

# Extension Service *Review*

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## It's been a busy year

■ "1944 will be the busiest year Extension work has faced in its 30 years," prophesied Director Wilson in the January issue of the REVIEW last year; and it has turned out to be even as he said.

With "Grow more in '44" as the theme song, agents worked to produce more milk with an 8-point program—to grow more Victory Gardens on farms and on city lots—to mobilize nonfarm youth, women, and men to work on farms—to preserve in some way all the food grown—to train new farm labor assistants and war food emergency agents—to organize and train neighborhood leaders to reach more families—to take JIT courses to improve their own efficiency and to encourage farmers to utilize inexperienced labor more effectively—to explain the income tax, which hit many farmers for the first time—to help young folks finance a 4-H Liberty ship—to collect milkweed floss for life belts—to grow enough to feed a fighter and more in '44—to combat inflation and the land boom—to organize veterans' advisory committees—to promote safety and prevent fire—to collect salvage—to sell bonds, and at the same time carry on the extension program to meet local needs.

### 8-Point Dairy Program

One of the most urgent wartime food needs was for dairy products. The dairy industry committee, representing nearly all the buyers of milk and cream, cooperated in working out the 8-point dairy program. Nearly 2 million copies of "what and why" leaflets issued by the USDA were distributed to dairy farmers. These were supplemented by "how" leaflets issued by the States. These leaflets reached every patron of every creamery, cheese factory, milk plant, re-

ceiving station, and condensery, creating wide interest of farmers in sound dairy practices. Proof that the local follow-up was effective is that dairy farmers produced 119 billion pounds of milk in 1944.

### Nearly 2,000 Emergency Assistants at Work

To reach all farm families who needed help in their problems of growing and preserving the war food supply, the War Food Administration provided funds for employing nearly 2,000 additional emergency assistants. Later, Congress made the money available for another fiscal year. The emergency assistants worked on Victory Gardens, food conservation, poultry, dairying, beef cattle, and sheep. Work with the Negroes in the South was expanded with these emergency funds, and 4-H Club work received an impetus.

Typical of what these emergency assistants are doing is an example from Kentucky where they helped place 17,000 baby chicks with 4-H members and farmers and placed fall garden seed packages with 500 4-H Club members and farmers. In Illinois, special meetings were held to plan for enrolling all farm cooperators in "rye for pasture" program to increase the milk supply. In Delaware, the assistants helped with corn-borer control to cut down waste of an important crop. In Idaho, activities included the 8-point dairy program, wartime use of available fertilizers, utilization of irrigation water in short water areas. In an Oklahoma county, the new man made 339 farm visits, and held 44 community meetings. He also organized neighborhood leaders in 22 communities and trained 79 neighborhood leaders on ways of increasing food production.

One of the biggest difficulties in the way of growing more in '44 was the farm labor shortage which showed no improvement over 1943. It was again the responsibility of the Extension Service to organize local forces to see that no food crops were lost through lack of labor.

At the end of the crop year, no appreciable amount of food had been lost through lack of labor, and the Extension Service had placed with 700,000 farmers the workers they needed to fill 5,200,000 farm jobs. Of these, 1,300,000 were filled by youth and 700,000 by women. Information was supplied to local Selective Service Boards regarding the contribution of 1,300,000 young men to agricultural production.

Under the leadership of county agents, more than 6,000 field and office assistants, who were paid from farm labor funds, and more than 100,000 volunteer leaders helped with the program.

Town folks turned out to save local crops and farm work proved an educational experience for the city folks as well as a help to the farmer.

### Victory Gardens Hold Their Own

1944 Victory Gardens held their own with the 1943 record. About 19 million gardens were grown, and two-thirds of the housewives in America preserved some food. These jobs required a great many extension man-hours. Victory Gardens in cities were better and larger than in 1943 so that production was greater.

These are but some of the accomplishments of extension agents in 1944. The 4-H Clubs were depended on everywhere to help reach the wartime goals, and enrollment reached 1,700,000 members. Others, such as the organization of veterans' advisory committees in practically all counties, the salvage campaigns, and the fire-prevention work, have gone into making 1944 the busiest of Extension Service's 30 years.

# Working in a post-war world

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

■ In this great war to preserve democracy, the land-grant colleges and the Extension Service are making a record to be proud of. They will face an equally great opportunity after victory is won.

Already they are showing a keen awareness of the task that lies ahead, and I particularly want to express my appreciation of the cooperation they have given to the post-war planning of the United States Department of Agriculture. The times ahead will call for the best efforts of all of us.

Agriculture will face some most difficult and complex problems in the years after the war. In that period, especially during the transition from a wartime to a peacetime economy, farmers will have more need than ever before for reliable information on production methods, marketing problems, and economic factors. The land-grant colleges can and should have a leading part in bringing farmers the kind of information they will need.

## Economic Problems Important

When the war is over farmers are again going to find themselves facing difficulties in the economic field, and perhaps the chief difficulty is the one we were wrestling with in the period between World War I and World War II. For want of a better term, let's call it the problem of matching consumption and production. There has been a long-standing debate on whether the economic ills of the farmer were due to overproduction or to underconsumption, and very probably that debate will continue.

Some economic problems, like production problems, are not simple and sometimes can be confusing even to a trained economist. But in the post-war world the individual must both understand economic problems and act on his knowledge.

First, it is important that the farmer understand what the economic situation is, so that he can plan his farming operations upon the basis of facts instead of doing it blindly. In the post-war period it is going to be just as important to know what to produce as it is to know how to produce it.

In the second place, it is necessary that the farmer have facts and information which will help him determine what kind of national agricultural action programs we are going to have. There is every reason to believe we shall need such programs for a long time to come; and there is ample evidence that we are going to have them unless we are so foolish as to adopt programs which are so useless and so obnoxious that the public rebels and discards them all. The important thing is that farmers are the ones who will decide what kind of program they are going to have.

Public opinion is the strongest force in our Nation. It writes our laws. It helps shape every successful administrative procedure and in the long run spells success or failure of the administration of every program. The only farm program that can be ultimately successful is one that farm people—and to a large degree the whole population—support wholeheartedly. They will support only a program they understand and believe in; and they will understand it more quickly and believe in it more deeply if they helped build it. As experience has shown so clearly, a sound farm program must be democratic.

We must see that our extension people are free to bring accurate and complete information to all the farm people. This freedom, of course, also carries with it the responsibility for fairly presenting both sides of controversial questions. Such freedom means extension workers must not be subject to any pressures which will interfere with their presentation of all of the facts, and nothing but the facts. The Extension Service must not be used as a sales or promotional agent for any particular commercial, political, or farm organization.

As many of you may know, I myself am a loyal member of more than one farm organization. As all of you know, the United States Department of Agriculture believes in farm organizations, encourages them, and works with them. But the Department does not work *for* them; years ago it found out that that helped neither the organization nor the Department. Nor should the Extension

Service be asked to do administrative work for any organization. If the Extension Service gets into that kind of work—and I am thinking of administering Federal agricultural programs along with other types of enterprise—it will not only have less time for education but it may well be prevented from giving all the facts.

I recall, back in my home community, how my friends and I were sometimes critical because we could not get more active support from the Extension Service for the cooperative organizations which we were trying to build. I also recall my disappointment, after I had gone to Washington, that the Extension Service sometimes did not take a more active part in some of the national farm programs. But after some years of experience and responsibility at about all levels of agricultural activity, I have come to see quite clearly that it is impossible to have an organization do a good job in the educational field while also having to do administrative work, sales work, or promotion work for any other interest or organization.

## Reaching All People

I wish especially to mention the fine work being done by some States in reaching all of the families on the land with education in agriculture and homemaking, and I hope the time soon will come when the work of all States will be up to that high level. It is most important to plan extension programs so as to reach those farms and families most in need of information. I am not unmindful of the difficulties involved in reaching such people, but where there is the most need there is the best opportunity to show achievement.

Before closing I wish to mention one other point, and that is the necessity for the land-grant colleges to plan to expand their activities so that they reach everyone who is in need of information concerning agriculture. We know that there is a need and a strong demand for more adult education in homemaking in our cities and towns. I think the land-grant colleges should supply that need. The Victory Garden programs have given us another illustration that interest in agriculture and horticulture doesn't stop at the corporate limits of our cities. The land-grant colleges should be prepared to satisfy urban interest in these matters.

## 4-H council on the beam for V-day

■ The remaining 4-H Council members in Mineral County, W. Va., are giving special attention to the 25 boys who have turned their 4-H training to the service of Uncle Sam in the various war theaters.

A "round-robin" letter writing project has been in operation for 2 years. Members choose from the list and then keep in touch with the boys by letter, gifts, and holiday cards. A 4-H Council scrapbook is being kept as a record of the service boys' activities and includes pictures, clippings, souvenirs sent by the boys and interesting letters received. The volume has grown and is the pride and joy of those responsible for compilation.

During county 4-H camp the last week in July, a "round-robin" letter was written to each boy by leaders and older club members. In the many replies to the county club agent, the boys expressed great pleasure in being remembered at an event most dear to their hearts—county 4-H camp.

A member of the Air Corps in Burma wrote: "It did my heart good to get the letter from my 4-H friends. My, but I would like to have been there! Guess I would have had to belong to the "Big Foot Tribe (leaders)." From the South Pacific on an aircraft carrier: "The letter from the campers was deeply appreciated. No kidding, it is really a pleasant feeling to know that you're remembered no matter where you are. I really do intend to finish school when I get back and be a county agent." A member in Hawaii wrote: "I really appreciated the letter from camp. Good to know that you are missed and I shall never forget the good times at county 4-H camp." From a 4-H leader in Cairo came this word in his modest way: "Strangely, there appeared to be some people who remembered me in the 4-H Council when actually I had not accomplished too much except to love the 4-H very dearly. The larger thing was not what I did but what 4-H did for me. Something within me never reached full expression until it was unlocked through 4-H work. Never a single evening vesper service at sundown on

the hill, or a council circle at night have I sat in without having a great experience. It all lends to the 'volunteer' spirit. There may be other fellowships just like a good West Virginia 4-H Camp Council Circle but I haven't found them."

Thus far the only sadness that has befallen the "Twenty-five" is one lost in action, and one a prisoner of Japan, and the boys never forgot to ask of them in their letters.

Practically every branch of the service is represented, serving in most every part of the world: New Guinea, Saipan, Hawaii, Egypt, Burma, England, France, South Pacific, and some who are still in the States.

The boys are looking forward to a week of camp to be held after the war in which all council members will

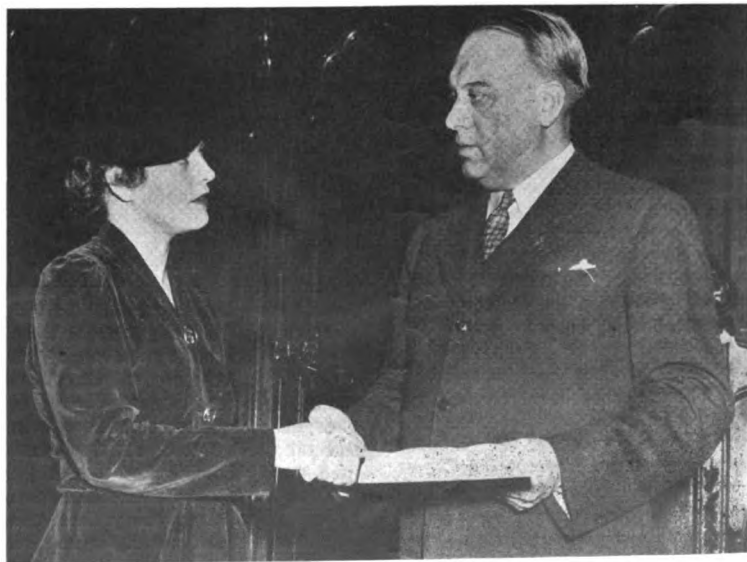
take part, with the privilege of the boys asking one person as their guest. Extension agents and leaders have been asked to counsel with the group and take part in the program. It is to be a grand event as expressed in replies from those in armed forces: (1) "A grand council! I like that! It will really be a 'How-how' to be heard far and wide." (2) "That certainly is a swell idea—having a week of camping when we get back, I am in favor of it 100 percent! And I have not lost my taste for a good time with 4-H." (3) And still another one said: "Gosh! I can just visualize that grand 4-H Council. It may be sometime distant but we will have that reunion, and you can depend on me!"

The county club agent, Florence Howard, feels that this contact with older youth has formed a link of close friendship throughout the whole county 4-H program which will help the returning young folks adjust themselves.

## The late Director Woodward honored

■ The posthumous award of the Connecticut Medal for Distinguished Civilian War Service was made by Governor Raymond E. Baldwin of Connecticut to Mrs. Charles Hines,

daughter of the late Director Edwin G. Woodward. Director Woodward with his wife and grandson lost their lives in the Hartford circus fire of last summer.



# Help for "G. I. Joe"

■ Folks in Washington State are planning a big celebration "when Johnny comes marching home," but they are also doing something much more practical, too. For example, veteran advisory committees have been set up by the Agricultural Extension Service in every county in the State; and these committees are now getting practical, down-to-earth training on how to help "Johnny" find a good farm and make a success of it if he decides he wants to take up farming for a livelihood.

Serving on these county committees are the county agent and experienced farmers who know what it means to carry a heavy debt load and pay it off. Successful businessmen and leaders of various Federal, State, and private organizations are also represented.

A State advisory committee has been organized to give counsel to Extension Service. On this State committee are representatives of five farm organizations, railway agriculture agents, a representative of the Washington Realty Association, and members of State and Federal agencies. They, too, were called together by the Extension Service.

The State Veteran Advisory Committee has already formulated a five-point program and is preparing to answer the questions the experienced veteran or war worker will want answered before he starts farming.

At the top of their five-point program is land classification. As good soil is the basis for successful farming, soil studies and farm management surveys are being made, and economic land-classification maps prepared. The maps show the economic level in the different sections of the county and classify the sections as to their farming value. The surveys classify not only present farm lands but locate potential new farm areas suitable for development by land clearing, diking, drainage, and irrigation.

This economic land-classification work has already been completed in five western Washington counties, and work is under way for the mapping of nearly every county.

County agents are getting special training through district conferences which were held throughout the State

by representatives of the State College, the Soil Conservation Service, Farm Credit Administration, and State Planning Council.

The second point on their program is that all realtors in Washington file listings of farms for sale or lease with the county agents for reference when G. I. Joe starts looking for the farm he wants. Negotiations for sale of such listings, of course, would be between the prospect and the realtor.

Their third point will be to direct settlement efforts to family-size commercial farm units on land classes of one to three.

Fourth—that rural residences be located near jobs if the operators take up 1 to 2 acres of land on classifications numbered four or better.

And, five, that a high standard of living be maintained by encouraging economic family-size farms on soils suitable to full-time farming.

## Veterans Need Help

Of course these committees realize that it isn't the veteran who was brought up on a farm and returns to his home community who will need help. The boys and other prospective settlers who are going into agriculture in an unfamiliar area are those that the committees want to help. Not all veterans will be urged to buy land immediately. The committees agree that many of them should work on farms first—in the counties where they want to settle—and learn how to do a good job of farming. A short course in agriculture at college will be suggested for others.

Others with only limited funds may be advised to lease a good farm, whereas those with more money will be assisted to settle on land that has a good prospect of succeeding. Many present operators are over age and may lease or sell farms.

The State College has already printed one bulletin on this subject. The bulletin, *Suggestions to Prospective Farmers*, is now available to prospective farmers at offices of county agents. A second, more complete bulletin will be available later this fall; and it, too, will be distributed through the agents' offices.

When G. I. Joe comes back, then, he can go to his advisory committee to find out what types of farming are

successful in his area, what opportunities there are for taking over a successful farm, where he can get a job on a farm or lease one, what the opportunities are on new irrigated or cut-over lands, and what size and type of farm he needs to make his enterprise successful. These committees are getting things ready to help the veteran with his future.

It is evident that the demand for land in the State greatly exceeds the present supply. The Columbia Basin project will eventually care for a good part of this demand when it becomes available about 3 years after construction begins.

## Wyoming 20-year contests

Two contests, made possible by a gift of \$6,000 donated by W. C. Deming of Cheyenne, Wyo., former president of the University Board of Trustees, will be conducted by the University of Wyoming for a period of 20 years through the Agricultural Extension Service, according to W. O. Edmondson, agricultural extension forester and horticulturist.

The money will be awarded in the amount of \$300 per year to farm and ranch people in Wyoming who make outstanding records in planting and caring for trees for protection and utility, and to those who do a good job in landscaping their yards and surroundings by way of cleaning up, painting, planting, or in any other way making the farm or ranch more homelike and attractive.

Hundreds of Wyoming farm and ranch families have made improvements around their homes during the last 15 years, but Mr. Deming feels that the contest will encourage increased activity in home improvement.

The \$300 per year will be divided among nine winners in the State, three who have made the greatest progress in yard improvement and planting and six who have made the greatest progress in planting trees. Prizes are to be awarded to the best tree plantings on both dry and irrigated land.

Homer Gard, who lives near Cheyenne, Wyo., was the winner of the first prize for his shelterbelt plantings in 1943. He reports that he has invested the prize money in war bonds for his son who is in the service in the South Pacific war zone.

# A cow county thinks ahead

■ With a fine disregard of the usual and the expected, the 135 non-conformists who compose the post-war planning committee in Grant County, N. Mex., are setting a pattern that other counties might well follow. They're having their problem, all right. It's sometimes difficult for a stockman, farmer, industrialist, and labor leader to see eye to eye. An election year has brought its share of troubles, and a German paper hanger is being none too cooperative.

Of course, the real test of the planning will come after Japan's sun sets, as the committeemen are the first to admit. In the meantime, however, they can show a half million dollars' worth of city plans for flood control and water-system improvements, \$100,000 in cash that will go for increasing the county's recreational facilities, and a bank account of \$1,600 that the county commissioners have appropriated for furthering post-war plans.

## Committee Includes Many Groups

The committee includes educators, farmers, stockmen, industrialists, lawyers, bankers, businessmen, and representatives of the CIO and the A. F. of L., ex-servicemen's groups, the chamber of commerce, the county commissioners, the city government, and civic clubs. In the background is Stuart Stirling, a county agent since World War I.

It's a whopping big committee but, as Cap Stirling says, no bigger than the county's post-war problems. There are specialists on this committee—men who can develop Grant's treasure vault of metals, men who know financial and production trends, men who have the answers to questions involving water rights and rights concerning interstate streams. No, the committee is not too big.

The Grant County group developed from the desire of community leaders to answer returning veterans' questions. They wanted to be able to tell a veteran where he could get a job rather than how many jobs he was qualified for if he could get them. The emphasis is still on the ex-soldier, but the planning doesn't stop there. It is now concerned with all the post-war problems of Grant County—a

county three times as large as Rhode Island, with 618 farms, a cattle population of 60,000 head, and mines producing \$40,000,000 worth of essential metals every year.

The problems and projects are as big as the county. From the first, the committeemen vowed they wouldn't beat a trail to Washington and yelp for help every time they ran into a blind canyon. The United States would have troubles enough, they thought, without playing papa to every cow town in New Mexico.

"One of the best ways to avoid the necessity for national paternalism is to solve our problems right at the grass roots," Mr. Stirling says. "And I believe that if every county had such a clearinghouse as ours, the Nation would have a powerful bulwark against post-war depression.

One of the immediate gains of the committee was an increased awareness of the problems the Nation must face after the war, for Grant's problems are the Nation's problems in microcosm. They're all there, the potential tension between capital and labor, the threat of falling prices and city streets filled again with idle men, conflicting interests of industry and agriculture, and all the thousand and one goals that are expected to make the prosperity of the future. Post-war plans become a good deal like a jigsaw puzzle—with each industry playing a part in completing it.

It's important for a great many people to think about the problems that peace is certain to bring. "Unless we're prepared," Stuart Stirling says, "we can go into a psychological depression just as real and bitter as a depression caused by deflation and the lack of markets."

There are two highly encouraging signs: No one has accepted his responsibilities reluctantly, and the committee members are getting along and sharing problems. Out of this cooperation have already come some important projects that can change the face of Grant County. To illustrate, the farm subcommittee's principal problem is a flood-control dam on the upper Gila which will cost approximately 10 million dollars. Spreaders on the stream's tributaries



Here is Stuart Stirling, Grant County extension agent and western director of the County Agents' Association. The photographer was—of all people—Assistant Director Reuben Brigham.

will probably cost an additional million dollars.

The county livestock association has tentative plans for a 22-section demonstration ranch at the veterans' hospital at Fort Bayard. If the dream comes true, the ranch will mean a practical education for many a returning veteran, as well as work for all the agricultural agencies. Like the other subcommittees, the livestock group is also building an impressive work pile. Most of the plans are aimed at more efficient beef production. When the war is over, the Grant Soil Conservation District is definitely going to town.

There's a long, tough fight ahead; but when the returning soldier enters Cap Stirling's office, he won't feel like the adopted child of a national disaster. He wants to go back to school, into industry, farming, business, or ranching? Grant County will have the answers and for that reason Grant will be happier and more prosperous.

■ To help Richmond County, Ga., farm women, Melba Sparks, home demonstration agent, has made available a list of supplies of seed, plants, insecticides, and dust and spray guns which can be purchased in local stores.

## 593 sewing machines cleaned and adjusted



A sewing-machine clinic in Westport, Mass.

■ Incomplete returns from 93 scattered communities in 11 New Mexico counties prove to the satisfaction of Veda A. Strong, extension home management specialist, that sewing machine cleaning has been one of the top demonstrations of the year.

To get the sewing machine clinics under way, Miss Strong attended 17 meetings with home demonstration agents. There the members of extension women's clubs had a chance to participate in an effective demonstration of how to clean, oil, and adjust a sewing machine—the type of work that sewing machine companies have had little time for since the war began.

The club members took over from there, cleaning 292 machines under the supervision of home demonstration agents at meetings in 11 New Mexico counties—Colfax, Curry, Dona Ana, Grant, Lea, Quay, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe, San Miguel, Union, and Valencia. It is difficult to estimate the number of machines cleaned as a follow-up to the meetings; women do have a way of talking, and sometimes

when they have run through the top news, they talk about housework. Incomplete reports from 7 counties, however, list 301 machines that have been thoroughly cleaned and adjusted, making a total of 593 sewing machines now better prepared to keep clothes patched.

The comment of Clytice Ross, home demonstration agent in Dona Ana County, is typical of what the women in the field think of the clinic: "Some club members thought it was the best demonstration they had ever attended. Many of them have told me that their machines hadn't been cleaned since they've had them. That means that some machines have had to wait from 12 to 15 years for this demonstration."

### A unique tour

The Lazy River 4-H Club of Little-rock, Wash., recently varied their usual program by a trip to the Thurston Extension office. Ten club members, 2 guests, and their leaders, Mrs. Vern Bay and Mrs. Martha Walsh, met

at the courthouse and proceeded to the office where, first, Mrs. Adair, receptionist, told something of the number of people served through the office by the county Extension Service and the A.A.A. Arrangement of bulletin material and methods of circulating it were explained.

Next, J. D. McGuire, chairman of the U. S. D. A. War Board and the AAA, briefly outlined the work of his department, explaining farm plans for AAA "sign-up," some problems of rationing supplies and equipment, and so on.

Allan Johnson, county agent, discussed his work, showing various ways of disseminating information on good farming practices and explaining the position of the county agent as a contact person between the State agricultural college, the experiment station, and the farmers of the county.

In the office of Byerg Benson, home demonstration agent, the work of the Extension Service in home economics was outlined. The service includes giving out available information on homemaking problems. In cases where new problems arise for which no information is available, the problems are referred to the research facilities of the State college for study and solution. Dairy herd-improvement work being carried on by Floyd Davis, supervisor of the dairy herd-improvement association, was also explained.

### Trees planted

Despite manpower shortages, 150,000 trees were set out on forest croplands in Iron County, Wis., last spring. The county board reported that this had been accomplished without interfering with farm production or other vital war work.

County Agent W. H. Henthorn drew on two sources for the labor to get the trees planted. Town chairmen in each part of the county submitted the names of people in their communities who could afford the spare time for the planting. About 30 men, among them a man 86 years old, reported for work between April 28 and May 26.

Meanwhile, the county superintendent of schools contacted high school principals and arranged for 30 senior boys to spend from 1 to 5 days planting trees.

## Agents broadcast in two languages

■ Because a bilingual program—half Spanish and half English—was the only solution to extension radio problems in San Miguel County, N. Mex., the county agents now have a program that is unique in American radio work.

When County Agent Ernest Gutierrez or Home Agent Celina Gutierrez—no relation here—steps up to the mike, there is a potential audience of 10,000 English-speaking people and 15,000 Spanish-speaking people in San Miguel County alone. And the Las Vegas station, KFUN, looks on all of northeastern New Mexico as its province.

Tune in on KFUN Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and after the opening announcement you'll hear County Agent Ernest say: "Hens that are on a stand-up strike certainly are not entitled to any feed. In fact, they should be considered saboteurs and dealt with accordingly."

For 7½ minutes he discusses the importance of continuous culling of nonlaying hens, the characteristics of the typical cull, and approved poultry-management practices. Then there is a pause, and all over San Miguel another audience becomes attentive. In farm and ranch houses out in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristos, in the rolling mesa country of Mora County, perhaps even as far north as the Colorado line, little groups draw closer to their radios, pull up their chairs, tune out the static. "*Pronto*," they say; "*si, pronto*."

It's the same voice, but now County Agent Ernest is speaking Spanish, reaching out toward that other audience: "*Gallinas que están en huelga parada seguramente no están entituladas a ningun a comida. Por lo tanto, tal individas debian ser consideradas como traidoras y tratadas asegun esto.*"

He goes over the material again, his problems still the same: To help the farmers get more *huevos* from fewer *gallinas*.

Home Agent Celina uses the same technique: Seven and a half minutes in English and then the same script in Spanish. Agricultural news, new methods, improved practices, hints for the homemaker, campaigns—anything is grist for the extension radio mill.

Does it work? "*Ah si, señor.*" Questions, letters, visits from farm and ranch people who've heard a subject discussed and want to know more about it—this is adequate proof. So are the enthusiastic comments of the Spanish-American audience. Even more convincing is Station KFUN's approval of the bilingual program which has been on the air every week for 3 years. Radio stations may occasionally bet on the wrong horse, but they seldom make a 3-year habit of it.

A final bit of evidence—perhaps the best of all—is the way a campaign

goes over in San Miguel County. For example, as chairman of the salvage board, County Agent Ernest recently led a scrap-metal drive, doing much of the work in the rural areas through his radio program. It was the rural school children who put the drive over, collecting most of the \$6,000 worth of scrap metal. Their reward was a check for \$1,116 to buy badly needed playground equipment.

The two extension agents plan to go on with their radio work; and those who are seeking scientific information—farmers or *agricultores*, ranchers or *rancheros*, cowpoke or *vaqueros*—know that KFUN has the answer.

## Market fills a need

■ Labor difficulties were given as the reason why the farm market at Mount Hope, Fayette County, W. Va., did not have an increase in number of producers this year; but it held its own in 1944 and served a useful purpose, says County Agent J. H. Miller.

The 12 to 15 persons who used the market last year sold more than \$1,500 worth of produce. Mrs. C. H. McCoy's sales totaled \$300. Farmers of 5 neighborhoods used the market which was located on a vacant lot in the middle of the town. Sometimes 3, 4, or 5 families would send their produce to market in one truck.

Through the market the people have sold products they were not able to sell before, such as blackberries, cream, flowers, and other items. As a result, they will plant more small fruits and truck crops and raise more poultry and some cows, Mr. Miller believes.

Selling is from 4 to 7 p. m. instead of in the morning, and the folks never have to carry any of their products back home with them.

The market came into being when the Pax farm club, after discussing the possibilities of growing more truck crops for a year or so, last year made a successful attempt to interest the Lions Club of Mount Hope in a market. A committee from the club and a committee from Pax met with Mr. Miller. Each person present was made responsible for seeing other persons, getting products to market, and letting folks who would be interested know about the market.

Local leaders at Pax got their

groups together, arranged for transportation, and saw that there was a large amount of produce for sale. Lists of the products for sale were distributed in Mount Hope. In the meantime, the Lions Club had made support of the market a work project. As a result, 50 buyers were on hand when the selling began that first Saturday morning, July 17, 1943, at 9 o'clock.

"Local leaders planned the project from both ends and gave everyone a task to do," said Mr. Miller. "This is where leadership of both block and neighborhood leaders came in."

The market has become a joint project of the Mount Hope Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, City Council, and the local leaders at Pax and Packs Branch.

At one of its weekly meetings, the Lions Club entertained the people who sell at the farm market.

"The market has brought together the town and country folks and has been the means of working on other projects such as roads, youth problems, farmers' store, and other problems," said the county agent.

AN OMAHA RADIO STATION did a good turn in entertaining and feeding about 1,200 youths participating in 4-H activities at the Nebraska State Fair this year. The Army cooked the hot evening meal in the 4-H arena on field kitchen stoves to add a bit of color to the event. Lyle DeMoss, program manager of WOW, was in charge of the evening program.



## 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.

### With invasion troops

Flying one of the first unarmored paratroop-carrying C-53's into northern France was Maj. Leroy M. Stanton, formerly assistant county agent in Nash County, N. C. Stanton led a flight of Ninth Troop Carrier Command planes in the spearheading on the D-Day invasion. He is assistant operations officer for this combat wing.

Immediately following the initial paratroop drop, Stanton followed up with a glider mission. In telling of his experiences, he said: "On the take-off, the right engine billowed flames for a few heart-breaking minutes, but this was easily extinguished. We climbed to 1,500 feet, with beautiful weather all the way over—full moon and cloudless sky. When we crossed the still-peaceful invasion coast, however, the visibility was bad. We managed to keep formation in the cloud banks—flying on instruments.

"When we came out of the stuff, the sky seemed alive with red and green tracers—like a giant Christmas tree. Our boys went over the sides, couldn't have missed the target—the area was so plainly marked."

After an uneventful return to his base and a few hours sleep, the group was prepared for a glider mission. Stanton again carried his men to the exact spot where they were to land; and, returning, he said: "We skimmed over the channel so low that we got stiff necks looking up at the battleships."

### Rain

There is not much to say for Burma, at least the part where I am. Rain, mud, and jungle sum up the story completely. I know you folks back in the "Old Country" have been getting lots of rain this spring, but the World Almanac states that we get the most—well, nearly the most of any place in the world. It's so wet here that our clothes never dry. As the sun seldom shines, we are forced to put them on whenever they quit dripping. It's so wet here that of late, because of the mud, I have been going to bed with my rubber boots on. But all joking aside, though, if I were from any place but Kansas, I'd object, but after '34 and '36 it will never rain too much for me.

It sounds as if you had another useful Farm and Home Week this year. While I was in India I felt that the people there could stand a little extension work; but, on the other hand, I would hesitate to recommend too much or too radical a change. These boys have been farming the same way for thousands of years and, surprising as it is, are able to scrape up a living, meager as it is. To change their farming principles too much would throw the whole deal out of balance.

I'm still in veterinary work and, considering the circumstances, like it O. K.—"Teekak" as the natives say it.—*Orville Burtis, formerly Hodgeman County agent, Kansas.*

### THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

#### NEBRASKA

Lt. (j.g.) Royce W. Fish, Webster County agent, Navy.

Ens. Melvin H. Kreifels, assistant county agent at large, Navy.

Lt. (j.g.) L. V. Peterson, Hamilton County agent, Navy.



# Farming in Alaska

■ Director Lorin T. Oldroyd brought news of far-off Alaska, which does not seem so far away when you know that Director Oldroyd could eat his breakfast at his home in Fairbanks one morning and in St. Paul, Minn. the next morning. Air travel makes the difference and is one of the reasons he is looking forward to greater development of Alaskan resources after the war.

Many soldiers stationed in Alaska are now taking up homesteads in the Territory. Perhaps several hundred people, both soldiers and civilians, in Fairbanks, have staked out their claims, and about 75 requests are received each week, mostly from men in the service, asking for more information on settling in Alaska. Director Oldroyd tells them they won't get rich quick as Alaskan farmers; but there is a good living there for those who are hardy, are willing to learn how to farm up there, and are not afraid of hard work.

## How to Live in Alaska

The new settlers make many demands on home demonstration agents, too, for information on how to live in Alaska. Gardening and the use of local products have received special attention in the home demonstration program. In the Fairbanks office, nearly 6,000 people have attended meetings, more than 2,000 have called at the office, and more than 2,000 called by telephone up to October of last year.

The wartime influx of people to Alaska has brought prosperity to the Matanuska Valley colony. All the cleared land is planted to crops, and all the farms are occupied. The amount of business handled by the Matanuska Valley Cooperative Association has grown from less than \$100,000 to nearly \$1,500,000 within the past 3 years. The production of potatoes has increased from a few hundred tons to between 3,000 and 4,000 tons. There are some 6,000 acres planted to potatoes this year, with an estimated yield of 5 tons per acre. The Army furnishes a ready market at present for all the farmers can grow.

During the first 8 months of 1944, more than 1,700 persons visited the

office of County Agent William Rogers at Palmer to ask questions about their dairies, hogs, chickens, gardens, and potatoes. In addition, the agent traveled more than 2,700 miles by car and made 349 farm visits, which number represents a personal call on each farmer in the valley. Farm and Home Week brought out about 60 men and women each day to discuss country life in the Matanuska Valley and various problems of food production and preservation.

4-H Club work flourishes among the young folks. In the Anchorage district, 240 members are working in 25 clubs under the direction of Hazel Zimmerman, district agent and Territorial 4-H Club leader.

In response to the call for increased food production, farmers have planted nearly every acre of cleared land in the Tanana Valley. Potatoes were planted on 250 acres, with an estimated yield of 1,000 tons, which will mostly be sold to the Army. In the vicinity of Fairbanks, 380 Victory Gardens produced needed vegetables. The roll call of gardeners at Fairbanks, Anchorage, Homer, Seward, Nenana, and villages of the interior reported more than 2,000 gardens.

Farmers who are taking up more land in the vicinity of Anchorage have a good market for their potatoes and vegetables at the army base at Kodiak Island.

## Work With Native Eskimo Women

To intensify the work in gardening and food preservation, six emergency war food assistants worked with the five members of the regular staff. An interesting phase of the work was that carried on among native Eskimo women and girls by Louise Davis, borrowed for the summer from the Indian Bureau school at Eklutna. With Eskimo heritage, herself, she was very successful in the native villages. She found three pressure cookers and gave demonstrations on how to can greens and carrots. She also taught the girls how to bake bread and make 3-minute patches. Her work, when many times all of the women in the village attended, was so effective that it is planned to employ her again next summer.

The Alaskan potato harvest brought a labor emergency which required the help of soldiers, women, and school children, but the potatoes were harvested. Another emergency job was the harvesting of a ton of vegetables for school lunches, done with the help of 20 seventh graders.

Distances are great and travel is difficult in Alaska—one of the best ways to reach the people is the radio. The weekly program, Airways to Agriculture, is an important channel for the extension program. The people have learned to know the voice of Director Oldroyd and Mrs. Fohn-Hansen, territorial home demonstration agent. One day as Director Oldroyd entered a hotel dining room he was talking, and a little boy at a nearby table spoke up brightly, "Listen, Mamma, it's the radio man."

## Agent becomes commanding officer

Lt. Ruth E. Pullen, formerly home demonstration agent in New Hampshire, is making good in the WAC. She was one of two WAC officers in the First Troop Carrier Command to be appointed to attend the Command and General Staff school at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and upon completion of her work there became commanding officer of Squadron "B," the WAC detachment at Pope Field, N. C., base of the First Troop Carrier Command. Lt. Pullen was commissioned in the first WAAC class at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.



# This concerns you and yours

## ■ This Concerns You and Yours.

That was the heading on the rural questionnaire sent to 2,500 farm homes in Crawford County, Iowa, by a citizens' committee of which County Extension Agent Paul A. Johnson was chairman. It was one of several questionnaires that were prepared by, and sent to, Crawford County folks. The purpose of all these was to find out what the conditions in the county would be when the 1,700 men and women in the armed services and the 1,100 who were in war industries returned to the county. Questionnaires also went to those in the armed services and war industries to find out how many planned to return and what they were planning to do when released from war activities.

It was decided early that planning ahead should make it unnecessary for Crawford County to repeat the experiences that followed World War I, that the confusion and duties of those days need not be repeated, that knowledge could be obtained as to trends and plans made accordingly. Leaders in the county read what Hamilton County (Iowa) committees had done, also of the Albert Lea, Minn., and Stevens Point, Wis., surveys. They decided that Crawford County also could do this; that they owed it to those on the fighting lines to see that it was done.

### Survey Planned

First steps were undertaken by President Thurman Aarestedt of the Denison Chamber of Commerce. Meetings of committees of this organization decided to make a thorough survey of the city of Denison. The extension program-planning committee of the county had met early in the year and authorized a rural community survey to be undertaken by the County Farm Bureau. The County Civilian Defense Committee, through its chairman, Floyd Page, and with the cooperation and help of the Denison Chamber of Commerce and the County Farm Bureau, held a county-wide meeting. Delegates from all communities in the county attended, also of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Plans were made to set up post-war planning organizations in each community in

the county. The meeting also elected a county executive committee and named county-wide committees to plan the rural survey and the survey of those in the armed services and in war industry.

The Denison Chamber of Commerce prepared, printed, and circulated two sets of questionnaires; one to all business firms to find out what they were planning to do when the end of fighting came, and one to all householders to find out first what community improvements were most needed, and second what improvements or purchases they planned to make when priorities were removed. A well-organized group of volunteer workers distributed and collected these surveys, which are now being summarized. It is of interest to note that a community hospital ranked first in needed improvements, also that new cars ranked ahead of everything else in new equipment to be purchased. The demand for building mechanics would utilize a lot of labor for several years if building materials were available. Most local employers of labor were planning on expanding their business and hiring more labor. With many farmers planning to retire and move to town, there would be a demand for homes that could be met only by an extensive building program.

The service men's questionnaire was allotted by the central committee to the American Legion and V. F. W. Posts, with Nels Jensen as chairman, and placed in the hands of local committees to obtain mailing addresses and send out and receive replies. It was felt that there would be the best possible response when these came from and were returned to the local committees.

The rural committee, of which Paul A. Johnson was chairman, prepared and sent out the rural questionnaire. Four hundred and sixty replies, representing every township in the county, were received (about one-sixth of those sent out). These are being summarized, using a weighted average by townships of replies received to questionnaires mailed. Assistance in summarizing these and also the community and service men questionnaires has been promised by

the U. S. D. A. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, which is also carrying on a survey in the county.

The purpose of all this is that "there shall be a place in the community for those who fought for their country."

Very briefly summarized, the rural survey showed the following: One farmer in 10 plans to retire and have his son carry on the farming as soon as the war ends; one farm out of 6 has boys who will return to farm; farmers indicate that about 1,100 returning men can be employed on farms of the county; more than half the farms of the county (now without electricity) plan to have it as soon as high lines are built; 80 percent of farmers replying favored a crop adjustment and crop loan farm program; 35 percent of those replying were ready to have good land use program plans drawn up for their farms; and, although they were not now farming that way, they were now ready to start contour farming.

### Demand for New Equipment

Some other highlights were that there would be a demand for 700 new tractors, 350 manure spreaders; 250 new discs; 200 new plows; 300 new corn pickers; 600 electric refrigerators; 120 new furnaces; 120 water systems; 140 new homes; half the farmers in the county planned to build new buildings, repair old ones, and build new as well as repair old fences. One farmer out of 4 planned to purchase farm land. In listing soil-conservation practices approved, they were ranked as follows: (1) Seeding grasses and legumes, (2) gully-control structures, (3) contouring, (4) liming acid soil, (5) tree planting, (6) soil-conservation plan for farm, (7) terracing.

More than 50 percent of replies received favored a law by which heavy earth-moving equipment now owned by the Government and used for war construction be turned over to soil conservation districts to build soil-saving structures and terraces.

Good farm-to-market roads came first in the minds of rural folks as needed public improvements. Next was assistance in control of noxious weeds.

In Crawford County there has been no project upon which so much volunteer cooperation has been so willingly

given as in this post-war planning. Local newspapers have given freely of their front-page space, and local newspapermen have given freely of their time in preparing articles to mite all the people of the county in backing the program. Local leaders out in the rural communities have also

done a grand job in explaining the need for the work and obtaining cooperation. It is a big job, a continuing job, with but one goal; and that is to avert, if possible, the distress and confusion that will surely result if carefully made plans are not carried out by action.

stock could be observed feeding peacefully while cattle in nearby pastures were running their heads off."

Mr. Peterson, the forest ranger from Soda Springs, witnessed this condition and asked Mr. Keetch what had been done to the cattle to prevent their running.

The cattlemen on the Dry Valley Range are also treating this year. We want to treat once here in the valley and then again just as the cattle go on the range.

Other cattlemen have given me much the same information as did Mr. Keetch. I know from talking with the county agent from Soda Springs that they have ordered a spray machine so that they can begin treatment this year.

My hat is off to the progressive cattlemen who in 1943 were willing to take advantage of a good practice when they saw it and cleared the road for others to follow.—*Vance T. Smith, county agent, Bear Lake County, Idaho.*

## A culling blitz in Wisconsin

■ In past years we have conducted the conventional type of culling meeting in Wisconsin. Last year I tried JIT on the juniors to assure a supply of local cullers. Neither of those seemed to give the coverage or demand the publicity that was needed this year when we were confronted with the necessity of reducing poultry numbers.

The idea of a culling blitz was conceived—a meeting in every township in a county on 1 day. Twenty-six counties from the more densely populated section of the State were selected. The idea was sold to the agents by letter and personal call.

Three meetings per day were held—10 a. m., 1 p. m., and 3 p. m. Meetings were conducted by the agent, his assistant, sometimes the home demonstration agent, hatchery operators, feed dealers, and Smith-Hughes teachers.

A place of meeting in each township was selected, and card invitations were sent to everyone interested in the community.

Prizes were donated by commercial agencies for the largest attendance, ducky draw, or on some such basis.

Those holding the demonstrations were interviewed, either the preceding evening or early the morning of the blitz in that county. We agreed on procedure. We stressed only pigmentation, molt, and present laying condition. Lice and mite control, handling broody hens, and the use of the built-up litter were discussed.

Publicity was obtained by radio, news article, and issuance of the personal invitations.

The results showed 494 demonstrations held, with 7,211 in attendance, and 156 different people conducted demonstrations which caused 550,000 hens to be sold as culls.

Each person attending these meetings was asked to contact neighbors

at community gatherings, or by telephone and stress the need for culling.

The willingness to help, which we found on the part of persons in associated fields was impressive. The hatcherymen and feed men contributed time and cars without cost in a most cooperative manner. It brought home to me the fact that if the job is big enough and the necessity acute enough, we can find help to put it over.

A briefed set of culling directions, cartooned "Lay or Lie," were distributed by the feed dealers in each county the day of the culling blitz.—*Gerald Annin, poultry management specialist, Wisconsin.*

## Cattlemen back grub control

E. P. Keetch, a prominent cattleman, called at my office in Bear Lake County, Idaho, to talk over aspects of the livestock conservation program. He was especially interested in the control of cattle grubs and Bang's disease in 1944. Mr. Keetch told me about the meeting of the cattle association, of which he is president, and said that the question arose as to how many of the members were in favor of treating for cattle grubs this year as they did in 1943. Everyone at the meeting voted for treatment of the 2,300 head which make up the herd pastured on the Little Blackfoot River pasture.

"The cattlemen from Soda Springs," he continued, "were pasturing cattle just across the fence from us. They wanted to know what we did to our cattle so that they would eat their fill and then lie down in the open or wherever they might be. The Soda Springs cattle would eat in the cool of the day and then run for the shade when it began to get warm. Our

## Fair shows labor-saving equipment

Farmers at the Jefferson County, Wis., fair exhibited the home-made machinery that helped them meet urgent demands of a heavy crop season.

County Agent George Wright, superintendent of the exhibit, had charge of assembling buck rakes, self-feeders, motor set-ups, and other devices with which farmers met the farm labor shortage.

A number of such devices were worked out at machinery schools throughout Jefferson County last winter.

■ Ten short courses in food preservation have been conducted in Greene County, Ga., by Nelle Thrash, county home demonstration agent. Through these demonstrations she reached 10 club groups, 8 home demonstration clubs, a federated women's club, and a garden club.

■ For his outstanding work among farm youth groups, Everett Mitchell, NBC's Voice of the Dairy Farmer, was made an honorary member of the National 4-H Club during his visit to the Lake County Fair at Crown Point, Ind.



# 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.

■ **Dehydration marches on.** Though we don't hear quite so much about dehydrated foods as we did earlier in the war, it is not because they have been dropped. Dehydrated foods continue to be sent to our armed forces and through lend-lease in large quantities, and research to perfect methods and products goes on steadily without fanfare.

The Western Regional Research Laboratory at Albany, Calif., is continuing to study procedures for compressing dehydrated vegetables. Compression saves space in shipping in addition to the space and weight saved by dehydration itself. Further improvement of the palatability and keeping quality of dehydrated vegetables, fruit, and eggs is constantly being sought through improvements in processing equipment and techniques, packaging materials and methods, storage conditions, and tests to determine the effects of processing, especially on vitamin retention.

Dehydrating meat reduces its weight 60 to 70 percent, and subsequent compression reduces the volume 65 to 73 percent. Thus the saving in both weight and bulk is approximately two-thirds of the original quantity of boned and trimmed meat. Compressing the meat also improves its keeping quality. Meat dehydration methods developed under the leadership of the Department have enabled the United States to produce and ship to Russia more than 30 million pounds of dehydrated meat, mostly pork, which has been used mainly by the Russian Army.

Three publications on dehydrated foods have recently been issued by the Department. Vegetable and Fruit Dehydration, Miscellaneous Publication 540, is a manual for plant operators, as its subtitle indicates. Meat Dehydration, Circular 706, gives the results of studies conducted by the Agricultural Research Administration as a special war project in cooperation

with the American Meat Institute, the University of Chicago, and other agencies. An attractive pamphlet, Cooking Dehydrated Vegetables, AIS-8, prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, gives directions for preparing for the table all the dehydrated vegetables that are likely to be available in the stores or dried at home.

■ **Turkeys tailored to fit.** Today's small families and small ovens have not the capacity to cope with 20-pound turkeys, even on Thanksgiving or Christmas. In order that Americans need not forego the traditional feast, poultry scientists of the Department have developed the Beltsville Small White turkey, which just fits modern roasting pans. Dressed weights of these birds range from 5 to 12 pounds. They have compact bodies with legs and necks short in proportion but with plenty of meat on the breast and drumsticks. Ten years of breeding research went into the development of the Beltsville Small White. Several varieties of turkeys were crossed to obtain it, including wild turkeys, the Black turkey, the Narragansett, and the imported White Austrian. Eggs and breeding stock have been distributed among cooperating State institutions and through them to experienced turkey breeders. The prospect is that large numbers of small-type turkeys will be on the market in the near future.

■ **Sleek and tough.** A new type of protective coating for wood, metal, paper, textiles, and other surfaces, made from starches or sugars of farm crops, has been developed at the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory. The product is known as allyl starch, because it is prepared by treating starch with allyl chloride or allyl bromide. Other carbohydrates also can be treated in the same way to produce the coating material which, after being "cured" is resistant to

high temperatures (up to 400° F. in some tests), acids, alcohol, alkalies, gasoline, and most other chemicals and solvents. The coating looks like varnish, is transparent, and has a high gloss and a hard, smooth surface. The discovery promises to open a new field for the industrial utilization of surplus starches and sugars of agricultural crops.

■ **"Man-made" infections.** Just as man causes many destructive forest fires by his carelessness, he often spreads infection among his livestock. As an example of the trouble he can unwittingly cause, the Bureau of Animal Industry has accumulated data on cases in which anaplasmosis, a serious disease of cattle, was spread by unsterilized instruments used in performing routine operations such as dehorning and vaccination. Anaplasmosis is especially easy to spread in this way because animals that have recovered from the disease and show no sign of infection may be carriers. In the investigation, of 3,000 cattle that underwent various minor operations, 355 developed anaplasmosis traceable to unclean instruments. Diseases spread in this way are wholly preventable through observing sanitary precautions.

## Nutrition courses

By using the portable kitchen in the county trailer, nutrition short courses have been given in outlying communities of Dougherty County, Ga. The courses included instruction in ways of preparing foods in each of the "basic seven" groups, according to Mrs. F. M. Griner, county home demonstration agent.

■ How to make something new from something old will be the principal theme of home furnishing lessons presented to leaders of home economics clubs in Michigan this fall and winter by Jessie Marion and Mrs. Alice Bartlett, home furnishing specialists of Michigan State College.

The classes to be conducted in all counties in the State, began in Bay City, Bay County, October 3. Each county has selected one lesson from a list of seven which includes: How to repair spring unit cushions, homemade and remodeled furniture, the wonders of a coat of paint, arranging furniture, making rugs and mats, recovering lamp shades, and conserving chairs with pads and protectors.

# Among Ourselves

■ **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE** in the extension field was recognized in October at the annual meeting of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity made up of those who have been extension workers for 10 years or more. 1944 Certificates of Recognition were given for outstanding contributions to agriculture and rural living and for accomplishments in Extension Service work to the following: Pearl MacDonald, nutrition specialist, Delaware; Director W. S. Brown of Georgia; M. L. Mosher, farm management specialist, Illinois; Dr. R. C. Bradley, poultry specialist, New Hampshire; Mrs. Fabiola D. Gilbert, home demonstration agent, New Mexico; Director E. J. Haslerud, North Dakota; Floyd I. Lower, county agricultural agent, Ohio; Director J. M. Fry, Pennsylvania; Pedro Olivencia, assistant 4-H Club leader, Puerto Rico; Mrs. Edna W. Trigg, assistant home demonstration agent, Texas; Robert H. Stewart, county agricultural agent, Utah; Dean John Arthur Hill, Wyoming.

Three Certificates of Recognition were awarded at large—one to Judge Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator; one to Mildred Horton, former Vice Director in Texas; and the other to George W. Kable, now editor of *Electricity on the Farm*, who was formerly extension agent in Oregon.

■ **MRS. ANITA BURNAM DAVIS** has resigned her position as field agent of 4-H Club work in Kentucky to join her husband, Capt. Benjamin H. Davis, stationed at Prisoner of War Camp, Hereford, Tex.

Mrs. Davis came to the 4-H Club department when it was first organized in September 1920. In her work with girls, she organized and trained the first State demonstration contest, assisted in formulating plans for the first junior week (later to become a high spot of the Kentucky 4-H Club year) and compiled *Sing Songs*, the first 4-H Club song book in the United States to contain words and music. Mrs. Davis was also instrumental in the establishment of 4-H Club cooperative houses on the university campus.

■ **MRS. HARRIET F. JOHNSON**, who resigned as 4-H girls' leader for South Carolina on October 1, 1944, completed 25 years of valuable work with the Extension Service. She worked first as a home demonstration agent in Spartanburg County, but during the past 22 years her time has been given to the 4-H Club girls of South Carolina.

In these 22 years she has seen the 4-H Club work of the State grow from a yearly enrollment of 4,000 4-H Club girls to more than 11,000, thus influencing through her leadership and outstanding personality more than a quarter million rural youth.

Mrs. Johnson worked faithfully with every county home demonstration agent in South Carolina in developing the county 4-H programs and in training new agents and local leaders in the conduct of these programs. She had the deep satisfaction of seeing many 4-H girls graduate from college, afterwards establishing themselves in their life work—some as homemakers, some as teachers, others as home demonstration agents, and in other selected careers.

Each year outstanding 4-H girls have attended the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago under the guidance of Mrs. Johnson. At these conferences, many of these girls have brought recognition and honor to their State. Until the war began, each year 2 girls achieving the greatest honors were given trips to the National 4-H Camp at Washington. Mrs. Johnson served for many years on national 4-H committees planning for further development of the national 4-H program which reaches yearly more than 1½ million 4-H boys and girls.

After the building in 1933 of Camp Long, the South Carolina 4-H Club Camp, Mrs. Johnson served as associate camp director. She spent much time in helping to make this camp one of the best in the United States for young people. She spent each summer at the camp assisting in molding the characters of the 20,000 boys and girls who attended camp following its opening. Here, as no-



Mrs. Harriet F. Johnson

where else, these young people realized the real meaning of the 4-H's—the fourfold development of the head, hands, heart, and health. Mrs. Johnson can truly be called the leader in carrying out the 4-H motto—To make the Best Better. Her song, *The 4-H Clover and the Rose*, used extensively in South Carolina clubs and accepted by the National 4-H Committee, will always live in the hearts of the 4-H members and extension workers of South Carolina. Mrs. Johnson has established a scholarship loan fund for 4-H girls.

Further development of 4-H work has been the organization of 4-H county councils culminating in a large State council in 1937. Local leaders for clubs have been trained for the past 10 years at special meetings at Camp Long, in counties, and in the district groups.

Caroline Woodruff succeeds Mrs. Johnson as State girls' club agent. Miss Woodruff is a graduate of Winthrop College and has already done some work on her master's degree at the University of Tennessee. In addition to serving as assistant agent in York County and for the past year as home agent in Colleton County, she has had teaching experience in home economics.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

A CALL FOR VICTORY GARDENS in 1945 to equal the garden record of 1944 came from 125 Victory Garden leaders from all parts of the country who attended the national conference in Washington November 28 and 29. A recent survey showed 18½ million Victory Gardens grown in 1944, and practically all these gardeners are planning to grow gardens in 1945. Approximately 6 million were on farms, and about 12¼ million were in cities and suburban areas. Among farm homes 88 percent had gardens; and less than half, or 44 percent, of the nonfarm homes grew 1944 gardens. More than two-thirds of the housewives of the Nation did some home canning or other form of home preservation. To maintain this record in 1945 will take the concerted effort of everyone.

