bought the 2- and 3-acre plots and made the down payment on a larger farm, one of the women piped up: "We don't know when this war work is going to run out, and me and my husband don't want to get caught with a big debt. So we're just buying what we can pay for now."

However, many Negro farmers in Texas and other areas are buying larger farms and paying for them with money from the sale of chickens and eggs. The homes on these farms of course are usually small and simple and not so sturdily built, but some of the women are meticulous about them. Under the home demonstration program headed by Mrs. Iola Rowan, Texas farm women are making continuous improvements. In some counties they are concentrating on the kitchen. It is miraculous what a little white paint, a piece of linoleum, and a few boards nailed together to make a cabinet can do for a rural kitchen.

Mrs. Rowan and her staff of home agents are not alone in this effort. It is the general pattern for home demonstration work. And the home demonstration workers in all the States can show you an encouraging eyeful. Whether your escort is Mrs. Fannie Boone of Arkansas; Luella C. Hanna of Alabama, or Mrs. Marian Paul of South Carolina, you'll see how a little money and expert guidance can transform a farm shanty into attractive livable quarters.

Home agents are not working single-handed with the farm people in the home-improvement program. Many of them have the assistance of farm agents who, in addition to their regular demonstrations in improved farm practices, show farmers how to build steps, kitchen cabinets, tables, and screens for the windows and doors. Take B. D. Harrison, county agent in Caddo Parish, La. In addition to being a good agriculturist, having received special training at Southern University, he is also a first-rate carpenter. And it shows all over his parish in sanitary privies and improved farm buildings which are making for better morale and increased production. Even among the school kids at the 5 vocational schools, he and the vocational agriculture teachers are getting enough food grown to supplement school lunch rations at all 83 Negro schools in the parish.

But even in areas where the housing borders on rural slums, the morale is surprisingly high. Bent on doing their full part, Negro farm people are raising an extra pig or two, milking another cow, raising a calf for beef, and turning under cover crops to keep the soil fertile and at top production. And where labor is scarce they form pools and help one another during peak seasons. They also rig up labor-saving devices and share their heavy machinery.

In Mississippi, M. M. Hubert, Negro district agent, is encouraging the farmers to conserve labor by diversified farming—less cotton and more cattle. And the farmers like it. It was raining when we visited one farmer. He looked up at the overcast sky and said: "That's what I like about combination cotton and cattle farming—when the rain is bad on my cotton, it's good for my pasture and my cattle."

Emergency War Food Assistants Helpful

Important, too, in this year's wartime production program are the newly appointed emergency war food production and preservation assistants. In some areas where output has lagged because there were no full-time county agents, these emergency workers are now providing the kind of effective guidance which is resulting in sharp increases of food, feed, and fiber crops. And if you are in doubt that Negro farmers are not growing more than enough for home use, then you should visit the curb market which County Agent C. E. Trout has developed at Tuscaloosa, Ala., or see the chickens and milk which South Carolina Negro farmers are producing for market on halves with their landlords, or visit North Carolina where some farmers are gathering a case of eggs a day and where women and children are growing "smokes" for the boys overseas.

When you have seen these farms, and seen the farm and home demonstration agents at work helping farm people produce the stock piles of food and feed and fiber, you will realize that there has been no sudden shifting over, no overnight scheming. Instead it has been through long-range planning and by gradual farm program development through Extension Service that these farmers have readied themselves for the current wartime emergency.

We Study Our Job

What are the training needs of new county agents? How are we training these new agents? Barnard Joy of the Federal Extension staff discusses these timely problems in his doctor's dissertation based on State visits, questionnaires returned by 46 State directors, and questionnaires and personnel records of 1,348 county agents.

Since Pearl Harbor, the number of new extension agents employed annually is about double the normal number of 700 to 800. These agents have completed 4-year college courses in agriculture or home economics. Most of them are farm reared. More than half of them have been associated with extension programs in their home counties as 4-H Club members before going to college. But few of them have had training in extension education.

There is great variation in the adequacy of the induction training received by extension agents. Some have been hired and sent to a county to learn the job by the expensive, embarrassing, and inefficient trial and error method. Others have been appointed as "agents-in-training" and for periods up to 6 months and have followed a systematically outlined series of activities that provided supervised experience in all aspects of extension work.

In general, the reports of 176 recently appointed extension agents indicated that they did not consider their induction training adequate. A typical case is a home demonstration agent who evaluated her induction training as follows: "My training consisted of 2 days in the State office, during which time the home project organization, 4-H Club organization, file system, and publicity were discussed. Since I had no experience to which I could link these discussions, there were some parts that did not mean much. . . . I spent one week in my county with the 'old' agent. I had two supervisory visits. Any reading that I have done has been of a general nature. I found that it was necessary to learn from actual experience the things that I must do. After having done these once, some constructive criticism would have been helpful."

Recently appointed agents indicated that apprenticeship with or help from experienced agents is the kind of training that was most valuable. The next most valuable training was provided by supervisory visits. However, the one or two visits received during the first 3 months in a county were considered to be insufficient.

Almost all the agents had read extension literature. But too often it was not written for the benefit of new agents and covered only a few of the topics on which help was needed. One-third of the new agents had spent a period in the State office before reporting to the county. A frequent reaction was that too much was crowded into this period which was usually 3 days. One-third had attended a school for new agents. More than half of those attending reported that the training received was of "great value."

The amount of training new agents receive in the background, organization, and objectives of extension work more nearly approaches the amount needed than does the training in other fields.

Considerably more training is needed than is now provided, in the duties, responsibilities, and privileges of county extension agents; in the methods used in extension teaching; in office management and relationship with other agencies and organizations.

Present induction training programs are weakest in the development of extension programs and plans of work and in the evaluation of the results of extension work. In these two fields new agents receive only a small amount of training and feel that they need a great deal.

A Suggested Plan of Action

In summarizing his study, the author recommends that new workers be appointed as "agents-in-training" and not be expected to "produce" on the job during the first 3 or 4 months. To start new agents, he suggests a 3-day period at State office when under the supervision of district agent the new agent meets the director and other members of the State staff.

The new agent then should serve as an apprentice in a county especially selected because it has a good extension program and because the experienced agents are good trainers.

A training period in the county in which the new agent is given a permanent assignment should be given. The new agent, with the help of the district supervisor or experienced agents in the county will be able to meet the people who are leaders in extension work and in other agencies.

The supervisor accompanies the new agent to the "training county" to assist in the development of the training plan and makes two more visits a month apart.

A 1-week school for new agents might be held semi-annually for agents who have been employed at least 3 months but no longer than 9 months. There can be laboratory periods on news stories, method demonstrations, and a field trip to observe result demonstrations. Considerable time should be set aside for individual conferences with specialists and supervisors.

Throughout induction training period reading assignments can be coordinated with field and office activities. Tne best reference is an agent's handbook prepared in the State especially for new agents.

The summary also includes recommendations in regard to administrative action, planning an induction training program, preparation of materials, and training the trainers. Results should be evaluated to determine whether new agents are reaching maximum efficiency in the shortest possible time.

Plans are under way to mimeograph a summary of Mr. Joy's dissertation, INDUCTION TRAINING OF COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS, but are not completed as we go to press. Extension Service Circular 417, "Suggestions for Induction of County Extension Workers," which was reviewed in the June Review is based on Mr. Joy's study.

Mr. Joy received his Doctor of Education degree from George Washington University on May 31, 1944.

Among Ourselves

■ ELWIN L. INGALLS retired on June 30 after 30 years of service as State leader of boys' and girls' 4-H Club work in Vermont. He will be succeeded by Robert P. Davison who was assistant State club leader and State supervisor of the Extension Service emergency farm labor program.

Under the title of State 4-H Club leader emeritus, Mr. Ingalls continues to be employed by the Extension Service on a half-time basis. He will undertake to write the history of 4-H Club work in Vermont and will carry on other duties in connection with 4-H Club work.

"'Daddy Ingalls,' as he is so lovingly called by all of his associates and thousands of boys and girls in Vermont who have profited from his unusual leadership, has been one of the pioneers in a vast educational movement of the past generation—extension work," said Director Carrigan in announcing the retirement. "His particular field has been in boys' and girls' club work. In this field, he has contributed the very finest in ideals, in character building, in leadership."

Mr. Ingalls is 73 years old. He became State 4-H leader in the spring of 1914, when the Extension Service and 4-H Club work were in their infancy. In 1915, he reached more than 18,000 people in connection with the organization of 4-H Club work, including boys, girls, parents, teachers, bankers, and ministers. In 1916, he traveled nearly 14,000 miles within his State in this work, 12,000 by rail, 950 by automobile, 360 by trolley car, 370 by team, and about 150 on foot. By the end of 1916, there were 152 4-H Clubs in the State with total enrollment of 3,790 boys and girls. Under his direction, 4-H Club work has developed steadily in Vermont, and in 1943 there were 441 4-H Clubs with a total enrollment of 9,692 boys and girls.

In 1934, Vermont 4-H Club members, leaders, and agents celebrated his 20 years of service as State club leader by establishing the E. L. Ingalls scholarship fund to help 4-H Club boys and girls make their way through the University of Vermont.

■ E. G. ROTH celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as county agent of Crow Wing County, Minn., June 10. An estimated 350 people from Brainerd and the rural areas of the county attended the anniversary picnic.

A $100 war bond, contributed jointly by the granges, farm bureaus, 4-H Clubs, and other groups that have been associated with the county agricultural extension service was presented to Mr. Roth. He is the only county agent in the State who has served 25 years in one county, and this is his first and only job.

■ CHARLES E. TROUT, Negro county agricultural agent in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., has been selected to make a survey of rural conditions and work with farm people in Liberia, with the ultimate aim of establishing some type of an Extension Service system there. He will be on leave of absence from the Alabama Extension Service and will serve the Liberian Government as an agricultural adviser under their employment. There is every possibility that the 1-year assignment may lengthen into a period of 2 years. Mr. Trout was graduated from Tuskegee Institute in 1934 with a B. S. in Agriculture. During the following year he taught agriculture and civics in Tuskegee Institute High School, and in 1935 became county agricultural agent in Tuscaloosa County, where he has served until the present time. From his years of successful work with low-income farm families in his own State, Mr. Trout goes to Liberia well equipped to give the same service in that country.

■ It was a hurry-up call that Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard made early in June at the office of his county agricultural agent, Wayne Myers. The Secretary was in urgent need of a farm hand for his nearby farm, and Myers' farm labor assistant was able to help him in locating one.

The President's Cabinet member came into the county agricultural agent's office—for the same reason that other Cass County, Ind., farmers have been coming in—to get his individual farm problem solved. He admitted in the very beginning that he was "in trouble and needed a farm hand badly."

While his farm manpower problem was being solved, the Secretary chatted with the office staff about some of his other food-production problems. He asked about controlling the bugs in his farm garden. A local dealer was called immediately, and a garden duster and 5 pounds of rotenone "antibug" dust were reserved for the Secretary.

■ Capt. Joe Whitfield, ex-assistant county agent in East Carroll Parish, La., has received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three oak-leaf clusters for extraordinary achievement while serving on missions over enemy-occupied continental Europe.

Captain Whitfield, pilot, squadron commander, and operations officer of a B-26 Marauder group stationed in England leads his squadron, with 30 sorties over enemy-occupied territory. Congratulations, Captain!

4-H forestry tour

An overnight trip was taken in May to the North Fork ranger station, by 67 4-H forestry club boys and their leaders from five Clackamas County, Oreg., schools. Timberland owned by a large commercial company also was visited.

The boys got first-hand information on how forest fires are located after being spotted from the lookout stations, and how short-wave sending and receiving sets are used. They actually had a chance to try to reach the station by radio from the woods. They learned how to pack a mule, using the diamond hitch to tie the pack to the saddle. The proper way to make a fire and to put it out when you leave was part of the camp training. The lumber company took the boys on a tour to show them modern logging operations.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

WAR PAPER SHORTAGE has cut down the size of this issue. The REVIEW is proud to contribute to paper conservation and plans in spite of boiling things down a little more, to maintain or improve the coverage of extension activities in the field.

CONNECTICUT DIRECTOR DIED in the Hartford circus fire. This disaster is brought home to extension workers in the loss of E. G. Woodward, who, with his wife and grandson, lost his life in the fire. Director Woodward, as chairman of the Northeastern State directors, arranged for their regional conference in New York City, which was held the week after his death. His able leadership will be missed in Connecticut and the Northeast. The tragedy also took the life of Mrs. Paul Putnam, wife of the farm labor supervisor in Connecticut, and that of their young daughter.

HON. JAMES F. BYRNES, director of War Mobilization, was guest speaker at an extension staff luncheon sponsored by *Mu* Chapter of the Extension honorary fraternity, *Epsilon Sigma Phi*. County agents were represented at the luncheon by officers and members of the executive committee of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, meeting in Washington at the time. Excerpts from Mr. Byrnes' remarks giving recognition to extension leadership in war programs, will be printed next month.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION are being prepared by the Army to award to young livestock growers, either 4-H or FFA, who qualify for the distinction by raising a superior quality of livestock to supply choice meats to fighting Americans.

MORE 4-H LIBERTY SHIPS now ply the seas carrying important cargoes. 4-H Club members in 30 States have named and sponsored Liberty Ships. Among the July launchings was the good ship George L. Farley, sponsored by 4-H Club members of Massachusetts and named for "Uncle George," the blind 4-H Club leader known and loved by young people the country over. The Carl E. Ladd, sponsored by New York 4-H Club members who produced more than enough food to fill her cargo space and sold enough bonds to pay for her, was named for the late dean of the College of Agriculture whose entire professional career was devoted to agricultural education. Louisiana's ship was named the Floyd W. Spencer, and was paid for from the more than $3,000,000 in war bonds sold by the 47,000 4-H Club members in the State.

EARLY THIS MONTH Vermont boys and girls expect their ship, the Thomas Bradlee, to be launched. It is named for a former director of extension who laid the foundation for extension work in the State. The U. S. S. Tyrell and the Cassius Hudson are being sponsored by North Carolina 4-H Clubs which, 92,000 strong, have rolled up the war record of enough food produced to feed 25,000 soldiers for 1 year, bought $751,846 in war bonds, and sold $1,032,198 in bonds and stamps. The Tennessee-sponsored Charles A. Keffer, named for a former director of extension was launched earlier this summer.

A PEELED EYE for milkweed is a wartime motto for 4-H Club members in 29 States. Milkweed floss is badly needed for life jackets and belts to save the lives of our soldiers and sailors. September will be the big month for gathering, but already some of the milkweed in the Middle West and the South is ripe for gathering or has been gathered and is beginning to arrive in quantities, which pleases the authorities. No milkweed must be allowed to grow along the roadside or in the fields unnoticed and unappreciated this fall.

4-H LEADERSHIP AWARDS were recently established on a national basis: A silver 4-H clover for 5 years' service, a gold clover for 10, a pearl clover for 15, and a diamond clover for 20 years' service. A national certificate of service will go with each award.

AN INTERNATIONAL HONOR came to S. B. Hall, agent in Multnomah County, Oreg., when he was asked to go below the equator to judge Holstein cattle in a Buenos Aires cattle show sponsored by the Argentine Rural Society, August 11 to 23. Agent Hall is a guest of the society during his stay in Buenos Aires, with air transportation both ways provided. Recognized as one of the Nation's leading authorities on judging and breeding Holstein cattle, he was chosen for the job by the Holstein-Friesian Association. On the Oregon Extension staff for 28 years and in Multnomah County since 1916, Agent Hall is an old-time extensioner. The folks of Multnomah County are going to hear a lot of facts they didn't know about Argentine farms and farmers when he gets back.

JOB-INSTRUCTION TRAINING—a 10-hour course was completed by all Kentucky home demonstration agents at their Camp Bingham conference.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK is October 8 to 14 and is a good time to focus attention on local fire hazards and what to do about them. Special materials to support local publicity will again be available from the National Fire Protection Association.

NATIONAL WEAVERS' CONFERENCE is being held in New York City August 22 to 31. Information is available from Mrs. Osma Gallinger, Director of Creative Crafts Weaving School, Guernsey, Pa.

FLASHES FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS will be a regular feature of the REVIEW beginning with the September issue. This new service, started at the request of county extension agents, will provide a regular monthly preview of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Read these flashes for the latest in farm technology.

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Beyond nutrition

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ Total mobilization for war has focused the attention of people on the importance of total health. Prominent among wartime educational programs emphasizing total health is that of nutrition. The Extension Service is justly proud that extension home demonstration workers were among the first educators to give recognition to the importance of human nutrition. Their experiences in providing the nutrition message to rural areas, and the experiences of some 20 other agencies concerned in one way or another with nutrition, were brought together under the wartime nutrition educational program.

We do not know exactly how many individuals in their daily habits are beginning to pay attention to food values. But we know that the wartime education has increased greatly the number of people who know the A B C of good nutrition.

The A B C of good nutrition is just one of the things we have had to incorporate into mass educational programs in order to help modern man adjust his life to science in a complex civilization. The nutrition program may well serve as a pattern for other, similar programs to come. Already, as was the case in nutrition, home demonstration extension workers in many States are pioneering and working in close cooperation with the Public Health Service, country doctors and rural health associations, farm organizations, and similar groups in the field of rural health and sanitation. Here, too, extension work is becoming a vital part of needed mass education. Rural health programs will grow in importance as the war ends and more medical personnel and clinical facilities again become available.

In recent years there has been a growing interest in the psychological factors which play an important part in total health. Leading physicians say that, in their profession a great deal is said, written, and read these days about psychosomatic medicine. Psychosomatics is not a new medical specialty. But physicians are paying more and more attention to it. Some of them have found a good deal of evidence, based on the medical histories of hundreds of patients, that personality diagnosis as well as physical diagnosis should enter into determining illness and prescribing treatment. Psychosomatics is, of course, a subject for our M. D.'s. It is worth mentioning here, however, for two reasons: First, by virtue of their training in education, extension workers have studied psychology and will have an interest in this new application of human psychology in a practical field; secondly, because it illustrates further the points about total health.

Whether it is nutrition, psychosomatics, sociology, religion, or one of many other subjects beyond the immediate physical sciences and applied practices, all will play an increasingly important part in the educational programs of the post-war years. As leaders in rural education, and with a splendid record of educational pioneering in the past, extension workers I hope will prepare now for such programs as rural health which, in my opinion, will play an important part in the extension work and rural life of tomorrow.

On the docket in September

■ "You work like a horse; don't eat like a bird" is the slogan for the Nation-wide nutrition drive this month. Stress will be placed on good substantial breakfasts and a hearty lunch built around the basic 7-food group. Local nutrition committees will spearhead the program.

There's work to be done, in plenty. U. S. Crop Corps members will help the Nation's farmers get in record and near-record crops. Aiding locally recruited workers will be task forces of workers from Mexico and from the sunny islands of the Caribbean.

As the United Nations thunder down the road to victory over the Nazi-Jap pirates, thought is being given as to how cooperative extension techniques can contribute to the rehabilitation of war-torn countries. Methods being used so successfully by county and home demonstration agents in helping farmers in their work will high light the conference being held in Washington this month.

In home kitchens and community canning centers the willing hands and energy of women and girls will add to the Nation's food larder millions of jars of fruits and vegetables. Meanwhile, in some 29 States, youth groups, including 4-H, will be busy harvesting milkweed pods for ultimate manufacture into life jackets for the men and women in the armed forces. At least 1,500,000 pounds of this buoyant floss is needed.

For the year that began July 1, Congress appropriated $50,000,000 for the school-lunch program, to be matched by the States in money, services, and local contributions of food and help.

War bonds. Yes, they are on the docket, too. All of us can do our part to keep a steady stream of materials flowing to the many fighting fronts by our purchase of war bonds. Last year farmers bought a billion and a quarter dollars of war bonds.

County agents help farmers keep pace with war needs

Many activities of county agricultural agents are described by Charles A. Sheffield, field agent, Southern States, in the National Report of County Agricultural Agent Work for July 1, 1943-June 30, 1944. A few excerpts from this report are given.

■ Go anywhere you will through the States of our Country and talk to a farmer who is improving his operations, the odds are 10 to 1 it won't be long before he will refer to something that "my county agent advised me to do." These county agents are symbols of better farming and better living in rural America.

County agents are now strong forces armed with scientific facts as a result of years of experiment by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and State Experiment Stations that when put into practice influence vitally the way of life and the standard of living of all people of their respective counties. Farm production of crops and livestock has improved and increased in response to needs. As an example of these increases, a comparison of average yields per acre of a few crops and livestock numbers in 1914, when cooperative extension work began, with those in 1943, are given: The average per acre yield of corn in 1914 was 25.8 bushels, in 1943 it was 35.5; cotton, 207.9 pounds—272.5; beef cattle, 35,855,000 head—48,764,000; hens and pullets, 328,389,000—487,837,000; eggs, 27,900,000,000 — 54,165,000,000; eggs per hen, 85—111; milk cows and heifers 2 years old, 19,821,000—27,607,000; average milk production per cow (1924), 4,164 pounds — 4,604 (1943).

Similarly, science as applied on the farms through mechanization has had a tremendous effect on the production of crops. The 5-year average of man labor (1910-14) required to produce 1 bale of cotton was 288 man-hours, in 1940 it was only 200 man-hours; to produce 100 bushels of corn, 130 man-hours—95; to produce 100 bushels of wheat, 122 man-hours—57.

From 1890 to 1910, before extension work was organized, the increase in food production per farm was sufficient to feed only 0.7 of one person per farm. From 1920 to 1940 the increase was sufficient to feed 5.1 more people per farm. These achievements in production are remarkable but only a beginning to what may be accomplished in the future. War has brought new and increased responsibilities to the cooperative agricultural Extension Service. Science today is at work. Agricultural science has not stopped in the laboratory; it is finding new methods, improved varieties, better wartime ways of doing necessary jobs. The county extension agent's job is to get these new findings, day by day, to farm people.

Emergency Farm Labor

The last Congress directed that the cooperative Extension Service assume responsibility for local recruitment and placement of the necessary farm labor. Without its tested experience and organization, the Extension Service could not have done this job so economically. In 1943 the biggest crop in history was produced and harvested, and no food was lost due to lack of labor to harvest it.

The Extension Service over the years has developed local leadership and encouraged a few farmers in each community to demonstrate good practices which are carried man to man to other farmers. County extension agents have expanded the established national neighborhood-leader system into a network of more than 600,000 rural wartime neighborhood leaders, one man and one woman for approximately 15 farm families.

County agents generally report that during 1943 they explained to farm people in meetings, on the streets, in the office, and in the field how to utilize the payments offered through the AAA program in improving pastures, planting soil-improvement crops, applying lime and phosphate, and how to earn other payments. They worked with county AAA workers in the rationing of farm machinery and in helping to supply certain information to county Selective Service boards.

Practical education is a major function of the county agricultural extension agent. If our 6 million farmers now and in prior years had not been so informed and influenced, they could not have shattered production records year after year for the past 7 years.

Some of the major production programs that county extension agents have engaged in during the fiscal year are: (1) War food production and national goals. (2) National Victory Gardens. (3) 8-point national milk production. (4) Farm labor. (5) 4-H Club work. (6) Care and repair of farm machinery. (7) Freezer locker plants. (8) Cotton quality. (9) AAA Conservation practices. (10) Farm deferment. (11) Collection of salvage such as rubber, paper, and fats.

County extension agents, in cooperation with county war boards and other agencies, have been the spearhead around which programs were organized and have supplied the necessary educational leadership to get production programs started.

Contributions of county agricultural agents' time to the war effort is an important role. Translated into terms of how much time the average county agent in the United States gave to this importaht phase of his job, he gave, out of a total of 310 working days, 114¼ days to aiding in the war effort.

In November 1943, the Extension Service, in cooperation with the War Food Administration, Department of Agriculture, and the National Dairy Industry Committee, organized a national 8-point program in an effort to meet the 1944 milk-production goal.

Figures supplied by the BAE for the first 4 months of 1944 show that the sharp recession in milk production the latter half of 1943 has been checked and that more milk was produced in the first 4 months of 1944 than was produced during the same period in 1943.

Last year, 20 million Victory gardeners on our farms and in our cities, towns, and suburbs produced some 8 million tons of food. This is enough food to fill 160,000 freight cars, and is 40 percent of the total fresh vegetable production of the United States.

In rural America 1,637,000 farm boys and girls are now in 4-H Clubs.

A million 4-H Club members made good their pledge in 1943 to grow enough food to "feed a fighter."

Rebuilding after the storm

A tornado streaked cornerwise across Lafayette County, Wis., on June 22, spreading devastation in a strip 26 miles long. In a matter of minutes, 89 farmers saw the work of years swept away. Fifty-one barns were leveled, 254 lesser buildings completely demolished, and the pieces scattered over the county or the next State. Farmers and their families were dazed by the suddenness of this disaster which had befallen them.

The next morning, as the magnitude of the disaster became apparent, County Agent E. O. Baker set out with his labor adviser to visit every farm in the storm area, to estimate the damage and get a picture of what had to be done. They helped bewildered farmers round up their livestock and patch the fences. They put up temporary stanchions in the yard where the cows could be milked and helped the housewife fix the stove or clear out debris.

Neighboring agents, Ray L. Pavlak of Green County, Home Agent Helen Davis, and Farm Labor Assistant Gustave P. Kuenster of Grant County came over to help complete the calls. The Red Cross moved in, declaring a disaster area.

At the College of Agriculture in Madison, M. J. La Rock, extension architect, and S. A. Witzel, experiment station engineer, opened their morning papers and read of the disaster. They talked it over—the plans they had been developing for more functional barns and more efficient lay-outs for the farmstead could be of the utmost service in deciding where and how to rebuild. They packed up their drawing and surveying instruments, and went down to the county seat in Darlington.

Several days after the storm, a meeting was held with G. F. Baumeister, supervisor; Agent Baker; the engineer and architect, and a number of local people, to plan steps to be taken. They agreed that the results of engineering and designing research would be helpful and would be made available. Mr. La Rock, Mr. Witzel, and C. E. Hughes of the extension agricultural engineering department set up drawing tables in the courthouse.

A letter was sent to farmers in the storm area announcing a meeting to talk over reconstruction in three different places. One hundred and eighteen farmers attended; and just the getting together and talking over the damage and reconstruction seemed to lift their morale wonderfully. The fact that specialists had come to help them plan was heartening.

The clean-up was imperative, and they needed help. Through the efforts of the Extension Service, 184 soldiers from Truax Airfield and 160 sailors from the Naval Training Station helped clean up the debris. Transportation was arranged by the Extension Service. From nearby towns, 90 volunteers came to help. Their work was organized and directed by the extension agents. Three groups of mechanics from the nearby town of Monroe took their portable welding outfits from farm to farm, repairing corn cultivators, mowers, hay loaders, binders, combines, tractors, and other equipment. Everybody was anxious to help. It was the county agent's business to see that the help was used where it was most needed.

The second job was planning reconstruction. Whenever the farmer could spare time from harvesting his hay and oats or setting up an emergency dairy, he would drop into the courthouse with his wife to talk about their new buildings.

Several weeks after the storm, plans were being drawn up for 20 farmsteads. The stimulation of planning for a better farm plant was bringing hope to discouraged farmers. Mr. Witzel goes to the farm, surveys the location of former buildings and the topographical features, and maps the present farmstead. Mr. La Rock confers with the family on their methods of handling their work and their plans for the future, and they go to work on the plan. "You are going to build only one barn in your lifetime, so it might as well be right," he tells them. So they figure floor space, the distance from the house to the barn, consider the prevailing wind from the hog lot; and the plan is developed.

The question of material is more difficult. The Red Cross has extended AA-1 priorities to lumber dealers to obtain material to reconstruct buildings damaged by the storm. Soon after the storm, all lumber dealers servicing the area met with extension workers to discuss plans for rebuilding.

In the matter of financing, farmers, on the advice of local credit associations, are trying to avoid too great a debit load for their farms.

Reconstruction will take years to complete, but new buildings are under way; and the stock will be under cover when cold weather strikes. Farmers have again faced staggering disaster and come through it.

While Mr. and Mrs. N. S. Benedict look over plans for their new barn with E. O. Baker, Jr., county agent, Lafayette County, Wis., S. A. Witzel, agricultural engineer of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, and his assistant survey the building site and establish the grades for the new foundation.

National problems are our problems

MRS LILLIE M. ALEXANDER, Home Demonstration Agent, Madison County, Ala.

"Interestingly enough, the problems discussed at a rural-urban conference in Washington, D. C., were the very ones the women at home had been talking about," said Mrs. Alexander, a home demonstration agent who met with this group of national leaders.

■ The Urban-Rural Conference, sponsored by the Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation and held in Washington May 9 and 10, was a most inspiring meeting; and I wish every home demonstration agent could have been as fortunate as I was in being present. The purpose of this conference was to establish a better understanding between rural and urban groups of women. This understanding, urgently needed now during the war period, will be even more necessary during the post-war years.

The problems of the Washington conference were the very ones we have been thinking about. For instance, our county council of home demonstration clubs has felt for some time the need for a better understanding of their urban neighbors. To this end they have been working during the past 4 years. Last year, the council gave a tea and presented an exhibit of their work for the rural and urban friends of home demonstration work. Exhibits of each phase of their program were shown. These included food preservation, cheese making, remodeled clothes, handicrafts, canning, budgets, Red Cross work, war bond campaign, recreation, Christmas parties, and picnics. Each club was asked to select the subject for its exhibit and to explain these projects to the guests.

The group at the Rural-Urban Conference felt the need for urban people to realize how dependent they are upon products grown by the farm family and, too, for the farm people to realize that the urban family can contribute to the food-production program in buying power and in volunteer labor. Women on the farms last year did work they were not accustomed to do and worked longer hours than they ever have worked before.

When I heard Mrs. W. C. McLeod of Kentucky tell of the long hours on a tractor and of the unaccustomed work she and other farm women are doing, it made me think of Mrs. William Grimwood of Madison County, Ala., who drove the tractor long hours last year so that her husband could do other farm work and help his neighbors save their peanuts and other crops. Women like these, and there are many of them, have made a most worth-while contribution to the war program. The hope was expressed by this conference that farm women would not have such hard work to do this year, even though the labor shortage will possibly be more acute; and we in Madison County second that hope.

In discussing the food supply, the farm women at the conference felt that they are producing food under three handicaps—the shortage of labor, the shortage and high price of feed, and the difficulty in obtaining a fair return for their products. Delegates reported that in Massachusetts during the week of May 1 eggs were produced at a cost of 44 cents a dozen and sold for 34 cents a dozen. Similar difficulties about dairy products were discussed; and it was reported that milk was selling for 42 cents per hundred pounds, less than it cost to produce the milk. These same problems face farmers producing other commodities for the market. The faith of the American farmer and his family is shown when he continues to work long hours under these circumstances.

The curb market in Madison County, as in the Mississippi county of which Mrs. D. W. Bond spoke, has helped the rural and urban women to know each other and their problems much better than before. They see each other twice a week and discuss their problems and interests over the market counter, exchange recipes, and in this way become fast friends.

The group at the conference suggested that home demonstration work should be extended into larger centers of population in order to give all the women of America the information which they need to do their job on the "home front."

Demonstrations in larger towns have helped to get information on gardening and food preservation to the women who were interested last year. Newspaper articles published on these and other programs were most helpful to me last year. Last spring I had 25 telephone calls in 1 day from urban women who wanted to know how to can chicken. I wrote an article for the paper that night. It was published the next day with a suggestion that anyone who was planning to can chicken should save the article to use later.

The program on "American schools" placed emphasis on the fact that "education is the most fundamental post-war problem." The problem of too few teachers for next year is already facing the school systems, as teachers can make more money in war industries and other businesses. The situation has made it necessary in Madison County to give temporary certificates to teachers who are not qualified, under the normal standards, to teach in the county schools; and even then this shortage has handicapped the school system. The rural women of the conference were most anxious for better educational facilities for all rural children.

The importance of school lunches and of health and medical care were uppermost in the minds of both rural and urban women. A more unified effort in behalf of more adequate medical care for all people, especially for the large group of families having a very low income, seems essential in rural life in the future.

The school lunch program has been effectively worked out in the New Market community in Madison County by the members of the home demonstration club. Almost 2 years ago, they became aware of the need for this program for the children of the community and made it their community project.

The effort made by the women who participated in this conference to understand each other's problems is a challenge to every home demonstration agent to make an effort in her own county to work toward this aim, so that in the years ahead we shall be of more service to the people of rural America.

Addressed to extension workers

Excerpts from the remarks of James F. Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization, at an extension staff meeting, June 19

All of us have cause to be proud of the work of the Extension Service during the war period. It seems to me that whenever a war program has been suggested, whether it was to recruit manpower for the farms, to sell bonds, or to fight inflation, everyone would immediately suggest that the Extension Service be entrusted with the major responsibility. How well the Service has responded to every appeal is known to you and to the people. They have been able to exercise leadership only because they had won the confidence of the farmers of the Nation.

War Food Is Plentiful

The American farmer rallied to the call of his country in its most critical hour. By his ingenuity and long hours of work, he has abundantly supplied the American war machine with food and fiber. Instead of famine at home we have enjoyed a feast. No army or navy in the history of war has been fed as well as our soldiers and sailors are being fed.

The Extension Service provided the leadership, and the American farmers demonstrated they could do what was regarded as impossible.

Many forces combined to bring about the increased yields of 1942 and 1943; but when the story is written, it must be said that there was no greater contribution than that of the 1,700,000 boys and girls—members of the 4-H Clubs. They had been trained for farm life; and, like trained soldiers going into battle, they were an inspiration to the recruits and brought about our victories on the farms of the Nation.