IN THE WORLD AS A WHOLE, food production shows a moderate increase since the outbreak of the war, despite scarcities of fertilizers, equipment, labor, and other essentials of production, according to the U. S. D. A. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The most outstanding increase was in North America where production shows a 30-percent increase. Other increases were: in South America, 17 percent; southern and eastern Asia, 3 percent; and Oceania and South Africa, 1 percent. In western Europe and North Africa, however, production declined about 6 percent, and in the Middle East, 5 percent.

SAFE WINTER DRIVING LEAGUE calls attention to the danger of snow-and-ice-covered highways. Accidents involving skidding on rural roads, according to a recent survey, show that 1 percent are on dry roads, 18 percent on wet roads, and 40 percent on snow- or ice-covered roads. Traffic deaths in the northern snow belts last winter ran mileage death rate 54 percent higher than summer toll, and more than usual snow and ice in some Southern States contributed to 24 per cent increase in the South. Skidding and reduced visibility are named as major hazards. Extension has need of every agent these days;

so reduce your speed, and be prepared to cope with slippery roads and poor visibility.

COMMERCIAL SPONSORING of extension radio programs came in for study at the meeting of the eastern division of the National Association of Radio Farm Directors. Sam Reck, extension editor in New Jersey, representing the Extension Service, reported on a poll of 17 Eastern States which showed only 3 States rigidly opposed to participation in commercial programs. The 17 States are broadcasting regularly on about 115 stations, and 106 of these are now providing sustaining time. About half a dozen of these States are getting all the sustaining time they can use, and the rest are prepared to go along with the U. S. D. A. policy of cooperating on commercially sponsored programs, when such action does not involve endorsing products or otherwise embarrassing the Department.

RURAL FAMILY NEEDS AND PREFERENCES in housing are to be studied by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics of the U. S. D. A., and Maud Wilson of Oregon State College has been lent for a few months to assist in planning such a study. Miss Wilson holds degrees from the University of Ne-

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braska and University of Chicago and was formerly State home demonstration leader in Nebraska and in Washington. For the past 13 years, Miss Wilson has been engaged in studying the functional requirements of farmhouses and in using the results of these studies in planning houses and equipment for Oregon conditions.

STUDENTS FROM AFAR attended the 4-H Club Congress held in Chicago this year to observe the ways and the achievements of young 4-H winners. Young folks from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, and Colombia were there to get acquainted with the club members and leaders from 46 States. Visiting trainees in extension methods and farm practices included 25 students from Brazil, 2 from Chile, 2 from Colombia, and 2 from China. Canadian representatives included club members and leaders from Ontario and the leader of 4-H Club work in Quebec, Dr. A. R. Gobell. Argentina was represented by Roberto Marcenaro, head of the division of rural life, Argentine Ministry of Agriculture. He is spending 8 months in the United States, studying under Dr. Carl Taylor the methods of the division of farm population and rural welfare of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

G. I. NEWS for Monmouth County, N. J., 4-H Club members in the armed forces came out with its first issue in December in time for Christmas. The idea of this letter came from the service men themselves who were home on furlough and eager for information on what their fellow 4-H members were doing. The plans are for four to six issues a year carrying human-interest stories about 4-H members. A committee of the county council prepares the letter with the advice and help of the county club agent, H. J. Stelle, who, having been in the county for the past 11 years knows most of the young folks. The big problem of the mailing list is being handled by the council which is planning on a circulation of 200.

THE STATE GOALS MEETINGS completed last month studied the 1945 national production program calling for about the same total crop acreage as was planted last year. The food-production job for 1945 will be just as important to the war and to the peace as it was in 1944.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## On the docket for February

■ 4-H Club members, nearly 2 million of them, are coming together the week of March 3 to 11 to learn the need for their service or, as the airmen say, to be briefed for their mission in 1945.

Last year's slogan, "Feed a fighter or more in '44," became a reality, with food produced to feed 1 million soldiers for a full year; but, as Director Wilson points out to the young folks, they will eat it all in 1945. The eggs, the vegetables, the grains, the fruit, and the meat produced last year are even now vanishing; and there must be more. The letters written in '44 will not boost morale in '45; and the paper gathered, the scrap collected will not provide the materials needed in '46. The blood donated in '44 will not last through '45. No, what was done last year must be repeated this year, with more of it.

Home folks as well as soldiers can see that strength is in teamwork and that a well-organized club can do more working together than individuals can do working separately. 4-H Club Week is the time to rededicate 4-H Clubs to the service of their country, to find out what needs to be done, to carefully map out what can be accomplished and give every rural young person a chance to take part in a 4-H win-the-war project.

### IN THIS ISSUE

A future in home demonstration work—something new in visual aids—the milkweed harvest—a broader base for county 4-H Clubs—successful leadership records in Maine and Hawaii—4-H fair in a department store—balanced farming pays in Missouri—radio in youth recruitment for farm work.

Recent events on the war fronts, the need for more manpower in war industry, the continuing need for food, mean that 1945 will be another year of all-out production; and extension agents will again be called upon to recruit 4 million people to supplement the regular farm work force on a full- or part-time basis. This year will probably bring the most serious farm labor shortage since the war started. With the holding of regional emergency labor conferences late in 1944 and early in 1945 and the passage of farm labor legislation in December, making funds available for a 1945 program on about the same basis as 1944, the

## A pilot-type conference

■ Although the immediate future calls for production to win the war, for concentration on the war job, there is bound to be an undercurrent of thinking among many groups and individuals of what lies beyond. They are thinking that post-war problems cannot all wait until the last shot is fired. To meet the problems which will surely face a free agriculture and a free country, some way must be developed so that different groups will exchange viewpoints and will understand to some extent the aspirations and the problems of other groups.

With these thoughts in mind, an extension institute was held in Washington on January 4, 5, and 6. The institute concerned itself with the educational phases of post-war programs affecting agriculture. Representatives of national farm, labor, business, welfare, and religious organizations took part, giving their views and programs for winning the war and the peace. Able speakers for the CIO, AFL, Railway Execu-

"go sign" was given. Plans for local recruitment are even now under way in all areas where a labor shortage is anticipated.

Victory Gardens and the 8-point dairy program are again assuming big proportions in local plans this month. The Victory Garden kit of material which will be helpful in local campaigns is now being assembled, and one will be available for each county which requests it through the State extension director. Excellent State publications on the dairy program are being received, such as a recent multilithed letter from Director Anderson to Colorado farmers, which carries on the back the eight points of the dairy program with clever line drawings. Many States are arranging State meetings and dairy short courses.

tives Association, U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, the Grange, and other groups showed wide divergence on some things but remarkably close agreement on others. For example, most agreed that full employment was essential for prosperity of all groups in the post-war world. The third day was devoted entirely to educational problems.

The work of the Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities was outlined by Noble Clark, associate director of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, who presented the viewpoint of the association and discussed the committee's report, now available in printed form from the agricultural colleges in each State.

It is hoped that this pilot type of conference can serve as a trail blazer on the educational road toward better group understanding of the important post-war problems.

# Opportunities for service in home demonstration work

M. L. WILSON, Director of Cooperative Extension Work

■ Home demonstration work, like all wartime public service, today is approaching the cross road between Victory and peace. We are still engaged in mustering human sinew and physical resources on the civilian front to bolster the armor and courage of our troops on the fighting fronts, but the thinking we are doing now and the decisions we are making will be reflected in our post-war home and family life.

If we are to look forward to a greater extension home demonstration service, it is time that we take active steps for the professional improvement of our work. The many methods and techniques learned to date in extension teaching should, by all means, be continued. But we are now about to enter a period in which we must recognize that there are problems of education which cannot be met entirely through demonstrations and other techniques we in Extension know so well. To tackle some of the more abstract problems, it may be necessary to experiment boldly on the frontier of new educational devices.

## Meeting the Big Problems

The broader program of the future should, of course, make full use of the tools we have developed. Home demonstration work, as we have become accustomed to think of it, teaches practices that apply to big problems. It does this in specific units which too frequently we fail to tie together into a big unified approach to meet the entire problem.

Meal planning, cooking, home food preservation, all these are units contributing toward better family health and a solution of the larger problems of farm families. But rural people too often say they are learning to can corn, learning to make an apron, instead of "Our home demonstration unit is working on better health, on improving community life." It is one of the big jobs of extension agents to see that rural people are made aware of these larger needs and what they as a group can do about them.

Among the bigger jobs, I would place emphasis on improving rural elementary schools, on increasing participation in church and community affairs, on establishing better rural libraries and library service, on furthering participation in rural health and civic improvement programs.

In the post-war years, a good home demonstration agent will need more than her demonstration kit and equipment. She should be able to sit down with a group of farm women and say: "Here are some facts on education in our community; here are some facts on health. What can be done to see to it that our children get a decent opportunity for education—to see that they have an equal chance with the children in the city? What can be done to solve a certain health problem?" And she should be able to get some good discussion. Home demonstration extension work has, in my opinion, a greater responsibility to take action in developing better rural schools and rural health programs. Such programs must be cooperative with other agencies, it is true; but our leadership can do much to make them a reality.

A survey of the work actually being done by home demonstration agents, now in progress, shows among other things that home demonstration agents are carrying a full schedule of worth-while activities and that the activities of at least 80 percent include cooperative programs with many different organizations. But the percentage of time devoted to such cooperative programs is very small. The survey does not attempt to evaluate the effectiveness of such contacts with rural groups; but the activities listed lead us to believe that, in many instances, time is devoted to teaching specific homemaking skills never adequately related to the larger problems of rural families.

Home demonstration agents have devoted much time to teaching nutrition and have related such teaching to health; but in the realm of other important rural problems, such as are

incident to better family relations and to community development, we find less evidence of activities aimed directly at these problems. About one-fourth of the agents, reporting the use of their time during 1 week, which was used as the unit of measurement, worked on better family relationships; about one-sixth of them recorded any time spent on activities which we would associate with improving community life. The total time per week which could be attributed directly to these two phases of extension was, on the average, about 2 hours out of 50.

About 64 percent of the agents reported some work with individual rural and urban families not regular members of extension groups; and about 10 percent of the agents worked with new, unorganized groups on special programs such as Victory Gardens and canning. This shows a good beginning, but we need to develop and strengthen this tendency to work with new groups.

## Giving a Vision of Leadership

Agents indicated one of their major difficulties to be in procuring and training lay leadership. This raises the question of what constitutes training leaders—what sort of challenge do we put before rural men and women in asking them to serve their groups? Do we urge them to help Extension do its job, or do we give them a vision of community growth and enrichment?

These are just a few of the preliminary findings in a study of the home agent's job which all extension workers will want to read in full when it becomes available. Research of this kind represents an honest self-analysis of our work which can be helpful in planning for the future.

I have much confidence that extension home demonstration work will play an even greater part in the world of tomorrow than it has in the past 30 years. They report the chief satisfaction they get from their jobs is working with people to help them achieve a better, fuller life. To continue to help rural people, agents must prepare to meet the more abstract problems of better homes, community life, civic planning, medical care, health facilities, education, religion, and recreation, in addition to the practical skills of better homemaking.



# Something new in visual aids

NEIL F. BLAIR, Assistant Extension Editor, Idaho

■ This mobile audio-visual unit carries sight and sound training into the far corners of Idaho and is now on its first run—a farm labor-saving tour.

The truck has projection equipment for utilization of every means of visual aid in teaching and is fitted with self-contained power-generating equipment, screens, amplifiers, and horns.

Three means of projection are possible. Projection of films, slides, sound motion pictures, and strips is possible by mirror projection to a screen mounted on top of the truck. A translucent screen mountable at the rear doors provides projection in daylight, and the use of the portable projection equipment is possible under any auditorium conditions. Two projector units are carried permitting continuous projection in the professional theater manner where such projection is desired.

A 30-watt amplification system is also mounted in the truck. This can be used in many different ways. The amplification and mixing of sound to make radio transcriptions and record sound on film are being widely used on the present tour.

It will be used as a public address system (both mobile and stationary)

for 4-H fairs, farm tours, and county fairs, mixing voice and music for fair purposes. Motion pictures can be shown in the farm home yard regardless of power supply or light conditions.

Floodlights, special demountable poles for carrying overhead cables, special measuring sticks for comparative crop-yield pictures, cables for power, microphone and horn connections, as well as the projection units themselves, are carried in specially built cabinets within the panel compartment of the truck. The seat next to the driver's seat is removable, allowing it to be turned in any direction within the unit for easy manipulation of the equipment. Facilities have been provided for additional machines and equipment as progress is made in the audio-visual fields, radio, F.M. broadcasting and television.

The portable generator which provides 3,000 watts of electric power can be operated within the truck or at a remote point. It will operate all the lighting equipment and projectors.

Motion-picture cameras in 16-millimeter size and still-picture cameras in 4 by 5 inch and 35-millimeter sizes are carried. The unit has been designed to include every possible

means of sound and sight coverage of an event.

President Dale of the university authorized construction of the unit and assigned it to the college of agriculture. Dean E. J. Iddings, director of extension, approved the initial use in conjunction with the Extension Service's farm and home labor-saving exhibit.

It was built in the university shops under the supervision and direction of Hobart Beresford, agricultural engineer, and Neil F. Blair, assistant extension editor.

## Garden school of the air

The outstanding success of a Texas Fall Garden School of the Air assures future schools-by-air-broadcast on other agricultural topics of general interest. Enrollment for the first school totaled 6,147, and communications revealed that large numbers of other gardeners heard the broadcasts but did not seek enrollment.

A poll among the enrollees showed greatest interest in poultry for the next extension school of the air. Other listeners asked for assistance with spring gardening, home canning, food preparation, orchard and swine production. Others wanted dairying, home sewing, flower gardening, bee culture, and meat curing.

Study of the results showed enrollments came from 212 Texas counties and from 8 other States including Indiana, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Of those reporting, 70 percent lived on farms, 14 percent in towns of less than 2,500, and 16 percent in larger cities. The check showed that as a result of the school many gardeners reported increased use of fertilizer, better insect control, improved preparation of garden plots, and numerous other approved gardening practices.

Harris County led the State in enrollments with 543, and Eastland County was second with 203. Bastrop, Fisher, Fort Bend, Harrison, Hunt, Leon, Tarrant, Upshur, Waller, and Zavala Counties each had more than 100 enrollees.

The school was a feature of the Texas Farm and Home Hour broadcast from the college each weekday at 6:02 a.m. through stations in Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio.

The persons shown, reading from left to right, are: Dean E. J. Iddings, director of extension; Harrison C. Dale, president of the University of Idaho, who is testing the amplifier; and Prof. Hobart Beresford, agricultural engineer, who supervised construction.





## Boys and girls harvest milkweed

■ When an urgent call went out for milkweed floss to make life belts and aviators' jackets, the young folks in the country took over the assignment, and such a combing of roadsides and fields for milkweed pods never was seen before.

South Dakota early sent in an SOS for more bags. It takes two bags to hold a bushel of dry pods—enough to make one life jacket. It was easy to see that it would take a lot of picking to get enough to meet the need; but 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, and school children all pitched in.

Under the supervision of 4-H Club local leaders in north Sebastian County, Ark., 37 boys and girls picked enough floss to save the lives of 68 servicemen, reports Carroll S. Morrow, county agent. In Wells County, Ind., the original goal of 1,200 bags was soon raised to 4,000, or enough to equip a whole battleship with life jackets. The local American Legion post gave prizes of \$4, \$2, and \$1 to those picking the largest number of bags; and the milkweed pods kept rolling in.

One rural school in Wisconsin with 12 pupils gathered more than 220 bags of pods. From this school in

the hills of Waukesha County, a brother and sister, Bobby and Shirley Stocks, gathered 22 bags and won a \$25 war bond.

Shawano County in Wisconsin sent 3 carloads to Michigan for processing; and altogether the children of Wisconsin sent the total soaring to 430,000 sacks, or way over their federally suggested goal of 300,000 bags. Highway trucks picked up the bags dried at the schools, and any sunshiny autumn day nearby fences were loaded with drying pods. Fairgrounds were used to store the bags until shipment was made.

A special meeting of the county board was called in Shawano County to organize the campaign. Each member took charge in his township or village. Rural schools and high schools, 4-H Clubs, conservation clubs, and civic organizations took part. Twenty-five members of the Shawano Service Club went out in a group for 2 hours Monday and collected 108 bags of pods. Some schools gathered as many as 500 bags.

A drying yard was established at the forest ranger station in Bowler where the bags were hung on a fence

to dry for 3 or 4 weeks, or longer if it rained. County Agent Wallin says the county had a dense milkweed growth in the western part and that although the county was not advertising its weeds, it really went after them.

Twelve boys, members of the Field and Farm 4-H Club of Glastonbury really made a record for Connecticut, harvesting 240 bags under the leadership of Ray Bidwell.

The Glastonbury club, on a hunt for milkweed, discovered about 15 acres of meadowland near the Connecticut River where the plant grew in great abundance. After picking about 150 bushels of pods, it was decided that the job was too big for the club to handle alone. One hundred and thirty boys from the local school volunteered to assist in "cleaning up" the remaining pods. The plot netted a total of more than 300 bags of pods.

The 240 bags collected by the 4-H Club, plus 160 harvested by the schoolboys, were hung on wires over a tobacco field. On the day of the hurricane, Mr. Bidwell and his father, with help of a few of the boys, took down all bags and put them in a tobacco shed. The next day, the pods had to be hung up again. The money received for the pods will be used to finance a poultry project for each of the members of the club.

Two other clubs, the Beckley Patriots of Berlin and the West End Junior Farmers of Rocky Hill, both under the leadership of William Burpee, also took an active part in the campaign. The Junior Farmers collected 165 bags; and the Patriots harvested 50 bags.

## Club organizes chorus

Believing that interest in music is one way of overcoming war jitters, the Mill Creek home demonstration club members of Melbourne, Izard County, Ark., have organized a chorus of 30 women's voices, says Mrs. Anne H. Harper, home demonstration agent. Harry Fritz, local voice teacher, who has studied in Chicago and New York, is directing the chorus.

The chorus rehearses one night a week. A fee of \$1 per member is charged per month for this training.

The chorus is practicing on popular, sacred, and classical music so that it may appear on any type of program.

# Covering more ground with 4-H Club work

ROBERT H. RUMLER, County Agent, Lycoming County, Pa.

■ In the face of ever-increasing demands for the time of extension workers, they are nevertheless striving to increase the efficiency and the coverage of the various phases of the extension program. This is particularly true in the field of 4-H Club work which is so vital to the development of the future rural leadership of this country.

In an effort to increase the scope of the 4-H Club program in Lycoming County, a definite plan was devised whereby the over-all educational program of 4-H Club work could be expanded. As many 4-H Club members enroll for the same or similar projects year after year, it was felt that their training along strictly project lines was entirely too narrow and that a broadening of their training to include other agricultural subjects would be most worth while to them. This is especially important if they are to become agricultural leaders of their communities.

This expanded program involved the use of all the teaching and publicity mediums available in Lycoming County. Visual education, circular letters, radio, newspapers, and local leadership were all used in the development and execution of the plan.

4-H Club leaders, and other local leaders, 4-H Club members, county agent, and assistant county agent all shared the responsibility of the spring enrollment of 4-H Club members. Following the organization meeting, the responsibility for 4-H Club meetings was divided equally between club leaders and county agents. In this sharing, however, the extension agents assumed the entire responsibility for the teaching of subject matter to club members.

Instead of attending every club meeting, which was previously done, the county agent and assistant attended only half of the club meetings during alternate months. The program of the meetings attended by the extension men included only limited discussion of project work at the time the 4-H Club members gave their individual project reports. Each per-

son's project was discussed with him briefly and recommendations made for the continuation of this project work. During the remainder of the evening program, movies or slides prepared by extension specialists of the Pennsylvania State College were shown to and discussed with the members. The subject of these discussions was in most instances entirely different from the project work carried by the club members, although it dealt directly with some important agricultural problems within the community.

Through the use of visual aids at club meetings, it was possible to broaden the point of view and knowledge of the members in a way that was also entertaining to them. Alert, wide-awake farm boys and girls cannot view a movie on *The Principles of Dairy Cattle Feeding* or *The Importance of Erosion Control* without picking up one or two important ideas which could be put into practice on their own home farms. This is the principle on which the constant use of visual aids at 4-H Club meetings is based.

## Broad Program Adds Interest

As all the agricultural club work in Lycoming County is organized on a community rather than on a project basis, such a visual program of instruction is very helpful in maintaining the interest of all club members in the 4-H Club meetings. The discussion of one particular project would be of interest to only a relatively few in attendance.

Realizing that all 4-H Club leaders are busy people, assistance was also given in the preparation of programs for those meetings that were not attended by the county agent or assistant county agent. With some assistance from W. S. Jeffries, assistant State 4-H Club leader, several standard types of program were developed, which included all the information necessary for the club meeting. These programs were sent to club leaders and officers at least a week preceding the time of the meeting for which

they were responsible. From these program outlines and helps, they were able to arrange an interesting club meeting without devoting too much of their time to the development of a program.

Probably the most important link in the county-wide plan for broadening the agricultural knowledge of 4-H Club members was the use of the radio. Contrary to general belief, it was found that specific and detailed instruction could be given to club members through the medium of radio with little or no confusion on their part.

Preceding the inauguration of weekly 4-H Club radio broadcasts (4-H Club meetings of the air) for subject-matter instruction, a trial program was presented to determine the effectiveness of radio as a means of teaching the details of project work.

It was most interesting to learn that details such as the number of feet of hopper space required per hundred capons, the type of vitamin D supplement to use on dairy calves, methods of building water troughs for pigs, and similar detailed instruction could be presented without fear of complication. The other distinct advantage in using the radio as the principal means of subject-matter teaching was the timeliness of the information presented. Any emergency which arose could be easily and completely cared for with reasonable certainty that the vast majority of club members would get the necessary information. Contrasting this with the possibility of waiting until all the 4-H Club groups met—a period of a month—it can be readily appreciated that this part of the program was extremely important.

To be certain that the specific details of project requirements and completions were in the hands of every 4-H Club member, circular letters were used, in addition to the means mentioned above.

In this plan, which was developed for the 4-H agricultural club members of Lycoming County, there is nothing new, with the possible exception of the radio phase of the program. However, the organization of all the details into one complete working program made it possible for the extension representatives to use their time more efficiently and at the same time broaden the teaching of 4-H Clubs.

# 400 neighborhood leaders aid Extension in St. John Valley

How neighborhood leaders have worked in the northern tip of Aroostook County, Me., is told here by Clarence A. Day, Maine extension editor.

■ Until a generation ago, the upper St. John Valley, on the northern tip of Maine from Grand Falls to the Allagash, was a bit of old France set down in New England; and most of the French characteristics still prevail. The original settlers were Acadians from Ste. Anne's near the present Frederickton, New Brunswick, and earlier came there from the Basin of Minas and Beau Pre in the land of Evangeline. Indeed, Madame Le Blanc, "Great Aunt of Madawaska," claimed near relationship with the family of Basil, the Blacksmith.

French to the core, and twice driven from their homes by the English, they clung with determined tenacity to the habits, customs, language, and religion of their homeland. As their settlements grew on both sides of the River St. John, they were joined by French immigrants from Canada; and their offspring became, as Father Thomas Albert, their own local historian, so happily phrases it: "not Acadians nor Canadians, but Madawaskans." Madawaska, the name of the first settlement, became the general name for all the settlements in the upper St. John Valley.

For 50 years the Madawaska settlements were almost completely isolated from contact with both the United States and Canada. Then came the bloodless Aroostook War over the northeastern boundary between Maine and Canada. When it was over and the boundary was located in the channel of the St. John, the Madawaskans found theirs a divided land, half in one country and half in another. They accepted the situation with a shrug of the shoulder, and those living south of the river became loyal Americans.

Fifty years more and came the railroad, and with it came changes. A lot of little farms became big farms, and the "Valley" became an important part of Aroostook's mighty potato empire. But the people remained

much the same. Although more progressive than their forefathers, who had had so little opportunity for progress, they still remain French at heart. Naturally warm-hearted and hospitable, they are still somewhat suspicious of strangers until the strangers have proved themselves.

Not much extension work in home economics had been done in the Valley prior to the outbreak of the Second World War. Aroostook is by far the largest county in Maine. There was but one home demonstration agent; and the extension headquarters are at Presque Isle, 60 miles from Madawaska. Consequently, the local women were not familiar with the extension organization.

## Mrs. Barry Made Personal Calls

This is the background against which Mrs. Etta Barry, emergency home demonstration agent, built up an efficient neighborhood leader system which includes 200 neighborhoods, 30 chairmen, and 400 neighborhood leaders.

Because of its newness, most of the work of organization had to be done by personal calls. Mrs. Barry would go into town and interview the leading persons to find out who were good prospects for neighborhood leaders. Then she would call on the prospects, explain to them the purpose of the organization, and if her own judgment of the prospect was favorable, ask her to serve as a leader. In this work of getting acquainted, Mrs. Barry had the advantage of being of French extraction herself, being able to speak the language fluently and being a long-time resident of Fort Kent, one of the principal towns in the Valley. Part of her neighborhood visits were made on foot because of the condition of the roads at the season when the calls were made.

"Every call I made was a new experience," she relates. "The best part of the organizing was that which I did on foot. In that way I could

judge exactly how far any leader would enjoy walking to the farthest member of her group. I also had a chance to visit more people, and I stopped at homes that appealed to me as a chance to get information and talk about extension work.

"The leaders get most of their information from two extension publications, *The Digest* and *Victory Chats*. The leader either passes these publications from one member to another or discusses personally with group members the information they contain. These little publications contain information on soils, seed, crop rotation, dairy nutrition, food values, wartime regulations, child care, and other subjects. In many cases, they are the only publications that reach these people.

"Group members often go to their leaders with their problems of one kind or another. The leader, if she cannot settle the problem herself, contacts the home demonstration agent. Most of the problems are on the spoilage of home-canned food. If it is one the leader can answer herself, she does so and gives literature on the subject to her neighbor. Not long ago a woman went to her leader to find out the reason why she had lost some 20 quarts of canned meat. The leader got in contact with the home demonstration agent who, although she was not able to save the meat, could tell the woman the cause of spoilage. New closures bothered the women. One complained to her leader that the metal caps would not stick after processing. The leader found that she had been using the caps upside down. The leaders have done a good job getting new canning methods through to their groups.

"Information on sugar rationing is given out through the leaders, who have helped many women with their canning-sugar problems. One group of women complained to their leader that caterpillars were defoliating their fruit trees. The home demonstration agent got information for them from Extension on how to deal with the pests.

"Considerable stress has been placed on child care and child feeding, for well-fed children are the foundation of a strong country. During the winter months, some 32 meetings were held along the River on the 'Care of the Sick.'"

# 1,000 children learn to cull poultry

■ More than 1,000 Pierce County Wis., youngsters have enthusiastically carried a poultry-culling program into all corners of the county.

County Agent H. G. Seyforth and County Superintendent Mark Saxton planned an extensive campaign to teach every boy and girl in the seventh and eighth grades in the rural schools of the county how to cull poultry and to know the advantages of culling. The young people gathered in 17 different schools to attend the hour and a half extension program on poultry culling.

A demonstration with live birds on how to cull chickens was presented by Gerald Annin, State poultry husbandman, who also described a winter-feeding plan. T. L. Bewick, assistant State 4-H Club leader, outlined the plan by which the school children could arrange with their parents to try out the culling system. The youngsters would take charge of placing the nonlayers in one pen, the layers in another, as taught by Mr.

Annin, to see how well their culling works out in 10 days. If the plan works, they are encouraged to take over full responsibility for the flock during the next year. A profitable business is started with the remaining layers after the nonlayers are sold.

The county superintendent summarized the advantages of culling and showed a 25-minute poultry film.

Four of these meetings were held each day for 5 days. The first meeting began promptly at 9 a. m. As soon as Professor Annin and Superintendent Saxton finished at one school they went on to the next, presented the first half of the program there, and the county agent and Mr. Bewick arrived later to finish with the club talk and the movie.

Each boy and girl who carries out the culling and takes at least some of the responsibility of the flock management earns some credit toward the agricultural work required for promotion from the eighth grade in rural Wisconsin schools.

## State fair in a store

■ War conditions which closed the gates of the Oregon State Fair at Salem for the duration also effectively blighted Oregon's usual State 4-H Club home economics show and exhibits both last year and the year before. It appeared that county winners would be unable to participate in a State-wide exhibit again this year; that is, until one of the West's largest department stores heard about it.

Along in the summer, officials of the company in Portland approached H. C. Seymour, State 4-H Club leader in Oregon, and offered the facilities of its large tenth floor auditorium for the club exhibits. Seymour jumped at the offer, but first he needed some awards for the various State winners. Pacific International Livestock exposition officials, who have continued to sponsor the 4-H livestock shows at the Portland stockyards, although the big P-1 exposition itself is another temporary war casualty, immediately agreed to provide the awards for the home economics, crops and other exhibits in addition to the livestock awards.

The State 4-H exhibit was held at the same time as the P-1 4-H livestock show, the second week in October instead of the first week in September, which is usually the date for the State fair. Because of lack of space, entries were confined to the three top winners in each class of exhibits this year. But even so, 1,255 exhibits were shown, nearly half as many as in normal years at the State fair when each county was allowed as many exhibits as there were awards made in each contest.

People of Oregon, and especially Portlanders, seldom have been more conscious of 4-H Club work in a single week. Full-page store advertisements on club work, including pictures of county winners, were used on two days in the *Oregonian* and *Oregon Journal* in Portland, and the exhibits were featured in advertisements in both papers on 2 other days.

Posters throughout the store called attention of the thousands of shoppers to the exhibit in the auditorium. Four large display windows on one of Portland's busiest streets were given over

for a week to prize-winning exhibits.

Helen Cowgill, assistant State 4-H Club leader, said the store offered all the help possible and spared no expense in helping to stage the show. She was given the choice of anything she needed, or wanted, in the 14 stories of the block-square building, from the finest chinaware for the dollar-dinner contest to tables or other equipment for exhibits. Through a store official, the store supplied all of the equipment, including tables, built-in racks, decorations, posters, rugs, platforms, chairs, manikins, and even piped water and gas from the basement to the tenth floor especially for the club show. Thousands and thousands of Portlanders who are accustomed to attending all sorts of events in the store auditorium came and admired the 4-H exhibits.

On the closing day of the exhibit, the daily store bulletin, issued to its thousands of employees, contained this tribute to Oregon 4-H boys and girls:

"During the week we have had one of the most outstanding exhibits ever held in our auditorium. It was an exhibit of the many interests of the 4-H Club boys and girls in homemaking. The thousands who have been visiting these exhibits have been struck with the sincerity and diligence of these young boys and girls—young gardeners who proudly exhibit their produce; teen-age cooks who bake, cook, can, preserve, sew, and carry off the honors that adults would be proud of.

"The 4-H Club, in all its various activities, is definitely a character-building organization. In these times, when we are apt to spotlight juvenile delinquency, it is very encouraging indeed to see hundreds of young boys and girls demonstrating that they know the values of the real things of life. The wholesome attitude of these youngsters, their graciousness and general good manners, their respect for their elders, their pride in work, rank them as fine young American citizens.

"We say goodbye, 4-H-ers, reluctantly. You have every reason to be proud of your fine show. You have made friends for yourselves and for your organization. Your parents, teachers, and leaders may well be proud of you. In saying goodbye, we also extend to you an invitation to be with us again next year."

# Balanced farming pays in Missouri

"Missouri's balanced farming program is as good as it looks," said Karl Knaus after a visit in that State during the past summer. While there he visited a demonstration farm in Audrain County with extension agents and farmers.

■ Balanced farming has become popular in Missouri since it was started there, as such, in 1941. It is described as individual farm plans having a goal of a satisfying farm life obtained through good incomes, while at the same time soil fertility is maintained, if not actually boosted.

Albert R. Hagan, Missouri extension economist, tells us how the work has been carried on in his State since it was started. Early in September 1941 a 3-day training conference was held for all members of the resident extension staff of the University. Following this conference series of 3-day training schools for all county extension workers were held throughout the State. At this school complete balanced farming plans for a farm in the vicinity of the conference were worked out by different groups and then discussed and compared.

During the fall and winter a campaign was launched to get farm people interested in developing plans for their own farms. Sets of colored slides, showing how balanced farming systems had been developed on farms in the State, were used at meetings throughout the State which were attended by approximately 50,000 farm people. Newspaper stories, special exhibits at the State Fair and district fairs, and various other methods were used also to attract attention and interest.

Since 1941, through individual assistance to farm families and through balanced-farming schools, approximately 3,600 farm families have started developing balanced farming systems for their farms. Many of these new farming systems are in complete operation. Other farmers, who have started their plans more recently, still have many adjustments to make.

At least one balanced farming system has been started in every county in Missouri, the program probably having made greatest progress in Osage and Warren Counties where plans have been started on from 100 to 300 farms.

Subject-matter specialists in practically all other extension projects actively cooperate with the balanced farming program in the training of new agents, preparation of material, conducting of meetings and demonstrations, preparation of publicity, and planning county extension programs with agents.

Representatives of other agricultural agencies, such as the AAA, Farm Security Administration, Farm Credit Administration, Vocational Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, and Internal Revenue Service, as well as terracing and pond-building contractors, bankers, lumber yard dealers, machinery dealers, and shop men, and other organizations and groups, assist with various phases of the balanced farming program.

The 169-acre farm in Audrain County visited by Karl Knaus of the Federal Extension Service is owned by H. O. Baker, Jr., who has been following a definite farm improvement program since 1941. Mr. Knaus accompanied County Agent John W. McClure, III; Blanche P. Drysdale, home demonstration agent; Dr. A. W. Uren, extension veterinarian; Ralph L. Ricketts, extension agricultural engineer; and 28 farmers and wives of 8 of them to see and hear what progress Mr. Baker has made since first making his plans.

## Producing Milk Is Main Job

On the Baker farm milk production is the main job, and all farming operations are directed toward improving the efficiency of the Jersey herd. Last year, with 15 cows in production, 91,252 pounds of milk were produced and averaged 19 percent over 1942, or enough to provide 125 soldiers with a quart of milk a day every day of the year. The farm has been able gradually to carry more cattle as a result of the soil- and crop-management program. There were 8 head in 1941, 12 in 1942, 15 in 1943, and 21 in 1944. Not only has the number increased, but the production per head has

gradually increased.

In 1941, when plans were started for a balanced farm system on the Baker farm, most of the fields were severely eroded and too low in fertility to grow legumes and other crops successfully. Fields were not arranged to provide a well-balanced rotation and most of the water was from a hand pump at the barn. Buildings and equipment were not arranged satisfactorily for a dairy.

The dairy herd has been rapidly improved through the use of a good registered bull and the culling of low-producing cows which are detected through the dairy herd-improvement association records. Heifers are retained for herd replacements as they prove their worth.

New facilities for handling the herd include a modern milking parlor built onto the barn in 1941, a milking machine, rearrangement of lot fencing, a silo, and water piped to the barn from a new pond.

More than 9,000 feet of terraces have been constructed and well-sodded waterways have been prepared to handle the terrace water from approximately 55 acres of cropland. All terraced fields are farmed on the contour with the terraces.

## To Supplement Native Pastures

Crop rotations have been planned to supplement the native bluegrass pasture, thus saving large quantities of hay and grain. Two 20-acre fields are used for a 2-year rotation of Balbo rye and sweetclover. Each fall, this rotation provided 40 acres of fall pasture including 20 acres of first-year sweetclover and 20 acres of rye. Each spring, 10 acres of the second year sweetclover are pastured off and the remaining 10 acres plowed under and sorgho planted for silage. Two years later the second-year sweetclover, or the other half of the field, is plowed under for sorgho.

Another 20-acre field is used for a 1-year rotation of winter barley and soybeans. The barley crop is pastured in the fall, is harvested for grain in the spring and followed by soybeans to be harvested for hay. An adjoining 20-acre field also is used in a 1-year rotation of oats and lespedeza, providing oats for dairy feed and 20 acres of lespedeza for summer pasture.

Two additional 15-acre fields are in a 1-year small grain and lespedeza

rotation to provide additional small grain and hay or pasture. In addition, there are approximately 45 acres of bluegrass available for spring and late fall pasture.

Near the house are three 2-acre areas that are laid out on the contour to provide a 3-year rotation of corn, small grain, and sweetclover. Through the summer months pullets are ranged on the new clover and when they are put in the laying house in September the range is available for farrowing and pasturing the fall pigs. This same area is used the next spring for spring farrowing and pasturing of livestock. This rotation controls poultry and swine parasites.

The Bakers have also planned how they will fix up the homestead. Re-

cently the house has been wired for electricity. Electricity will also be used for running the milking machine and to cool the milk.

Even with the lack of labor a serious handicap, Mr. Baker has been able to figure out ways of getting the job done with the labor that is available. To do this he has built a poultry range shelter, with large feeders and barrel waterers that need to be serviced less frequently. The farm pond constructed in 1942 at a higher level saves several hours of hard pumping each day as water is piped from it to the barn and chicken yards. Two of his neighbors and Mr. Baker built a tractor buck rake, which saves additional hands when harvesting grains and hay.

every day. Helen has four brothers in the Navy, which may help to explain her attitude toward farm work — "If there wasn't a war," she said, "maybe I wouldn't be doing this job; but, the way I look at it, we all need to do our part and help to hurry this thing to get through."

State VFV Supervisor John R. Fitzsimmons was highly pleased with the results of this contest. It not only meant that the farm labor program was constantly plugged over WHO; but many communities, stimulated by the contest, kept individual and group work records from which many good publicity stories have been gleaned. A tabulation is being made of all the entries for the contest, showing the amount of time they worked during the entire season. Some of the VFV's worked more than 1,000 hours during the summer—an enviable record. Hats off to Station WHO for a program which gave public recognition to the many unsung heroes of the battle for food production.

## Radio strengthens labor program

■ One of the best uses of radio in the farm labor field last year, according to the VFV office in Washington, was the Iowa Crop Corps Honor Roll program sponsored by Radio Station WHO in Des Moines. Early in the spring, WHO announced that it was offering prizes each month to the organizations that did the best job of recruiting farm workers and to the best individual workers in the State. Each county was asked to send in lists of candidates for the Honor Roll at the end of June, July, August, and September, with short sketches of the work being done by each individual and group.

Prizes ranged from \$50 for the best organization and \$15 for the best individual to merit awards or "honorable mentions," in the form of Victory Farm Volunteer T-shirts. As all of the candidates for the individual awards were Victory Farm Volunteers, the T-shirts were competed for almost as heavily as the cash prizes.

At the end of the season, grand prizes were offered for the whole summer's work, ranging from \$250 for the best organization and a \$50 war bond for the best individual, to VFV T-shirts again. The outstanding VFV's were interviewed on the radio by Herb Plambeck, WHO Farm Editor, and told the story of their summer's work to a large and interested radio audience.

State champion of the entire contest was Melvin Wilbur, a 14-year-old high school boy from Storm Lake,

Iowa. Working on the Shinn farm, some 3 miles from Storm Lake, Melvin and one other man did the work for which Mr. Shinn normally hires three men. Mr. Shinn owns a 240-acre dairy farm, and Melvin's chief responsibility was the operation of the milking machines and care of the cow barn. Besides these regular chores, he did many jobs around the farm and garden, such as haying, weeding, hauling manure, repairing fence and driving the tractor. He averaged 10 to 12 hours a day during the week and also did the chores on Sunday. The Shinn's were so well pleased with this boy, and Melvin liked them, and the work so well that he is staying on this winter, getting up at 5 a. m. to do the milking before he goes to school and getting back in time to do the evening work.

Among the runners-up for State championship were three Jennett brothers, Russel, 17, Clair, 15, and Jack, 14, from Sac City, Iowa. All three worked for different farmers and looked after their farms at various times when the farmers were away. Winner of fifth prize in the seasonal awards and third prize in the month of June was Helen Bruck, 16, of Harlan, Iowa. Helen spent most of her time driving the tractor—plowing, disking, harrowing, and haying. After she had cut the hay, she bunched and helped load it; and, in addition to all these jobs, she did the regular chores of feeding the livestock and milking four to six cows

## Town rest rooms

County home demonstration councils in the State, backed by the 10,000 membership of the Colorado Home Demonstration Council, are interested in establishing rest rooms primarily for the use of farm and ranch women and children.

In Larimer County, the town of Loveland opened the shoppers' lounge on November 1. The Loveland Chamber of Commerce will finance the lounge until January 1 when the city council will make budget provisions for a hostess and pay the rent and other expenses.

Mrs. Gerald Hogge, president of the Loveland Council, encourages women in other towns to start a similar project. "We found that merchants and town women were grateful to us for starting the ball rolling," she said. "The lounge, of course, will be open to residents of the town, too."

Furnishings for the shoppers' lounge have been donated by members of various organizations interested in home demonstration work.

One home demonstration club in Loveland will make a mattress for the baby bed. Other clubs are donating funds. Rules governing the use of the building and the authority of the hostess have been worked out by the county council committee and will be posted.

# Leaders help neighbors in Hawaii

ESTHER RUGLAND, Home Agent at Large in Hawaii

■ Seven neighborhood leaders in Ahukini, Kauai, Territory of Hawaii, have for 2 years carried some bit of homemaking information to their neighbors in regular monthly visits.

Forty families live in Ahukini, a small community which had had few extension contacts before the neighborhood-leader group was organized. Each leader volunteered to visit a

were invited to the leader's home, where she in turn demonstrated the bottling of guava juice.

When no mayonnaise was available in local stores, the neighborhood leaders showed many of the families in Ahukini how to make their own.

Demonstrations given and subjects discussed at neighborhood leader training meetings have included: Canning mangoes, first aid for war-



Part of a group of neighborhood leaders in Ahukini, Kauai, Hawaii, start out to carry important homemaking information to their neighbors.

designated number of families each month after she had attended a method demonstration and discussion meeting conducted by the home demonstration agent. On these visits the leader taught her neighbors what she herself had learned at the demonstration.

During the guava season, the leaders met with the agents and learned to preserve guava juice and make guava jam, jelly, butter, and catsup. Each leader was supplied with a sample of the various products. Following the meeting, leaders visited their neighbors, distributed leaflets on the preservation of guavas, and showed the samples. Housewives interested in seeing a demonstration

time clothing, making home-made silver polish, canning guavas, uses of avocado, Christmas suggestions, making salad dressings, caring for electrical equipment, keeping home accounts, serving better breakfasts, and making children's toys.

For some of the subjects, there is not enough interest to warrant a demonstration by the leader; but gradually the women of the community are becoming interested, and the leaders feel they are contributing their time to a worth-while project.

Homemakers in the community for the most part look forward to the visit of the neighborhood leaders. Occasionally, however, the leaders are not so well received. One leader

said: "Once in awhile folks don't care to listen to us, but we tell them anyway."

Many of the housewives in Ahukini have jobs outside their homes, or they have small children and so find it inconvenient to attend a regular university extension club. Although the neighborhood leaders' group was planning to serve as a means to distribute emergency information, the group has functioned as a means of giving homemaking information to busy housewives.

During 1945, the regular university extension program subjects to be presented to the neighborhood leaders include demonstrations on better breakfasts, food preservation, laundry, and Christmas suggestions.

Mrs. Tomiko Miyoshi, who is chairman of the group, is also president of the county home extension council which assists in planning university extension and 4-H activities for the entire island. All the training meetings are held at her home.

## All in the day's work

Everything that happens in connection with the farm labor program is not all routine or drudgery. While I was in Atlanta attending the 4-H Club Congress, an army major asked at my office where he could find a field of good thick cotton to pick while home on furlough. My efficient secretary was determined that the major would have just what he wanted in the way of a cottonfield. She called upon the clerk to the county commissioners and asked that he help her out in a case of emergency. Thanks to the clerk of the county commissioners for a good field of thick cotton on his own farm and also for transportation to get the major and his 71-year-old father out to the cottonfield.

The clerk to the county commissioners informed me this morning that the major was bareheaded and promptly pulled off his shoes and pitched them down beside the cotton basket. When the day's work was over and the sun had gone down, the total weight of the cotton picked by the major and his father was 265 pounds. That's pretty good "majoring" in the cottonfield from 10:30 until sundown! Could you do as well?—H. C. Williams, Barrow County agent, Georgia.



# Have you read



**HOUSES FOR TOMORROW.** *Thomas R. Carskadon.* Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 96. 32 pp. Twentieth Century Fund, New York, 1944.

America is going to need well over a million new houses a year after the war is over. The majority of these dwellings should be medium and low priced, and a large part of them will be needed for rent rather than for sale.

The pamphlet considers what America has spent on housing, what we get for our money, and how many workers are involved. It discusses matters that concern the individual family—whether to buy or rent; recent reductions in interest rates and down payments; what makes houses cost so much.

The pamphlet also considers the

future of home building as an industry, the trend toward prefabrication and the utilization of new materials. It points out the advantages to be gained from the use of standard parts and materials and possibilities in using machinery in house building. The industry must be reorganized, trade restraints removed, building codes revised, and new methods of selling and leasing devised. Private industry may not be able to produce housing for the lowest income families without governmental aid.

This pamphlet is based on a 1944 publication of the Committee on Housing of the Twentieth Century Fund, New York, entitled *American Housing: Problems and Prospects.* *Maud Wilson, Oregon State College.*

## All work and no play makes Jack—

**E. R. JACKMAN, Extension Specialist in Farm Crops, Oregon**

■ When the war first hauled extension workers unceremoniously from our comfortable, warm, peacetime rut and put us on a plateau where we were exposed to wind and weather, there was a short period of shivering indecision. Opposing forces were charging furiously in every direction. One governmental agency would tell us to do some certain thing, and thereafter it seemed for a time that five other agencies would conspire to make that accomplishment impossible. Some of us had, as a chief concern, the desire to get out of the way so we would not be run over. Others of us plunged into the sea of confusion and found, to our amazement, that the scene was not altogether chaos and that the general movement was forward. Still others, like the famous desperate rejected lover of medieval times, mounted several horses and galloped madly away in every direction.

I think that some of us have made a few mistakes in attitude. We always make errors in performance;

but errors in attitude are more serious because they affect other people and, to some extent, affect the work of the whole organization. I plead guilty to one error—that of commiserating with county agents.

It was an easy thing to do. The county agent was charged with administering all kinds of boards and committees. His vocabulary changed from such well-worn words as "pests," "diseases," "bulls," and "seed" to a new outlandish gibberish featuring "quotas," "PD 200," "MPR 496," "2A," and "3C," and, as the farm auctioneers say, "other items too numerous to mention." Amendments to amendments accumulated on top of interpretations of interpretations. His office was filled with irate or confused and hurt people who kept murmuring, "I thought they wanted me to help win the war." Probably in the entire Nation there is no other group of civilians so insistently and continuously called upon for new work as are the county agents. It was a dull week that failed to dump a

new duty upon them.

All of this worried them when they had a minute to think of it. But in the main they responded splendidly. Their years of training in organization methods made it possible in most counties for them to appoint working committees, segregate job from job, and accomplish miracles. But at this point, the visiting specialist or administrator might arrive, look over the frenzied activity, and start to weep with the county agent because of the overwork.

Other people caught the idea, and in the end we saw isolated examples of county agents turning down jobs because they were already overworked. There was a tendency, too, for central staff people to shelve needed programs rather than to add to the burdens of overbusy men.

Just as a young mother wonders how in the world she spent her time in the pre-baby days, the county agents wonder what they did before their numerous war-baby jobs came to live with them. This sudden deluge of work has called forth buried talents, unknown before. Practically every county agent is doing at least twice as much work as he formerly did, and this is all to the good.

Capacity for work is partly inherited, but it is partly developed; and the more work one does the more he can do. On our western livestock ranches it is always the owner of the well-run ranch who can take time off for a committee meeting.

### War Activities Are Setting-up Exercises

As a direct result of the ready acceptance of job after job, and the evident competence of performance, Extension, as a whole, is in the best position with the public that it has ever known. The war activities have served as setting-up exercises that have built up the stature and strength of all the men.

So I have decided to do no more crying with people because of overwork. Henry Kaiser is building ships of all kinds in our Portland back yard. I've never heard of anyone saying to him: "You poor boy! You shouldn't be building all of those ships. It's a crime. They should have left you with your old work. You had enough to do the way it was."

# Among Ourselves

## L. A. Bevan appointed



Laurence A. Bevan, extension director of New Jersey, joined the Federal Extension Service on January 1. In his new post in Washington Director Bevan will work with the administration and coordination of extension programs in agriculture and home economics in the Northeastern States. During this year Mr. Bevan, who has had extensive experience in agricultural marketing, will spend part of his time investigating the marketing of farm products. Involved in this appointment is an experiment in cooperative relationships between the State and Federal offices of the Cooperative Extension Service.

"In the immediate future Mr. Bevan will devote a good deal of his time to an investigation of national marketing problems conducted by the House Agricultural Committee under the direction of its chairman, Congressman John W. Flannagan of Virginia.

Since his graduation from Massachusetts State College in 1913 Mr. Bevan has had considerable experience in extension work. In the early days of extension work, he was county agricultural agent in Fairfield County, Conn., and later in Berkshire County, Mass. He was agricultural

agent for the Boston Chamber of Commerce for 2 years. In 1928 he became director of the Division of Markets in Massachusetts, leaving there in 1935 to join the Rutgers University staff as extension economist in marketing. Mr. Bevan was promoted to the directorship in 1939.

Mr. Bevan has achieved much in the field of marketing. As assistant manager of a potato corporation in Vermont, he introduced packaged potatoes to stores in southern New England. In Massachusetts he expanded the market reporting work, assisted in organizing egg auctions, promulgated brands and grades of eggs, strawberries, and other farm products, and started an inspection service with the USDA. In 1940 he was given a 3 months' leave of absence from Rutgers to develop a marketing program for the million-and-a-quarter-acre area irrigated by the Columbia River Basin system in the Northwest.

Farmers from Sussex to Cape May in New Jersey have made wide use of Mr. Bevan's knowledge of the problems of distributing and merchandising farm products. He has also helped the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics in making studies of wholesale produce markets in Philadelphia and New York City.

Dr. R. C. Clothier, president of Rutgers University, has announced that Dr. W. H. Martin, dean and director of the New Jersey College of Agriculture and Experiment Station, will also carry on the administration of the Extension Service. He will be assisted by Lindley G. Cook as associate director.

T. M. CAMPBELL has arrived in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, Africa, on the first lap of his trip to study rural educational problems in West Africa. Next, he goes to the Gold Coast, then Nigeria and the Cameroons. Well known in Negro extension work since the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, Mr. Campbell is in charge of the Negro work in the southern tier of States, with headquarters in Tuskegee, Ala. He is on leave of absence from the Extension Service.

DIRECTOR JOHN R. HUTCHESON of Virginia was given a silver service by members of the staff at the annual conference to commemorate his twenty-fifth anniversary in Extension Service. Certificates of 25 or more years of service were also presented to Director Hutcheson and Assistant Director Montgomery; R. Belle Burke, Sally Guy Davis, and Sylvia Slocum, district home demonstration agents; J. G. Bruce, H. E. McSwain, and B. A. Warriner, district farm demonstration agents; Hallie L. Hughes and G. A. Elcan, State 4-H Club agents; C. E. Seltz, head of the agricultural engineering department; J. S. Schaeffer, clerk; W. H. Byrne, '15, agronomist; Martha C. Cook and Mabel P. Massey, county home demonstration agents; W. R. Linthicum, Spotsylvania; H. W. Ozlin, '12, Princess Anne; W. F. Michaux, Powhatan; O. B. Ross, '16, Amherst; J. C. Stiles, '03, Ashland; W. W. Wilkins, South Boston; and N. H. Williams, Jr., '17, Chatham, county agricultural agents.

MILTON L. FLACK, extension dairyman in Nebraska since September 1, 1924, died suddenly while attending a State Holstein sale in Omaha. Words can hardly express the loss suffered not only by the Extension Service but also by the dairy industry in Nebraska. He was a tireless worker and largely responsible for the current interest and sound development in artificial breeding of dairy cattle.

France, September 12, 1944. Just a line to let you know I finally made it O. K. Had a nice trip over and really enjoyed most of it, although it got tiresome toward the end. Everything seems to be pretty well under control in this section, and the people are getting back to normal. The towns are pretty badly torn up, but farm life goes on as usual. Farms are small, surrounded by hedges and lots of orchards. Livestock is rather scarce but there are quite a few cattle. Haven't seen any of the Percheron horses France is supposed to be famous for.—S/Sgt. F. D. Engler, Clark County Agent, Kans.

## Pinch-hitting does it

■ Plans to meet the 1945 farm-labor shortage, which gives little indication of improvement, are based on the experience of the past 2 years. Minnesota county agents are almost unanimous in the verdict that hitting in the pinches turned the tide in bumper harvests of the past two seasons and that the hitting in the pinches was done largely by townspeople who donned workshirts and overalls and answered the call to save the crops.

The movement to mobilize business and professional people in villages and cities through local committees arranged by the Extension Service got under way during the crop year of 1943. It took quickly, in spite of reluctance on the part of farmers to recognize this type of labor as significant. Forgetting that these clerks and grocers, garage mechanics and lawyers, school teachers and dentists were, many of them, former farm boys who had gone to town, farmers were skeptical of the effectiveness of the twilight brigades that took to the fields after business closed in town.

County Agent John Dysart of Alexandria, Douglas County, Minn., re-

ports that the good record of 1943 convinced farm people that here was a source of help that could save the day. Hence, in 1944 there were plenty of requests from farmers; and the townspeople responded again in large numbers, proving that they meant business and were not out just for a lark. In Douglas County alone, more than 2,000 emergency placements, covering 300 farms, were made during the harvest season. The roll call of placements from towns and villages of the county runs like this: Garfield, 268; Carlos, 205; Milona, 216; Evansville, 194; Kensington, 147; Brandon, 151; Osakis, 146; Nelson, 58; and Alexandria, 484. The program was handled by local committees working under the advisership of County Agent Dysart and his assistant, George P. Lord, aided also by the U. S. Employment Service and the Selective Service Board.