Our bumper crops give cause for serious thought. If with reduced labor supply and a greatly reduced supply of farm machinery, we could produce the bumper crops of 1942 and 1943, we should certainly be able to do it when the boys return to the farms and the supply of farm machinery is greatly increased. I know that you can think of many offsets. Many old men who are today hanging on to do their part in winning the war will retire; many women will return to the home from the field. But necessity has caused us to devise new methods; and, with increased supplies of machinery and labor, we can look with confidence for abundant crops.

We must continue to export our surplus wheat, cotton, and tobacco. For 2 years from the first day of January following the termination of war, we will guarantee loans at 90 percent of parity. The full significance of this provision is not generally realized. It will give us time to plan in the light of conditions that exist after peace has been restored.

However, you who are agricultural thinkers will not wait until then to plan for the future. You will not be lulled to sleep by the security given by these loans. Borrowing money upon a crop is not the goal of a farmer. Crops are grown to be marketed for consumption—not to be stored. As stored crops accumulate, they hang like a sword over the market. Thinking farmers will realize that they have a vital interest in the removal of trade barriers which will enable them to sell abroad their surplus crops and enable the purchasers to pay for such crops.

Demand Depends on Employment

As to our food crops, our domestic demands plus the requirements of the people of the liberated nations until they can get back to normal will consume all that we can grow. As our shipments abroad cease, whether we will have sufficient demands at home depends upon whether we have full employment at home.

Because this is true, the farmers of the Nation have a very vital interest in the reconversion program.

Regarding the problem of unemployment, the Army has done a wonderful job in preparing for the demobilization of its fighting men. They have developed a system of standards arrived at through the democratic process of interviewing men in the service. The great majority of men voted to place fathers among the first groups to be released, after those who fought their way through the jungles and the fighting fronts have been discharged. When it comes to war workers in our industries, demobilization will create almost as serious a problem for many of them as it will for our fighting men. The majority of service men and war industry workers who came from the farm will want to return to the farm, and when they get there it is important that a program be ready which will help to place the right people in the right places.

Best Young Folks Needed on Farms

The program known as the Older Youth Program which is being advocated by the Extension Service under the leadership of my friend, Reuben Brigham, appears to have a great deal to recommend it. At least 100,000 highly productive farms change hands every year, for various reasons. Locally responsible groups are to take the initiative in making an inventory of farms and of young people, rural and urban, who know about farming and who want to farm. The local committees would also assume the responsibility for acquainting the people in the counties with the inventories. It is important that the best-equipped young people be placed on farms where they can do the best for themselves, their communities, and for the Nation.

Because of the measure of success we have achieved in holding the line as to prices and wages, the farmer is in much better position to grapple with post-war problems than he was after the first World War.

We must preserve these gains, and we must continue our present farm productive output.

We can all be heartened by the assurance that plans are being perfected to lessen the difficulties incident to the transition from war to peace. But it would be tragic if we allowed our interest in conditions following the war to divert us from the task of winning the war. Today our fighting men are only upon the beachheads of Europe. They have not landed on the shores of Japan. The roads to Berlin and Tokyo are still long and bloody. This is no time to relax in our efforts. This is the time for us to put every ounce of our strength into the effort to increase production on farm and in factory, and thus hasten the day of victory, hasten the day when our fighting men can return to their homes.

Newfoundlanders help dairy farmers

Vincent Singleton, from St. Joseph Salmonir, Newfoundland (center) helping his employer, Jerry Bellinger, Schoharie County, N. Y., fence a field for a dairy pasture. Mr. Singleton is one of a group of 10 Newfoundlanders working in that county. He was with the 166th Field Artillery, British 8th Army, and was wounded in the African campaign.

■ About 1,200 men have come from Newfoundland to work on dairy farms in the Northeastern States. These men, between the ages of 18 and 43, with the average age about 22, answered our Government's call for aid in relieving the acute manpower shortage.

Many expedients were devised to relieve the dairy dilemma after so many of our boys had gone into the armed forces. The response to an SOS sent to Newfoundland, among other places, for volunteers to help man dairy farms was enthusiastic.

The fishing business in Newfoundland had fallen off because of the war, and logging work had been halted by lack of transportation. For a while, there was the task of helping the United States build the bases leased to this country for 99 years. Then that work was done. Being left without jobs, these men took kindly to offers of work on dairy farms in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont.

Although this British colony does not have selective service, the boys proudly relate that Newfoundland has given, according to population, the highest percentage of men to the allied cause thus far.

Some of the farm volunteers were steamfitters, dry cleaners, carpenters, while others were employed in the great pulp and paper mills, which is one of Newfoundland's biggest export industries; and others worked in mines. Not many had any previous dairy farm experience, and they were given training in the work.

Not only are these men helping our dairy farmers in an emergency, but they will learn new methods here to take back to their homeland which wants to build up its dairy industry after the war.

1944 Minnesota sheep-shearing schools

Training of shearers to insure successful handling of the 1944 Minnesota wool crop took an important step forward when 16 spring shearing schools were held with a total attendance of 244 learners from 32 counties. This is an average attendance of 15¼. The number of custom shearers available in the State has been sharply reduced by the loss of men going into military service and war plant employment, and also to the fact that many farmers who have sheared for others in the past find they can no longer do so because of the shortage of labor on their own farms.

These schools, held in cooperation with the State Board of Vocational Education, had a minimum enrollment of 10 and lasted for 2 days. Instruction started at 9 in the morning, and in some places where there was a larger enrollment it ran through until 6 o'clock in the afternoon. There was no lay-off at noon. Either the instructor or the specialist stayed through the noon hour and relieved the other so as to keep the machines operating as much as possible throughout the day.

The instruction consisted of actually shearing sheep under the direction of an expert. The more aggressive students sheared as many as 10 sheep at some schools. Instruction was also given in adjusting equipment, grinding combs and cutters, and in tying wool.

Two professional sheep shearers were hired as instructors. These men, also used in 1943, were issued a temporary teacher's certificate by the State Board of Education. The students this year were mostly older boys or young men. A good number of more or less experienced shearers also attended for the purpose of learning some details which had bothered them in their work, such as adjustment and grinding of equipment or to achieve some correction in their method of handling sheep when shearing.

Greater interest was observed on the part of students this year than last. Also, more old shearers visited the schools for some minor instructions. Some of the students from last year were back and showed proficiency as the result of the training received then and the practice in shearing that they have had since. These schools have made a real contribution in relieving the sheep shearer shortage.—*W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman, Minnesota.*

Custom potato spraying hits its stride

E. S. SHEPARDSON, Extension Agricultural Engineer, New York

Custom potato spraying has hit its stride in New York State through the successful use of the tractor mounted 10-row sprayer and water supply tank truck. More than 75 custom spray outfits are in operation this spraying season, protecting more than 18,000 acres for more than 3,500 growers.

Spraying has become an essential operation in New York State potato production. Fifty-three percent of the acreage is grown by 93 percent of the growers on farms with small potato acreages per farm, who cannot afford to own spraying equipment individually. Custom spraying has been a lifesaver to them by providing better insect and disease control than they could provide as individuals. Yields were increased from 50 to 70 bushels per acre in years when blight is not serious and when it can be done at a cost which they can easily afford.

Three years ago, there were 16 custom spray rings in the State. Last year, there were 18 new outfits added to the 16, making 34. This figure will be more than doubled this year with more than 75 rings. The Department of Agricultural Engineering has followed this work very closely and was instrumental in getting this equipment into the State and, probably more important, was instrumental in seeing that the equipment gave satisfaction to those using it.

A handbook for operators of potato spray rings was prepared by the potato commodity committee of the Extension Service and proved exceedingly useful. Members of the State extension staff cooperated in putting out this handbook. The assistant State leader of county agents told of the plan and the need for it; the costs of operating were discussed by the department of agricultural economics; care of equipment was explained by the agricultural engineers, blight and its control by the plant pathologist, and potato foliage insects by the entomologist, with further contributions from the department of vegetable crops. How a custom spray ring worked out in one county was described by County Agent W. E. Field of Onondaga County. The handbook was a compendium of ready information which brings together the information needed by anyone interested.

As soon as there is an indication from the field that a group of farmers wish to have potatoes sprayed, the county agricultural agent calls the meeting, and the facts regarding the custom spraying practices are presented. The ring is formed, directors elected, and then the operator is appointed by the directors of the ring. A 3-year agreement is entered into between the operator and the growers of the ring to apply a specified number of sprays, usually six to eight, during the season at 7- to 10-day intervals, depending on blight conditions, on a specified number of acres for the 3-year period. The ring acreage ranged from about 175 to as high as 300 acres; 225 acres being a good acreage for the ring. The price per application per acre varies from $2 to $3, including the spray materials and is collected by the operator after each application.

Most equipment at the present consists of a large tractor, with 11 by 38 10-ply tires on the rear and 7:00 by 16 6-ply truck tires on the wide front end. A 30- or 35-gallon-per-minute pump, and booms are mounted on a framework at the back end of the tractor; and narrow, deep, 150-gallon tanks are mounted close to each side of the tractor. 1944 outfits are on a framework which lifts off the tractor, with 1 tank in back and the pump and booms in front of the tractor.

The part of the spray equipment that is often forgotten about when custom potato sprayers are mentioned is the water supply tank truck and pump. This is a very important piece of equipment with the spray outfit, as the sprayer must be kept supplied with water or it will sit idle. The sprayer cannot sit idle if the circuit is to be made on schedule. A 700- to 1,000-gallon water tank is usually used and mounted on a 2-ton truck. A centrifugal or rotary pump, with a capacity of 100 gallons per minute against a 50-foot total head, is mounted on the truck to fill the tank on the truck and to draw the water from the truck tank to fill the sprayer tank.

A new type of boom is coming into popular use on the custom potato spray rings. It is referred to as the brush-type boom; and all nozzle openings are in the same horizontal plane, with the exception that the two outside nozzles of the three nozzles per row are swung down slightly and aimed toward the row for the smaller plants. An extra nozzle on each end of the boom to prevent streaking is also used. It has been found that the brush-type of boom saves a great deal of time in sprayer operation because it does away with the constant adjustment necessary with the old Nixon-type boom.

10-row tractor mounted sprayer. Many outfits have now changed from the type of boom shown to the brush-type boom which saves time for the operator, and gives better coverage because it is better adapted to varying-width rows.

821 War food assistants at work

■ Food for the folks at home, as well as for the boys and girls in the armed forces, is getting first-hand attention from some 821 emergency war food home demonstration assistants.

Added to the home demonstration staff to promote the production and preservation of more food for the home front and the battle front, these wartime workers are helping to stock pantries in both urban and rural areas.

On June 30, the roll of emergency war food home demonstration assistants in the 48 States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico included 670 white and 151 Negro workers. City homemakers were getting full-time attention from 21 of the white and 9 of Negro assistants.

Although their activities are largely confined to the fields of food production and conservation, the war emergency workers are pushing these projects among all groups in both town and country. Their cooperation is being extended to any group interested in promoting programs to increase food supplies. They are working with church societies, service and civic clubs, women's clubs, and educational agencies in addition to farm organizations and home demonstration and 4-H Clubs.

Special training for the war emergency assistants has been provided by many State extension services in the form of refresher courses, training schools, and food production and conservation clinics.

On the production end, this group is giving almost undivided attention to Victory Gardens in urban areas. Among rural and farm groups, however, the assistants are also emphasizing the production of increased supplies of poultry and eggs, dairy products, fruits, and meat for home consumption.

In the field of food conservation, their activities range from demonstrations in brining, drying, and canning by pressure cooker and the boiling-water bath to assistance in organizing community canning centers and in holding pressure-cooker clinics to test the accuracy of gages. Instruction in the preparation of fruits, vegetables, and meats for storage in frozen-food lockers is another phase of their food-preservation work.

Better nutrition and more adequate diet through proper food selection and preparation is another of the goals toward which the war emergency assistants are directing their efforts.

The work of the 821 war food assistants is supplementing the activities of the 2,284 home demonstration agents and the 279 regular assistants. These workers who are carrying forward all phases of the Extension Service's wartime program are also continuing to direct a large share of their time and energy toward the food front.

Typical of thousands of families in all parts of the country, the Director of Extension Work and Mrs. Wilson are putting in spare minutes at the community cannery near their home, canning food for use next winter in order to release commercial stocks for the armed forces, our allies, and civilians who lack the opportunity for canning.

On Wisconsin

Wisconsin agents were going down the line when the editor visited there in late July. G. I. Mullendore, county agent of Door County, with his ear to the long-distance line, was getting thousands of Bahamians, Mexicans, Barbadians, Jamaicans, and boys and girls from Wisconsin and other States, while big red cherries ripened on the trees. "Anyone can have my job that wants it," he said.

"Oh yes, we're getting more milk production," said Agent J. E. Stallard of Dodge County. Better feed and better management are doing it. A new emergency food-production assistant is working on a better-milk-house campaign, and 95 percent of Dodge's 5,000 farmers were reached in the spring dairy meetings.

The Tri-County Breeders Association of northern Wisconsin, with its 22 superior sires, services 11,000 cows in northern Wisconsin in an artificial insemination program. Here we came across Dr. J. C. Gutierrez of Montevideo, Uruguay, studying the work of the association.

The 200 members of 4-H Chorus of Brown County were practicing in 6 groups for a special program at the fair. With a good conductor going out from Green Bay to train them, the young folks were doing some real work and enjoying it, reports Home Demonstration Agent Phyllis J. Wisner. One club with a carload of 11 came 9 miles to practice.

How to make over clothing, and the minute-and-a-half patch for overalls are favorite demonstrations with Door County women. Two home demonstration clubs and three 4-H Clubs are flourishing in the big housing developments for shipyard workers of Sturgeon Bay.

Flashes
FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion J. Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ DDT not an infallible miracle worker. The new insecticide known as DDT has received much publicity lately as a universal bug-killer. But many questions remain to be answered about it, say the entomologists of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. For instance: Will DDT injure plants, animals, or man? What quantities are required to control various pests? What is the best way to apply it? Can it be sold at a reasonable price? The Bureau is conducting tests to answer these and other questions. Not until more of this work is completed will DDT be recommended to farmers for use against many of the principal agricultural pests. Meanwhile, farmers can't get it anyway. It all goes to the armed services.

■ Synthetic Feed. Urea, a synthetic product made from coal, air, and water, is a white granular solid resembling stock salt. Experiments by the Bureau of Dairy Industry show that it is promising as a protein supplement, especially for dairy cows. Urea contains no protein itself, but in the paunch of ruminants its nitrogen combines with other feed constituents to make protein. (Hogs and poultry cannot use it this way.) In the tests, less than a third of a pound of urea was mixed with the grain ration, and the cows receiving it produced as much milk as cows getting their protein from soybean meal. Only small quantities of urea are available however, and the supply is largely allocated to feed manufacturers. Several State stations have been experimenting with the product, in addition to the Bureau.

■ Hold that . . . Steer! Two devices for holding cattle that can be taken to the field or range where the cattle are have been designed by veterinarians of the Bureau of Animal Industry. One is a portable chute that can be mounted on a 2-wheeled trailer coupled to an automobile. The other is a stanchion gate small enough to be carried in the trunk of a passenger car. This gate can be easily installed in a door frame or the end of a chute, or alongside a barn in combination with panels. Both chute and gate can be made without much trouble. Sketches of the stanchion gate can be obtained from the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Plans for the chute are available in Montana only, from the Montana Livestock Sanitary Board. For taking blood samples and in disease-control work, vaccinating, dehorning, and performing other operations on cattle, either of these devices is a useful piece of equipment for a stock farm or ranch.

■ Spraying With a Stirrup Pump. Stirrup pumps made in large quantities to fight fires caused by incendiary bombs can be easily adapted, with slight adjustments, for use in spraying Victory Gardens. These pumps are being turned over to commercial companies by the OCD for sale at about their original cost to the Government. The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine has made tests with the OCD pump and reports that it is an acceptable wartime substitute when regular garden sprayers are unavailable.

■ Dose Peach Pits With Calomel for Healthy Seedlings. A calomel dip devised by plant pathologists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering cut crown gall losses in peach seedlings to 5 percent in a recent test as against 30 percent for untreated pits. The dip is made by stirring 1 pound of calomel in 4 gallons of water. The peach pits are dipped in this solution for a few seconds and then are dried so the calomel will stick to them.

■ More Comfortable Bandages. In its studies of cotton fabrics, the Southern Regional Research Laboratory has developed a new type of cotton-gauze bandage that has sufficient elasticity to cling tightly and yet allows greater freedom of movement of the bandaged joint. Ordinary open-weave cotton gauze is chemically treated to make it more flexible and to give it a rough surface, which keeps layers from slipping when it is used as a bandage. Like so many other wartime discoveries, this bandage material will not be generally available until after the war.

Michigan pulpwood

A paper company reported to Michigan Extension Forester W. Ira Bull that from October 1942 through September 1943 (1 year), it purchased 600 cords of pulpwood valued at $7,200 ($12 a cord) from Delta County farmers. Over a 7½-month period (October 1943 to May 16, 1944), it purchased 11,000 cords, having a total value of $154,000 ($14 a cord), also from Delta County farmers. The increase in price was a factor, also the circular letters County Agricultural Agent E. A. Wenner transmitted urging pulpwood cutting.

■ JAMES F. MILES has been appointed extension economist in the Federal Extension Service. Mr. Miles has recently been with the Office of Distribution in their regional office at Atlanta, Ga. Previous to that appointment he was with the State Department of Education at Columbia, S. C. Mr. Miles received his A.B. and M.A. degrees from the University of South Carolina.

■ DR. C. B. SMITH, well known to extension workers, for many years chief of the Office of Cooperative Extension, was given a short course honor award in recognition of his life of service to rural youth at the fiftieth anniversary of short courses in Michigan State College.

■ One of the ships lost in the Port Chicago disaster in July was the Liberty Ship Enoch A. Bryan, purchased through the sale of war bonds by 4-H Club members of the State of Washington and christened by them in February.

Extension agents join fighting forces

The roll call of extensioners in the armed services was completed in the August issue with 1,216 names listed. Seven of these agents have made the supreme sacrifice. Additional names will be printed as they are received, together with excerpts from letters telling of the life and experience of agents at the battle front.

EXTENSION'S GOLD STARS

J. L. Daniels, formerly assistant county agent in Madison County, Ala., died, as a result of wounds received at Guadalcanal, in December 1942. He was in the Marines.

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

From the Pacific

It was really a privilege to be one of five officers and a few enlisted men to follow the Marines in, and I guess the papers have told you considerable about the "mess." This early party surveyed the atoll for the site of our present operations. It was more than a month before I could get word from my family or that they could hear from me. At least I know what the "hells" of war are and can possibly understand better how many young men will think and act when we get home.

There isn't much I can say about our present activities. We will let the papers give you the details, and we will do our darndest to have it be good news. As for myself, I am serving as confidential aide to the commanding officer and also as camp director. Except for the dengue fever I have been well.—*Lt. (j.g.) R. C. Clark, formerly in charge of older youth programs, Extension Service, Iowa.*

India is mysterious

India is a land of mystery. Each day it becomes more of a mystery to me why anyone should want to live here. Working with us here, however, is an Englishman who has been here 38 years and does not want to return to England. He is in the British Empire, so that is different for him. He is a big duck here in a small pond, whereas in England he would be a smaller duck in a larger pond.

As I write, March 28, bugs are bothering by flying around the light as they do in Kansas in July and August. I have for the first time in my life gone through a winter without the temperatures reaching freezing. I surely feel sorry for you folks up there in the cold North. Now this coming season (your summer) you can feel sorry for us down here in the steaming South.

Yesterday and today we had some unwelcome visitors. Some of our boys served them some pretty hot toast, so they didn't stay very long.

Possibly a little more news about India will interest you. India has two things for which it boasts quite a bit, namely, the highest mountain peak in the world, Mount Everest in the Himalayas, towering more than 5 miles; and the exquisite structure, the Taj Mahal in Agra, made of white marble. Richard Halliburton, in his book, The Royal Road to Romance, gives a very vivid description of the way it looks by moonlight. He also tells other interesting experiences he had in India.

Recently the two officers in charge of us vets here went on a hunting trip. They killed two deer and a tiger. A write-up of the trip appeared in the *Kansas City Star* which you may have read.

You have read of the sacred Ganges River, perhaps. It is in northeastern India. That is the most densely populated part of the country, and the most industry is there. The province of Bengal has 60 million people. Calcutta, the capital, is second only to London in the British Empire and is India's leading industrial center.—*Cpl. Albert A. Pease, formerly Crawford County, Kans., club agent.*

■ New Guinea is not unbearable.

Australia is wide open for advancement in any field, but more especially along rural lines, as agriculture will apparently always be her main industry. If it weren't for wanting to get back to finish the few requirements at Ohio State University, and if there were any sort of "Agricultural Extension" started in Australia, I'd be tempted sorely to stay over here. It makes me fairly itch with anticipation as we ride through the farming areas."—*Sgt. Wm. Miller, formerly active in extension youth activities.*

Schools give counseling service

ROY WRIGHT, Supervisor, Montgomery County Schools, Ark.

■ A counseling service for adults is one step toward post-war adjustment that has already been taken in Montgomery County, Ark.

This service, which has the support of all educational and professional groups in the county, is being administered by the superintendents of the county's four consolidated schools located at Mount Ida, Norman, Caddo Gap, and Oden. During its first 2½ weeks of operation, the service, which dates back to an idea set in motion in February 1944, provided counsel for 27 veterans, war workers, and other adults.

The four high schools are serving as counseling centers with counsel being provided in all but one instance by the superintendents and faculty members. The exception is the chairman of the county Red Cross organization, who is serving as one of the counselors at the Norman High School center.

While the services of the counseling centers are currently being made available to all adults, an especial attempt is being made to assist returned veterans and war workers. In order to make the service available to all members of each of these groups, the social science classes of the four high schools compiled a list of all the veterans and war workers who had returned to the county. Form letters explaining the counseling service were then mailed to each of the 125 persons listed. A schedule of the hours and days set aside for counseling was also given. In general, this service is being provided for 2 or 3 hours on 2 or 3 afternoons each week.

The 27 persons responding to the invitation given in the form letter included 11 veterans, 9 war workers, and 7 other adults. Reports from the counselors indicate that in the majority of cases handled only immediate referral or simple informational interviews were necessary.

For the operation of the counseling service, no special appropriation has been made to the four schools. The school superintendent and faculty members are serving without compensation. Only extra expense to the schools incidental to the service has been the cost of postage and printed forms. The office of the county school supervisor is serving as a clearing house for the collection and distribution of materials for the counseling project and for the assembly of data for progress reports.

The first active step toward the counseling project was a county-wide meeting held in February 1944. The meeting, held in the office of the county school supervisor, was attended by representatives of the county's business concerns; civic, service, and professional groups, and governmental agencies. Groups or agencies represented included Selective Service, Veterans Administration, United States Employment Service, Agricultural Extension Service, Farm Security Administration, Agricultural Adjustment Agency, county health department, American Red Cross, and Farm Credit Administration. Representative newspaper editors, lawyers, teachers, bankers, and doctors were present. The county's canning, lumber, and slate processing industries were also represented.

Objectives and general outline of the counseling project were presented to the group by Dolph Camp, State supervisor of occupational information and guidance of the Arkansas State Department of Education. After pledging their personal cooperation and support for the proposed counseling projects, the group in attendance agreed to act as a county-wide advisory committee. In that capacity they assisted in outlining the plan of procedure now being followed and have since cooperated to the fullest extent in all efforts to make the project a success.

D Day comes to El Porvenir

Mrs. Helen D. Crandall, State home agent of New Mexico, is back at home base with a heart-warming story for everyone who was thinking of the American soldier on D Day.

It was nearing the end of the first week of her scheduled 3-week trip when Mrs. Crandall reached Las Vegas on the morning of June 6. There wasn't much work going on that day. You could feel the tension in the little groups around the radios; you could see it in the newsboys' faces.

But Celina Gutierrez, home demonstration agent for San Miguel County, had a job to do. She had promised to visit the Exension Women's Club in El Porvenir, 17 miles northwest of Las Vegas, 2,000 feet up the Sangre de Cristo mountains. She was to give a demonstration on how to clean and adjust a sewing machine; and, more important still, she was to deliver the village's first pressure cooker to one of the club members.

Mrs. Crandall went along. It's not far from Las Vegas to El Porvenir; but as the car climbed the mountain road, winding up through the clouds, the two women felt more and more removed from the world. They reached the tiny village in the early morning, and runners called together the nine club members who had feared that Miss Gutierrez wouldn't get there, that the roads would be impassable.

"Of course you've heard," Miss Gutierrez said. "American soldiers invaded France today."

There was a moment of silence.

"Oh, we're so glad you could come. We had planned to have a prayer service the afternoon of invasion day, and we wouldn't have known."

It was a fine meeting of the club. There was a good deal of oh-ing and ah-ing over the new pressure cooker as club members made plans to buy more. There was real interest in the demonstration, too.

There was also something else in the room—faith, a quiet happiness. The club members knew that church bells would ring and prayers would go up for American boys before the sun went down.—*W. F. Shaw, associate extension editor in charge, Emergency War Food Information, New Mexico.*

■ FRED G. CAMPBELL has joined the Division of Recruitment and Placement, Federal Extension Service, with field headquarters at Rochelle, Ill. His work will be confined largely to the Central States. Mr. Campbell was assistant State farm labor supervisor in Illinois during 1943, having previously had county extension agent experience.

MIGRANT WORKERS in Noble County, Minn., are organized into mobile crews and scheduled for work throughout the county particularly on small farms requiring short periods of labor.

Have you read

THE CANVASBACK ON A PRAIRIE MARSH. *H. Albert Hochbaum.* 201 pp. The American Wildlife Institute, Washington, D. C., 1944.

Life on a prairie marsh is beautifully expressed in both words and drawings. A book which lovers of wildlife and lovers of good books will enjoy. The author is the son of H. W. Hochbaum, in charge of the extension division of field coordination. Young Hochbaum went to the Delta Marsh in Manitoba, Canada, in 1938 to begin the research studies there which are reported in this book. Wildlife Review says of the book: "It is in an unusually complete sense his own production and deserves the commendation that is the need of a 'labor of love.'

"It is the story of an Albertan marsh particularly as exemplified by the life history of the canvasback. There is much information upon other species, but the 'can' is always the central figure. The general characteristics of the marsh are described, and the phenomena of the year are taken up under the heads of: Spring flight; courtship; the nesting, brood, and post-breeding seasons; and the autumn and shooting season. The discussion of management is thoroughly related to pertinent biological factors. An appendix gives vernacular and technical names of organisms mentioned in the text. Five pages are occupied by a list of literature cited and about the same space by an index. An excellent production."

MEET THE FARMERS. *Ladd Haystead.* 221 pp. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, N. Y. 1944.

This book makes an appraisal of the kind of people farmers really are. The author is a journalist and gives the readers the point of view of one journalist. The text should not be considered a scientific study in the field of rural sociology and social psychology, but it is readable and stimulating.

The author emphasizes that United States farmers have a tremendous variety of interests. These range from weather to soils, to crops, to religion and cultural background. The very nature of farming provides an atmosphere of independent thought and judgment. More than 70 crops provide commodity interest. The typically American trait of wanting local recognition is as important a factor in farmer thinking as it is in that of urban people in various parts of the country. On the highways and byways of the Nation the author finds it hard to differentiate farm people from other folks.

Not only farmers, but other important elements of our agriculture are scrutinized. One of these is the agricultural expert. For a population of some 50 million farm or rural people, Mr. Haystead says, we have roughly half a million experts. American agriculture would not be where it is today, in the technological sense, if it were not for the contribution of the experts. The author cautions against the "phony" expert. Farmers are naturally and justifiably skeptical of those who represent themselves as over-all "experts." The honest-to-goodness ones are the first to explain that there is no such thing as an expert on all kinds of farming. Farm people place great confidence in their county extension agent. They rely on him as a responsible source of technical farming information. When he doesn't know, he is honest enough to say so and will help them get to the source. The county agent who is indiscreet enough to represent himself as an authority in the field he doesn't thoroughly understand may encounter considerable difficulty.

The author feels that there has been a great deal of fallacy and incongruity in the arguments made on behalf of the "family-sized" farms. He points out that of all farmers about one-third get the bulk of the cash income; one-third get a little cash and a living; one-third get less than a living and, for the most part, must find off-the-farm income. Management of the farm—ability to manage—is of great importance whether the farm is big or small; whether it is managed by the operator or "manager." After the present war, the rural areas are bound to get much of the surplus industrial population. The author believes that, although agriculture could very well produce the food and fiber needed without taking on this surplus industrial population, it appears more desirable that a way of life be found for these people in rural areas than in urban centers.

An editorial criticism of Mr. Haystead's book worth mentioning is that he repeatedly speaks of the Farm Security Administration as Federal Security Administration. The book, however, presents some interesting viewpoints. Extension workers will find in the book things with which they disagree. Yet, it is well to know what others think of us and why.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work.*

Texas women at war work

"Mend, darn, patch, and wear it out" has prolonged the life of 29,844 garments in Texas rural homes, county home demonstration agents report. A total of 2,600 Coleman County families have practiced this kind of thrift.

Members of Lamarque home demonstration club of Galveston County spend 1 day a week at Camp Wallace mending, darning, and patching for soldiers—from privates to Generals—and have mended 3,751 garments. They do everything from sewing on buttons to altering uniforms. Some blouses and slacks are ripped and cut down to fit, or gussets are added to make them conform to rotund figures.

Four women's home demonstration clubs were responsible for the sale of $71,000 of $99,000 Fourth War Loan quota of Upton County, according to final check. Members of two of these clubs, Garden and McCamey, packed boxes of home-made cookies, cake, and candies, and expressed them to the Army's McCloskey General Hospital at Temple.

Many county home demonstration councils are appointing what they call defense committees to keep members of clubs and councils informed on possibilities for war service. The defense committee of Smith County reports the sale of 310 pounds of fat by 14 clubs. At the request of the Red Cross, 24 Bexar County clubs appointed 100 rural workers to make membership canvass.

We Study Our Job

Agents' weekly reports give side light on Extension activities

Some interesting information on the farm visits made by the agricultural agents of Chatham County, N. C., is brought out in a recent survey made by Julian E. Mann, economist in extension studies, of the North Carolina Extension Service. A tabulation of the county agents' weekly reports on which the name of the farmer visited and the purpose of the visit are listed, revealed that there were about 1,600 visits made by the agricultural agent and his assistant in 1941. Approximately 3 visits were made for each day spent in the field. By cross-checking the number of farmers visited by the two agents, it was found that 677 different farmers were visited during 1941, or 21 percent of all the farm operators in the county.

The agents visited 381 farmers only once; 128 farmers twice; 60 farmers three times; and 34 farmers four times. However, some 10 farmers—outstanding demonstrators and leaders in the extension program—received in all more than 200 visits or about half as many visits as the 381 farmers received.

One farmer had been visited 36 times—the greatest number of visits made to one farmer. He was president of the cooperative milk association; demonstrator in improved pastures; leader in cooperative lamb and wool shipments and in one-variety cotton demonstration; and he operated a cotton gin and sold improved cotton seed.

Another farmer who had been visited 28 times was a director in the cooperative milk association and had charge of a milk route. He was a leader in improved livestock and a demonstrator in improved pastures. A young farmer who had been visited 15 times, had purchased a farm recently and sought counsel of the farm agents in planning his farming activities. He was given assistance in planning crop rotations; in repairing his buildings; in locating, liming, and preparing pasture land; and in the purchase of dairy cattle.

Apparently the number of farm visits was influenced by the emphasis on livestock production to meet Extension's war goal. The purpose of most of the visits in dairying was for general examinations of the herds in regard to correct feeding, diseases, and pasture conditions. Second in importance were the visits made to promote new milk routes which were extended in 1941.

Most of the agents' visits in connection with beef cattle were for general examination of the herds, pasture conditions, and for general examination prior to sale. The agents visited sheep growers principally to help with cooperative lamb shipments. There were practically no special visits for assistance with work stock. Swine visits were about equally divided between farmers wanting help with marketing problems and examination of diseased hogs.

Visits to Poultry Farms

Thirty-six percent of all poultry visits concerned aid for sick chickens and turkeys; 15 percent of the visits pertained to purchasing and selling poultry; and 49 percent had to do with assisting farmers with housing and giving general information.

Wartime goals set for livestock were also emphasized in 4-H Clubs. The assistant county agent made 95 percent of the visits in connection with 4-H activities which were principally on swine and calf projects. Seventeen visits were made to assist one 4-H Club member with a baby-beef project.—SURVEY OF EXTENSION ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE IN CHATHAM COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, *by Julian E. Mann, N. C. Extension Service, July* 1942. (Typewritten.)

Cortland County studies 4-H membership

The importance of planning a 4-H Club program that attracts boys and girls from all income groups is brought out in a recent study made in Cortland County, N. Y. by W. A. Anderson and D. B. Fales of Cornell University. They report that rural boys and girls of families enjoying a high economic and social status joined in larger numbers than those of less fortunate families. The 4-H program was reaching one in three of the eligible farm youth when the study was made. There were many youth in families with a lower level of living who did not belong who could probably have derived as much benefit, or more, from the 4-H program than many of those who did belong, the authors point out.

The work with present 4-H Club members should not be diminished, they further recommend. However, for further expansion of 4-H activities so as to reach the boys and girls who are not members, more personnel, both professional and voluntary, is necessary.