The Douglas County experience is typical of what has happened during the past 2 years in most Minnesota counties. That is why farmers face the future with greater confidence in spite of the heavier demands of Selective Service.

cost. A continuous 4-H dairy calf club movement will probably then be set up with the youths returning some of the offspring to the Foundation for redistribution.

In all probability, scholarships to the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture will go to the boys and girls that care for the dairy animals and do the best job of feeding, managing, and exhibiting of the calves.

In turn, the Cooper Foundation believes that the standards of Nebraska's dairy industry may be raised by tying the project in with artificial insemination work now being done in the eastern part of the State. The project also would be correlated further with the highly bred bulls now in the college herd through artificial insemination and afford better breeding for farm herds than has previously been possible.

Eighteen head of purebred dairy stock were previously given to the University of Nebraska Foundation for use in improving Nebraska's dairy industry through artificial insemination. These cattle were purchased from some of the best herds in the United States, and one of the bulls is now in use in the Lancaster County Cooperative Breeders Association.

## Meeting room for farmers

A farmers' meeting room was incorporated, as a new idea in courthouse construction, when the supervisors of Outagamie County, Wis., built a courthouse in 1942. County Agent J. F. Magnus reports that this feature has since proved its value to rural residents of the county.

The purpose of the room, seating 80 persons comfortably and 100 when necessary, is to provide a place for agricultural meetings.

The room adjoins the county agent's office and is used in connection with the work of the county agricultural committee. Open not only to farmers and extension workers but also to such groups as war bond committees, the USO, and the Red Cross, the room is in frequent use. Because of its location near the records and materials in the county agent's office, the courthouse room has proved effective in extension work of the county. Its location also makes it easy to set up displays in connection with the agent's office.

## To help 4-H Clubs

■ The trustees of the Cooper Foundation in Lincoln, Nebr., allocated a quarter million dollars to assist Nebraska boys and girls in improving livestock over an indefinite period of time.

The \$250,000 appropriation will be set up for a dual purpose. It will be used to build better citizens of farm boys and girls through the 4-H Club movement and at the same time to help improve the standard of Nebraska's dairy stock. The plan calls for direct cooperation with the Nebraska Extension Service.

"The Cooper Foundation was organized in 1934 with the purpose of assisting in educating and caring for children. It is intensely interested in doing anything that will stimulate the growth and development of not only the livestock industry but, of more importance, the boys and girls themselves," said M. V. Beghtol, chairman

of the Cooper Foundation subcommittee.

"The Foundation has watched the progress of 4-H Club members for some time and feels that anything that can be done to further the movement will be for the betterment of not only the youths themselves but also the State of Nebraska and the Nation."

Detailed plans for setting up of the plan for the expansion of 4-H dairy clubs, in particular, and of better livestock on farms were not announced immediately. It is contemplated, however, that several hundred head of dairy calves may be placed in the hands of boys and girls who are interested in better dairy livestock.

Tentative plans call for the boys and girls to pay for a portion of the cost of the animals, and "sponsors" will probably bear the balance of the



## Extension agents join fighting forces

Ten 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.
- Kenneth C. Hanks, formerly county agent in Stevens County, Minn., has been reported killed in action in France November 16, 1944.

### Warren Teel in Guam

Since writing last, I have traveled a large portion of the Pacific. Was in the Marshall Islands, then on to my present location on Guam. My division landed on Guam with a Marine unit and had good luck in gaining control of this island. Guam is comparable to Hawaii as for terrain. Rainfall is abundant. Lots of jungle. We have some beautiful coconut trees, large banana trees, flies, and mosquitoes. The native population is very happy over its freedom. The Jap soldiers treated them in a harsh manner, according to reports and their appearance. From all newscasts, the Allies are doing well, so perhaps the war's end is not too far distant. Everything is under control over here!

—Lt. Warren Teel, Jefferson County Agent, Kans.

### Pilot of 51 Missions

"When this is all over, I hope to come back and work with the Extension Service as county agricultural agent," said Capt. Leslie C. Gates, pilot of a B-17 and former assistant county agricultural agent for Bexar County, Tex., in a recent article in *The Extensioner*. Captain Gates has just returned from 10 months overseas duty, during which time he completed 51 missions while based in North Africa and Italy.

For bombing installations in Marseille, Capt. Gates was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. "We had quite a battle up there that day," he said, "the ship got pretty badly shot up. Going into the target, we were

hit by 50 German fighters, and for a little while they concentrated on my ship." On this mission, an engine of Capt. Gates' plane was shot out, control cables shot away, cannon shells came into the cockpit from all directions, and the instrument panel was demolished. Three gunners in his plane were wounded. "But we made it back to the base," he said with a modest grin.

The former extension worker has been awarded, in addition to the DFC, the air medal, with six oak leaf clusters; and he wears the European theater ribbon with two gold stars, one representing the Italian campaign, the other, the battle of Europe. He has hit such targets as Rome, Marseille, Toulon, points in northern Italy, both ends of the Brenner Pass, Vienna, Wiener-Neustadt, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest, Sofia, Ploesti, and Athens. After one mission the service squad found more than 1,750 holes in the ship.

"One of the most interesting missions I made, and the last one, was the first shuttle bombing mission to Russia," he stated. "We were the first combat squadron to go over, and we weren't sure how we would be received; but they gave us a royal reception." He was in Russia 2 weeks. Taking off from Italy, his squadron bombed a target in Hungary, proceeded to Russia and made other raids from there.

### Battle front stories

Sitting at a county agent's desk is a far different experience from being in the front lines of battle, Lt. (j.g.) Sam T. Logan, U. S. Naval Reserve, and Lt. Col. H. B. Haeglin, former county agricultural agents of Bailey and Duval Counties, Tex., agree. Lt. Logan, who recently visited his wife and daughter at Muleshoe, was aboard a Liberty Ship which was torpedoed

while carrying soldiers and war cargo to the Normandy beachhead, according to the Navy public relations office at New Orleans. Lt. Logan was commander of the Navy gun crew when the attack took place. The ship was set afire and rendered unable to proceed under its own power. The flames were brought under control, and the vessel was towed back to the English coast where it was beached and the cargo discharged. "The blast from that lone torpedo was terrific," Logan said, "and the soldiers in the section of the ship struck had a pretty tough time of it."

Col. Haeglin never dreamed 11 years ago when he began working for the Texas Extension Service that he would one day be walking through the streets of Pompeii or landing at Anzio beachhead, but recently he returned from Italy to tell interesting phases of both experiences. He sailed for foreign duty in December 1943. It was while fighting on the Anzio beachhead that his helmet was punctured by a shell fragment.

Among the many side trips which he enjoyed while in Italy were those to ancient landmarks and old churches. His trip to Pompeii, an ancient Italian city located at the foot of Mt. Vesuvius about 15 miles southeast of Naples, offered him the opportunity to see the narrow streets, theaters, gladiatorial barracks, and an amphitheater which were once buried by the eruption of the nearby volcano.

## With the Third U. S. Army

You are no doubt aware of some of the accomplishments of the Third U. S. Army. I am proud to be with it here in France. My work deals with the supplying engineer units. We find that no matter how many hours per day we work or how fast, we still have plenty to do. It takes lots of machinery and materials to win a war, of which the engineers use no little part.

The months I spent in England were quite enjoyable. When we first arrived, our headquarters needed various supplies for the office and construction, and for nearly a month it was my job to get them. This work took me to many interesting places including Liverpool, Manchester, Stratford on Avon, Nottingham, Oxford, Chester, and other places; but to my disappointment I didn't get to

London. One trip took me southwest of London, but having four large trucks in convoy it was too much of a detour for sightseeing.

Lots of towns have been badly torn up here in France, but there is also an abundance of beauty that war will never destroy. Especially interesting in the sections where I have been are the beautiful churches, the well-kept orchards, the ways of tilling the soil, and methods of crop rotation; and outstanding is the strip farming which is practiced a great deal. Everywhere I have been the people are very courteous and generous. We have no trouble getting all the eggs, wine, cognac, champagne, fruits, and vegetables we want; so if that's what morale depends on, ours should be near the top, and it surely is.—*Sgt. R. G. Merryfield, former assistant agricultural agent, Cloud County, Kansas.*

## The Netherland East Indies and Australia

At last we have a new home and find it quite different from the one we had in Australia, which was only about 60 miles out of Brisbane. At present we are on an island in the Netherland East Indies, and I am really glad to get up farther and see a bit more. There is a lot of work ahead of us to get our new location into shape, but we have some pretty good fellows who are willing to do it. In a very short time we shall have things much more convenient and comfortable.

It is very hot here, especially during the middle of the day; but the nights are cool. It often gets very damp by morning. So far (October 25) it has rained some every day but just enough to cool things off. Many of us have a few sunburns. Others, however, are nearly as black as the natives. We are situated close to the water which allows us plenty of swimming. Always manage to go in once a day and sometimes, if work permits, twice a day. There isn't much of a beach, and there is a lot of coral which isn't too pleasant on the feet; but the water is there, and it is fine.

We are taking all precautions against malaria; but, fortunately, only a few mosquitoes are about. There are a great many other insects,

but it is doubtful if they will give us much trouble.

While near Brisbane, I attended one of their large stock shows, the first held for several years. It was a privilege to see some of the best cattle in Australia. One of the Hereford bulls sold for 4,000 guineas, or approximately \$12,000; another bull sold for 1,000 guineas. Some of them bring pretty fair prices.

While watching some of the judging at the show, a few of the breeders found that I was interested; and so I had several discussions with them concerning their herds. It also happened that one of the newspaper men took a few statements for his paper. I felt almost as if I were back on the job again.—*Sgt. Evans Banbury, formerly Sherman County agent, Kansas.*

## In Belgium and Holland

Some time in October 1944, Lt. Jesse W. Skinner, former agricultural agent in Harlan County, Nebr., wrote from Belgium. He described the area west of Paris as resembling sections of flat country in eastern Nebraska but with much smaller fields. The productivity of the soil and the percentage of land under cultivation increased as he went north to Belgium. Farming methods, however, are old fashioned. Few horses are used, but great numbers of oxen and even milk cows are used for hard work. Two-way walking plows, carts, rakes, mowers, and threshing machines are the main implements. There are only a few tractors. The soil is well fertilized, and all the fertilizer is transported on carts or wagons. He said that he had not seen a mechanical spreader since he left the States. Potatoes and sugar beets are important crops in Belgium. He also said that the food had been good except for a few times when his outfit moved ahead faster than the supply lines. And, finally, he repeated that old saying of his that he was glad to be "on the winning team," and that it made them all feel "as if they would get the pennant in a short time."

More recently, he wrote from Holland, reporting a lot of rain. He said he would like to bring back some of the Belgian horses found there because they are a lighter type than those in the States and would just fill the needs on Nebraska farms.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

ARTHUR ROBINSON, associate extension editor in Colorado, died suddenly on January 4. Art had been with the extension editorial office since 1928 and was well known among his coworkers in Colorado and throughout the country for his good nature and conscientious work. He was born in Marshalltown, Iowa, attended the University of Colorado, served in the First World War as an Army Medical Corps staff sergeant and after the war as a reporter, feature writer, and State editor for the Denver Post until he joined the Colorado Extension Service.

A NEW BULLETIN, welcome to home demonstration agents, on house dresses and aprons, is just off the press. A style revue of these work outfits given to the extension staff in Washington a few months ago, and also to those attending the outlook conference, received much favorable comment. Each of the 15 original designs pictured in the new bulletin has passed a rigid five-way work-and-wear test. Each garment is comfortable, has safety-first features, is time- and energy-saving, is durable in material and workmanship, and, last but not least, is attractive. Patterns for these scientifically designed garments are available from commercial pattern companies. Copies of the bulletin are available in quantity through the State office.

TO LOCATE LEADERSHIP, Oregon is working on a leadership survey in two communities in each of six counties in the State. The purpose of this survey is to locate present leadership and use this sample as a guide in developing extension leadership. *4-H Club Week, March 3 to 11.*

FOR AGENTS OVERSEAS, Colorado prepared a 2-page Christmas folder, gay on red, white, and blue paper and pictures of the staff taken at the 1944 State Extension Conference. Special messages from Director Anderson, from Edna L. Stack for the Home Demonstration Agents' Association, and D. L. McMillen for the County Agents' Association gave it a per-

sonal message of cheer—in fact, the title of the publication was *Cheerio*. The names of the 13 members of the staff in the armed forces were inscribed on a scroll.

OFF FOR PARIS is L. V. Toyne, former Weld County agent, Greeley, Colo., having changed his county agent title to assistant agricultural attache to the U. S. Embassy in France. Leaving Colorado late in January, he is spending this month in Washington learning the ropes in the State Department and the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. A former president of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, he is well known among agents in all parts of the country. His long experience as agent in Weld County has given him a detailed knowledge of agriculture in one of the leading agricultural counties which should stand him in good stead in his new job.

4-H LEADER TRAINING SCHOOLS of 3 or more days are proving useful in getting the program into high gear in the Western States. In Nevada, leaders met at the university in Reno, February 8 to 10. Oregon, one of the pioneers in this field,

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scheduled its training school March 1 to 7. *National 4-H Club Week, March 3 to 11.*

FARM TRACTOR MAINTENANCE SHORT COURSES are planned in 14 Central and Western States from November through March. State club leaders, working with the extension engineers, The National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, the engineering department of the college, and commercial companies, have worked out the plans. One leader, a 4-H boy or local club leader from each county is brought into the short course. Courses last from 2 to 6 days. *National 4-H Club Week, March 3 to 11.*

FAT SALVAGE will be one of the war programs needing the attention of extension agents in the next few months. Home demonstration agents and war food assistants cooperated in each of 10 counties in 8 different States by making a spot survey of about 15 homes to find out approximately the amount of fat available in rural homes. This was completed about January 15.

RADIO WORKSHOP for wounded veterans of overseas service in Mayo General Hospital at Galesburg, Ill., was equipped by 4-H Clubs of the State. With 36,000 members, the club raised \$1,700 through scrap drives, socials, auctions, and dances. This was in addition to 3 field ambulances which have been presented to the armed forces in the last 2 years by Illinois club members. Two Illinois counties have also financed an army ambulance. The 500 members in Greene County raised \$2,000 with which an ambulance was bought and presented on November 18 while McHenry County presented theirs in September. *4-H Club Week, March 3 to 11.*

GOING SOUTH, Director Aubrey Gates of Arkansas is visiting seven Central and South American countries as an official representative of the State Department in a study of farming conditions and of extension education. Arriving in Quito, Ecuador, last month, he was joined by Dr. Fred Frutchey of the Federal Extension office who is gathering data on extension programs and needs in a number of South American countries.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## On the docket for March

■ The Emergency Labor Program is getting into high gear. Farm goals call for continued high production. Next to the weather it is labor that could be the most serious limiting factor in getting the food and fiber needed to win the war. The regular labor force is the smallest on record. Agents are trimming their sails accordingly and setting their course to supply the additional help needed in their own counties. The facts are being assembled and organized for use, showing how many workers are needed and where, as well as where there is a supply of labor and how they can be interested in volunteering their help.

National support for local recruitment is planned much as last year. Some of the spadework, with city and town people especially, can be done

with the national network radio broadcasts, national magazine articles, and advertisements. The Office of War Information is again cooperating with all the facilities at their command. The War Advertising Council is interesting national advertisers in helping to enlist workers. New posters and leaflets on Victory Farm Volunteers and Women's Land Army will be available for distribution to States.

A kit of materials for the use of agents will be available again this year. Suggested news stories, radio scripts, circular letters, local advertisements, and other timesavers for busy agents will be included. This will be sent out within the next few weeks.

March 3-11 is 4-H Club week, with boys and girls in every part of the

country rallying to the slogan, "Dig in for Victory." It is a time for rededication of Head, Heart, Hands, and Health to the welfare of their club, their community, and their country.

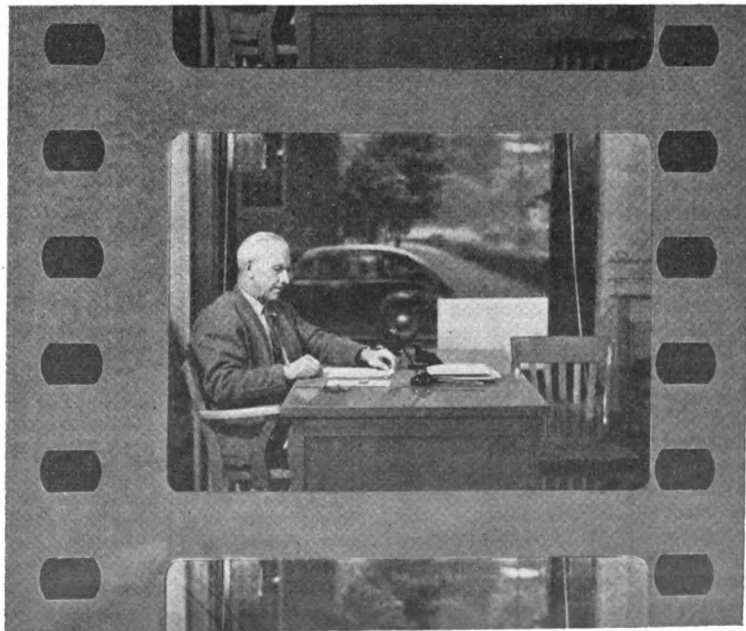
1945 Victory Gardens are going underground to make sure of plentiful food for the home front. Gardeners believe with War Food Administrator Marvin Jones that "History shows that nations with ample food supplies are the ones that win victories." The country needs as many Victory Gardens in 1945 as there were in 1944, and extension agents are organizing their efforts to keep gardeners aware of their responsibility for Victory. The garden kits sent out last month contained a number of suggestive helps for agents in putting on garden radio programs, obtaining Victory Garden advertisements, planning the organization to carry on, planning interesting meetings, contests and exhibits, and other aids.

### PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Principal character in the new extension farm labor movie, "Victory Harvest," is County Agent Bert Cole, shown (at right) seated at his desk. A black-and-white sound film, it is aimed at nonfarm audiences and should be a handy tool in local farm labor recruitment. The 16-millimeter prints will be available at State Extension headquarters, with a few 35-millimeter prints available on loan from Washington.

### IN THIS ISSUE

Director Goff of Hawaii reports on three flourishing cooperatives—Montana recommends 4-H leaders council—A radio station farm director and a home demonstration agent talk about radio—Help needed to control stem rust—County Agent Boswell of Utah gives some tips on meeting the labor problem.



Extension Service Review for March 1945

33

# Specializing in service

GORDON LOUDON, Farm Service Director, WWL, New Orleans, La.

■ Among the farm leaders of the Southeast is the WWL Farm Service Department. The farms of three southeastern States—Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama—constitute its farming enterprise, covering an area of nearly 50,000 square miles. This area encloses primary farm listeners to Dixie's Early Edition, sponsored by WWL.

The story of the farm audience of this station is not a quantitative listing of surveys of farm people who may or may not be listening. Rather it is a story of farm incidents and farm results. The aim is to make results our forte.

As much time as possible is spent in the field by the farm service director, talking to farmers and farm leaders, planning a better farm service, and producing programs. But very often the director does not reach all the people personally. Frequently the story comes to the attention of the department by letter, card, or telephone. "I have just bought a small farm; and I need some tools, a plow, a couple of mules, and some information about crops to plant now."

That quotation from a typical letter shows how the WWL Farm Service Department can be of service to farmers—a service that means a substantial aid to the farmers' pocket-books. Those are the kinds of people all over the South who have a part in building their own farm radio service.

We are aware that the farmer will listen to a program that he helps to build, a program that is his. This is the instrument of service that is being created to envelop more and more farmers, farm homemakers, and farm children, as well as urban listeners who have a superficial interest in the interrelation of town and country. Therefore, it is another conscious duty of the WWL Farm Service Department to bring about a better relationship between the two groups and help to close the ranks between the farmer and the businessman.

Our idea is to provide a tool—a farm-radio tool—which has as a purpose two principal tenets, a planned service with regular programs and an

emergency service to make more articulate the measures of the day. At the same time, the department staff continues its "research" by visits and contact to augment each principle.

"The Farmers' Curb Market should have more activity on market days. Will you tell the housewives of the city to visit the market? And will you tell the farmers that the housewives of the city will patronize the market?" That emergency call went out to town and country through our farm programs and brought results. The farmers distributed their fresh produce and, through this act, were stimulated into bringing more and better produce to the city on subsequent market days.

Poultrymen in one area were suffering from a shortage of egg crates. This fact was obvious to the WWL Farm Service Department. Every conceivable source of used and reconditioned crates was contacted, and several thousand crates were located. This information was immediately relayed to the poultrymen.

These are but samples of service

this station is offering southern farmers. As farmers want to know about new ideas and want every piece of information that will affect their farm economy, it is a conscious duty of the WWL Farm Service Department to fill that need with a 50-kilowatt radio tool and two daily, quarter-hour morning programs, four on Saturday, and perhaps the only hour-long Sunday morning farm program broadcast. These programs, in the near future, will be augmented by mobile pick-ups from the farm, providing a kaleidoscopic view of southern farming. Remote lines soon will be bringing programs to Dixie's farmers from the Louisiana State University College of Agriculture at Baton Rouge, where the Louisiana Agricultural Extension Division has made a generous contribution of authentic information.

Feeling that a radio-farm program should not be the stepchild of broadcasting, and believing that its effect will be a lasting contribution to the economy of American agriculture, the WWL Farm Service will become more and more a definite part of the agricultural South. We know the need and are expanding our facilities to fulfill that need, which ultimately will insure the farmers of the Southeast a dependable farm-radio service.

Radio is a valuable ally to many a county agent. But it isn't every agent who can team up with such a progressive and forward-looking station as WWL. Mr. Loudon, formerly an extension radio specialist in Louisiana, may have gathered some of his good ideas through Extension. At any rate, his ideas click, sometimes bringing in as many as 500 letters a day. Miss Neely tells the same story from the home demonstration agent's angle.

## Six months of Broadcasting

LOUISE W. NEELY, Home Demonstration Agent, Orleans Parish, La.

■ Entering upon home demonstration work in a city as large as New Orleans, La., presents many problems and serves as a challenge to the agent who wishes to reach as many people as possible. New Orleans, always a fast growing city, with a population of approximately 560,280 persons, had literally burst its sides with growing in the spring of 1944. It was at this time that I was assigned as home

demonstration agent of Orleans Parish. Now, Orleans Parish is really the city of New Orleans and one has little opportunity to reach the masses through individual personal contact. With this in mind, a radio program featuring home demonstration work was started on radio station WWL in cooperation with the agricultural editor of the station, Gordon Loudon. It was not easy to get consecutive



time on such a busy station, but 3 weeks after I started work in the parish, station WWL gave me a 15-minute broadcast at 6.00 A.M., on Saturday morning. This was part of the early morning farm activities of the station and is known as Dixie's Early Edition.

Living 5 miles from the radio station, I had to rise in the dark of the early morning, get a cup of coffee to shake the sleep from my eyes, and to allow for any emergency that might arise in transit. Having recently finished five courses of study in radio work at Loyola University of the South here in New Orleans, I was fully aware that it was well to loosen my vocal chords before going on the air, so lustily I sang as I drove to the radio station and I feel sure that many a worker en route to the shipyard thought that I was a gay and giddy member of society returning home after a night of merriment.

The series of broadcasts was started on April 22 and continued through October 28, relinquishing the time only twice for other broadcasts. These 26 weekly broadcasts covered really just 6 months or one half year, and "oh"—the things that were learned through this experience! Half the broadcasts given were original scripts.

Through the mail that came in the subjects were rated in popularity as follows: Cooking poultry, destroying household insects, canning Christmas foods for overseas, fish and seafood cookery, small fruits for the home garden, canning and preserving pears, meat and meat cookery, insect control in gardens, frame gardens and fall gardens, planning healthful meals—basic seven foods, fixing up floors and cleaning furniture, correct use of pressure cookers, egg cookery, jellies, jams and marmalades, tasty dishes from Louisiana fruits and vegetables, culling poultry. Creole recipes and meal planning, various types of jar closures, care of clothes, blankets, sheets and linens, slip covers, blindness and paralysis of chickens.

The largest number of letters received from one broadcast was 72 and the smallest number was 5. Each broadcast brought some response. The total number of letters and cards received from the series of broadcasts was 565, and through this medium 1,700 agricultural extension bulletins

from Louisiana State University and from the United States Department of Agriculture were distributed on request. These letters came from 20 States: 53 percent of all mail received came from the State of Louisiana, only one-third of the requests in Louisiana came from the City of New Orleans. This might be attributed to two facts. Six A.M. is a little early for urban listeners and perhaps city people are not so prone to sit down and write a card as some of our rural folks.

The States heard from in rate of coverage were as follows: In Louisiana, persons in 69 towns wrote in; in Mississippi, we heard from 47 towns; Alabama, 40 towns; Florida, 24 towns; Georgia, 13 towns; Texas and Arkansas each with 7 towns; Tennessee and Illinois each 4 towns; South Carolina, North Carolina, Indiana, and Ohio, 3 towns each; Oklahoma and Virginia, 2 towns each and one town in West Virginia, New Jersey, Missouri, Kentucky, and Kansas.

Many times persons wrote from the same town, one neighbor telling the next about the program and in this way listeners grew. Often a card would say, "I listen to the program every Saturday." Later in the series of programs, a number of telephone calls came in from the city of New Orleans. There is no accurate way of checking the number of listeners in the city of New Orleans, but I rarely made a talk before any group that some person did not mention hearing the broadcasts.

This series of radio broadcasts has served as one means of contact for the home demonstration agent, helping to introduce her to the people in the parish.

### Georgia veterans' advisory committee demonstrates work

A returned veteran and the Clarke County, Ga., Veterans' Agricultural Advisory Committee demonstrated the functioning of a veterans' advisory committee to extension workers at the recent annual conference of the Georgia Agricultural Extension Service. The demonstration followed a day's discussion by representatives of governmental and other agencies which will participate in assisting returned veterans who are interested in farming.

The Clarke County committee, which includes a banker, a cotton buyer, and the president of the local cooperative creamery, in addition to practical farmers and the county agent, demonstrated the assistance that could be rendered to veterans by an advisory committee.

After determining the veteran's background, farm experience, and interest in agriculture, the committee members reviewed the agricultural situation in the county, emphasizing trends and changes which have developed during the veteran's absence. They also gave their opinions on post-war trends which might affect agriculture in the county.

The committee members advised the veteran on land values in the county, types of farming best suited to the locality, and the cost of equipping different type farms. They also told the veteran about the various agencies operating in that county which offer assistance to farmers—*H. W. Field, assistant extension editor, Georgia.*

### Wartime clothing workshops

With typical Montana resourcefulness, women of Beaverhead County demonstrated how to solve wartime clothing problems by taking part in clothing renovation workshops in 1944. Thirteen workshops of 4 days each were held throughout the county with 86 women participating.

Prior to the workshops a short planning meeting was held, to which each woman brought a garment which she proposed to renovate. At this meeting, the workshop program and work to be done were outlined. Women were urged to do the necessary ripping, cleaning, and pressing in advance of the workshop and to bring patterns and necessary sewing equipment.

In addition to garments made at the workshops 36 garments were made at home by workshop participants and 34 other garments made by persons not attending but working from ideas emanating from the workshops.

Eight new materials and renovating workshops are planned for this year. Garments probably will include those for women, children, and men as in 1944. Several women's suits were made from men's suits last year.

# County agents aid barberry eradication to control stem rust

D. R. SHEPHERD, Assistant Field Leader, Barberry Eradication Program



County Agent R. A. Sandy explains the nature of the stem rust disease to a group of farmers in Wythe County, Va.

■ In 1942 a farmer of Elk Creek, Va., wrote: "About 4 years ago Mr. Jackson and his men dug the barberry from my farm. Since that time my wheat has increased from 10 to 15 bushels per acre." In the spring of 1944 a Fort Spring, W. Va., farmer expressed a similar opinion after seeing the last of the barberry bushes destroyed on his farm—"The barberry eradication crew did a good job on my place. . . . I raised 1,000 bushels of grain last year that averaged 25 bushels to the acre. There was very little rust. My grain is better since the barberry was taken out." A West Virginian from the Wolf Creek District made this statement following the crop season of the same year: "Have observed rust in the Wolf Creek section for the past 20 years. Crops sometimes damaged to the extent that some fields were not worth cutting. Did not know that barberry bushes had so much to do with the spread of rust and was glad to see from the demonstration the relationship between barberry bushes and grain in the development of a rust spread."

So the farmers in Virginia and West Virginia like those in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and certain western-grain-producing States, have learned through bitter experience that barberry bushes mean stem rust and that stem rust is synonymous with unprofitable production.

In the Virginias the native species of barberry, called *Berberis canadensis* by the botanists, grew in abundance in the pastures and along fence rows bordering the fields of wheat and oats. In the spring these plants rusted and spores of the rust were carried by the wind to nearby fields of wheat, oats, barley, and rye. The colorful fields of small grain that held promise of a bumper crop became discolored when the rust came in, and the once sturdy stems went down under the attack of the fungus.

The solution to the problem was obvious. Get rid of the barberry. It was too big a job for the individual farmer, so in 1935 Federal, State, and local agencies moved in and since that time, with the aid of the growers, have destroyed more than 200,000,000 barberry bushes on 5,858 properties

in these two States. County agricultural agents have taken an important part in the barberry eradication project in their respective counties by promoting an active educational program arranging for field rust spread demonstrations, and assisting with the selection of the labor personnel.

Yields have improved, and the farmers in the localities where the work has been done again have faith that their labors will be rewarded by a profitable harvest. Considerable work remains to be done if maximum results are to be attained. As one Virginia agricultural agent said about the condition in his county, "The greatest benefit to the wheat producers will be realized only after the remaining part of the county has been cleared of the barberry."

The native barberry grows in contiguous areas of southeastern West Virginia and southwestern Virginia. So numerous were the bushes before eradication work was started that scarcely a grain field was beyond the reach of the spread of the disease. Many farmers, when shown the barberry bushes—in some cases growing right in the fields of small grain—realized for the first time why small grain crops had always been poor in certain fields.

At the right season of the year the relationship between the rust and the barberry bushes is so obvious that even the untrained eye can pick out the limits of the rust spread. The eradication of the barberry and the consequent reduction in losses are gratifying to farmers and others who argued that barberry eradication would provide local control of the rust disease.

The situation in the Virginias in 1935 was little different from that of 13 Midwestern States in 1918, Pennsylvania in 1935, and Washington State in 1943, when periodic stem rust losses traceable to a sister species of barberry, *B. vulgaris*, culminated in the initiation of the eradication program in those States. Throughout the control area Federal, State, and local agencies are now working together to eliminate these plant pests as one measure to control stem rust, the greatest single hazard of small-grain production.

Every barberry is a potential source for the development of new

rices of the stem rust fungus, some grain now resistant to prevalent races. To combat this disease, county agents are now carrying to farmers three recommendations for reducing grain losses from stem rust. The message they give to farmers is: (1) Plant spring crops early and use early maturing varieties, (2) grow improved varieties of wheat, oats, barley, and rye recommended by the State Agricultural Experiment Station, and (3) eradicate all rust-susceptible barberry in grain-producing areas.

In this program for control of stem rust, it is important to drive home the

fact that seed produced by mature barberry plants may accumulate in the surrounding soil and remain there in a dormant condition for 10 or more years after the bush is destroyed. As a result these areas require one or more periodic inspections or reworking until there is no further growth of barberry. This prevents these areas from becoming reinfested with new bushes from seeds that may be in the soil. The county agent has played an important and essential part in getting farmer understanding of these facts and in encouraging his cooperation in the barberry eradication program.

according to Mr. Boswell, was to acquaint the general public with the needs of farmers and the aims of the farm labor program. The newspapers and radio stations were kept fully advised of developments, and through these media the needs were carried to the public.

The city schools offered full cooperation. Students of working age who were willing to do farm work were asked to register, and these cards were kept on file in the local placement office. The businessmen and women throughout the county also were called on. The chamber of commerce, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, church groups, city recreation departments, and other organizations fitted their activities into the needs of the farm labor program.

The net effect of this planning and organization is evident. As the time came when farmers needed extra help, these nonfarm people joined in to help get the job done. To them it was necessary war work, and they recognized they could make no greater contribution than to help save vital war crops.

County Agent Boswell gives full credit for meeting the farm labor problem in Utah County to his capable assistants, to the farm people themselves who worked longer hours than ever, and to the patriotic response of the townspeople who gave so generously of their time. But we have a sneaking notion that none of this could have been accomplished without a swell job of advance planning and organization on the part of County Agent Boswell himself.

## County economic talks

Recommendations for the agricultural development of more than a score of California counties, with special reference to post-war farming, have been formulated at a series of economic conferences held recently.

State and county representatives of United States Department of Agriculture agencies and staff members of the State Agricultural Extension Service and of the Giannini Foundation, University of California, presented factual data.

Committees comprised of local farmers and farm women considered vital problems in rural development.

# How Utah County met farm labor shortage

■ Farmers in Utah County, Utah, say that as far as farm labor is concerned they got along better in 1944 than they did in peacetime years.

That is a rather startling statement, in view of the fact that this country faced its most critical farm labor shortage in history last year. But don't get the idea there is no big-time agriculture in Utah County. On the contrary, the 3,055 farms in this county produce about everything from sugar beets to sheepskins—from geese to gooseberries. Some 35,000 acres go into alfalfa hay and 25,000 acres into wheat. Principal fruits and vegetables grown in Utah County include apples, peaches, pears, tomatoes, peas, and potatoes. The 1,600 poultrymen of the county produce half a million hens and 200,000 turkeys a year.

Such a variety of crops and live-stock certainly does not indicate the lack of a farm labor problem. When you consider that 9,000 boys from the county have entered the armed services since the start of the war, and that another 9,000 people are employed in a large steel mill within the county, you wonder how there is anybody left to work on the farm. To add further to the competition for labor, there are in the county 5 canning factories and several mines where large numbers of people are employed.

So when Utah County farmers say they have got along better than before

the war, they don't mean they had no labor problem. But they do mean the labor was forthcoming, and the problem was met so successfully that one is apt later to forget its seriousness.

The answer is a story of outstanding community cooperation and organization. It is also one of early planning and anticipation of needs long in advance of the time farmers actually require extra workers.

At a regional farm labor conference in Salt Lake City last December, County Agent S. R. Boswell was asked to tell the story of how the farm labor problem was met in Utah County. He gave an impressive account of how farmers met with the county agent and his farm labor assistants in a gigantic county-wide meeting early in the spring—and following that meeting, of how community farm labor committees were set up throughout the county, and recruitment and placement offices were established in nine different communities, each in charge of a competent person.

The Utah County Farm Labor Association was organized and incorporated. Working directly under the Extension Service, this group was unusually active in the farm labor program. In addition to aiding with local recruitment, the association also cooperated with the Office of Labor in the operation of two farm labor camps.

The first and most important job,

# Three flourishing cooperatives in one Hawaii district

ROY A. GOFF, Acting Director of Extension, Hawaii

■ "Full-fledged and organized cooperative effort will be the key to successful development in our future agricultural economy," said Reuben Brigham, assistant director of extension work, when he visited Hawaii recently.

Hawaii's farmers are right in line with this trend. In one district of the Island of Hawaii, three cooperatives, all started since 1938 with the help of extension workers, have developed into healthy, flourishing organizations. Much of the credit for their success is due to the consistent, constructive work of Harvey Vollrath, farm agent in east Hawaii.

The three cooperative organizations are the Hilo Egg Circle, the Hawaii Dairy Herd-Improvement Association, and the Hawaii Pork Producers' Association.

## Egg Circle Outgrowing Its Building

The Hilo Egg Circle is the selling and buying organization for 43 poultrymen. Just prior to the war the membership was 22. The Circle's building in Hilo houses candling equipment and an egg cooler. It also has space for storing feed and egg cartons. S. Kadota, business manager for the Circle, says that the building is now too small for the cooperative's expanding business. However, new construction will have to wait until the war is won.

At a handling charge of 2 cents per dozen, approximately 9,000 dozen eggs per month pass through the Hilo plant. Before the war, the average was 5,000 dozen.

Hawaii's poultrymen have never produced enough eggs to supply the local demand. Fresh island eggs are often scarce in the markets. For this reason, hospitals have number one priority on the Circle's eggs.

"The hospitals appreciate being able to depend on a supply of quality eggs from us," Mr. Kadota says.

The egg cooperative was organized in September 1940, with 10 charter members, 8 of whom were members of the East Hawaii Poultry Improvement Club. This club, under the

supervision of County Agent Vollrath, had for 3 years received instruction in up-to-date poultry practices.

Former Extension Poultry Husbandman B. A. Tower and former Extension Economist Kenneth Hanson helped with the preliminary educational work necessary to sell the cooperative idea to the poultrymen.

"These extension specialists deserve much credit for the Hilo Egg Circle's success," Mr. Vollrath says.

Besides marketing the members' eggs, the Circle buys feed and resells it at cost.

No membership fee is collected, and members are not required to purchase stock. Expenses of carrying on the business are prorated to each member in proportion to the number of eggs handled for him.

Any county agent who thinks he cannot start a dairy herd-improvement association because the dairymen in his district are not much interested might do as Mr. Vollrath did. He started his "organization" in 1938 with one dairy. Mr. Vollrath himself acted as milk tester during the first year, sending milk samples to the University of Hawaii for butterfat test. Six months after he began work with the first dairy, a second dairy asked for the testing service. The two dairies then hired a part-time tester.

The East Hawaii Dairy Herd-Improvement Association was formally organized on January 1, 1941, with 9 dairies which altogether had 230 cows.

Average milk production per cow at the dairy that started first has increased in 5 years from 5,812 pounds to 9,646 pounds. This dairy's herd numbers between 40 and 50 head.

The Hawaii Pork Producers' Association operates a cooperative slaughterhouse, the only centralized killing plant on the island. Capacity of this slaughterhouse has been stepped up to 100 hogs a day for off island shipment. Before the building of this plant, hogs were killed by individuals at their own piggeries.

The membership of the association



Harvey Vollrath, formerly agent in East Hawaii, now acting specialist in animal husbandry at the territorial office.

is made up largely of men who for many years have worked together in the Hilo University Extension Swine Club. Together they planned their slaughterhouse, a concrete and stucco building, and financed its construction. The building cost \$8,500. The cooperative now slaughters about 90 percent of all hogs killed on the Island of Hawaii and processes the hogs at the rate of 1 cent per pound. Hiroshi Akamine, a member of the association, is manager of the slaughterhouse.

The three producers' cooperatives described here are a lasting tribute to the plugging, conscientious work of County Agent Harvey Vollrath. We have now brought Mr. Vollrath to the Territorial office where he is assistant in the animal husbandry division.

■ DIRECTOR L. R. SIMONS of New York received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation at their recent meeting in Chicago. In making the award, President Edward A. O'Neal said: "His life has been devoted to the improvement of country life, and country living is the better for his labors. . . .

" . . . We in the Farm Bureau honor him for his courage and his forthrightness in meeting issues squarely and for the great extension program which he has developed in New York."

# Community 4-H leaders council

CLARIS P. BROWN, Home Demonstration Agent, Cascade County, Mont.

■ Unique in Montana's 4-H program is the Lower Sun River Leaders Council which was organized July 22, 1933, at the North Montana State Fairgrounds. Leaders from the six clubs in the community were charter members.

Since its organization, the council has functioned continuously. Its purpose is, in general, to promote 4-H Club work in the community and assist with the program of clubs there. Activities in which the council has taken an active part include sponsoring the county achievement day program, holding rallies for the promotion of 4-H Club work in Lower Sun River, and holding picnics and social activities for its members and prospective leaders in the community. A wartime project has been the making of a service flag representing boys and girls in the service who have been 4-H Club members. The flag now has 50 stars on it. The former home demonstration agent, Florence Johnson, has been "adopted" and is represented on their service flag.

The council holds meetings monthly and always stands ready to assist with activities of community- and county-wide interest. The home demonstration agent attends when matters of county-wide interest are to be discussed.

The past year 26 leaders, of 10 home economics and 4 agricultural clubs, with 133 members, have been members of the council.

They are proud of their record in 4-H Club work. In 1943, the clubs in the Lower Sun River community purchased \$1,050 in war bonds and stamps. They gathered 2,500 pounds of scrap metal and paper and 30 pounds of waste fat; \$2,000 worth of socks were sold, and the members helped can more than 1,500 quarts of fruits and vegetables, aside from their regular projects.

Since 1933 they claim having had 12 members and 9 leaders attend the State 4-H Club camp, and 12 members have been delegates to the National 4-H Club Congress. Many have been State winners of contests.

should be allowed to do so entirely on the basis of professional independence. There should be no strings attached. For this reason the committee insisted from the start that it, and it alone, would be responsible for its findings. It was never intended that the report was to be reviewed by the executive body of the Land-Grant College Association, nor did it have to be approved by the Department of Agriculture. Thus it is not an official document to be regarded with reverence by either the college staffs or Department officials. Yet each can use the report to great advantage, because it represents a synthesis of the best information available to professional students who spent a considerable amount of time and sincere effort in compiling it. Its contents should be weighed in the balance of critical study and wide discussion among farm people.

I hope that other groups, besides agriculture, will see fit to approach their post-war planning on a similar basis. Our learned institutions have rightfully insisted on their academic freedom. As individuals we have made much of freedom of speech. But we have not yet widely adopted any effective pattern whereby technical people employed by public agencies can have the freedom of presenting their personal professional views to the public for unfettered discussion, on the basis of information compiled cooperatively by a group of such people. The post-war agricultural policy report represents a step in this direction. We hope that other groups will be allowed to have as wide an opportunity to state publicly in as objective a manner their views on significant problems. And then we hope that wide public consideration will be given to all such reports, so that the policy-making bodies of our Republic may take the necessary action to build a sound economic structure for our post-war future.

SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEKS will start this month in the South with 4-H Clubs, home demonstration clubs, neighborhood leaders, and other groups making a concerted effort to clean up the home grounds, the barnyard, and the roadsides to remove fire and accident hazards and to make the home place more beautiful and satisfying.

## A new approach to planning

NOBLE CLARK, Associate Director, Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station and Chairman of the Land-Grant College Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy

Noble Clark has been closely associated with agriculture all his life. Born in South Dakota, he was reared on a Minnesota farm, and taught animal husbandry at Michigan State College. He served as county agricultural agent for 5 years in Ontonagon County, Mich., and has been associate director of the Wisconsin Experiment Station since 1927.

■ The report on post-war agricultural policy, compiled by a special committee appointed by the Land-Grant College Association in 1943, represents a new approach toward solving important agricultural problems. The document, which is now available to all extension workers through their State agricultural colleges, sets out for inspection by those responsible for agricultural policy making, the high lights of problems in both physical and social science fields that will face farmers and the Nation in the post-war years.

The members of the committee included some of our ablest men and women in many technical agricultural

fields. All sections of the country were represented. Three outstanding State directors of extension took an active part. The suggestions and judgment of representatives of all 48 agricultural colleges, of specialists and experts in the USDA, of the officers and research staffs of the national farm organizations, were taken into account. Considering the thoroughness with which the committee went about its investigations, I believe it is justified in the belief that it has made a strictly professional contribution.

The committee believes that, in planning post-war agricultural policy, those called upon to present the facts

# Big 4-H Club year in Maine's potato empire

CLARENCE A. DAY, Extension Editor, Maine



Mrs. Camilla Hurford

■ The contribution of boys' and girls' 4-H Clubs to the Food for Victory program is no exception to the rule that Aroostook County—Maine's potato empire—does things in a big way—when convinced of their value. The year before Pearl Harbor, Aroostook had 568 club members; this year 4,399 members started 5,748 projects and completed 97 percent of them.

How was this accomplished? By cooperation, organization, enthusiasm, a sense of patriotic duty, and good hard work.

Mrs. Camilla Hurford, county club agent, was the captain of the team. Three assistant club agents served for short periods in the spring when members were enrolled and again in the fall when the work was completed. Then at critical times the county agent, assistant county agents, home demonstration agents, and food production assistants all pitched in, especially to obtain enrollment and reports.

The cooperation of the school au-

thorities was obtained, and nearly every grade school in the county where there were pupils of club age was visited by an extension worker. At the school the agent explained the need for more food as a war measure, told the children how they could help, and gave them club literature and enrollment cards to take home to their parents. When the parents gave their consent, they signed the card, and the boy or girl took it back to the teacher who forwarded it to Mrs. Hurford. Much credit is due the teachers for undertaking this extra work.

In addition to the regular club leaders more than 350 busy men and women were enrolled to act as victory guides for the club members in their immediate neighborhoods. The regular club leaders and guides advised and encouraged the boys and girls, saw that they started their projects and gave them the proper care, and that they completed their work and made the final brief reports. The 350 new local leaders and the regular club leaders deserve great credit for the success of the Food for Victory projects.

During the summer, club field days were held in nearly every community in northern and central Aroostook. Attendance at these meetings of both members and victory guides was exceptionally good, and the field days proved most valuable in maintaining interest in the work. One of these field days was held on the summit of Haystack Mountain, the lone sentinel peak in central Aroostook, which played an important part as a lookout station in the famous but bloodless Aroostook War of a century ago.

When the schools opened in the fall, Mrs. Hurford and her helpers again visited them and, with the help of teachers, obtained record sheets and report cards. The people in the upper valley of the St. John River along the Canadian border are mainly descended from French refugees from the land of Evangeline in Nova Scotia who found a haven there 160 years ago. Here the sisters in the convent schools

were especially helpful. Each club member who completed his project was awarded a Food for Victory certificate when he submitted his final report.

Aroostook is a big county. It is 155 miles from Molunkus on the Penobscot River to Madawaska on the St. John and nearly 50 miles farther to Allagash, the last little hamlet tucked away deep in the Great North Woods. So 3 district exhibitions were held to round out the club year—one for the northern section of the county at Fort Kent, one for the central at Presque Isle, and the other for the southern at Houlton. Nearly 2,000 club members, victory guides, and friends attended these exhibitions. At Fort Kent more than 1,000 members took part in the 4-H parade. Fort Kent alone has 799 club members, the largest number in any town in Maine.

Results in the terms of food? Well, among other things Aroostook boys and girls raised 574 bushels of dry beans, 19,000 dozen ears of sweet corn, 81,021 bushels of potatoes, and 12,270 square rods of garden truck; raised or cared for 35,385 chickens, 1,099 dairy animals, 1,006 pigs, and 5,514 laying hens; besides canning 49,657 pints of fruits, meats, and vegetables. Total value of their produce was estimated at \$277,000, and most of it will be consumed at home.

What about the coming year? Mrs. Hurford says this: "The outlook for 1945 is very promising. Several clubs have already reorganized; boys and girls in St. Luce, St. Francis, Allagash, and Madawaska, in the extreme north of the county, are ready to organize new clubs; and there are many possibilities for new clubs in southern Aroostook. Clubs for next year seem to be in great demand, owing to the increased interest in unorganized areas brought about by the Food for Victory campaign."

■ Seven hundred boys and girls in 33 4-H Clubs in Los Angeles County, Calif., have produced 16 tons of beef, pork, and mutton; 19 tons of rabbit meat; 5 tons of poultry meat; 1 ton of turkey, goose, and squab meat; 210 dozen eggs; and 17 tons of vegetables. They have managed 38 dairy animals for milk, butter, and cheese; gathered ½ ton of honey; canned and dehydrated 2 tons of food; and made 1,150 garments.

# "I have the best job in the world,"

writes Frances Sanders, 4-H Club agent, Lewis County, W. Va., in the Berea Alumnus, from Berea College where she graduated in 1943. A home demonstration agent, Nell Jo Click, of Greenup, Ky., sent the article to the REVIEW because it seemed to her that "extension agents all over the country would receive inspiration from it."

■ Thirteen years is a long time for a graduate of the class of '43 to have been working. My job began for me that long ago for then I joined a 4-H Club. Eleven years I was a local 4-H Club member in West Virginia, 11 years while I completed grade school, high school, and college. It seemed only natural that there should follow a job as a 4-H Club agent in West Virginia. I came to Lewis County equipped with a college degree in home economics, 10 years' experience in 4-H Club work, and a driver's license.

Then began my education.

I had lots to learn, most of it the hard way. The least of my lessons was driving a car. An accredited State trooper had given me a driver's test. I knew all the signals and all the definitions. My brother had carefully tutored me over all the streets of our home town. Nobody had told me that there's a big difference between paved streets and ruts in a mud road, but I learned. I think I'll always remember the expressions on the faces of two small boys who stood across the fence and watched my struggles the first time I stalled my car on a 10-foot slope. I couldn't even back down to the bottom of the slope to start over again! Not at first try anyway. I remember the first time I drove up a creek bed—and the \$12 it cost to have the fenders fixed. Perhaps the most potent example of the metamorphosis of an extension worker is the picture of me today—pals with "Junior," my car, fairly able to get over most roads, wise enough to park Junior occasionally and walk a mile or two in order to be sure of getting there and back.

My biggest lessons have come from the people themselves. I grew up in town; rural people to me were "farmers" in the most uncomplimentary sense of the word. I have come to know them as the best, the most nearly real, people in the world. When I came to the county they opened their homes to me with cour-

tesy and with warmth. They taught me that I had come to work not "at them" nor "for them" but with them. In turn they laughed with me when I blew up a jar during my first canning demonstration. They still love to tease me about that and they always will. Now, with our country at war, rural people are showing themselves as they really are. Labor is scarce, materials hard to get, profits hard to make, but harder than ever they are going about their business of farming. They know that food has to be produced, and they are producing it under hard conditions in greater quantities than even they thought possible. They command my respect as well as my love.

I have learned, too, to love the land not only for its beauty, but for its possibilities of producing and for its need of man's care. This county is more than the field where I work. It is my home and my possession, though I own not one acre.

## We Agents Get Along Together

A job is as good or as bad as the people doing it. In this respect I am extremely lucky. The home demonstration agent with whom I work is Edna Cole Yost, Berea '35. We click, Edna and I. Half the fun of our job is the fun of sharing. We've had a county agricultural agent with whom we enjoy working, too. Someone has aptly described West Virginia Extension Service as one big happy family. That is largely true and a real part of what success we have.

No one has ever successfully described the agricultural extension agent's job. The Smith-Lever Act, under which we began, says: ". . . to diffuse among the people of the United States information related to agriculture and home economics and to encourage application of the same." To find what my job has been I look through our files of monthly reports. I find such things as:

"Fourteen community exhibits were held over the county. Projects in

baking, sewing, and foods-for-fun were exhibited.

"Twenty-six old clubs and one new club have been organized this month. A letter has been prepared to be sent to parents as soon as addresses are available. Where there is a successful club member there is a successful parent."

"With the local soil conservationist, I visited club members' homes, helping them choose sites for planting trees and demonstrating the method of planting."

"A day was spent assisting the local Red Cross officials with their rural organization."

"Attending five farm women's club meetings the home demonstration agent and I showed how to make a home-made dress form, and how to use and care for sewing machines and attachments."

"As county roads improved, my car became a truck; and I brought a load of scrap paper from nearly every community I visited. 4-H Clubs collected 50,000 pounds of paper this year."

"This month I have handled publicity for our county farm labor committee."

Certainly my job has variety of interest and activity. There is no time for boredom or for loafing.

I wish that I could say I've been a huge success after this year as an agent. I haven't. There are goals to be reached that still are far beyond my dreams; there are lessons still to be learned; there are challenges to be met. But there are a few signs of accomplishment which I cherish.

In the first place, there's a lamb named "Sandie"—symbol with one club boy that I've arrived!

There's the little girl who gladly leads her friends in singing their club songs when they have meetings. This time last year she only hung her head and giggled.

And there are the kids all over the county who have taught me to see through the dirt and the cleanliness and to recognize their alikeness and their differences. They are my friends, and they give me faith to try again.

I don't know whether this year I've been of any help to the people in Lewis County. I hope I have. I owe that to them, you see. They've done such wonders for me!



## Extension agents join fighting forces

Eleven 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.
- Kenneth C. Hanks, formerly county agent in Stevens County, Minn., has been reported killed in action in France, November 16, 1944.
- Herbert Pinke, formerly part-time 4-H Club agent in Minnesota, was killed in a training accident in the armed service.

### Farming in England

I've been all over this island and feel that I know it pretty well by now. I am interested in the way the farming practices are carried out. Farming is on such a small scale over here. The farms are divided into 5- and 10-acre fields, and this makes the use of modern equipment difficult; and as a result they have much wasted labor. For instance, most of the plowing is done by the walking plow; one man or a Land Army girl leads the horse, and another man follows the walking plow. The other day I actually counted seven men and women loading one rack of bundles. One was leading the horse, four were pitching bundles, and two were on the wagon placing them. Then there is the inevitable tea break which occurs at least once every morning and afternoon. All jobs seem to be handled like this, and to me it seems like a great loss of man-hours.

The crops, on the whole, have been very good here this year. Nearly all of the small grains have been cut (Sept. 3) and are being stacked. I've not seen a single combine in operation. As this is the home of many of our purebred livestock, one runs across some very fine individuals; but the condition of most of them is poor on account of the shortage of feed.

I've taken a number of color pictures with my Argus 35. Here's hoping they'll turn out good because I know the folks back home will enjoy them. Say, you know there is one thing that really gets my goat. Every

time I pick up the Stars and Stripes or read a paper from back home, I find the sports page loaded with names of boys making good in the Big Time. Guess I'm just jealous of all those fellows I used to knock around with. More power to 'em, the lucky bloats. Here's hoping to see you all in the very near future.—*Lt. W. W. Duitsman, Osage County Agent, Kans.*

### From Harvard University

The Navy has seen fit to make a communications officer of me, and here I am at Harvard. We live in the regular Harvard dorms. The one I'm in was built in 1760.

I know that extension work is going along at its usual fast pace and that the agents still have plenty to do. I have stopped in each county agent's office every time I've had a chance and have talked with several here and elsewhere, and I still think Missouri has the best set-up. The Ohio fellows seem to be more like Missouri than most of the others.