The Cortland County study is reported in two parts, Mimeograph Bulletins No. 13 and 14, entitled, FARM YOUTH IN THE 4-H CLUB, April and May 1944, and is published by Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Barnard Joy of the Federal staff made an extensive survey on the question, "Who joins 4-H Clubs" which the REVIEW reported in the February 1938 issue. His study for the country as a whole and that of Dr. Mary Eva Duthie, extension rural sociologist, New York, for four Midwest counties did not show the marked differences between 4-H members and nonmembers that exist in Cortland County, particularly in relation to economic factors.

■ FRANCES W. VALENTINE transferred from the Women's Bureau, Department of Labor, to the Women's Land Army Division, July 1. She will devote four months to completing studies of the contribution nonfarm women are making to war food production in the Central States. Her bulletin on the WLA program in the Northeastern States is familiar to State WLA supervisors.

Among Ourselves

■ DR. RUBY GREEN SMITH, New York State leader of home demonstration agents, retired from active executive duties on July 1 after 26 years in the Extension Service. Continuing at the college, she will write the history of the New York State Extension Service.

Dr. Smith received her A.B. and M.A. from Stanford University and her Ph.D. from Cornell. She is the author of many scientific papers and magazine articles.

■ FRANCES A. SCUDDER, assistant State leader of home demonstration agents, has been appointed to succeed Ruby Green Smith, who retired July 1 as New York State leader of home demonstration agents.

A graduate of Cornell, Miss Scudder took her M.A. at the University of California. She was an instructor at Cornell for 2 years, taught in the high school at Uniontown, Pa., and returned to New York to become home demonstration agent for Oswego County, and later home demonstration agent for the city of Syracuse.

During the past year, Miss Scudder has been on leave from the college to act as executive director, New York State Emergency Food Commission, nutrition program, for the metropolitan area of New York.

■ GLENN W. SAMPLE, associate in extension information and a member of the Purdue University Bureau of Information for more than 8 years, resigned his position there, effective July 31, to become agricultural editor and director of information at the University of Maryland.

A graduate of Purdue University in 1935, Mr. Sample was with the farm department of the Richmond-Palladium-Item daily newspaper for a year; served as assistant county agent in Allen County, Ind., for 8 months; and in May 1936 began work in the Purdue Bureau of Information, under the direction of T. R. Johnston. He is the author of many magazine and newspaper feature articles.

Mr. Sample was elected president of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors at the national conference held at Manhattan, Kans., in June.

■ WALTER H. CONWAY, formerly chief of the Division of Business Administration of the Federal Extension Service, has been appointed Assistant Director of Extension.

In making the announcement, Director M. L. Wilson said: "I make the announcement with a very real personal satisfaction, for I have had ample opportunity to observe and to rely on Mr. Conway's dependability and resourcefulness.

"I have had many new duties assigned to me in connection with agriculture's part in the war effort; and I have therefore delegated to Mr. Conway, as Assistant Director of Extension in charge of administration, full responsibility to act for me in all administrative matters having to do with the management of Extension as a going concern."

C. S. Tenley will serve as Acting Chief of the Division of Business Administration for the present.

■ J. B. HASSELMAN has been appointed special assistant to the Director of Production, John B. Hutson. Mr. Hasselman was extension editor at Michigan State College from 1914 to 1933. In 1933 he came to the United States Department of Agriculture to assist in the preparation and use of informational material for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. In 1942 Mr. Hasselman transferred to the Board of Economic Warfare where he has been employed until coming to the War Food Administration. Mr. Hasselman received his degree of Bachelor of Science from Wesleyan University in 1914.

■ GERTRUDE CONANT, child development and family life specialist in Arkansas, retired from her position in June. Miss Conant was appointed nutrition specialist in Arkansas in 1918. Through her nutrition work and by her efforts in promoting the welfare of rural people as extension specialist in child development and family life for the past 3 years she has been greatly responsible for the remarkable improvement in farm living during the last quarter of a century. Miss Conant earned her degree in home economics at Milwaukee Downer College and did graduate work at Chicago and Columbia Universities.

■ MARY E. LOUGHEAD, extension specialist in foods and nutrition in Arkansas, has been appointed Federal specialist in food preservation.

Miss Loughead has been associated with the Extension Service for the past 10 years, having served as a home demonstration agent in Missouri, a home adviser in Illinois, and for the past 4½ years as foods and nutrition specialist in Arkansas. She comes to us from close contact with a going emergency program which included training of agents in various phases of food preservation.

■ ALICE SUNDQUIST, extension specialist in clothing from Washington State, has been appointed Federal extension clothing specialist. Miss Sundquist has served as specialist in clothing with the Washington State Extension Service for the past 5 years, and prior to that time as a county home demonstration agent. She will work here in close association with Dr. Ruth O'Brien, Chief of Textiles and Clothing Division, and other members of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

■ EDNA M. COBB, home management specialist in Maine, resigned her position on June 30. In addition to her 16 years as home management specialist, Miss Cobb served as clothing specialist from 1922 to 1926. During the past few years Miss Cobb has carried out, with distinction, the organization and supervision of the Extension Service health program. The work she has supervised has helped to protect the health, and even the lives, of rural people of Maine at a time when it was difficult for many to get the services of nurses and physicians. Miss Cobb attended Mt. Holyoke College and received her Bachelor of Science degree at Cornell University.

■ WALTER C. SCHNOPP, editor and director of information for the West Virginia Extension Service for the last 20 years, has been appointed director of information and managing editor of the Ohio Christian News of the Ohio Council of Churches. Mr. Schnopp is a graduate of West Virgina University where he also received his Master's degree. Following graduation, a part of his work at the University included teaching classes in journalism.

■ WILLIAM C. DAVID, district Negro extension agent in Texas and a former county extension agent in that State, has joined the staff of the Recruitment and Placement Division with field headquarters at Prairie View, Tex. As C. C. Randall's assistant, he will be available to help States with problems relating to the mobilizing of Negro agricultural workers for essential farm production.

■ KENNETH W. INGWALSON has joined the staff of the Division of Field Coordination and will represent the Extension Service in 4-H Club work in the Western States. Mr. Ingwalson is a graduate of the Minnesota College of Agriculture and served 2 years there as assistant plant physiologist. For 5 years he was field agent in Minnesota for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, then county agricultural agent and State club agent in that State, and State 4-H Club leader in New Jersey. For the past year Mr. Ingwalson has been senior agriculturist in the Federal Extension Service and was assigned to the Victory Farm Volunteers Division of the Extension Farm Labor program.

■ MRS. KATHLEEN SMALL has recently joined the Women's Land Army Division, taking the place of Constance Roach who resigned to accept a position with the Office of Price Administration. Mrs. Small came to WLA from the position of editor in charge of public information, Home Economics College, Cornell University.

■ Girls and young women are helping to poison ground squirrels in Routt County, Colo. Several crews are using girls, and in two districts it is planned to have all-girl crews with women foremen, reports County Agent J. R. Sprengle. These squirrels damage pastures and field crops.

Bristow Adams retires from Cornell

■ Prof. Bristow Adams retired August 1, after serving 30 years as editor of publications and head of the office of publications and information, Cornell University.

Announcing Professor Adams' retirement, Dean W. I. Myers said: "Professor Adams has been a leader in the cultural growth of Cornell University, as well as of the Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics. A tireless worker, endowed with keen understanding of human relationships and with unusual facility in expression, both written and spoken, he has turned the use of his wide and varied experience and travel to the greatest benefit of the colleges and the students of the University. Few educators have been loved as much by those they instruct; few can name so many of their students who have achieved success in the professions for which they have trained them. Professor Adams has been an unusually successful teacher and a most useful member of the staff of this college."

L. R. Simons, Director of Extension for New York State, said: "I have been closely associated with Prof. Bristow Adams for a quarter of a century. Known to his friends in all walks of life as 'B.A.', he has been a familiar figure at meetings and conferences of farmers and homemakers and is known to thousands of listeners on the radio."

Professor Adams' varied and successful career began early, while he was a student at Stanford University and was assigned as artist for the Bering Sea Fur Seal Commission to prepare illustrations for Government reports on seals in their rookeries on the Pribilof Islands. There he spent many months sketching seals in their native sub-Arctic surroundings.

In addition to his editorial and teaching work at Cornell, Professor Adams has founded or edited several periodicals. He was co-founder and associate editor of The Pathfinder, managing editor of Washington Life, editor of the American Spectator, and associate editor, Forestry and Irrigation. He founded and edited the Stanford magazine, Chaparral, one of the first of about 40 college humor publications now being printed in the United States.

He is widely known as an illustrator and contributor to leading magazines and the public press. For 25 years he has been an honorary member of the board of directors of the New York State Press Association, and recently was elected State Director-at-Large, for life. For many years he has been a popular radio speaker and has appeared regularly on local, national chain, and international broadcasts.

At various times Professor Adams has been employed by the United States Forest Service in its office of information; by the United States Department of Agriculture; the intelligence division of the General Staff of the United States Army, and was State director for New York of the WPA writers project.

Traveled Extensively

He has traveled in all the States, in Europe, and twice around the world. He has been president of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors and of the American Association of College News Bureaus; director of the New York Press Association; national honorary president of Sigma Delta Chi; Secretary of the Society of American Foresters; and member of the Association of Teachers of Journalism, the National Press Club of Washington, the National Editorial Association, Sigma Xi, Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Gamma Rho, and Savage Club of Ithaca.

At Cornell University, in addition to his editorial work, he has taught courses in journalism, news writing, and illustrating, and courses in forestry and conservation.

Professor Adams was born in Washington, D. C., in 1875 and was reared on a farm in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. He studied at the Spring Garden Institute, Philadelphia; Corcoran Art School and the Art Students' League in Washington; and Barron Studios at Stanford University. He was graduated from Stanford University in 1900.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

WELL-LAID PLANS are bearing fruit in meeting the farm-labor shortage in the four States visited recently by the editor. These States, Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota and Minnesota, have not only planned well for the harvest season but have devised many ingenious ways of recruiting labor. For instance—

THE TWILIGHT HARVEST LEAGUE of Humboldt County, Iowa, with 31 members, made short work of shocking a 45-acre field of oats, which they did in 2 hours. Humboldt businessmen make good farm hands, says Agent O. I. Carlson.

GRAIN-SHOCKING TEAMS in Ozaukee County, Wis., were on tap for farmers who needed them. Each captain was responsible for five workers. County Agent C. C. Gilman and Labor Assistant R. A. Nedden also have worked out a fine system of keeping track of their Victory Farm Volunteers on a large master record sheet.

ALL WOMEN THRESHING CREWS are working in Edmunds County, S. Dak., and an energetic women's shocking crew is specializing on farms where the sons have been called to the service from the Norwegian community of Sinai, S. Dak.

FIFTY ARKANSAS FARMERS were making good on farms in Codington County, S. Dak., principally shocking grain. One sharecropper of 50 years of age or more was shocking flax—the first flax he had ever seen. He expected to get back home in time to pick cotton. To make these neighbors feel more at home, southern recipes for corn bread were supplied the South Dakota housewives where the workers were living.

WORKING WITH DEFERRED farm boys, Labor Assistant W. E. Hoelz of Sheboygan County, Wis., has been successful in meeting the need for year-round workers, which seemed an almost insolvable problem not long ago. By planning carefully with these deferred boys, often two or more farms can be operated as a single unit and the labor needs staggered throughout the season. The draft board and Mr. Hoelz have cooperated very closely on this.

CORN DETASSELING was popular with both women and young folks in the Corn Belt. Chicago girls and women in camp at El Paso, Ill., put on a show for the local townsfolk in the high school auditorium. The admission was $1 in war stamps for children and $5 for adults. Though the town of about 1,700 had already gone over the top on their quota for the Fifth War Bond Drive, more than $10,000 additional was raised at the WLA show.

TURN ABOUT IS FAIR PLAY and common practice in Noble County, Minn. Businessmen helped farmers harvest their crops last fall and farmers helped businessmen last winter when the ice harvest for towns in three counties was threatened by lack of labor. This summer businessmen are again helping farmers shock their grain.

SOMETHING IS COOKING in South Dakota where home demonstration agents are encouraging a greater use of garden vegetables by helping the women to improve their cooking. County winners of vegetable cooking contests competed in districts. The State contest was held the first week in September at the State fair in Huron. Some fine recipes for preparing vegetables are coming out of the contests, and the nutritionist has found it a good time to speak about vitamins, minerals, and the effect of cooking.

A FORWARD-LOOKING CONFERENCE was held in Laramie, Wyo., August 7 to 9, on fair price relationships and full employment for labor, agriculture, and industry. The conference was sponsored by the University of Wyoming. National farm organizations, labor unions, industry, and commerce were represented by nationally known leaders who took part in the informal discussions and gave serious consideration to many of the trends and problems in the economic set-up.

CANADIAN THRESHING OUTFITS are helping to harvest the Western Great Plains grain crops. American machines and crews will then go to the prairie provinces. Of the billion-bushel wheat crop now in prospect for the current season, about 586 million bushels are anticipated in the States that can utilize harvest labor from the Canadian prairie provinces. In these three provinces a recent official estimate indicated more than 23 million acres planted—an increase of 37.8 over the wheat acreage planted in 1943.

SATURDAY NIGHT 4-H parties in the county fair 4-H Club building have proved popular this summer with the young folks of Pocahontas County, Iowa; and the young people of Spring Creek, Dodge County, Wis., use their rural school building. Abandoned as a schoolhouse 5 years ago, considerable cleaning, screening, painting, and fixing were necessary. The young folks gather there on Saturday night to have wiener roasts, square dances, games, refreshments, and plenty of conversation. These young folks like to exchange views on crops, livestock, and farm life.

A NATIONAL GO-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE to keep young folks in high school until they complete their courses is being sponsored by the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor; and the U. S. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency, in cooperation with the Office of War Information and with the endorsement of the War Manpower Commission. A handbook for communities gives some good ideas for community participation in this essential movement.

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Extension Service Review

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On the October docket

■ 4-H Achievement takes the spotlight in the fall, culminating in the National 4-H Achievement Week and Club Congress next month. As Judge Jones writes in a special message to 4-H Club members, "This harvesttime marks a production record for you, the young farmers of this Nation . . . and marks, too, the end of a year of extra service for your Nation — a year of real war service." Thousands of achievement stories of patriotic and unusual service given by young people add substance and proof to the words of commendation by the War Food Administrator. Now is the time to seek out these stories and bring them to light.

The scandalous waste caused by fires comes to public attention during National Fire Prevention Week proclaimed by President Roosevelt as October 8 to 14. Some 4,000 kits of publicity material available from Washington have gone to county agents to help them publicize fire prevention, but local stories of successful fire fighting are better. Such a story is that of the prairie fire in the sand hills of Nebraska. According to plan, a nearby village sounded three blasts on the siren alarm. All available help was on the job much sooner than under the older method of telephoning. Fire wardens keep the telephone operators advised of progress of fires. The telephone company sends a truck equipped with telephone and telegraphic equipment that can be "hooked in" to any line so that word may be sent back to the towns as to the progress of the fire.

War brings out the need for more community school lunch programs in rural areas, and the beginning of the school year is the time to do something about it. Extension agents have a vital interest in adequate school lunches. They have the training and are strategically located to promote the school lunch with community leaders. They can find out what help is available from Government agencies. A spot check of what pupils are actually getting for lunch is often enough to galvanize a hesitant community into action. The shortages of equipment, space, and help can be overcome if the need is felt, and home demonstration clubs are good at this sort of thing.

Information on post-war rural community services and facilities is emphasized this month. In addition to school lunches, veterans' advisory committees, recreation and counseling facilities for rural youth, plans to help war workers as well as veterans adjust to civilian life, better facilities for health and medical care, and better housing are all on the calendar.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Apparently the exhibit of extension publications explaining price control facts pleases Chester Bowles, OPA Administrator (center) as much as it does Director M. L. Wilson (at left) invited over to the OPA offices to see them. The exhibit was collected by OPA Agricultural Adviser H. H. Williamson, formerly extension director in Texas (at right).

IN THIS ISSUE

On the anti-inflation beam

■ As the country swings from a wartime regulated economy of rationing and price controls to a peace economy, the danger of inflation increases, judged by the last war, as farm people painfully remember. Farmers, economists, and administrators ask what steps should be taken to insure a prosperous peacetime economy.

Farm people must understand the problems.

A look back over the way we have traveled since 1942 when the Emergency Price Control Act put everything the farmer and his wife buy under a price ceiling and the all-out battle against inflation on the home front got under way, shows that much has been learned about making all farm people conscious of their stake in the anti-inflation program.

On the very day the President laid down his seven-point program in his message to Congress, Acting Secretary of Agriculture Grover B. Hill wrote:

"I am depending on the Extension Service in each State to carry on for the Department general educational work to acquaint farmers with the Government's program for holding down the cost of living and their part in the program."

Regional conferences were held within a month to discuss ways and means of interpreting the President's seven-point program to control the cost of living and fighting. State and district conferences followed, and in many places training schools for neighborhood leaders were held.

The Extension Service did not start from scratch on the subject. Extension economists had already prepared a great deal of material - popular bulletins, charts, articles, cartoons, pictures, and talks, depicting the dangers of inflation, the value of building reserves, paying off debts, buying bonds, the disadvantage of bidding against each other for scarce articles. Many leader-training schools, meetings, and discussion conferences had been held to consider financial planning and the economic outlook for farming as a part of the regular extension program.

Extension workers found the Office of Price Administration added power to their message. Joining forces seemed the natural thing to do. OPA regulations and information were made immediately available through close cooperation in Washington. State extension offices started the presses rolling to turn out this information in simple leaflets and check cards.

Leon Henderson, then administrator, commented on the early efforts in a letter carried in the August 1942 issue of the REVIEW:

"Particularly do we wish to point out that the Federal and State Agricultural Extension Services are doing an excellent job. In fact, our reports indicate that the work being done by the Extension Service through its neighborhood-leader system is the best that is being done in rural areas. Will you please pass on to your extension people our sincere appreciation and assure them that the Office of Price Administration field organization is keenly interested in strengthening this cooperative relationship to the end that the educational program already launched may be extended still further for the duration."

The message was told and retold, in bulletins, in talks, in conversations, in pictures; but no one collected any information on just how much was being done until Administrator Bowles' newly appointed agricultural adviser, former Extension Director H. H. Williamson, began to gather some of the material he found as he traveled about the country. This educational material was placed on exhibit in OPA offices recently. Productions from 15 States were divided into three types of material: Discussions of the nature and effect of dangerous inflation, statements on the importance of price control generally, and explanatory releases on OPA operations such as the regulation of prices and the rationing of scarce consumer goods. Large posters, leaflets, simplified price statements, bulletins, radio and press releases were on exhibit. One display line read, "OPA appreciates their (Extension Service) cooperation in the battle against inflation." Administrator Bowles invited Director Wilson over to see the exhibit when the picture on the first page was taken.

All of these were only the means to an end. The real question was: Were farm people actually reading and understanding the things set down in the publications? A study made early in 1944 of what the farmer knows and thinks of price control and rationing in four Midwestern States showed that four-fifths of the farmers believed that price ceilings and rationing are necessary or partially necessary.

An incident showing the interest of rural people occurred early this year when Administrator Bowles had three typical members of local rationing boards selected to come to Washington, appear on a radio program, and focus attention on the patriotic contribution of the local ration boards. The three members selected came from Maine, Alabama, and Colorado; and, to the amazement of the Washington office, all three were rural.

The value of teamwork between the Office of Price Administration and the Extension Service is best expressed in a recent letter from Administrator Chester Bowles:

"Again and again, during my tenure as administrator, I have observed the many forms of helpful assistance which we have received throughout the country from the Agricultural Extension Services. I have been particularly impressed by the simplified commodity price ceiling statements for producers, the news digests of OPA activities important to farmers, the cost studies and other surveys of various economic aspects of farm living, and the printed material depicting the dangers of inflation to farmers.

"Farmers generally have been very tolerant and have cooperated exceedingly well with us in perhaps the biggest job ever undertaken by our Government. Your county agricultural agents, home demonstration agents, specialists, and others of your staff have helped immeasurably in making the program work. I want, through you, to convey to them my sincere thanks for making our tremendous task much easier. . . . Let us hope, from our cooperative efforts, there comes a better understanding of our mutual fight to control the destructive forces of dangerous inflation."

The Extension Service, too, appreciates the cooperation which OPA has always given in supplying all available information and the faith they have shown in the ability of the Extension Service to get the ideas to the farm people.

The staff looks at local leadership

EDWIN H. ROHRBECK, Extension Editor, Pennsylvania State College

■ Wherever there is collective effort, there is leadership. Attention to leadership as it relates to extension work in agriculture and home economics is an old story. And yet, indications are unmistakable that an extra-lively concern with this subject exists today wherever extension people are at work. Wartime demands have made it necessary to rely upon more nonprofessional leadership; current developments make necessary some modifications in the program.

The extension staff in Pennsylvania decided that it needed to re-examine the whole problem of leadership in connection with its work. Thirty years of experience has taught extension workers a good deal about its function and possibilities. Hence, it was decided to review the collective experience of its members and to prepare a statement of field staff opinions on the subject.

A committee was named by Director J. M. Fry at the Pennsylvania State College, consisting of State supervisors (agriculture, home economics, and 4-H) and a subject-matter specialist each for the men's and women's work. H. G. Niesley, assistant director, is chairman of the committee. From time to time, representative men and women county workers have met with and counseled with the committee.

County Workers Interviewed

Separate interviews were conducted with 94 county workers. W. R. Gordon, extension rural sociologist, served on the committee, analyzed the data, and wrote the report of the canvass. In addition, a set of 15 recommendations for assisting leaders and staff was submitted with the report. These are being studied with the purpose of formulating plans for more efficient use of local leaders.

It is impossible in limited space to review the findings of this canvass, but a few of the more significant items can be given.

The findings in this report reemphasize the extent to which the county worker is the key to this problem. Equally significant, however, is the unanimity of opinion among the agents that the extension administrators and the subject-matter specialists need to give more assistance to a program of guidance and inspiration for the local leader.

It was also brought out in the majority of the interviews that the county extension executive committee is a most important factor in making leadership effective and that more effort should be made to have such committees more active in this phase of the work.

Functions of Leaders Vary

The report furnished evidence of the extent to which the function of leadership varies in agriculture and home economics. It is related to the local organization of the extension program and the territory which the local leader represents. In home economics, the majority of the replies indicate that the leader serves the neighborhood unit. In agriculture, on the contrary, the community unit is considered the most common territorial responsibility of the local leader. There is logical explanation why this should be the case, but from the standpoint of coordinated effort in extension teaching, this relationship of local leader to territory deserves more study and attention.

Again the words "extension leader" do not appear to mean the same thing to different members of the staff. Both in the field interviews and in discussions in staff meetings, "extension leader" is applied indiscriminately to (1) a list of "key people" who are looked to as representatives of the interests of their neighbors, (2) outstanding individuals who have cooperated extensively with a subject-matter specialist or with the county worker in demonstrating a practice, (3) officers and committee members in the county extension organization. In 1942 many names were added to the list of extension leaders (so-called) in most counties. To some agents, these "new" leaders are a group apart from the old, pre-war leaders. And, in the opinion of the analyst, they are that in actual practice and in many instances.

There is impressive evidence in the study that we have not yet devoted the necessary attention to motivation of extension leadership. In presenting recommendations in agriculture and homemaking, we appeal more commonly to the economic motive and to individual satisfaction. That is as it should be. In cultivating leadership, however, the appeal must be to other motives. Much remains to be done before the following question will be common: "What can I do so that more of my neighbors will want and apply the information that the Extension Service is equipped to teach?" Much remains to be done before volunteer leaders will come to the agent and specialist seeking help with their leadership problems as they do now with technical problems in farming and homemaking.

County workers in most instances were aware of the dual nature of the leader's task; that local leadership has to do (1) with planning the program or activity in the community, and (2) with getting the job done or "operation" of the program. They recognized that versatility and initiative are necessary qualifications for leadership and that the assistance we give to leaders must treat both of these if we are to achieve the results desired.

The specialist was acknowledged to be an important factor in the leader-teaching program. Many specific instances of such help in the past were alluded to, and suggestions were made of other possibilities.

As a result of this concerted attention to the subject of leadership, there has been a marked increase in the interest in it. The college committee, in consultation with the field staff, will proceed with the program of study.

Appreciation event

This year for the first time, the Orange County, N. Y., 4-H Council sponsored the appreciation banquet for 4-H Club leaders with an attendance of 50 leaders and guests. The council gave the leaders 4-H pencils, place cards, 4-H napkins, and a year's subscription for the National 4-H Club News. Flag sets of the 4-H and American flags were given to three 20-year leaders.

Getting chickens culled in Michigan

H. L. SHRADER, Extension Specialist in Poultry Husbandry

The Sparton culling crate is a labor saver in catching chickens.

■ Culling out the low-producing hens is rather "old stuff" to extension service workers in Michigan. They have been teaching poultry producers that art over a long period of years. Wartime poultry culling is different because of the manpower shortage.

There was a time when county extension agents held demonstrations on culling the slacker hen, but with a multitude of other duties with war boards and agriculture labor they just couldn't find the time. The farm flock owners themselves were more than busy in the fields with war emergency crops.

J. M. Moore and O. E. Shear, the poultry specialists at the college, couldn't personally cover the 150,000 or more farms raising poultry in Michigan; so they put their heads together to formulate a plan that would get the job done. The feedmen in Washington, who don't really raise the feed but simply tell how much total feed is available, were most insistent on finding ways to stretch the present feed supply. The war effort needed the eggs, so the entire flock should not be sold; it was a question of getting certain hens off the farms as soon as they quit laying. It was a job that had to be done now—not after the harvest season when somebody would find time for that work.

Casting about for a solution, these specialists thought of the thousands of farm boys and girls in the 4-H poultry clubs. "Let's give them some intensive training and put them to work in their home counties," they reasoned. And that's the way the Michigan 1943-44 culling program was started, and once it got rolling it accumulated culls like a spring-thaw snowball.

The county agent was asked to line up about 10 farmers who wanted their flocks culled and to pick out 4 to 6 older 4-H Club members who were willing to cooperate. The vocational agriculture teachers in certain counties helped in this work. The poultry specialist scheduled 2 days in the county and took the boys and girls to the farm flocks. First, the fundamentals of culling on pigmentation, molt, and condition were explained. The students were told to ask about each hen: Is this bird laying? How long has she been laying? How many vacations has she had? Does she show signs of quitting?

Next, came a very important phase of their training—learning to catch and handle the birds. Now any farm boy or girl has been sent out to catch a chicken for Mother many times, but this catching was different. To handle birds for culling, they must not be unduly excited—else egg production will decline.

A simple catching crate, consisting of 4 hinged panels, was carried on the top of the car or a trailer. This was set up alongside a wall and about 25 birds quietly driven inside the enclosure. Each individual bird can then be picked up by slipping the fingers under the wing close to the body and lifting the bird off the floor. The opposite hand is then placed under the body with the head of the bird facing the operator's elbow. By resting the weight of the bird on the upturned palm and gripping the legs from both sides, the bird can be held securely and quietly. The proper hold, as in wrestling, goes a long way toward keeping the bird from struggling. The detailed examination of the head, wings, legs, and abdomen can now be made; and each student culler decides whether to keep or sell the bird, and this decision is checked by the poultry specialist.

The bird is passed outside the catching crate through an escape door. On the Michigan "Spartan" crate, this door consists of an opening about 18 inches square in each end panel. The opening is covered by a sack or rubber strip from a discarded inner tube. The flock owner usually provides crates to keep the culls confined so they can be sent to market at once.

This procedure gives the club members a good training in the technique and system of culling and does much to establish their confidence so they can be of service to flock owners in their community. The total number of birds culled by club members after their training has not been tabulated, but it runs way up into the thousands. One member reports that he charged

2 cents per bird handled and earned more than $50 for his college savings fund. A number of the newly trained cullers have reported handling from 3,000 to 4,000 birds during the fall of 1943. Twenty-seven of these 2-day schools were held, and 128 4-H Club members participated. Forty counties will be reached in 1944. During the 1943 season, 36,952 birds were handled in 245 flocks, and 27.1 percent of the birds were classified as culls.

J. M. Moore, poultry specialist in Michigan, in commenting on this campaign, said: "It was amazing how quickly and accurately these 4-H Club members mastered the art of culling."

One additional feature was the dusting of each good hen with a pinch of sodium fluoride. This helped to remove the irritating body lice from the hens, and in 1943, 67 percent of the flocks examined were found to have some lice.

As an incentive for getting the reports from the club members, the Michigan Allied Poultry Industries have offered $150 in prizes of war savings stamps and war bonds for the best stories and largest number of birds culled on this project.

4-H Victory homemakers

■ When war took Mother as well as Dad into the fields or factories, several battalions of teen-age girls immediately mobilized throughout Washington—trained and ready to do essential work in the home.

In Adams County, for example, a squad of 13 girls organized a 4-H Victory club under the leadership of Mrs. Margaret K. Hoech, assistant home demonstration agent at Ritzville, Wash. These club members were trained in labor-saving methods and efficiency; and during their first year's organization they spent more than 3,000 hours doing housework, caring for children, helping with the yard and garden, preserving food, preparing meals, and doing other tasks of a homemaker.

But these household duties alone did not satisfy the busy Victory club members. They cleaned up the USO rooms regularly, took part in community war projects like collecting waste paper and fats, and wound up the year by decorating a large hall and serving and cleaning up after a community-wide Victory Garden dinner served to 300 people.

"The club was organized solely to help busy homemakers and relieve them for other wartime work," says Mrs. Hoech. "These girls went into the homes to do the work of homemakers. Some had regular jobs, others worked when they could spare some time from their tasks at home, and still others went out to farms in the summer and worked as mothers' helpers for $1 a day."

Barbara Boggs and Lois Michels, both 11 years old, are the youngest club members. Luetta Arnst, 15, is the oldest. Others are: Kathryn Boggs, Mary Buhl, Davida Dirks, Carol Jean Kiehm, Margie Luiten, Norma Nauditt, Corine Rothrock, Virginia Schwerin, Barbara Streeter, and Eleanor Freese.

The Pleasant Hill Minute Girls' 4-H Club of Cowlitz is another group answering the call for home front workers. Seven members, Betty and Peggy Benston, Evelyn and Lorraine Johnson, Bertha Hansen, Florence Carson, and Beverly Locke spent more than 3,000 hours in home and farm work and civilian defense activities.

They did such jobs as canning, gardening, haying, picking apples, milking, feeding livestock, housework, caring for children, preparing meals, sewing, and serving as voluntary airplane spotters for the Aircraft Warning Service on the Washington coast. And this is what Betty Benston says about her activities:

"Every job I did helped me in some way toward learning more about the duties of a homemaker. I had to plan and prepare meals, plan a grocery list and buy food, plan and carry out a child's activities throughout the day, plan and do my days' work according to the time I had to work, and can fruits and vegetables in a pressure cooker."

Bertha Hansen says: "This year found me helping with everything Mother did in the house and in the garden, driving the truck, getting in hay, feeding cows, and all the chores left when brothers go off to war. But it was interesting and important and may help speed the day of victory."

This phase of 4-H home management work in Washington was planned by the State specialist, Esther Pond.

4-H Victory homemakers, who care for the children while Father and Mother are doing war work in field and factory, learn to do it right.

Illinois discussion clinics point up post-war problems

DAVID E. LINDSTROM, Extension Specialist in Rural Sociology, Illinois

■ Eight discussion clinics held in Illinois last fall (1) demonstrated a number of discussion techniques and (2) gave a preview of what leaders of a variety of groups in Illinois communities were thinking about post-war problems. More than 600 farmers', homemakers', town and city organization leaders, librarians, teachers, and local and county officials attended these 8 clinics.

An idea is aired in a small discussion group at the Rock Island clinic.

The clinics demonstrated that leaders of many types of organizations were faced with problems of how to carry on group discussion. The pattern for the clinics was a demonstration in which all attending had the opportunity for participation. Each clinic was opened by a general statement on the need for post-war planning and the importance of discussion in post-war planning. This was followed by a period of discussion. Then the entire group was divided into as many small groups as seemed desirable, each to discuss some issue or problem in post-war planning. Then the groups reassembled, and reports were given of the results of the small-group discussions, each of these reports being in turn discussed by the entire group. Thus three methods of discussion were demonstrated: The forum, the small-group discussion, and the symposium. In addition, other methods were explained; at the beginning of the clinic everyone was given a mimeographed manual on group discussion in which other methods and techniques were discussed. This manual was later printed by the Illinois State Library, and to date more than 1,500 copies have since been requested from all parts of the country.

Preparation for the clinics was made by a joint committee of five, representing the Illinois State Library, the Illinois Adult Education Association, the American Association of University Women, and the State discussion leader for the Extension Service. The impetus for the clinics came from the national and district post-war planning institutes held by the American Library Association whose coordinator for Illinois, Helene Rogers, acted as chairman for the committee.

Local chairmen and discussion leaders were selected in advance by the committee with the help and advice of local representatives such as county farm and home advisers and local librarians. A preclinic meeting was held with these leaders on the morning of the date for the clinic to clear up details and to instruct in methods of leading discussion. Thus the outline for the day's meeting was given to all attending, and each was prepared to participate.

A list of discussion topics for the small-group discussions, growing out of previous State, regional, and national meetings, was sent to each person invited to attend, requesting that he be ready to take part in a discussion group on one of the topics of most interest to him.