I have been surprised in talking with the various men to learn how many, even in this group, are planning to go back to the farm when the war is over. There is another group of youngsters who had just finished college when the war broke out that have nothing else to go back to. These are viewing the future more or less uneasily. This being the situation in a group of college graduates, supposedly trained men, it must be true to an even greater extent in the enlisted group. I'm beginning to wonder if the Extension Service may not have its greatest job to do after the war is over rather than during the remainder of the war.—*Ens. Charles R. Kyd, U. S. N. R., formerly extension animal husbandman, Missouri.*



## To the aid of English farmers

In much the same way that we are meeting the farm labor shortage here, English crops are harvested. A recent release from the Ministry of Agriculture announces that about 70 miners in the Doncaster area are giving up their holidays to work on the land, and from the Thorne area 40 men have come forward. To get a break from pit life and a change of surroundings, most of the miners chose to work on farms outside Yorkshire.

England also has its version of the Victory Farm Volunteers, reporting 2 young sisters, Pamela and Jean Waldron who are Derby's top-line volunteer land workers. At the first annual meeting of the town's voluntary land club, recently held at the guild hall, they received prizes for last year's work on the land. Pamela, aged 15, headed the list by putting in 120 hours of her spare time on farms between May and October last. Her elder sister, Jean, was second with 101 hours' work on the land. They both work for the same industrial company, and they became eligible for a grant of 15 extra clothing coupons by completing 88 hours' service as farm workers and promising to continue.

## Another hardshell in the Pacific, November 27, 1944

This letter finds me a "salty sea-going Kansan." I have been aboard the *Genesee* for about 1½ months, and we have certainly been on the go. My first trip took me south of the equator to a nice desolate coral atoll. The island had three or four scrub palm trees on it. I think the army boys must have brought those in.

The white coral dust reflected the light just like snow. It was plenty hot. The uniform of the day included shoes, hat, and shorts. The army boys sure had a tan. I don't envy those boys having to stay there; but the planes bring in the mail every day, so they hear from the outside world oftener than we do.

While we were discharging our cargo, we did some deep-sea fishing and shell hunting. We obtained a boat from which a couple of fellows caught a mackerel each that weighed

between 15 and 20 pounds. Another fishing party had better luck. They caught about a dozen tuna that would average from 15 to 25 pounds. I guess I went along just for the ride. I did go over on the pier and caught six barracuda and three salt water perch. The barracuda would weigh about 2 or 3 pounds and were very good eating.

Shell hunting is also a good pastime. One can find all kinds and colors of shells. I have a pretty nice collection started. Several fellows are making necklaces out of the shells. Back in our home port we can see the same shells on sale in curio shops for 10 to 25 cents each or in necklaces from \$10 to \$15. Some of the crew are making some extra pocket money that way.

My job on board ship is assistant communications officer; in charge of one-half of the deck division; and a junior watch officer. I like the communications work real well, have very nice living quarters on the ship, and our food is good. The ship is practically new, having been commissioned in May. It is a Cargill Grain Company ship built in Minneapolis.

The second island we hit after I got on board was another coral island but a lot smaller, just about a mile and a half long and one-half mile wide, with no vegetation of any kind. At present we are headed south again to the first island. This crossing the equator has quite a ceremony that goes with it. I am now a "shellback." This trip we have five pollywogs to initiate and make into shellbacks. The initiation reminds one of his college days as a fraternity or a Block and Bridle initiate. It affords a couple of days of good entertainment and helps to pass the time.

We don't get mail until we get back to home port, and that will be about 20 days on this run. When we get back in we will all have a big stack of very welcome mail. One of the fellows got 59 letters the last time.

Our home port is back in civilization. It has a very red soil and really grows the tall cane and has some fruit trees up in the mountains. I haven't had time to get out and see how they farm. If we can ever settle down in port long enough, I am going to make a trip out in the country.—*Ens. B. D. Rowley, Haskell County agent, Kansas.*

## Protector of fighting men, cows, and carrier pigeons

My work continues much as it has for the past several months, with our main emphasis on malaria training. Units come and go, and it seems that the Port has about the same figure. In addition to my routine work, I've been asked to plan and carry out several tests of the use of DDT in a practical manner. We have on the Port a dairy herd of some 65 animals, and the various barns were used in the tests. I won't burden you with detail, but the one treatment gave us 8 weeks of excellent fly control inside the barn and milking parlor.

Oh, yes, we have a few apple trees in a certain general's headquarters; and scale and our old friend the codling moth have come in for their share of calls. I've made numerous contacts with vets, and among the problems have been stored-grain pests and care of their bugs for some 4,000 carrier pigeons.—*Capt. George D. Jones, Army, formerly extension economist, Missouri.*

■ Sgt. H. K. Newton, former agricultural agent in Boone County, Nebr., reported in November from New Guinea where they had "about all the luxuries of a garrison back home with the exception of some good rich ice cream." His service section had built a home-made washing machine run by a jeep motor and consisting of eight individual compartments.

## THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

### COLORADO

Ensign Donald W. Acott, Sedgwick County agent, Navy.

Private Harold F. Alishouse, Yuma County agent, Army.

O/C Stanton A. Bice, administrative assistant, Fort Collins.

### FLORIDA

Ensign A. D. Baillie, acting agent, Marion County, Navy.

Kenneth A. Clark, Washington County agent, Army.

Ensign G. T. Huggins, assistant agent, Duval County, Navy.

Ensign M. B. Miller, Bay County agent, Navy.

### OHIO

Eugene L. Sparrow, Fulton County agent, Navy.

Eldon Studebaker, Paulding County agent, Navy.



# 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.

■ **Sew up the sponge.** The possibility of developing sponges that can safely be sewed up in surgical wounds because they can be absorbed by the body is being investigated at the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill. The sponges are made of starch paste slowly frozen and then thawed. The paste may be frozen and thawed in shallow pans and then cut into pieces of the required size and shape. A dry starch sponge is hard and somewhat brittle, but it will quickly absorb about 15 to 18 times its weight of liquid. When wet, the sponge is soft and pliable and will retain most of the liquid in it if gently handled. It has been shown that the starch dissolves in blood serum. These properties suggested the use of the sponges as surgical dressings. One of the advantages would be that wounds and incisions would not have to be reopened to remove dressings. The starch sponges would also be valuable in surface wounds, where tissues are sometimes torn when dressings are removed. The sponge might be filled with a medicinal solution, such as one of penicillin or a sulfa drug, which would be gradually released as the starch dissolves.

■ **Unsung heroes.** Among the unsung heroes of the war are several Florida Negroes who work at the Orlando, Fla., laboratory of the Division of Insects Affecting Man and Animals of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Twice a week they knock off whatever work they are doing, bare their backs, and permit 40,000 lice to feed on their blood. Bureau entomologists have to raise large numbers of lice to use in testing new insecticides (including DDT). The insects have to be fed on human blood; no other source of food has been found satisfactory. Acting as a lunch counter for lice does not involve

much loss of blood, as four-sevenths of an ounce is the estimated amount taken at one feeding. Welts are sometimes raised on the backs of the subjects, and these are treated afterwards to relieve irritation. There is no danger of infection from these laboratory-bred-and-raised insects. Nevertheless, it takes courage to submit to 40,000 bloodsuckers regularly, and we think the men who do it, and thus help science to find better ways to keep humanity in general free from these and other dangerous pests, are doing a public service.

■ **It knocks out the flies, not you.** Chemists in the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine have perfected a household fly spray that is odorless and will not cause irritation to the skin or nose of the user. This spray material is the result of a new method of purifying the powerful insecticide, pyrethrum, which is deadly to flies, mosquitoes, and many other insect pests but not poisonous to man. The process employs a new solvent called nitromethane, which removes the irritating impurities from the usual petroleum extract of pyrethrum flowers. When the nitromethane is distilled off, practically pure pyrethrins—the insecticidal ingredients—are left. The new process produces a much more concentrated and powerful insect poison than has been available heretofore and one that is well suited for use in the aerosol-bomb dispenser. After the war, with such ammunition and such a weapon we should have a better chance of victory in our battle against the bugs.

■ **Tracking down the vitamins in cabbage.** Research workers have a lot in common with detectives. The difference is that the sleuths of the laboratory are not always hunting criminals, though no public enemies are more dangerous than some of the

microbes sought by bacteriologists. At the U. S. Regional Vegetable Breeding Laboratory at Charleston, S. C., however, vegetable-crop specialists have been making determinations on the amounts of vitamins B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>, and C lurking in the various parts of cabbage heads. The scientists found that the six outside or wrapper leaves—the flaring dark-green ones that almost never reach the table or even the kitchen—contain the greatest quantity of each. Early in the summer, the outer leaves of the solid head were higher in vitamin content than the inside leaves; but in the fall there is a tendency for more of the vitamins to be found in the younger, inner leaves. Cabbage has not been recognized as a vitamin source comparing with the leafy greens such as kale; but the wrapper leaves contain as much or more of vitamins C, B<sub>1</sub>, and B<sub>2</sub>. The greatest emphasis should be placed on the vitamin C in cabbage, as it contains about a thousand times as much of C as either of the other vitamins.

■ **Avoid overconfidence about hog cholera.** Comparatively light losses of pigs from cholera occurred in 1944. The combined efforts of swine growers, veterinarians, and the producers of anti-hog-cholera serum seem to have brought the disease under unusually effective control this year. But that does not mean that hog cholera is no longer a danger. Pigs that have not received treatment with anti-hog-cholera serum are not immune to the disease, and only 43 percent of the estimated number of hogs produced in the first 9 months of 1944 were treated with the serum. That means that more than half the hogs in the United States were not immune to hog cholera. According to the Bureau of Animal Industry, losses of swine from hog cholera increase and recede in waves. After a period of light losses, there has always been an increase in number of deaths among nonimmune swine. The best way to hold such losses down is to keep nonimmune hogs, so far as possible, in lots away from public highways, quarantine new stock in separate pens for several weeks, and keep visitors away from places where hogs are kept, especially if cases of hog cholera have appeared in the neighborhood.

# Demonstration day in Washington

■ Enthusiastic farmers are greeting the Washington Demonstration Day, with its "guides to successful farming," as it rolls through the second month of its tour. With some 20 well-attended meetings now behind it, the program will go into most of the remaining counties of Washington State before the end of March, to complete the 3-month tour of demonstration "open-houses" sponsored by the Extension Service.

The program got under way January 16 on the State College of Washington campus when farm leaders and representatives of farm organizations okayed a "kick-off" preview. Most of these "guides," planned in cooperation with farm leaders and organizations, are being demonstrated by State extension specialists.

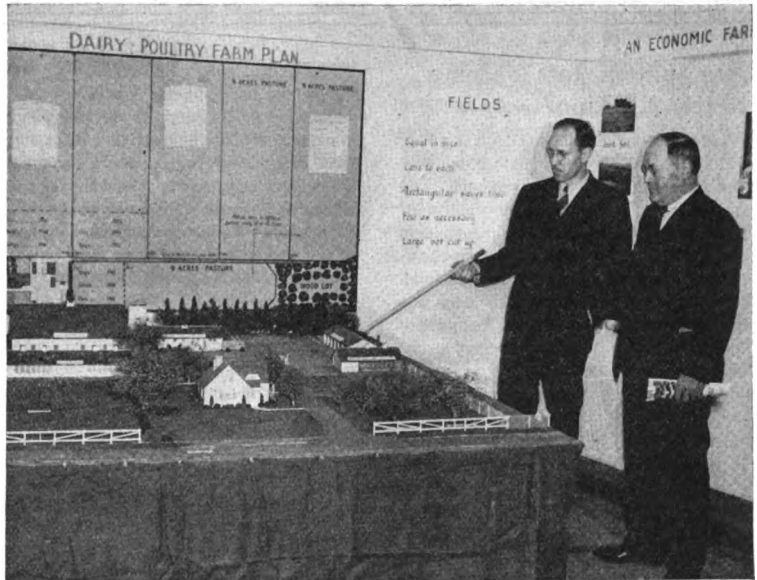
## Model Farmstead Featured

One of the high lights of the program is the section on resettlement, which emphasizes the importance of economic farm units. The demonstration features a model farmstead, complete with buildings arranged for convenience and efficiency, and a display of six local soil profiles showing relation to farm income.

Another model 20-acre farm is a section of the poultry demonstration, made to illustrate poultry farming as a way of making a living. The farm is complete with a dwelling, egg house, laying houses for 2,000 chickens, small barn, portable brooder house to brood 2,400 mixed chicks, and even fences.

In the dairy field a model Washington approved milk house with proper equipment is being shown. A demonstration on control of mastitis and one on inheritance in dairy cattle are demonstrated with live animals. Demonstrations are also being given on the control of cattle grubs and hot-iron dehorning of calves.

The WSC army jeep, with trailer attachment and farm implements, is being demonstrated by Howard Detering, a Lewis County farmer, for possible post-war use. A home-made garden tractor, perfected by O. O. Torrey of Opportunity, is also being shown, along with other labor-saving equipment.



A model farm in the resettlement section is one feature of Demonstration Day. This farm typifies a suitable farming unit, planned for greatest convenience, fulfillment of purpose, and conservation of labor. Arthur J. Cagle, extension economist in farm management, is explaining it to Richard Hedges, chairman of the agricultural committee of the Washington State Grange.

Other sections in the agricultural division include a fruit tree exhibit showing the value of approved practices in pruning and fertilization of fruit trees, an exhibit on potato leaf roll and late blight, an exhibit on rat control showing rat harbors and how they can be eliminated, and a full-size model vegetable and fruit storage unit. A projector is being used to show fruit slides.

Homemakers have approved a full-size utility room which combines the washing, ironing, and sewing centers. The utility room has been set up for most efficient service and embodies some new devices to save steps and time.

The food carnival boasts ferris wheel of good freezer locker containers and a merry-go-round of good home-canned foods and different kinds of spoiled or discolored canned foods. The manager of the carnival who is trained in canning explains why these foods have spoiled and answers personal canning questions.

A display of materials needed for a farm freezing plant, including a compressor, valves, strainers, dehydrator, a model coil, and other equipment is explained to homemakers interested in home-built freezing plants.

## Recreation leadership training

To keep up morale during stress of war and to give rural young people benefits of supervised recreation, the New Hampshire Extension Service is sponsoring series of institutes in recreation leadership. These have been held in regional centers in different parts of the State under the direction of an extension recreation specialist. Another series of officer-training and program-planning institutes is being conducted under extension leadership in three towns in different sections. Each of these courses has three to five sessions and includes actual demonstrations and practice.

# We Study Our Job

## Are homemakers learning better nutrition?

Information about nutrition is going out to homemakers in various ways—through the radio, newspapers, and magazines, as well as by means of leaflets, meetings, and nutrition classes. How effective are these channels in spreading nutrition education? How many housewives use such information in planning and preparing their families' meals? How can more be influenced to do so?

These were some of the questions studied in a recent survey made by the Division of Program Surveys, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In two cities surveyed, nearly all the housewives had received some nutrition information. Most women had picked up items from the radio, newspaper, or their favorite magazines; a few went to community-sponsored classes; others read booklets on the subject. Only a small number, about 10 percent, apparently had no contact with the widespread sources of nutrition information.

Contrary to the popular belief that nutrition knowledge is confined to persons in higher income levels, women in all income and occupational groups had received information.

According to the study, the homemaker's education does have an effect on the likelihood of her receiving information. The more years of formal schooling she has had, the more likely she is to read information about food and to go to nutrition meetings and classes. Women with less education, of course, are just as likely as women with higher education to receive information about food over the radio.

Only two-fifths of the housewives in these two cities understood the concept of a balanced diet. Some of the homemakers interviewed did not readily substitute plentiful foods for those they could not get. Only a few of the women had made important changes in their meal-planning and preparation as a result of their contacts with nutrition programs. For example, some of the women simply tried out a

new recipe or two, but made no basic changes.

Many of the women do not fully understand how the nutrition information they receive in these various ways can help them. For this reason the material put out should be studied beforehand to make sure that it appeals to the homemaker's interest.—HOUSEWIVES DISCUSS NUTRITION PROGRAMS, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A. May 1944.

## How the home agent reacts to her job

About one-tenth of our experienced home demonstration agents are taking part in a Nation-wide study of their work. As reported in the analysis of the home demonstration agent's job in the January REVIEW, home agents from 46 States have kept daily records of their work for 2 weeks—one week last spring and one week in the early part of this year.

The agents were asked to indicate in 5-minute intervals, or longer, what they did each day of the week, with what subject-matter field the job was concerned, with whom they worked, and what methods they used. They kept records of the number of miles they traveled and of the number of people contacted.

In addition to recording the use of their time, the agents were asked to comment on their reactions to their job. Most of the agents seemed very well adjusted to their jobs; 35 percent did not consider any inconveniences worth mentioning; 22 percent found nothing to cause nerve strain or undue fatigue.

The home agents' greatest satisfactions are: Being of service to rural people; seeing families improve their standards of living because of extension teaching; and making friends with rural people.

Records and reports are the agents' greatest trial; more than half of the agents said they disliked this part of their job, or it caused them greatest nerve strain.

More often than not, the home agents felt "some" difficulty rather than "much" difficulty in carrying on various activities of their home demonstration work. The different jobs which were reported as giving them "much" difficulty were:

(1) To obtain records of practices adopted by rural people.

(2) To secure leaders who will function.

(3) To train neighborhood leaders.

(4) To determine standards for measuring results.

(5) To keep up on outside interests.

About a third of the home agents considered their long hours, especially night meetings, their crowded schedules and many interruptions wearing. Loading and unloading equipment, and having no time for themselves were two other frequently mentioned trials in the life of the home demonstration agent.

Half of the agents reporting were more than 35 years of age and about half had served less than 5 years as home agent. In addition to their college home economics training most of them had taken at least one college course in some related subject matter that made them more helpful to farm families. At least 4 out of 5 agents had taken a course in psychology and one in economics. More of them had taken courses in art than in rural social organization; more of them had studied vegetable gardening and poultry management than office management; only 1 out of 14 had taken college training in poultry management; and 2 out of 5 had taken a course in extension methods.

To keep up to date in their work, most agents read 3 magazines—a scientific professional, a popular professional, and a homemaking magazine.

The agents indicated they wished to take special summer training courses and would also like to visit from county to county and from State to State to study extension work.

The REVIEW will run further accounts of this long-time study as it progresses.

# Electric cords repaired

■ Mrs. Agnes Fugle, farm homemaker of Clackamas County, is proud of her ability to fix worn electrical extension and equipment cords. She is typical of hundreds of Oregon homemakers who are learning to make minor repairs on electrical equipment used in the home.

The cord has been aptly called the "life line" of equipment. During the past 2 years, as cords needed repair, homemakers have found that the copper and rubber previously used for cord manufacture are needed for the war effort, so little new can be purchased. Electrical service men are engaged in defense work or the armed forces, and the man of the family is too busy with other farm and home work to stop and fix a faulty cord. So when the women found that the job of repair was up to them, they asked for help. In 12 Oregon counties a home economics unit meeting was devoted to teaching simple electrical

repair. Cords and electrical equipment in need of "fixing" were brought to the meeting place by the women. Here, under the direction of the county home demonstration agent, the repairs were made and the article tested.

Women who have been a little leery about tampering with anything connected with electricity have gained the confidence that comes with a thorough understanding of the job. Several have remarked at the end of the day: "That's easy," and "I can't wait to get home and show my husband."

Many Oregon rural homemakers have had electricity only a short time. They are interested in how to prevent trouble. Good practices to observe in caring for equipment are demonstrated at the meetings. Short circuits, blown fuses, and safety measures are popular subjects for discussion.—*Lois A. Lutz, extension specialist, home management, Oregon.*

habits, demonstrations on safety, first aid, fire prevention, and health examinations, according to J. A. Lennox, assistant State 4-H leader.

Aims of the health improvement project in 4-H Clubs are to encourage the correction of remediable defects, to encourage protective immunizations as recommended by health officials, to encourage the acquirement of good habits, and to help the community in promoting public health and safety.

## What of tomorrow

*Though written 22 years ago by Reuben Brigham, assistant director, this little piece is timely right now.*

What of the future of extension work? Will its influence grow and widen? Will it continue to develop the intelligent and progressive leadership that has been its finest contribution in past years? What of its tomorrow? Will it adapt itself to the needs of a new generation, of new problems, of a forward day in agriculture and among the farming people? Will the past be its inspiration and not its limitation? Will it discard worn-out nonessentials and keep the live essentials that have made it the leader of rural progress?

I like to think so. In this connection, I bring to your attention a passage from *The Promised Land* by Mary Antin. She says, "The world demands masterpieces but does not ask that everyone be born a master genius. A race, a kingdom, a community accepts an ideal of life, and all high and low may contribute to making the glorious dream come true. What care we for our yesterdays so they were spent nobly, earnestly, lovingly in the service of the universe? We may drift away some day, and who shall care or what shall it matter so we have concerned ourselves with fashioning the masterpiece that all shall possess in common." America is such a masterpiece in the making, a masterpiece of human lives, of happy homes, of enlightened neighborhoods—a nation whose country people are inspired with the possible greatness of everyday life. Shall we forsake this ideal, or shall we follow it to the end of our lives? Into our hands is given the building of this, our masterpiece. I ask you, "How shall we build?"

# Building interest in school lunch

■ Colored stars on a chart are indicating to rural school children in Rock County, Wis., how they stack up with their fellow classmates in the school lunch program.

Ann Kyle, county home agent, reports that the pupils' names and the weeks of the school year are shown on the wall charts. If a child has milk in his lunch every day for a week, a star of one color is put after his name. If he has a hot dish every day for a week, he gets a star of a different color; and if he has both milk and a hot dish every day for a week, a star of still another color is placed after his name.

The school lunch program is promoted by a committee composed of the home agent, the county superintendent of schools, the county supervising teachers, and the county nurse. The committee is promoting the pint-jar method of providing a hot dish; the child brings soup, chili, a vegetable, or a baked dish to school in a pint jar, and it is warmed up at the school for lunch.

To simplify carrying a lunch, Miss Kyle is suggesting to mothers that

they buy or make knapsacks that fit on the back of the child. The knapsack has room for the pint jar or a thermos bottle and sandwiches, and has a book section as well. Many mothers and members of homemakers' groups are buying or making knapsacks after seeing the sample Miss Kyle is showing.

## 4-H promotes public health

As part of their contribution to the war program in 1944, the 4-H Clubs of New York State report a number of projects in the field of public health.

During the past year, 3,310 members were enrolled in health improvement, 4,335 in home nursing and first aid, and 1,391 in fire prevention.

In the State 4-H health improvement contest, Seneca County scored highest, with Franklin County the runner-up. Agents in these counties are Carleton Edwards of Waterloo and J. Frank Stephens of Malone.

Club leaders have planned activities such as checking food and health

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**CHILD HEALTH DAY** will again be held on May 1 this year and will emphasize birth registration. As it appears that the greatest failure in birth registration occurs in rural areas, the help of extension agents is needed. Agents in counties with Spanish-speaking peoples and Negro agents are especially asked to cooperate this year in getting all births registered.

**HOME EQUIPMENT RESEARCH** was the subject of a recent conference held at Cornell University which was sponsored by the National Work Simplification project. This conference brought together research workers in home equipment from the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the land-grant colleges and research workers from the leading manufacturers of home equipment. The purpose was an exchange of ideas on designing home equipment for functional efficiency and to develop a way of continuing this exchange among the groups represented. The equipment under consideration included kitchen cabinets and sinks, refrigerators, ranges, and washing machines.

**MUSIC STILL HATH POWER** to aid in reconciliation of peoples, power to unify various peoples, which will be emphasized during National and Inter-American Music Week, May 6-13. The theme will be Use Music to Foster Unity for the War and the Peace to Follow. Pamphlets and other material are available through the National and Inter-American Music Week Committee, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

**TO LIGHTEN THE BURDEN** and increase the efficiency of Oregon farmers and homemakers, an efficiency caravan, containing about 40 different ways of making the work easier, toured 18 counties in western Oregon last month, making about 22 stops to demonstrate manure loaders, buck rakes, post-hole diggers, tilt-top implement trailers, milk carts, and other labor-saving devices to the men. The homemakers inspected an actual-size kitchen sink, a utility table, work clothes, portable wood box, lapboard, laundry cart, and a wide ironing board. They watched the demonstrations in

efficient ironing, canning, drying, and freezing of food and the preparing and packing of lunches.

**ON THE ILLINOIS CIRCUIT**, 2 trucks loaded with labor-saving equipment are making 1-day stands in 24 counties. At each stop, a most important part of the show is the local exhibit of labor-saving devices, inventions, and gadgets brought in by local people, which are judged by a local committee and prizes given for the best devices. The first show in Champaign County, January 12, was attended by 500 folks, with 12 farmers bringing in 17 different gadgets. The first prize was awarded for a simple home-made automatic device to shut off the windmill when the water tank is filled.

**THE STORY DIDN'T DO JUSTICE** to the facts in the case of the picture of the sewing machine clinic in Westport, Mass., published on page 6 of the January issue. It appears that Professor Tague, shown in the picture, was released from the Army Air Corps Engineering program at Massachusetts State College and assigned to the Extension Service from April 17 to November 1, 1944. In that time he conducted 144 clinics with an attendance of 1,485 homemakers, each of whom brought a sewing machine ranging in age from 1 to 60 years. One homemaker carried a 35-pound port-

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able sewing machine 3 miles to get to the clinic. In one county, 32 women are acting as volunteer leaders to pass along their information on how to clean and adjust a sewing machine.

**AN AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS WORKSHOP** was held February 6-16 in Washington through the cooperation of the Federal Extension staff, Agricultural Missions, Inc., and the Rural Missions Cooperating Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America. Under the direction of Douglas Ensminger, a group of 28 missionaries saw demonstrations of extension methods and discussed how they might be applied to home and village life in other countries.

**WHEN WE'RE GREEN WE GROW** is the title of the new history of home demonstration work in North Carolina, written by Dr. Jane S. McKimmon, for so many years the guiding spirit of the successful home demonstration movement in North Carolina and an inspiration to extension workers everywhere. The book was scheduled to come out in February and will be reviewed later in the "Have you read" column.

**A SCHOOL LUNCH PLAY** called "Before and After," easy to produce and suitable for almost any group, is available from the War Food Administration, either from the regional office or from Washington. The play, written by Aileen Fisher, takes a cast of 12 characters and very simple stage properties.

**THE HOUSING JOB AHEAD** was indicated in a recent talk by Secretary Wickard when he said "There are, roughly, 6½ million dwellings on farms in this country. Five million of these houses are occupied by farm operators, and about 2 million are fairly satisfactory. The other 3 million are inadequate. About half of them could be fixed up, but half are beyond repair."

**A WARTIME DISCUSSION GROUP** is keeping up with the world through the New York State Farm Forum organized under an Extension Service committee of supervisors and specialists who issue at irregular intervals a farm forum circular to "stimulate reading, study, and discussion of public problems and issues."

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## Zero hour for peace

M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work

■ Many of us remember the hope of nations, after World War I, that there would never again be a war of such proportions. It was a vain hope. If progress in military science and mechanical warfare should accelerate proportionately in the next 10 or 20 years as it did in the past 10 or 20 years, World War III, if allowed to come, will be suicidal.

Last fall, at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference with Britain, Russia, and China, a tentative draft was prepared for a world charter to insure peace. This draft will be considered at San Francisco by delegates invited from all the United Nations, and their governments will be asked to ratify the agreement. Our Senate will debate and pass on the virtues of the instruments to be agreed upon at the Golden Gate sessions. The San Francisco Conference will overshadow any conference that preceded it, such as the United Nations Food Conference held at Hot Springs, Va., in April 1943; the UNRRA Conference of 1943; the Bretton Woods Conference and the Dumbarton Oaks Conference of 1944; and the series of meetings held by the leading military powers of the United Nations. All these were but a part of the preliminary arrangements necessary for the historic session this month.

The Cooperative Extension Service has agreed to cooperate actively with the State Department in doing everything possible to acquaint rural people with the nature of the proposed world security organization and to stimulate their thinking about it. The purpose of this educational program, which will be widespread in scope, should not be mistaken as an effort to sell the public on the proposed world security plan. Rather,

it should be looked upon as education rising to its challenge and doing a good and thorough job to help our citizens understand what the problems are and the pros and cons of the proposals.

If education is truly the foundation of democracy, then every branch of education certainly has a responsibility for informing our citizens of the world security proposals. Next to the important educational assignment of helping farmers meet their 1945 food production goals, nothing we do can be more important this spring. Extension's part in the program will vary somewhat by States,

## On the docket for April

■ Food needs for our own armed forces and for relief feeding grow greater, and more shipping is becoming available to ship food overseas. These point to the need for maximum production—planting bigger and better Victory Gardens, recruiting more volunteers to do emergency harvesting, and more help with production problems.

State reports show that Victory Gardens are off to a good start everywhere. Increased sales of seed in several States indicate that the gardeners mean business. Oklahoma aims to have a garden on every farm and at every home in the State where suitable space is available. Georgians are looking forward to more city and suburban gardens, especially in industrial areas; Arkansas expects a 10-percent increase in numbers of town and city gardens. Mississippi has just completed a series of garden schools; Kentucky finds the outlook better than a year ago; and California county agents have reorgan-

depending on schedules and procedures most adaptable locally and to be decided upon by State directors of extension. Extension's enthusiastic participation is important, owing to the position of educational leadership Extension occupies in rural areas.

The road to final Victory continues rough and hard, but we are approaching the twilight that comes before dawn. It will be up to our generation, whether we are 15, 50, or 75, to lay the foundations for future human society. In that society, I hope, the great accumulations of scientific knowledge can be blended and linked inseparably with the principles of Christian decency whereby we, and generations to come, can be assured individual freedom and the continued progress of mankind.

ized their garden committees and set the goal of 1 million gardens—an increase of a quarter of a million over last year.

This month a number of aids for labor recruitment will be distributed. Three posters are ready: Call to Farms, an appeal to women; Goin' My Way? a VFV poster using a natural-color photograph; and Fill It Up, a general recruiting poster. A kit of material for county agents will again offer ideas and suggestions for local labor and recruitment campaigns. National magazine articles and radio network programs are now in preparation for late spring and summer. The week of May 7 has been designated for national network allocations by the Office of War Information. The motion picture, "Victory Harvests," is available from State extension offices.

Kansas neighborhood leaders are at work on fat salvage; and Oregon is distributing 30,000 copies of a fat salvage circular.

# How to stretch farm labor

■ Elburn is a busy Illinois town with a population of about 600. It was never busier in all its history than when the labor-saving show came to town February 2. Snow and cold didn't keep the farmers and their wives away. They brought in more than 66 home-made labor-saving devices and "gadgets" to enter in the prize contest. Attendance was estimated to be at least 1,500 persons.

County Farm Adviser A. C. Johnston, of Kane County and his staff were busier than cranberry merchants. Besides the home-made devices brought in by Kane County farmers over snowy roads, there were two truckloads of devices, display panels, and movie and sound equipment from the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois. This material would make a show in itself, but the home-made material entered invariably was the high spot of the show. Farmers are saving hundreds of man-hours annually with these devices. The department of agricultural engineering expects to combine the best ideas exhibited at the shows and prepare plans for making home-made equipment. These plans will be made available to all farmers in Illinois.

Three separate places were used to stage the labor-saving show in Elburn. One was an implement building where the home-made "gadgets" were displayed. The second was a vacant store where the College of Agriculture panels and labor-saving devices were set up. The third was the basement of the town's largest church, which was filled to overflowing with the crowd that came to see the movies and hear the speaking program.

The local entries ranged from a home-made farm tractor to a simple float control switch for pumping water to a stock tank and a self-unloading feed wagon. Prizes are awarded on the basis of the amount of labor saved and the practicability of the devices in the opinion of local judges. At Elburn, entries were received from several nearby counties, which were brought in despite the wintry condition of the roads.

Prizes for county and State-wide winners were offered by a national

foundation and public utilities company in northern Illinois. These were often supplemented by local prizes of war bonds, war stamps, and merchandise, according to P. E. Johnston, State farm labor supervisor. The shows were widely publicized by newspapers and radio stations. Special coverage of the opening show at Urbana, January 12, was given by WILL, the University of Illinois station, which has carried a daily report of each show. The "Dinner Bell" program, a regular noon feature on Station WLS, Chicago, was broadcast from the second show at Havana, January 17; and such widespread interest was shown by listeners that daily reports on each of the remaining shows were carried by this station.

"But chief satisfaction for those who were responsible for these labor-saving shows was the fact that farmers used the shows as a place to share ideas and discuss ways and means to meet the toughest crop-raising job on record," says State Supervisor Johnston. Speakers at the shows found attentive audiences when they discussed practical methods of saving labor. Here are five suggestions which formed the

keynote of the gatherings: (1) Plan your chores to save time; (2) use machinery efficiently to eliminate as much work as possible; (3) exchange labor and machines with your neighbors; (4) rearrange the fields to save labor; (5) plan crop acreages and livestock production to use available labor to best advantage.

The home side of the labor-saving problem was not forgotten. The exhibit, Homemakers Can Save Time, Steps, Stoops and Energy, proved exceedingly popular with the women.

The committee in charge of planning and staging the shows was composed of W. D. Murphy, assistant State farm labor supervisor, chairman; K. H. Hinchcliff, assistant professor of agricultural engineering extension; J. E. Wills, assistant professor of agricultural economics extension; Mrs. Madge L. Little, assistant State farm labor supervisor in charge of the Women's Land Army; and Henry W. Gilbert, district farm labor supervisor. The Illinois Farmers' Institute also cooperated in staging the shows which continued through March 2 to make a total of 24 shows distributed over all sections of the State.

T. J. Shambaugh, farmer, who is a graduate of the U. of I. College of Agriculture, also helped stage the shows.

"The home-made hack saw works to save time and labor," explains Farmer Martin Wettke at the Carbondale, Ill., show. County Agent John L. Walter of Massac County is one of the interested onlookers.





# Forestry for village boys

E. E. BERGSTROM, 4-H Club Agent, Rutland County, Vt.

■ How 4-H forestry can produce a critical war material and at the same time provide education and recreation for village boys has been demonstrated in Rutland County, Vt. For many years the program here for 4-H Club boys living in small towns has centered on forestry. The boys have learned about farm woodlot management, thinning maple stands, and lumbering operations, and, in the process, have improved the woodlands and had a lot of fun doing it.

Rutland County is made up of 28 towns, most of which have some industry. Many people who are employed in these industries live in the villages or have small farms. With woodlands so close by in need of attention, forestry projects were a natural choice for the 4-H Club members living here. Help and advice on the county activities were given by the specialists of the U. S. Forest Service whose headquarters are located in the city of Rutland and by the forestry specialists of the Extension Service.

## Boys Develop Woodland

For a number of years, boys in many communities helped to plant school forests, watershed forests, and private woodlands. More recently the boys have been thinning demonstration plots. Much land in this area not suitable for cultivation has grown up to maple and pine mixed with inferior varieties and is very much in need of thinning. Plots varying from one-eighth to one acre in size have been thinned in a number of stands of timber, usually in a location which can be seen by people driving by.

Each year about 75 boys from 7 different 4-H Clubs have been working on woodland-improvement projects. Twenty-four demonstration plots have been thinned and from 25 to 30 cords of wood removed.

The demonstration plots were located by the county agent, laid out by compass, and the trees marked or removal. The work was carried out during the winter months. The trees removed were cut pole length and piled up for the owner's disposal.

Some owners of the stands of timber allowed the boys to keep the wood and sell it to obtain funds for their treasury. The brush was flattened so that it would decay and make humus. When the work was done, the boys measured the cords of wood cut and the timber left standing. As many as 15 to 20 boys worked on some plots. The work was carefully supervised to prevent accidents.

## Fun Mixed With Work

The cutting was a lot of work, but the boys usually mixed fun with it. Outdoor cooking, fishing through the ice, skiing, and snowshoeing were usually a part of the day's work.

Several demonstrations were on softwood stands in the city forests where pruning and thinning were practiced. Oftentimes this work was done before Christmas, and the boughs were sold for Christmas decorations.

Some of the boys have done custom woodlot surveying, and all the members have learned to use a hypsometer and calipers and to survey timber areas. During the depression, several areas were surveyed for figures on tree growth.

The office staff of the Green Mountain National Forest helped arrange tours to mills, CCC camps, plywood mills, and lumbering operations. We have always hoped to have a winter camp for the forestry boys. So far it has not materialized, but we still think a few days' program which could include surveying, field trips to lumber jobs, talks by specialists, camp cookery, contests in chopping and sawing, and skiing and snowshoeing for recreation would be very much worth while.

## Boys Thin 15 Acres

Two boys, George and Andrew Livak of Rutland Town, have thinned out, with the help of their club, about 15 acres of young growth of maple. Each year they have sold up to 50 cords of cordwood from their plot which they hope to use for a sugar-bush.

A number of years ago, Gaylord and Vernon Fish of Ira thinned out a stand of young maples for a sugar-

bush. This stand has been tapped for several years, and the work was well worth the effort. Some stands were maple saplings about 1 to 2 inches in diameter, and the first thinning was made to space them 6 by 6 feet. New thinnings are needed to space the trees 12 by 12, and a fine harvest of cordwood can be obtained.

The plots were judged each year and awards made according to the time spent on the job. A number of interested citizens provided funds which were used for the purchase of axes, hatchets, and pocket knives as awards for the work done.

At the Rutland Fair each year we have had axe and saw sharpening contests with awards made by merchants and the Rutland Lions' Club.

Farm boys have done less forestry work than the village boys because they, as a rule, have been active in dairying and other projects. Village boys like to hike, hunt, and fish. They believe that this forestry work is a contribution toward the beauty and usefulness of our hills and a guarantee against fires and destruction of a national asset.

This project is also good for the agent and leaders. It gets them out of doors and helps to keep up winter appetites, besides developing new muscles and skills.

## Something new in meetings

Something new in poultry meetings is being tried in Suffolk County, Long Island, N. Y. Poultrymen were asked to send in or bring their questions to the meetings at which four local poultrymen served as a "board of experts." Each question was referred to one of the experts who told how he handled that particular problem on his farm. A specialist from the College of Agriculture at Cornell University supplemented the expert's information. Poultrymen were selected for the board of experts by the county agricultural agent on the basis of experience in certain phases of poultry production. One or more of the group had experience in producing eggs, broilers, and turkeys; in breeding, hatching, retail sales, poultry house construction, poultry range management, and similar skills.—L. E. Weaver, extension poultry specialist, New York.

## Muck farmers' caravan

■ Late in January for the last 2 years a little caravan of travelers, experts in each of their fields, has been going out from the agricultural experiment station at Purdue University, headed for the great partially developed muck beds of northern Indiana. The specialists are armed with the results of another year of study and research in agronomy, insect pest and plant disease control, and new vegetable crop experiments affecting muck-soil farmers.

This new, war-born idea originated with Roscoe Fraser, popular headman of the caravan of extension specialists; and the activity has become another milestone in the university's fostership of an amazing farming development of the present century.

There are some 300,000 Hoosier acres classified as muck soil, and a score of years ago that was something for which good Indians admittedly were a little ashamed to claim ownership. For the most part it was termed "bogus soil" that rated no better than submarginal land; and at one time, it was reported, legal tender of the distinctly muck swamp area was divided between bullfrogs and huckleberries.

### Purdue Agronomist Makes Discovery

It was some 30 years ago that a Purdue agronomist, Samuel Conners, discovered that addition of potash and phosphate to well-drained muck soil would make it suitable for farming. Here and there an enterprising farmer employed the aid of appropriate fertilizers, and good results became increasingly consistent.

The Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station, anxious to intensify its research in muck-soil crop production, obtained some acreage in St. Joseph County, near South Bend; and establishment of an experimental farm marked the beginning of a new era of muck farming in the State. Roughly a third of the muck land has been developed, and the twentieth century frontiersmen who have reclaimed it are being richly rewarded for their efforts.

The university, along with the State Vegetable Growers' Association of Indiana and Northern Indiana

Muck Crops Growers' Association, for many years has staged a muck-crop show along with a school for muck farmers. To encourage good farming practices in the muck area, a number of prizes and awards were distributed at the annual show to those who produced top yields.

The caravan, inaugurated to save gasoline and tires for the farmers who made long drives to the one show in other years, now stops in seven different communities, dispensing information, awards, and prizes.

Climax of the tour is the crowning of a muck crops king who, in 1944, was Whitney K. Gast, Akron, Ind., a former county agricultural agent, whose record included: Onions, 848 bushels per acre; potatoes, 524 bush-

els per acre; corn, 82 bushels per acre; in addition to an excellent crop of cabbage. Other topnotchers gained laurels for mint growing, a farm industry almost exclusive to Indiana and Michigan.

The great Middlewest muck bed extends to the east as far as New York, west as far as Iowa, and north into Minnesota and Michigan. Of the Indiana area, scientists believe that about 90 percent of the once near-worthless land can be made fully productive. They say 5 percent is too alkaline and 5 percent is too acid for profitable farming.

Since the tremendous development and expansion of muck farming began a decade ago, scores of Indiana farmers have become more efficient and more progressive; and Purdue University has gained a host of everlasting friends.

## Oregon labor-saving exhibit draws big crowds

■ When the emergency farm labor office in the Oregon State College Extension Service decided late in November to conduct a series of farm and home labor-saving equipment demonstrations, J. R. Beck, State farm labor supervisor, and his staff knew there would be a lot of interest in work simplification and labor-saving devices among farmers and homemakers.

But after the series of 31 different demonstrations which covered 17 of the 18 counties west of the Cascade Mountains got under way, even the farm labor staff was surprised at the size of the turn-outs and the intensity of interest.

Without exception, the crowds attending the demonstrations were larger than anticipated. Some of the exhibit locations, which included grange halls for a third of the showings, were inadequate for proper handling of the large numbers. Those attending were not motivated merely by curiosity, either. The men gathered around pieces of farm equipment displayed by the Extension Service and machinery brought in by local farmers and remade and improved mentally and orally most of the pieces shown. They really were interested.

Women carefully studied the home-making exhibits and listened attentively to explanations of work simplification in the home. They then brought their husbands in to show them the exhibits—that is, if the menfolk were not already inside viewing some of the farm and home exhibits, or giving attention to a practical demonstration on how to iron a shirt in 5 minutes through use of a wide ironing board, which may easily be home-made, attached to the regular ironing board.

Attendance was about equally divided between men and women, but whereas relatively few women went through the machinery demonstrations most of the men were definitely interested in the kitchen, laundry, sewing, food, and other exhibits. It was not an unusual thing to see men measuring shelves, drawers, and space in the kitchen sink or mixing units, or taking notes on the portable wood box, the kitchen utility table, or the laundry cart—until they were told that complete plans and specifications would be sent to them by their county agent or home demonstration agent if they would check a prepared bulletin and circular list.

Only circulars and bulletins relating directly to the demonstration

were listed. Most of these were new publications prepared in connection with the exhibits by Clyde Walker, extension agricultural engineer, and Mrs. Mabel Mack, extension nutritionist, both of whom are now serving as assistant State farm labor supervisors. The signed requests for publications will enable county agents to check on how well farmers and homemakers have utilized this information.

#### Planned and Assembled in 6 Weeks

Although much more time could well have been used in planning, building, and assembling the demonstration, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Mack did an excellent job of getting their farm and home exhibits together in less than 6 weeks. At the same time, they had to arrange for schedules, places to show, hotel reservations for the traveling crew, and a score of other details in cooperation with the county extension staffs. Although the demonstration was well organized as it went from one county to another, the success of individual showings depended primarily on the cooperation of county agents and home demonstration agents who were in charge of county arrangements. This cooperation included publicizing the event through localized news stories, news pictures, and radio announcements provided by the State office, assistance in setting up the exhibits, arranging for halls and serving of lunches, and most important of all, getting local farmers and homemakers to participate.

The most successful meetings were those where the county agent called on local farmers to bring in their own pieces of labor-saving equipment to supplement the machinery carried on tour by the college. At Salem, for example, County Agent Jerry Nibler assembled 25 different pieces of home-made equipment from Marion County farms, ranging from a hop stake setter to a home-made tractor. The demonstration was held at the State fairgrounds, and the nearly 2,000 persons attending brought back memories of the annual pre-war State fair. Home demonstration agents likewise received assistance from their home economics or grange committee members who helped explain the various exhibits or served lunch.

More than 12,000 persons saw the



This local device—a power pick-up attached to a truck—attracted attention at the Polk County, Ore., labor saving demonstration.

21 demonstrations during the last week in January and through February, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Mack estimate. The largest crowd was nearly 2,000 at Salem, but attendances of around 800 and 900 were not uncommon. Farmers brought in a total of about 200 different pieces of equipment, and even a few local home conveniences were displayed. Nearly 14,000 bulletins were requested by those attending the demonstrations.

Local equipment included such items as a bale loader, turkey feeder, orchard rollers, chick waterer, buck rakes, plant-setting machines, hop drag, tractor buzz saws, power drag saws, trailers of various types, post-hole diggers, milk carts, hand trucks, fertilizer spreaders, weeders, onion planter, potato planter, self feeders, feed carts, power shake splitter, manure loaders, prune tree shakers, spinach cutter, weed sprayers, sack and bale loaders, filbert blower, beet topper, post puller, dusters, leveling blades, walnut picker, vegetable seed planter and fertilizer, bean wire reels, cultivators, strawberry weeders, brooder houses, and scores of others.

Among the farm equipment carried on the tour were a manure loader, buck rake, rust preventive exhibit, post hole digger, drag saw, army truck, model cattle guard, and pig

brooder. A fence post exhibit, showing results of experiments in treating fence posts conducted by the Oregon State College of Forestry for the past 17 years, attracted wide interest among farmers and headed by a wide margin the list of requests for additional information.

Among the exhibits prepared by Mrs. Mack, the portable wood box, kitchen utility table with lapboard, laundry cart, sewing cabinet, sink unit, and sectioned drawers, vertical shelves for pans and half shelves proved very popular. The homemakers' exhibits also included one on nutrition in charge of Frances Alexander, executive secretary of the State nutrition council; a laundry exhibit and ironing demonstration in charge of Mrs. Helen Arney; and others on adjusting work heights, food storage, food conservation and preservation, kitchen storage, posture, draft cooler, and a complete exhibit of work clothes for women provided by the Bureau of Home Economics.

The program was arranged to allow time for moving pictures and slides on haying, nutrition, and other farm and home subjects. The entire program stressed work simplification and labor saving—and judging by the interest shown, those in charge feel that the results were highly gratifying.

# Do you know . .

## DR. Z. M. SMITH

**A great builder and pioneer who has put aside his trowel after more than three decades of fruitful toil in Indiana**

■ To a vast number of people in the Midwest the name of Dr. Z. M. Smith stands for 4-H Club work, but to thousands of grateful farm folk throughout Hoosierdom that name also exemplifies leadership in a program that has brought immeasurable good to the morale of the farming industry.

Dr. Smith retired as State 4-H Club leader in 1941, after serving since 1912 in that capacity, and then continued as associate State leader until November 1944, ending a long and useful career that started with

tential value of club work, fostered the program from the start and set up headquarters for a club leader even before the State Legislature or the National Government authorized financial assistance for such work. Thus Dr. Smith, schoolmaster, joined in partnership with Purdue in September 1912 to start a great program built for rural youth.

Dr. E. C. Elliott, president of Purdue University, in tribute to Dr. Smith, said recently: "It was fortunate for the university that it has been able for so many years, to de-

early days as club director were manifold. First of all, he needed to be a salesman. Successful club work meant the acquisition of full cooperation of adult leaders in both rural and urban communities. As most of the local leadership was necessarily dependent on voluntary assistance, that phase of the task became an important "selling" job.

Dr. Smith had the moral support of many able men as he launched the junior club program in Indiana, but as for a staff of assistants he had none. Second to the job of selling the program to the public at large, he was faced with the job of building a program worthy of the respect and enthusiasm he hoped that it would demand. Consequently, he spent countless hours in planning, discussing the club needs of youth with both youth and elders. But his initial outline of the purposes of rural youth clubs still stands, and few changes have been necessary in shaping the objectives of the movement.

### Visited 92 Counties

Besides setting up the framework for State-wide club organization, Dr. Smith got around to all the 92 counties the first year and, as a result, got clubs started in 13 of them.

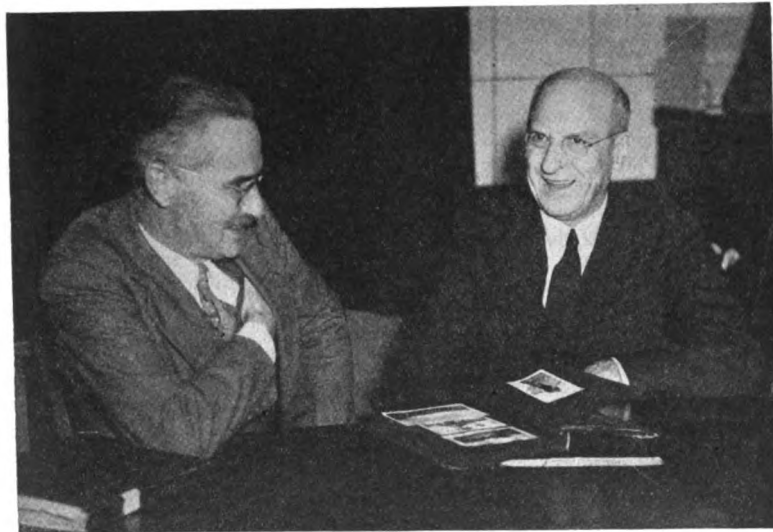
Club work was confined, in the early years, to corn clubs for boys and baking clubs for girls.

Soon after Dr. Smith took the State leadership he began to expand the activities to other areas. F. M. Shanklin was assigned to the staff, chiefly as organizer of pig clubs throughout the State. Response was tremendous from the start, and clubs were soon organized in every county. J. A. Linke was added to the staff the same year to promote interest in corn clubs, and Lella Gaddis was placed in charge of gardening and canning clubs and canning demonstrations.

In addition, C. R. George was assigned in 1915 to direct the organization of dairy clubs, and the foundation was laid also in 1915 for organization of poultry clubs throughout the State.

Dr. Smith recognized early in his assignment as State club leader the value of awards for excellence in competitive club activity.

In 1913 he arranged an educational trip to Washington for nine boys who



Dr. Z. M. Smith, at right, who has set the pace for thousands of Indiana farm and urban youth enrolled in 4-H clubs during the past 30 years, gets a good laugh from the scrapbook compiled by Prof. Raymond Mulvey, Purdue agronomist. In 1912 Prof. Mulvey's 1 acre of corn won him the right to make an educational trip to Washington, D. C., along with eight other Hoosier lads.

a one-room school-teaching assignment in Jefferson township, Tipton County, Ind., at \$2 a day back in 1895.

Inspired with an idea for organizing boys' and girls' rural and urban clubs for the general good of agriculture, Dr. Smith went to work in a field that was new, wide open, and beckoning for an able leader.

Purdue University, alert to the po-

pend on Dr. Z. M. Smith as its connecting link with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education. Thorough training and long experience have made him wise as to the ways of the soil and the needs of rural youth. For 30 years the university and the State have garnered the fruits of this wisdom."

The tasks facing Dr. Smith in his

were county, district, and State champions in corn club work. The group was greeted in Washington by President Woodrow Wilson and at Indianapolis by Gov. Samuel R. Ralston. Those were the days when good hotel accommodations could be obtained in Washington for \$1 a head, and the best keepsake you could buy a boy was a watch fob.

These educational tours became increasingly popular as an incentive for teen-agers all over the State to strive for excellence in club competition. Thousands of eager boys and girls, guided by teachers, county agents, and volunteer leaders from many walks of life, joined in the club movement.

Competition among local boys and girls led to club displays at county and State fairs, and the value of that

activity has proved so great that fair associations in many counties, having decided to discontinue traditional county fairs because of the war, nevertheless, held 4-H fairs so that junior club work would not be handicapped. Likewise, the State fair has been continued during war years as a 4-H Club activity.

Club enrollment has grown from a few hundred boys and girls in the 13 clubs organized in 1912 to nearly 60,000 at the present time.

Z. M. Smith, who has served as the great leader of this mighty parade of youth marching through the years, has stepped aside; but the vast 4-H Club movement of Indiana continues to grow and progress, and the enthusiastic, worth-while organization is a moving emblem of tribute to an able Hoosier.

## Contest boosts potato production

Amazing progress has been made in recent years in the potato industry in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Although potato production in Michigan as a whole has been decreasing, owing to insect and disease damage and to competition with other crops not so hard to produce, potato acreage on the Upper Peninsula has been increasing. Under the stimulus of the Escanaba Potato Boosters Association, organized in 1940, Delta County farmers have improved their potato production remarkably.

Back in 1940, County Agent E. A. Wenner wanted farmers to promote a better-quality potato for the county as a whole and at the same time stimulate better growers to increase acreage where advisable. He interested the business people in the city of Escanaba in forming what is known as the Potato Booster Club Contest. These men have interested themselves in the potato business of the county, have boosted the quality program and have donated money each year to be used as prize money for potato growers who take part in the contest. Each fall these farmers entertain the Escanaba businessmen at a venison steak dinner. Mr. Wenner believes that this contest is one of the most successful agricultural undertakings that has ever been attempted in his county.

Although the 300-bushel club was started in Michigan in 1922, the first Delta County farmers to reach that goal was in 1930. Beginning in 1940, when the potato booster association was organized, there have been 11, 18, 10, 20, and this year 27, in each year respectively in Delta County who belonged in the 300-bushel club.

In the 400-bushel group, there were 4 growers in this class in 1940, the first year of the association, 12 in 1941, 6 in 1942—a season of generally reduced yields, 14 in 1943, and 19 in 1944. In the 500-bushel group, there were 8 growers in 1941, 1 in 1942, 2 in 1943, and 7 in 1944 in Delta County.

In the Premier Growers Contest of the Upper Peninsula Potato Show, Delta County growers placed first in tablestock production in 1944 and captured all but two of the places in the premium list for certified seed growers.

One grower, Emil DeBacker, of Rock, Delta County, placed first in the certified seed growers' contest and established a new State record yield of 715 bushels to the acre. Mr. DeBacker was born in Belgium where he lived until after World War I, in which he served as a member of the Belgian Army for 3½ years, 7 months of which was served with the Army of Occupation in Germany. He started out at St. Nicholas 20 years

ago with a 40-acre farm, which he has since expanded to 540 acres, 265 of which are under cultivation. Last year he bought 1,000 acres in Marquette County, across the line from his Delta County farm. Both the State certified seed contest and the tablestock contest were won by two growers in Delta County in 1944—Emil DeBacker in the certified contest and Joe Depuydt in the tablestock contest.

## Rotary auctions 4-H poultry

The Amherst, Mass., Rotary Club held a Dutch auction with dressed cockerels provided by 4-H Club members. Nine boys received 25 baby chicks each, raised them under the direction of Donald Stiles, county 4-H Club agent, and delivered 2 dressed birds for the sale by the club. The Dutch auction brought \$74.26.

Throughout the State there are 600 4-H poultry members who carried on projects sponsored by Rotary Clubs and other civic groups. In all, 15,000 chicks were given out to the boys and girls. Three hundred adult organizations in the State are assisting the Massachusetts 4-H members. This list includes 84 Granges, 14 Rotary Clubs, 19 Lions Clubs, 9 Kiwanis Clubs, 21 adult garden clubs, 10 seed companies, 11 fair associations, 108 town committees, and 23 other miscellaneous organizations. There are many projects sponsored in addition to poultry.

## A long record

Nearly 1,000 citizens of Napa County, Calif., paid tribute to the Carneros 4-H Club at its anniversary celebration on Sunday, November 26, 1944. Dating back for 32 years to a Napa high school agricultural club which later became the Carneros 4-H Club, members have had a continuous and successful record. Some of those who have graduated from the club during the years came to tell of the club in the old days and to pay tribute to its leadership. The program finished up with the candlelighting ceremony put on by members of the 1944 Carneros Club when each member pledged anew his Head, Heart, Hands and Health to the service of his community and his country.

# Adding interest to 4-H meetings

AMELIA STANTON, Home Demonstration Agent, Shelby County, Tenn.

■ It is said that 4-H Club work teaches boys and girls how to meet together, play together, cooperate, and achieve. Most of these things come about in the 4-H Club meetings.

In Shelby County we have 56 4-H Clubs with 2,057 boys and girls enrolled. Their meetings are held at least once a month during the school year. Upon request of the school principals and club members, some of the clubs hold regular meetings twice a month.

A definite monthly schedule is worked out with the assistant county agent and the principals. The boys and girls clubs meet at the same time; occasionally they plan a joint program, but usually the clubs meet separately.

## Club Year Starts in Fall

The 4-H Club year in Shelby County begins in the fall after school starts in September. At the first fall meeting, record books are completed and turned in; and in the second meeting, new members are invited to visit or join, and the new officers are elected. Much importance and responsibility are placed on the officers. If the officers have leadership ability and are vitally interested in the 4-H Club, the members will be enthusiastic and will do better club work. We try to impress upon the club members that it is their club and that we are there to help them. We try to have the meetings conducted in an orderly manner so as to provide valuable experience in parliamentary procedure. The president and secretary always sit at a table or desk facing the club members. The flag desk set, a miniature American flag and a 4-H flag, adds dignity to the meeting.

I have found that children really learn by doing; also they become more interested in club work if they do something worth while in their meetings. In each meeting a committee is appointed by the vice president to prepare a short program of about 10 to 15 minutes for the following meeting. A well-planned program is an important factor in the success of our local clubs. Such

programs should be timely and interesting to all club members. Some of the best programs of last year were developed on the theme of fire prevention, with a clever skit about a common fire hazard and several skits on safety followed by a motion picture on that subject. Good programs were planned on such subjects as the origin and purpose of 4-H Clubs, 4-H looks ahead in '44 and '45, nutrition, and 4-H book reviews. Plays were popular and dealt with canning, care of clothing, and the Christmas theme.

We have been able to get some excellent motion pictures free of charge which have been shown at joint meetings. The members thoroughly enjoy a good movie, and it is an excellent way to teach a lesson.

Club meetings open with the club pledge, a song, and a short devotional. Then new committees are appointed, and reports are made by the standing committees, such as the war stamp and salvage committees. The roll is called, and the minutes are read, corrected, and approved.

The club program usually takes about 10 to 15 minutes. The feature or high light of the meeting, which takes from 30 to 40 minutes or longer, is the project study with demonstrations.

## Demonstrations Fit the Need

The demonstrations are selected to meet the need and the interest of the club members. In the early spring months the members enjoyed planting a small garden to scale and demonstrating the setting out of tomato and strawberry plants. In the last meeting of the school year, which is in May, a canning demonstration is given.

In clothing construction, some of the clubs have hemmed tea towels and scarves and made simple aprons.

The demonstrations given on care of clothing were: Washing wool sweaters, mending and darning, shining shoes, brushing and hanging up clothes. Suitable styles and becoming colors and designs were demonstrated and discussed as a part of clothing selection.

Food selection or nutrition was

demonstrated through the basic seven foods, and a day's menu was planned and checked. Food preparation was demonstrated by preparing and serving a breakfast. Biscuit making was an important part of this project.

The home service project, which was added to the list of 4-H projects this past year, has done quite a bit to make some of the members feel that they are carrying on a home project. In order to create more interest in this project and help club members do a better job, a dishwashing demonstration was given. The two dishwashing songs that the members learned to sing as they washed the dishes added a little glamour to this daily home task. Bed-making and table-setting demonstrations were also given as a part of this program.

## Christmas Meeting Successful

One of the most successful meetings recently held was a Christmas meeting in the Rosemark community. It happened that I arrived an hour early and found a small group gaily decorating their 4-H room for their Christmas program. I mentioned to them that we had a motion picture in the car. The picture was an exceptionally good one on conservation. They had planned a Christmas program, and they also wanted to see and make some Christmas decorations and favors that I had promised to bring to them. One of the members suggested starting their meeting just as soon as they had finished eating their lunch. At 20 minutes after 12 the meeting was called to order. After a short business meeting, 19 of the 28 members present turned in their finished tea towels to be judged. A sterling silver bracelet with the 4-H emblem on it was the award for the best work. The program was a short Christmas play with old Santa in costume, two readings, a Christmas story from the Bible, and a present-day Christmas story.

We hear much about keeping our spirits high during wartime. Recreation is a good morale builder. During the year, various social or recreation events have been held, such as the annual Shelby County 4-H Club Camp, music games, hay rides, picnics, wiener roasts, and Christmas parties.

Summing up, there are several things that can add interest to the

meetings: (1) Start on time; (2) have regular meeting days; (3) conduct meetings in an orderly and businesslike manner; (4) vary the response to the roll call; (5) teach the members to run the meeting; (6) make the business session short and to the point; (7) have as many members as possible participate; (8) bring something new into every meeting; (9) have well-planned, worth-while

programs; (10) open the meeting with the club pledge, pledge to the flag, or some 4-H ritual; (11) have a song leader and sing two or three songs in every meeting; (12) plan a recreation period—games, stunts, and songs—and find a good local leader.

It is a privilege and an inspiration to work with boys and girls who have as their motto "To make the best better."

## A 4-H Club grows in Brooklyn

City boys who spent the summer working on a farm as farm cadets organized a 4-H Club when they got back home to the suburban community of Lafayette. This farm club among the apartments holds regular monthly meetings and is a part of the Sullivan County, N. Y., organization where they did their summer work. The boys organized a club tour to one of the largest dairies in New York City, inspecting the whole works from the 72 cows to the bottled product. William Brill, president of the club, has for his project a hive of bees on the roof of his home. Another member, Mickey Cardon, has a back-yard poultry flock of 16 birds and last year won a prize at the Madison Square Garden Show. The local leader is Darwin Levine.

## An ounce of prevention

■ Clay County, Ark., is a safer place to live since the boys and girls of the 27 4-H Clubs launched a safety campaign. With the shortage of farm labor and an increasing need for food, club members realized that accidents had to be held to a minimum.

An outline of safety measures, compiled from a book published by the National Safety Council, was prepared. A space was provided so that the boys and girls could note improvements needed in their homes and check the progress made.

Members were given a month to complete safety projects, but the work of the program is encouraged throughout the year.

Under the direction of County Agent W. B. Denton and Home Demonstration Agent Mrs. Lola H. Lehman, about 28 "no smoking" signs for barns were painted, 30 ladders built, 45 doorsteps repaired, and 67 medicine cabinets made.

Mrs. Lehman gave a demonstration on the home medicine cabinet and discussed how to use first-aid materials. Sally Ennis, 4-H Club girl of the Hopsonville Club, made a cabinet for the school as well as one for her home. Joy Arnold and Rose Mary Barnett of New Hope 4-H Club made excellent home medicine cabinets.

Ten 4-H Club girls reported getting porch steps repaired, and the top and bottom steps of 9 stairways were painted white. Seventeen girls attached pieces of rubber to small rugs so that they would not skid. Help in keeping small children's toys in place was given by 21 girls.

A demonstration on the use of a

hammer and saw was given to the 27 clubs. The boys provided regular places to hang tools by painting the shape of the tool on walls of the buildings where they were stored, building separate boxes to hold the tools and driving nails on which to hang tools where they were stored or used the most.

Four hundred and seventeen girls participated in the safety campaign.

## Governor backs 4-H Clubs

Governor O'Connor of Maryland, shown signing a 4-H week proclamation in the presence of two 4-H Club members, is just one of many governors who took official notice of National 4-H Club week to urge members to even greater efforts in the year ahead.



Extension Service Review for April 1945

57



## Extension agents join fighting forces

Sixteen 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.

Kenneth C. Hanks, formerly county agent in Stevens County, Minn., has been reported killed in action in France, November 16, 1944.

Herbert Pinke, formerly part-time 4-H Club agent in Minnesota, was killed in a training accident in the armed service.

Lt. John T. Whitfield, assistant agent, Tarrant County, Tex., U. S. Army, died at sea December 22, 1944, while en route home. He had been serving with the Army in the South Pacific where he contracted a jungle fever which proved fatal.

Lt. Col. Herbert M. Mills, formerly assistant agent in El Paso County, Tex., was killed in action in November 1944, while at the head of an armored column assaulting the Siegfried Line defenses.

Lt. Lowell Adkins Goforth, U. S. Army, formerly county agent in Clay County, Ark., died January 24 from injuries suffered in a vehicle accident while serving in France. He was attached to a unit of the American Military Government stationed near Metz.

Lt. Joe E. Carpenter, assistant county agent in Hancock County, Tenn., was killed in action on the Belgian front in January. He was a member of the Airborne Infantry, and notification of his death was received by his family on February 5.

Lt. Joseph Zitnik, Wichita County agent, Kansas, U. S. Army, was wounded in action in Holland October 5, 1944, and died a few days later.

### Exceptionally meritorious conduct

Lt. John B. Waide, Jr., who formerly served as county agricultural agent in Moore and Bailey Counties Tex., has received a citation for "exceptionally meritorious conduct." He is serving in the Civil Affairs section of the Army as agricultural specialist in the Normandy section of France.

The citation reads: "Lt. John B. Waide, the officer named herein, has performed conscientious and exceptionally meritorious service above the ordinary in connection with the collection and movement of indigenous food reserves to the Paris region. When this officer took over his duties in the field of this work, harvesting was lagging, processing facilities were for the most part at a standstill, transport was disrupted, and collection of indigenous food and supplies was confused. Through his effort order has been brought out of chaos and the French Government officials have been given much needed assistance and guidance; and, in a large degree, the movement of some thousands of tons of varied food supplies and produce into Paris has been the result of his work."

### Aboard an LST

You probably know that I now am an executive officer on the LST 1001, and a right "jolly ship she is." All the fun and games about the amphibious forces is just so much bunk to me. I like the duty, and I like the job as much as I can like anything that keeps me away from home and the old job.

We started off by taking our rolling baby to Europe but arrived there too late for D Day. However, we c



make several trips across the channel to the Normandy beachheads and participated in the hauling of ammunition for the siege of Brest. Believe me, that was a tough racket over there in the channel, and we had some experiences I will never forget.

In between trips, however, we managed to sneak off for a few days at a time ashore in England, and I really got to see some very interesting sights in the southern English counties. One day I will never forget was when I took an 85-mile ride in a jeep to visit Tintagel Castle where legend has it King Arthur was born—the whole thing complete with Merlin's cave and the pool wherein dwelt the Lady of the Lake. The English countryside as a whole was beautiful, and I see where it gets a lot of its charm. The Yanks have really moved in, though, and I fear the halls of England will never be the same.

We came back from Europe in October, wrestled a full-fledged hurricane out in the middle of the Atlantic, and tied up in New York finally. Then we all shoved off for home on a 30-day leave—Glory Be! After the leave was over, we again set forth with the ship and are now in the midst of taking her over to make those three letters, LST, mean Last Stop Tokyo.

That's a kind of inadequate summary, but at least you get some idea of what goes on. Goodness, man, you should see this old typewriter pounder standing out on the deck of this thing with a sextant firmly clutched in one hand trying to take a star sight. Don't let it out, but I am supposed to be the navigator; and that is some step for a lad from the sand hills of Washington. It's interesting, though, and I really like it.

## Home war work exhibited

■ Something different in the way of an exhibit was arranged last year by the Colorado Home Demonstration Council for their booth at the Colorado State Fair. As well as having a very attractive and informative booth, arrangements were made so that each day home demonstration women actually gave demonstrations of some of their many activities. The large crowds which gathered to watch testified to the success of the

If you so desire, I shall prepare a lecture for the first conference of extension editors after the war on "Why Jupiter Got Sirius with Capella."—*Lt. H. C. Anderson, formerly State extension editor, Washington.*

## Carrying supplies to Normandy

Seven trips to the Normandy invasion coast, carrying supplies of vital war material to allied forces there, were included in the latest trip at sea for the merchant ship on which Lt. (jg) Charles R. Brown, formerly county agricultural agent in Franklin County, Tex., was commanding officer of the Armed Guard gun crew. Lieutenant Brown's ship went through bombing and shelling off the beachhead and also had a brush with robot bombs in an English port, but was not hit.

## THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

### ILLINOIS

Lt. (j.g.) Willard C. Anderson, USNR, farm adviser, Franklin and Hamilton Counties.

Lt. O. F. Gaebe, associate in boys' 4-H Club work.

Lucile Gingerich, American Red Cross, home adviser, McDonough County.

Donovan Hester, ARC, home adviser in Cass and Menard Counties.

Lt. (j.g.) Lucile Hieser, USCGR, home adviser, Greene County.

### TENNESSEE

Edward G. Garland, assistant agent, Hamilton County, Army.

Cpl. Marion C. Jenkins, clerical staff, Army.

afternoon demonstration, 90 women and 10 interested men observed the demonstration; at night, when it was repeated, there were 125 in attendance asking many questions.

Easy mending of overalls and underwear on an old-style sewing machine was given by Mrs. Fred Evans of El Paso County on Wednesday. When she demonstrated the 1-minute overall patch, the spectators were five deep. She emphasized the value of a sewing machine patch on overalls to prevent farm accidents.

A group of Pueblo County 4-H girls showed their first-aid training and gave an exhibition of the more common emergency bandaging.

Friday brought a splendid display of frozen food and a discussion of methods used in preparing it.

The central theme for the booth, Home Demonstration Clubs War Work, was set forth by a large sign in the center of the back wall. On either side were lists of activities showing what the club members have been doing in the home, in the community, nationally, and internationally. The exhibit centered on a farm family of puppets—Mother canning apples, Father bringing in produce, Daughter helping and learning through her 4-H work, and even Grandpa helping with the harvest.

The rest of the exhibits in the booth depicted some of the demonstrations given during the week. The various methods of food preservation were brought out, and exclamations were many over the good-looking jars of food. A partially cleaned rug and a jar of soap jelly called attention to this easy method of cleaning. A large doll on a stretcher, covered with multiple bandages, created much interest and showed the work being done with first aid.

On the other side of the booth, behind the table used for the demonstrations, was a card table on which the new-type ironing board rested; an old burned ironing board cover on the wall behind it attracted much attention and caused many ladies to ask for the recipe for fireproofing their own when they reached home.

The entire booth was attractively bordered with the colors of the Colorado Home Demonstration Council—green for the promise of springtime and gold for the fulfillment of harvest.

undertaking and the interest of both women and men.

Monday, Mrs. Marguerite Lindsey of Larimer County gave demonstrations on newest and shortest methods of ironing men's shirts and easy methods of fireproofing ironing-board covers and other household materials.

Tuesday, Mrs. Lea Adams of Custer County showed the simplest and easiest method of cleaning rugs and upholstered furniture. During her

# Among Ourselves

## H. H. Williamson, new assistant director



H. H. Williamson, assistant director of Extension Work since January 16, specializes on problems growing out of the present-day cotton economy. These are the same problems he grew up with in Texas and worked with as a Texas extension worker for 31 years.

Mr. Williamson's particular job is to work out cooperative relations in a regional educational program to help in making farm adjustments in the cotton economy. Need for such an educational program was expressed in requests from a number of Southern States to the Department for a person to undertake this type of work. He also represents Director Wilson in administrative relations with State directors, mainly in the South.

He is assisted in expanding and coordinating the extension activities as related to the cotton economy by a committee of State directors under the chairmanship of Director Schaub of North Carolina. Other members of the committee are Directors Trotter of Texas, Jones of Mississippi, and Watkins of South Carolina.

Mr. Williamson was born in Bedias, Tex., and is a graduate of Texas A. &

M. College. Soon after graduation, he became State boys 4-H Club agent with the Cooperative Extension Service at the college. After 7 years, he was placed in charge of supervising county agricultural agents, then vice director, and for 8 years served as Director of Extension Work in Texas. In 1939 he also served as chairman of the Committee on Extension Organization and Policy of the Land-Grant College Association.

Altogether, he was with the Texas State Extension Service for 31 years, coming to Washington a year ago to advise the administrator of OPA on agricultural relations. He has done much to develop good working relationships between agriculture and OPA.

## Woodward memorial fund

Friends of the late Director E. G. Woodward of Connecticut have established a memorial fund to perpetuate his memory. A portrait of the director will be hung in the reception hall of a proposed new dairy building at the University of Connecticut, and part of the fund will be used to help students. Director Woodward and his wife both lost their lives in the circus disaster at Hartford last year.

■ ROLLEY E. WYER, JR., Negro farm demonstration agent in Leon County, Fla., for the past 10 years, has left the State extension service to join the foreign staff of the American Red Cross. He reported in Washington, February 19 for a brief period of training before being assigned to some foreign post, possibly in Europe. He will be an assistant field director in the ARC camp program of service to members of the United States armed forces, counseling with troops and assisting with recreation programs.

A native Floridian, Wyer has rendered outstanding service to the Negro farm families of Leon County and has been commended for his work by A. P. Spencer, director of

the State agricultural extension service, and county officials.

■ RALPH E. WILL, the new director of water utilization for the War Food Administration, served as county agent in New Mexico, 1921 to 1934. He was a member of a boys' farm club before the days of 4-H Clubs and won the State championship in corn growing for 2 years. For a year or so he was assistant State director of agricultural extension work. He transferred to Resettlement in 1936.

## From 4-H Club agent in Jamaica

Inez V. Gray of Jamaica, who recently spent several months in this country studying 4-H Club work and who made many friends in her contacts with extension workers in Virginia, New York, North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, writes of her return home:

"Two weeks after Miss Lewis and I returned to our island home, a hurricane hit the island, the worst since 1900. Thousands of people were homeless. I was the only 4-H Club worker out in the field, and my area was the worst hit.

"By a strange coincidence, five students arrived here to study 4-H Club work, two from British Guiana, two from Trinidad, and one from St. Vincent; and our supervisor was ill. But everything is now brighter. Since November, six other organizers have been added to our field staff. The island is recovering wonderfully since the storm; but we lost more than 90 percent of our coconut trees, and these will not be replaced under 6 or 7 years.

"Today is Christmas Day; and very beautiful it is; quiet and cool, flowers blooming all about, with the poinsettia edge flaming red above the green. Nevertheless, I think I would like to be in your snow-white America just this once to see what it looks like."

■ More than 3,000 people attended the 4-H Club window show and fair in Laurel County, Ky.

# The poultry house check sheet serves 4-H

C. B. GAREY, 4-H Club Agent, Newport County, R. I.

■ When the enrollment in 4-H poultry clubs doubled in Newport County, R. I., last year, problems doubled too. When there was anything available for shelter, young folks signed up for the poultry project, to combat the scarcity of meat and the high price of eggs. Poor housing and getting started too late in the season because of scarcity of baby chicks brought some unfortunate adventures to the new poultrymen. Reports of disease and extremely damp houses made it necessary to do something; so the 4-H poultry committee chairman, George Copeland, and the State poultry specialist, Thomas C. Higgins, and I met to devise ways of helping these young folks.

We knew from the spring poultry report contest that members enjoyed reporting their successes and liked to have their leader visit their project. We decided therefore to have a check sheet which leaders should take to the 4-H member when they would discuss possible improvement while the club member made out the check sheet himself. A logical follow-up was to ask that a report of the improvements be sent in.

The check sheet asked for information on type of roof, dimensions of house, number and size of windows, type of floor, and litter, feet of roost, use of lights, feet of feed hopper, number of nests, type of ventilation, grain storage, sanitation, and the number of birds for heavy breeds.

Making out this check sheet gave the poultryman a standard against which to check his own project. It provided a point of contact when the leader visited the member. It emphasized opportunity to improve and, therefore, did not embarrass the member; for his opportunity to improve was even greater if the project did not measure up very well. A study of the check sheets also gave the leader and specialist the points which needed most attention in the immediate future.

We set out to visit as many club members as possible, starting with the new members, and we reached 108 in

6 weeks. Other veteran poultry members were asked to make out their check sheets and bring them to the club meeting where they were discussed with the leader. Then followed a report on improvements made. In this way improvements were reported by 65 members, ranging from complete rebuilding of 2 houses to have things just right to ventilation improvement by simple window removal. Five members culled their flocks so their houses would not be overloaded. Six others built yards to keep their hens from wandering in the barnyard. Others tightened roofs, added nesting material, and built up litters from available materials. Four members rat-proofed their grain storage.

All together, we feel the results of the check sheet have been good. It has stimulated the leaders to visit the homes, enabled members to size up their own housing problems, and developed better understanding between leader, parents, and members. We plan another check sheet and home visit campaign in April when chick-raising practices will be the major interest.

## Demonstration farms lead war adjustments

Unit test demonstration farmers in Tennessee are making a major contribution to the Nation's wartime "food basket," according to studies made by extension farm management specialists.

The program is cooperative between farmers, the Tennessee Extension Service, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. The Extension Service supervises educational work; the TVA supplies phosphate fertilizers and funds for employing extra supervisory personnel; the farmer furnishes the management, land, labor and other materials.

There are now some 2,600 of these farmers in 64 counties of Tennessee actively engaged in demonstrating improved farm management by adjusting their cropping and livestock-

production programs to increase essential food and fiber needed during the war, build up soil fertility, control erosion, make the most of available labor, and improve the financial returns and comforts of living from farming. A study of records kept by unit test demonstrators in Tennessee shows the following significant changes over a 5-year period:

Production of hay was increased by one-third; small grain was increased by two-thirds; and corn by one-fourth.

Acreage of pasture was increased slightly, but the grazing capacity was increased materially.

Acreage of interallied crops was decreased, and that of winter cover crops increased.

Acreage of cotton and tobacco remained about the same, but production was increased by one-half.

Whole milk sales were increased one-half by volume.

Egg sales were increased by one-half.

Hog sales were increased by two-thirds.

Number of calves raised increased by one-third.

Death rates of livestock declined.

Fruit and vegetable sales increased by one-half.

Commercial fertilizer purchases increased by one-third.

Increases in production were made with little or no increase in the labor available.

## It's all in the planning

That's what the Victory Home Demonstration Club of Jefferson County, Colo., learned while collecting \$356 for the Red Cross this year in comparison to the \$13 collected in a previous drive in the same community.

"We wanted to prove that people will contribute to a worthy cause if personally contacted," Mrs. Marguerite Willuweit, their chairman explained.

Their steps in planning included appointing a chairman and solicitors who met together after receiving authority and information from headquarters at the county seat.

A map of the neighborhood was then drawn and the map divided into sections.

The solicitors contacted all homes personally.



# 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.

■ Do people sometimes ask you, because you are connected with the Department of Agriculture, what the Department does that is worth while? "Does it do any war work?" they may inquire. That is your chance to go to town with the story of the contributions made by agricultural research. Here are a few high lights of the past year's work of the Agricultural Research Administration.

■ **Penicillin.** Everyone has heard of penicillin and its wonder-working healing properties. But few seem to know the part the Department played—and is still playing—in its development. It was the work of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill., that made possible commercial production of penicillin. Further progress in 1944 included the selection of new, higher-yielding strains of the mold that produces the drug and improvements in the nutrient medium (corn steep liquor and milk sugar). Since 1941 the rate of yield of penicillin has been stepped up 150 times as a result of the laboratory's research work.

■ **DDT insecticides.** Another development that has been widely publicized is the use of "DDT" as an insecticide. The effectiveness of this chemical, the full name of which is dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane, was discovered by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine in routine tests of potential insecticide materials. DDT louse powder and spray for mosquitoes, developed at the Orlando, Fla., laboratory of the bureau, have been spectacularly successful. Both are being used by our armed forces in the field. DDT in kerosene has been found to be one of the most effective insecticides against bedbugs.

During the fiscal year 1944, tests with DDT insecticides for agricultural

use were pushed as rapidly as possible. Promising results were obtained experimentally with a number of plant pests; but several important questions must be answered by further research before this potent chemical can be safely and intelligently used for agricultural purposes. Possible harmful effects on soils and plants, and on human beings as well, are not yet fully known. Also methods must be determined by which the harmful insects can be destroyed without killing useful ones such as honeybees and those that destroy pests.

■ **New varieties of crop plants.** Every year the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering releases new varieties of crop plants; 43 were released in 1944. Plant breeders develop these varieties for resistance to plant diseases or to insect pests, for better adaptation to specific regions, and for increased production of edible or usable parts. Hybrid corn, which has so greatly increased corn production, is one of the better-known results of plant breeding. Twelve varieties of hybrid corn especially adapted to some of the Southern States have now been made available, and hybrid onions and hybrid alfalfa show promise of increasing the yields of these crops.

■ **Saving livestock.** Continued research by the Bureau of Animal Industry on phenothiazine shows that that drug can be safely used for removing internal parasites from calves. It can also be safely given regularly in salt to keep sheep free from worms.

■ **A dairy product helps penicillin production.** Work carried on for a number of years by the Bureau of Dairy Industry has opened up a source for the increased quantities of milk sugar, or lactose, needed for penicillin production. Six different

processes have been made available for producing lactose from cheese whey, of which there is a surplus left from cheese making.

■ **Advances in food and clothing.** The Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics has made further advances in the field of nutrition, notably through developing a new method for determining certain amino acids, of which proteins are composed, directly in foods. The nutritive value of common foods can be more easily and precisely established by this method. Among designs developed for work and house dresses, one that has attracted considerable attention is for an apron that can be drawn up to carry fruit or vegetables picked in the garden.

■ **All in the ARA report.** More detailed information on these and many other developments in the scientific work of the Agricultural Research Administration will be found in the 1944 annual report of the ARA Bureau.

## Contest peps up clubs

How to get reports from homemakers' club secretaries in 1944 and how to keep up attendance and active participation among club members were some of the problems discussed at the Goshen County, Wyo., Home Demonstration Council meeting under the leadership of Avis Campbell, home demonstration agent.

A contest idea was decided on and a committee appointed to work out a score sheet. So many points were to be given for new members and for attendance at leader-training meetings, so many for secretaries' reports sent in 4 days after the meeting, others for war activity reports turned in—in all, 12 different activities were scored.

The responsibility for the contest was assigned to the vice president. A large sheet was kept up to date in the county extension office, and many members stopped in throughout the year to see how their club was measuring up with the other clubs. Flags were awarded on achievement day to the winning club. It was evident that the clubs had much better attendance—especially at leader-training meetings—and had many new members to report as a result of the contest.

# We Study Our Job

## Extension case histories

Most of our extension reports are an accounting of a year's work; they do not relate the changes that have taken place on farms and in homes as a result of a long-time extension program.

The case history method of reporting helps us give a well-rounded account of an extension project carried on over an extended period; it may cover a series of years or only one season.

The case approach is a chronological story of the growth of an idea into fixed habits of a group of people. Study is made of the characteristics of the people as well as of the economic factors that need to be considered.

A case study is particularly useful in getting at the interrelationship of many factors which have over a period of time contributed to the success or failure of an extension program in solving a problem. It is an analysis of specific situations faced, solutions tried, and results obtained.

A case story might be broken down into the following phases:

1. Statement of a problem as faced by rural people concerned.
2. What the Extension Service has tried to do to solve the problem: What was taught; who was taught; how many were taught.
3. Explanation of the problem and factors in the situation that must be taken into consideration in solving it—economic and technological factors.
4. Statement of the characteristics of people concerned that need to be considered in developing the extension program—sociological and psychological factors.
5. Chronological statement of methods used by extension workers and other agencies to acquaint people with the problem and recommended solution.

6. Results: How many people adopted the recommended practice? Did the changes in behavior become an established practice or habit? Was the desired objective accomplished?
7. Observations and conclusions: Factors limiting success of program in terms of objective; factors contributing to success of program; brief summary of significance of the case.

These are the main points suggested in a general outline for writing a case study developed by the Division of Field Studies and Training. Copies of several extension studies developed according to this outline are available in the Federal Extension Office. The case studies include: Better Furniture for the Home in Georgia Through the Making of Foot Stools; Alfalfa Production in Washington County, Oregon; Whole Wheat and Enriched Bread in Lee County, N. Car.; and Grow Healthy Chicks, Hartford County, Conn.

## "Fight food waste" study

To find out how effective "Fight food waste" campaigns are in getting folks to change their food habits, nutrition committees made a study in two eastern cities. About 1,000 homemakers, representing a cross-section of the two cities, were interviewed in two different groups—about 500 before and 500 after the campaigns. For the pre-campaign interviews, random samples of addresses were selected from city directories. For the post-campaign inquiries the interviewers were instructed to call at the dwelling unit nearest to the addresses of pre-campaign respondents.

Local women who had received oral and written instructions made the interviews; they knew the food problems facing housewives in their communities.

Nearly all the housewives interviewed had heard of the food conser-

vation campaigns through one or more media of communication. The press and radio reached more people than speeches, demonstrations, and personal visits. Nearly four-fifths of the homemakers interviewed had received food conservation information through newspaper articles and radio broadcasts; a third of them had heard of the campaign through the Office of Civilian Defense block leaders and their neighbors and friends. School children carried home information to about one-tenth of the homemakers; and window displays attracted the attention of about one-sixth of them.

Judging from comparisons of selected food-conservation practices, before and after the campaigns, the educational information was effective in reducing food waste both in quantity and in loss of vitamins and minerals.

Opinions of housewives interviewed were that the quantity of food wasted in their own homes was negligible; although they believed that some housewives were less thrifty. Interviewers believed that the homemakers were sincere in their affirmations of "no waste." For example, questioning of 60 housewives revealed that only 9 slices of bread were thrown away in 3 homes during the month preceding the survey. The women said they had not wasted any meat, fish, potatoes, beets, lettuce (except outer leaves), apples, pears, and citrus fruits.

Despite the apparent results of the changes in food practices, the housewives showed little interest in the instruction given them in food management. Housewives admitted a few infractions of good conservation practices but most of them considered themselves good managers in their kitchens. Most of the housewives interviewed considered the food conservation campaigns a good thing for their community.—EFFECTIVENESS OF CAMPAIGNS IN MINIMIZING CONSUMER FOOD WASTE, by Howard R. Cottam and Douglas Ensminger. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, June 1944.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**WISCONSIN RADIO STATION** WHA on the university campus was commended by the State Legislature in a joint resolution passed in observance of the station's twenty-sixth broadcasting anniversary. Extension Editor A. W. Hopkins was one of those who believed in radio way back in 1919 and has been active in the development of this station from the first. The legislature commended WHA for its record of 22 program awards and honor won in competition in the American Exhibition of Educational Radio Programs during 1937-1944 and for outstanding service in broadcasting, and for receiving the George Foster Peabody award for educational program excellence in 1943. The resolution recommends that the State university board of regents provide a plaque to be placed at a suitable location to "observe appropriately this historic contribution to the development of radio broadcasting."

**GROWING A SPRING GARDEN** was the title of a second series of radio short courses offered this spring in Texas. A network feature, it originated on the college campus every day except Sunday at 6 a. m. from March 12-17. Outstanding authorities on horticulture, entomology, and foods took part in the program.

**RURAL LIFE SUNDAY** is scheduled for May 6, and many communities are planning observance in their church services.

**THE S.S. WILLIAM H. KENDRICK**, a Liberty ship, was launched recently and carries the name of a former West Virginia 4-H Club leader whose work is still known and honored among young folks in the Mountain State. It was Mr. Kendrick who worked for the establishment of the State 4-H Club camp at Jackson's Mill, a service institution dear to the hearts of West Virginians.

**THE SERVICE HONOR ROLL** in Tecumseh, Nebr., was constructed by Lewis F. Hoyden, Johnson County extension agent.

**A VISIT FROM** Carl Sorenson, formerly assistant extension editor in South Dakota and just back from the Pacific front, brought the war nearer. He told of many experiences, such as being on a flat-top which sank, leaving him to swim in the cold water for half an hour before being picked up.

**STILL AT THE OLD JOB** is Capt. Edward A. Molln; but now it is near Aachen, Germany, instead of Dyersville, Iowa. Formerly county agent in Delaware County, Iowa, Captain Molln now sees to it that the 15,000 Germans in the Aachen area support themselves as far as food is concerned. His chief worry now is getting priority to get enough seed for planting. A recent AP dispatch, bearing the date line Cologne, tells of another former county agent, Capt. Elisha Abrams, from Newberry, S. C., who has been put in charge of agriculture in the Cologne area.

**TWO 4-H CLUB MEMBERS** took part in the Maryland annual extension conference. Their facts and ideas about what they had received from 4-H Club work and what they expected to get from it added a great deal to the conference.

**HOME DEMONSTRATION WORKERS HONORED** this year as "1944 Women of the Year" in the Progress-

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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sive Farmer were Lonnie Landrum, State home demonstration agent in South Carolina; and Mrs. Rosalind Redfearn, home demonstration agent in Anson County, N. C., who has served the women and girls of her county for the past 31 years. Extension Service also takes some credit for another woman so honored, Mrs. Sarah Porter Ellis, formerly home demonstration agent and district agent in North Carolina, acting State home demonstration leader in Nebraska, and State home demonstration leader in Iowa until 1943 when she joined the Southern States Co-operative as director for the Southern States Farm Home Service.

**EDUCATION FOR FAMILY LIVING** in the World of Today is the title of an institute given at Temple University in Philadelphia, February 14 to March 21.

**A STRAW IN THE WIND**, showing the direction the interests of American women are taking, is the institute offered by Temple University in Philadelphia on education for family living in the world of today. From February 14 to March 21, an earnest group attempted to analyze and solve questions which disturb the American family. They started with the thesis that family problems are basic to national problems—and must be met. For sound and successful living, specific and authoritative education in every aspect of family life is needed.

**CENTURIES OF SERVICE** was the theme of the meeting to honor veteran 4-H Club leaders during Ohio Farmers Week. Altogether, these men and women represented 19 centuries of unselfish service. With appropriate ceremony, the 4-H award of the silver clover was presented to 172 leaders with 5 years of faithful service; the gold clover for 10 years of service was presented to 56 leaders; the pearl clover for 15 years went to 19 leaders, and the highest honor of the diamond clover went to 9 leaders for 20 years as leaders of 4-H Clubs. A banquet preceded the program; and a printed program giving the presentation ceremony, the names of the leaders honored, and a page of significant facts about 4-H Club work gave the leaders something to take home for remembrance of an important occasion.

# Extension Service

# Review

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## On the docket for May

■ "Nothing is more important in the entire war effort than for farmers to drive ahead with their production schedule, despite wartime handicaps," says War Food Administrator Marvin Jones.

Spring is the time when the ground work is laid for the 1945 production goals. Early spring intentions to plant showed that the major crops will probably be grown in the quantity needed, but there are a few spots where extra effort should be applied. Among these are the oil crops. To meet domestic and export needs next fall and in 1946, more acres are needed in flax, soybeans, and peanuts. A shift of some spring wheat acres to flax and barley would help meet wartime goals. Potato production is indicated as below the goals in general farming areas. Recently increased requirements for dehydrated potatoes add to the need for continued high-level potato production. Dry-bean planting up to the production goals is needed, and present indications are that the production will be below total requirements. Present indications are that there will be less sugar from Cuba, so the maximum sugar beet production is needed here.

■ The period of peak farm labor needs is approaching rapidly in most areas because of the early spring. Continued loss of workers to military services and industry indicates that the shortage will be even more acute this year than in 1944 and 1943. Plans for local mobilization should be well advanced at this time, particularly with the schools. Personnel, committees, and volunteers to carry out these plans need to be selected and trained now so as to be ready when the emergency period occurs.

■ In many States a Victory Garden Week was proclaimed by the Governor last month. The organization

is functioning to get every family with a suitable garden space to grow a 1945 Victory Garden.

In the campaign against insect pests, supplies of insecticides are being ordered early to insure their being available when needed, in spite of transportation difficulties. In view of limited supplies, careful attention should be given to ordering only the amount needed.

The 8-point dairy program is humming if the disappearance of the display sets is a criterion. Of the 1,000 sets available, 940 have been distributed largely on special request from 47 States.

Public discussion of the measures for building an enduring peace will continue through May. One session of the quarterly extension staff conference in Washington last month was devoted to this subject with short 10-

minute summaries on the Hot Springs Conference of food and agriculture, Bretton Woods, Chapultepec, Dumbarton Oaks, and San Francisco conferences. State Senator Hewitt of New Hampshire told of the town meeting discussions on Dumbarton Oaks proposals, and Marjorie Luce of Vermont reported on 150 discussion meetings which home demonstration clubs are holding.

■ May 20, "I Am an American Day," is being observed by the Extension Service both in Washington and in the field. With its emphasis on those who have become citizens during the past year, many 4-H Clubs are holding citizenship ceremonies for their members who have reached voting age during the past year. Extension agents are cooperating with other groups in similar ceremonies. I Am an American Day is authorized by Congress and proclaimed by the President of the United States.

President Roosevelt passed away and the news was broadcast to the Nation just as this issue was ready to go to press. Director Wilson wrote to State directors:

"Like Lincoln, Roosevelt did not live to see the greatness of his vision in complete fulfillment. The final days of Victory with which he had so much to do are not far off. Today it is the duty of every American, of whatever creed or political faith, to bring about through unity the ideals of that peace which Franklin D. Roosevelt has done so much to build."

President Truman stepped into the breach and, with no break in the lines, Americans continued the relentless push for Victory in war and the building of an enduring peace. President Truman knows farming and farm people and knows extension activities at first hand in his native Missouri. His philosophy is summed up in a recent address before a 4-H Club gathering when he said: "A good agricultural background makes a safe republic, and when we cease to have a good agricultural background we cease to have a republic."

# Agents learn the latest in animal husbandry

■ Taking a cue from the 4-H Club slogan, Learn to Do by Doing, the Mississippi extension animal husbandmen recently concluded "refresher courses" in animal husbandry for extension agricultural agents in the State; and, instead of holding inside meetings, the agents took to the fields and barns and received a "post graduate" course in numerous practices necessary for successful livestock production.

The 2-day tours, by extension districts, were arranged by Paul F. Newell, extension animal husbandman, because of "an expanding livestock industry in a State where possible permanent shifts in its agriculture may be in the offing and where the turn-over in extension personnel has been extremely heavy as a result of the war, and because some replacement agents often have had little undergraduate animal husbandry training or livestock experience."

The courses included a 2-day study tour on selected farms in each of the four extension supervisory districts. The tour plan was decided upon because it would provide animals, equipment, and the farm-livestock organization for study and observation and would permit the maximum utilization of method demonstrations, which were stressed throughout the courses.

According to Mr. Newell, the courses served not only as basic training for the new agents but gave more experienced agents on opportunity to refresh themselves on recommended practices in their area and made it possible for them to study a cross section of livestock development which they possibly would not otherwise have been able to get over a period of years.

"After the plan of problem attack was determined," Mr. Newell explained, "we solicited and obtained the support of the four district agents who supervise the district extension programs. We then worked out with the director a plan by which travel and subsistence could be paid for the agents on a cost basis.

"After these items had been

cleared, the next step was a visit to the farms tentatively listed on which the study tours and demonstrations would be conducted. At each point we discussed with the farmer-stockman the type of demonstrations desired on his farm and the classes of animals and grouping of same that would be most desirable.

"Upon completing the inspection tour, we followed up by writing each cooperator, repeating for him the steps and demonstrations to be completed on his farm. The development of a detailed program for the refresher tours was next in order and included a definite schedule of time. In this way we were able to complete programs on designated hour and to reach the next farm on time."

Practices observed and studied on each tour included production and management methods with commercial beef herds; study of registered herds and breeding programs followed; plans for production of 500-pound beef calves; pasture improvement and management; and cattle wintering methods.

## Hog Production and Management

Studies were made of hog production and management methods including the optimum use of rotational grazing to reduce use of harvested feeds; sanitation plans; hog-lot equipment.

Plans of year-round management of the farm flock in which pasture, both permanent and temporary, for summer, fall, and winter use were studied. Importance of early lambing was emphasized; programs of parasite control were outlined; and the value of good-grade ewes and registered rams was shown.

Method demonstrations were emphasized as useful teaching tools and for emphasizing preferred practices. Demonstrations included dehorning of cattle, treatment of parasite-infested cattle with phenothiazine, treatment of cattle for grubs and lice, trimming feet of show cattle, casting cattle with rope, the use of sloping floors in farrowing houses, worming pigs, the preparation of hog rations, docking and castrating

lambs, dosing sheep with phenothiazine, blocking of sheep for show, and sample rations for wintering flocks.

Classes for judging were set up on many of the farms and included classes of cattle, hogs, and sheep. All judging programs were entered into with zest, not only by agents but by farmers who attended.

Farm meats were emphasized on each tour. This program was usually worked in toward the end of the 2-day tour, fitting in particularly well then because it provided an opportunity in demonstrations to point out the value of breeding, production, and management methods that had previously been emphasized in the meat-animal classes studied. It was possible to emphasize finish, dressing percentage, and cut-out values in courses in this way better than would have been possible without the background already acquired.

## Activities of 4-H Clubs

4-H activities and enterprises were emphasized throughout the programs.

Prior to the tours, the Mississippi Livestock Sanitary Board developed a revitalized program for the control of livestock diseases. Some phases of this program were new, not only to county agents but to producers and breeders. The executive officer of the Livestock Sanitary Board met with each group and discussed the board program. Points of particular interest included the new brucellosis control program which now officially includes calfhood vaccination and the hog cholera control program which, on April 1, barred the use of hog cholera virus.

Good cooperation was given by other departments and divisions of the station and Extension, including the station animal husbandman, parasitologist, and veterinarian, the extension entomologist, 4-H Club, marketing, and editorial divisions.

All assistant agents were requested to attend and participate in refresher course tours. The attendance of county agents was voluntary; but, as noted, many attended. A total of 97 county and assistant county agents participated. The cost of this type of training was reasonable. Based on figures submitted by our accounting office, we found the average cost was \$10.49 per agent.

With reference to future refresher course tours, some of the agents



thought it would be a good idea to invite a few of their stockmen to join the course. Others thought, in view of the fact that it is a training course, that it would be a good idea to hold the group down to the extension personnel and possibly make the groups smaller than this year.

Mr. Newell's idea, and the plan he recommends for future refresher course tours, is that they be put on a type-of-farming basis rather than on the basis of supervisory territory. This will permit the study of problems by production type areas and will make it possible to organize the work on a more satisfactory basis. The number of tours should possibly be increased to five. This

change of plan will not in any way interfere with the support of the supervisory group.

"It should be said that we had the wholehearted support of all producers and breeders whom we visited. We think we made some friends for our organization.

"Even though the plan used is subject to improvement, it is the most satisfactory method we have used so far in placing our animal husbandry program, including desired teaching methods, before the agents. We feel that we were able to do this in the shortest possible time with a minimum of expense and with what we believe, effective results," Mr. Newell said.

## Receives honorary degree



President Milton S. Eisenhower, of Kansas State College, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from President Roy Green of Colorado A. & M. College as a feature of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Colorado college. The citation read: "For his outstanding service in agriculture, education, and public affairs." President Eisenhower has long been known to extension workers as Director of Information of the Department of Agriculture, Land Use Coordinator, Director of War Relocation Authority, and Associate Director of the Office of War Information.

## Growth of leadership

One of the outstanding leaders in the field of agricultural education is Prof. E. A. Trowbridge, chairman of the animal husbandry department at the University of Missouri. In commenting on Director M. L. Wilson's article, "Thirty years of extension work," Professor Trowbridge says: "It traces the development of the present system of education and agricultural leadership. It calls to mind experiences with farm folks beginning back in 1906 and 1907 with Farmers Institute work when people in general were very slow to accept ideas regarding agriculture from anyone identified with the field of education, and the change to the point at which we find ourselves at present.

## Barn meetings are a sure bet

■ Veteran extension workers who believe they have tried almost everything will be interested in a report from Henry Werner, one of the older Minnesota agents in point of service. Last fall "Hank," having tried meetings in every known type of public hall and farm home, decided he had passed up one of the best bets of them all—the cow barn. He forthwith organized a schedule of cow-barn meetings, together with his emergency war food assistant, Otto Olson; and they chalked up a series that has made history for Minnesota.

Agent Werner did it this way: Meetings were arranged by neighborhood leaders who were supplied with prepared cards that they addressed to their own neighbors, inviting them to meet in such and such a barn at such and such a time, and to come to their overalls. At the meetings farmers made themselves comfortable between, behind, and in front of the cows. Attendance was excellent, and those present showed keen interest in brief and pointed presentations on cow culling and dairy sanitation by Werner and Olson.

"We'd look over the cows right here in the barn," said Werner, "and explain the good and the bad features. Instead of trying to give too much information, we picked four things to look for in a good cow. The owner was right there to tell us in case we should slip in sizing

up a cow." Werner thinks the facts presented under such conditions have a much better chance of making a lasting impression than if a lecture were given in a hall.

When interest in good cows had been raised to a peak by the county agent's culling talk, the war food assistant stepped in with charts on good milk-house construction and the latest information on faster milking.

Werner characterized these meetings as "a sure bet" for getting a lot done, especially during the winter months. He was able to schedule meetings both in the forenoon and afternoon and thereby cover a great deal of ground in a hurry. The size of the group, about 15 farmers, was perfect for questions and close-in demonstration. The combination of neighborhood-leader invitation, the atmosphere of the barn, and the presence of the cows and equipment for demonstration purposes gave just the right setting for education that clicks.

■ A left-handed club has been organized in Acton, Mass., under the leadership of Mrs. Edythe Bird who is also left-handed. Only girls who are left-handed are invited to attend meetings of this group. Mrs. Bird appreciated the difficulty of learning sewing and knitting techniques from a right-handed person, so volunteered her services.

# Holding interest in 4-H Club work

S. M. McKISSICK, Marion County Agent, Tennessee

■ "Meet them often, work with them, play with them, and recognize them" is certainly the formula for successful 4-H Club work in Marion County, Tenn. The enrollment and interest in 4-H Club work has been in direct proportion to the degree to which these four maxims have been carried out in the county.

The planning and carrying out of a well-balanced activity program is necessary to maximum enrollment and interest in 4-H Club work. Such a program must be balanced with work and play and full of activity. Good community and county programs are of first importance, as all club members are affected by local activities.

Monthly meetings of community clubs, except possibly during the summer months, are necessary to keeping up interest in 4-H Club work. Unless good adult leaders are present extension workers should meet with these clubs. Even though good leaders are present, extension agents should meet often with community clubs under the 4-H organization plan followed in this State.

County-wide meetings that have done most to create interest in 4-H Club work in Marion County are a spring rally, a county 4-H Club show, and a fall achievement day. A well-planned rally in early spring does more to give our county club program a good start than any other meeting. It gives a great opportunity to explain the county club program and to create enthusiasm.

No county activity wins more support for 4-H Club work and gives greater inspiration to clubsters than a good 4-H Club fair or show. Club members should be given an opportunity to exhibit their products. It is not necessary to give large prizes, and it is better to offer many small prizes rather than a few large prizes. At times it is best to divide the exhibits into blue, red, and white classes according to specified standards. By this plan, members work to reach certain standards. All who reach the standards are winners.

To inspire club members, we must recognize them for achievement. Recognition is a fundamental law of

life. Some kind of an achievement day is necessary to the completion of the 4-H Club year. An achievement day held in the fall, after most of the productive projects are completed, gives the best opportunity to recognize achievements.

To encourage the greatest number of club members, recognition should be given to as many members as possible. In addition to giving special individual awards, recognition should be given to groups for years and accomplishments in 4-H Club work. In Marion County we have increased interest by awarding standard gold 4-H Club pins to all members who complete 4 years of satisfactory 4-H Club work and leadership pins to those who complete the requirements for 6 years of club work. If distinguishing names and more appropriate emblems could be given to such groups, and if State recognition could be given to the advanced group, all club members who meet certain requirements could be given recognition. Club members should receive advanced ratings for advanced club work just as do members of other organizations. There is a need for a standard system of

degrees to recognize and distinguish all club members who do advanced club work.

Community and county 4-H Club programs should include both work and play. Every club member should conduct one or more projects that are suited to his individual farm or home conditions. Recreation is essential to holding interest in 4-H Club work. Extension workers must not forget that clubsters like to play. Some recreation should be included in almost every 4-H Club meeting. Picnics and camps give a fine opportunity for folk games, sports, hobbies, and other forms of relaxation and enjoyment. Monthly county leader meetings in which older club members discuss 4-H Club problems and play folk games have been effective in holding the interest of older club members in Marion and other Tennessee counties.

In addition to community and county programs, club members should be encouraged to participate in State and national activities. Attending State camps, taking part in judging contests and shows, and competing for State and national awards are valuable incentives in promoting advanced 4-H Club work. Extension workers need to make use of every possible means to inspire and encourage the maximum number of girls and boys.

## 4-H goals for victory

■ The need for more 4-H Club work was highlighted during National 4-H Club Week by Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey in regard to health as shown by the selective service, and by J. J. McGuire of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in relation to wartime and juvenile crime.

Speaking at the Goals for Victory breakfast, sponsored by the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work for about 50 leading government officials, members of Congress, and leaders of agricultural, educational, and farm organizations, Maj. Gen. Hershey said that when he looked at the H which stands for Health he thought of the 4½ million young men who did not pass when examined at the induction centers.

Five hundred thousand were turned down, not because of any organic ailment but presumably because of emotional maladjustment. 4-H Club members are learning to integrate their heads where their brains are, their hands where their skill is, their hearts where courage and character are, and altogether they add up to healthier living beings. He challenged each 4-H Club leader to do more—to increase the present 1,700,000 enrollment to 5 or 6 million so that 25 years from now we should not find 500,000 males under 26 years of age emotionally unstable but without anything organically wrong with them.

Mr. McGuire of the FBI said that 50 percent of the young people who

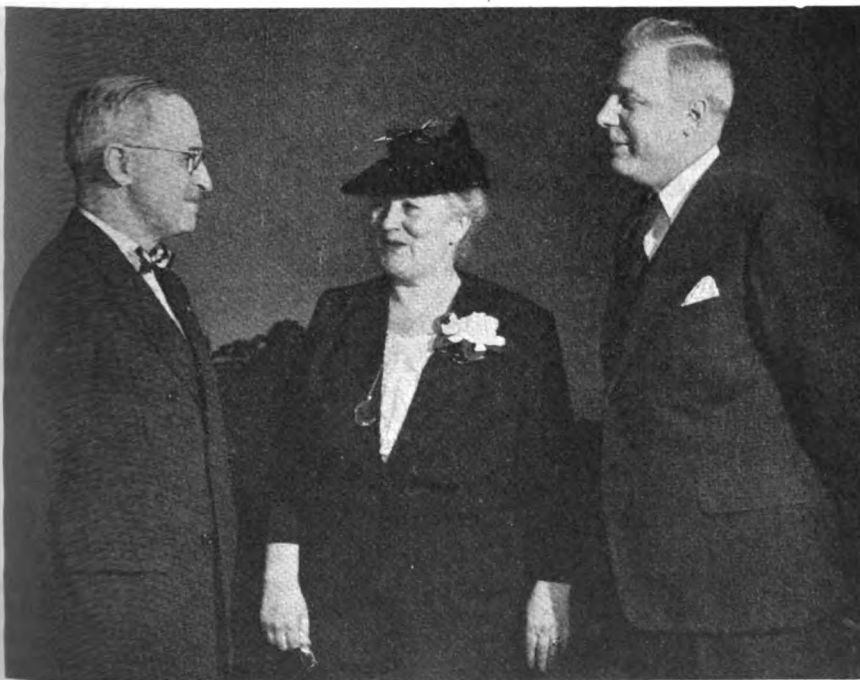
commit crime are from the rural areas. If there had been more activity—more of the missionary zeal shown by 4-H Clubs, there would be no such crime record, he said.

More of the wholesome type of work that builds work habits and leadership, that develops a spirit of loyalty to our country and insures the future of democracy is needed.

J. Edgar Hoover sent his assurance that he and the Federal Bureau of Investigation would be happy to cooperate in any way they could in such wholesome work as that done by 4-H Clubs. Mr. McGuire concluded: "Too many people caught in the backwash of the last war became criminals. We must protect our country against such conditions this time."

## President Truman discusses 4-H Clubs

President Truman is proud of the fact that he helped to organize one of the first 4-H Clubs in western Missouri. He is shown discussing the future of 4-H Club work with Gertrude Warren, field agent in 4-H Club organization, and Guy L. Noble of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Inc., at the Goals for Victory Breakfast, a feature of National 4-H Club Week, March 3-11.