The results were illuminating. In no clinic were the same topics chosen, though the most popular in most places was: "How can we get greater cooperation among the organizations in our community on post-war planning?" This still remains a very knotty problem in Illinois, it seems, as more and more groups are doing their own post-war planning irrespective of what others are doing. The summary statements coming out of the small-group discussions are really a cross section of the thinking of Illinois people on the topic discussed.

In following up the clinics this fall, a plan was submitted to extension agents at their spring meeting. It was decided to hold 9 district discussion clinics in late October or early November to teach and demonstrate discussion methods useful in neighborhood, community, and special group meetings. These will present the value and discuss several methods of discussion, using the new circular, Let's Talk It Over, as a guide. Each clinic will also include a demonstration discussion on an important current issue, for example, social security or rural school reorganization, and explore the contribution that various organizations and agencies—the Extension Service, the library, farmers' organizations, and others—can make to the solution of the problem.

Those invited to attend include farm and home advisers, a carload of community and neighborhood leaders selected by them, librarians invited by the State librarian, rural pastors invited through denominational representation, county school superintendents who bring a carload of rural teachers, and such other leaders as are likely to be interested.

What is a level?

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ I know that I must be one of the worst offenders in labeling each part of the Cooperative Extension Service as a level—the Federal level, the State level, the county level. The implication in that phraseology is entirely wrong.

In the first place, the Cooperative Extension Service is a joint enterprise in which Federal, State and County Governments participate with rural people, *all on the same level.*

In the second place, when we talk about Federal, State, and county levels, we are unintentionally apt to convey the meaning that we in the U. S. D. A. office of the Cooperative Extension Service have a broader perspective than those in State extension offices, and that they, in turn, have a broader perspective than those in the county offices.

This should not be so. If we in the Washington office and in the State offices perform our functions well, there should be only a slight lag between our broader understanding here, in the State offices, and in the county offices.

County extension agents should have an equally broad perspective on all phases of the national agricultural program. The only difference is that these broad programs are brought to focus in the counties in practical terms of local problems, situations, habits, and attitudes of the rural people, and thus made workable.

Each county extension agent must study and understand the whole program in order properly to interpret and apply it locally. That is the very essence of the democratic pattern of cooperative extension work. That is the core of an organization with an educational program which is flexible enough to adjust national and regional requirements of the group to the day-to-day needs of the individual who is affected.

And so I like to think of the Cooperative Extension Service as a triangle—with one side representing the Federal Government, one, State Government, and one, County Government. Each side is independent but joined together make a unified and harmonious whole. This conveys an entirely different conception than when we speak in terms of levels.

Wartime clothing problems

■ Shortages and limitations in the clothing field have not dismayed home demonstration agents and home demonstration club members in Arkansas this year. They have adopted as their slogan the old proverb, "Wear it out, make it do, or do without."

These ingenious club members and agents might have taken the attitude, "We can't do anything about a clothing program because there is so little new material available," but not these women. They have taken the attitude, "Let's seek new approaches to the old problem of clothing our families." This is to be seen by the fact that 101 different topics concerning clothing were listed in county home demonstration council yearbooks in Arkansas for 1944.

Thirty-three different demonstrations were listed on the ever-present problem of constructing clothing and accessories. Shortages of ready-made clothing for children have created a big demand for simple sewing instructions for such items as children's play clothes and boys' overalls. Individual dress forms are coming back into fashion for the woman who sews alone or who has to sew for someone away from home. Many of these forms are serving as "stand-ins" for a daughter or sister who is away from home working in a defense plant.

Scarcity of available harmonizing accessories and the high prices of ready-made accessories have caused many women to learn to make their own gloves, belts, hats, jabots, and dress trimmings. One of the most popular trimmings developed by the women has been the use of floral-striped print for braid on solid-colored dresses. Many times the scrap bag has furnished enough braid to trim a dress or pinafore.

Never before have care and storage of clothing and accessories been of such interest to Arkansas women. Twenty-one different demonstrations are listed. Many who have not previously done their own washing and ironing are asking for demonstrations on laundering. Washing and blocking sweaters and cleaning accessories such as hats, gloves, shoes, and purses have been popular programs, too. As woolen clothes are so scarce and expensive, much greater interest is being taken in cleaning and storing them to prevent moth damage.

Remodeling and mending are also of interest. Fourteen different topics on remodeling and mending were listed in the yearbooks.

Wardrobe planning, budgeting, and clothing selection were given under 20 different headings. Women are interested in such things as fabric identification, comparisons between "ready-mades" versus "home-mades," suitable colors and designs, and necessary wartime clothing adjustments.

Patterns and pattern fitting accounted for nine different demonstrations. These included such things as learning to use a pattern, altering patterns, and drafting patterns.

Cleaning and adjusting sewing machines is more important now that many women are doing more home sewing and new machines are not on the market. Many discarded machines are being cleaned up and used again. Sewing machine attachments are also being used more since professional-looking finishes can be added to home-constructed garments by their use. Other attachments make it possible to save time in sewing.—*Sue Marshall, Extension Specialist in Clothing and Household Arts, Arkansas.*

Sewing for soldiers

Lamarque women's home demonstration club of Galveston County, Tex., has devoted each Tuesday to sewing for soldiers of Camp Wallace. Headquarters transports 8 to 10 women with 2 to 4 portable sewing machines from community to camp. In December, the commanding officer presented certificates of honor and appreciation to 8 members of the club for having sewed 10 or more full days successively. In 1 month, the women reported working on 3,751 garments.

Develop work opportunities ready for soldiers' return

■ The letter from the post-war planning board brought a real lift to young men and women from Hamilton County, Iowa, working or fighting in the far corners of the world. From Texas a soldier complained because his pal was overlooked and asked "How come?" From Normandy to New Guinea and at camps in almost every State, men and women sat down to fill out their questionnaire and thank the home town leaders for their interest in "our future."

About 2,200 have gone from the county into the armed services. Would they come back to the stores and offices of Webster City, the county seat? Would the farm boys think the fertile fields of Hamilton County offered them opportunity; and was the opportunity really there? Father Frien, a far-seeing Catholic priest, thought a great deal about the future of these young folks and often talked about it with his friends, leaders in the community. The American Legion, businessmen's associations, and other groups began looking round for something definite to do about it. The Rotary Club finally took the first step of calling all interested people together to set up a post-war planning board commissioned to work out a plan of action—a plan which would create a work pile ready for the returning veterans and war workers.

Father Frien, the first chairman of the board, who had been an inspiration in the organization, died after the board had held a few meetings; and County Agent H. M. Nichols took up the duties of chairman.

Board Meets Every Week

Under Agent Nichols, the board met every Monday during the winter. Though the discussion was ardent and interesting, it soon became apparent that actual facts were conspicuous by their absence. How many wanted to come back, and what did they want to do? How many job opportunities were actually on the farms? Could business houses take back all those who had left their employ? How much building and repairing was already in the wind?

To find out first the plans of the service men and women, a questionnaire was decided upon. Building up the mailing list was slow business. The board is still working on it. Letters went out to more than half of the boys and girls in April on the letterhead of the Hamilton County Post-War Planning Board which lists the various organizations taking part. The letter said: "In addition to our support of the war effort, we at home are doing our best to look ahead to the day when you and all service men and women will return. We are planning now to provide work for everyone who wants employment in our county after the war."

Letters Sent to Veterans

In Webster City, 550 letters brought in responses from more than half of them. There was much study and paring down of the questionnaire to keep it short and simple, but after the final response the board felt that perhaps a little more information could have been included which would have been helpful. According to the returned questionnaires, 80 percent of the boys and girls planned to come home and look for work, and 27 percent of those returning questionnaires said they wanted to take further schooling. The State Rehabilitation Committee were much interested in this part of the survey because they had expected that only 10 to 12 percent would want to return to school.

The information from the questionnaires is being assembled in a master file, according to the jobs they want to do or for which they are trained. The largest group are farmers, although mechanics, truck drivers, and students are also numerous. The facts are being plotted on a large map of the county. The War Aid Council and the chamber of commerce are responsible for analyzing and filing the information.

To arrive at some estimate of the work available, a questionnaire was also sent to farmers; and 415 were filled out and returned. Most of the farms planned to continue about the same size enterprise after the war. One hundred and four were looking for sons and relatives to come back and help them, and about 169 were going to need help in addition to that given by the family after the war.

One interesting fact brought out by the farm questionnaire was the amount of building and repairing planned. New homes are in prospect on 30 farms, and 68 will probably be rebuilt. New barns will go up on 37 farms, and 32 will be rebuilt. Many smaller buildings are being planned, such as 62 new corncribs, 43 hog houses, and 57 machine sheds, as well as painting, fencing, and tiling. To arrive at an estimate of jobs in town, a survey was made of wholesale, retail, and service establishments. These returns are not in yet.

As the background situation becomes established, the board is going ahead with plans for action. The August meeting was devoted to outlining the definite steps to be taken first. They are thinking in terms of a general welcoming meeting and then the establishment of a board of the most able leaders both in business and farming who will devote considerable time to counseling the young folks. They might be available 3 afternoons each week to listen to the problems and ambitions, helping to work out personal problems, to give them a healthy attitude in making the necessary adjustments from military to civilian life—help to fit the right man to the right job.

The News Spreads

The news of these activities has spread. Twelve or 15 county agents, 15 or 20 chambers of commerce, and 2 national magazines have written to Agent Nichols about it. Governor B. B. Hickenlooper; Brig. Gen. Charles H. Grahl, Director of the State Selective System; and others have indicated their desire to attend some of the county discussion meetings.

County Agent Paul Johnson of nearby Crawford County brought over his post-war planning committee to meet with the Hamilton board and find out what their experiences had been. With 1,700 men and women from this county in the armed forces and 1,500 engaged in war production, the committee felt it was necessary to make some preparation to receive them back after the war.

Talking over the specific situation was helpful to both groups. "We have no houses for them," said Editor George Wolcott of Crawford County. "Absolutely none for rent here either, and precious few for sale, and those going at outlandish prices," agreed a Hamilton County banker. "What about the drug store here that hired only two clerks and now has sent five of them into the fighting forces? Who gets the two jobs?" asked another. "Well," commented Agent Nichols, "those that say we don't need to think of these things until the war is won don't know what they are talking about." "Looks as if we didn't have any too much time to get things shaped up," agreed Bob McCarthy, chairman of the steering committee, who is a dealer in farm equipment.

Planning together for the future has brought together the fighters on distant fronts and their folks at home. It put down on paper the ambitions of a New Guinea aviator who wrote: "My future plans can all be covered under the term, aviation. . . After the war, freight carrying by air will be a new civilian phase, and Webster City has enough freight to use the air for hauling. Everything could be flown out—mall, machinery, automobile parts, food, clothing, drugs, and supplies. I know these ideas cannot be fulfilled in a short time, but in several years aviation will be the thing."

Webster City, looking ahead, has just appropriated money for a new airfield and is encouraged to hear from a native son who is gaining a great deal of practical experience in freighting war supplies into New Guinea and who sees a vision for the future of his home town. The boy is encouraged to know that folks at home are progressive, too—that they are planning to provide opportunity for his specialized training—to make his home town a place of opportunity for him.

■ Gasconade County, Mo., has 211 active school-district leaders trained and ready to dispense information on gardening, insect control, canning, and storage. These leaders are challenging their neighbors to surpass the record of last year, when people of the county produced, canned, and stored the equivalent of 310 carloads of foods.

County camps make 4-H history

■ Nearly 3,000 of Washington's 10,000 4-H Club members and leaders, representing 35 of the State's 39 counties, got together this summer for their only vacation of a busy crop season. They held county club camps at various lakes, beaches, and parks throughout the State.

Last year wartime conditions forced cancellation of the annual 4-H Club Camp at Pullman for the duration, but 25 counties carried on with successful club camps of their own. "The county club camp is here to stay—even after the war is over," says Charles T. Meenach, acting State 4-H Club agent. "It gives younger boys and girls an opportunity to meet other club members and to work and play together years before they are old enough to qualify for the State camp."

Joint club camps seemed to be the thing this year. In fact, only 10 counties planned individual camps. 4-H'ers practically staked out claims to Deception Pass on Whidby Island, with 8 counties taking over throughout July. Famous "foursomes" were the San Juan-Clallam-Jefferson-Island camp and the Yakima-Kittitas-Klickitat-Benton combination.

Clark County, which upped its membership from 391 to 701 this year, had just about the largest county camp in 4-H history; 375 club members, parents, and leaders (150 more than originally expected) spent 4 exciting June days together at Sunset camp, 40 miles from Vancouver on the south fork of the Lewis River.

Camp high lights included classes in first aid, handicrafts (making plaster of Paris 4-H pins), firearms, and recreational leadership. The State Patrol officers, who taught first aid, proper use of firearms, and farm and home safety, were especially popular with the 4-H'ers—"Jeepers, just like one of the gang!" enthused several young club members.

Extension Specialists John Dodge, John C. Snyder, Eleanore Davis, Cal Svinth, Rae Russell, Art Cagle, I. M. Ingham, Esther Pond, L. G. Smith, and Walt Tolman assisted county agents and home demonstration agents in conducting classes and organizing the camps. Rev. Lincoln B. Wirt, emergency assistant in 4-H Club work, dashed back and forth across the State to conduct the popular recreational leadership classes designed to teach 4-H members to plan and lead "get-togethers" in their homes, clubs, and communities.

Other outstanding camp events were the group "sings," the original entertainment skits put on by members of different clubs, and the impressive candle-lighting ceremony which concluded each camp.

Down in the southeastern corner of the State, club members from Garfield, Asotin, and Columbia opened the "camping season" with their June 5 to 7 camp at Hidden Valley on the Tucanyon in Columbia County. Also on the June club camp schedule were Lincoln, Adams, and Franklin, with a 3-day camp at Twinlow on the Idaho Twin Lakes; Spokane County's annual camp at the Kiwanis Health Center on the Little Spokane River; Clarke County, with a 4-day camp near Sunset Falls on the Lewis River; and Okanogan and Douglas, with a 3-day excursion to Lost Lake.

Kitsap 4-H'ers enjoyed an early July camp at Seabeck on Hood Canal; and the Puget Sound counties, Skagit, Callam-Jefferson-Island-San Juan, Whatcom, Snohomish, and King, had their outings at Deception Pass on Whidby Island. Northeastern Pend Oreille and Stevens Counties had a joint club camp at Black Lake, and Skamania 4-H'ers camped out in the forest at Government Mineral Springs. Lake Wenatchee was the site of the Chelan County late July camp. Cowlitz 4-H'ers went on a 4-day forest retreat.

August campers included Mason 4-H'ers at Hood Canal, Yakima-Benton-Klickitat-Kittitas at Clear Lake in Yakima County, Pacific at Snyder Pond, Grays Harbor at Black Lake near Olympia, and Pierce at Bow Lake.

Winding up the season were Thurston 4-H'ers with a 3-day camp at Millersylvania Park, Wahkiakum club members who went up to Camp Moorehead on Willapa Bay, and Lewis 4-H members who got together August 20 at Lewis-Clark State park to combine their 4-day club camp and fair.

Why canned food spoils

■ Spoiled canned tomatoes, off-colored chunks floating in a murky liquid, made up Exhibit A in the food-spoilage clinic held at South Dakota State College last May. A microscopic slide showed enlarged views of the yeast, molds, and bacteria at work in the tomatoes. Test-tube samples measured the acid and gas content and showed the decomposed condition of solids and liquid.

This was just one feature of the 10-day food-preservation conference devoted entirely to canning problems. The emergency food-conservation assistants came first with 3 days of actual experience in food preservation and the use of a variety of equipment. The new workers in the field were then joined by home agents and other personnel for a series of lectures given by experts.

Prof. A. R. Grismer of the bacteriology department of South Dakota State Agricultural College discussed the bacteriological reasons for food spoilage with particular reference to helpful and harmful bacteria and how they developed. Growth and action of yeasts and molds were discussed. Professor Grismer emphasied the fact that it was the toxin from the botulism organism that was fatal; therefore, if every homemaker would boil her canned products for 10 minutes or longer before tasting them, there would be no danger of harmful effects. He asserted that homemakers do not seem to realize that canning is fundamentally sterilization and keeping food that way by complete sealing.

After the lecture, the group attended the exhibit set up in the college bacteriology laboratory. Twenty-two jars of spoiled food sent in from all over the State were on display, along with many other exhibits.

The clinic revealed the need for emphasis on careful selection of jars and the correct use of jar closures, plus ability to follow directions in the use of a pressure cooker. Home agents felt this to be one of the most helpful features of the conference.

Other features of food-spoilage day included talks on an Iowa spoilage survey given by the State executive secretary for the nutrition committee. The uses of sprays and canning compounds were discussed by a professor from the pharmacy department.

The vitamin content of vegetables and their value in diet and nutritive comparisons of foods preserved by a variety of methods were given by the experiment station chemist and nutritionist. Vegetable storage, including a tour of college facilities, was conducted by the head of the horticultural department.

Equipment day featured the operation and care of pressure cookers by a professor of mechanical engineering. Various pressure cooker models were demonstrated by representatives from the various manufacturers. The women also learned how to test pressure cooker gauges and to operate tin-can sealers. Dehydrators and apple box driers were the subject of a lecture by the professor of electrical engineering. The selection, care, and preparation of jar covers and lids was the subject of discussion under the leadership of a representative of a jar manufacturer.

Community canning centers was the theme of the program for 1 day. G. A. Vacha, chief bacteriologist of the Department of Agriculture, St. Paul, Minn., and Mrs. Mary C. Corbett, assistant food preservation specialist, WFA, provided material on causes of food spoilage in community canning centers and methods of procedure, equipment, and management of community canning centers.

Canning safety from the viewpoint of health and methods of operating canning equipment was presented by a representative of the National Safety Council and by Mary E. Loughead of the Federal Extension Service.

Methods of reaching people included a movie on canning and panel discussion by home agents and emergency food people.

The final sessions were devoted to food-preservation budgets and the use of canned products, with the professor of foods and nutrition as discussion leader.

A group of home demonstration agents and food preservation assistants make a personal investigation of why canned foods spoil.

A good bond salesman

Because of her outstanding work in war bond campaigns, Mrs. J. W. Scoggins, retiring president of the Clarke County, Ga., home demonstration council, received a "Minute Man" certificate from the Treasury Department.

In part, the certificate reads: "For joint sponsorship of the entire bond-selling campaign for Clarke County during December 1943, when the quota was oversubscribed," and "for selling war bonds with the members of the county home demonstration council" and "for service in connection with the bond-selling solicitation made by the county's neighborhood leaders outside the city of Athens."

We Study Our Job

Colorado studies rural diets

Only 1 out of 20 persons interviewed in rural Colorado had a diet which was not deficient in at least one or more basic foods. This fact was brought out in a study of health practices and attitudes of more than 2,300 Coloradans living in 7 widely scattered sections of the State.

Sixty-five percent of the people who did not meet the nutrition yardstick requirements thought that their diets were adequate. Some did not know the recommended number of servings for various food items, and some substituted other foods.

Four out of five of those with insufficient servings of milk to meet nutrition recommendations thought they had enough. Some were satisfied with less than the recommended number of servings, while others did not recognize the lack.

Two out of three with insufficient servings of green leafy and yellow vegetables to meet the yardstick recommendation did not care about their limited vegetable intake. A common remark was "Johnny doesn't like salad, and dad likes spuds and gravy."

Scarcely a person who did not have a sufficient number of servings of potatoes wanted more. Not once was the potato accused of being expensive or hard to get, but it was accused of being fattening. Many individuals whose diet was standard in consumption of potatoes apologized for eating them. On the other hand, potatoes were considered by many as the foundation food for a man who worked hard.

Cost was the most important single reason given by those not meeting yardstick requirements who knew they did not have adequate diets. Other reasons included unavailability of certain foods because of difficulty in getting to town, no garden or orchard, or not sold in country stores; dislike of some foods; and lack of refrigeration for food.—PRACTICES AND ATTITUDES OF RURAL PEOPLE IN COLORADO IN MEETING A "YARDSTICK OF GOOD NUTRITION."—*by R. W. Roskelley, Colorado rural sociologist. Colorado Extension Publication* 380-A, April 1944.

Methods of leaders and specialists compared

A study of some aspects of leadership in Indiana's 1943 home demonstration clubs brings out an interesting comparison of the methods used by home demonstration club leaders and extension specialists. To a large extent, the leaders used the same methods in giving out home-economics information that the extension specialist had used in training them. The methods of giving a demonstration and of showing illustrative materials were used at more than three-fourths of the meetings of both specialists and leaders. Leaflets on the subject matter discussed were read by 36 percent of the specialists and 37 percent of the leaders. But for the most part, leaders shied away from making talks similar to those given by specialists.

Leaders used 2 or 3 methods in presenting a lesson, but seldom followed the specialists' 4-method pattern. The choice of methods for teaching a lesson depended somewhat on the subject matter. The same number of methods was used in 58 percent of the nutrition lessons, in 53 percent of the clothing lessons, and in 72 percent of the lessons on furnishing and managing the home.

In presenting lessons, both specialists and leaders used certain techniques to develop interest, to get attention, and to explain the lesson. One of the techniques used by both specialists and leaders consisted of having others help in giving the lesson—by contributing illustrative materials, assisting with a demonstration, or taking part in a discussion.

The leaders shortened their meetings to approximately 41 minutes. This saving of time was made possible because they used fewer methods in presenting a lesson than the specialists used in their 2-hour leader-training meetings. On the average, the leaders gave a nutrition lesson in 42 minutes, clothing lesson in 41 minutes, and furnishings and management lesson in 37 minutes.

Ninety percent of the leaders stated that the amount of time allowed them for giving a lesson was sufficient for them to present the subject matter. Ninety-five percent of the club presidents and members said that the time used by leaders was sufficient for them to understand the lesson.

Club presidents and members listed the following organizational factors as influences on the success of home demonstration meetings: officers worked well; leaders received and gave lessons; members gave good attention; members came to meetings on time; members participated with enthusiasm; and members' participation in the business session was good.

Nearly all club members said they joined home demonstration clubs to learn new ways of doing home work. More than half of the members said they participated because they were interested in the extension program and because they wanted to visit with their neighbors.

"Specialists should be encouraged to take advantage of the fact that subject matter leaders so nearly parallel their use of methods," the author points out. Further recommendations are: (1) Need for specialists to use teaching methods in keeping with leadership ability of leaders. Use methods that can be adapted to local teaching situations and local needs. (2) Extension workers should investigate further the amount of time used by subject-matter leaders in giving lesson in local club meetings to determine what parts of lessons are being omitted. (3) Give adequate training to organization leaders in the philosophy and objectives of extension work, in program planning procedures and for their executive responsibilities in local club meetings.—SOME ASPECTS OF LEADERSHIP IN ADULT HOME ECONOMICS EXTENSION CLUBS IN INDIANA IN 1943, *by Elsie Elizabeth Glasgow, Indiana Extension Service. Thesis, typewritten, June* 1944.

Extension agents join fighting forces

Nine extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,260 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days. News of their doings and excerpts from their letters are printed on this page.

Extension's Gold Stars

J. L. Daniels, formerly assistant county agent in Madison County, Ala., died, as a result of wounds received at Guadalcanal, in December 1942. He was in the Marines.

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. J. B. Holton, formerly county agent in La Salle Parish, La., was killed in action in Europe during the invasion, June 9.

Capt. Frank Wayne, formerly county agent in Bernalillo County, N. Mex., killed in a vehicle accident in England.

■ LT. KENNETH M. BRUMFIELD, formerly assistant county agent in Lincoln Parish, La., now stationed at a B-24 Liberator Bomber base in Italy, was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement in aerial flight from February 17 to March 15, according to an announcement by 15th Air Force Headquarters.

Telling the British about American farming

■ England is indeed a long, long way from Washington County, Tex., and being in the A. A. F. Weather Service is quite different from being a county agricultural agent; but in spite of the unusual circumstances, my interest in agriculture has in no way diminished. I am spending all of my spare time trying to learn all that I possibly can about agriculture in England. I have visited a number of large farms over here and attended agricultural meetings; and, in the company of a very prominent farmer, I visited and studied the English grain and livestock market facilities in one of their large cities. I have already had many interesting and educational experiences, and I am looking forward to learning much more about the agricultural practices, methods, and problems in general over here.

I find the people here very much interested to learn more about our agriculture in the United States; consequently, I usually find myself answering as many questions as I ask.

The special services branch of our Army has organized a "speakers' pool" of qualified American soldiers that are available to the English people for the purpose of giving lectures on practically any phase of American life. Under this system, I have had the opportunity to give several talks at agricultural meetings on our agricultural set-up in the United States.

I have just been informed today that I am being scheduled for a number of appearances in schools over here, for the purpose of telling the British youth about the life of the rural youth of America. In my talks I plan to devote most of my time to telling the youngsters over here about our 4-H Clubs back home.—*Corporal L. A. Sprain, Jr., formerly agricultural agent in Washington County, Tex.*

From a medic in New Guinea

This letter finds me in the jungle of New Guinea among the well-known South Sea Islands. Believe me, the average person has a misconception of these islands, as I would rather be in a duststorm in western Kansas with Dorothy Lamour than here. We have about every kind of insect there is (good hunting ground for Dr. Kelly). As for rain, it does that all the time. We had 80 inches in about 72 hours here about 10 days ago and of course had water every place. I haven't seen the sun for more than a week; but once in a while it clears off, and then it is very hot. This is supposed to be winter here; and if it is, I'm afraid I'll never be able to get through the summer.

Even though this is a poor place to be, we are all in good spirits as we

believe we are actually doing some good for a change. We have built our own hospital out of prefabricated material on land that was all jungles when we came here. It was a hard job, but nevertheless we were able to receive patients in just three weeks after we started. Of course we are still doing some work such as finishing the plumbing. We have running water, flush toilets, and electric lights, and even cement sidewalks; so we have a pretty nice place.

This has really kept me busy, as I have been putting in about 18 hours a day and some days 24 hours. Ordinarily, we have three supply officers; but before we left the States, and to date, I am the only one, and it fell on my shoulders to build this place, as well as supplying all the equipment, drugs, and surgical instruments. Personally, I would rather be busy, as the time passes much faster.

One thing sure, you will never see any signs of agriculture here, not even a cow. They do export coconuts from here—or, rather, they did—but that is all it is good for.—*Lt. C. W. Pence, formerly Dickinson County, Kans., club agent.*

THE ROLL CALL

(*Continued from last month*)

NEVADA

Mildred Huber, district home demonstration agent, WAC.

RHODE ISLAND

Merrill W. Abbey, county agent for eastern Rhode Island since October 16, 1940, has been commissioned a lieutenant (j.g.) in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Capt. Fred E. Larson, county agent, Bon Homme County, Army.

TENNESSEE

L. E. Hewgley, assistant agent, Giles County, Army.

WASHINGTON

Pvt. Marguerite Berry, former home demonstration agent in Benton County, WAC.

FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE
Washington, D. C.
Dorothy McMahon, WAC.

In Tennessee

T. SWANN HARDING, Editor, USDA

A look at the unit test demonstration farms and the finely organized demonstration communities, made possible by the cooperation of TVA and Extension, was the object of the Tennessee tour. The transformations wrought in soil conservation and standards of family living by the use of scientific practices on many hill farms with slopes of 15 to 20 percent were remarkable. Of course we asked if the farmers regularly cultivated the soil on both sides; and, being somewhat feeble, we simply refused to climb some of the duckier slopes.

After TVA took over some of the richest valley land in several counties, something had to be done to aid the farmers who moved to the hills. One thing consisted in socking TVA phosphates into hillside pastures, a procedure that at first appeared quaintly ridiculous to many farmers. But in time at least one fellow in a community would see advantage in the newly recommended practices. He very often became the community leader and his farm the test farm. The solid results achieved brought followers, and slowly whole communities were organized.

Along with better pasture fertilization went the use of proper rotations, crop diversification, and increased livestock and milk production. Here TVA finances special agents under Extension Service who work with the farmers. The TVA also provides considerable phosphate free to farmers who make the best use of it. Results are so good, however, that they tell you it would have paid them even to buy the phosphate. Test farmers keep complete records of income and outgo. The project involves not only all farm practices but all farm-family living, for these are unit test farms.

The projects are being worked at all income levels. One steep hill county was visited, where a temporary blizzard was thoughtfully provided, in which the average cash income of the farmers ranged from $100 to $250 a year. Yet even these people had built their own clubhouse from lumber recovered from an abandoned cabin camp. They too were preventing soil erosion and the sedimentation of reservoirs. Better cover and improved yields resulted.

We visited one farmer in Carter County who had more than doubled his income on 148 acres. His crop-production index had risen from 111 to 176 and his total annual cash receipts from $523 to $1,143 in 8 years. A quite elderly man on a smaller farm nearby had run his cash income up from $236 to $777 a year by following recommended practices. Very often such farmers produced more on half their old acreage than they did before on all of it.

Such farmers fed the soil, and it brought forth bountifully. They established pasture on the slopes. In Grainger County, it is believed that run-off is now held to 20 inches out of a rainfall of 48 instead of the former run-off of 40 inches. There are about 3,600 unit test farms now educating entire communities in better farm practices. Often those who come to scoff have ended up by joining the movement. Always that which benefits the individual tiller of the soil helps his entire community.

I was also interested in the logical farm and food-production basis upon which deferments of farm workers were then being granted. There the size of the farm and the number of livestock did not matter so much as actual production requirements. The man days of labor needed to produce gallons of milk or bushels of corn counted, calculations being made under average conditions. The plan was said to work effectively and was already receiving the sincerest form of flattery, emulation elsewhere.

Communities compete

About 80 east Tennessee communities are competing for $1,750 cash awards offered by the combined civic clubs of Knoxville, Tenn., through their rural-urban relations committee. The purpose is to encourage farm families to work together in organized community groups to provide needed food for the family, maintain and improve soil resources, develop and improve the homes and the farms so that they are good places to live, and encourage farm families with common interest to come together to solve their problems through community planning.

Flashes
FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion J. Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ New rare drug found in tobacco. Rutin, a valuable glucoside, has been found to be readily obtainable from tobacco of the bright or flue-cured type. The bright-yellow nontoxic powder extracted from the tobacco leaves has been found in clinical tests to be effective in treating a condition called increased capillary fragility, which is associated with high blood pressure. The discovery of rutin in tobacco was made by scientists of the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory at Philadelphia, and the cooperative clinical tests were conducted at the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania.

■ Vinegar not good medicine for chicks. For years there has been a difference of opinion regarding the efficacy of vinegar in the drinking water of chicks as a cure for coccidiosis. Some recommended vinegar; others claimed it was useless. To settle the matter, thorough tests of the vinegar treatment have recently been made by the Bureau of Animal Industry at Beltsville. The results favor the second school of thought. Vinegar water having an acidity of about 0.05 percent, and a 5-percent solution of acetic acid (the acid in vinegar) were given chicks in different trials. Neither solution provided any protection against coccidiosis, and the birds receiving the treatment made very poor gains in weight as compared with untreated birds on the same diet. It was concluded that dosing chicks with vinegar may be injurious.

■ Picking peanuts with a pick-up picker. New or improved machines that save nine-tenths of the labor usually needed in harvesting peanuts have been developed or tested by engineers at the Department's Tillage Machinery Laboratory at Auburn, Ala. Some of these machines are now being manufactured, and addresses of firms making them may be obtained from the Argiculture Engineering Division, Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Beltsville Research Center, Beltsville, Md. Among the machines is an efficient peanut digger made by putting a blade attachment on a cultivator. A modified commercial combine, which rapidly picks the nuts from the dried vines, has been called a "pick-up picker." An experimental "digger-shaker" and two types of peanut shellers, one of which is powered with a small motor and will shell 300 pounds of peanuts an hour, are also recommended as invaluable aids in planting and harvesting the 4 million acres of peanuts now grown in this country.—double the acreage of 1940.

■ Blueberries and Onions. How to grow better blueberries and how to produce good yields of onion sets are the subjects of two recent Farmers' Bulletins, 1951 and 1955.

Thirty-five years ago the Department began breeding work on blueberries. One of the important results of this work, in which several State experiment stations cooperated, was the development of the high-bush type of blueberry. Productive, large-fruited varieties of this type are now cultivated in New Jersey, North Carolina, Michigan, Washington, Oregon, Massachusetts, and New York. More recently, a new species known as rabbiteye has been brought into cultivation from the wild. This blueberry, more heat- and drought-resistant than the high-bush, is good for local markets and home use in the Southeast from eastern North Carolina to northern Florida and to Louisiana and Arkansas. The new bulletin describes methods of propagation, growing, harvesting, and marketing of all the important varieties of blueberries.

The onion-set bulletin outlines the best methods for growing sets under irrigation as well as in humid regions and tells how to control insects and diseases and how to harvest, cure, and store the sets.

■ Plant breeders make a clean sweep. A new variety of broomcorn called Fulltip, developed by crop specialists of the Agricultural Research Administration, has several superior qualities as a crop, as well as sweeping cleaner at the end of a broom handle. Fulltip has a fine brush and unstained straws; it gives a heavy yield of seed; and it saves much labor, because it is a dwarf variety and the stalks don't have to be pulled down to harvest the heads. The new variety was developed by crossing Scarborough, a sparsely seeded native broomcorn, with a coarse-fibered dwarf variety imported from Europe. Fulltip was first distributed by the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering in 1942 and is replacing Scarborough in the broomcorn area in Oklahoma at a rapid rate.