## Keeping track of 4-H servicemen

MRS. CLARA OBERG, 4-H Club Agent, Ramsey County, Minn.

Keeping in touch with our more than 1,000 4-H Club members who are in the armed forces has been one of the cherished service activities in our Ramsey County 4-H Club program.

In each of 30 communities we have a 4-H service-roll chairman whose job it is to keep the local 4-H Club supplied with the most recent ad-

resses and information regarding 4-H boys or girls in the armed forces or away from home because of war work. Each of these chairmen is a 4-H Club leader.

This community chairman is a member of our county service-roll "Committee of 30," and we are supplied regularly with up-to-date information which is assembled in a

"Notebook,"—4-H Clubs often borrow this book to obtain information about 4-H members from other clubs.

In this county 4-H service notebook are clippings, pictures, letters, copies of citations, and personal notes.

We have sent circulars from the Ramsey County 4-H Club Federation on special occasions. When we do, members of the committee of 30 re-check addresses to bring them up to date and help address envelopes.

It is not unusual that we get a letter from Harold Smith down in New Guinea saying that he would like the address of Ralph Nadeau, who's on the high seas somewhere. Yes, we have all these addresses. Leonard Pepin, on a transport in the South Pacific, wrote: "Send me the addresses of some of my buddies." The local committee knew his buddies and had the information.

In one 4-H Club, every member has a 4-H buddy in the service to write to and to remember on special occasions. Most of the clubs send holiday greetings to every 4-H boy and girl in the service and away from home. It's not unusual to find the whole club group addressing envelopes. It's very good news to the 4-H boy at war to get a letter which says, along with home community news: "I'm working harder than ever on our vegetable crop this year, and last week I bought another \$25 war bond."

The feeling of fellowship, of being missed, of our devotion to worthwhile things, of our willingness to share our experiences at home with them helps the 4-H'ers in the armed forces to carry on. Many of their letters say: "Keep the 4-H Club going—and when I come home I want to be a 4-H leader."

■ Three famous Liberty ships have been named after former Massachusetts leaders. The first was named in honor of George L. Farley, State leader of 4-H Club work from 1916 to 1941; the second in honor of Otis E. Hall of Ohio who was with the Hampden County Extension Service from 1920 to 1936, most of the time as club agent; and the third in honor of Kenyon L. Butterfield, president of Massachusetts State College from 1906 to 1924, who, while there, was one of the founders of the American Country Life Association.

# Impressions on my training in extension work

Julio Nascimento, a professor in agriculture at the University of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, who wrote this article, has recently returned to Brazil after spending a year in this country studying agriculture and extension methods.

■ When I arrived in the United States to start my training in agriculture, I knew nothing of home demonstration work and 4-H Clubs and, therefore, did not know that these were the activities I wanted most to study. Director C. E. Brehm and J. H. McLeod of the Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service arranged for me to spend several weeks training in the machine shop of the Shelby County Penal Farm at Memphis, as I was interested in machinery; and while there I went to see a 4-H Club pig show.

When I first went into the place where the show was held and smelled the characteristic odor, it did not seem to me that this occasion was of any great importance. However, I met and began to talk to various show officials and exhibitors, and gradually the reason for holding this pig show began to dawn on me. My interest in 4-H Club work was awakened. My first impression of this show was one of great confusion; young boys and girls, show officials,

and pigs were all in the ring together. There was great activity, and I asked "What is all this—what are they doing?" But it developed that there was an orderly pattern in all this apparent chaos; each had his particular job to do, and each went about it very efficiently. The officials were classifying and keeping records on the animals exhibited, and the boys and girls were grooming and showing their pigs in the ring.

I observed the interest and enthusiasm of the boys and girls in winning prizes for the production of their fine animals. When the judge proclaimed the result of the classification and each received his prize, there was apparently no dissatisfaction with the decision; and each received a nice round of applause for his achievement. It was wonderful to see the boys and girls proudly displaying the various colored ribbons denoting the different prizes they had won.

When I returned to the Penal Farm, I stayed in my room to con-

sider this new experience and arrived at the conclusion of how this program is used for the good of the Nation. Those boys and girls, from a very young age, are encouraged to become not only good agricultural producers but good business managers as well.

In Memphis, in company with Assistant County Agent E. B. Jenkins and Assistant Home Demonstration Agent Amelia Stanton, I helped with several 4-H Club demonstrations. Mr. Jenkins gave a demonstration in improved management of pigs, chickens, and cows to many boys. This demonstration was very practical. The boys are taught to do the work with their own hands.

In company with L. J. Kerr, the county agent, I assisted at several meetings, including those with Negroes, and my impression of their work too is most favorable.

In Columbia, Tenn., my education in home demonstration work began under Home Demonstration Agent Jane Starbuck and Mary Lou Sawyer, assistant home agent in war food production. They told me of the work they did in teaching farm women to produce and save their home-grown products. We talked about canning and drying and better methods in gardening.

We went to a home demonstration club meeting. The agents gave a demonstration on "conservation," showing how to use discarded lumber in making different kinds of kitchen shelves. They also pointed out other practices, such as the uses to be made of the leather of old shoes; the way in which feed sacks may be made into garments; and other uses of discarded things about the home.

From this beginning I studied the home demonstration program, and my greatest desire when I return to Brazil is to start a similar program there. It is my plan to discuss with my Government the possibility of starting a home demonstration program in Brazil, as well as the possibility of inviting some home demonstration agents from the United States to help us start the program.

Four Brazilian girls are now being trained in home demonstration work here and I hope that more can be trained.

With C. F. Arrants, county agent, and R. F. Haynes, assistant county agent of Maury County, I went to

Julio Nascimento talks over the home demonstration program in Tennessee with Mena Hogan, field agent in home demonstration work for the Southern States.



several other meetings; and I had occasion to observe the efficiency of that county agent and his assistant. Those men keep no business hours, or even days—they interview people in the office all day, giving advice to farmers and helping with their problems; and in the evenings they hold meetings.

In the company of Mr. George and Miss Cole, farm and home supervisors of the Farm Security Administration in Maury County, I visited some farms which receive the assistance of this organization. These were the homes of Negro farmers, and I saw very good supplies of home-canned fruits and vegetables prepared by the wives of these farmers. It appeared to me that the results of the work of this organization are good.

It is my observation that the whole extension organization in the United States is wonderful, but best of all are the 4-H Clubs and the home demonstration program.

We have a similar agricultural or-

ganization in Brazil to that of the Extension Service in the United States which we call Fomento Agrícola. Of course, here the number of employees is greater and the process is older and more effective than in Brazil, but we have no 4-H Clubs or home demonstration program.

My final impression is that the people of the United States have been very, very good to me; but the time allotted for my training, I must confess, is too short. I should like to learn more of all things in this country, about which everyone has been so gracious in teaching me.

Before I finish this small record of my impressions about my work and your work in the United States, I should like to mention the recreational work of G. C. Wright with 4-H Club groups. As a leader of the songs, folk dances, and games, he is very fine indeed.

The question now remains: Shall I be able to start the same programs in Brazil?

peacetime so that the members of the organization will be known as fellows who fully did their bit while we were at war.

At the regular meetings, farm problems, improved practices, and draft-deferment matters can all be discussed and fully mulled over by those best informed. Kardel has an original and time-saving idea here, and it is to be commended to other county agents. E. I. Besemer of Wayne County, Mich., took to it like a duck to water the minute it was explained to him a bit. Leave it to those long-headed Danes to lead the way.

## 4-H boys win science honors



Two of the 40 finalists in the science talent search were 4-H Club members and teamed up to see the sights while attending the 5-day Science Talent Institute in Washington, D. C. John Howard Wahlgren, left, of Valley, Nebr., has carried 4-H projects in corn, garden, forestry, and birds, and once was alternate in a county health contest. Milton Spink of Wakefield, R. I., has been successful with a 4-H garden, winning the State garden championship in 1943. He was a safety winner in 1944. He is president of his 4-H Club and an All Star. In Washington, he won one of the \$100 scholarships to help him pursue his scientific studies and achieve his ambition of becoming a first-class biologist.

# Visiting the Victory Rangers' home county

T. SWANN HARDING, Editor, USDA

■ Hans Kardel, Danish-born county agent at Charlotte in Eaton County, Mich., has hit on an original and useful idea in his Victory Rangers. In early March, W. Lowell Treaster drove me out from East Lansing to meet Kardel and hear his story.

Like other county agents, Kardel found himself devoting almost 70 percent or more of his time to selective service matters. But Kardel decided to do something about the matter.

### 2C Deferred Youths Organized

As a result, he organized his 2C deferred youths of 18 to 25 into Victory Rangers, a name selected by ballot from the 5 most popular names suggested by the boys of the county. He has something like 350 of these youths so organized, also some of the older draft-deferred workers in agriculture.

The Rangers are formed into what might be called clubs, and they hold regular meetings which are addressed by Kardel, by members of the draft

board, and sometimes by others. Each Ranger supplies Kardel with a carefully tabulated monthly report which tells exactly the work he has done the past month to justify his occupational deferment.

This organization has tremendous value. It saves the time of the county agent and enables him to attend to his extension work and his selective service work together. Mere failure of a Ranger to send in his monthly report is enough to arouse suspicions. With the reports in hand, selective service board members can instantly assay the status of any 2C in the county. The agent also is less likely than usual inadvertently to arouse prejudice because of his case report on some fellow he knows should be inducted.

At the same time the morale of essential farm workers is enhanced. They no longer feel that they must sneak down back streets, and they are now unlikely to be objects of ridicule. Kardel visualizes perpetuation of the Victory Rangers over into

# Missionaries study extension methods

DR. AND MRS. W. H. WISER, Indian Village Welfare Project  
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions

The agricultural missions workshop held in February by members of the Federal Extension staff for 28 missionaries is here described by two members who took part.

■ Twenty-nine of us—all missionaries—came to Washington, bent on learning all that the Extension Service could teach us within 2 weeks. We came from China and India, from Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, Rhodesia, the Belgian Congo, and Chile. We had worked among rural people in these countries and knew that they need all that we or anyone else can give them. A number of us owed our health, even our lives, to the sacrifices of some of them through dangerous months and years; and we wanted to take the best our country has to offer back to them. We were not exactly clear as to what Extension could teach us, and members of the Extension Service staff who planned the workshop were not quite sure what we most needed. But after a few days together, we discovered, to our mutual amazement, that a missionary is just another kind of extension worker and needs pretty much what all workers in extension need—with a few adaptations to varied cultures and some changes in subject matter.

Wisely, they started us off with something practical that appeals to everyone. That was J. I. T. We were supposed to learn the method demonstration as a teaching tool; but we all got so excited over the actual information which the demonstrators handed out to us that we had to be reminded that we were learning a technique, not facts. Each demonstrator was an expert in his or her field, and each had chosen a topic likely to appeal to rural workers anywhere. Who can blame us for wanting to know more about such things as testing soils, transplanting plants, controlling grasshoppers, reconstituting dried milk, mending, preserving wood, selecting good laying hens, constructing an iceless refrigerator, and cooking leafy vegetables.

After a day and a half of this, we

breathed a deep sigh and wondered if we could grasp anything more. But on we went, relishing every bit of added information and always clamoring for more. The result demonstration and other methods useful in extension were presented. We found much to help us, in the presentation of 4-H Club achievements. Visual aids so interested us that we almost got out of hand in the press of questions. It should be said that the demonstrations and talks presented were only a starting point in each session. While a subject was being presented, each of us was trying to picture its application to his or her own area. And by the time the speaker finished, we knew pretty well what further help or information we needed; and our two chairmen were most liberal in the time allowed for questions.

## Evaluate Work

With a wealth of tangible material to build on, we were prepared to move into intangibles. We got a clearer idea than most of us had had before of the importance of evaluating our work and of maintaining the far look toward our ultimate goal while working on the immediate job. And we could not say: "These ideas may apply here in America, but what about other parts of the world?" Men came to us who had carried on effective extension work in Macedonia and in Bulgaria, and with their help we discovered the universality of the methods and principles we were discussing. We were very much aware of our needs as we discussed principles, organization, volunteer leadership, and local participation in community programs. We are so few and our fields so immense that our work depends largely on local leaders. But each of us has been working alone, thus being limited to a narrow experience. Here we could share in the

varied and successful experiences of members of the Extension Service and of our own group.

All this time, as we moved from one topic to another, each seeming more vital to our work than the last, we kept thinking of more things we wanted to discuss while with men and women who had so much to teach us. Our requests for special sessions were enough to make the Extension Service want to throw us out. But they strained themselves and their resources to include all that could be fitted into the last few days.

Also, we had been promised that during the last day and a half of the workshop there would be opportunity for each one to consult with a specialist. For each of us, in addition to wanting information on all phases of rural life, had come in the hope of getting advice on his or her own special field of interest.

For example, the representatives from China were all interested in whatever will help the people in rural areas of China in their daily living. In addition, one of the men from there has before him the job of training leaders for cooperatives, another is working on small seed crops, another wanted information on mixed breeding, and still another was in a fever to learn all he could about tree culture. One of the women from China has been working on family relations, another is preparing material on avoidable diseases, and another has done and will do work in nutrition and food habits.

Those of us who came from other countries were equally varied in our fields of interest; and, according to the reports made during the last hour of the workshop, not one was leaving Washington without at least one conference with the subject-matter specialist he desired.

Moreover, not one of the 29 has any notion that the workshop closed at the end of the 2 weeks. We may have left the buildings of the Department of Agriculture, but we have carried with us bulletins and mimeographed materials that will continue to direct our study when we return to our fields and are faced with further problems. And the men and women who prepared these materials are no longer names but are friends who have assured us that we may

continue our exchange of ideas as we go out as extension workers to scattered areas of the world. This

workshop began as an experiment. It has now become a successful result demonstration.

## Fixing their own



■ Because electrical appliances have gone to war, as well as the men who do repair work, people on REA lines and in small towns have been eager to repair their own under the supervision of home demonstration agents and supervisors of REA projects. S. M. Stensrud of the Whetstone Valley project, Milbank, S. Dak., conducted the first repair school in Milbank, February 13. He is pictured assisting Mrs. Elmer Dehne and Siebe Van Horran in repairing toaster and iron while Adele Johnson, home agent, looks on with interest. Two toasters, four cords, one iron, and one hot plate were repaired at this clinic.

At the clinic held in Madison where Audrey McCollum is home demonstration agent and where Stanley Skorr of the Colman REA project conducted the work, 9 vacuum sweepers, 6 toasters, 16 cords, 3 irons, 2 heating pads, 1 grill, 1 motor, 1 beater, 1 hot plate, 1 washer, 1 hearing aid wire, 1 electric clock, and 1

floor waxer had their troubles "diagnosed" and "remedies" suggested or were completely repaired. At the Brookings school, 1 iron, 2 heating pads, 1 lamp, 1 hot plate, and 3 cords were repaired.

Two other schools were scheduled, one in Sioux Falls and the other in Aberdeen. At each of these meetings, the selection, care, cleaning, and oiling of appliances and safety precautions regarding fuses, wiring, and cords were emphasized. Unused appliances, cords, switches, and plugs which were out of order were then inspected; and the people who brought them were assisted in making repairs. All seemed highly satisfied with results.

■ A. B. ROSS, the first local extension agent appointed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the Northern and Western States, died December 26, 1944, after a long illness.

Mr. Ross, who served as county

agent for many years, was at one time a corporation lawyer in Cleveland, Ohio and, being in poor health, returned to his boyhood home in Bedford County, Pa., in 1907, where he took a great interest in local agriculture. "He rode about in a buckboard wagon and asked farmers many questions and gave them useful information. He obtained U. S. Department of Agriculture bulletins, summarized them, and distributed mimeographed copies of the summaries. He bought seed corn and gave it to farmers who would follow his directions. He experimented with inoculation for legumes." Prof. W. J. Spillman, then Chief of the Office of Farm Management of the Bureau of Plant Industry, learned of Ross' work. He appointed Mr. Ross as an agent of that office in March 1910, which enabled him to continue and enlarge his work. With the enactment of the Cooperative Agricultural Extension Law in 1914 and the development of extension work by the States, the work initiated by Mr. Ross was gradually absorbed in the enlarged extension program.

## Parade of the pantry stores

During the remainder of the year a campaign will be conducted in Arkansas to encourage a larger number of Arkansas families to preserve an adequate supply of high-quality food. The campaign will be climaxed in the fall by a Parade of the Pantry Stores when, for one week which has tentatively been set as October 15 to 20, supplies of home-preserved and home-stored food throughout the State will be on parade. County extension agents are furnished a list of suggestions and helps for conducting the campaign.

■ HOWARD P. REID, Negro district agent in Virginia, at the Virginia State College, near Petersburg, since April 1, 1944, died February 13. Serving as county agent in Nansemond County from 1925 to the time he was appointed district agent last year, he proved an effective worker with Negro farmers and showed a special talent with young 4-H Club boys. His work there lives on to commemorate a useful and valuable service given by Agent Reid.



## Extension agents join fighting forces

Seventeen 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 prewar 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.

Kenneth C. Hanks, formerly county agent in Stevens County, Minn., has been reported killed in action in France, November 16, 1944.

Herbert Pinke, formerly part-time 4-H Club agent in Minnesota, was killed in a training accident in the armed service.

Lt. John T. Whitfield, assistant agent, Tarrant County, Tex., U. S. Army, died at sea December 22, 1944, while en route home from jungle fever contracted in the South Pacific.

Lt. Col. Herbert M. Mills, formerly assistant agent in El Paso County, Tex., was killed in action in November 1944, while at the head of an armored column assaulting the Siegfried Line defenses.

Lt. Lowell Adkins Goforth, U. S. Army, formerly county agent in Clay County, Ark., died January 24 from injuries suffered in a vehicle accident while serving in France. He was attached to a unit of the American Military Government stationed near Metz.

Lt. Joe E. Carpenter, assistant county agent in Hancock County, Tenn., was killed in action on the Belgian front in January. He was a member of the Airborne Infantry.

Lt. Joseph Zitnik, Wichita County agent, Kansas, U. S. Army, was wounded in action in Holland October 5, 1944, and died a few days later.

William A. Banks, formerly assistant county agent in Yadkin County, N. C., went over seas in April 1944 and was stationed in England before going to France shortly after D-day. He died of wounds September 3.

### Salem County, N. J., club agent awarded Silver Star

From the 95th Infantry Division in Germany came a report that Capt. Edgar T. Savidge, Jr., '38, has been awarded the Silver Star for rallying his company after it had been battered by enemy artillery fire and repeated counterattacks while spearheading a battalion drive toward Metz. Cited for gallantry in action during the 95th Division's historic drive on the great ring of forts, Captain Savidge is specifically credited with having made a "material contribution to the onslaught that ended with the reduction of Metz." After establishing a bridgehead across the Moselle River, the report said, Infantry troops under Captain Savidge were subjected to a terrific pounding from German artillery. Realizing that the bridgehead had to be held in order to protect river-crossing operations elsewhere, Captain Savidge "courageously led his men in boldly resisting the German counterattacks." After seven cold and rainy days in foxholes, during which casualties had reduced the strength of the company, Captain Savidge rallied his forces and spearheaded the drive of his battalion down the river road toward the bastions which never before had been taken by storm. Wounded in this action, he also received the Purple Heart.

Captain Savidge entered the service March 6, 1941, served in Hawaii the following year, then entered Officers Candidate School, from which he was commissioned a second lieutenant. He has been with the 95th Division since its activation in Texas two and a half years ago.—*Rutgers Alumni Monthly, March 1945.*



## Wyoming women active on home front

War activities reported by the 5,389 women working in 252 Wyoming home demonstration clubs showed that they had added greatly to the war food supply with 4,241 gardens producing 1,176,470 quarts of fruits and vegetables and meats which was put into cans, 878,266 pounds of the same which was frozen, and 1,002,073 pounds which was stored away in cellars and other good storage places. With good cheese hard to buy, they made 49,988 pounds for their own use. They raised 294,922 chickens and produced 1,373,169 eggs.

Clothing was scarce and expensive; but they clothed their families, re-modeling and mending thousands of articles of clothing. To save time and work more efficiently, they learned to clean and adjust their own sewing machines and also learned many a dressmaking short cut.

To make the furniture last through the war period, 1,183 homemakers reupholstered chairs with sagging springs, refinished worn pieces of furniture, and made new slip covers. By providing better storage space in kitchen and bedroom, 2,722 made the

work easier; and more than 5,000 learned some new way of saving time and energy in washing, ironing, and housecleaning. More than 1,000 used the farm and home record book.

Problems of family life in wartime received consideration, 534 found that improved play equipment helped, and 678 reported help in methods of feeding and training their youngsters.

For war use, they collected 50,000 pounds of waste fat and 500,000 pounds of scrap metal. More than 1,000 helped sell war bonds, and 761 took Red Cross courses. Others helped in community recreation and USO canteens. School lunches were promoted in 89 communities, with 10,000 children benefiting. These women also helped 1,471 4-H Clubs, with 236 serving as 4-H leaders.

Busy, indeed—but that's not all—for in addition to all this, more than 2,500 of these women reported helping in the fields, with the stock, and with poultry flocks. Then, too, they found time to write to more than 1,500 of their own boys and girls serving their country in the armed forces.

## Heroines closest to home

The following tribute was paid to the "heroines closest to home"—the mothers and wives of Service men at the Arkansas State Home Demonstration Council meeting in September 1944.

Stage settings for the reading included a large map and flag of the State, an American flag, and the flags of all the Allied Countries. Military personnel assisting included members of all the armed services.

Today every man, woman, boy, and girl has the common objective of helping to win this war. Every other thought is subjected to this single purpose. Through teamwork America has become a mighty fortress.

time. Their action speaks more than words of their ability, ingenuity, fortitude, and love.

Your son or daughter or your husband, as the case may be, has gone to war—which probably means he, or she, has left for some spot where you have never heard of or only vaguely about, to do something which you are not allowed to know, to stay for an unknown length of time, while you are filling in the vacant hours. You have more jobs than ever before, and less time in which to do them. You are asked to buy war bonds, collect scrap metal and save waste fat and tin cans, to produce more food, and adhere to rationing, smilingly.

You are proud of the part your "soldier" is playing—whether he is an infantryman, a gunner, a yeoman, a nurse—and you wonder how he measures up in his eyes, here at the home front. You miss him and wonder if he misses home as much as you. You read up on geography books, study over maps, try to understand the tactics of warfare and to learn to use a compass, a Liberator or a P-38. You are your new interests because you are connected with your "soldier."

History is filled with imperishable memorials to the valiance of our American spirit—Valley Forge, the words of the dying Lawrence, the young man's youthful little army marching out on its thousand-mile march into the unknown, the men on both sides who gave "the last full measure of devotion" in the 60's, the Rough Riders at San Juan, the doughboys at Meuse Thierry.

Behind all have stood the wives and mothers of America—the wives and mothers—down through the ages while battles have been fought, won, and lost.

President Lincoln during the War said: "I am not accustomed to language or eulogy. I have studied the art of paying compliments to women. But I must say that, if all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women applied to the women of America, they would not do them justice for their conduct during this war. God bless the women of America." That was in 1864. Now, close to a century later, Abraham Lincoln's words to the women of his time are a fitting tribute to their granddaughter and great-granddaughters.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Hot-weather lettuce.** A new leaf lettuce that does not shoot or "bolt" to seed as soon as temperatures shoot upward in summer has been developed by Ross C. Thompson of the Plant Industry Station at Beltsville, Md., after 10 years of breeding work. The new variety is appropriately called Slobolt. Its frilled light-green leaves can be harvested for 3 weeks longer than the leaves of the present most important commercial varieties. Slobolt seed is being increased this year by seed growers and will be available to gardeners in 1946. Dr. Thompson says that if the plants are set 10 to 12 inches apart and only the basal leaves are used as they reach a desirable size, lettuce may be harvested from the same plants for several weeks, making it a very desirable home-garden variety.

■ **Improved dip for sheep ticks.** An effective, economical, and easily prepared dipping solution for ridding sheep of ticks—parasites that damage fleeces and reduce meat production—has been developed by veterinarians of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The dip is prepared by mixing 6 ounces of derris powder containing 5 percent rotenone powder with a little water to make a thin paste, which is diluted in 100 gallons of water. Cube (pronounced ku-bay) powder may be used instead of derris, as it also contains the tick-killing substance, rotenone. Dips made with derris or cube powders are economical and easy to prepare; and they save considerable labor, as one dipping is enough. Other commonly used sheep dips require two applications, but the rotenone powder in the new dip kills both the adult ticks and the pupae at the same time and remains effective in the fleece for weeks.

Only a limited supply of rotenone, in the form of cube powder, is now being imported into the United

States. Control of sheep ticks, however, is one of the uses authorized by the War Food Administration for which rotenone powder may be allocated by the War Production Board. Flock owners may be able to arrange for such allocations through State livestock sanitary officials or livestock associations within the limits of the supply. If the rotenone content of the powder is not exactly 5 percent, the formula for the dip must be adjusted accordingly. For a 4-percent rotenone powder, only 80 gallons of water to 6 ounces of powder should be used; for a 6-percent powder, 120 gallons of water is required. The rotenone content of the powder must be known.

■ **Communities fight Dutch elm disease.** As Federal funds can no longer be used to remove trees infected with Dutch elm disease, communities in the infected area are pitching in to do this work themselves. The disease is prevalent in parts of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, with smaller isolated infections in Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, and Indiana. An example of what a community can accomplish to save the elms is furnished by the cooperative work of the municipal authorities and the Garden Club of Middletown, Conn. Fifty elm trees, all those in the town known to be infected, were removed. Bark beetles carry the infection from diseased to healthy trees; so trees or branches in which their larvae are found should also be destroyed. Federal work now includes surveys to determine the spread of the disease and laboratory identification of the fungus in diseased material, as well as research on methods of community control. Federal scouts say that they have an able assistant in spotting trees infested with bark beetles. "You can't fool a woodpecker!" When

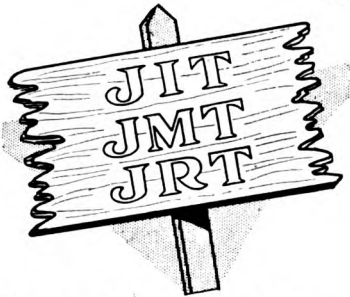
woodpeckers are seen feeding on large broken or dead elm branches, beetle larvae are usually found under the bark. Such material is sent to the Dutch elm disease detection laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine at Hoboken, N. J., for identification. Entomologists say that prompt detection and removal of diseased and bark beetle infested wood in every community is the only method known to combat Dutch elm disease and save our beautiful and valued elms.

■ **Poultry elite.** The Who's Who of chicken society in the United States issued this year lists 2,741 birds as outstanding among their kind. These chickens have qualified for the U. S. Register of Merit, the highest breeding stage of the National Poultry Improvement Plan. The Who's Who is entitled "Directory of U. S. Register of Merit Sires and Dams Qualifying Under the National Poultry Improvement Plan, 1942-43," and is U. S. Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous Publication 557. Among the superior birds listed, 903 received special notice (their names printed in boldface type) as qualifying for the Honor Roll. Of these, 748 were females, and 155 were males. The names and addresses of owners are published in the directory, which was compiled from production records of 177 breeders in 35 States. Seven breeds of birds are represented, with White Leghorns predominating. M. P. 557 is primarily intended for State poultry officials, hatcherymen, and breeders participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan. It may be obtained for 10 cents a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

## Need for salvaged fat

The need for salvaged fat remains acute. The WFA and the American Fat Salvage Committee, Inc., are well pleased with the efforts of extension agents in increasing the amounts of fat salvaged from rural areas during recent months. These efforts must be maintained if the 250-million-pound goal is to be reached. The committee suggests that now the campaign be directed to those who have smaller amounts to contribute.

# We Study Our Job



■ Let's look at our job by looking at ourselves. How well do we get our ideas across to others? How efficient are we in our work? How skillful are we in dealing with people? What is back of the ability to get things done?

Busy extension workers are finding some of the answers to these questions in three job training courses, namely:

**Job Instruction Training**—how to teach a person to do a job.

**Job Methods Training**—how to improve the way to do a job.

**Job Relations Training**—how to work with people on a job.

There is nothing new in these courses, but they help us put essentials together in a way that makes our work more effective and satisfying. They are designed for busy people who must get their training on the job. Let's take a closer look at each of them.

**J. I. T.** When the war broke out we had to produce overnight what it had taken the Axis 10 years to make. Millions of new workers had to be trained. There was no time to lose, no material to spoil, no people to get hurt. JIT was a great help in meeting this situation. Although developed primarily for industry it has equal application to training people for jobs on a farm, in an office, or at home.

The four steps in teaching a person to do a job are:

1. Prepare the worker,
2. Present the job,
3. Try out performance, and
4. Follow up.

Group instruction through demon-

strations has long been a common extension method. The same JIT principles of instruction apply, for the purpose of a demonstration is to present an improved practice in an interesting, convincing way so that people will appreciate its desirability and its practical application to their situation.

**J. M. T.** Where there is more work to do than help to do it, we look for shorter and easier ways. A saving of 5 minutes a day equals 3 days a year, and 5 steps a day adds up to a mile a year. Much time and many steps can be saved by doing things the correct way. We can help farm people by discussing with them the better methods developed by their neighbors, by starting them to think about how to get more done with less effort, and by giving them a method to follow in improving a job of their own.

The four steps in improving the way to do a job are:

1. Break down the job,
2. Question every detail,
3. Develop a new method, and
4. Apply the new method.

This procedure for analyzing and questioning the way a job is being done will work equally well on our own office routines. Habits are strong with all of us, and traditional methods prevail until we challenge them. A few well-directed questions—Why is it necessary? When should it be done? Who should do it? How is the best way?—will be sure to lead to improvements if followed up by positive action.

**J. R. T.** Under the stress and strain of war conditions there are bound to be more problems in human relations. JRT will help us get and keep good working relations with the people we work with. Practicing the foundations of good relations will prevent many problems from arising, but there always will be some.

The four steps in handling a problem are:

1. Get the facts,
2. Weigh and decide,
3. Take action, and
4. Check results.

Many people come to extension workers for counsel; more will come

as returning servicemen and war workers seek advice on their problems.

## Sessions—Courses—Institutes

Training is given in three different forms, depending on the need. An appreciation session gives you a knowledge of the method; a 10-hour course prepares you to use the method; an institute trains you to be an instructor in the method.

The appreciation session is a complete description and demonstration of the principles involved. Those who hear and see this demonstration should have a clear idea of what the method is. It may be given to a group of any size and requires from one to two hours.

The 10-hour course is a demonstration of the principles, followed by practice in using the method. A group of 12 persons is the best size for this course and 10 hours is about the time required for 12 persons to receive the training and practice on a job of their own. It is usually conducted in five 2-hour sessions which may be continuous or several days apart.

The institute provides training in how to conduct a 10-hour course. It is usually 5 days in length and should be limited to about 10 persons for adequate training.

Experience has shown that the training provided by these courses is one of the best ways for extension workers to prepare themselves to help farm people with the instruction of inexperienced workers; with the simplifying of farm and home jobs; and with a better management of hired labor in general. Also, the application of these courses to extension work is growing rapidly, as Director Wilson pointed out:

"We have a larger than usual turn-over of personnel, which means a constant breaking in of new employees. We have a bigger job to be done with a smaller staff to do it, which means improving our way of doing each job. We are working with a larger number of local leaders, which means more people to train and assist."

# Among Ourselves

■ I. W. HILL, one of the influential figures in the development of 4-H Clubs in the Southern States, died recently at his home in Washington, D. C. A native of Alabama, he taught school in both Georgia and Alabama. He served as superintendent of schools in Gadsden, Ala., and from 1902 to 1906 as State superintendent of education in Alabama. He came to Washington in 1911 to help with the development of boys' and girls' club work. He was field agent in charge of 4-H Club work in the Southern States at the time of his retirement in 1932. Known for his intense interest in young people and for his belief in the principles of 4-H, his influence is still felt throughout the South where rural boys and girls have opportunities in 4-H Clubs which they did not have when Mr. Hill started work.

■ FRED E. COLE of Amherst, Mass., and former extension agent, was recently appointed State commissioner of agriculture by Gov. Maurice J. Tobin. Mr. Cole, from 1927 to 1939, was with the Worcester County Extension Service as Massachusetts representative of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics with headquarters at Massachusetts State College, and since the war he has been executive officer for the State War Board. Mr. Cole is a graduate of Massachusetts State College, class of 1919.

■ CHRISTOPHER S. TENLEY has been appointed Chief, Division of Business Administration of the Federal Extension Service. As assistant chief, Mr. Tenley has worked closely with Walter H. Conway, now Assistant Director, in handling those phases of business administration which relate to Federal grants to States and Territories, the review of budgets, projects, plans of work, financial reports, and in the field of personnel. Mr. Tenley was born in Washington, D. C., attended Georgetown University, and completed his studies in Europe. He came to the Extension Service from the Farm Credit Administration in June 1934. For some years previously he had served in the Office of the Solicitor of the De-

partment of Agriculture and in the Inter-American High Commission. He was in the Army in 1918.

■ ABE KELSEY, formerly of the New York extension staff, reports he has been to Greece and has returned to Cairo. He had 2 weeks of "inspiring experiences gathering first-hand information on agricultural conditions for use in UNRRA programming."

He tells of parades of unemployed on the streets of Greece . . . going through ELAS lines . . . and living 2 weeks in the Aerople Hotel under fire . . . having bedroom windows blown out . . . and finally being sent out by military convoy under cover of darkness, and of the return to Egypt by plane . . . Kelsey said his son Paul is O. K. on the Burma front.

■ J. J. ("JERRY") MOXLEY, Kansas animal husbandman, was given a gold watch by members of the State extension staff at the February luncheon in appreciation of the contribution he has made to the livestock interests of Kansas and the Nation in his 20 years with the Kansas Extension Service. Mr. Moxley has resigned to devote full time to his purebred Hereford cattle ranch near Council Grove, Kans.

Commenting on his resignation, Director H. Umberger predicted that Mr. Moxley's influence will be felt for a long time. The director praised him for having "done much to stabilize the beef cattle industry and to put it on a sound basis."

Dr. A. D. Weber, head of the Kansas State College animal husbandry department, said that his "practical approach to cattle problems has been of inestimable value in promoting better methods of feeding and management and in improving the quality of breeding herds."

■ HARVEY SHARPLEN LIPPINCOTT, county agent for Elizabeth City, Warwick, and York Counties, Va., died on January 28 after 22 years with the Extension Service. A native of New Jersey, he was graduated from Cornell University and then took advanced training at Pennsylvania State College, University of Maryland, and Cornell University.

From 1911 to 1913 he was county agent in Maryland, then served for 9 years as agriculturist for the Pennsylvania Railroad. He joined the Virginia Extension Service in 1922.

■ HAROLD RYLAND SMALLEY, one of the early county agents in Indiana, recently died in Washington, D. C. A graduate of Purdue University, he was appointed county agent in Starke County, Ind., in 1913. In 1916, he transferred to Steuben County and in 1918 to Allen County. In 1920, he joined the staff of the National Fertilizer Association and was serving there at the time of his death. An extension pioneer, he always kept his interest in the development of the Cooperative Extension Service.

■ SAM HOYLE, first extension editor in Texas, whose name long appeared on the masthead of *The Extensioner* as college editor and editor emeritus, passed away at his home in Bryan, December 31. He was 73 and had been in ill health for some time. Mr. Hoyle retired from active service 3 years ago.

He was born in the Sweetwater Valley, McMinn County, Tenn. While a young man, he moved with his family to Atlanta, Ga., and worked for Henry Grady on the Atlanta Constitution. In 1895 he graduated from Emory University near Atlanta.

He was moved to Texas soon afterward and was connected with the Dorsey Printing Company of Dallas. In 1915, Mr. Hoyle became associated with publications for the Texas Extension Service and the next year was appointed the first extension editor. He continued in that position for more than 10 years, then moved to the position of editor of college publications.

■ JOHN L. CHARITY, district agent for Negro extension work in Virginia, died March 5, 1945, following a long illness. He was born at Dendron, Va., May 7, 1890, and received his education at Hampton Institute which he attended from 1910 to 1916 and 1930 to 1931. He joined the Extension Service in 1916 and was local agent in Halifax County. He became district agent in 1920.



# Have you read

**WHEN WE'RE GREEN WE GROW.** Jane Simpson McKimmon, Assistant Extension Director for North Carolina. 353 pp. The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C., 1945.

■ When We're Green We Grow is written simply, without pretense or boasting. It is a saga of North Carolina farm people as they occasionally "scoffed" but mostly lived to "embrace" the teachings of the home demonstration agent.

There're Margaret and Maybelle Brown who, on a prize-winning trip to Washington, turned up their collective noses at head lettuce. "We grow that grass," said Margaret, "but we aren't going to eat it!"

There's Betty Van Tapscott who canned tomatoes so well that storekeepers began to ask for "tomatoes with the Tapscott girl's name on them."

There's a harassed home demonstration agent saying, as she helped an old couple repair a hole in their cottage floor: "Not one thing I ever learned has come amiss in home demonstration work."

There's the home demonstration agent, Grace Bradford, made deputy sheriff and given a gun by the sheriff of Monroe County. "Miss Gracie," said he, "I can't sleep at night for thinking about you riding all around this county with nobody to protect you!"

These are the people with whom Mrs. McKimmon worked and lived for 26 years. Some were the "salt of the earth." All were as "North Carolina" as Mrs. McKimmon is herself. It is their story she relates.

Mrs. McKimmon was appointed State home demonstration agent in North Carolina in 1911. County home demonstration agents, for the most part, were chosen from the ranks of the rural school teachers. Although they had little technical training, they usually possessed rare good judgment and common sense. As with the county extension worker

of today, there was hard work, long hours, and less pay than they deserved. There was never monotony.

The things they were called on to do were many and varied. In the midst of the 1918 influenza epidemic, one home demonstration agent was asked to take charge of an emergency hospital. She did it, too! Many others set up diet kitchens or nursed day and night, "going into homes, cleaning both the houses and the children, taking temperatures, giving medicine and nourishment, assisting in preparing the dead for burial." Through drought and flood, through depression and prosperity, through war and peace, through thick and thin, home demonstration agents stood by their guns. "There was something in the people with whom we worked," Mrs. McKimmon says, "that let us know that the spirit was stronger than any obstacles which could be placed in our path."

The growth of this work must have seemed slow, but it was always steady. A life-long dream of the author was realized when every one of North Carolina's 100 counties had a home demonstration agent and 35 counties had Negro home agents.

The measure of success achieved and the real story of the growth of home demonstration work can be read in the lives of North Carolina people.—Mena Hogan, field agent, Southern States.

## **FARMERS OF THE WORLD. THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION.**

E. Brunner, I. Sanders, D. Ensminger, editors. 230 pp. Columbia University Press, New York, N. Y., 1945.

■ This book is *must* reading, not only for extension workers but also for relief and rehabilitation personnel. It is a labor of love on the part of the 16 authors. Its publication on a nonprofit basis is made possible by a grant from the General Education Board.

Each chapter describes the agriculture and life of the areas considered,

the types of extension services, and the implications in the socio-economic situation of each area for programs of extension. The final chapter by Director Wilson and Professor Brunner appraises the role of Extension in the task of world reconstruction and offers valuable principles of and guideposts for workers called from an analysis of the preceding chapters. Most of these are both applicable to the American scene and suggestive to our personnel.

A somewhat surprising, but most interesting, feature is the discussion of extension work among preliterate and folk societies, including a brilliant chapter on the islands of the Pacific. Other areas covered are China, India, the Near East, the Balkans, Latin America, northern Europe, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Unfortunately, the exigencies of the war forced the omission of the projected chapters on Africa and the Antipodes. Every author is either a national of one of the countries considered or an American with long experience in the area he discusses.

American workers will be much interested in the types of work and the methods used in other lands, some of value to us. They will be impressed by the basic unity of Extension round the world. But the most valuable contribution is the repeated *demonstration* of the effect of the given culture, its mores and its social structure upon the approach and methods of Extension. This is something sometimes presented theoretically. Here it is put in terms of many often-fascinating illustrations of the practical import of this concept to the success or failure of programs.

It is to be hoped that the volume will have the wide circulation it deserves among extension personnel in the United States. Even the best of us will be the better for having read this book.—Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director of Extension Work.

## **New 4-H camps**

Rensselaer and St. Lawrence Counties, N. Y., have recently acquired former CCC camps to be developed later as 4-H Club camps. The Averill Park CCC camp in Rensselaer County consists of 19 buildings and equipment.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

THE HOME-CANNING KIT is now available to extension agents, with background facts on the need for home canning, how to obtain sugar for canning, and what was done about home food preservation in 1944; sample press releases, feature stories, and radio scripts designed for use by local groups; suggestions for local activities of home food preservation leaders; and printed leaflets on home canning. On the covers of the kit are statements of the late President Roosevelt, Secretary Wickard, and War Food Administrator Jones. Kits are going to all extension workers concerned in any way with the food preservation program.

FARM SAFETY WEEK is set for July 22-28, and material will soon be available from the National Safety Council. Secretary Wickard and War Food Administrator Jones have both proclaimed its vital importance in the war effort. The purpose is to focus national attention on the farm and home accident and fire problems and to promote the active interest of farm families in correcting hazardous conditions which might cause the occurrence of accidents and fires.

FROM QUEBEC, Dr. A. R. Gobell recently visited the office to tell of the progress of 4-H Clubs in his native province. Established in 1942, the clubs have flourished and are now planning for their third annual congress in Montreal August 6 to 9. They specialize in forestry and related projects, for 89 percent of the land in Quebec is in forests. They help with fire fighting, learn woodcraft, eradicate poison ivy, and establish recreation centers by the roadside. In French the four H's represent *Honneur dans les actes, Honnetete dans les moyens, Habileté dans le travail, Humanité dans la conduite.*

RURAL LIBRARY PROBLEMS are to be studied at the Rural Library Institute to be held at Colorado A. & M., July 23-27 and at the University of Denver, July 30 to August 10. James G. Hodgson, librarian at Colorado

A. & M., spent last year studying the reading matter available in rural homes and has planned the institute to adapt library planning and methods to more appropriately fit the needs of homes in the Rocky Mountain States. The first session is for rural leaders who are interested in better educational and recreational opportunities for country and village families. The second session is for those concerned more with the kind of organization needed for adequate rural library service. Both sessions will be conducted on a workshop basis.

A FOLK FESTIVAL HANDBOOK, a practical guide for local communities wishing to put on a folk festival, has been published and is available from the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, Bulletin Building, Philadelphia 7, Pa. It includes a great deal of valuable and detailed information and a good bibliography.

EVERY MEMBER OF EVERY 4-H CLUB in South Dakota is planning to take part in four activities during 1945. They are music, health, recreation, and "Jobs for Victory." In Indiana, each 4-H Club is appointing one member who will direct the safety and health activities of that club during the coming year.

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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THE COUNTY AGENT IS THE THEME of the magazine, *Successful Farming*, for April. The cover page shows Agent Paul Moore of Wright County, Minn., mapping his day's work which he covers in a cub airplane. There are an editorial by Kirk Fox, a story on city boys as farm laborers by Howard Schultz, county agent in Madison, S. Dak.; and a feature, *Meet the County Agent*, in which Ladd Haystead says: "Tomorrow's county agent faces a tough row to hoe. In many places he knows right now that surpluses are inevitable. He also knows that some farmers are anti-administration, anti-USDA, and anti-OPA for sure. It will be his hard lot to help those farmers reconvert to peacetime schedules and markets.

... The agent will get a left-handed bawling out for the pig deal in one State. He'll catch it in the neck when dairy payments are suspended."

"No, the agent's immediate future does not look too glowing. But because he is so like a clergyman in his selfless devotion to service, at least this one writer believes the agent will take the knocks along with the boosts and somehow carry on. It's a pleasure to salute the man in agriculture, who most deserves a salute—your county agent."

BACK FROM AFRICA is Tom Campbell, field agent in Negro extension work for the most southern tier of States. He got back just in time for the quarterly extension conference in Washington and told some amazing stories of life in Africa supported by pictures of himself in native garb. He was loaned to the General Education Board for a 6-month survey of educational needs in West Africa and promises to write an article on some of his experiences for an early issue of the REVIEW.

A PUBLICATIONS WORKSHOP is being held at Columbia University, May 21 to June 2.

A BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR EVERY BABY in the U. S. A. is the theme of Child Health Day, May 1. Extension agents are cooperating in calling to the attention of rural parents the value of a birth record to their children. The need for more education along these lines is greatest in rural areas and particularly among Negroes.

## On the docket for June

■ VE-day is behind us, but a re-appraisal of problems on the home front shows that many will be intensified this summer. As we learn more about conditions in the liberated countries, the need for food and more food proves even more urgent. There is little hope that the farm labor situation will ease up for the 1945 harvest. Even now emergency labor needs are building up to a peak in the United States.

As we go to press, WFA has been assured by the War Department that prisoners of war definitely will be available for farm work this season. Some 85,000 will be available at the peak of the summer harvest season. Additional numbers will be requested for use in the fall harvest. In addition to this help from prisoners of war and foreign workers, however, the need continues urgent in many areas for emergency volunteer workers from towns and cities as well as rural areas.

With the discharge of veterans under the point system gaining momentum, the work of the agricultural advisory committees has passed the planning stage. Since VE-Day, practical farmers have been going into action to circumvent defeat for the veterans on the farm front. Booming prices and real estate promotion schemes are two of the agricultural land mines which veterans, with all their battle lore, may not be prepared to dodge.

The Presidential proclamation of

### IN THIS ISSUE

Food takes first place—Minnesota tells how to get it grown and Nebraska how to save it—A Washington agent writes on planning his program—Montana reports on a radio school, California on the expansion of cork oak, South Dakota on home demonstration news writing, New York on the 4-H battle against cattle grub, and Oklahoma on figures that talk.

May 9 for National Farm-Safety Week, July 22-29, gives national support to local safety campaigns. Farm people must realize the urgent wartime need of stopping needless waste of manpower and property caused by preventable accidents. A kit of suggestions for bringing the facts to local communities is being sent to extension agents by the National Safety Council.

Food preservation activities are stepped up. It looks as though the civilian supply of commercially canned goods might be as much as 25 percent lower than last year, adding urgency to the home canning program. Sugar supplies are low, but there should be enough sugar to do more canning than was ever done before if canning sugar is used only for canning and stretched as far as possible. Kits of suggestions for

stimulating more food preservation in the local community have gone out to home demonstration agents. No food must be lost this year.

Victory gardeners carry on with renewed efforts in the battle against insects and disease which threaten crops this year. A new reason for growing Victory Gardens was supplied by the chief of police in Hackensack, N. J., who asserts there are no gardeners among those arraigned before the department for crime. He says: "Those who get close to the soil seldom get into trouble. I really feel that if everyone were to engage in cultivation of a plot of ground, our department would have little to do."

As this goes to press, the Bankhead-Flannagan amendment to the Bankhead-Jones Bill authorizing an increase in extension funds of \$12,500,000 during a 3-year period has passed both houses of Congress and has gone to committee to iron out the differences.

## Rural policy committee meets

■ The Orleans County, Vt., rural policy committee meets to consider what policies should be observed in guiding veterans and other war workers who want to buy farms after the war.

The meeting was called to order by

County Agent Roger D. Whitcomb (standing). Representatives of the local press, home demonstration clubs, farm organizations and others study the State handbook on getting started in farming and make the modifications necessary for Orleans County.



# Every man does his part

C. L. McNELLY, District County Agent Leader, Minnesota

■ Looking back over the 1944 war food production program, Minnesota extension people are convinced that never before has so much been accomplished in so short a time as through this campaign. This program was set up on the theory that every civilian on the home front must do everything possible to help win the war. The extension job was primarily to assist and encourage farmers in every way possible in the field of food production. We believed sincerely that an abundance of food would help shorten the war and save lives. Agents with attractive offers in other fields stayed on the job because they, too, believed they could serve their country better in this important field.

The background planning for the Minnesota 1944 program was initiated by a committee consisting of supervisors and key specialists appointed for the purpose by Director Paul E. Miller. Preliminary planning was done by this committee, after which department heads at the agricultural college were asked to bring in the latest results in research from their respective fields to present specific recommendations as to what would contribute most to the war effort.

The program was built around improved practices which were not as widely used as they could be, and which if generally adopted would save labor and at the same time substantially increase food and feed production. These practices included: (1) Seed treatment, (2) more extensive use of fertilizers, (3) increased use of hybrid seed corn, (4) greater use of Vicland and Tama oats, (5) cutting hay earlier to increase protein content, (6) making greater use of legume grass pastures and using better pasture management practices, (7) more use of labor-saving equipment.

Any one of these practices was important enough to be used as a major project. Whether all could be effectively tied into one program was seriously questioned. However, it was decided to attempt this, with the county agricultural agent—recognized as the agricultural leader with the most prestige and authority in the

county—presenting the subject-matter material at as many meetings as possible. Special devices were, of course, used to develop interest and to make the presentation effective.

A contrast exhibit, showing seedling wheat grown from treated and untreated seed in a window box, was used in display windows and at practically all meetings conducted by agents.

A set of five charts, prepared at the State office, was supplied to all agents. The charts showed experiment station results from: (1) Treating seed grain with Ceresan, (2) yield increased from Vicland and Tama oats, (3) increased protein content of hay cut at different stages of growth, (4) average yield increases from use of fertilizer, (5) yield and carrying capacity of legume grass mixtures compared with ordinary pasture grasses.

Much publicity was used; 200,000 copies of each of 2 folders were printed. One was on Better Quality Hay, and the other, Avoiding the Summer Milk Slump. The creameries of the State cooperated in the distribution of these folders, handing or sending them to each patron.

## Farm People Back Program

In a series of county program-planning meetings held in every county of Minnesota, farm people were found to be wholeheartedly back of this food-production program. Our slogan was "No matter how much food is produced, it will not be enough." Farmers as well as extension workers pledged themselves to encourage the adoption of improved practices that promised to increase production.

The intensive food-production program was started in January 1944 and was carried on until the crops were in the ground. Following the spring planting, other phases were taken up, such as the programs to cut hay early for higher protein content and to increase carrying capacity through the use of better pasture-management practices.

In carrying out this program, agricultural agents themselves held 2,069

meetings with an attendance of 128,731 people. This number represents approximately two-thirds of the farmers of the State of Minnesota. An average of 24 meetings with an average attendance of 62 were held per county. The average attendance per county was 1,488.

In order to get an approximate measure of results at the end of the year, county agents made surveys among dealers to ascertain the amount of Ceresan and Semesan sold for grain and corn treatment. Agents reported that 128,605 pounds of Ceresan were sold for use in treating seed grains in 1944, as compared with 74,276 pounds used in 1943. This was an increase of 73 percent, or 54,329 pounds.

Agents reported 3,753,272 bushels of seed grain and corn treated for disease control in 1944, as compared with 2,319,817 in 1943, an increase of 1,415,455 bushels.

## Vicland and Tama Oats

Agents likewise made a survey among farmers, seedsmen, elevator men, and dealers as to the increased use of Vicland and Tama oats in 1944 as compared with previous years. This survey indicated that 2,137,404 acres were planted to Vicland and Tama oats in 1944, as compared with 780,050 acres in 1943, or an increase of 1,418,754 acres in 1 year. This acreage represented a 295 percent increase over the previous year.

Agents estimate that, on the average, Vicland and Tama varieties out-yield other varieties by 10 bushels per acre. This fact is supported by Minnesota Experiment Station results over a 3-year period. If we assume that this 10-bushel increase is approximately correct, then the 1944 campaign increased the Minnesota oats crop by 14,154,000 bushels. At the market price for oats of 75 cents per bushel, this amount of oats would be worth approximately \$11,000,000.

Agents estimate 815,538 acres of early-cut legume hay in 1944 as compared with 690,731 acres in 1943—an increase of 124,807 acres, or 18 percent. In estimates of early-cut hay, other than legumes, there was a total of 577,707 acres cut in 1944, as compared with 356,002 acres in 1943, an increase of 221,705 acres or 61 percent. Likewise, county agents re-



ported 78,320 acres more legume grass pasture or 14 percent increase in 1944 as compared with the previous year, and an increase in the use of supplementary pastures including Sudan grass, oats, rye, and other mixtures of 134,859 acres or 61 percent in 1944 compared with the previous year.

County agents report only a slight increase in the use of commercial fertilizers, this being due to the limited supply available.

As a part of the labor-saving equipment program, 4,740 push rakes were made to facilitate handling hay and grain. This is 1,762 more than in 1943, or a 63 percent increase.

Never before in our extension history has such a unified and comprehensive program been carried out. Farmers had a job to do. Being con-

scious of obstacles and limitations, they called at the extension office, they attended meetings, and they asked questions. The war incentive was paramount. Farmers were determined to do their part. Men, women, and children worked as never before. County extension agents likewise had a job to do and did it. Never before in extension history have agents put in such long hours and worked so untiringly. They should, and no doubt will, receive broad recognition for the outstanding educational work in the war food production program. We are fully aware that extension agents everywhere have made the same great contribution. We are proud of the work they have done and trust that St. Peter has made ample record in his big book.

most of the publicity agencies used as a guide was a pamphlet edited by the extension agronomists setting out the situation and making suggestions for the proper handling of the wet corn. No one promised that the getting of the wet corn off the ground and into well-floored and well-ventilated cribs would be the solution to all the problems that the farmer might have. Some of the corn was carrying more than 30 percent moisture.

The newspapers and the radio stations spearheaded the campaign. Governor Griswold designated February 19 to 26 as "Save the Corn Week." County extension agents organized neighborhood labor crews and handled the publicity locally.

County commissioners and railroads made snow fence available to help meet the material shortage for the making of cribs. The State Highway Commission and the Naval Ordnance Depot in the State did the same thing with the materials that they had on hand. The State Department even canceled its priority on 60,000 feet of snow fence so that it would be available for cribbing. The AAA and the lumbermen's association cooperated in moving the necessary lumber from the areas where it was plentiful to the areas where it was badly needed.