■ Frozen velvet. A frozen dessert made of fruit, not merely fruit-flavored, and with the smooth velvety texture of ice cream, is at last possible. A commercial process for making Velva Fruit, as this delicious dessert has been named, developed at the Western Regional Research Laboratory at Albany, Calif., has been adapted to home use with the cooperation of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. It can be made either in a hand-operated ice-cream freezer or in a mechanical refrigerator. This is a fine way to use surplus or mellow-ripe fruit. The fruit is crushed, or pureed, and about three cups of fruit are mixed with one cup of sugar, a tablespoon of gelatin dissolved in a little water, and a pinch of salt. To the less acid fruits lemon juice and slightly more sugar are added. When the dessert is made in a refrigerator, the mixture is first frozen, then whipped for smooth texture, and stored at low temperature until served. Full directions are given in a mimeographed circular, AIC-53, from the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry, the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics at Washington or from the Western Laboratory. (Supplies of publications in bulk should be obtained through your State distribution office.)

Among Ourselves

■ ANNA HOLBROOK, home demonstration agent in Walton County, Ga., for the past 18 years, was selected recently by the Monroe Rotary Club as the first person in that county to receive a certificate of merit in recognition of her contribution to the welfare of the county.

The club now plans to recognize an outstanding citizen each week for 1 year. Each person selected will be presented a certificate of merit, but Miss Holbrook will be the only one to receive a gift as a token of esteem.

Miss Holbrook was appointed home demonstration agent in Walton County in February 1926, and since that time has worked with 10,000 home demonstration club and 12,000 4-H Club members. The present enrollment of home demonstration members is 600, and 540 4-H Club members are enrolled.

■ EDITH WOODARD, formerly home demonstration agent, Quay County, N. Mex., is the new State extension nutritionist in New Mexico. She succeeds Mrs. Dorothy Y. Gillett who resigned after 5½ years to roll up her sleeves and find out what her own kitchen is like. Miss Woodard is a graduate of West Texas State Teachers' College, having majored in foods and clothing. She taught home economics in Texas and New Mexico before going to Tucumcari in 1941.

■ MRS. BLANCHE HYDE, for many years a member of the Colorado Extension staff, recently suffered one of the tragic losses of the war. Her son, Brig. Gen. James F. C. Hyde, Commanding General of the Service Command of the New Hebrides Islands, came back home on a 30-day furlough to see his son who was seriously wounded by a grenade while with Gen. Mark Clark's Fifth Army on the Anzio beachhead. The strain of the nonstop flight from the New Hebrides and the shock of seeing his boy brought on a fatal heart attack. Mrs. Hyde, now retired, is living at 429 North Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs, Colo.

■ CAPT. FRANK WAYNE, formerly county agent in Bernalillo County, N. Mex., was killed in a vehicle accident in England recently.

Captain Wayne entered the Extension Service in 1935, serving as county agent in Luna County until 1937, when he was transferred to Bernalillo County. During his 5 years in Albuquerque, he conducted one of the outstanding 4-H programs in the State. Bernalillo County won the Epsilon Sigma Phi 4-H trophy in 1941, the year before Captain Wayne entered the Army.

A member of a southern New Mexico family, Frank was one of five brothers to graduate in agriculture from New Mexico A. & M. One of the boys, Captain Clayborn Wayne, now on leave from his position as extension agronomist, is fighting in France.

Captain Wayne is survived by his wife and two sons.

Office Secretary becomes assistant county agent

The first woman on the county agent staff of New York State is Mildred Myer, of Waterloo, who was appointed to the position of emergency assistant county agent of Seneca County.

Miss Myer, who has lived on a farm practically all her life, has been engaged as emergency assistant to take on more of the administrative work in the county office and so free Richard Pringle, the county agent, for more work in the field.

She has been the office secretary for the past 6 years and is well acquainted with the problems of Seneca County farmers. The wartime shortage of trained men enables Miss Myer, who is an honor graduate of William Smith College, to take on increased responsibility in agricultural extension work.

Mildred Myer

■ ROSABELLE GUILLORY, former home demonstration agent in St. Martin Parish, La., is now "top sergeant" of the Training Command, WAC Detachment, at Fort Worth, Tex., and likes her work.

■ Utah home demonstration workers are furnishing a page regularly for the Utah Farmer, describing the various phases of their work in the State and offering some of the homemaking suggestions and short cuts in housekeeping.

■ The Alabama Extension Service and the Agricultural Adjustment Agency have launched a program to help Alabama farmers terrace 1 million acres of land next fall and winter.

Under the plan, the terraces will be constructed on their own farms and those of their neighbors by owners of farm tractors and tractor equipment. These owners will receive conservation payments from the Agricultural Adjustment Agency for doing the work.

Preparatory to the actual terracing next fall and winter, terracing schools and demonstrations were conducted throughout the State. First, district terracing schools were held; then county terracing demonstrations were conducted in each county. Present indications are that from 10 to 75 tractor owners in each county will build terraces this fall and winter.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

TWENTY-EIGHT LIBERTY SHIPS have been named by State 4-H Club groups. Names have been submitted from 10 other States. Admiral Land of the Maritime Commission says of the efforts of 4-H Club members: "Their accomplishments are of real value in the war effort and are a worthy requital for the high ideals of citizenship fostered by 4-H Club leaders."

A 1-DAY RADIO SCHOOL for four home demonstration agents, who put on a regular Wednesday morning broadcast over the Salisbury, Md., station, was taught by the two editors involved, Glenn Sample of Maryland and Betty Burch of Delaware. At the close of the day, the students cut a transcription, using their newly acquired techniques. This was used as the first program in a new series of broadcasts started September 13. Two of the agents were from Maryland, Hilda Topfer, Lucy J. Walter, and two from Delaware, M. Gertrude Holloway, and Mrs. Margaret S. Nelson. The president of the county home economics council also took part.

BILLS REQUIRING ENRICHMENT of certain foods have been passed by several Southern State legislatures. Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Alabama require flour enrichment. South Carolina adds necessary food elements to corn meal and grits as do also Mississippi and Alabama. Oleomargarine must be enriched in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. A new process for the enrichment of rice has been worked out by the Louisiana Experiment Station, and Arkansas rice growers have developed a process for retaining natural vitamins in white rice. All of which looks to more abundant health.

ADVICE TO PROSPECTIVE SETTLERS in the State of Washington was developed at a series of district training meetings. With the help of economists from the State College of Washington and the Federal agencies, extension workers studied land classification, land values, and placement of veterans and war workers on farms. The strong movement for industrial workers to buy land is bringing in many inquiries from them as well as from servicemen.

PORTLAND, OREG., 4-H CLUBS feel that they are giving up a great deal for their good neighbors in Uruguay. Their 4-H Club agent, Charles J. Weber, is leaving to be an agricultural missionary at the Adventists' church school in Montevideo, Uruguay. 4-H Club agent in the city of Portland for the past 13 years, he has seen enrollment go from 1,700 in 1931 to 3,400 this year. Among the many fine things for which 4-H Club members thank Mr. Weber is the fine 4-H camp on a 40-acre tract owned by the city.

CONSUMER EDUCATION is being strengthened in Mississippi with the appointment of a specialist, Eva E. Legett. As Director L. I. Jones states: "After the close of the war when people begin spending savings and replacing worn-out equipment, extension agents should be informed and ready to meet the situation with sound information on spending the home dollar. There will be a flood of worthless gadgets, cheap, shining furniture, and gaudy clothing ready to catch the untrained eye."

"ONE OF OUR MAIN JOBS under food production," writes County Agent A. F. MacDougall of Middlesex County, Mass., "is the cooperative work we have done with Selective Service Boards in furnishing information as to the boys who remain on the farms. For example, we have had around 2,000 cases referred to us, and I am certain the contacts made in this way have been extremely valuable to the Selective Service Boards, as well as to the food-production program."

HOWDY, FRIEND, begins the regular news letter of County Agent A. F. Hoffman, Jr., of Delta County, Colo., which then breaks into a whole page of verse in which there is no good stopping place. Everything from the hay-test plots to coccidiosis, to dairy breeding, to waste-paper salvage are rhymed and localized. He sums it up with:

The doughboys, leathernecks, and gobs
Are not yet finished with their respective jobs
So neither are you and I
And it's up to us to try
To exceed every production quota
Till these gallant guys are victors in toto.

LOOKING FORWARD, 25 persons from the United States and Canada, most of them extension workers, attended the intensive course in rural housing at Purdue University, Indiana, August 14 to September 2. Remodeling houses also came up for consideration at the short course this summer in Oregon which was attended by 16 home demonstration agents from Oregon, Arkansas, and California.

IN A NORTH AFRICAN TOWN, an Army M. P. saw a crowd about a store front. Investigating, he found a picture display with the caption, "What Young Americans Do for the War Effort in 4-H Clubs." It also exhorted the youth of North Africa to go and do likewise. The soldier wrote home: "These pictures of fine, healthy, ambitious young Americans looked awfully good 'way over here.' "

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4-H youth roll up impressive achievements

■ November 4 to 11 is National 4-H Achievement Week, and even preliminary estimates show that the work pile has reached impressive proportions. For example, 12 million 4-H chickens contributed to the food arsenal. One hundred thousand dairy animals and 600,000 head of other livestock were cared for by their youthful owners to reach their "Feed a Fighter" goals. Three hundred thousand 4-H acres were planted to feed crops.

Working on another wartime goal of safeguarding health on the home front, 800,000 young people had health examinations, and an equal number studied first aid and nursing. Accidents, a common cause of expensive waste, were cut down by removing farm and home accident hazards on 400,000 farms. Who can measure the value to the Nation's hard-working farm families of the 13 million well-balanced and nutritional meals served by 4-H girls?

National 4-H achievement was represented on the National Farm and Home Hour, November 4, by California, South Dakota, and Connecticut club-member speakers. They told listeners of their experiences in helping with the wartime efforts of home and farm, of responsibility discharged for goals in War Bond sales, and of accomplishments in production of food to "feed a fighter."

November achievement month also makes available for the first time the 4-H national leadership certificate for service. The attractive green-and-white certificates with the gold seal are furnished by the Department of Agriculture and awarded to veteran leaders selected by the States.

Another new feature of this month of achievement is the distribution of certificates of appreciation by the Quartermaster General to young people, 4-H Club members, and Future Farmers who raise a meat animal for the U. S. Army.

Fairs, county and State, have added zest to the 4-H effort "to make the best better." Many have been unusually successful, as the Idaho 4-H Fair at Lava Hot Springs, which boasted an attendance of 1,500 visitors—a record attendance. As the Pocatello Tribune reported it, "Youth was king throughout the real honest-to-goodness farmers' fair. . . High light of the afternoon awards was the pinning of the jeweled 20-year 4-H Club service pin on Mrs. J. D. McGregor . . . Edward White, who had the misfortune to lose his three spotted Poland Chinas on Friday just in time to miss the judging, received word that his prize pigs had been located Saturday about a mile from the pens. He was glad to have the animals back, although he had missed out on the winnings."

Fairs are over, and the lucky winners are getting ready to defend their titles at the National 4-H Club Congress. Many can say with Benjamin Fine, recent recipient of the Pulitzer Award, in a recent article in the Country Gentleman: "Actually, I received more inspiration from my 4-H Club than I did from school. I learned how to take care of my young heifer and soon became a big business executive selling milk at a profit to my father. The 200 White Leghorns that I kept as a 4-H project gave me the money that later sent me to college. The county agent, who visited us regularly, was glad to give me advice."

PICTURE OF THE MONTH

One of the 220 4-H Club members of Coventry, Conn., who took seriously the club wartime slogan of "Feed a fighter or more in '44," gets a bird ready for Thanksgiving. Coventry has sent 240 to the armed services, and club members went well over their goal of growing enough food to feed the men from their town for a full year.

IN THIS ISSUE

Recruiting labor against odds

DOROTHY S. TOWLE, Assistant Editor, New Hampshire Extension Service

■ Unless you really liked farm work and were prepared to do your part as an emergency farm laborer, it really wasn't safe to walk down the streets of Conway, N. H., or even to be seen on the roads or sidewalks of the surrounding towns this summer and fall.

Not long ago, a visitor from the University of New Hampshire said to Mellen Benson, the emergency farm labor assistant in Carroll County: "You apparently have quite a labor problem in this section of the State—you don't have any large cities to draw from, and the majority of your population seems to be rural. How do you get enough workers to harvest the crops?"

"I pick them up here and there," he replied.

And this is literally true. Mellen Benson, moving more rapidly with a cane than others do without one, has the kind of inexhaustible energy which will not allow him to stop until his job is done. He doesn't know the meaning of the word "defeat," and he allows nothing to stop him when he has made up his mind. Several weeks ago, a field day was held in Conway to make awards to all the people who had assisted in the farm labor program. On the morning of the day, Benson, driving down the street, saw a young girl in a WAC uniform. He stopped his car, got out, took the girl by the arm, and said: "Come with me—I need you." She insisted that she was on leave, that she had to get back to her headquarters; but within half an hour Benson had made all the arrangements with her superiors; the WAC was in the parade that afternoon.

How Mellen Benson recruits farm labor in a rural county should give courage to others who have been faced with the same problem. He gets people of all ages from all kinds of jobs and by his own enthusiasm interests them in helping. One of his most interesting workers was Peter McPherson, 97, the first man to be on the job when the railroad was put through Crawford Notch in the White Mountains. McPherson lives with his daughter, takes care of her garden, and does weeding for others.

Then there was the Baptist minister from Jackson who one day saw a young man doing the haying alone. He had heard of the recruiting Benson had been doing, so went to the county agent's office and asked whether he might be of service.

When Benson heard that any of the small factories in the county were closing down for repairs or for any other reason, he would be there to ask the workers to spend their free time doing farm work. He recruited many of the crews of the portable sawmills to do haying after 4 o'clock.

Then, too, he had large groups of school children who did yeoman service picking beans, corn, and potatoes. They came from both grammar and high schools all over the county.

If any further proof of Benson's persuasiveness is needed, it can be found in the fact that his largest group of workers came from the private summer camps, so numerous in New England. Some 14 camps furnished more than 400 boys and girls who picked 53 acres of beans. Not all of the youngsters and teen-age boys and girls in these camps helped with the harvest, but a large percentage of them did; and the farmers found them very satisfactory workers. The camp workers were under the supervision of their counselors and were easy to train.

In addition to all these people, there were about 50 women who qualified for the Women's Land Army. Some of them had done a little farm work before, but the majority had not. They helped harvest beans, corn, potatoes, and apples.

At the end of August, just before the camps closed for the season, a big field day was held in Conway, primarily for the camp boys and girls. A parade of tractors, hayracks, and other farm machinery, covered with bean vines and cornstalks, picking bags and full baskets of beans, wound its way down the tree-shaded streets of the village. Each float was full of laughing boys, girls, and women in farm costumes, with bright ribbons or kerchiefs on their heads. Farmers from the county and townsmen gathered before the high school where Kenneth Barraclough, State farm labor supervisor; Norman Whippen, assistant supervisor; Kathryn Mills, assistant State supervisor, Women's Land Army; all from the University of New Hampshire, and Mellen Benson presented WLA insignia and VFV awards to the boys and girls.

A field day and parade in Conway, N. H., brought to a happy close the harvest season. Everyone from town and country was there to see the workers receive their WLA and VFV insignia.

Mellen Benson has every reason to be proud of the work he has done in Carroll County, N. H., during this harvest season; and the State leaders are proud, too, to know that in this county where recruiting was as difficult as any place in the country, no crops have gone to waste.

Foresight is better . .

E. L. QUAIFE, Extension Specialist in Animal Husbandry, Iowa

■ In the spring of 1944, Hardin County farmers indicated that they intended to plant 142,000 acres of corn and 42,000 acres of soybeans. The spring was wet and backward and, although most of the corn was planted by June 1, there was a considerable acreage that was not planted until the second week in June.

Owing to these facts, the county program planning committee of the Extension Service realized that a considerable part of the crop obviously could not mature into sound beans and corn unless favored by an exceptionally late freeze in the fall.

As early as May the committee recommended that, as a part of the educational program, attention be centered upon salvaging and efficient utilization of that portion of the crop which might not mature.

On July 31, a committee of 10 attended a district extension conference devoted to consideration of feed utilization and conservation. This committee was made up of 5 farm operators, the vocational agriculture instructor, extension program committee chairman, chairman of the livestock marketing committee, chairman of the county AAA committee, Farm Security Administration supervisor, and the county extension agent.

Following the conference, the committee debated how to determine the seriousness of the situation—whether to send a questionnaire to all farmers, to send a questionnaire to neighborhood leaders, or to personally call on a cross section of the neighborhood leaders. It was decided after consideration to personally call on five or more of the leaders in each township.

The county agent, the emergency war food assistant, and the farm labor assistant prepared the questionnaire to ascertain four facts: (1) What percentage of the corn and beans would be damaged by an early frost (September 15 to 20) and a normal frost (October 6 or later); (2); whether the farmers surveyed felt that their neighborhood was prepared to harvest any appreciable amount of immature corn; (3) whether the farmers were prepared to utilize their immature corn and beans; and (4) what percentage of the farmers had ensilage cutters and corn binders and the location of these machines.

The county extension personnel personally consulted an average of 5 farmers in each township—a total of 80 in the county. The farmers consulted consisted of the township AAA chairman and 4 or more neighborhood leaders. On the basis of the spot check, an average estimate for the county was made.

It appeared that, on the basis of an early killing frost, 38 percent of the corn and 28 percent of the beans would be immature. On the basis of a normal frost, 22 percent of the corn and 9 percent of the beans would probably fail to mature. The survey further showed that 36 percent of the farmers were not equipped to harvest immature corn, mainly because of the lack of corn binders. Approximately 21 percent of the farmers were not prepared to utilize all of their immature corn and beans. The survey showed only 23 ensilage cutters and 101 corn binders in the entire county. Only 6 corn binders had been allotted to Hardin County, and only 2 farmers had filed applications for corn binders.

Newspapers Cooperate

Farmers were acquainted with findings of the survey through the press. The committee proposed that the findings of the survey also be given publicity at regular township meetings, special meetings called for the particular purpose of discussing the situation, and at any other type of meeting where it would be appropriate to discuss the questions. A copy of the extension pamphlet, What's Ahead for the Livestock Farmer, was mailed to every farmer in the county.

Farmers were advised of the number of binders and cutters, and that those expecting to need this equipment could obtain the names and addresses of the owners through the county extension office.

At one township meeting a township chairman, in cooperation with a panel of four farmers, discussed the findings of the survey and the problems involved in harvesting the immature corn and beans in that particular township. Sixty people were present at the meeting. One farmer stated that he knew definitely that he would have soft corn and that he had already made arrangements with a neighbor to cut his corn. Consideration was given to the matter of leasing silos which were not going to be filled by the owner to some nearby neighbor who might have soft corn and who lived close enough to make it practical for him to fill the silo.

It was too early to evaluate the outcome of the campaign in Hardin County when this was written, but the people are well aware of the situation as a result of the publicity and information programs. They seem inclined to wait for action until the situation is more definite relative to the corn crop.

As far as bringing in cattle, most of them feel that feeder cattle prices are as yet too high. With an abundance of roughage on most farms farmers believe that the immature corn can be taken care of quite satisfactorily by hogging down and feeding to their own cattle herds.

Governor joins 4-H Club

On March 2, Governor William H. Wills of Vermont became an honorary Vermont 4-H Club member. In the presence of E. L. Ingalls, State 4-H Club leader, the Governor was enrolled by Evelyn Robinson, 14, of Calais, in the executive chambers of the Statehouse during 4-H Mobilization Week. The Governor signed up as a member of the Adamant Hustlers' 4-H Club of Calais, of which Evelyn has been a member for the past 5 years. After looking over the list of 41 Vermont wartime 4-H Club projects in food production, food preservation, and other farm, home, and community activities, he enrolled for the Victory Garden project.

■ Volume I, No. 1 of the official organ of the British Guiana 4-H Clubs has just made its appearance. It carries the familiar 4-H pledge and motto. "To make the best better," on the cover and is a newsy and interesting publication. A recent number of the Canadian Boys and Girls Club News brings an interesting account of their activities for young folks.

Young folks consider post-war opportunities

The outlook isn't too gloomy to members of the Rural Young People's State Board of Iowa meeting at Lake Ahquabi to consider post-war opportunities.

■ *"Amusement and recreation are the very things that make our working hours profitable. He who carves so steadily that he has no time to sharpen his knife works with dull tools and cannot make much headway."*

Their numbers greatly depleted by members away serving in the armed forces, Iowa's rural youth have been "carving" more steadily than ever on the agricultural front this year. They took time out to "sharpen their knives," however, at a series of four 2-day rural youth camps held in the State during July, August, and September.

Their whetstones: A large recreational program, a ceremonial campfire, a challenging Sunday matins service, and a panel discussion. Their discussion topic: "What can we do now as individuals and through our organization to help create post-war opportunities for rural young people?" Yes, Iowa's rural young people have their fingers in the post-war planning pie.

Seventy-six rural youths from 5 counties attended the Morris Isle camp in northeastern Iowa, held July 29 and 30. Registration reached 150 at the Lake Ahquabi camp, held August 12 and 13 in south central Iowa at which seven counties were represented. Seventy-one rural youths from 5 counties attended a third camp, September 2 and 3 at Walther League on Lake Okoboji in northwestern Iowa. Fifty persons registered for Camp Abe Lincoln, September 9 and 10, in southeastern Iowa.

What post-war plans are Iowa's rural youth making? A glance at the ideas brought out in panel discussions indicates their thinking:

"Post-war boom or depression? Well, at least some kind of financial strain . . . With our boys fighting for democracy, we should live up to democracy . . . Save money now in order to grasp opportunities later . . . Watch home-front attitude toward returning servicemen. After being bossed by 'brass hats' they may want to be 'boss' for awhile. We may have to take a back seat and learn to adjust ourselves to their ways instead of trying to win them over to ours.

"Don't just drift into a job, but find a job for which you are suited . . . Make county canvass of available farm jobs to serve as stop-overs for returning servicemen who do not want to farm but who must wait until extra war workers exit from industrial plants.

"Farmer-banker advisory board could give help to servicemen seeking new ideas in farming . . . Some sort of government aid might be provided returning servicemen to get them established, in view of the fact they haven't had a chance to take advantage of wartime prices . . . G. I. Bill of Rights gives servicemen right to borrow at low interest rate in order to get a start.

"Law requires former employers to rehire returning servicemen but doesn't say they must keep them if they don't produce. Haven't scarred the surface of industry, agriculture, national or international fields . . . Expansion in business will come nearer to taking care of returning servicemen than anything else . . . More school teachers will be needed to educate foreign children to our ways of thinking . . . Many older men, farming at peak tempo, will want to retire, making room for returning servicemen.

Civilians released from war industries may grab best post-war jobs, leaving agricultural workers to take what's left . . . Will men coming back be loaded with high-priced machinery and cars? . . . Put money in war bonds and postpone building, fencing, and tiling improvements until materials are available . . . Can't rush servicemen into a readjustment back into civilian life but should make them feel welcome on returning home . . . People on home front need to be educated on how to deal with boys coming home. On entering service they had to adjust to army routine; now it will be just the reverse . . . While money is cheap, save and avoid going into debt . . . People must be educated to forget racial prejudices, or war won't stay away long . . . Must learn to use our leisure time . . . How will population trends affect the returning servicemen interested in farming?"

When the home front seeks to absorb servicemen back into peacetime industries—whether farming or some other occupation to which they are more suited—Iowa rural youth will be prepared not only to help returning servicemen, but to help them to help themselves. By writing personal and group letters, they are keeping posted on what members away in service are thinking, and they are discussing things of mutual interest to those at home and on the fighting fronts.

The proof is in the cooking

ANNA M. WILSON, Extension Nutritionist, South Dakota Extension Service

■ As an outgrowth of the information gained at the National Nutrition Council meeting held in Chicago during the spring of 1944, the South Dakota Extension Service, under the supervision of Nora M. Hott, State home demonstration leader, conducted a vegetable preparation contest for extension club members during the past summer. This contest served as a means of adapting the recommendations of the National Council to the needs of South Dakota where the greatest food problem is a shortage of vitamin C in the diet. In addition there is a tendency to overeat cereals and sweets, due in part to the eating habits of the nationality groups that live here and in part to the extensive production of grain and livestock in this area.

Impromptu quiz programs featured in the 17 district federation meetings held in the State revealed that homemakers were hazy in their knowledge of vegetable cookery and of nutritional principles. This fact indicated a need for a new approach in the method used to teach nutrition to extension club members.

Tentative plans for a vegetable preparation contest were presented to the home agents at the annual spring conference in May by Mrs. Emily Parker, president of the Home Agents Association. Plans were accepted and incorporated into the summer's plan of work.

In the contest, each woman was to prepare one cooked and one raw vegetable dish which would be judged by the following score card:

	Percentage
Flavor and texture	25
Eye appeal	15
Retention of vitamins and minerals	20
Proportion of vegetable included	10
Practical preparation	20
Knowledge of vegetable preparation	10

Club and county contests were held to provide representatives who participated in one of the five district competitions. At these events, two or more women worked simultaneously to prepare their dishes. Each woman was given 5 minutes to describe her dishes and tell how she used them in her home, why she liked them, and what specific points in preparation deserved special attention from the audience. As the women worked, the judges questioned them as to what they were doing and why. This method of calling attention to the important points to be learned kept the interest of the audience and freed the contestants of concern as to what they would say while preparing their dishes.

Homemakers from 27 counties took part in the district contests. The 6 winners of the district's meetings participated in the State contest held at the South Dakota State Fair.

After the experience of attending one meeting, many women followed the competition on through, attending both district and State contests. Club members have requested that the contest be repeated next year.

The vegetable preparation contest did attract attention to using vegetables more liberally in the diet.

Another valuable result was accomplished by judging the products prepared, as it was possible to score down those dishes in which the women used poor practices. Some of the most frequently occurring examples of this were cutting the salad vegetable into tiny pieces, adding too much dressing, pressing the salad firmly into a dish, and overcooking vegetables. Women accepted new ideas revealed in this way, whereas in regular demonstrations these points did not seem to make as vivid an impression.

Contestants made an effort to tell how the dishes were used in their homes to solve a specific problem. Thus each contest proved a valuable means of idea exchange. For example, several new ideas of seasoning string beans were shown, as string beans are plentiful, and many families tire of them. There were recipes, too, for the beginning and end of the garden season, in which several vegetables were combined as at this time the quantity of any one vegetable would be small. The hot dish for the summer supper that could be prepared in the morning when there was fire in the wood range and reheated on a small hot plate proved a popular entry.

Taking part in the contest bolstered the women's self-esteem and satisfied a desire for recognition. Especially enjoyed was the pride which husband and family took in "Mother's accomplishment."

The recipes used in the contests are being compiled by Anna Wilson, State nutrition specialist, and will be published as a cookbook for which the demand has already been created.

From the statements made by the women, the nutrition specialist was able to find what information on the preparation and use of vegetables was most needed by the women.

The nutrition lesson to be given in every extension club in the State this fall will be based on this needed information. By building on what the women know, rather than repeating much of that which they have already learned, the demonstration will be better accepted. Also, the women will have developed an interest in keeping informed on present-day recommendations for vegetable cookery resulting from research study.

Mrs. James Smith, Yankton County, S. Dak., homemaker knows her vegetables. She tied for State championship in the vegetable preparation contest at the Huron State Fair with this salad tray and swiss chard mold.

...o you know . .

COUNTY AGENT KERR

of Tennessee who rounds out a quarter century of teaching good land use

■ In recognition of his 25 years of service to his county, July 1 was designated as L. J. Kerr Day in the Fifth War Loan Drive by the Rotary Club of Millington, his home town community. A total of $114,275 worth of bonds was purchased in his honor by farmers, businessmen, 4-H Club and farm bureau members and Victory Committeemen of Shelby County. He has also been honored by Memphis civic clubs, the Agricultural Club of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, and the Shelby County Farm Bureau.

Starting his service in Shelby County on July 1, 1919, as vocational agriculture teacher, he served in that capacity until 1924 when he was made assistant county agent. Ten years later, in 1934, he became county agent.

Born on a farm in Hardin County, Tenn., one of the smaller hill counties of the State, he graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1919. In 1917-18, he worked in Decatur and McNairy Counties as an emergency agent during World War I.

In his present position he is responsible for the agricultural extension program in the county. He is secretary of the program-planning committee, chairman of the county farm labor committee, secretary of the Agricultural Conservation Association program, a member of the agricultural committee of the chamber of commerce, past president of the Memphis Agricultural Club, president of the Tennessee County Agents Association, past director of the southern region of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, and director of the Mid-South Fair.

He cooperates with the committee on rationing of farm machinery and the Shelby County Farm Bureau. He furnishes information to Selective Service headquarters and has averaged a radio program each week of the past 10 years.

In 1942 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents for continuous service.

One of the outstanding accomplishments of extension work under his direction is the organization and general supervision of the Shelby County Soil Erosion Control Association which, during the past 9 years, has terraced 16,483 acres of land on 338 different farms at a cost of only $2.15 per acre. Four lakes and 80 stock ponds have also been constructed and 23 ponds enlarged with the equipment.

The association started out with one power terracing outfit, supplied by a local firm, and a debt for same of $4,600. The outfit was to be paid for out of funds obtained from charges made for terracing at $3 per hour, after all expense of operation had been met. The outfit was paid for in 3 years. Farmers and officials of the county were so highly pleased with the work that the county court made an appropriation for the purchase of a second outfit for the association, and both outfits are kept busy.

A full-time assistant agent was employed to supervise the work, run lines, locate outlets, and aid farmers with terrace maintenance, also to contour tillage and carry out other soil-conservation practices such as crop rotations and pasture seedings.

Agent Kerr estimates that 100,000 acres of the 256,000 in cropland in the county need terracing, and the association expects to expand its operations as rapidly as war conditions will permit to accomplish the terracing in a minimum of time.

But all of his accomplishments are not in the field of erosion control. 4-H Club membership has increased from 500 to 2,000 in the past 10 years, and a full-time assistant agent is employed to supervise this work.

In 1939 the first trainload of lime, 25 cars, to be shipped into a west Tennessee county was delivered to Shelby farmers. In 1936 only 6 carloads were used, whereas nearly 1,000 carloads have been ordered to date this year.

Ninety percent of the cotton grown is now of one variety. Growers use from one to three carloads of foundation seed each year. Average cotton yields have increased from 187 pounds lint to 339 pounds per acre; a bale per acre is no longer unusual.

The county received the 1943 "A" WFA award for food production.

The goal for Victory gardens this year was set at 20,000. There were 12,500 in 1943.

Small-grain crops and improved pastures have increased 100 percent in the past 10 years. Dairying, as well as beef cattle and hog production, has experienced rapid developments in both numbers and quality.

Agent Kerr works closely with the Shelby County Penal Farm which has won Nation-wide recognition for its extensive crop, livestock, and soil-conservation operations on a profitable and self-supporting basis.

With the same enthusiasm with which he started work 25 years ago, Agent Kerr starts his second quarter century with high hopes for still greater service to the county.

Recruits 100 wheat harvesters

An organized grapevine got results in Greene County, Ark., according to John A. Russell, county agent. Recently Greene County was asked if it could supply 100 farm laborers to assist in harvesting the midwestern wheat crop. A letter written to 45 neighborhood leaders explained the need for labor immediately in the small-grain area and asked them to get this information to others in their community who could help in the harvest. This was the only type of publicity given. These letters were received by the neighborhood leaders on Monday, and by the following Wednesday 122 men had indicated to county extension office in Paragould that they would like to sign up for the harvest.

Agent Russell said that by handling the recruiting in this way farm workers needing employment between the cultivating and harvesting season for their own crops were chosen.

In commenting on the effectiveness of the neighborhood-leader organization, Agent Russell said that this example demonstrated how rapidly and effectively the "grapevine" or mouth-to-ear type of information spreads through a community. Through this organization it is possible to contact every farm in the county with a minimum of time and effort, he reported.

Missouri holds short course for cotton gin operators

■ The short course for the operators of cotton gins conducted by the Missouri Extension Service and the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Portageville, Mo., August 1, 2 and 3 was the first of its kind, says Sam P. Lyle, Federal Extension Service.

The Missouri ginners asked J. R. (Dixie) Paulling of the Missouri Extension staff, that such a course be organized and offered to their operators for two reasons: (1) because they felt that there would be many green hands in the ginhouses this fall, and (2) because advancement in ginning machinery and practice has been so rapid that even experienced ginners need training in order to keep up with these improvements.

Morning sessions at the short course were occupied by lectures, afternoons by practice work in the ginhouses. The short course was attended by 199 gin workmen representing 186 active gins in Missouri. A few attended also from Arkansas, Tennessee, and Illinois. Instructors for the course included technicians from gin equipment manufacturers, Federal extension specialists in ginning, and representatives of the National Cotton Council and the Missouri Smith-Doxey Cotton Classing Office.

U. S. Department of Agriculture extension ginning specialists assisting in this course were: Fred P. Johnson, Stoneville, Miss.; J. C. Oglesbee, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.; and A. M. Pendleton, Dallas, Tex. Sam P. Lyle attended the 3-day course as a consultant and observer.

Assisting with the discussions also were the co-directors of the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory at Stoneville, Miss., Charles A. Bennett and F. L. Gerdes.

Early to late

C. W. NIBLER, Scotts Bluff County Agent, Nebr.

■ A day at a county agent's office shows many different activities. The first thing in the morning is to answer correspondence. A man at Morrill writes for information on onion production. The office girls send three bulletins on onions, and the inquirer is referred to two or three growers who have had experience.

A man at Minatare is sent a personal letter on the varieties of oats adapted to this area.

Copies of the articles of incorporation and bylaws for Scotts Bluff Labor, Inc., are sent to the county agent in Dawson County as the folks there are investigating the organization of an effective agricultural labor committee. We must organize all resources to do a good job on the labor front this year.

Minutes from yesterday's meeting are dictated, and a few reports are compiled. Now the mail has been gone over hurriedly.

While this is being done, Paul, assisting with labor work, helps a man fill out an agricultural deferment blank for his hired man. When this blank is filled out, a man with a blank from Wyoming comes in for assistance. Paul studies over this form a minute and then goes to work on it. Every State has a different type of agricultural deferment form.

From 10 a. m. to 4 p. m., many office calls are received. Inquiries pertain to filling out applications for trees for windbreaks. People ask about varieties of fruit trees adapted to this area. Someone else wants to know about seeding bromegrass or where they can obtain information on leveling land. Office calls are the heaviest when weather is unfavorable for farm work.

As 5 p. m. approaches, the letters are signed; and then KGNY calls for news that might be used on its local broadcast. With a few more telephone calls to make, it is time to go home and eat supper before leaving at 7:30 for a meeting at the Brown Canyon schoolhouse with the community club. The meeting is supposed to start at 8, but it is raining and snowing. The roads are slick, so only a few are on time.

The early arrivals discuss, among themselves, the weather, the lateness of the season, the labor situation, OPA price ceilings on cattle, machinery rationing, and many other subjects. At 8:30 the chairman calls the meeting to order.

Questions Are Asked

The county agent informally presents plans that have been worked out by farm leaders and committees on the 1944 agricultural labor program. Questions are asked, and there is some discussion; and then moving pictures are presented.

At 10:15 the group of 22 (rainy weather reduced the crowd) adjourn to enjoy coffee and doughnuts.

One hour later, when it seems time to go home, the group is still visiting. Coffee and doughnuts surely help develop a feeling of fellowship.

This is the fourth night meeting during the week. Arrived home between 11:30 and midnight.

Take it easier next week, but already three evening meetings are billed.—*Sunday World-Herald, Omaha, April* 2, 1944.

Club women adopt farm families

Four members of the Antioch Home Demonstration Club in Craighead County, Ark., have each adopted a family to help, says Mary Britzman, county home demonstration agent. The women of these adopted farm families either live too far away to attend the club meetings or cannot leave home because they have small children.

Each of the four members makes it a point to visit her adopted family often. She sees that her family receives the Extension Service bulletins and gives assistance to the family on such problems as canning, poultry raising, and insect control.

Extension agents join fighting forces

Nine extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,300 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days. News of their doings and excerpts from their letters are printed on this page.

Extension's Gold Stars

J. L. Daniels, formerly assistant county agent in Madison County, Ala., died, as a result of wounds received at Guadalcanal, in December 1942. He was in the Marines.

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. J. B. Holton, formerly county agent in La Salle Parish, La., was killed in action in Europe during the invasion, June 9.

Capt. Frank Wayne, formerly county agent in Bernalillo County, N. Mex., killed in a vehicle accident in England.

Likes the English

I've been in England now just long enough to know how to use English money and to know most of the customs. I've met nice people over here, and I consider myself fortunate in being sent here. I had to leave the States. I like the British people; and I'm sure that they would like our Central, Southern, and Western States. Their people are scattered and their homes broken much more than ours, and yet I have never heard one of them complain about it. They seem to accept this war as a job to be done and, like us, they are anxious to get it finished.

I had the good fortune to spend a few days training with some of the British Ack Ack men, and I learned to respect them.—*Walter Campbell, formerly Rush County agent, Kansas.*

Rides charging tank

The exploits of Capt. William B. Stewart, county agent in Smith County, Tenn., who entered the Army in March 1942, were written up in a Memphis paper recently as follows:

"Capt. William B. Stewart of Whiteville, Tenn., rode a plunging tank to within 75 yards of German positions in Italy to make possible a sizable American advance on the Fifth Army front.

"The Captain's unit had launched a determined drive against the German lines over a 1,000-yard sector, but a stubborn enemy threatened to throw the entire plan into reverse.

"Realizing that quick action was necessary, Captain Stewart stepped out in full view of the waiting enemy and motioned for a supporting tank to follow him. He walked ahead of the 'iron monster,' pointing out the enemy positions. Then he climbed aboard, still under fire, to direct the tank's cannon at Nazi strong points 75 yards away.

"When the men of the Tennessee officers' unit pushed up, they counted 75 German dead and many more wounded. They took 120 prisoners."

THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

MISSOURI

Lt. Mary Bodwell, Army Nurse Corps.
Ens. C. M. Christy, U. S. N. R.
Lt. (j.g.) Lawrence W. Doran, Navy.
Pvt. Albert F. Graham, Army.
Lt. (j.g.) Vernon C. Jelley, Navy.
A/S Robert B. Kaye, Army Air Force.
Ens. Charles Kyd, U. S. N. R.
Ens. Roy Lentz, U. S. N. R.
Pvt. William L. McKnight, Army.
Louise J. Morrissey, WAC.
Lt. (j.g.) Glen Mutti, Navy.
A/S William E. Pugh, Navy.
Lt. (j.g.) Raymond Smith, U.S.N.R.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Lt. (j.g.) Crayton McCown, U.S.N.R.
Ens. W. J. Ridout, Jr., Navy.
Capt. Ernest C. Turner, Army.
Lt. H. A. Woodle, Army.

WEST VIRGINIA

Lt. (j.g.) Neil Bolton, Navy.
Pvt. Robert L. Bond, Army.
Ens. Phyllis Curry, U. S. N. R.
Pvt. Kenneth J. Estey, Army.
F2/c L. M. Reid, Navy.
Pvt. Robert Strosnider, Army.
A/S Orris Alton Stutler, Navy.
Pvt. Franz I. Taylor, Marines.
Pvt. Christopher W. Thorniley, Army.
Pfc. Jack M. Tyree.
Lt. (j.g.) Victor E. Bird, U. S. N. R.
Lt. (j.g.) H. E. Helmick, Navy.

A playground is born

VIRGINIA BERRY CLARK, Home Economics Extension Specialist,
Indiana Extension Service

■ "For city children only" seems to have been the "custom" where playgrounds have been concerned. But "custom" was overruled in one rural community near Lakeville, Ind., last summer when the Harmony Acres Home Economics Club decided that children there were entitled to a regular playground.

The community is actually a suburb of South Bend, Ind. But it is 9 miles from the city and city playgrounds, and some of the children had never seen a "real" playground. There was plenty of prospective "business" for a playground—there were more than 100 children in the 66 families living within an area of 1½ square miles.

Money and materials were short; but ingenuity, community spirit, and the will to work made up the difference. The 15 club members first enlisted the aid of their husbands at a husband's night cooperative supper; the problems of building the playground were talked over, and one of the men was appointed superintendent of construction of the Park Board.

A possible site for the playground was discovered in an old dead-end roadway — providing it could be closed. Through the help of Mrs. Esther T. Singer, county home demonstration agent, proper officials were reached, legal procedure was completed, and the County Planning Commission gave permission for the ground to be used. Then the road was closed, and an area of 60 feet by 250 feet was surveyed and graded by the County Highway Department.

In the meantime, the club members, their husbands—all who were not in the armed forces—and even the children went to work to equip the playground. All over the community—in garages, basements, and kitchens—sawing, hammering, painting, and all the other work of building kept everyone busy. The materials desired were not always obtainable, and substitutes had to be devised. Expense of materials was also a limiting factor, but other persons and organizations in the community were learning of the enterprise and began making donations. When the first equipment was ready to go into place, even the 8- and 9-year-olds worked and sweat as they dug post holes and wielded paint brushes along with their elders.

The playground was opened July 19. So far, the equipment consists of a sand box, complete with roof and seats; six big swings and four smaller ones; two trapeze rings; two bar trapezes; a monkey climb; and six red, white, and blue teeter boards—the "special" delight of the children. Another special pride of these young Americans is their playground flagpole with the Stars and Stripes floating from it.

Members of the Harmony Acres Home Economics Club take turns supervising the new playground. To prepare for the job, every woman in the club took a Red Cross home nursing course.

Children Enjoy Playground

The "supervisors" report that the playground is a busy place, with every piece of equipment in use most of the time. They predict, too, that the playground will keep right on growing and improving. Mrs. Claude Kaysen, president of the home economics group, reports that trees have been donated and are to be planted this fall. And later, if finances will permit, there's to be a "real" slide for the children. Mrs. Kaysen remarks that "just to look at the wonder and excitement in the children's eyes as they reviewed the new playground makes all the work worth while."

The Harmony Acres Home Economics Club is a new club, organized in October 1943. But it is living up to the creed of all Indiana home economics clubs:

"We believe in the present and its opportunities, in the future and its promises, in everything that makes life large and lovely, in the divine joy of living and helping others. And so we endeavor to pass on to others that which has benefited us, striving to go onward and upward, reaching the pinnacle of economic perfection in improving, enlarging, and endearing the greatest institution in the world, the home."

This new and thriving club has added one more sentence to the usual creed:

"Our aim as thinking American citizens is to improve and create desirable environment and play centers in which to rear our children and guide them to become the finest type of men and women anywhere in this land."

Camps become war institutes

The 4-H Club camps in South Carolina were streamlined into war institutes this year, reversing the usual plan of recreation first and training second.

South Carolina's director of extension, D. W. Watkins, believed that these events should be made to contribute directly and materially to the war food production effort or be discontinued for the duration.

Therefore, a program of instruction and of practical demonstrations was planned by the 4-H camp staff at Camp Long, the State 4-H camp near Aiken.

The extension agricultural engineer, C. V. Phagan, organized, with the assistance of the implement people, a course in maintenance, care, and the driving of tractors. During June and July 253 boys and girls received intensive 5-day courses and were certified to their respective county agents as tractor operators.

All the girls were taught food conservation and gardening, and all campers received training in courtesy, health, and swimming. Up to the last of July, 192 had been taught to swim.

A total of 1,603 campers attended the weekly events through July, and full contingents were scheduled on through August.

"We believe that these rural youngsters learned things at camp this year that will enable them to make better contributions to the food-production and food-conservation programs on their home farms when they go back," Romain Smith, camp director, said.

What does Extension mean to a Brazilian?

DR. EDUARDO PINHEIRO of Monte Alegre, Para, Brazil

■ The Extension Service has a special meaning in American rural life. It was created as an institution to reach people in their homes to teach them how to improve their living conditions. A study of its accomplishments is of interest to Brazil.

As a student of rural problems, I found my observations of extension methods in this country very valuable. My study of extension methods includes 3 months spent with the county extension agents of Lee County, Ark. During that time, I traveled with them all over the county. I visited schools and farms and attended home demonstration and 4-Club meetings. I also attended several extension conferences.

Learns About Club Work

Through my visits to the schools, I contacted 4-H Club boys and girls and learned much about their work as well as about the educational system. I found that it provided training for civic and social life in addition to teaching these junior and senior boys and girls to love the country, to enjoy rural life, to work and love their work, to produce and to save for themselves.

This training of the younger generations has resulted in the splendid accomplishments which today surprise anyone coming to the United States. A wonderful and impressive spectacle —the National 4-H Club Congress which I saw in Chicago—remains in my mind. There I saw 800 boys and girls from all over the United States telling about their deeds, studying their problems, and outlining new programs for the coming year in an extraordinary revelation of the potential reserve of this country.

By attending home demonstration club meetings, I became acquainted with the rural American woman—with all her kindness, her many and diverse activities, and all the extraordinary work she is doing. I understood that American women are the foundation of the rural home. I saw them studying and discussing all their problems about food production, nutrition, and home management. I discovered that they have done wonderful work in improving their homes. That was one of my surprises when I got to the first rural home in Lee County. That was the Neal Bickerstaff home where I was going to stay for my period of field training.

I had heard that I was going to a small farm, and I expected to find a small home that was very simply furnished. But when I got there and started looking around, I found they had all the modern conveniences of the city homes. In my surprise, I started asking questions about how they were able to have such a comfortable home. In replying, Mrs. Bickerstaff told me: "This is the result of my home demonstration club work and the help of the county home demonstration agent. I have learned how to make our home more attractive through lessons and demonstrations given at our club meetings by our home demonstration agent. Also as a result of my club work, I started a Victory Garden, increased the poultry flock, and learned various methods of food preservation, as well as how to make better home use of dairy products."

It was the same story with Mr. Bickerstaff. When I asked him how he knew all the things he was doing, as he was not a graduate of a college of agriculture, he told me: "I have been working with county extension agents since I was a young man and from them I have learned about improved farming methods. You have come here to learn how to improve conditions in your country? I can tell you one way. When my family came to this place, it was not yet cleared. Everything had to be done as in your Amazon Valley. Improvements you see here now were developed in cooperation with the extension agent.

"But that is not all," he added. "I want you to know about my boy's work. He is only 10, but he is already a 4-H Club member. Last year he fed out a calf as a 4-H demonstration that won the first prize at the county fair. This year he will feed another calf, but he will grow the feed for it as well. He already has a corn patch, and he is the one who will teach you how to hoe corn and how to cultivate it."

And that was true. Some weeks later I was in the field hoeing with the boy, Jimmie Neal. He told me how much he enjoyed his work and said

Dr. Eduardo Pinheiro of Brazil (right) and Dr. F. P. Frutchey, of the Federal Extension Service.

he was trying to win the first prize again this year.

After observing this work, I think that Extension Service methods and organizations similar to your 4-H Clubs can be adapted for use in Brazil. In a country like ours where 60 percent of the people are illiterate, we cannot think of teaching rural people through printed material, because in general they cannot read; or through picture shows and radios, because we have very few in our rural sections.

Demonstration work is the only method of teaching that can reach the people. It will be the best way to teach our rural people the things they should know about helping themselves and improving their living standards. And, as in the United States, 4-H Clubs can build the minds of the youth for a better rural life; and extension service teachings for the adults can maintain that experience.

■ DR. EDUARDO PINHEIRO, who returned to Brazil in August, has been appointed director of health education for the Amazon Valley by the Ministry of Education. In this capacity he will organize the educational work in connection with sanitation, nutrition, and agriculture of the many posts established throughout the valley by the Service of Education and Public Health. Dr. Pinheiro was the first of the Latin-American students to complete a full year's training in extension methods and farm practices.

Good neighbor students learn extension methods

■ Knowledge of extension procedures and practices is being carried back to Latin America almost weekly by trainees completing studies in this country made possible by "Good Neighbor" scholarships.

The scholarships, financed by the Institute of Inter-American Affairs and the Department of State, have already brought 44 Latin-American students to the United States, and some 30 or 40 others are expected to arrive for training before July 1945. Since the training program began in September 1943, 13 "graduates" have completed the course and returned to their own countries.

Typical of the aims expressed by departing students was the plan to organize 4-H Clubs and expand dairy production outlined by three trainees returning to the State of Ceara, Brazil. The three, Eduardo Frota, Pedro Ferreira, and Francisco Nogueira, returned home in September. Their plan called for joint action in promoting the organization of 4-H Clubs and the expansion of dairy production in their home State. In support of the latter objective, they expected to encourage irrigation as a means of insuring year-round pastures; baling and storing native grasses for hay; construction of feed-storage facilities, especially silos; establishment of milk-processing plants; and herd improvement through artificial insemination.

Technical information in all these fields was acquired by at least one of the three while in this country, through the cooperation of the State Extension Services of Wisconsin, Texas, and Colorado. Frota and Nogueira made a special study of irrigation under the supervision of the Colorado Extension Service; and both Nogueira and Ferreira studied artificial insemination, cheese production, and milk pasteurization during a program of study arranged by the Wisconsin Extension Service. Practical knowledge of dairy farming was acquired by Ferreira through the cooperation of the Texas Extension Service, and Frota made a special study of Colorado's 4-H Club organizations and activities.

The training program, one of several being carried on by the United States Government for Latin-Americans is being administered by the Extension Service and the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. An outgrowth of the Good Neighbor policy, ultimate objectives of the program are the improvement of farming efficiency, living standards, and health of the rural people in the participating countries through the establishment of agricultural extension services or the expansion of those already in existence.

Immediate goals are increased production of food and complementary crops in Latin America, the replacement by qualified nationals of North American technicians and specialists who are now employed in Latin-American countries under cooperative arrangements between the United States and the various governments concerned, and the addition of courses in extension methods to the curriculums of State colleges of agriculture.

American republics from which trainees are being selected are Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela.

During the 12-month training period, each student studies extension philosophy, organization, and teaching methods in the Federal, State, and county extension offices. Actual experience in farming is gained through employment on farms ranging from several weeks to 9 months.

Principal agricultural interest of the student determines the selection of the State or county where training is received. "Major" subjects of the trainees have included cotton and citrus culture; rice production; care, repair, and operation of farm machinery; livestock production including beef and dairy cattle, swine, and poultry; agricultural statistics; farm management; irrigation, and soil conservation.

State cooperative extension services assisting with the training program include Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

■ MRS. JOSELINA Y. IRIZARRY, district home demonstration agent for Puerto Rico, has been awarded a scholarship from the University of Puerto Rico for a year's study at the Florida State College for Women, Tallahassee, Fla. Mrs. Irizarry arrived in the United States September 11.

Flashes
FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interet to extension workers, as seen by Marion J. Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Achievement.** It is difficult to put an accurate dollar-and-cents value on the results of research. But some of the scientific projects of the Department during the years have resulted in such outstanding advances in knowledge and practical aids to farming that their value, mostly in money saved through reduced losses in crops and animals, must be estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars annually. To make available the stories of these and other Department projects that have made research history, the ARA is putting out a series of processed leaflets called Research Achievement Sheets. Each of these gives a brief description of the problem to be attacked, the nature of the research required, by whom and when it was done, the results, and the benefits from its adoption. On the back of the sheet are additional data on the project, including estimates of the cost and, where possible, the returns. The titles of the first 10 Achievement Sheets issued so far are as follows: Cattle fever research advances medical knowledge; Chemical treatment for gapeworms in chickens; Hog cholera conquered by serum-virus treatment; Phenothiazine, versatile drug for controlling livestock parasites; Maximum hatches from hen's eggs; Protecting man against trichinosis; Producing more beef from phosphorus-deficient ranges; Strain 19 vaccine curbs losses from brucellosis; Simple test effective in pullorum disease control; and Preservative prevents feather loss.

■ **Transplanting trees safely.** At Woodward, Okla., dry-land crop specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering station have been studying and experimenting to find ways of transplanting trees that will insure a high rate of survival. In the semi-arid region served by this station, trees are valuable for farm windbreaks. Wrapping with burlap the balls of earth left around the roots when pine or other coniferous seedlings are lifted from the nursery has increased survival of the transplants. Metal cylinders have been devised to aid in taking up coniferous trees. These cylinders are of various sizes, adjusted to the sizes of the trees, and are made of galvanized iron or light steel. A clamp at the bottom can be released for easy removal of the cylinder, and the earth around the roots can then be tied with burlap. For direct local transplanting, the trees can be carried to the new site in the cylinders. Other dry-land crop experimenters, at Mandan, N. Dak., have increased the rate of survival of transplants by cutting under conifers in the nursery about 4 inches below the surface of the soil a year before they are to be transplanted. Dipping the tops of seedlings in a wax emulsion before transplanting was found to help survival, whereas the practice of removing the needles proved harmful.

■ **"No. 5"—A New Cantaloup.** Another successful venture of the plant breeders is a cantaloup resistant to powdery mildew. Developed by crossing market melons with an inedible ancestor from India that is highly resistant to this disease, the resulting cantaloup is both disease-resistant and delicious. Known as "No. 5," it has practically taken over the cantaloup land in the Imperial Valley of California since its first trials there in 1943. The Department and the California Agricultural Experiment Station cooperated in its development.

■ **The latest in pickles.** Pickling and brining are good ways, along with canning, freezing, and drying, of keeping vegetables and some fruits for winter use. The Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry, in cooperation with the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, has made a study of the best and easiest ways to salt or brine vegetables. Four tested methods are described in Farmers' Bulletin 1932, justrevised; and a simple way to make sauerkraut in glass jars is shown in a picture sequence. Recipes for several types of pickles, including pickled fruit, overnight pickles, brined green tomatoes, cucumber dills, and many kinds of spicy relishes, are given in a new folder, AWI-103, Pickle and Relish Recipes, prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

■ **Pink Peril.** Beware gift wrappings from overseas! Not long ago, cotton packed in and around a captured German helmet, sent as a gift from a service man to a friend in this country, was found by foreign plant quarantine inspectors to contain pink bollworms living in the seeds. The pink bollworm is the most destructive of all cotton pests. Fortunately, owing to a continued fight against it, it has not so far become established in our cotton-producing States, except in one or two limited areas. Bollworms can live as long as 2 years in cottonseed. And cotton is not the only packing material that is suspect. Straw and grass may carry other dangerous insects or plant diseases. So if you receive any souvenirs from service men, don't take chances. Burn the wrappings and packing material so that no fifth-columnist or Trojan-horse enemies shall be let loose in this country to menace cotton and other crops.

■ **Molds to the Fore.** Penicillin started what may be a procession of important products of molds and other micro-organisms. Scientists at the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill., have one of the world's largest collections of such micro-organisms to aid them in developing industrial products from agricultural commodities. They have recently found a way, with the help of a mold—*Aspergillus terreus*—and a corn-sugar solution, to produce itaconic acid cheaply. In case you don't know, itaconic acid is useful in the production of plastics, but it has been rather expensive. The new mold method of production has cut the cost of this acid from $10 to approximately 50 cents a pound.

We Study Our Job

Spot checking in Windham County, Conn.

A cooperative spot-checking study of extension work in Windham County, Conn., has just been completed. The three purposes of the study were to determine the extent of participation, the extent of certain practices followed, and needs for the post-war period. Two hundred and six families were interviewed in 16 spots distributed geographically over the county.

Nearly three-fourths of the families had taken part in extension activities at some time. Participation was higher for commercial and part-time farm families than for farmers having no commercial farm enterprises. A fairly large percentage of the nonparticipating farmers and homemakers were uninformed about extension work. This was particularly true among the sustenance group of farmers and homemakers where extension participation was the lowest. More farmers than homemakers or boys and girls had participated.

The study indicates that such agricultural practices as fertilizing or seeding pasture, feeding grain to dry cows, vaccinating hens against chicken pox, and spraying apple trees had been quite generally adopted. Nearly all the homemakers had adopted recommended practices for gardening and canning of vegetables. Many of the families had improved their gardens since the war by using specific garden practices. Food was raised at home to feed the family over a large portion of the year. These agricultural and home economics practices had been part of the extension program for a long time.

Windham County farm families hope to make many improvements on their farms, in their homes, and in their communities after the war. These improvements include new farm buildings, additions to the farmhouse, remodeling and repair of home and farm buildings, new equipment for farm and home, new conveniences such as plumbing, electricity and electrical devices, centralized schools, fire departments, elimination of blind-road corners, building community houses, freezer locker plants, home economics clubs, and 4-H clubs. Sustenance farm families as well as commercial and part-time farm families were concerned about post-war improvements. Interests along these lines may well be used in formulating an extension program after the war. —WINDHAM COUNTY, CONN. EXTENSION STUDY, August 1944, by R. E. Wing, Windham County agricultural agent, and Fred P. Frutchey, Federal Extension Service. (Typewritten)

Are we writing for our readers?

To find out if we are writing for our farm readers in language that they can read and understand, the Division of Field Studies and Training is analyzing Extension publications written for farm families. These readers might range in formal schooling from the ninth to the fourth grade or even lower, according to the 1940 Census.

The Lorge and Flesch Formulas—products of the Readability Laboratory of Teachers College, Columbia University, are being used as readability yardsticks to find out whether or not we are writing over our readers' heads. The formulas enable us to compare our written material with standard writing of known difficulty. For example, if a formula rates a piece of writing "Easy" we know it is comparable to True Story Magazine which is sixth-grade reading level. "Fairly easy" is on a par with Liberty Magazine — seventh-grade level. "Average difficulty" is Reader's Digest or eighth—to ninth-grade level.

Several practical values have resulted from using these readability yardsticks. They are a repeated check on whether or not we are gearing our material to the reading capacity of our readers. The formulas serve as reminders to be concrete, to use short sentences and simple words, and to humanize our writing by using words referring to people. Furthermore, these yardsticks are helping to make extension workers "readibility conscious."

I pledge my health to greater living

Illinois 4-H Club boys have become stronger as a result of their 4-H Club health activities, according to a study made over a 3-year period. Since 1941 emphasis has been placed on keeping fit. Club members have been urged to condition themselves through exercises, stunts, games, hikes, running, swimming, and farm work.

To evaluate the health "H" of 4-H Club work, strength tests were given to 317 boys in 1941 and to 355 in 1943 at 7 different 4-H Club camps throughout the State. Three tests were set up: (1) chins—a test of arm strength; (2) push-ups, a test of arm and back strength; and (3) vertical jumps—a test of power. These are described in a mimeographed circular "How Strong Are You?" and later in "Keeping Fit."

The scores varied according to age and body type. Body-type ranged from the thick-fat-soft to the thin-shallow type. The best scores on all three strength tests were made by boys of the middle types. Body types differed between the 2 years, and when this difference was accounted for, the scores on chins were significantly higher in 1943 than in 1941. Similar ratios for jumps and push-ups were obtained. In other words, the boys improved on the three strength tests between 1941 and 1943, even after body-type differences were taken into account.

In 1943 tests of agility, balance, endurance, flexibility, power, and strength were given in addition to the tests mentioned above. These tests demonstrate the possibility of evaluating certain educational objectives which have been formerly held to be intangible. — EVALUATING THE HEALTH OBJECTIVE OF 4-H CLUB WORK, by D. M. Hall, Illinois Extension Service, Illinois Extension Publication, 1944.

Arkansas leaders find harvest workers

■ In spite of a severe labor shortage, bumper yields of two important crops in Arkansas were harvested this year by means of an integrated recruiting program that depended for its success on the cooperation of volunteer neighborhood leaders.

The recruiting of 1,137 pickers for the 1,700 acres of tame blackberries in Polk County and of some 4,000 harvesters for the 750,000- to 800,000-bushel crop of Elberta peaches in the Nashville-Highland peach area was an achievement that these volunteers as contact personnel between the laborers and the Extension Service made possible.

By personal interview, neighborhood leaders acquainted individuals in their neighborhoods with conditions of employment where they were needed for the two crops and, in turn, provided the county agents with lists of the names of prospective workers.

Volunteer Leaders Help

When groups were located by volunteer leaders, a collect call was placed for Kenneth Bates, Polk County agent, for the blackberry harvest, and to Paul Eddlemon, Howard County agent, for the peach recruiting, to inform them of the name of the crew leader, the type of individuals making up the groups and other pertinent details.

Polk County and the Nashville-Highland area are in the southwestern district of the State, and the business of starting the recruiting programs for both crops fell largely to J. O. Fullerton, district agent for that section of Arkansas. Through the assistance of State Farm Labor Supervisor Walter Cooper and Assistant State Farm Labor Supervisor J. J. Pickren, the program in each area was initiated after growers predicted bumper crops.

One-minute emergency spot radio announcements went on the air over Arkansas radio stations servicing the counties surrounding the two areas. Addressed to men, women, and children, these announcements urged anyone with spare time to volunteer to save the valuable crops. All interested persons who could work full time or part time were asked to call their county agent for details of transportation and housing.

Peak period in the berry harvest was the first week in July. Pickers were brought in from Scott, Crawford, Yell, Logan, Montgomery, and Sevier Counties in Arkansas, and from four counties in Oklahoma. In addition to all regular pickers, supplemental help had to be called on; and it was during this week that Mena, Ark., businessmen closed their county seat stores and took employees to the berry patches.

C. C. Fowler of Wickes and R. O. Williamson of Grannis, towns in the heart of the berry country, served as field assistants to Agent Bates and Farm Labor Assistant Walter Myers; and after consulting berry growers each night, reported to the county extension office in Mena the number of additional pickers—other than the resident groups encamped in the berry-producing sector—needed for the following day. Bates and Myers then went into action and, with their office force, often worked until past midnight getting pickers lined up for the following day. No berries were left in the fields to spoil other than those that failed to mature when the drought curtailed the harvest.

Jams and Jellies

At least 1,610,000 pounds of berries were picked to bring a return of $192,120 to the growers, and every berry commercially handled in the county went to processors who have government contracts to convert all of them to jams and jellies for the armed forces.

By July 20, when the Nashville peach crop began ripening after a 2-week delay caused by the hot, dry weather, 4,546 harvesters—1,270 men and 3,276 women and youths—had been recruited from Garland, Ouachita, Pike, Sevier, Hempstead, Clark, Nevada, and Howard Counties. As the harvesting progressed, some additional workers were signed up to move into certain orchards where the ripening called for rush picking. An incentive to housewives was the reasonable price at which the fruit was offered for canning for home use.

In explaining the need for peach harvesters, the recruiting leaders emphasized the importance of the peach crop as a war crop and also the fact that 70 per cent of the commercial crop will go to the armed forces.

The activity of the labor program in Nevada County was handled in a highly systematized manner. In their files in the county extension office at Prescott, Ark., County Agent E. W. Loudermilk and Home Demonstration Agent Florence Pitts compiled the information supplied them by the neighborhood leaders into a complete tabulation of the number of men, women, boys, and girls who signed up from each community, the leaders under whom they were organized into crews, and the truck or bus driver transporting them to and from the area.

As crews, made up on an average of from 15 to 20 persons, were organized under a crew leader, these data were entered on the records. Arrangements for drivers to convey the crews from each community were completed as the recruiting progressed, so that the transporting of the volunteers to the strategic area would not occur as a last-minute problem. When the call from Paul Eddlemon came through, the two agents had only to refer to a chart which they had compiled from the information furnished by the neighborhood leaders for a complete picture of the recruitment in compact, tabulated form. The total of Nevada County's recruits, after receiving the call, quickly formed into crews that moved smoothly and efficiently into the peach orchards of Howard County to help save the valuable crop.

To win the war

Every woman who belongs to the Woodland Park home demonstration club near Colorado Springs, Colo., is donating a pint of her blood or $1 to the American Red Cross blood bank.

Every 2 weeks two of the rural women who are members of this patriotic club donate 8 dozen cookies to the U. S. O. Center at Colorado Springs.

Making the tomato a 4-H vegetable

ANITA DICKSON, Home Demonstration Agent, and TED L. JOULE, County Agricultural Agent, St. Francois County, Mo.

■ Sponsored by adult groups in their own communities and instructed by the county extension agents and local leaders, 907 boys and girls in St. Francois County, Mo., are increasing wartime food production in a 4-H tomato project. By the end of August they had harvested enough tomatoes to supply 1,200 persons with a year's nutritional requirements of tomatoes and tomato juice.

Both leaders and members of these 4-H groups have maintained their enthusiasm for the tomato project despite a great deal of unfavorable weather in the early part of the growing season. They are happy in accomplishing their purpose of producing essential food, and mastering successful methods of tomato production.

Tomatoes Excel

All 4-H vegetable production members were encouraged to raise tomatoes as their project. By limiting to one project it was easier to obtain sponsorship and leaders for the clubs. The tomato was the one vegetable best suited to all St. Francois County conditions. Being high in food value, having a long growing season, recommended for all size gardens, and requiring the minimum in insect control, tomatoes excelled all other vegetables in adaptability for a single 4-H project.

Clubs were organized during early spring. Schools cooperated by arranging meetings of all boys and girls of club age. At each of these meetings one of us explained the 4-H program. Home economics extension clubs, federated garden clubs, and civic groups were glad to act as sponsors and supply leadership. Each 4-H Club had a sponsoring organization which obtained necessary leaders. With the single vegetable project, one leader handled up to 35 members.

Members were required to use a recommended variety of plants but had the privilege of growing their own or obtaining them from other sources. Three hundred and seventy-seven members elected to pool their orders and obtain plants from a local commercial plant grower. This plant grower cooperated by providing his best plants for the 4-H members and delivering them at the schools. Orders for 4-12-4 fertilizer were also pooled, 1,500 pounds being distributed in 2½- and 5-pound bags at cost.

Before plants were delivered, a demonstration was given at each club, showing how to set out the plants and use the fertilizer. At tours held in June, demonstrations were given on pruning, staking, mulching, and use of insecticides. On these tours, practically every member was visited and tomatoes scored, using a score card so devised as to recognize good cultural practices. Each member was given the opportunity to take part in judging work and to exhibit products at the county 4-H roundup. Sponsoring groups arranged tomato shows to be held at the schools during September.

The fact that 907 boys and girls out of the county's total 4-H Club enrollment of 1,150 members selected tomatoes as their project indicates that the one-vegetable project builds toward greater and more active participation and increased enrollment.

Play helps cherry pickers

This is the first year that extension workers assumed the definite responsibility of providing recreation for the cherry picker camps that housed boys and girls in Door County, Wis., recruited through the extension program.

Bruce Cartter, rural sociologist of the University of Wisconsin, spent 2 weeks in the county at the beginning of the cherry season to help organize the recreational program and interest the growers in play equipment. After that I carried on alone. For 3 solid weeks I "made" the cherry camps every evening except Saturday and Sunday. The pickers enjoyed group games and relays. I always had my car full of grapefruit and other equipment for relays. In addition, there were also camp programs. Ranger Mac, Wisconsin State 4-H Club leader, was in the county 1 week for evening camp programs, making many new friends among the youngsters and older ones, too. The State Board of Health gave us some help with camp programs.