The Industrial Alcohol plant at Omaha installed machinery that enabled them to use 30,000 bushels of wet corn daily. The Army made machines designed for preheating plane motors available to the farmers for drying corn.

Farmers themselves met the challenge of saving the corn with ingenuity that only a farmer possesses. Some of them made cribs out of scrap lumber and old wire and pieces of machinery found on their farms. Many a home-made manure loader was converted into a machine for loading corn. Farm elevators were made, lent, and borrowed. Home-made drying devices were put into operation.

Now as warm weather has come to Nebraska, the State committee that headed the campaign, the farmers, and all those who cooperated with them in this campaign are watching to determine just how much of the great crop so badly needed in the war effort has been saved. No one expected to save all of it, but everyone wants the percentage to be as high as possible.

## Campaign to save wet corn moves 90 million bushels

■ Between January 22 and March 22, Nebraska farmers literally picked up 90 million bushels of wet corn off the ground and put it into well-floored and well-ventilated cribs. They did it to save it from spoilage.

During this time Nebraska had several wet snows; many sections of the State had an acute shortage of materials with which to make cribs, and all sections of the State were suffering from an acute farm labor shortage.

The 90 million bushels was the lion's share of the 103 million bushels of corn that Nebraska farmers produced in 1944 for which there were no cribs at corn-husking time.

The total crop of corn produced in Nebraska in 1944 was just a little short of 330 million bushels. It was the largest crop of corn ever produced in the State, and sections of the State that have been hard hit with drought during the last several years prior to 1944 reported yields that gave the entire State an average of 37 bushels to the acre.

Everybody in Nebraska knew last fall that the State had produced a great crop, and most Nebraskans were worried that there would not be enough labor in the State to harvest the crop. Every available mechanical corn picker and every available person who could pick corn were put to work. The idea was to get the corn out of

the field. Much more of it was piled on the ground than would have been had there been no feeling of rush.

After the harvest of most of the corn there followed one of the wettest winter seasons in the history of the State. The corn was wet to start with, and misty rains and fogs caused the corn to actually accumulate moisture during the months that followed even though it was well cribbed.

Extension agronomists at the University of Nebraska, College of Agriculture, realizing that the corn not properly cribbed was due for serious deterioration, called a meeting in January. Invited to this meeting were farmers, representatives of farm organizations, railroads, press, radio, and AAA, grain dealers, and lumbermen.

At this meeting it was brought out that most of the country elevators were full. There were few railroad cars with which to move the crop to market, and drying facilities at the terminal markets were adequate to dry only a very small part of the corn even though it could be shipped at the terminals.

A committee was set up to work out a solution to the problem.

There followed one of the greatest publicity campaigns that ever had anything to do with an agricultural subject in Nebraska. The text that

# How plan the program?

ALLAN JOHNSON, County Agent, Thurston County, Wash.

When Allan Johnson told about developing an extension program in his county at the annual meeting for new extension workers which precedes the annual State conference, the other agents liked it. As agents in other States might also find his ideas helpful, they are set down here as he gave them to his fellow agents.

■ All counties embracing rural populations have leaders, trained to some degree in various phases of rural activity. These leaders have objectives to be accomplished. So has Extension. Isn't it better for us both to pool our resources and work together rather than to go down the road each in his own way?

## Seeing Community Problems

If we join forces, isn't it just as fair for us to go into each community to see the community problems through the eyes of local leaders as for them to come to the county seat to be indoctrinated with the county agent's problems? I firmly believe that the community approach is the only way in which we can get down to the grass roots of problems in each of the 36 communities in Thurston County. It is the only way that our objectives can become identical.

## Winter Months Best for Meetings

The months of November, December, January, and February are best for holding planning meetings in our county. Farmers are not so rushed with work. However, yearly meetings are not always necessary. Sometimes the plans of the previous year's meeting are still up to date and have not as yet been completed.

These meetings are held at a community center or a farm home where those interested are urged to attend. We never select the leaders and others who are to participate. To do so would be to select those whose personalities fuse with ours and to eliminate those whose ideas, though different, may prove extremely helpful. The community groups elect those whom they wish to serve on committees and otherwise participate in an extension program.

We usually first have a roundtable discussion concerning the problems within the community. And these problems may be land clearing, drainage, buildings, electricity, community centers, entertainment,

health, education, soils and fertility, new crops, various other enterprises, and last but not least, our rural youth.

Out of this discussion grow conviction as to what are major and minor problems, which are of short or of long duration, which problems can be solved by the community itself, and which may need attention from some other source. The agent's responsibility in these meetings is to help the group select objectives or goals that will indicate broad accomplishments.

Whenever these objectives become common among several communities, we call a county-wide meeting of community representatives to consider these problems on a county-wide basis. For example: Weeds, a constant source of irritation to every farmer. At the county-wide planning meeting in January 1944, the chairman was asked to select a committee to study this problem. The committee met with the agent and specialist, listed the weeds in the order of their seriousness of infestation, got information on control measures, studied weed-control laws, and submitted a report, together with their recommendations for a weed-control program, to 53 leaders in the county. This year at the January county-wide meeting these leaders, who studied this report, were ready for the discussion and adoption of a post-war program for weed control in Thurston County.

As time goes on, we should beware of wasted motion lest we in our enthusiasm forget the work of others and spend time repeating work that has already been done. A study of annual reports previously written may reveal accomplishments or answers to the problems raised. The Thurston County annual report of 1938 indicated that a special manual on land use had been written as a corollary to the land-use map. This will prove extremely helpful when

gathering information for the settlement of war veterans and post-war workers. We almost embarked on a program of getting this information during the next few months.

If a job to be done involves several persons or organizations, their responsibilities should be sharply defined. For instance, committees in two of our communities were elected to make arrangements for land to be used for fertilizer and forage crop trials. The work was to be done by the committee, the experiment station to furnish the materials and the specialist and agent to check on the progress made regularly and to determine results. I feel somewhat guilty in admitting that these committees have done the better job. We from the college ought to do more next year lest we be weighed on the scales and found wanting. Constant checking (every month if necessary) with attention given to details is on the calendar for the duration of this project. This checking will make it easier for the agent to write progress reports and analyses, which should be made available to the community leaders at least once a year.

We contact our 475 leaders in the county once a month with a circular letter giving helpful information which does not appear through other channels. And we sometimes include accomplishments on various projects under way or being completed.

## Change to a Community Basis

At the request of the community leaders, we reorganized our 4-H Club work from a strict project basis to a combination project—community basis.

Our 4-H leaders asked for training so as to be successful in the eyes of their youth. We tried to meet this responsibility by maintaining an active leaders' council for leader training on a broad basis. This council usually meets once a month. We look upon this as our number one job, as the successful 4-H members of today can well be the rural and urban leaders of tomorrow.

Little has been said about the farm visit. Yet, to me, the techniques of making a farm visit are highly important in determining the activities of cooperators so as to meet the objectives desired. Pure service calls do little toward the building of an

extension program. Service calls do provide an opening, however, for the agent to obtain information and to give information which will aid in the development of an extension program.

I have said little concerning specialists and project plans or plans of work as we know them today. After 9 years in the Extension Service, I found myself in this dilemma of writing two sets of project plans, one for the specialist before our annual reports have cooled off, and the other based on community and county needs as determined, not on a project basis, but on a farm and home basis, for better rural living.

The Extension Service today is

different from what it was 10 years ago, 20 years ago, or 30 years ago. It has grown in size, it has grown by reason of its accomplishments, it has grown in the responsibilities given it for the future; and we must all keep pace.

Today we must recognize the change in the training of rural people. Many have gone to college; many have been in some phase of educational work; many have specialized in certain fields of endeavor. Let us respect the layman's thinking and through his leadership cooperate in developing a more effective program. This is our challenge and responsibility to better serve our rural people.

## Radio schools in Montana

LOUIS G. TRUE, Extension Editor, Montana

■ If radio stations in Montana broadcast silver-toned, superbly phrased, and effective county agent programs starting very soon, the credit will go to the faculty headed by Ken Gapen, U.S.D.A. Radio Service representative in the Far West, and Ernest Neath, manager of KREB, Bozeman, Mont., who conducted radio schools during March.

Two schools were held. The first was at Miles City, March 23 and 24. Attendance was 13, the same as the Helena school held March 26 and 27.

They were work sessions from start to finish with agents' attention focused on the practical points that make farm broadcasts effective.

J. C. Taylor, director of the Montana Extension Service, opened the school at Miles City with an address, Why Agents Should Use Radio. T. B. Holker, acting county agent leader, substituted for Director Taylor at Helena. These addresses set the stage for both schools.

From there the schools went into what Montana stations want, with Mr. Neath doing the telling. He urged making programs entertaining; emphasized public service, local news and information; the need for coherent, well-thought-out and well-voiced programs. Gapen covered this at Helena.

To build up a greater consciousness of the obligation agents owe local stations, Henry Schacht, director of agriculture, KPO, San Francisco, cut

a record entitled What Makes a Farm Program Tick and Click. This was voted an "excellent program hitting at the points most needed," by students who attended the schools.

To stimulate further interest, Neath at Miles City and Gapen at Helena gave a preview of radio in the future. This included frequency modulation, television, and facsimile.

Switching back to the present, Gapen gave the agents innumerable tips and suggestions for programming. These include script versus note, use of local people, importance of local news, how to prepare monologs, dialogs, and discussions. This ended with several outlines agents could use.

Following these talks, agents were given a prepared set of facts on gardening and told to write 4-minute talks. The notes contained facts which should not be used on radio as well as those that should. Before writing, score cards on good writing and presentation were explained by Gapen.

The talks prepared by agents were recorded in the afternoon of the first day. These were played back, and Ernest Neath; Gapen; Louis G. True, director of publications; and H. M. White, assistant director of publications, criticized them. Criticisms were specific, frank, and all-inclusive. The "students" asked for more.

The second day, the schools opened with reports from agents. These disclosed that all Montana stations are

cooperating wholeheartedly; give 15-minute periods at least once a week graciously; give added time for announcements, and extend some program help occasionally.

The schools closed with a second recording of about 4 minutes, written by agents. Each showed marked improvement over the preceding program, and each agent took back his second record to play at his home. All records for this purpose were cut at 78 rpm.

At the close of the two schools, the faculty had an informal round-table discussion of the schools which resulted in a listing of nearly 25 ways of improving future radio schools.

In spite of these expected improvements, the schools were most gratifying to the faculty. Agents asked for annual and longer schools. They arose nearly an hour earlier than usual to be there for the opening session, remained an hour longer at night, and then used the intermission periods to ask more questions.

Brief notes covering the bulk of the information given out and learned at each school was compiled the day after the last school and mailed to county agents.

## Plan Negro 4-H camp

"A Georgia State camp for Negro 4-H Clubs is in the books just as soon as war conditions permit," reports P. H. Stone, State agent for Negro work. Nearly \$3,000 has been collected by Negro 4-H members for the erection of the camp at Dublin. The money has been put into war bonds until needed.

A 30-acre site on the Oconee River was deeded to the Extension Service by the city of Dublin for the camp. An artesian well providing 120 gallons of water per minute has been bored on the site and paid for by Negro citizens of Dublin and Laurens County. Underbrush has been cleared by 4-H members and roads laid out by J. C. Oglesbee, Jr., former extension engineer. The grading was done by county forces.

One building, a community canning plant of cement block construction has been erected. This was financed by people in and around Dublin.

## Cork oak acorns coast to coast

More than 850,000 California cork oak acorns were distributed last winter in 8 Southern States in an attempt to develop a domestic supply of cork, Woodbridge Metcalf, forester of the California Extension Service, reported.



This truck was driven 4,300 miles, from San Francisco to Baltimore, having left California loaded with 12,000 pounds of cork oak acorns and considerable cork bark stripped from California trees.

In company with two members of a national cork and seal company, Mr. Metcalf made a 4,300-mile tour, approved by the Office of Defense Transportation and endorsed by departments of forestry of eight Southern States. The company furnished a huge truck-and-trailer for transporting the 12,000 pounds of California acorns. Half of the acorns were left for propagation purposes in Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and South

Carolina; and the other 6,000 pounds were delivered in Baltimore and placed in moist cold storage for distribution this spring to the tier of States north of those named.

Even if only a small fraction of the seed develops into cork oak trees,

there should be a satisfactory local acorn supply for continued plantings in areas where the cork oak tree shows its ability to grow.

During the last 4 years 150,000 cork oak seedlings have been established in California. At some future time cork from these American-grown trees, the bulk of them to be found on farms, will help supply the national requirements for a war material which became critical when the Mediterranean supply was cut off.

## 4-H campaigns against cattle grub

Cattle grubs, the home-front enemy of dairy cows, will soon know what it is like to come up against the armed might of several hundreds of New York State 4-H Club members who have undertaken to help the farmers rid the herds of the pest.

The well-organized cattle grub eradication program has been planned with the cooperation of the War

Food Administration, and 23 counties where grubs are particularly a problem are combining their efforts to stamp out the saboteurs. County 4-H Club agents are handling publicity, organization records, and prizes for clubs doing the best work. A sum of \$400 will be distributed among the top-ranking clubs and among high-scoring individuals.

Ten specialists from the New York

State Veterinary College and the entomology and animal husbandry departments at Cornell University have held launching meetings and demonstrations in every community.

All farmers owning herds in the areas have been asked to cooperate, as control measures are most effective when all neighboring herds are treated.

The size of the project takes on major proportions when all aspects of the campaign are considered. One item alone, 9,300 pounds of cattle grub dust for the 23 counties, is an indication. Harold A. Willman, dairy and livestock specialist of the agricultural college, based the need for cattle grub control demonstrations on statements of both dairymen and research workers.

They said that 25 percent, or 500,000 New York State cattle are infected—an annual loss in milk, meat, and leather of thousands of dollars.

Research demonstrations conducted in one county, Clinton, in 1943, showed that in 1 year dairymen could reduce the loss by at least 90 percent.

Forty 4-H Clubs have responded by preparing lists of all herds in their communities, by distributing bulletins and posters to every farmer, and by obtaining their cooperation. The club members treated approximately 25,000 cattle during early April and again in early May. The bulletin used is Cornell War Emergency Bulletin 69, Control of Cattle Grubs, by Prof. H. H. Schwardt of the entomology department.

Professor Schwardt gave the following figures to indicate the damage caused by the grubs:

Forty-two percent of all cattle passing through United States stockyards are grubby.

Discoloration around meat causes a loss of about 2 pounds of meat per animal.

Packers devalue grubby cattle 2 cents a pound. There is a loss of \$3.80 per grubby animal to the packer.

Seventy-five million dollars are lost yearly in the United States through the cattle grub.

The dust used in the control program consists of one part of 5 percent rotenone powder mixed with three parts of pyrophyllite.

The grubs are sometimes known as

warbles and develop from heel flies or warble flies that lay their eggs on the lower parts of the cow's legs. These eggs hatch in 4 to 6 days during normal spring weather into tiny grubs that bore a hole through the animal's skin. From there they enter the flesh for feeding. It is estimated that the average amount of damage they do is at least \$5 an animal.

The county 4-H agents have publicized the campaign widely in their respective areas, pointing out that the loss is not only to damaged hides and meat but also in lowered milk production resulting from disturb-

ances caused to grazing herds by adult heel flies.

Need for the region-wide effort was deemed necessary because the greatest return comes when it is carried out over a considerable area.

Enthusiasm of the club members is high because this is one "home front" job that will accomplish much.

The cooperative counties are: Albany, Allegany, Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Genesee, Greene, Herkimer, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Sullivan, Washington, Wayne, and Yates.

The 1945 goals for the State are the same as for last year, and the poultry program is well under way to meet those goals.—*H. G. Ware, extension poultryman, Oklahoma A. & M. College.*

## Negro farmers set goals

The 10-point food and feed production program inaugurated by the South Carolina Extension Service has swung into action on the Negro farms of South Carolina.

More than 5,000 farmers attended 9 county, 112 community, and 77 neighborhood meetings during the first 2 weeks of the campaign to hear agricultural workers and community leaders explain how the 10 points may fit into the needs of their farms.

Reports coming in show that demonstrations and farm goals based on the 10-point program are being set up. Some are on a neighborhood basis; others are on individual farms.

The 10 points are: (1) Make maximum use of available labor and equipment on the farm and in the community; (2) arrange for quality planting seed; (3) arrange for heavy fertilizer application; (4) check farm and home equipment and order parts or new equipment early; (5) grow plenty of high-quality grazing, hay, and silage; (6) Produce record small-grain and corn crop; (7) produce adequate gardens, poultry, eggs, meat, and milk for every family and conserve for home use; (8) produce, grade, pack, and market quality products; (9) take care of the land and forest; (10) control crop and livestock diseases, insects, and parasites.

## Self-perpetuating sheep club

How to keep a sheep club going indefinitely was the subject of discussion on a Nebraska 4-H Club radio program, with Harry Kuska, Dawes County extension agent, and Everett Winter of the college doing the talking. The club started with a foundation gift of stock from which new members receive the ewe lambs while the buck lambs are sold or returned to the foundation in exchange for ewe lambs. Thus the club can be kept going without additional cost as new members are added or as new breeding stock may be required.

# Oklahoma figures talk

■ County and home demonstration agents of Oklahoma have gone all out in the production of poultry, eggs, and turkeys as a part of the food-for-freedom program, in compliance with the war effort for increased poultry and egg production. The agents are called upon to help rural and urban people solve a multitude of problems in carrying out an agricultural program.

The poultry information taken from the agents' annual statistical reports for 1944 shows that the agents and their community neighborhood leaders, poultry leaders, members of the farm women's clubs, and 4-H Club boys and girls have carried forward an expansive and constructive poultry program that has meshed well with the State's agricultural food-for-freedom production program.

The reports show that there were 104,000 farm families assisted in improved poultry practices during the year; 171 extension poultry schools were held by the extension poultryman, with a total attendance of 10,768 people (this does not include attendance at civic and commercial clubs); 2,348 new poultry houses were built, and 3,076 buildings were remodeled into poultry houses; 125 million dozen eggs, 20 million chickens, and 954,000 turkeys were produced within the State during the year.

There were 37 active county poultry associations that sponsored 35 county poultry shows where 7,243 birds were exhibited; the associations also sponsored 263 schoolhouse poul-

try and egg shows, representing 490 school districts; at these community poultry shows and schools, there were 9,141 birds and 1,457 dozen eggs exhibited. These school districts represented 263 community meetings, with an attendance of 14,685. Aside from the county and community shows, one State show was held, with 4,500 chickens and turkeys exhibited from 30 States and Canada.

The records reveal further that there were 12,803 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H poultry projects, and they raised 663,536 birds, valued at \$830,000. Because of the necessity for the older brothers and sisters to participate in the armed forces or war production work, 7,131 junior poultrymen replaced the older brothers and sisters in managing the poultry farm flocks. This has proved to be a fine demonstration because of the training it has offered these young people in agriculture and farm leadership.

Although there has been much cooperation from all agents, civic clubs, and commercial organizations, the main leadership for the development and carrying forward of this program must be accredited to the 187 county and home demonstration agents and their assistants, representing 77 Oklahoma counties, 24,560 farm women home demonstration members, 53,842 4-H Club members, and 22,228 neighborhood leaders who sponsor community meetings and carry forward timely and constructive information to people living in their respective neighborhoods.

## What veterans want to do

Answers by servicemen to questions about their post-war plans prove to T. L. Wheeler, assistant supervisor, emergency farm labor, Ohio, that official planners may be overestimating the number of veterans who will want to buy farms or do farm work after the war.

Replies to the questions appear sincere because the 5,000 men who answered said the first thing they wanted after the war was a vacation, and 5 out of every 8 said they preferred to return to their former employment. Of the 1,775 who want a post-war change of work, only 8 percent wanted to become farmers.

More than one-third of the men were unskilled workers before the war, but almost half of the 5,000 want to go into business for themselves after the war. The preferences stated by this group were electrical supply shops, farming, food stores, aviation supplies, and clothing stores. The answers also showed that 56 percent of the men would accept educational training provided for veterans.

## A wartime party

Take 200 soldiers at an Army hospital, 75 home-baked cakes, and about 75 rural men and women (many of them with sons in uniform), and you have the ingredients of a successful party. That was the case not long ago when the Smith County, Tex., Home Demonstration Council gave a party at Camp Fannin Hospital.

The guests came on crutches and in wheel chairs, but most of them were able to participate in 45 minutes of fun, and all of them were able to eat.

Cakes were placed on tables, along with other refreshments, and each man was supplied with a knife to cut his own pieces—as big and as many as he wanted. One special table loaded with birthday cakes was set up for the men who celebrated birthdays that month.

During the party, the home demonstration club women and their husbands had an excellent opportunity to talk to the men. Some soldiers wanted to talk about fishing and

hunting, others about farming. Service men went back to their wards for pictures—to show the women where their own sons are now located.

Some among the group proved to be former 4-H Club members. Lorene Stevens, Smith County home demonstration agent, said two native Hawaiians were reluctant to say good-byes, for 4-H work proved to be one of few mutual interests, and they wanted to talk about it.

## County 4-H Club get-together

The shortage of farm help in Christian County, Ky., has resulted in many of the 700 4-H Club boys and girls taking the labor project. In addition, many of them are enrolled in four or five other projects.

To stimulate interest and maintain high morale among the club members, a county-wide get-together was held recently in the gymnasium of the Hopkinsville High School. Approximately 400 club members and parents were present, representing 21 of the 25 organized clubs in the county.

To make it possible for all to participate in the games, the boys and girls were divided into groups, each designated by a color and led by a leader who had been previously instructed. As directions were given over a microphone, all units took part in the same games.

Following a short motion picture, Barnyard Whoopie, the young people were ready for folk games. They made a circle that filled the entire gymnasium floor.

Refreshments of fruit juice and cookies, brought by each family, were served by the mothers of the 4-H Club members.

## Citrus culture as a 4-H project

The growing and care of citrus has been added to the list of 4-H Club projects in Los Angeles County, Calif.

Through the cooperation of a 4-H Club member's parents, the "ownership" and operation of a minimum of 1 acre of citrus is required. Several clubs in citrus areas already have members starting such work.

A club member must chart the orchard; keep a complete record of all

operations; and spend time on all phases of culture, including irrigation, pruning, weed, pest, and disease control, fertilization, frost protection, crop estimation, and marketing of fruit from mature orchards. In addition, the member must learn about planting and care of young trees.

## Slides do the teaching

"The most effective method of teaching rural people to improve their practices in 1944 was the showing of color slides which had been taken locally," writes R. W. Kallenbach, county agricultural agent, Polk County, Mo.

A total of 4,560 persons in 78 neighborhoods were encouraged to adopt improvements of one kind or another by seeing through color slides the successful practices being used by neighbors.

The slides dealt with many subjects. Some 125 of them were of 4-H projects and activities, and these formed the program for many a club meeting during the year. By showing contrasting photographs of treated and untreated plots, the use of soil treatments was encouraged.

Various phases of solving the soil-erosion problem were emphasized by slides which indicated the right way to construct terraces, build ponds, and do contour farming. Photos of many labor-saving devices, including self-feeders, waterers, buck rakes, and sweep rakes were popular.

Slides made of balanced farming operations stimulated interest in the complete planning program. More than 100 slides of local farm gardens taken on tours were shown. These emphasized practices such as succession plantings, long rows for using horse-drawn equipment, mulching, and insect-pest control. Some 3 dozen photos of small fruit production encouraged expansion of this work in the county.

Antioch 4-H Club girls of Howard County, Ark., are learning the basic principles of clothing construction and also helping the local hospital by making baby layettes, reports Francille Killion, home demonstration agent.

The hospital, faced with the shortage of baby garments on the market and with the labor shortage, is furnishing the materials; and the 4-H girls are making the needed garments and blankets.

# South Dakota homemakers write their own story

■ News and feature articles recording home demonstration work in South Dakota hold their own in newspapers and magazines of the State, even amidst the pressure of war news, directives, and announcements. This is not an accident but the result of a well-planned effort to present home demonstration activities in a dramatic and interesting way, developed by Nora M. Hott, State home demonstration leader; Extension Editor John Ryan; Mrs. Cleo Tyler, president; and Mrs. Albert Martinson, publicity director; and South Dakota Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

A successful phase of this program is the news- and feature-writing contest sponsored by the South Dakota Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, both in 1944, and 1945. This contest brought in a wealth of specific facts and new ideas about the work and, at the same time, gave the incentive to get them written up in an interesting way. The contest was open from December 1 to February 7 this year, and stories could be submitted on 23 different subjects.

The women submitted 588 stories which were first judged by an authority in the particular class in which the story was entered. For example, a garden story was judged by the head of the horticulture department at the college or a poultry story by the head of the poultry department. The first in each class was then submitted to a committee composed of 2 members of the journalism department, a representative of the South Dakota Press Association, and 2 homemakers who were ex-home demonstration agents.

Awards were given to 4 counties which had the greatest number of entries. The grand champion was awarded a \$50 war bond on her article, *What Home Demonstration Work has Meant to Me*; and the reserve champion, writing on *Food Preservation and Preparation*, also received a \$50 war bond. Awards were donated by newspapers, the Press Association, and commercial concerns.

The list of contest winners and the 2 winning articles were published in

all the newspapers of the State and are also being used in farm magazines and radio broadcasts. Other good stories among the 588 entries provide plenty of good material for future articles.

The press of the State and farm papers have followed the contest with interest. Two farm magazines asked for stories from last year's winner. Five or six of the articles were sold to magazines, and others were reworked and used throughout the year. Editors assisted home demonstration agents and members of the extension editorial staff in giving writing schools in some counties and often offered prizes for the local winners.

The officers of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs felt that the contest proved to be a means of getting more stories of the actual accomplishments of farm families into the papers and appreciated the opportunity it gave them of getting acquainted with newspaper editors.

## Homemakers Used Ideas

These stories also gave recognition to homemakers who have been ingenious in the practice of homemaking in wartime or have made some use of the ideas gained in home demonstration work, making these women feel that they, too, are playing a very important part in the war effort.

Home Demonstration Agent Audrey McCollum tells how the contest worked in Lake County where 11 of 14 clubs participated with 49 entries. Thirty-one were eligible for the State contest, and 7 placed in the State contest. She writes:

"Publicity of winning essays following the announcement of winners has been far reaching. The secretary of the chamber of commerce said: 'We are ready to back any organization which reaches as many homes in the county and helps them with as many problems as home extension.'

"One homemaker asked me in the meat market one day: 'What's this home extension that I read so much about lately? My husband says I should get busy and go to some of your open meetings.'

"Many other types of clubs have inquired about extension possibilities for their groups. Other individuals have joined as county members where clubs did not seem possible at the time.

The news-writing contest is just one phase of the program to acquaint the general public with home demonstration activities.

State-wide support was given through the efforts of the State home demonstration publicity chairman and the extension editorial office. The chairman, Mrs. Albert Martinson, interviewed agents and specialists, read reports, and prepared a number of articles for magazines, including a pictorial cover page for the *Dakota Farmer*, entitled "The Home Demonstration Agent—the Busiest Person in the County." Similar pages were prepared and other suggestions given by the editorial staff for special farm editions of two daily papers. Special editorials were written by Miss Hott for three daily papers on the theme, "The Farm Woman's Part in the War Effort." Both were always ready with suggestions for stories.

Events which make good stories were developed. An attractive yellow and blue banner was awarded to 10 counties having the best records, and a quiz program based on the home demonstration projects for the year and patterned after "Take It or Leave It" was carried on 15 district programs. This was repeated at county achievement days and local meetings. County garden shows and special ceremonies for giving out the awards for the reading program given by the South Dakota Library Association proved good news pegs, as did also the vegetable preparation contest described in the *REVIEW* for November, 1944.

Greater emphasis was placed on window exhibits, and 10,000 copies of a new circular entitled "A home extension club helps you and through it you help your family, your community, and your Nation," prepared by Miss Hott, was distributed to key people. The home agents at Aberdeen and Yankton used regular weekly broadcasts to tell of the news-writing contest and interviewed the winners.

As a result of the program, 14 additional counties are asking for home demonstration agents; and 16,000 more homes were contacted last year.



## Extension agents join fighting forces

Nineteen 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.

### Extension's Gold Stars

Here are two more to add to the list of gold stars. We have previously given details about 17 others.

Frank Winchester, senior assistant county agent in Pike County, Ky., in 1938, and later graduate assistant in the Farm Economics Department of the College of Agriculture, was killed in action in Germany on March 9, 1945. Mr. Winchester was a graduate of the Kentucky College of Agriculture and Home Economics, receiving both his B. S. and M. S. degrees.

Ralph Cundiff, killed in action on the western front, was the first Kentucky extension worker to make the supreme sacrifice in World War II. Upon graduation from Berea College in 1938, he became assistant county agent in Wayne County and then was appointed county agent in Clinton County where he served until joining the Army, October 31, 1942.

## THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

### KANSAS

Pvt. Reed C. Fleury, Scott County agent, Army.

Lt. (j.g.) Ray M. Hoss, extension economist, Navy.

Helen Shepard, S 1/c, Crawford County club agent.

Roderic H. Simpson, A/S, Gray County agent, Navy.

Beverly D. Stagg, S 2/c, Morris County agent, Navy.

Mary Ruth Vanskike, S 1/c, Labette County club agent, Navy.

Edward D. Watson.

### NEW JERSEY

Ens. Ernest G. Christ, assistant extension horticulturist, pomology, Navy.

Pvt. Westervelt Griffin, assistant agent in Passaic County, Army.

Pvt. C. F. Lorenzo, Warren County agricultural agent, Army.

### NORTH CAROLINA

L. B. Barbee, A/S, Davie County agent, Navy.

P. E. Brintnall, Swain County agent.

Cpl. Thomas H. Fagg, assistant agent, Macon County, Army.

Paul R. Fish, assistant agent, Swain County, (erroneously reported Paul P. Fish in September 1943 REVIEW).

Wayne L. Franklin, assistant agent, Haywood County.

A. N. Harrell, assistant agent, Davidson County.

H. H. Higgins, assistant agent, Yancey County.

W. W. Huff, assistant county agent.

C. H. Kirkman, Jr., assistant agent, Cherokee County.

Lt. (j.g.) J. E. Penland, assistant agent, Avery County, Navy.

A. W. Solomon, Negro agent, Bladen County (erroneously reported A. W. Soleman in September 1943 REVIEW).

J. D. Thompson, assistant agent, Wake County.

Pvt. Carl Whiteside, assistant agent, Cherokee County, Army.

F. L. Woodard, Mitchell County agent.

### ALABAMA

Ens. Anita S. Albright, assistant home demonstration agent, Geneva County, Navy.

Pvt. Alrick H. Antonie, extension timber marketing specialist, Army.

Ens. T. W. Athey, Bullock County agent, Navy.

Jack H. Boyd, S 2/c, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Navy.

Lt. Charles L. Breedlove, assistant agent, Jefferson County, Army.

J. H. Davis, Ph. M. 3/c, assistant agent, Etowah County, Navy.

Ens. W. G. Eden, assistant agent, Geneva County, Navy.

Ross V. Ford, assistant agent, Winston County.

Pfc. W. B. Kelley, Dallas County agent, Army.

Ralph Musick, S 1/c, assistant agent, DeKalb County, Navy.

Pfc. D. M. Nordan, assistant agent, Pickens County, Army.

Maj. Ellwood F. Oakley, Jr., assistant agent, Autauga County, Army.

Ens. Robert W. Rhodes, assistant agent, Mobile County, Navy.

Lt. E. L. Waddell, assistant agent, Madison County, Army.

Pvt. Taylor D. Wilkins, emergency farm labor assistant, Baldwin County, Army.

Sgt. John C. Witherspoon, assistant extension forester, Army.

Lt. Joseph H. Yeager, assistant agent, Marshall County, Army.

K. L. Yerby, farm labor assistant, Fayette County.

### LOUISIANA

T-5 James J. Robert, assistant agent, Pointe Coupee Parish, Army.

Thomas E. Zammit, S 4/c, Navy.



# Selling bonds for bombers

■ Georgia's enterprising 4-H Club members, who set an example 2 years ago in selling bonds for a Liberty Ship that has been followed by more than 30 States, have launched a war bond drive to purchase 12 Georgia-built B-29 superforts.

The 3-month campaign, which has been approved by the Georgia War Finance Committee, will seek to raise \$7,500,000 for the construction of the superforts and a headquarters unit for the squadron of B-29's, according to W. A. Sutton, State 4-H Club leader.

The drive is being made at the same time the Seventh War Loan is in progress, and only Series E, F, and G war savings bonds bought or sold by the club members will count in the campaign.

This will be the second major war bond drive undertaken by Georgia 4-H Club members. In 1943 they conceived the idea of buying and selling enough bonds to pay for a \$2,000,000 Liberty Ship. This drive was so successful that five Liberty Ships were constructed with bonds bought and sold by the members.

When the S. S. Hoke Smith, named for the Georgia Senator who helped enact legislation creating the Agricultural Extension Service and 4-H Club work, was christened in Savan-

nah, Georgia members became the first in the Nation to launch such a ship.

The Georgia drive proved so successful that the U. S. Maritime Commission and the U. S. Treasury Department gave 4-H Clubs in each State the privilege of buying and selling bonds for a Liberty Ship. 4-H Clubs in more than 30 States have followed Georgia's lead.

The superfort bond campaign is directed by county agricultural and home demonstration agents throughout Georgia. Weekly reports are made to the State office, and these reports are broadcast on the Saturday 4-H Club radio program over WSB in Atlanta.

During 1944, when no special campaign was in progress, Georgia 4-H members bought and sold more than \$10,000,000 worth of war bonds. They have been active in food production and in salvage drives. They have worked long, hard hours on the farm to make up for the loss of other labor.

The drive was planned by members of the Georgia 4-H Club Council, headed by Virginia Kite of Johnson County, at a meeting of the council.—*J. P. Carmichael, acting editor, Georgia Agricultural Extension Service.*

some beef cattle and swine, and turkeys, too. I'd also like to work with 4-H boys and girls and help them have one of the biggest clubs in the United States."

The Veterans Assistance Committee of the Rusk County, Tex., agricultural Victory Council sent off a similar questionnaire. About 45 percent of the men replying expressed a wish to engage in farming.

SLIDEFILMS recently prepared by the Extension Service, the Bureaus of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering are:

Nos. 654, the County Agent; 655, The County Home Demonstration Agent; 656, Home-Grown Plants for Transplanting; 657, a Back-Yard Vegetable Garden; 658, Canning Chicken; 660, Canning Fruits and Tomatoes; and 661, Canning Vegetables Steam Pressure Way. Copies have been deposited for inspection with the agricultural editor at your State Agricultural College.

ITS OWN BEST EXHIBIT is the Graphic Extensioner Number 1, issued by the New York State Extension Service. It is a beautiful piece of mimeographing and contains suggestions to help others attain the same ends such as "How to Cut Stencils." The publication contains three pages of useful drawings to illustrate circular letters and such.

■ Wayne County, Mich., 4-H Clubs and Future Farmers joined the USDA Club of Detroit at their February meeting. They watched Federal inspection and grading of meats at a large food products company and heard the inspectors tell how it was done.

■ Each community home demonstration club in Marion County, S. C., has selected the mother who has the greatest number of children in the armed services, and to this mother the club has presented a sufficient number of fruit trees for a good home orchard.

"This has a twofold purpose," says Juanita Neely, assistant State home demonstration agent. "One, gives recognition to families; and two, starts a demonstration orchard in each community."

# What the G. I. wants

■ Looking ahead to the post-war years, the Eastland County, Tex., Agricultural Victory Council wrote to all the men in the armed service who had gone from their county. They asked the G. I.'s if they had any plans for the future and offered assistance to those who expressed an interest in farming. From their answers, the committee now can devise plans for helping these veterans get established, once demobilization gets under way.

Floyd Lynch, Eastland County agricultural agent, says that, without exception, the men welcome news from home and the knowledge that organized volunteer groups are interested in their welfare. Some plan to remain

in the armed services for a while; others want to continue their education, and a few still have no definite plans, the replies show.

A corporal expressed an interest to "own my own farm after the war if there is any plan whereby I can borrow money to get started." This word came from a sergeant: "I'd prefer a large portion of my land in grass for cattle raising. It doesn't have to be in any certain community just so it is in Eastland County." Another private said he hoped to take a course at A. and M. College and then do dairy farming.

One zealous G. I. wrote: "When I get out of the Army, I should like to buy a farm and get dairy cattle and



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Can what you can.** Home Canning of Meat is the title of AWI-110, in which complete, illustrated directions for canning meat and poultry are given. The directions are based on studies made in the laboratories of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. As a result of this research, a temperature of 10 degrees lower than was formerly approved is recommended—240° F. instead of 250°. (This is equivalent to 10 pounds pressure instead of 15 pounds.) Processing times have been shortened as much as is considered safe for adequate sterilization, and directions for a raw pack as well as a hot pack are given where both methods give satisfactory results. Tin cans or glass jars can be used. Directions should be followed faithfully. Because meat is so scarce this season, it is more important than ever that none be wasted. Canning is a splendid way to take care of hens culled from the flock this summer—2-year-old hens are better for canning than spring chickens. But don't fry poultry *before* canning. Get a copy of the leaflet from the Department.

■ **End results of plant breeding.** Forty-three new varieties of crop plants were released last year by the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering. Just what does it mean to "release" a new variety? First, an announcement with a description of the plant is sent to seed trade and other agricultural publications. Seed is then supplied to seed producers who request it. These producers, by growing plants from the seed and collecting seed from the new crop, increase the stocks and make seed available for sale through the normal trade channels. It usually takes 2 years or more from the time of the first announcement for seed of a new variety to become generally available to growers through retail outlets. New varieties are released by

the agency that developed them; if more than one agency, such as a State agricultural experiment station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, cooperated in the breeding work, the release is cooperative. Growers interested in finding out where to get seed with the least possible delay may write to the releasing agency or to the nearest State experiment station for information as to the first sources of supply.

■ **And now—turkey eggs?**—Ever eat a turkey egg? Maybe you will be choosing between turkey and chicken eggs some time in the future. For the new Beltsville Small White turkey, developed for modern small families, is turning out to be a prolific layer. Old-time turkeys ordinarily lay 40 to 60 eggs during the spring months and few if any during the rest of the year. Two of the small-type turkeys bred at the Beltsville Research Center laid an exceptionally large number of eggs in 1944—211 and 206, respectively. Turkey eggs are about one and a half times as large as the average chicken egg and have a somewhat tougher shell. In taste and color of yolks and whites, the 2 kinds of eggs are much the same, and weight for weight they have about equal nutritive value. But don't expect to have a poached turkey egg on your toast tomorrow morning—though turkey eggs are especially good for poaching because the yolk holds its shape well. Much work is still to be done. And besides, chickens take less feed for an equal quantity of egg and are, therefore, more efficient and economical producers.

■ **DDT progress report.** A fact sheet giving the results of 2 years' testing of DDT insecticides has been prepared by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. This 3½-page mimeographed statement is available on application to the bureau in Washington. DDT cannot be recommended

yet for farm or home use. It must first be determined whether the insecticides containing it will harm crops and soils, and how they can be used so as not to kill great numbers of beneficial and useful insects. Continued experiments are being carried on as rapidly as facilities permit.

## A wholesome trend

One of the most wholesome trends in rural life in Texas is an awakening to the need of recreation in homes and communities.

Just recently, for instance, the house rules committee for the community recreation hall at Conroe has given permission for rural children of the county to use the hall every Saturday afternoon. So, while their parents shop or attend to other necessary business, the children can be pleasantly occupied in supervised fun. Hallie Peters, assistant county home demonstration agent in Montgomery County, is in charge of activities at the hall on Saturday afternoons. And she reports that this community recreation center is being used to good advantage.

Home demonstration and 4-H Clubs, long sold on recreation, know the word implies much more than just "games." A "hobby show" in Hamilton County recently drew nearly a thousand spectators and more than 200 contributors. In that same county, folks of the Liberty community gather annually for a big Thanksgiving dinner at the school. Several clubs in Deaf Smith County do this, but the Westway Home Demonstration Club in that county goes a step further. Its members give a community party honoring every service man who comes home on leave or furlough.

"Play nights" for entire families are popular in Angelina County. The Chapman Ranch Club in Navarro County sponsored 24 outstanding community events last year—picnics and basket suppers in the summer, 42 parties in the wintertime. The Currie Club in that same county reported wiener roasts, ice cream suppers, a barbecue, and at Easter time there was a picnic for the adults and an egg hunt for the youngsters.—Mrs. Eloise Trigg Johnson, specialist in family life education, Texas.

# We Study Our Job

A former extension director and president of the college gives us a firsthand account of the recent evaluation workshop in Chicago. Wartime travel restrictions limited the attendance to 20 persons. Because of the nature of the instruction given the participants, these were persons now carrying on or directing research in some specific study of extension work.

**F. L. BALLARD, Oregon State Extension Supervisor  
War Food Production and Conservation**

I attended the evaluation workshop at the University of Chicago March 12 to 24. It was a new type of extension conference. Consideration was given under highly skilled direction to principles to consider in evaluating extension accomplishments and methods. Dr. Ralph W. Tyler, acting head of social sciences and chairman of the Department of Graduate Education, and three of his staff, Dr. C. O. Houle, Dr. M. L. Hartung, and Dr. Shailer Peterson, gave first place in their plans in this period to assisting the extension workers. There were lectures in the morning, consultations with university staffmen by selected groups in the afternoon, personal conferences, special lectures, and committee meetings in the evening. Groups and individuals prepared study outlines for a list of selected problems under this experienced direction. It was a busy period, and productive.

The group of extension workers was drawn from a wide range of professional experiences in 10 States and the Washington office. From the States were: Beatrice Billings, State leader of home economics extension in Massachusetts; Dorothy DeLany, assistant State club leader in New York; and H. F. McFeeley, assistant specialist in marketing, New Jersey, to represent the East; Jewell Garland, leader, rural organization and recreation, Mississippi; and J. P. Leagans, program planning specialist, North Carolina, came from the South. From the Middle West came L. M. Busche, assistant county agent leader, Indiana; Nellie Watts, assistant State home demonstration agent leader, Ohio; and H. P. Hanson, assistant State supervisor of emergency farm labor program, Minnesota. Lorene Dryden, specialist in clothing from Arizona, and I came in from the far West. The

Washington office was represented by Dr. Gladys Gallup, Dr. Barnard Joy, Fred Jans, Eunice Heywood, K. W. Ingwalson, Mary Louise Collings, Mrs. Laurel Sabrosky, and Alice Sunquist. Ruth B. McCammon and Thelma Dreis were there from the Nutrition Programs Branch.

Observers and advisers for brief periods were Director M. L. Wilson; Dr. Bonney Youngblood, Office of Experiment Stations; and Dr. Charles P. Loomis, Michigan State College.

High lights were general agreement that Extension has about completed its establishment period and in the immediate postwar should start its fulfillment period; that building for the future requires evaluation of the past, and that a sound evaluation is a distinctly scientific process involving extension research in a volume and of degrees of thoroughness not yet fully realized.

Evaluation leads two ways, it was thought. One is to establish a measure of accomplishment. This should reach beyond mere numbers and extent of practices influenced to the broader aspects of attitudes, self-reliance, and general social adjustments. The second direction is toward determining the advantages of different methods of organization, teaching practices, and program building.

High dividends would result from much expanded research in these fields, it was agreed.

Future accomplishments will be speeded, it was brought out, when more light can be shed upon everyday questions rising with increasing frequency as the tempo of extension accelerates because of tremendous continuing growth in demands for its services.

For example, in one of the laboratory sections attention settled upon

the question of load of county extension agents. Program organization plans must include consideration of personnel numbers. Any sound outlook for adequate State service involves estimating staff members required. Questions here, were: How many families can an extension agent serve effectively? What are the factors bearing upon this determination? As additional agents are added to county staffs, in what fields of extension should they be trained? To what extent can a single agent, or two agents, meet the needs of a county? Which is most effective county organization, administrative organization or direct contact?

Groups were organized to outline studies which, it seemed, would throw light on such questions. Just enough progress was made to point to ultimate possibilities, it seemed. Validity of methods proposed for this investigational work was greatly clarified by the university staff.

Establishment of a workable personnel rating system, specialists' teaching methods, effectiveness of radio and visual education were other topics given consideration by the group. Another of growing importance was consideration of methods to reach both high- and low-income groups, including part-time farmers. That different methods are necessary in effectively reaching different social strata, racial groups, and sometimes religious groups was generally agreed; but the techniques to be employed are still to be developed.

I thought when we had finished the workshop that new dimensions had been added to old ideas, many new ideas had been developed, and the point had been well made that research in extension analogous to the extension research in more formal educational methods has undeveloped values.

It seemed to me also that the workshop type of conference is worth trying in various modifications in the States. It would break the pattern of conferences which may now be a little monotonous and shopworn. It has many values if the plan is well thought out and organized carefully.

# Among Ourselves



■ **MARY ELLEN BROWN**, State home demonstration leader in Nebraska, is retiring July 1 after 28 years of pioneering in work with homemaking education.

Born in an early pioneering Nebraska farm home, Miss Brown has always known the challenges and difficulties of the rural home. Her father, as a young bridge builder, helped push the original line of the Union Pacific out across the Nebraska plains. Her mother, coming to the State in 1867, was one of Nebraska's earliest teachers, teaching in a small one-room school in the country northwest of Fremont and then in the newly organized town of Fremont.

Miss Brown's early training was in a rural school. After teaching in the Fremont public schools, she went to Lincoln and taught there before continuing her studies at the University of Nebraska. In 1909, she entered the Department of Home Economics and upon her graduation taught in that department. She joined the Agricultural Extension Service in 1917 as assistant 4-H Club leader. She wrote the first circular for 4-H clothing clubs and revised the foods circulars to adapt them to 4-H age. Miss Brown has always felt that new developments were important in the growth of the Extension Service and

were necessary for growth and originality. With this in mind, she helped organize the keep-well project in 4-H Club work. Miss Brown says that she believes people should be given ideas which they can work out in their own way, and she has followed that plan in all her work with the Extension Service.

In 1923, Miss Brown was asked to take the directorship of the women's work in the Agricultural Extension Service. Home demonstration work then was with individual clubs. The number of project clubs grew until a new system of educational work was developed with two leaders for each club. There are now 1,220 home demonstration clubs in 88 Nebraska counties with a membership of 17,850 women. In addition to the organization of home demonstration clubs, Miss Brown organized Nebraska study clubs. When radio came into use, the program entitled "Mrs. True Homemaker" was originated by Miss Brown on KFAB.

Miss Florence Atwood will succeed Miss Brown on her retirement. Miss Atwood, now with the Farm Security Administration, is a graduate of the University of Nebraska. She was a home demonstration agent in Dakota County and then was a specialist in foods and nutrition with the Agricultural Extension Service. In 1936, she went with FSA. Miss Atwood studied at Michigan State College and received her master's degree there. Her home is in Lincoln. She has been president of the Nebraska Home Economics Association.

■ **PROF. W. R. BALLARD** has retired from active duty as Maryland extension horticulturist after 39 years of continuous service on the staff of the University of Maryland.

A graduate of Kansas State Agricultural College in 1905, Professor Ballard came to the university in February of the following year to handle the testing of varieties of fruit and carry on breeding work with pears, apples, and grapes for the Agricultural Experiment Station. During 1918, he was placed in charge of the State garden contest initiated by the

State Food Administrator. At the close of World War I he taught horticulture at the university and did investigational work with small fruits for 1 year before being appointed extension horticulturist, a position he has held until retirement.

In cooperation with the county agricultural agents, he conducted for several years demonstrations in the growing of tomato plants in outdoor beds. His popular bulletin, *More Tomatoes from Fewer Acres*, went through many editions. He has spent much time in the field of ornamental horticulture, conducting landscape demonstrations in all parts of the State. At one time a study course in flower growing was conducted in cooperation with home demonstration agents, with a total enrollment of more than 2,500 farm women. For 17 years he has edited a monthly leaflet entitled *Ornamental Gardening Notes*, which has a popular appeal throughout the State.

Professor Ballard has been in demand as a speaker for garden clubs and as a judge of horticultural exhibits and gardens. He assisted for many years with the final judging of gardens in the contest sponsored by the Women's Civic League and the *Baltimore Evening Sun*.

For more than 20 years, he served as secretary-treasurer of the Maryland Vegetable Growers' Association. In cooperation with Dr. R. A. Jehle, State pathologist, he staged a potato show in connection with the annual farm and home meetings in Baltimore.

He has authored numerous university bulletins and leaflets on horticulture and many articles in various newspapers and magazines, including a garden column in the *Southern Planter*.

In his retirement, Professor Ballard plans to devote his time to the breeding of narcissus, iris, roses, day lilies, and other plants, and also to continue writing about horticultural subjects.

■ **W. J. JERNIGAN**, Arkansas 4-H Club agent, was selected as Man of the Year for his State by the editor of *The Progressive Farmer*.

# Veteran 4-H leaders

■ Jackson County, Ky., boasts of six men and women who have served 30 years as 4-H Club leaders. Five of them attended the celebration observing the thirtieth anniversary of extension work in the county.

The sixth, Uncle John S. Lakes, now 84 years old, was too ill to attend. Until the past 2 years, Uncle John was active as leader of the Wind Cave 4-H Club, and he still participates in club meetings. Of him County Agent Walker R. Reynolds says: "Uncle John Lakes is loved by all people of the county and is known as a wise counselor and an independent leader."

and a son have been along the 4-H trail and are respected citizens. The little one-room school in which club meetings were held for 20 years has given way to a new modern school structure, largely through the influence of Mr. Gabbard and his 4-H Clubbers.

Mrs. Ida Abney, leader of the Corner Oak Club, has lived on a farm where she raised chickens and did housework and, at the same time, taught school through all these 30 years. A son, Jack Abney, was Kentucky State corn champion in 1934 when he grew 144 bushels on an acre. The Abney farm has under-

4-H Club that Tyner school was consolidated as a two-teacher school and finally became the Jackson County High School.

## In appreciation of Director Ramsower

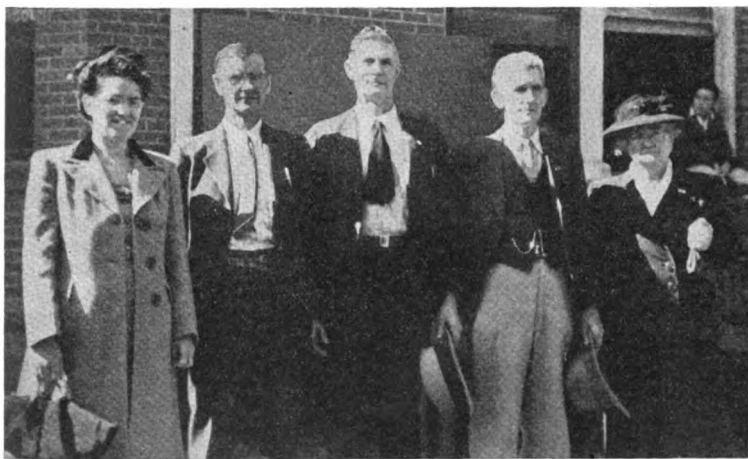
An appropriate close for Farmers' Week was the dinner given in honor of Harry C. Ramsower, in recognition of his 25 years of service as director of Agricultural Extension in Ohio. This happy occasion was attended by about 350 extension workers and friends. Abundant proof of the high regard extension workers have for the director was presented by the 7 speakers, all of whom have been more or less closely associated with the director in extension work and could speak from personal observation and experience.

Veteran Extensioner A. B. Graham told of the development of Ohio extension work through the years, and made frequent mention of Director Ramsower resembling a "King Bee." To Dean John F. Cunningham went the job of directing the evening's proceedings. He presented Director Ramsower with a collection of congratulatory letters from 31 States. Ohio State University's president, Howard Bevis, aptly described Director Ramsower as "a great force in the extension of Extension."

R. D. Barden had a big time demonstrating that "In Union There Is Strength" by putting the shotgun gift together for a grateful director. The gift, complete with hand-tooled case, was handled fondly for a long time by the director who then laid it aside to tell the 350-odd well-wishers: "I am deeply impressed and profoundly grateful. And I can say that I have truly enjoyed working with farm men and women who live upon and till the soil. My wish for a great quarter-century to come is centered on progress that will bring new joy of living to Ohio farm families."

■ 4-H Club members from 19 Tennessee counties marketed approximately 80,000 pounds of roasting chickens during a series of cooperative sales, according to J. C. Powell, assistant extension marketing specialist in Tennessee.

The bulk of this choice poultry meat went to dressing plants supplying the armed services.



Thirty years in extension work in Jackson County, Ky. Left to right: Mrs. Nannie D. Hays, 4-H Club leader at Tyner and Knapp Hill; R. E. Taylor, Pigeon-roost 4-H Club leader; Jake Gabbard, 4-H Club leader at Indian Creek since 1914; Daniel M. Ward, club leader at New Zion, Muncy, and Gray Hawk; and Mrs. Ida Abney, 4-H Club leader at Corner Oak.

The first real 4-H Club program in Jackson County was organized by County Agent Reynolds at Pigeon-roost in 1914. Charter members included four daughters and three sons of R. E. Taylor, who soon took over the leadership of the club. Under his guidance, many community improvements were made, such as an addition to the school, swinging bridges so school children could always reach school, and improvement of cemetery, school, and church grounds.

Jake Gabbard for 30 years has been the guiding spirit of 4-H Club work at Indian Creek. His three daughters

gone constant improvement in the 30 years that Mrs. Abney and her husband have been interested in extension work.

Daniel M. Ward has been a 4-H Club leader at New Zion, Muncy, and Gray Hawk.