Of the 66 camps, about 50 housed boys and girls. Most of these camps were grouped so that more could be serviced by the extension program; that is, the smaller camps brought their pickers to one central place. The 2 large camps, however, that housed about 600 pickers each had their program without calling in other camps.

In general, most of the evening programs consisted of singing, games, movies, camp talent, and Ranger Mac. — Dorothea Steckling, home demonstration agent, Door County, Wis.

Beef and lamb for 1,000 soldiers

At the ninth annual Spokane Jr. Livestock Show early in May, 375 junior soldiers of the home front—4-H Club members and Future Farmers of America from Washington, northern Idaho, and western Montana—sold enough beef and lamb to feed nearly 1,000 soldiers for a year and enough pork for 285 fighting men.

This year, to increase the food supply, more emphasis than ever was placed on raising pens of 5 steers, or 4 or 10 hogs or lambs, rather than an individual prize animal. Washington 4-H Club members alone showed 23 of the 29 pens of 5 steers. Their entries made up far more pens of 5 than had ever before been entered in the entire Spokane show.

In the 4-H single steer class alone, the club members entered 73 animals, which figured out to be enough meat to feed 420 soldiers for a year. Also in this class 17 steers were placed in high choice—the top grade—more steers of a single class than had ever before made top grade at the Spokane show. The 4-H single steer Hereford class was even larger, with 87 animals entered.

4-H stockmen also showed at the Inland Empire Show September 29 and 30 in Spokane and plan to show at a streamlined Pacific International in Portland, October 11 to 13.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

AT THE WHITE HOUSE, representing 4-H Club members at the conference on rural education, October 3 to 5, was Lois Crouse, 18 years old, of Queen Anne, Md. She served on a committee to study "Special Problems in Providing Instructional Opportunities in Rural Schools" and did a good job. Two home demonstration agents, Maude A. Bean of Alleghany County, Md., and Frances E. Brundige of Holmes County, Ohio, as well as other members of the State and Federal Extension staffs, took part in this first conference on rural education ever held in the White House.

RECENT BRITISH VISITORS in Washington now visiting rural areas rather widely separated are Janet Strang of the Institute of Agriculture of Northhampton who has worked very closely with the British Women's Land Army; W. T. Price, executive officer of the Wiltshire War Agricultural Executive Committee and for the past 20 years county "organizer," a position similar to that of our county agent; and Elwyn Jones, a Welsh farmer and chairman of the local branch of the National Farmers Union. They attended the quarterly staff conference with its customary visit to the Beltsville Research Center.

WHEN TOMORROW COMES was the theme of the conference of the youth section of the American Country Life Association held in cooperation with New York Collegiate Country Life Clubs and other groups at State Teachers College, Fredonia, N. Y., October 25 to 28. A number of extension people working with rural youth took part in this workshop conference.

THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTION to the leadership in agricultural, livestock, and educational interests of the county was attributed to the two extension agents of Scotts Bluff County, Nebr., at the county fair when Crawford W. Nibler and Mary L. Strohecker received the recognition before a fair crowd of 15,000 persons. Working in the county for the past 8½ years, Agent Nibler has distinguished himself in many lines of work—particularly in dairying, potato improvement, and soil management. Miss Strohecker is given much credit for the success of the 4-H program in the county where she has served for the past 6½ years.

GEORGIA CITATION for the home demonstration agent in each Extension Service district who performs the most outstanding service for farm people is planned by the Georgia Home Demonstration Agents' Association.

TO SELL THE IDEA of disinfecting garden seed and inoculating legumes, the County Home Demonstration Council of Waller County, Tex., provided the chemicals free to more than 300 families. The women themselves showed the Victory gardeners how to do it in every community of the county, reports Jewel Ballew, home demonstration agent.

THE MEXICAN LIKES very black coffee for breakfast, advises Lucy A. Case, Oregon extension nutritionist, in her suggestions for Oregon homemakers who are feeding the Mexican nationals helping on the farms. She advises employing a Mexican in the kitchen to taste food and see that it is properly seasoned as the Mexican likes it. She gives many other useful suggestions to keep the Mexican worker happy.

ANOTHER USEFUL FOOD PUBLICATION compiled by Miss Case gives information on mailing food to husbands, sons, and brothers in the armed forces. The circular gives complete information including post office rules, recipes, and needs of prisoners. It has been popular and has had wide distribution.

THE HOUSEWIVES SPECIAL in Marion County, Oreg., carried town women to the fields to help harvest the crop from 8:30 to 3 p. m., which gave the women a chance to care for their families in the morning before leaving and return in time to get the family supper. Members of the Housewives Special . . . more than 500 women . . . helped to save the bean crop of the county.

MEAT CANNING, including game, is in full swing. With game more plentiful this fall than in many years, and some ammunition again allowed to hunters generally, home demonstration agents and war food conservationists are receiving many requests for help in canning game; and several States have issued publications on the subject.

THE 1945 DAIRY PROGRAM gathers momentum. This month a program kit is being sent to directors of extension and chairmen of the State organization with many suggestions for the development of an educational program.

THE NEW CENSUS SCHEDULES are being sent to county agents by the Census Bureau, and agents generally are helping the census enumerators with their special knowledge of local agricultural conditions and facilities—paving the way for an accurate and useful census. The Extension Service is a big user of census information and stands ready to help make the new census as useful as possible in the making as well as in the using.

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On the December docket

■ The last month of the year—leafing through his annual report—many an agent is agreeably surprised at what it adds up to. Long hours and hard work under wartime pressure have given results. In spite of spring floods, or summer droughts, or fall hurricanes, he finds that production was maintained, and that was the number 1 job of extension agents in 1944.

With the usual practice of killing more than one bird with one stone, this survey of the year's activities is making good copy in many a small-town weekly or daily. Facts and figures uncovered in the annual-report job are adding significance to radio talks and, reported at December meetings, are giving rural people a great deal to talk about.

Adding up the results in the thousands of reports made throughout the country also makes an impressive total and gives a better understanding of the road we are traveling. A summary of some of the things which seem most significant in surveying the year's work in the country as a whole will appear next month.

Christmas is a big thing on the December docket. War tensions, the anxiety for the members of the family fighting in the far corners of the world make it particularly important this year to keep the Christmas spirit burning brightly. Helps with homemade toys, new recipes for good things to eat, directions for fireproofing the Christmas tree, ideas for having fun at home, and suggestions for community or neighborhood parties are important services.

With a bumper harvest safely in, next year's needs are being considered. The future for agriculture and the farm home in the country as a whole was the theme of the outlook meetings, November 13-18, with 110 extension workers from 43 States and Territories taking part. Immediately afterward, the State goals meetings got under way, finishing up the middle of December. Teams of U. S. D. A. workers were specially trained in the economic and war facts which went into the making up of the goals for agricultural production, and one of these teams is attending each State goals meeting. These same facts on agricultural outlook and wartime production goals will now be presented in regional and local meetings. All facts point to another year of all-out production with emphasis on production of crops needed for war. Food will be just as important to the war and the peace in 1945 as in 1944.

Victory Gardens will be grown again in 1945. A conference, November 28 and 29, got the National Victory Garden Campaign off to an early start.

PLANNING THE NEXT MOVE

Crawford County's (Iowa) planning committee came over to Hamilton County to get the low-down on the business, farming, and veterans' survey already under way there. Agent H. M. Nichols, Hamilton County, seated at the end of the table at the left, reported on the committee's activities in building up a work pile, much as he did in the October REVIEW. Agent Paul Johnson, at his right, will tell next month what the Crawford County committee did.

ANSWERED IN THIS ISSUE

How many veterans' advisory committees have been organized—why have a county program-planning meeting—how to make dairy information click—how to relieve war tensions—who is the new Texas director—what are Maryland's post-war plans—what prominent sociologist served as an assistant county agent.

Dairy information please!

Problems concerning South Carolina farm dairy products answered with demonstrations and discussions

B. E. GOODALE, Extension Dairy Products Specialist, South Carolina

■ During the summers of 1943 and 1944, 51 dairy products-processing demonstrations were held in South Carolina before 1,323 selected agricultural leaders in sections strategically located in each county. These meetings were planned by the Dairy Division of the South Carolina Extension Service under the direction of C. G. Cushman; and I conducted the demonstrations, assisted by county agricultural and home demonstration agents. Ordinarily a professor of dairying, I was lent for this special work by the Clemson Agricultural College.

The purpose of the demonstrations was to train leaders in production of clean, wholesome milk and the processing of that milk into butter, buttermilk, and cooked and uncooked types of cottage cheese. We gave lectures and actual demonstrations and showed exhibits. Basically, the objective was to increase the use, quality, and wholesomeness of dairy products for the farm family supply. Principles involved and demonstrated were adaptable to those selling surplus dairy products in various forms.

Invitations were given by letters and personal visits. In each county special emphasis was placed on getting farm people in positions of leadership to attend. Among those invited were farm security home and farm advisers, vocational, agricultural and home economics teachers, emergency production and conservation workers, a representative of each home demonstration club, farm women who sold butter and cheese, and older 4-H Club members. Negro extension workers, teachers, and farm leaders were also invited.

For each meeting during the two summers there were cooperating counties which sent their extension workers and a few outstanding neighborhood leaders. All county agents and home demonstration agents and some others had the opportunity of attending the demonstrations twice in two consecutive summers. It was found that extension workers needed and desired the specialized training in dairy-products processing.

The most popular places for holding the meetings were high school home economics laboratories because of adequate facilities for processing dairy products. Successful demonstrations were also held in church kitchens, community clubs, American Legion huts, curb markets, school lunch rooms, municipal auditoriums, and farm homes.

Each county agent provided his own dairy equipment and supply exhibit with price tags and delears' names attached. Many merchants dressed their windows appropriately on the day of the meeting. The milk and cream used in the demonstrations were purchased and cared for under detailed directions sent in advance.

The Dairy Division of the South Carolina Extension Service provided supplies and equipment for processing butter and cottage cheeses, as well as supplementary exhibit material in the form of charts, bulletins, and samples of supply material and equipment.

The demonstration was 5 hours long —2 hours in the morning and 3 in the afternoon. Much attention was given to the comfort of those attending the long sessions, and almost continuous action of one or more persons was used to keep interest and attention. Every detail discussed and every process employed were kept practical and usable under average South Carolina farm conditions.

The production of milk and cream on the farm was covered from the cow to the farm table and local markets.

Sweet cream butter was churned and all detailed steps demonstrated until the butter was in cartons ready for consumption or sale.

Cooked cottage cheese was processed, as was uncooked, "junket-type" cottage cheese.

Although a special-questions period was held immediately after the completed demonstrations, questions were answered and discussed during the entire 5 hours.

The day's activities were ended by serving refreshments made of cottage cheese and cracker sandwiches and whey punch. Each person sampled both types of cottage cheese and also the sweet cream butter. The whey punch attracted much interest and comment. The fruit juices used depended on availability, but usually grapefruit juice or grape juice was purchased and less frequently pineapple juice.

Four different dairy products news articles were given to each county agent following each demonstration. County papers used these about 100 percent. Most of the local dailies used one or more of them.

Transcriptions of the demonstration were made by "Farmer" Gray of Radio Station WSPA of Spartanburg, S. C. "Farmer" Gray interviewed extension workers, farm people, educators, and others in the audience during the serving of cheese sandwiches and whey punch. Mr. Gray was so well pleased with the results that he plans similar transcriptions to be made by other extension specialists. "Fan mail" came in from widely scattered sections of South Carolina and North Carolina.

The 51 dairy-products demonstrations given during the summers of 1943 and 1944 should result in spreading dairy information into sections that have long needed it. The fundamentals and main features are now being used in similar demonstrations throughout the State, often given by farm women in their own homes. Hundreds of farm people have been aroused to desire more and better milk and its products. If we have stimulated some to thinking and acting intelligently about good dairy practices, our dairy-products promotion will not have been in vain.

Recreation relieves war tensions

D. E. LINDSTROM and E. H. REGNIER

Extension Specialists in Rural Sociology, University of Illinois

■ Gas rationing, tire shortage, longer hours of work, fewer helpers on the farm—all these things have caused many farm people to stay at home and "tend to business," and to go only short distances to trade, attend meetings, and take part in "fun" activities. An effort to help make staying at home and going only to nearby meetings just as relaxing and invigorating as possible has been made in the recreation programs of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics in Illinois.

Studies of rural organizations in Illinois show that almost all voluntary groups—economic, educational, and religious—have entertainment, and an increasing number have recreational activities in their meetings. Moreover, many of them hold special social and recreational meetings—picnics, baseball tournaments, and the like. With so many young people gone into the armed services and wartime industries, many groups lack leaders trained to carry on recreational activities.

Cultural, social, and recreational activities in meetings of rural groups of all kinds, and especially in neighborhood meetings, have made them more successful and worth while. Such activities have made a real contribution to bolstering morale. In trying times when loved ones are in danger and when pressure is put on to increase production, even beyond that which previously seemed humanly possible, tensions can be eased and the task made lighter by the very fact that emotional releases have been provided through recreational activities.

The demand for social and recreational activities is evident from requests made for training help and materials by leaders of all kinds of rural groups in Illinois in the past year. Two specialists held 164 recreation leader training schools and demonstrations for 1,634 groups. These schools were attended by 25,262 leaders, an average of about 10 groups and 154 persons at each meeting. Fifty meetings were county training schools for local leaders in the home bureau. Half of these leaders wanted help in carrying on their projects in "recreation in home and community," and 25 were for leaders in training to conduct "community recreation." There was ample evidence that these leaders used their training in church, in school, or in club, in fact in all kinds of groups in their own communities.

Fifty-five meetings were held with 4-H Clubs to train and demonstrate recreational programs. Twenty-seven of these were county meetings, 15 district, and 13 meetings in one State conference. At these meetings 581 clubs were represented and the attendance was 9,856.

Recreation leader training and demonstration meetings for community leaders were conducted in 7 county and 6 State and national conferences and schools. In addition, 34 campus meetings were held, attended chiefly by students who later would go back to their communities as local voluntary recreation leaders.

Special efforts were made to provide recreational materials, particularly for wartime neighborhood leaders. Two skits on safety were prepared and widely distributed: "This May Happen to You," and "Watch out There Brother." The National Safety Committee obtained permission to duplicate these publications in Arizona, Maine, Wisconsin, Indiana, Massachusetts, and New Mexico, the Federal Extension Service, and the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club work.

Tensions are increasing as the invasion proceeds. Rest, especially relaxation and diversion, are essential. Human contacts and social, cultural, and recreational activities are needed to help ease the strain.

Demands for help in leader training and program materials in the field of drama, music, and recreation are being met with county recreation leader training schools for leaders of 4-H, rural youth, home bureau, church, community unit, and similar groups emphasizing building and maintaining morale. In addition, local leader training schools for home demonstration leaders on recreation at home, neighborhood social activities, recreation during wartime, and music and drama in the home are being held. Lecture demonstrations at county-wide play days, rallies, and annual meetings, as well as recreation leader classes and demonstrations at 4-H and young adult State and district camps, train more recreation leaders.

Materials to help these leaders carry on recreational programs, including program suggestions, are supplied regularly in the bi-monthly publication, *The Community Leader*.

■ VIC BURCALOW, extension agronomist from Wisconsin, recently spent 2 weeks in Washington as a way station on the road to Rome. He will work on the problems of agricultural rehabilitation in Italy for the Allied Commission on which the British, the Russians, and the Americans are cooperating. His first job will be a survey of agriculture in Italy, with a view to making recommendations for speeding up production.

Program planning on a community basis

NELLE STASUKINAS and H. J. POORBAUGH

County Extension Workers, Schuylkill County, Pa.

■ Program planning is fun. We really enjoy it and so do our people who serve on their community program-planning committees.

Early December of each year finds us holding farm and home extension meetings in each of our rural communities. We are not going to say much about these meetings except that they draw people from 50 to 80 percent of the farm families.

Colored slides showing results obtained during the past year by farmers and homemakers by following Extension Service recommendations are shown by the county extension workers. Examples of the type of pictures used are: The freezing of food, home renovation of furniture, the use of rye grass as a cover crop, or the building of buck rakes as practiced by neighbors. These pictures stimulate thinking and a desire on the part of people seeing them for information which will enable them to do similar things. We also take time at these affairs to afford those in attendance an opportunity to nominate a program-planning committee. Six men and six women are nominated to serve in helping to draw up an extension program for their community. The executive committee members serve as cochairmen and arrange for the program-planning meeting which is held within a month of the community farm and home extension meeting.

What Goes on at the Meeting?

We said that program planning is fun. Suppose we just tell about what goes on.

A bright January sun is melting the ice clinging to the fenders of several cars in a farmyard of the Lewistown Valley when we arrive for a program-planning meeting in that community. These cars tell us that some of our folks are already there. Yes, we find them busy when we step into the house. The men in one room are talking about buck rakes, of which there are none in the neighborhood, and the women are discussing the new frozen-food locker plant which just recently had been opened.

We join these groups and chat with them until a few more folk arrive, when we all gather in the modernized kitchen which is the result of extension teaching dating back a few years.

"Farming is a job for the whole family," said the executive committee member in opening one meeting. "If the men and women work together on the farm, why not plan the extension program that way?" he asked.

Without much more ado, we county workers were asked to lead the discussion. On a portable blackboard we quickly listed the chief items of interest to the farmers and homemakers as suggested by those present. This got everyone to thinking and talking along definite lines, and for the next few hours a lively discussion followed. Interestingly enough, the men had comments which referred to the job of the homemaker; and the women had suggestions about the farm which led to serious consideration by the men.

Food Takes the Limelight

This being a war year, food was soon being discussed. It started in this way: As this is a dairy and poultry section, the matter of animal feed was discussed extensively and the conclusion reached that the agronomy program relating to pasture improvement, hay and grain production be intensified. The men also pointed out the fact that recently farmers of the Lewistown Valley had purchased more than 1,000 acres of farm land from a coal company which years before had bought this land in anticipation of flooding it when a dam was built. The dam never materialized; hence the sale of these lands. "Now," said the men, "would be the time to consider field rearrangement to save soil and for economy of operation." Erosion-control meetings and demonstrations were indicated.

Statements about the baker not making his regular rounds and sugar shortage affecting home baking, and good-natured complaints by some of the men about eating left-overs led to requests for meal planning and nutrition meetings. It was reported that women of the community had requested that the hot school lunch work inaugurated 3 years ago with excellent cooperation on the part of the children, parents, teachers, and school directors be fostered this year, too. The children are carrying more healthful lunches now, and the hot plates and water pans provided in each of the one-room schools afford an opportunity for the rural children to have something in the lunch box which can be warmed for the noon meal. It was decided that one of the best ways to keep interest alive would be to continue the hot school lunch contests and that the Extension Service could help by supplying the mothers with information on child feeding and food selection.

All about a Food Locker

"A lot of our people are going to rent food lockers," said one woman. "We should know how to get food ready for freezing and how to prepare frozen foods for the table." "Is it true that some varieties of fruits and vegetables are better for freezing than others?" asked one of the men. "Is that right?" exclaimed one of the women who added that she guessed she would wait to order her garden seeds until she found out which varieties are best for freezing. This led to plans for demonstration meetings on preparation of meats, fruits, and vegetables for freezing.

We had not progressed far until the matter of community facilities came up for discussion. How was the Community library functioning? Did it need further support? The community grounds beautification work which was forwarded several years ago was fine, but would it be possible to conduct community programs to attract many people into feeling the need of providing more of our own recreation, said another. All right, the committee agreed. We will attempt a community event, and they set another afternoon to make definite plans.

And so went the meeting. We have mentioned only a few of the problems that were discussed, of the requests for information that were made, and

of the plans that were laid. At 4:30 p. m. the meeting adjourned. The committee members had to go home for their evening chores, and we were off to other affairs in other parts of the county.

We were stimulated and more enthusiastic when we left than when we came, and so were the others who represented their neighbors. During the coming months this enthusiasm is bound to be contagious.

Oh yes! We haven't mentioned definitely that these folks and their neighbors fully understand that they must help carry out this program. They know that it is for the community, and they are going to see it through.

How to get more people out to meetings and how to get information to those who cannot attend are problems which this group helps to solve. For example, in one of our communities the program-planning committee suggested that a play period for preschool children be conducted in conjunction with demonstration meetings in order that young mothers might also participate in the meetings.

Program planning will not stop at the close of such a meeting. New problems are voiced at the various meetings and by individuals throughout the year.

However, these community program-planning meetings do give the leaders in a community an opportunity for general appraisement of their extension program and to help shape it along the lines which they believe will result in the greatest good for the people of the community.

Our extension program for the county is planned by the executive committee with the cooperation of leaders in the various organizations in much the same manner.

County surveys have been helpful in finding needs and guiding some thought.

On being an assistant county agent

EDMUND deS. BRUNNER, Columbia University,
Adviser to Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

■ Six months as an assistant county agent, spent, in two 3-month periods in the summers of 1943 and 1944, in my home county of Barnstable, Mass., assisting Agent Bertram Tomlinson, turned out to be a valuable and rich experience. In 1943, the greater part of the work concerned farm labor and agricultural deferments. In 1944, the pace of the war made it possible to spend much of the time in post-war rural policy surveys. Six months doesn't make one an expert—rather, it makes a Federal adviser humble and fills him with even greater admiration than before for the men and women who, working in the county, are the heart of the Extension Service.

I am glad to have shared, even so briefly, in the experiences of the county workers. I have even been sorely bothered by report forms, especially as to how to list what are to me the important things I did for which the architects of those forms provided no space! But I have learned the value of those reports. One rainy day I read 20 consecutive annual reports from my county. It was an exciting experience. I saw the picture of Extension's development over those 2 decades. I glimpsed the effort that had gone into the progress that was evident. Best of all, I gained a new sense of the power of cumulative educational effort. And I fell back on those reports again when a Victory gardener, who was also an editor of the New York Times, wanted to know: "What is this Extension Service anyhow?"

Out of it all, I have gathered some impressions about extension work in the county.

1. The trend in Extension is necessarily away from individual farm and home contacts and service toward working with groups on a neighborhood, community, or special interest—that is, on a crop or subject-matter basis. Working on such a basis involves techniques and methods of rural social organization to a far greater degree than 25 years ago, even in economic concerns. The reasons for this trend are many. The cumulative effect of the extension program itself is one. The improved educational status of the farm population is another. The greater variety of needs and interests is a third. The mobility given by the automobile has helped.

2. To many farm people, Extension is the Government. Their confidence in its ability to solve any problem is a high compliment and a great responsibility.

3. For this reason personal contacts, though properly and inevitably lessening, can never be eliminated. Moreover, they help greatly in keeping Extension close to the grass roots.

4. If there ever was a "normal program" in Extension, it has gone for good. The program of Extension is what the people need. What they need in 1945 is different from what they needed in 1925 and will be different again in 1950. Time marches on, conditions change, and new problems and needs emerge as the great social and economic forces that sweep across the Nation and the world and leave their impact on our farms and in our communities. Our teaching then must concern these forces and our local adaptation to them, as well as the technical subjects if our farmers are to survive in the post-war world.

5. This fact does not mean dictation from State or Federal headquarters. Local people will use, often with adaptations, State and Federally suggested programs when they understand them and the programs fit.

6. The neighborhood-leader plan works. (My experience with it was published in the Extension Service Review, in part of Roy Moser's article, page 139, September 1943 issue.) However, the educational status of leaders and population affects the sort of program the neighborhood leaders can handle.

7. Extension can reach all economic and educational levels of the population if the agents wish and will use the appropriate methods. So to do, of course, raises difficult and interesting problems. In one township in my county, with more than one-third of the county's 1,200 farms, half of the farmers were foreign-born or native-born of foreign parentage. One-third were illiterate by Army standards. But these people were serviced; and when they once understood the situation, they were realistic in terms of the war situation and cooperative.

Maryland adopts post-war plans

■ Expansion of extension educational programs and personnel were among the recommendations included in a post-war agricultural program for Maryland adopted by the State Post-War Agricultural Committee meeting in Baltimore in October.

Greater attention to the training of rural youth by the addition of a man and a woman 4-H Club agent in each county, the establishment of a tobacco experiment station to be operated by the University of Maryland, and more intensive extension educational programs on building materials, house plans, electrical equipment, and on all phases of production and marketing are among the recommendations adopted.

Also stressed was the need for greater efficiency of production, greater attention to standardization of products and containers, stimulation of cooperative effort in production and marketing enterprises, and better merchandising programs.

Particular attention was given to opportunities in post-war agriculture for returning veterans and for the utilization of military equipment in enterprises relating to agriculture and rural communities.

Openings for 2,500 Veterans

Openings for 2,500 veterans on Maryland farms were forecast, and special extension short courses to train additional returning servicemen for the specialized fields of vegetable production and processing were recommended. The use of equipment such as bulldozers, scrapers, tractors, and trucks, and various phases of soil conservation for road improvement or construction and of landing barges as an inexpensive method of transportation of fertilizer and other bulky farm supplies was advocated.

Greater economic security for the individual farm family was the objective of recommendations urging the adoption of such practices as keeping farm and home records; maintaining a balanced program of livestock and feed production; increasing production yields through greater use of fertilizers, better seed varieties, and herd improvement; and using accumulated savings or cash credit rather than merchant credit for construction, needed repairs, or the purchase of equipment.

The progressive marketing program outlined called for more research on better-adapted varieties of fruit and vegetables; greater cooperation between growers and retailers on merchandising programs; encouragement of greater participation by individual farmers in commodity associations; the building of better good will between the grower, the dealer, and the consumer; more extensive use of cooperative organizations; the development of a comprehensive marketing reporting service; more research in the line of packages, and the production of higher quality and more uniform products. An educational program for commission merchants, brokers, jobbers, and retail store managers in the most efficient methods of handling, displaying, and storing perishable farm products, and more adequate and efficient market facilities throughout the State were also emphasized.

Recommendations adopted at the meeting were drawn up by 18 subcommittees. Specific phases of post-war agriculture covered by the subcommittee reports included farm crops, tobacco, livestock, dairying, poultry, fruits, vegetables, and canning crops, conservation problems, farm engineering, plant insects and diseases, marketing, rural homes, rural youth, farm economics, education, farm organization, Federal-State relations, and rural institutions. Recommendations adopted at the Baltimore meeting will be issued in printed form for the guidance of groups and individuals in translating the program into action.

The State Post-War Agricultural Committee was organized in the late fall of 1943; and Dr. T. B. Symons, extension director and dean of the college of agriculture of the University of Maryland, was elected chairman. The 18 subcommittees were set up as working groups to survey current conditions and future prospects and make such recommendations as the situation warranted. Initial reports made by the subcommittees were submitted to county extension agents for consideration by county agricultural leaders and farm organization representatives. As a result of this action, the reports as presented at the October meeting represented the combined thinking of State and county leaders. Membership of the over-all State Post-War Agricultural Committee included representatives of farm organizations, commodity groups, and State and Federal agencies.

Leading Ideas

■ Blueberry growers in Washington County, Maine, received their first warning regarding the army cutworm through neighborhood leaders.

■ In Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, and Norfolk Counties, Mass., women neighborhood leaders were trained in a program of Fight Food Wastes during the spring and were asked to carry this information to those living near them.

■ Cracker-box discussions were directed into channels of Victory Garden growing at two country stores in Morgan County, W. Va., by H. C. Williamson, neighborhood leader. Mr. Williamson also gave two or three twilight spraying demonstrations where neighbors could gather round to see and hear.

■ More than 1,000 rat tails were bought and paid for at 10 cents each in the neighborhood surrounding Point Pleasant, W. Va., as the result of a rat-control campaign directed by C. D. Ball, chairman of the Morgan County neighborhood-leader committee. Money for purchase of the tails was donated by public-spirited citizens and firms.

■ Approximately 100 tons of waste paper was salvaged in 23 rural townships in Cayuga County, N. Y., in a drive conducted with the cooperation of extension minutemen.

■ The coyote population in Baylor County, Tex., was thinned considerably as the result of a drive initiated by the county agricultural victory council to obtain a government wolf trapper.

■ Fourteen community leaders in Concho County, Tex., helped in routing and placing approximately 20 out-of-county combines and assisted in seeing that the 124 combines owned by Concho County farmers were used to the fullest extent.

11,000 farmers standing by to advise returning veterans and others

■ With farmer membership of the 2,162 organized veterans' agricultural advisory committees ranging from 3 to 7, approximately 11,000 practical farm operators were standing by in October to provide practical advice to veterans and other prospective farmers. These committees had been organized in more than two-thirds of the Nation's 3,070 counties by mid-October, and organization was in process in most of the other counties, according to information received from 43 States.

County agricultural agents in most States began designating such committees during the summer months as a result of the request of the War Food Administration. The agricultural extension agent in each county is usually secretary of the committee and, where committees are not yet functioning, provides a one-man veterans' advisory service. Under an arrangement between the War Food Administration and the Selective Service Administration, returning soldiers interested in agriculture are to be referred to county extension agents by local Selective Service boards. The agent in turn provides such advice as is appropriate and refers the veterans to members of the advisory committees for additional advice.

In many States the veterans' advisory groups are subcommittees of county agricultural planning or other existing committees. In addition to farmers, membership frequently includes representatives of agricultural agencies and local businessmen. Minnesota, however, reported special committees consisting only of five practical farmers. Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Oklahoma reported neighborhood leaders were being asked to serve as veterans' advisers.

Typical training activities by State cooperative extension services for county extension workers and other members of the advisory committees range from land-classification tours in Washington to meetings on land values and farm economics in Vermont and training in farm business analysis in Montana. Where available, county land-use planning reports were being studied by the advisory committees. In some counties, committee members were making surveys to collect necessary and useful information on such subjects as jobs open to veterans on farms as well as farms likely to be for sale or rent.

Information currently available indicates that 31 State cooperative extension services have printed or are preparing bulletins and leaflets directly applicable to a veterans' advisory service. States with publications already available include Colorado, Delaware, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin. States reporting printed material in process of publication included Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Vermont.

Director greets former 4-H boy

■ Pvt. Kenneth Otagaki, of the celebrated 100 Hawaiian Infantry Division of the United States Army, and former 4-H Club boy, was a guest recently at an extension luncheon in Washington, D. C. This Infantry Division is made up of American boys of Japanese ancestry born in Hawaii. Kenneth is one of about 2,000 boys of Japanese ancestry accepted by General Emmons from almost 10 000 who answered his call for volunteers. Private Otagaki trained in the States, was sent to North Africa and saw active service in Sicily. He was seriously wounded in combat action at Cassino, losing a leg, an eye, and several fingers. He is now at Walter Reed Hospital.

Private Otagaki was formerly a 4-H Club boy in Hawaii, having been in poultry club work for 5 years on the island of Molokai. He is a graduate of the University of Hawaii with a B.S. degree in agriculture. Before his enlistment in the Army he was employed as an assistant in the dairy department of the University of Hawaii and as herdsman of Senator Cook's purebred dairy herd on Molokai. He hopes to be able to return to Hawaii by Christmas and as soon as possible thereafter to return to the States for post-graduate work in dairying at the Iowa State College of Agriculture.

W. A. Lloyd, director of information of the Land-Grant College Association, formerly field agent, Western States, introduced Private Otagaki at the luncheon.

(Left to right) W. A. Lloyd, Pvt. Kenneth Otagaki, and Director M. L. Wilson.

Georgia city youngsters pitched in to help farmers

■ Down near the Savannah River in Georgia, about 220 Augusta boys and girls helped to fight the food production battle this past summer and fall. These youngsters probably have saved the farmers of Richmond County approximately $50,000 worth of farm crops that would not have been gathered if the boys and girls had not volunteered to help solve the manpower shortage.

Supervisor Bill Jones of Augusta, 16 years old, senior 4-H Club member, tells Henry Sherrer and Herbert Lowery (from left to right) what part of the 31-acre field to stack hay on next.

About the time school closed last May, County Agent J. W. Chambers and Assistant Agent Fred P. Sims began work on recruiting youths for the Victory Crop Corps. They obtained from the school superintendent the names of all boys and girls in the city schools and sent questionnaires to them asking them to sign up with the Crop Corps to help harvest the different crops in the county. Local motion picture shows ran shorts urging boys and girls who would like to harvest crops to see the county agent. Taking pictures and using them with stories on the work local newspapers played an important part in recruiting.

The first recruits were nine youngsters, who, when they saw in a movie that farmers were desperate for labor, went to Mr. Chambers' office and offered to help. Before the summer was over the number had grown to 220.

Farmers needing help called Mr. Sims who would round up the boys to work from 3 until 8 p. m., weather permitting, as long as there was work to do. Mr. Chambers and Mr. Sims decided that the afternoon hours when the weather is cooling off would be the best time to harvest crops. Farmers furnished transportation, having senior 4-H Club boys to drive the trucks to and from the farms each day. These 4-H Club boys also supervised the boys doing farm work.

During the summer and fall the boys cut and stocked hay, pulled corn, cut silage, harvested grapes, and picked cotton; and the girls picked cotton.

The youngsters were paid the prevailing farm wages on a piece-work basis, earning approximately $7,000. With the splendid help of Mrs. Anita De Hay, the farm labor clerk in the county agent's office, the boys and girls were kept busy during the summer. After schools began in the fall about 150 continued to work on farms after school hours.

Although youngsters were willing to use much of their vacation time working, Mr. Sims believed an occasional change was good for them. So at least once a week, he called a halt in production and the kids enjoyed that great American game—baseball.

Some of the boys and girls worked for patriotic reasons, some for the money they were earning, and others for the muscle they were getting. Regardless of why they worked, their boy- and girl-power was a part of the gigantic war effort.

Study medical care

The State council of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, representing 2,200 clubs and 45,000 rural women, centered the program of its recent annual meeting in Raleigh round better medical care for farm people.

The council passed a resolution endorsing the plan to transfer to local governments, without cost, surplus medical equipment and medical supplies which the Army and Navy will have on hand at the end of the war. They suggested that such equipment and supplies be used in equipping hospitals in rural communities where they are so seriously needed.

The State council further urged the home demonstration clubs to take the lead in working with all agencies and organizations interested in the welfare of youth to provide a program for reducing juvenile delinquency through health and sex education, better recreational facilities, and a call for greater consecration to religious life.

The rural women also endorsed higher pay for school teachers, cooperation with the price control programs, and help and counsel for returning war veterans.

They pledged themselves to do everything possible in the fight against inflation.

New director for Texas

■ Dr. Ide Peebles Trotter, assumed the duties of State extension director in Texas on November 1. He has been associated with Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College since 1936 as professor and head of the Department of Agronomy. For 13 years prior he served as cotton specialist and field crops specialist with the Missouri Extension Service. Dr. Trotter was born at Brownsville, Tenn., December 12, 1895.

He finished high school at Hattiesburg, Miss., in 1912 and received a bachelor of arts degree from the Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., in 1915. After 1 year as assistant principal of the Hernando high school, Hernando, Miss., he attended Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College at State College, Miss., now called Mississippi State College, and obtained the degree of bachelor of science in agriculture in 1918.

In 1918 he enlisted in the United States Army, attending officers training school at Camp Pike, Ark., and Camp Taylor, Ky., and was commissioned second lieutenant, field artillery, at Camp Taylor, Ky. Subsequently, he was director of agricultural training, U. S. Army Base Hospital for wounded soldiers at Camp Travis and Fort Sam Houston, Tex. After being discharged from the Army on October 31, 1919, Dr. Trotter did graduate work at Mississippi A. and M. College for the M.S. degree on a fellowship with the agricultural experiment station.

In June, 1933, he received the doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Wisconsin Graduate School, using as a thesis, "The effectiveness of 10 years of agronomy extension work in the Missouri clover and prosperity program."

After his graduate work at Mississippi A. and M., Dr. Trotter was employed several years by the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station at the Delta Branch Station, Stoneville, where some of the most important cotton research work in the country is done. In 1923 he joined the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Missouri and in the succeeding 13 years supervised some research work in the effectiveness of extension methods. He used some of the results as the thesis for his doctor of philosophy degree.

Meanwhile, he was assigned by the Extension Service to head up the Agricultural Adjustment Agency program in southeastern Missouri in its early days. He organized and directed that program for the cotton territory of Missouri through the plow-up and

Bankhead programs, returning to his agronomic extension work in 1935.

During June, July, and August 1938, Dr. Trotter conducted the seventh annual foreign cotton study tour sponsored by the department of agronomy of the Texas A. and M. College. Points of agricultural interest were visited through the South and Southwest, Washington, D. C., New York City, the U. S. Regional Grass Laboratory at Pennsylvania State College, and Midwest colleges. In addition, visits were made to England, Wales, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, and France.

Rolls up record

Charles Tarble, county agent of Cumberland County, Ill., opened his mail and scanned the final State report which ranked the counties in the order of their finish in the Fifth War Loan Drive. And there was Cumberland county second in the total individual quota and third in the "E" quota attained in the State. "That," said Charley, chairman of the county drive, "is the result of using the leader system and following it up."

In explaining the method used in his accomplishment, Mr. Tarble stated that he counseled with a small county group to select a dependable chairman from each township. With the assistance of these chairmen, he selected two leaders in each school district. Care was used to select men whose wives could drive a car and who could otherwise get out and work if the husband became too busy. Agent Tarble, as county chairman, kept a constant stream of local publicity running in the four local papers that covered the county. He also made frequent contacts with the township chairmen who, in turn, called on their two school district leaders in each of the nine districts in their township.

"The school district leader system enabled me to extend myself and, with the help of these good leaders, get a job done that otherwise would have been impossible for me to do alone," said Agent Tarble.

Seabees study farming

Seabees stationed at Camp Endicott, R. I., wanted to know about farming, so the Naval Educational Service asked the Extension Service to help. When it was dairying the Seabees were interested in, the dairy specialist selected a practical dairyman who went with him out to camp. The dairyman talked first and told about his own farm and how he started in business. He told of the pitfalls he had experienced and answered a multitude of questions fired at him.

When the poultry farmer talked, the men asked to visit his farm. A visit was arranged for a later date, and then they wanted a special meeting afterward to talk over what they had seen. This same group asked for more, and a tour to several commercial poultry farms was arranged. The Navy furnished a bus for transportation, and a follow-up meeting was held on this tour, too.

The sessions got under way at 7 o'clock and ended at 9:15 or later. One evening was brought to a close by the 9:30 bugle signaling "lights out." Director H. O. Stuart, of the Rhode Island Extension Service, says: "The meetings have been some of the most interesting I have ever attended."

Do you know . .

GERTRUDE E. CONANT

The mother of Arkansas Better Babies Clubs which have 10,000 children scattered over Arkansas

■ This spring a white-haired woman sat in a Logan County, Ark., schoolhouse watching a grammar school commencement exercise. For her, the climax came when two young girls, so alike in their rosy healthiness, rose to receive their diplomas. After the ceremony, the twins rushed to her, showering her with their exciting new importance.

The woman was Gertrude Conant, for the past 26 years champion of better babies in Arkansas; the twins were two of her first "babies."

This July Miss Conant retired to private life after more than a quarter of a century's service with the College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas. For the first 24 years as nutrition specialist of the Extension Service and during the past 2 years under the title of extension specialist in child care and family life, she has assisted parents in developing strong, healthy children by urging better nutrition for the babies who make tomorrow's men and women. During her last year, according to the 1943 report, enrollment in better babies clubs stood at 9,198 children from birth to school age in 513 clubs representing 5,994 families.

It was back in the fall of 1930 that Miss Conant, then in her twelfth year as nutrition specialist, had gone into Logan County and organized the first better babies club in the State.

After a dozen years of preaching nutrition more and more mothers were asking for help in feeding their children. This custom of rural women to depend on her for information about their children's welfare was a far cry from the early days of her work when rickets, pellagra, and scurvy had been prevalent and infant mortality was high in Arkansas —when women has distrusted her advice and had resented her desire to help. She recalls a conversation with a woman whose children were decidedly undernourished. The woman was quick to remind Miss Conant that as she had never had a child she could hardly know what was good for them, to which Miss Conant replied: "Your doctor has never had a child, but you listen to him."

During the year of the first better babies clubs there was a terrific drought. All vegetation dried up. Because of the shortage of feed, farmers killed their cattle and milk was scarce. The only green thing left in gardens was the edible soybean which a short time before Miss Conant had recommended as a garden crop. She showed mothers how to feed their babies on soybean milk in place of cows' milk. The babies thrived on it.

The first better babies club was a natural outgrowth of these spontaneous requests from mothers. Miss Conant began by assisting home demonstration agents with leader training meetings. She and Marcelle Phillips, the county home demonstration agent, organized the first better babies club in Logan County. She gives much credit to the success of that first club to one home demonstration leader, Mrs. Dan Hall, a registered nurse with two small children, whose interest and experience greatly stimulated the project. Among the charter members of this Arkansas Better Babies Club were the twin girls now graduated from grammar school.

The growth of better babies clubs from that time since has had rapid-fire success, until now clubs exist in practically every county—and every county is doing something along the line of child development whether there is a club or not. Last year, Lawrence County had the largest enrollment among white clubs, with 619 babies in 19 clubs representing 316 families.

One of the main features of the clubs is the better babies clinics, arrangements for which are worked out closely with public health officials. Mothers are encouraged to bring their babies to these clinics, held in a designated place every 3 months, for the county health doctor and county health nurse to check and immunize if necessary. Miss Conant remembers how encouraging was the remark once made to her by a district health doctor in central Arkansas to the effect that he could always tell where Miss Conant had been because there the babies were healthier. In 1943, 176 clinics were held in 48 counties, according to Miss Conant.

The Negro better babies clubs were initiated in 1936 with the establishment of one in Monroe County. Since then, others have been organized there and in many counties. In Ashley

County, where Miss Conant did special work during the past 2 years, there are now eight clubs with a large enrollment. In Conway and Faulkner Counties, the first Negro clubs were started this year. Lincoln County has organized three since the first of the year. In fact, over the State, additional Negro leaders are being trained, and the number of clubs and enrollment are showing a steady increase. The Negro mothers in these clubs are especially eager to follow directions, Miss Conant explains. It was at a Negro club in Woodruff County that Miss Conant had the largest leader training attendance of any better babies club meeting she ever had. Fifty leaders—two from each club in the county—arrived at 9 o'clock in the morning, and by 1 oclock that afternoon they were still so interested in asking Miss Conant questions that she almost missed her bus. She still remembers it as one of the best meetings she ever conducted.

Once a man, impressed with a better babies demonstration given by Miss Conant, asked her how many children she had. Her answer based on the records of her work over the 26-year period, was a conservative estimate, "Oh, about 10,000 scattered over Arkansas."—*Cleva Burks, assistant extension editor, Arkansas.*

Extension loses esteemed Utah editor

■ Wilford D. Porter, one of the Nation's outstanding extension editors and head of the Journalism Department at the University of Utah, died on October 5.

Mr. Porter was born in Franklin, Idaho, and was reared on a farm. He received his B.S. degree from Utah State Agricultural College in 1922. After graduation, he taught in high schools until 1928 when he became extension editor and secretary to the director of the Utah Extension Service. After a year of outstanding graduate study at the University of Wisconsin Mr. Porter was awarded the degree of master of science in journalism. Upon returning to the University of Utah in 1935 Mr. Porter became head of the Journalism Department. He also handled publicity for the college and served as extension editor.

Wilford Porter was a prolific writer and contributed numerous articles to national magazines and local and State newspapers. He was also recognized as an author of songs, poetry, and pageants.

Mr. Porter was a member of Sigma Delta Chi and Pi Delta Epsilon, national honorary journalism fraternities; of Pi Gamma Mu, national honorary social science fraternity; and Epsilon Sigma Phi, national extension fraternity.

He was in the armed services during World War I.

Elected to the presidency of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors as a tribute to his ability and popularity among his fellow editors throughout the United States, he served two terms. During the past summer he was chairman of a group of agricultural college editors who met in Washington to discuss the wartime information program of the USDA.

Surviving besides his widow are a son, Larry, of Logan; a daughter, Mrs. Genevieve Johnson, of Arlington, Va.; and four sisters.

In a letter to State extension editors, Lester A. Schlup, Chief, Division of Extension Information, said:

"Nobility is a word that is much abused, but it expresses aptly what Wilf Porter meant to me. . . . He was a man of talent, but it was in the realm of friendship and human relations that his genius found greatest expression. Always quiet and unassuming, he had a way of cutting through surface disguise to the real substance of things.

"His integrity, his philosophy, his depth of human understanding exercised a profound influence for good upon all who had relationships with him. . . . Always sympathetic and always constructive in his interest in the problems of other people made Wilf the ideal friend. . . . He sacrificed himself . . . his mind, his spirit, his enthusiasm, and his body . . . to the things that he saw needed to be done. Yes, Wilf was a noble and lovable character. But he had the breath of eternity about him that will make his loss physical rather than spiritual."

Fair booths show war housekeeping

Home demonstration units from six western Kansas counties illustrated wartime homemaking practice in their booths at the Hutchinson State fair, according to Ella M. Meyer, district home demonstration agent in Kansas. Home demonstration agents working with a committee of women from each county planned the exhibits.

Cheyenne County's booth had an exhibit of methods of mending pans and other household equipment at home. "Ironing?—Take it Easy" was the subject of Pawnee County's display, which will illustrate how properly arranged ironing equipment saves energy.

Ford County women demonstrated savings resulting from home renovation and repair of furniture and repair of rugs. Comanche County's booth was devoted to encouraging conservation of clothing through use of the right methods of mending.

Care of the pressure cooker to improve food conservation methods was shown in Kiowa County's booth. Smith County women chose for their exhibit means of finding recreation at home, in order to conserve transportation and keep up the family morale.

4-H fosters health examinations

"More healthy youngsters" is the goal of a Wisconsin county public health service which is cooperating this year with the 4-H Club program to provide a free health clinic.

Phyllis Wisner, Brown County club agent, reports that a new health system is being used this year in 4-H Club work and that a health chest clinic was set up at the county fair in cooperation with Mary Norton, county nurse, and the local doctors.

This clinic was free to all 4-H members and included a general examination, the TB skin test, and eyes and teeth check. Recommendations for health improvements were made to each member attending the clinic, and arrangements for X-rays were made for those showing positive or doubtful reactions to the TB skin test. This is a part of the Brown County public health service.

Extension agents join fighting forces

Nine extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,300 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days. News of their doings and excerpts from their letters are printed on this page.

Extension's Gold Stars

J. L. Daniels, formerly assistant county agent in Madison County, Ala., died, as a result of wounds received at Guadalcanal, in December 1942. He was in the Marines.

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. J. B. Holton, formerly county agent in La Salle Parish, La., was killed in action in Europe during the invasion, June 9.

Capt. Frank Wayne, formerly county agent in Bernalillo County, N. Mex., killed in a vehicle accident in England.

Escape

Lt. John R. Vaughn, formerly extension plant pathologist in West Virginia who was reported in the August 1943 issue of the REVIEW as a prisoner of war, escaped and finally succeeded in reaching the American troops in Italy. He is now back in this country.

Down under

Little did I think that I would wind up on a South Sea island when I was laying the foundation for my career back in college days, but here I am, nevertheless. It all fits into the storybook plan with the exception of "Friday." It may be that I have not thoroughly explored the island as yet, but somehow I doubt that I'll be as lucky as Crusoe.

I left Pearl Harbor on February 21 last; and, after traveling to New Caledonia via the New Hebrides, I at last wound up back here at the New Hebrides where I'll probably be for a few months. The trip down was wonderful as the weather was calm and the sea smooth. We crossed the equator on the 28th of February and the date line that night, so we lost February 29. We all weathered the crossing of Neptune Rex's domain in good shape and were duly initiated into the Order of the Deep and the Golden Dragon, and are now full-fledged shellbacks.

We are stationed here doing the same kind of work that I was trained for at Fisher's Island (under-water detection). We live in huts 16 feet square, open on four sides, with screen covering the openings to keep the mosquitoes from carrying us off at night and to allow the breeze to blow through the hut.

Since we have been here we have had 1 day out of 10 without rain. We keep our clothes dry by storing them in a box equipped with light bulbs to furnish heat. The uniform of the day on our island is shorts, sun-helmets, and shoes.

There is a native tribe of about 50 men and women on this place. They are very friendly and visit our camp daily to trade beads, shells, necklaces, baskets, bow and arrows, fans, and fruit to the boys for shoes, hats, cigarettes, gum, candy, or anything else that they might see that they want. The natives are the Melanesian race and direct descendents of head hunters. They wear no clothes except a gee string most of the time. On Sunday they don their recently acquired shoes, hats, etc., and come down to spend the day with us. Each one of them usually carries an axe or a long knife for cutting trails through the jungles. They live on bananas, gums, pineapple, coconuts, oranges, lemons, limes, and pigs. Each native has a dozen or so pigs which are used as food as well as for trading stock for procuring a wife. The only limit on the number of wives one man may have seems to be the number of pigs he has to trade. Most of the natives have managed to pick up enough of the English language to be able to make you understand them. They like the Americans and are rapidly adopting our luxuries. Men, women, and children all smoke cigarettes and chew chewing gum.

Before the war, men used to work for the French plantation owners for 5 cents per day, cutting brush and handling coconuts. All of their time is now spent making things to sell and

trade to the boys here from the States. A string of shell beads can be had for a 20-cent bottle of shaving lotion ("smell water" to the natives), a carton of cigarettes, or 50 cents to $1 in cash. Judging from what I have seen, the average of the men and boys now make about $10 weekly trading with us.—*Lt. (j.g.) Sam Alsop, formerly county agent in Haskell County, Kans.*

From Great Lakes, Ill.

Yesterday I went to Chicago to work at the U. S. Cold Storage plant. Had never realized just how much food is being produced by the farmers of Missouri and elsewhere. I had seen it in black and white as so many tons or carloads, but yesterday I saw the real McCoy—sides of beef, hams, lard, frozen peas, beans, asparagus, turkeys, and eggs. I never thought that eggs could be put up in so many different forms—dried eggs, frozen yolks, frozen whites, frozen whole eggs, and just plain old hen fruit. I handled enough eggs in cases yesterday, I think, to feed us all for quite a while. Saw a cooler room that had about 2½ million pounds of food earmarked for shipment to Russia. At the rate they have been going, I say ship it to them.—*A/S William E. Pugh, Navy, formerly county agent, Monroe County, Mo.*

THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

TENNESSEE

Earl S. Hurt, AS, county agent, Grainger County, Navy.

S. G. Martin, Jr., AS, county agent, Lake County, Navy.

KANSAS

Walter Babbitt, S 2/c, Sheridan County agent, Navy.

Pvt. Robert J. Danford, Wichita County agent, Army.

Pvt. James Gearhart, Gray County agent.

Pvt. Russel C. Klotz, Woodson County agent, Army.

Lt. (j.g.) Elbert B. Macy, assistant extension editor in emergency farm labor, USNR.

Jack Pendleton, Rush County agent, unassigned.

Lt. (j.g.) Orin G. Steele, Ottawa County agent, Navy.

Chase C. Willson, Jr., S 1/C. Allen County agent, Navy.

Have you read

COME OVER INTO MACEDONIA. *Harold B. Allen.* 313 pp. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, N. J.

■ Come Over Into Macedonia is an exciting story of reconstruction in Macedonia as carried out under the leadership of Near East Relief—a 10-year adventure in uplifting a war-torn people. Its issuance is timely. I recommend it to all who are interested and concerned with the problems of world reconstruction. Dr. Allen says that one of the purposes of the book is to emphasize the slow, painstaking approach which must characterize all programs among rural people living under primitive conditions if sound progress is to be brought about; also the most effective system of obtaining permanent results is to help people help themselves.

Programs Formulated

Though Dr. Allen and members of his staff drew heavily upon the experiences and lessons learned in developing and operating the Extension Service in the United States, they were wise in not trying to superimpose an extension structure similar to ours. Their approach was first to understand the cultural patterns of the people and the physical and economic resources of the area. With this background, the peasant's problems could be understood, and programs for action formulated. What worked for Macedonia was developed out of Macedonia culture and needs. Similarly, what worked for Macedonia must be modified and adjusted to fit the needs even of neighboring countries. Moreover, the principles should have universal application.

Dr. Allen recognizes that for all occupied countries, direct relief will have to be given immediately following our armies of reoccupation. He concludes by saying: "As soon as it is at all possible, the program of emergency relief should be supplanted by an intelligent, aggressive, and planned schedule of scientific rehabilitation."—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work.*

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS. *Robert G. Foster.* 314 pp. The MacMillan Company, New York, N. Y., 1944.

■ Eighteen months ago in this column we reviewed *Women After College,* by Robert G. Foster. Now we call your attention to Dr. Foster's new book, *Marriage and Family Relationships.* Bob was an extension worker from 1918 to 1934, having worked with 4-H Clubs in New Mexico, as assistant State director in Nevada, and as representative of the Federal office in 4-H Club work in the 12 Eastern States. He is now director of the family life department at the Merrill-Palmer School in Detroit.

In Marriage and Family Relationships, Bob emphasizes particularly the personality and relationship phases of marriage that are significant in its success or failure. The chapter on the evolution of friendliness patterns in relation to marriage should be read by every parent, for in it Dr. Foster shows very clearly how the experiences of the entire growing-up period are important in laying the foundations for successful marriage and family life.

The book is intended for young people of college age but has much to commend it to parents, teachers, and ministers. To extension agents and 4-H leaders, particularly, it will give added understanding of human relationships and be especially helpful in their contacts with young people. It could well be used by a parent discussion group. The list of references and questions in the appendix should be very helpful in stimulating discussion, and a good index adds to the usefulness. Older youth groups will find it a very usable basis for a season's discussion program. We appreciate this contribution to our extension program.—*Mrs. Lydia A. Lynde, extension specialist in parent education.*

■ The Harlan Kiwanis Club is making awards to farmers in Harlan County, Ky., who sow their entire cultivated acreage to cover crops.

Flashes
FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interet to extension workers, as seen by Marion J. Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **The Importance of Eating.** The memory of man runneth not to a time when eating was unimportant or uninteresting to him. But more has been learned about nutrition in the last few years than in all the preceding centuries. The main facts about human nutrition and the foods we should choose to keep us healthy are contained in a 40-page publication issued this summer by the Department. This is Miscellaneous Publication 546, by Henry C. Sherman, the nutrition authority who acted as chief of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics while on leave of absence from Columbia University from April 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944. In the pamphlet he discusses calories and the control of body weight; protein foods; mineral elements in foods and nutrition; the vitamins; and grouping of foods for best results. Perhaps most important of all, he points out that by training ourselves to have good food habits, it is possible to add several years to our lives —and this does not mean a few years more of doddering old age but years inserted at the prime of life! Even persons who are already healthy and well fed can rise to greater levels of adequacy and efficiency by using the new knowledge of nutrition to guide their everyday eating.

■ **Breakfast Guide.** As a first step toward acquiring those excellent eating habits that can give us increased vigor and add good years to our lives, what we eat for breakfast is important. A new folder, AWI 107, gives some tips on starting the day right nutritionally. There is nothing stodgy about the suggestions, either. For example, though the traditional fruit and cereal, bacon and eggs are still recommended, fruit shortcake, fried tomatoes, and baked beans with codfish cakes and brown bread are suggested for variety! Other helpful hints on breakfast are contained in this attractive folder, which is called "Eat a Good Breakfast to Start a Good Day."

■ **Surprises for Meat Eaters.** A new and fascinating field of livestock and meat research promises some pleasant surprises in the way of tenderer, more appetizing meat of high nutritive value. It has been found in Department studies that cattle, sheep, and hogs can be bred and raised in such a manner as to produce better meat. Breeding has an especially important influence on meat quality and on the production of a high proportion of preferred cuts. Proper feeding is, of course, essential. Strangely enough, exercise, when taken in moderate amounts, instead of making an animal's flesh tough seems to make it tenderer. Also, the meat of young animals is not necessarily more tender than that of older ones, although toughness generally increases with age. Researchers and stockmen have the basis for producing higher quality meat as a result of this recent research.

■ **Bombing Them Out.** Blockbusters would be drastic treatment for getting rid of mosquitoes, but for 3 years "bombs" have been used to clear enclosed places of these pests. These bombs are small, sturdy, metal containers filled with aerosol—a compressed material containing an insecticide that is released through a valve as a fine spray or mist. Freon 12, commonly used as a refrigerant in automatic refrigerators, is used to carry the insecticide. The Freon evaporates in the air and leaves the fine particles of the insecticide floating like an invisible fog, toxic to insects but harmless to man. Released in a tent, barracks, or airplane, the aerosol quickly kills all mosquitoes present. The bomb, invented in the Bureau of Entomology and Plant quarantine, has been used by the armed services to protect our men from the diseases carried by mosquitoes as well as from the annoyance they cause. The imagination needs no prodding to picture the benefits of the aerosol bomb at home after the war.

■ **Sweet as Apple Cider.** A full-flavored apple-juice concentrate, which when water is added makes delicious sweet apple cider, has been developed at the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry. The concentrate is made by heating fresh apple juice so rapidly that its natural flavor is not modified, condensing and collecting the vaporized flavoring constituents, and later restoring them to the concentrated juice. The concentrate takes up only a fraction of the space needed to store fresh cider and will keep indefinitely without refrigeration. When about six parts of water are added to one of concentrated juice, the apple drink is indistinguishable from fresh sweet cider except that it is a little lighter in color. It is possible that before long the same process may be used to produce other fruit-juice concentrates.

County agent edits newspaper

Being versatile by necessity, a county agricultural agent does unusual things well. For instance, R. L. Stone, Lynn County, Tex., agent, edited and published an eight-page, six-column newspaper. It was devoted to a round-up of boys' 4-H Club activities in the county and was called Lynn County Boys' 4-H Club News.

■ CAPT. JOHN BLYTHE, former county agent in Morton County, Kans., and brother to Helen Blythe, home demonstration agent in Reno County, after serving almost 2 years in the Mediterranean theater, including Africa, Sicily, Italy, and Corsica, visited Kansas State College again recently. Captain Blythe arrived in the States about 2 weeks before, after a 2-week trip by boat from Naples, Italy. His experience piloting a British Spitfire and a P-51 seemingly has not worn him down. Captain Blythe reported at Santa Monica, Calif., for a new assignment.

Among Ourselves

■ EUNICE HEYWOOD left her position as State leader of home demonstration agents in New Hampshire to join the Federal Extension staff October 1. She represents the Federal office in the field of home demonstration in the Central States, replacing Grace E. Frysinger who has served so successfully in that section but has asked to be relieved of field work. Miss Frysinger continues in the service but in a capacity that requires no travel.

Miss Heywood served as county home demonstration agent in Cayuga County, N. Y., for 3½ years and later in Oswego County for 4 years. Then, after serving for 4 years as county home demonstration agent at large in New York State, she was appointed assistant State leader of home demonstration agents. In the spring of 1943, she became State leader of home demonstration agents in New Hampshire. In addition to a bachelor degree in home economics from the Oregon State Agricultural College, Miss Heywood earned her M. A. at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

■ MRS. MARY B. SAWRIE who was, for more than a quarter of a century, in charge of the Federal Extension Service Art Unit, retired September 30 to enjoy a well-earned period of leisure. One of Extension's most gifted and diligent workers, Mrs. Sawrie made a great contribution to cooperative extension work, always having been able to draw upon her fertile imagination and her talented fingers to interpret in clearly understandable, interesting, and beautiful art the most unintelligible data and inadequate information constantly given to her for presentation. Her ability to take humdrum facts and make them glow with life and human interest was amazing; and she always kept pace with the times, was interested in everything worth while, and busy at interpreting ideas in terms of current situations. She cooperated with everyone, worked hard to deliver in spite of the most exacting demands, resented idleness, invariably observed dead lines, and yet never grew older in spirit or in physical appearance. All who have known Mrs. Sawrie will long treasure the memory of her gracious manner and friendly smile.

Miss Gertrude Power, a very fine person and a capable artist, succeeds Mrs. Sawrie and will carry through on the excellent traditions of service established in the art unit.

■ LOIS SCANTLAND, district home demonstration agent of northwest Arkansas, and Lucy Blake, home demonstration agent, Fairfax County, Va., have been awarded General Education Board fellowships for a year of graduate study effective September 15. Both will study adult education and rural social organization under the general guidance of Dr. Edmund deS. Brunner at Columbia University.

Dr. Brunner, members of the Federal Extension staff, and extension officials in Virginia and Arkansas were instrumental in obtaining these fellowships for Miss Scantland and Miss Blake.

These scholarships were designed for supervisory agents or prospective supervisory workers. At the present time, this scholarship is available only to workers in Southern States.

■ MAX McALILEY, in sailor blue, fresh from the southwest Pacific, was a recent visitor at REVIEW headquarters. Formerly assistant extension editor in Alabama, he entered the service in 1942 but didn't change his line—he became photographer's mate, first class. Twenty-four months in New Guinea, New Britain, Australia, and thereabouts, taking part in the Battle of Midway and helping to pick up the crew of the Yorktown gave him some hair-raising experiences; but the thing he likes best to talk about is agriculture in Australia.

Just to prove the old adage that "there is nothing new under the sun," he said: "Australians had their AAA before we did, for the Primary Producers Act of 1923 controls the production of wheat and eggs. The Louisiana-type brooder also seems to have been in use there for 20 years, and I saw records on trench silos successfully kept for 25 years."

When Max was stationed in Australia, he used some of his first leave to visit the Minister of Agriculture. His USDA press card and identification card from Alabama Polytechnic Institute proved a good introduction. The minister and his able assistant, Under Secretary M. L. Cameron, helped him to see just as much of the agriculture of the country as he could find time to see.

Most of the farmers had never seen an American sailor before, and he caused quite a stir in rural circles.

He is now stationed at the photo laboratory, Patuxent, Md., Naval Air Station, and says he wants to go back to Australia when the war is over. He'd like a job with the Ministry of Agriculture for a few years, learning more about the country with the geographical area of the United States and the population of New York. He says he could live a year by spending a week with each farmer who has invited him for a visit.

■ E. E. HEIZER, head of Dairy Department, Wisconsin College of Agriculture, has a dictaphone installed in his car. He drives a great deal in the regular course of his duties, and Mrs. Heizer acts as chauffeur while he dictates his letters as they ride along, dropping off the records at his office periodically for his secretary to transcribe.

■ STARLEY M. HUNTER, assistant State leader of home demonstration agents in Indiana, will be on leave from her work there until July 1, 1945, to represent the Federal office in home demonstration work in the States, particularly in the field of work of the emergency war food assistants. Miss Hunter is well equipped for this work, having served for 5 years as county home demonstration agent in Randolph County, Ind., and since 1935 as assistant State leader of home demonstration agents in that State. In addition to her bachelor degree from Purdue University, Miss Hunter has an M. A. from Columbia University. She holds the rank of assistant professor at Purdue University.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

EASTERN STATES RURAL YOUTH CONFERENCE in New York City, November 8-10, called for a strong program which would meet the needs of young folks in selecting a vocation, establishing a home, and obtaining satisfactory recreation. A wider participation by older youth in planning and "bossing" their own programs and an over-all name for the group were discussed. This group of extension workers felt that a strong program would strengthen both 4-H and adult extension work and should be a responsibility of the entire staff.

THE NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION COUNCIL, meeting in Chicago, October 26-27, reported an increasing interest in better rural health facilities and better rural education. State home demonstration councils in 21 States are affiliated with the national organization, and women from 20 of the States were represented at the meeting. The wide geographic distribution is indicated by the presence of women from Oregon, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Colorado, and Alabama. There were about 40 delegates present. Their objective, as stated on the front of their program, is "To provide opportunity for homemakers in home demonstration groups to pool their judgment and experience for the progressive improvement of home and community life."

RHODE ISLAND 4-H CLUB NEWS, a small, newsy, mimeographed publication issued each month for Rhode Island 4-H Clubs, marked its twenty-fifth year with the October number. Its motto, carried on the masthead, is "Aim High and Keep at It." May the publication have many more years of useful service.

A SILVER ANNIVERSARY comes this year to County 4-H Club Agent Edwin R. Wyeth of Bristol County, Mass. Serving 25 years in the same county, he has lost only 10 days from his job. There were only 2 or 3 clubs in the county when he took up his duties, but there are now 140 clubs with 1,650 members. Mr. Wyeth is especially proud of his active 4-H Service Club of former members and parents who back the 4-H Clubs of the county and of the 4-H Club camp at Lake Noquochoke.

SERVICE TO SOLDIERS is the aim of home demonstration clubs in Laclede County, Mo., which are in the vicinity of Fort Leonard Wood. Clubs take definite quotas of cookies each week for the U.S.O. cookie jar. Other clubs work with the Red Cross in forming an "Arts and Skills Corps" to visit the general hospital 3 days a week to teach weaving, basketry, and leatherwork.

NEW HANDICRAFT SPECIALIST in the Washington office is Reba Adams, for the past 9 years home industries specialist in Georgia. She succeeds Mrs. Leonore B. Fuller who retired from active service on October 1. Home industries, long a part of the extension program in many places, will play an important part in postwar developments. Miss Mary La Follette continues to serve as extension adviser, working on the survey in rural arts and handicrafts in cooperation with the Russell Sage Foundation.

DIRECTOR A. E. BOWMAN of Wyoming was awarded the Distinguished Service Ruby by the National Grand Council of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the extension fraternity made up of extension workers who have at least 10 years of service. At their annual meeting, October 23, the group also expressed their appreciation for "the sterling qualities of leadership shown by Judge Marvin Jones in the many difficult situations encountered in meeting the wartime food needs of the United States and its Allies" with a Certificate of Recognition for distinguished wartime service to the Nation.

MAINE OBSERVED November 4 as Women's Land Army Day, featuring a big mass meeting at the Statehouse in Augusta to honor the contribution which these patriotic women have made to the Nation's food supply.

PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST on "My Experience as an Emergency Farm Worker," offered by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, has been extended to January 1, 1945. Any member of both the Women's Land Army and the General Federation of Women's Clubs is eligible to enter this contest which pays a $100 war bond for the best essay as judged by Florence Hall, chief, Women's Land Army, and Dorothy Thompson, author and commentator.

A TIMELY PUBLICATION on credit has just been received from Wisconsin. It is entitled "If You Have To Borrow Money When Buying a Farm" and lists on the cover page five things to consider. It is compact and gives complete information as to where, when, and how much. This publication should be useful to veterans' advisory committees as well as in extension teaching.

CITED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE, the New Blaine 4-H Club of Paris, Ark., heard their terracing activities dramatized on the Youth on Parade radio program of October 28. The members of the club give one-half day each week to laying terrace lines, helping to dehorn cattle, and other community service. The level is kept at school, and requests for their services are brought there. In a county where steep slopes and poor soils are the biggest problems, the 43 members of the New Blaine club have run terrace lines to help farmers save the soil on hundreds of acres.

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