Mrs. Nannie D. Hays, another 30-year 4-H Club leader, is the eldest child of County Agent Reynolds. In fact, she was both 4-H Club leader and member during the period of 1914 to 1919. Her first club was at Tyner. Later, she guided the Knapp Hill club, where she trained a State championship demonstration team. It was largely through the Knapp Hill

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**STEVE DEBNAM, TEXAS COUNTY AGENT**—one of those written up in the article, "20 Who Fed a Nation," appearing in the May Farm Journal and condensed in Reader's Digest, is an extension man from 'way back. In fact, Assistant Director H. H. Williamson recalls that in 1920 young Debnam, then a 4-H Club boy, was a member of the champion cattle-judging team at the Southeastern Fair in Atlanta, Ga. The victory gave the show a chance at the Royal Livestock Show in England, and they were winners there, too, in 1921. Mr. Williamson was then Texas State Boys' club agent.

**A MEMORIAL FOREST** with a pine tree for every boy in the service was recently planted in the Hagerstown, Md., watershed. The city bought the trees, and the 4-H Club boys planted them under the direction of Harry Dengler, extension forester. A native son who had been in a prison camp accepted the tribute in the name of the boys at the fighting front. Donald Frush, a 15-year-old 4-H Club boy with 4 brothers and 2 brothers-in-law in the service, rode over the forest in an airplane during the ceremony scattering hemlock seed. The forest contains 7,000 trees.

**H. H. WARNER, DIRECTOR OF HAWAII**, now on official leave in the Pacific directing production of fresh vegetables for our fighting men, wrote "Just a week ago I returned from a 3 weeks' inspection trip in the Marianas. We now have 1,400 acres under cultivation on the three islands and are well on our way to the goal of 3,500 acres by August 1. We have enjoyed better rains there than usual at this time of the year and have harvested nearly 700 tons of stuff to date. You should see the pictures of the boys on Iwo up to their ears in watermelons which we are flying there regularly from Guam and Tinian. That's the sort of thing which makes this assignment so satisfying."

**THE WARTIME VERSION** of Nebraska's traditional Feeders Day—the thirty-third annual—went over the radio without some of the tradition of a "folksy" day but still carried

the latest information on livestock experimental work and livestock production in general.

**IN HONOR OF CARL E. LADD**, a memorial scholarship fund is being raised among his many friends. This fund will be used to encourage and help farm boys and girls to get an agricultural college education which will contribute to their development of leadership. Dean of New York State College of Agriculture, 1932-1943, Carl Ladd was a farm leader with an abiding faith and interest in boys and girls; and it seems especially appropriate that those who have come under his influence would want to perpetuate this interest.

**TEXAS 4-H BOYS** are paying a neighborly visit to Mexican youth May 28 to June 7. The 24 Texas boys were chosen for their achievements in community leadership, war work, and production, as well as character and personality. Their average age is about 17 years, and the average of their experience in club work is 5½ years. On May 31, at a banquet in Mexico City, the boys entertained 24 Mexican boys of corresponding age and agricultural experience. Mexican agricultural leaders and officials also attended. The boys are traveling to Mexico City by automobile and having the opportunity to see how farming is done south of the border. State 4-H

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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Boys' Club Leader L. L. Johnson and Dr. E. H. Shinn, field agent, 4-H Club work for the Southern States, accompanied the boys.

**RURAL HEALTH IN VIRGINIA** was given special attention last month when all home demonstration clubs, women's clubs, parent-teacher associations, and the farm organizations devoted their programs to a better understanding of rural-health conditions and problems and to a study of their solution. Several years ago, the officers of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs asked the Division of Rural Sociology of the Agricultural Experiment Station to make a study of rural health and medical care. This study, made under the sponsorship of the Rural Health and Medical Care Committee,—a volunteer group composed of State-wide and civic organizations, several State agencies, the two medical schools, the State Medical Society, members of the press, and others—will furnish an excellent basis for further action.

**H. B. DERR**, retired county agent from Virginia, was in the office recently full of enthusiasm for his old hobby, collecting specimens of insects injurious to plants. He now has six exhibits with many hundreds of specimens, including insects attacking orchard crops, farm crops, and garden crops, and an exhibit on the Japanese beetle. Last month he took his exhibits to Farmville Teachers College and Harrisonburg Teachers College. His ambition is to eliminate insect and disease waste in Victory Gardens.

**COMMUNITY AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM** of Kiwanis International was announced in their May magazine. The program has three phases: the first concerned with soil conservation, the second emphasizing planning and encouraging businessmen to help in building an economically sound agriculture and the third developing new and better markets for local farm products. The soil conservation phase of the program was announced and the motion picture "It Can Happen Here" had its premier showing in Richmond, Ind., the home State of Secretary Wickard, on May 9 with many agricultural leaders present. It is expected that local Kiwanis Clubs will be getting in touch with county agricultural agents for assistance in the development of the work locally.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## On the docket for July

■ "We Americans must do our part to help swell the Nation's food supply," said President Truman last month, and extension agents are rallying all their resources to help farm families do this.

With the season nearing the half-way mark, crops are being harvested without appreciable loss due to the farm labor shortage. The needs have shifted somewhat because of unusual weather conditions. The late cold spring drastically reduced fruit production in many areas. However, the Southeast has had a bumper peach harvest. Drought reduced wheat production in the southern plains and consequently lowered the labor needs there, but there is still a record crop in prospect for the country as a whole. There is some little indication that more migrants are on the move—under their own steam. But with a generally late season and much of the harvest ahead, there's still a need for all-out recruitment to assure full harvest of the late summer and fall crops.

Placement of women in farm work showed a 44-percent increase during the first 4 months of 1945 as compared to 1944. Women are being recruited to help with fruit and vegetable harvests.

VFV's young workers have been in the field since spring. Harvesttime for

beans and potatoes in Louisiana's Terrebonne Parish found 1,500 boys and girls at work in the fields. In Alabama, boys recruited in 35 counties helped with the potato harvest. Some 100 boys and girls helped harvest the Tennessee strawberries. Three hundred youth helped harvest Lake County, Fla., truck crops. Girls from both public and private schools in Hampshire County, Mass., helped to cut and bunch asparagus. School boys and girls are already organized for summer-harvest emergencies as they arise.

Victory gardening and home food preservation hold a top spot in the food picture. Lag in gardening due to unfavorable weather during the spring in many parts of the country makes it more important than ever to have good summer and fall gardens.

Cooperative Extension here in Washington and in the States is working closely with Paul C. Stark, director of home food supply for the War Food Administration, in pushing victory gardens and home food preservation.

Series of regional conferences held during the past 2 months were well attended, and State garden conferences are now being organized to encourage victory gardeners to carry on through the summer and fall.

Mid-year finds the 8-point dairy program in full swing throughout the country. This "grass roots" program will be reviewed early this month in Washington, D. C., at a meeting of the National Dairy Industry Committee and representatives of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the War Food Administration. It is expected that consideration will be given to a similar program in 1946. Highlighting the meeting will be a display of State Extension Service bulletins, posters, and similar material issued in support of this program.



### PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Accidents in the farm home and on the farm are more numerous than in the city. More than 7,500 farm-home fatalities occur each year. Falls and burns are the chief sources of accidents in farm homes, and many could have been prevented. A farm-safety check-up by every farm family in the Nation is the goal of National Farm-Safety Week—July 22-28.

# Deferred youth form young farmer clubs

NORMAN F. WHIPPEN, Assistant State Supervisor, Emergency Farm Labor, New Hampshire

■ Young farmer clubs have been organized in New Hampshire to help men who are deferred for agriculture to carry out their responsibilities. Already 16 groups have held 98 meetings with an attendance of 3,514 during the past year. They have selected their own programs, and the entire organization has been in their hands. The county agricultural agent is the extension worker who works with these men, and he is developing the program because it concerns the whole farm business and, therefore, deals with his subject, agriculture.

Most young farmer groups are using a minimum of organization. Some clubs have a president, others do not; some of the programs are decided at regular meetings, others are selected through committees. Every effort is made to make each member feel a part of the group—if a person takes part, he is more interested than if he is only a spectator. The men are urged to tell what they are interested in, what will help them most in their farm business, and

are also made to feel that the State and county extension offices are willing to cooperate with them in every way possible. In winter months the men have their programs in town or grange halls, schools, the farm bureau office, or in some farmer's home, but at this time of year farm meetings right on the farm are popular.

New Hampshire young men on farms, like those in other States, have wondered whether they should farm or do other war work. Many entered the service or went into industry, and the farms were being depleted of manpower. In fact, it looked as if the whole farm force would "bolt" in 1943. The Extension Service realized the seriousness of the labor situation if this came to pass and groped for a solution. The problem facing the Extension Service has been to hold as many of the youth as possible on the farm by stimulating in them a real interest in agriculture and their importance in the essential job of food production. The deferment of 2,500 or more men of military age for agricul-



County Agent Colby (right) checks production records with Everett King, a member of the Sullivan County Young Farmers Club

ture has given valuable assistance in enabling New Hampshire to grow \$40,000,000 worth of food products.

The organization of Young Farmer Clubs in which the deferred men could be assisted in their allotted work has helped these young men to understand and better fulfill their part in the war program. At first, young men discussed the problem with the county agent in county committee meetings. Trial meetings were arranged, and the whole young-farmer group was invited. Future plans were made at a trial meeting for later get-togethers. There are not any hard-and-fast rules. The objective is to help the young farmer in his agricultural situation, and county agents are leading groups in that direction. They are more likely to continue their clubs if they conduct them in their own way. Suggestions from the State workers are adjusted in the county to the local situation.

Young farmers, like everyone else, enjoy seeing things. Tours to successful farms to inspect improved pastures, machinery methods, roughage programs, barn arrangements, storage methods, appeal to them. Agricultural specialists willingly give their time because these young men accept new practices more readily than older farmers. Farmers who have made progress encourage younger men when they tell the story of how they tackle their problems. At one meeting, a farmer with 50 years' experience and the State agronomy special-

"One or two of these hybrids are showing promise in our demonstration plots," says L. J. Higgins, agronomist from the University of New Hampshire, reporting to the Young Farmers Club meeting at Claremont, N. H.





ist were invited to discuss Ladino clover and roughage production. The specialist gave valuable advice on the subject, but the farmer with his plain language and wealth of experience really influenced the meeting.

It is easier for the members to talk in meetings when they are all of the same age, and then they discuss the subject with the speaker and among themselves. Motion pictures are used frequently.

The recreation phase of the program has received attention in some clubs, but it has been of limited importance during the past year. One club arranged a bowling match after the program; another had a ladies' night, and numerous clubs have refreshments such as doughnuts and coffee.

Two of the large counties have three clubs, so that the men won't have to travel too far. Small counties have just one organization. In the northernmost county of the State, two groups meet in their localities for a joint meeting and program. At this gathering they select subjects for the next

three meetings so that both groups can use the same speakers. Monthly meetings are becoming the habit throughout the State.

It doesn't seem possible to get all members of any group to participate. Therefore, we send to all the men deferred for agriculture a mimeographed paper which we call *The Young Farmer*. Through this paper we continually endeavor to build up their morale and the importance of their job; and in most issues we use statements from such officials as the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, Director of Extension, Chairman of the War Board, and others who have written articles filled with high praise of the young farmers' efforts. Specialists write notes for columns which we call "Do It Now" and "In a Nutshell." We keep the men posted on the 2-C classifications and about the doings of young farmer clubs over the State. We get from the county agents short stories about successful farmers and include these local items. The whole paper may occupy only the four sides of two sheets of paper.

nessmen gathered the following evening to make plans for another such event next fall.

Whenever County Agent Smith needs anything for his 4-H Clubs Garland Johnson helps him get it. This sort of teamwork between farm and city is strongly recommended by both groups in Elkin.

## Land value and appraisal training demonstrations

A series of eight 1-day training demonstrations in farm land values and appraisal were held in Mississippi during April by the State Extension Service, in consultation with the Farm Security Administration and the Farm Credit Administration of New Orleans, La.

The purposes of these demonstrations were to bring to the attention of the farm leadership the importance of the current trend in farm land values; the probable implication to agriculture in the post-war period, particularly in regard to the Veterans' Farm Purchase Program; and to give local agricultural agency workers background information and procedures in farm land values and appraisals based on the soils and average normal conditions.

It is expected that the information and training given the county workers will be used in work in the local communities among leaders and farmers generally as well as with returning veterans and war workers seeking farming opportunities.

A total of 292 workers attended and participated in the demonstrations, including 136 extension workers, 71 Farm Security Administration supervisors, 29 Soil Conservation Service field men, 23 Farm Credit Administration field men and secretaries, 13 county AAA administrators, and 20 farmers, teachers, and others.

The demonstrations were planned and conducted under the supervision of the Extension Economics Division, in cooperation with the Extension soils specialist. It is planned to hold similar training demonstrations again in the spring of 1946.

■ With a view to city beautification, members of the Greenleaf 4-H Club in the Clearwater-Hynes area, Los Angeles, Calif., have propagated hundreds of flowering eucalyptus for community plantings.

## Farm and business team-up

■ In Elkin, N. C., farmers and businessmen have proved the value of cooperation for their mutual welfare, reports Assistant Director Reuben Brigham, who attended one of their recent Farmers' Day meetings and returned enthusiastic about the practical teamwork of the local businessmen, bankers, and farmers. With more than 700 in attendance, the town and country folks devoted the afternoon to an educational program on dairying and adequate permanent and annual pastures. Neill M. Smith, Surry County agent, presided. After dinner, served by the Y. M. C. A., C. W. Bailey of the First National Bank of Clarksville, Tenn., and chairman of the agricultural committee of the American Bankers Association, talked to the folks about making ready rural America for the time "when G. I. Joe returns."

This was the third annual farmers' day meeting, each larger than the former. It was sponsored by the Elkin Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, the North Carolina Bank-

ers Association, and the State Extension Service. The meeting was opened by Dean I. O. Schaub, Director of the Extension Service; and Fred Greene, Secretary of the North Carolina Bankers Association, brought greetings from that organization.

The town of Elkin is in the heart of a rich, fertile portion of the foothill country and is the only large town in the area. As Extension Editor Frank Jeter says: "The town has set out to become the center of a progressive community composed of the lower part of its own Surry County and parts of the adjoining counties of Yadkin and Wilkes. Surry's county agent, Neill Smith, spark-plugs the rural part of the farmer-banker movement; and Garland Johnson, an alert young business and civic leader, vice president of the bank of Elkin, the town part. An example of their activities was the cattle and wool show sponsored by the Elkin business leaders. They invited all 4-H Club members of the adjacent counties to be their guests at luncheon, with 1,200 hungry people present. More than 300 busi-

# County agent and Georgia Institute of Genetics improve seed

WALTER S. BROWN, Director, Georgia Extension Service



M. W. H. Collins

Farmers of Bartow County, Ga., are fortunate to have the Georgia Institute of Genetics. This nonprofit corporation was organized in 1943 to serve as a means of breeding, multiplying, growing, and distributing improved seed stocks and domestic animals.

The idea for this corporation, which now has assets of approximately \$31,000, including a 160-acre farm, originated with M. W. H. Collins, county agent of Bartow County, who has been in and out of county agent work for about 20 years, but whose life interest has been one of improving crops and livestock. Mr. Collins interrupted his extension career twice to go into commercial seed breeding. When he returned to extension work to stay in 1933, he was determined to work out some method for supplying farmers generally with better seed stocks.

County Agent Collins interested farmers in Bartow County in cotton-seed improvement demonstrations. He introduced several tons of pedigreed Stoneville cotton planting seed which had been grown from seed furnished by Dr. H. B. Brown, plant breeder of

the Louisiana State University and originator of the variety. For about 5 years Collins cooperated with from 2 to 5 farmers in growing this variety of cotton for seed selection. In 1941 the number of cooperators increased to 20, in 1943 to 25, and in 1944 to 30.

Collins believes that the cotton-improvement program has probably shown its greatest results for the benefit of Bartow County during 1944 when each of the 30 cooperators had a small breeding patch on his farm. In addition to the work with these 30 cooperators, highly improved seed was planted on 17 acres of the Georgia Institute of Genetics farm at Cartersville.

It is expected that in 1945 the Stoneville strain of cotton, which has been tested for the past 3 years, will be used by as many as 75 to 100 cotton-improvement cooperators in Bartow County and adjoining areas.

In 1943, when measuring the influence of this cotton-improvement program on the yield per acre of cotton in Bartow County as compared to the yield per acre of the six adjoining counties, a graph, 1928 to 1942, showed the average yield for the six surrounding counties consistently higher than for Bartow County until 1939. Beginning in 1939, and becoming more strikingly noticeable each year thereafter, this position has been reversed; and the yield of cotton per

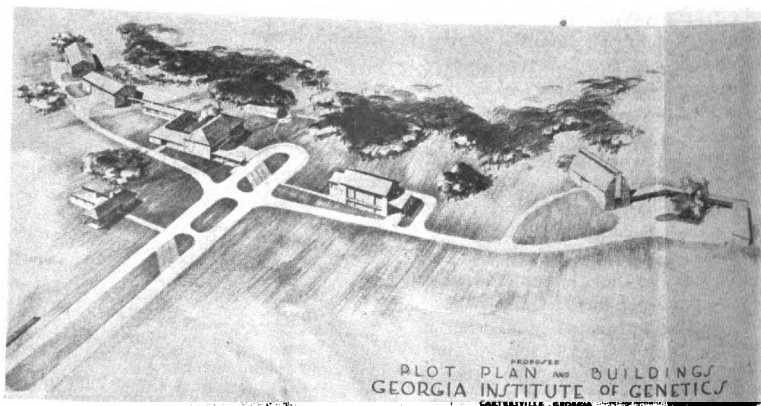
acre in Bartow County led the others and has shown a steady increase.

County Agent Collins and cooperators in the project decided it would be desirable to have one place where seed stocks of various kinds could be multiplied under absolute control. In connection with that place, contracts could be made with farmers to further multiply and increase good seed stocks. At the same time farmers could be furnished with the required facilities to do the necessary processing, storing, and handling of these seed stocks. Then farmers could be assured of having high-quality seed available.

Collins talked the plan over with everyone who would listen. He received considerable encouragement. One man in particular, J. M. Neel, of Bartow County, became most interested and joined with others in perfecting the details of their present project—the Georgia Institute of Genetics.

Supported by private donations, this corporation, organized in February 1943, has five trustees, including the county commissioner of Bartow County, the mayor of the county seat town, the executive head of their bank as the treasurer, J. M. Neel as secretary, and County Agent Collins as chairman of the board of this nonprofit corporation of farmers. The policies of the corporation are guided entirely by the decisions of the board of trustees.

Included in the funds for the establishment of the corporation was a donation from one man of \$500, a grant of \$15,000 from a large educational foundation with the provision that the grant be matched dollar for



dollar, also a grant of \$3,500 by another foundation for the purpose of acquiring a complete one-stand cotton gin outfit.

A farm of approximately 160 acres of some of the best soil types in Bartow County was purchased for the Georgia Institute of Genetics in 1944. As the farm was in a run-down condition, cover crops were sown and an agreement was made with the supervisors of the Coosa River Soil Conservation District to put into effect a comprehensive soil-building program on this farm. The entire farm has now been terraced, and in the fall of 1944 nearly 55 acres was sown to Austrian winter peas or other winter legume crops.

As to the future development, Collins says: "We have interested the county agents of all the adjoining counties in choosing men for 1945 cooperators in the cotton-improvement program. We hope those adjoining

counties at first, and later the counties farther out, will, in cooperation with the county extension agents of those counties, adopt a similar system of seed improvement.

"We are multiplying some new strains of small grains which we have obtained from our State Experiment Station and others that we got from the Bureau of Plant Industry 2 years ago through the courtesy of Dr. Eugene C. Auchter.

"The people in this community believe that they have in this institute a good system of providing improved seed in large quantities at costs farmers feel they can afford. The people here also think that it is undoubtedly and certainly a program that could and should be nurtured and fostered by the Extension Service, as it is, upon last analysis, a purely educational program based upon the tried and true demonstration method, as exemplified by Dr. Seaman A. Knapp."

## Neat homes contest

### The first step in a landscaping program

R. B. HULL, Extension Horticulturist, Landscaping, Indiana

■ A lack of critical appreciation of landscape standards is one of the first problems in the home-ground development project.

What are the outstanding requirements of good development?

What are the important features of the farmstead home grounds which should be developed for maximum use and enjoyment?

This establishment of standards must be accomplished before genuine results may be hoped for. For only a sound appreciation will sustain the slow year-by-year improvement which it is possible to include in the work program and budget of the average family.

With a view to concentrating the interest of a large number of people on these standards, the "Neat Homes Contest" has been used with success in several counties. It is recommended as a preliminary step for those counties desiring to start a landscape project and as a follow-up enterprise for those counties in which some project work has been done.

This contest may be carried on in a county with only two visits by the specialist and only 2 full days' work on the part of local committees. Much

may be accomplished with a minimum expenditure of time.

The contest extends over a period of 3 or 4 weeks. A county committee of six to eight members is organized to conduct the contest. This committee is made up of representatives of the farm bureau, home-economics organizations, garden clubs, and service clubs. Three or four people in each township constitute the township judging committee which obtains the enrollment of a number of outstanding home grounds in the township, judges these entrants on the basis of the score card, and certifies the winner to the county committee.

The county committee prepares and submits for publication in local news organs publicity material throughout the period of the contest. Form stories to go out in sequence are supplied by the landscape extension office.

Four judges appointed by the county committee visit each township-winning home and score the grounds to select the county winner. Often there are two winners—a farmstead and a town home. A good plan is to appoint eight judges, four of whom work with the specialist for each half

day spent in judging. The landscape specialist accompanies the judges on this tour.

Business firms and civic organizations frequently offer the women gardening tools, paint, and landscape or gardening books as prizes. The home bureau in one county has offered in the past an all-expense trip to attend the January conference at Purdue University.

A summer tour is planned to include a half dozen outstanding places discovered by the contest. At one of these stops those present are given score cards and requested to score the grounds.

The second year the contest is conducted in a somewhat different manner. Entrants may be obtained by a township committee as usual and a preliminary scoring made by county judging committees chosen from those who accompanied the specialist during the first contest.

The contest is carried over a period of 1 year, and a second scoring is made at the end of the 12-month period. The award is thus based in this second contest upon the actual improvement made over the 12-month period. The two scorings are made on the same card.

The two successive contests can be made in a short time, and considerable leadership is developed by the practice in judging. Some thought and study are stimulated on the subject of landscape development, and the contests do much to make home-ground development more a part of our rural thinking.

The contest is suggested as one enterprise in which some service could be rendered by the extension specialist pending the initiation of the county landscape project.

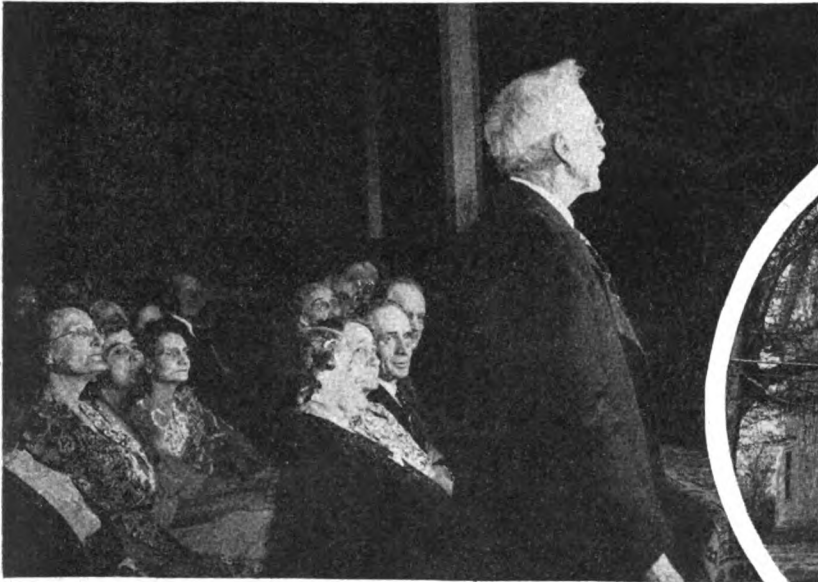
## 4-H girls make layettes for hospital

Antioch 4-H Club girls of Howard County, Ark., are learning the basic principles of clothing construction and also helping the local hospital by making baby layettes, reports Francille Killion, home demonstration agent.

The hospital, faced with the shortage of baby garments on the market and with the labor shortage, is furnishing the materials; and the 4-H girls are making the needed garments and blankets.



**HOW TO BUILD AN ENDURING PEACE**—that is the question. In town halls similar to that in Hopkinton (in the circle) New Hampshire citizens voted overwhelmingly to support the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. (Lower right) The town moderator reads the warrant calling for a vote on an international peace organization. (Left center) A citizen gets up to make the motion. (Top) Under the leadership of the home demonstration agent, Mrs. Leona Thompson, of Addison County, Vermont women get down to rock bottom on the causes of war. (Lower left) The women are interested.



# Women discuss problems in building an enduring peace

■ San Francisco is not the only place where problems of organizing to maintain world peace are under consideration. Nearly 3,000 Vermont women are finishing up a series of three discussion meetings on the building of an enduring peace.

"I can hardly believe the enthusiasm and interest of these women," reports the Chittenden County home demonstration agent. "A few think that the meetings are futile, but this only served to make the other people feel the necessity of getting them to change their minds." One woman expressed it this way: "Of course it's possible to have a world organization after the war because if the Methodists, Baptists, and Congregationalists can unionize in Hinesburg and get along together, anybody else in the world can, too."

In Lamoille County, the women had a lively discussion on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. They at least know that sacrifices must be made to maintain peace, and they are willing to make them.

About 147 home demonstration clubs in Vermont, in every county except one, are holding the series of three discussion meetings: First, a discussion on "Can we get on without wars;" second, a consideration of the causes of war; and, third, the plans proposed for maintaining world peace. The women are encouraged to participate and to do so freely, with earnestness and spirit.

These discussions are led by home demonstration agents who prepared for the job by attending an intensive short course at the University of Vermont last summer. Under the di-

rection of Dr. George Dykhuizen, associate professor of philosophy, with cooperation of political science professors, the agents learned some of the facts behind the problems of world peace; and together they outlined suggestions for conducting group discussion. Reading up on world events has been their spare-time job ever since. They do not pose as experts though and are free to say so if they do not know the answer.

In Rutland County, the woman in charge of the traveling library attended a discussion meeting and is getting the recommended books on international problems. Libraries in other counties are also cooperating. The women say they are doing more reading on the subject, and many are listening with more understanding to radio broadcasts on international affairs. Marjorie Luce, home demonstration leader in Vermont, was really responsible for the "public problems" project and has worked hard for its success. She says it began as a result of requests from Vermont rural women themselves.

"The main objective," says Miss Luce, "has been to develop an attitude, a philosophy, an open-mindedness as to the part the United States should play in international peace. We have tried to break down some of the prejudices and traditional thinking which we find in Vermont—as elsewhere."

The greatest problems have been in breaking down prejudices against anything new in the way of a program, in finding material adapted to such uses, and in providing training for the whole staff.

## Bibliography of Agriculture

■ The Bibliography of Agriculture, issued monthly by the Library of the Department of Agriculture, is a comprehensive list of the books and pamphlets and of articles appearing in periodicals as they are received month by month in the Library, classified according to the major fields of interest in agriculture and related subjects. Since its first appearance in July 1942, it has taken

the place of the familiar mimeographed lists of publications of State agricultural experiment stations and State agricultural extension services and the current literature lists formerly issued by the Library.

The Bibliography consists of five separate lists. The first three are lists of the publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State agricultural experiment stations, and

the State agricultural extension services. The fourth is a list of books and pamphlets arranged by subject. The fifth is a list of periodical articles and numbered serials classified according to the following categories: Plant Science, Soil Science, Forestry, Animal Industry, Entomology, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Products, Agricultural Economics and Sociology, Food and Human Nutrition, and Miscellaneous.

Author and classified subject-matter indexes appear with each issue, making it easy for the user to find a specific item or subject of interest to him. The last number in each volume contains cumulative indexes which supersede the monthly indexes.

The Bibliography does not include material on the essentially home-economics topics other than human nutrition, except as they are found in the publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State agricultural experiment stations, and the State agricultural extension services. The Agricultural Products section also is full of interest to the person who buys or prepares food, for it lists the articles which have been published on consumption and prices and on ways of preserving, storing, freezing, and dehydrating food.

The edition is small. Free distribution is limited to State, Federal, and other public agencies, and to libraries of State experiment stations, colleges of agriculture, and the universities. Individuals may consult library copies or subscribe at \$4.50 a year through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

■ Eight kits of material, including publications by the many agencies concerned with post-war problems, have been assembled by the Department of Rural Sociology at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. This is a new service offered by the loan library for grange lecturers, pastors, chairmen of program committees, or other community leaders needing resources for discussion meetings. Some of the titles are: Reports of the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace; United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, International Organization and Inter-American Understanding.



## Extension agents join fighting

Nineteen 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.

### There's no place like home

Capt. Paul E. Miller, Garden County agent, Nebraska, wrote from Europe that he was in the Cologne battle. He went through a huge auto plant there. They had been making 1942 Ford trucks. After Cologne, he was in many of the other major battles. He says, "Everything over here from farming to buildings reeks with age with the exception of the way the French drive their Renaults, Citroens, Peugeotts, and other cars. They drive fast especially with army cars and use the horn much. Most of the farmers use oxen or cows for power. All crops like wheat, alfalfa, and potatoes are doing nicely. It is really quite pretty here, but the more I see of this world, the better I like the United States and home."

### Awarded Bronze Star Medal

Capt. Alvin P. Parham, U. S. Army, assistant county agent in East Carroll Parish, La., on military leave, has received the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in combat during the periods May 1944 to July 1944 and October 1944 to February 1945. We quote the following from the citation signed February 28, 1945, by V. H. Pritchard, Major General, U. S. Army, Commanding:

"During these periods which covered actions against the enemy from Anzio, Italy, to Palazzo, Italy, Captain Parham consistently rendered outstanding services both as a maintenance officer and a company commander. On 23 May 1944, the first

day of the break-through from the Anzio beachhead, 14 of the 17 tanks of his company were disabled by enemy mines. Before morning of the next day, however, Captain Parham, by skillful and speedy action, had 15 tanks ready for operation against the enemy. It was due to his resourceful action and bravery in evacuating the tanks under enemy fire and repairing the disabled tanks that the company was able to resume action the next day. On another occasion, Captain Parham was ordered to capture and hold the town of Mazzoli, Italy, with a task force which consisted of his company of medium tanks plus an attached infantry company. Captain Parham alone made a reconnaissance through enemy-held territory to determine the best approaches to the town. During all the action, Captain Parham spearheaded the attack with his tank, approaching the town with only 1 section consisting of 3 tanks. Despite heavy losses, however, he pressed on with the attack, finally entering the town with only his own tank and 1 platoon of infantry, the remainder of his tanks having been knocked out by enemy anti-tank fire and mines. Captain Parham and his small group successfully held the town against counterattacks until more forces arrived to relieve him. The courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Parham is in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces and merits high praise."

■ The following item appeared in the Tennessee Extension Review for February:

Ella Mae Crosby, f demonstration agent in Tennessee Extension's first WAVES, is at the Naval Ground School, Corpus but "up in the air" most She writes: "I was to Speech Intelligibility could sure use someone t —Ed.) "about 3 month course includes speech ov for ICS and for pilot to fly some to keep up wit and form. Had a very r hop in a PBM last week. checking three students c

## THE ROLL C.

(Continued from last

### TEXAS

H. M. Breedlove, Dor agent.

S. L. Garrison, Lamb C  
W. E. Gentry, Camp C  
H. M. Gibbs, Fort B agent.

Louis Gilbreath, Jim W agent.

R. M. Knox, Freest agent.

Jessie Murdock, Galves home demonstration agent  
W. H. Ratcliff, assist Taylor County.

Murle Scales, Wheeler C demonstration agent, WA

Arlene Schonerstedt, Wa home demonstration agent

Sadie V. Seward, Ochilt home demonstration agent

M. J. Simms, Dallam Co

Marjorie Sue Stewart County home demonstrat

WAVE.  
H. A. Weatherby, Dimr agent.

## Harvest the waste acres

■ Wartime pressure on food revives interest in some of our food resources often neglected in recent years—the wild fruits and nuts, and small game and fish from both natural and artificial ponds. Elderberry bushes in fence corners can supply delectable pies and jellies to brighten the wartime diet. Wild plums, cherries, and grapes in jams and jellies have a delicate flavor all their own which adds variety to the menu. Sun-ripened wild strawberries are a delicacy, and all grow on what is often considered waste acres. These uncultivated acres not only produce wild fruit and nuts, but the bushes shelter game.

As the need for utilizing these resources became apparent about 2 years ago, soil conservationists, biologists, horticulturists, and nutrition specialists in the Department of Agriculture and in the States began to work together to make the most of the Crops growing on wasteland.

The Soil Conservation Service has encouraged the planting of varieties of wild fruit and nut trees in their plantings to hold the soil on areas indicated as waste acres. As a result of the several million shrubs planted by farmers cooperating with soil-conservation districts last year, nearly a million were species that produce nuts or fruits valuable for jams, jellies, pies, or preserves. These plantings were established to control wind and water erosion on gullies and odd areas, stream banks, spoil banks, and in windbreaks, hedges, and field borders.

These plantings and the natural wild bushes on the place must be protected from fire and other hazards if there is anything to harvest. These methods are being taught to farmers in soil-conservation districts and to 4-H Club members.

Nutritionists have supplied some good new recipes for the crops on the waste acres, for the fruits will not get harvested unless the family particularly likes them and learns to appreciate the peculiarly good flavor of these wild fruits.

The opportunity to sell wild fruit and nuts is also not overlooked. In the acid bogs of Northern States, cranberries and blueberries offer a source of considerable revenue. In a good year, huckleberries and blueber-

ries picked from wild, unimproved stock provide in the United States the astonishing return of \$10,000,000. The wild low-bush blueberry of Maine and the Lake States alone provides a return of nearly \$5,000,000. The thick, shiny, dark-green leaves of the Pacific Coast evergreen blueberry are sold to florists and the berries are valued as a food crop.

The wild blackberry crop in Grainger County, Tenn., became a 4-H project, and 235,000 pounds were harvested to bolster the national supply of fruit and other food. Grainger is one of the smaller counties with small acreages of tillable land per farm and considerable wasteland on which blackberries thrive. The county 4-H Clubs, composed of more than 600 members, helped with the harvest. The pickers received 7 cents per pound

Elderberries in a fence corner offer many possibilities such as pie and jelly.



for their berries; and 1 cent went to the club which received, crated, and paid the pickers. The club issued 7,500 checks, amounting to \$16,000 to club members and their families. The 4-H Club received more than \$2,000 for handling, which was mostly invested in war bonds. Some families received as much as \$200, a most welcome addition to their income. Enterprising 4-H Clubs are seeing the opportunity in this type of harvest.

Fishing is another pleasant and

good way to harvest waste acres. Good fishing can be made, and in recent years farmers have been helped to construct tens of thousands of fishponds. In Texas alone, the extension wildlife conservation specialist reports the stocking of about 7,400 ponds. In the past year, the Soil Conservation Service districts reported 2,450 ponds stocked. These were stocked with nearly 7,000,000 fish. Yields of about 250 pounds of fish per surface acre per year are obtained in a well-managed pond. The fish furnish a welcome variety to the wartime menu.

County Agent W. D. Coulson of Throckmorton County, Tex., who assisted with the construction and stocking of between 250 and 275 fishponds last year, said that the two main things to remember are not to overcrowd the fish and to feed the fish. He finds that fishponds are good as a 4-H project or as an adult demonstration.

■ W. C. DAVID has been appointed acting State leader for Negro extension work in Texas in place of Dr. E. B. Evans who has been granted a year's leave of absence to assist in planning and assembling a faculty for the first school of veterinary medicine for Negroes at Tuskegee Institute. Mr. David, who has recently been working on the farm labor program, will continue to carry part of those duties as well as directing the activities of the Negro Extension Service in Texas.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **"A" is in acorns.** In searching for new sources of vitamin A for feeding poultry, investigators found that acorns of the willow oak, *Quercus phellos*, are unusually potent in this vitamin. Although 2 percent or more of acorns in the diet caused the flesh of chickens to become yellow, the intensity of the color increasing with the quantity fed, as much as 20 percent in the diet appeared to have no harmful effect on the birds. The results of the experiment indicated that small quantities of acorns may serve as the sole source of vitamin A in poultry feed mixture.

■ **Piebe has the right genes.** The breeding program being carried out in the Beltsville dairy herd is producing uniformly good milking cows. Some, of course, are slightly better than others. A butterfat production record for the Holstein-Friesian breed on three milkings a day has recently been completed by a cow with a name to live up to—Line Gerben Pride Colantha Piebe. Her official record for 365 days is 1,207 pounds of butterfat and 32,191 pounds of milk. Only 55 cows of her breed have produced as much as 1,000 pounds of butterfat in a year on 3 daily milkings, and 5 of them are in the Beltsville herd. Piebe's total lifetime butterfat production has been 4,618 pounds—2¾ times her own weight. Such records are the result of many years of intensive breeding and herd development. Cows in the Bureau of Dairy Industry's herd at Beltsville receive normal feed and care. No special high-pressure rations are fed cows on official test. They get corn silage and alfalfa hay, balanced with standard grain mixture.

■ **More light on vitamin C.** Amount of light, rather than variety, soil condition, temperature, or moisture, is the factor determining the vitamin C content of tomatoes. This was estab-

lished by the work of scientists at the U. S. Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory of the ARA at Ithaca, N. Y., where nutrition is studied from the soil up to man. In many experiments in both field and laboratory the cause of variations in the vitamin C values of tomatoes was sought. One by one, all other possible causes were eliminated, and sunlight was shown to be the factor responsible. Illumination was measured at each location where the test tomato plants were grown, and the more light they received, the higher was the vitamin C content of the fruits. The lesson seems to be: grow tomatoes where they will get the maximum amount of sunlight.

■ **For a better fit.** A new bulletin from the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics tells how to make commercial patterns fit individual needs. It is called Pattern Alteration and is Farmers' Bulletin 1968. Many women are not "perfect 36's" and do not conform exactly to any other pattern size. Some need to make the skirt longer or wider through the hips; some have only to shorten the back of the blouse or lengthen the sleeves. How to change the pattern before the dress material is cut is told in this bulletin and illustrated with sketches.

■ **Corn-cob-driven motors for day-after-tomorrow?** A two-story, 66-by-44-foot building under construction on the grounds of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill., will be the scene of research on a semi-commercial scale to determine whether agricultural wastes can be converted economically into liquid motor fuels. Results of laboratory investigations by Department chemists indicate that 90 to 95 gallons of motor fuel can be obtained from a ton of corn-cobs or cottonseed hulls, about half of which is in the form of ethyl alcohol. It is estimated that some-

thing like 100 million wastes, including pear hulls, cottonseed hulls, may be available each production of motor fuel commercially valuable work is part of a program by Congress in 1944 for research on the production of synthetic liquid fuels from agricultural and forest other substances. Cor the first of the agricult to be tested in the new

## Lend-lease sheari

Up on the Minnesota border, sheep-shearing attained a lend-lease status.

It all happened before spring snowstorm messes sheep-shearing schools. International Falls April W. E. Morris, extension bandman of University of and Roger Davis, sheep instructor from Brook Park raised for the school, raiser on the Minnesota snowed in, together with that had been lined up for shearing.

Only customers were cultural Representative and a group of farmers who had asked County of Haley if they might come Minnesota to take part in a shearing school. In Canadian group was aroused publicity. The visitors are farmers on the Canadian eager for sheep-shearing and that the roads were open so that they could work on. Custom office nod, and the school moved border into Emo, Ont., with neighbor equipment.

Mr. Morris reports that Canadian farmers took the instruction provided by the school and that they were greatly interested in the opportunity.

The lend-lease school was held under the auspices of Extension Services and the Minnesota State departments of education. part of the war program serious shortage of sheep a total of 221 men and boys free training course this



# Among Ourselves

■ PEARLE CHAPMAN has recently been appointed the first clothing specialist for New Mexico. She received her B. S. degree from State Teachers College at Kirksville, Mo., and taught home economics in Missouri high schools. She has her master's degree in clothing and textiles from Teachers College, Columbia University. Prior to her position in New Mexico she taught at East Carolina Teachers College, Greenville, N. C. Last summer she was an emergency urban war food assistant in Rocky Mount, N. C.

■ T. G. HORNUNG, an economist, and IVAN D. MAYER, an agricultural engineer, have joined the Federal extension staff recently to assist the State specialists with their farm labor efficiency and work simplification programs. Mr. Hornung will help with problems relating to the economic phases of agricultural labor, namely, more efficient use of the labor available and with work simplification. Mr. Mayer will devote his time to giving assistance on programs utilizing machinery, buildings, and equipment for increasing labor efficiency and for simplifying the work on the farms and in the farm homes. In all of the programs safety of the workers and protection of farm buildings, equipment, and supplies will be given increased emphasis.

Mr. Hornung is a graduate of the University of Nebraska with a B. Sc. degree in animal husbandry and farm economics and the University of Illinois with an M. S. degree in farm management and agricultural economics. Prior to joining the staff of the Extension Service he served 2 years as economic analyst for the Livestock and Meats Branch, War Food Administration; 5 years in the Division of Land Economics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the regional field offices at Lincoln, Nebr., and Milwaukee, Wis.; and 9 years as extension economist in farm management and marketing in Indiana.

Mr. Mayer is a graduate of Purdue University with the degrees of B.S.C.E.; B.S. Agriculture; and M. S. Agriculture. He has had extension experience

with the Portland Cement Association of Chicago and for the past 23 years has been a member of the Agricultural Engineering Department of Purdue University, carrying work in extension and research in farm machinery, farm structures, and in soil and water conservation.

■ MRS. EUGENIA L. NICHOLS has joined the Federal Extension Service as an emergency assistant. She will assist Miss Gertrude Warren, club organization specialist, in her work with 4-H Clubs with special reference to methods of organizing and conducting homemaking phases of 4-H Club work in connection with the production and conservation of food throughout the United States. Mrs. Nichols has had experience in general group work as well as 4-H Club work, serving last year as head of the State 4-H Food Conservation Program in New Jersey. She was formerly a member of the New York City executive council of National Camp Fire Girls and has served extensively as chairman of volunteer community activities. Mrs. Nichols was graduated from Syracuse University with the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Science.

■ PAUL L. FLETCHER joins staff of economic section of Federal Extension Service. Mr. Fletcher will devote his time to assisting the States with livestock, wool, and grain-marketing problems and related economic matters.

Mr. Fletcher was formerly an economist with the Livestock and Meats Branch of the Office of Marketing Services in the War Food Administration where his work was connected with civilian meat requirements, livestock goals, the support price program for hogs, and War Food orders dealing with livestock and meats. In the commercial field, Mr. Fletcher served as manager of a cooperative livestock commission association and has had diversified experience in marketing, including State work with the Extension Service and the Bureau of Markets. Mr. Fletcher was graduated from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a B. S. degree in animal husbandry and an M. S. in agricultural economics.

■ GEORGE I. GILBERTSON assumed the acting directorship of the South Dakota Extension Service on April 1. He succeeds John V. Hepler who has accepted the position of regional supervisor for the Federal Extension Service at Manhattan, Kans., in charge of the farm-labor program activities for the North Central States.

Mr. Gilbertson has been extension entomologist in South Dakota since 1937. He was graduated from South Dakota State College in 1914 and the following year received his master's degree.

With the exception of an absence for army service in World War I, he has been on the faculty of the college ever since graduation. He served as associate professor of entomology until 1937 when he became associated with the Extension Service.

■ WILLIAM C. BATTAN, county agricultural agent of Luce and Mackinac Counties, Mich., died March 1, 1945. Mr. Battan went to the Luce-Mackinac district on July 1, 1944, but in the short time he was there he made a host of friends among the farm people and among the people of Newberry. He had started to build a sound extension program for not only the farms of the two counties but also for the lands outside the farm area. One of the nicest tributes was given by Paul Barrett, Michigan land use and conservation specialist, who wrote: "I don't know when I have worked with an agent who was more sincere in trying to help people of his county than Bill was. Apparently, he was willing to start at the bottom and build a good program for Luce County. Losing him is in my opinion a real tragedy for the Extension Service and the counties where he was working."

■ SYBIL BATES has recently gone to Colorado as clothing specialist. She is a graduate of Texas Women's College at Denton, has her master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, and has been a home demonstration agent in Arkansas. Since 1935 she has been home industries specialist in that State.

## Pioneer in Extension Service club work passes on

■ One of Texas' most original-minded educators, Mrs. Maggie Wilkins Hill Barry, died at Bryan, Tex., of infirmities of age on April 30. Mrs. Barry was specialist for women's organizations for the Texas A. & M. College Extension Service from 1918 until a few years ago. Although on partial retirement for more than 5 years she remained in active touch with extension work as adviser in rural organization.

In the fall of 1941, the Texas Home Demonstration Association, organization of 40,000 rural women, with which Mrs. Barry had long been identified, paid tribute to Mrs. Barry's leadership in education by naming its annual college scholarship for her. This honor was conferred because her work in some way had touched practically every woman in Texas.

When Mrs. Barry assumed her work at Texas A. & M. in 1918, she brought to it a wealth of culture and experience in organization methods.

She at first thought this development of leadership might be most readily accomplished by relating rural women to the existing organizations of urban women who had attained civic consciousness. She soon realized that such a plan was a mistake. Out of this experience came the theory of education through organization that

underlies all home demonstration organizations: such organizations must follow the law of natural growth which is from the bottom up and from the inside out. The results should be the development of the membership as individuals, as homemakers and parents and as citizens.

In accordance with this, emphasis was placed on organization of local home demonstration clubs in rural communities. When leadership and experience in club procedure and community activity created a desire for wider functioning county home demonstration councils were organized in 1924, and in 1933 the home demonstration clubs organized the Texas Home Demonstration Association.

Mrs. Barry served as a member of the executive committee and on the board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Perhaps her greatest contribution was organization of the Federation's Department of the American Home, which she served as chairman. As a member of the American Home Department she proposed an amendment to the Capper-Ketcham Bill which provided increased funds for Extension Service work.

Life memberships were given Mrs. Barry in the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers, the Texas Feder-

ation of Women's Clubs, and the Texas Library Association. She has also been given the distinguished award of Epsilon Sigma Phi for distinguished service to extension workers' for her 1940 merit award of the cultural Workers' Association.

An article, "Rededicated," prepared by Mrs. Barry for the Extension Service, June-July, 1940.

## Grocery store consultants

■ Correct canning information brought to hundreds of urban homemakers in W. Minn., last year as they volunteered as consultants in local grocery stores.

Local home and community men volunteered as consultants. They attended which they were instructed by Mrs. Sandal, in answer and presenting material cooperated by publicizing in their ads and in window displays.

Since the program was run in the town of Waseca, proved so successful that consultants in Janesville, Minn., were called in to give canning-consultant service.

On Saturday nights during August, the volunteers were on hand in the grocery stores. On exhibit in each store were of different types of jars, a pressure cooker, a Minnesota Extension Service USDA food preservation giving information, the placed special emphasis on use of canning equipment, correct canning procedure, proper cleaning of fruit tables, precooking, and use of timetables. Technical questions referred to Mrs. Sandal.

Through the service, canning information was given to 812 women, of whom represented the largest group hitherto reached by the home demonstration program.

This year the consultants will be used in other towns in Waseca County, as well as in other parts of the State.



# Alabama reaches cross section of farm families

■ In an effort to find out just who were taking part in extension activities and whether low-income farmers are benefited, Alabama picked out a typical county and analyzed the extension work there.

Elmore County was chosen because it seemed typical in size, in land tenure, and in proportion of white population to Negro. It also lies near the center of the State.

The total farm population of Elmore County is 22,137, of which 55 percent are white. Of the 3,561 farms in Elmore, nearly 40 percent are operated by owners or part owners, a little more than 60 percent are operated by tenants or croppers, and only 7 farms by farm managers. This follows the same pattern as that of the State as a whole.

There are 6 extension workers in the county—a county agent and assistant, a home demonstration agent and assistant, and a Negro man and woman agent. If all of the farm population were reached personally, this would be 3,689 farm people per agent. Naturally they are not all given personal service, but the record shows that all are served indirectly.

The 272 community and neighborhood leaders are one key to this record. Of these leaders, 227 are owners and 45 are tenants. When this leadership is analyzed by size of farm, nearly one-half of the leaders who are owners are one-horse farmers, and 33 percent are two-horse farmers. This shows that the community and neighborhood leadership is certainly representative of lower income and smaller farmers. These are the leaders in the program initiated and directed by the extension agents.

Of the 4-H boys and girls in the 55 clubs, 665 are sons and daughters of owners, and 1,403 are sons and daughters of tenants. Nearly 70 percent of these boys and girls are from one-horse farms and 24 percent from two-horse farms.

In the 48 home demonstration clubs in the county, 761 are from owners' farms and 1,003 from tenant homes, 62 percent from one-horse farms and 27 percent from two-horse farms.

In such activities as dairy improvement a larger percentage of owners are taking part, but here too a big majority are one- and two-horse farmers. There are in Elmore 356 registered Jerseys owned by 153 farmers. Of these farmers, 75 percent are farm owners and 25 percent tenants. But here too when the farms are classified on a basis of size, 45 percent are from one-horse farms and 29 percent from two-horse farms.

The dairy program was started back in 1935 when Elmore County farmers decided that there was an advantage in concentrating on one breed and decided upon purebred Jerseys. Extension workers have helped farmers in keeping their registration papers on animals eligible for registration, in selecting sires, and in arranging annual shows and promoting better breeding for production in every way open to them.

Results are shown, not only in the number of registered Jerseys owned but in the quality of the sires, with three 4-star bulls, one 3-star bull, six 2-star bulls, and fifteen 1-star bulls listed in the county.

## Milk Production Stepped Up

Commercial milk sales in 1943 were approximately \$10,040; but with the location of a new milk-processing plant in an adjoining county and the wartime need for milk production, farmers under extension leadership increased their sales to \$125,611 in 1944. Although the stepped-up production serves well in war times, this program is being built around home feed production so that it will fit into a permanent farming system.

Another example of extension work in the county is in the one-variety cotton improvement program begun in 1939. Demonstrations in treating cotton planting seed with mercury dust began the previous year in 28 communities. Now it is estimated that 80 percent of all farmers practice this seed treatment.

The one-variety communities were introduced, and 5 are now functioning, with 211 farmers cooperating. The county agent advises the board of directors of these communities of re-

sults of experiment station tests and yields within the county of the several varieties available. From this information the selection is made. Ninety-eight tons of cotton planting seed direct from the breeder and 1 year from the breeder was procured in 1945 for 830 farms with an estimated equal number of tenants.

On April 7, 1945, Mr. V. L. Keeble, assistant county agent, was helping in a cottonseed-treating demonstration when a Negro share cropper came to the demonstration with his planting seed for 1945. He said: "These seed are Cokers 100-wilt, 1 year from the breeder. I farmed with Mr. Riley Martin last year, and we got our cottonseed direct from the breeder and I saved my planting seed for this year." Thus extension teaching spreads among the low-income group as well as among those with more income.

Fifteen gins operated in the county last year, and of these 7 have installed improvements such as dryers and cleaners to turn out a better grade of lint as a result of extension work with ginners. A conservative estimate reveals that the 1,600 farmers who patronized this gin sold their cotton at \$3 to \$5 per bale more than the average Alabama farmer received for his cotton.

Many farm and home practices have been adopted after the 4-H son or daughter has demonstrated the practicability of it. Last year in Elmore 949 young folks were trained as judges; nearly 1,000 learned to demonstrate some new practice; 436 were trained in fire and accident prevention; 871 were trained in keeping accounts. These young farmers have nearly 5,500 acres in corn, more than 8,762 chickens and turkeys, 188 dairy animals, and 483 hogs. The girls have canned 92,352 quarts of food, and made nearly 4,000 garments.

## Farm Homes Improved

The farm homes also feel the effect of extension work. For example, last year more than 542 women improved their kitchens so that work could be done more conveniently. Three hundred and forty-four screened their homes or used recommended methods of controlling flies and insects, and 487 removed fire or accident hazards. Ten schools were helped to establish and maintain a hot school lunch. Nearly 124,000 quarts of fruit, vegetables, meats, and fish were canned.



Miss Teh-yin Ma, from China, is spending a year studying extension methods here. After a recent visit to Alabama, she wrote the following understanding report on the home demonstration agent's philosophy of work. Dr. C. S. Hsieh, another Chinese student of extension methods, in discussing the Extension Service and how it might be applied to conditions in China at an Epsilon Sigma Phi luncheon, described a good county agent. He visited extension agents in Minnesota, Georgia, and Alabama.



A group of foreign students attending a class in extension methods. Dr. Hsieh is in the foreground in the first row. Miss Ma is in the second row, second from the right.

## The good county agent

Dr. C. S. Hsieh

■ In the whole list of extension staff members, the most numerous ones are the county extension agents. The county extension agent stands closest to the people and is the one who actually extends the new knowledge to the people and brings back facts and problems from them. He is like a soldier in an army who stands nearest to the battle front and does the actual fighting.

The county agent must possess certain qualities in order to be a good agent. In the first place, he must have interest in what he is doing. One morning, the county agent in whose county I was having practical experience took me to visit some of his farms. Upon arriving at a farm, he

went directly to a fine cow and calf and, turning toward me, said "Here is a growing herd." After this visit I realized that this agent has a real interest in his work. He likes livestock, and his face brightens when he sees a good herd.

Second, a county agent is like a salesman whose commodities are new methods and practices of farming and homemaking and new ideas of living. But unlike the salesman whose first interest is usually in making a profit out of his business, the first interest of the county agent is to improve the life of the rural people. So long as the life of the people needs to be improved, either by increasing their income or by changing their way of

living, his interest is unabated even although, for one reason or another, his ideas have not been sold. He will come back to sell his ideas with different methods to meet the different needs of the people.

Third, a good county agent must be willing to cooperate with the local people as well as with representatives of other government or private agencies. The extent of his influence among the farmers is in direct proportion to the degree of his willingness to cooperate with others.

Fourth, a good county agent is eager to learn new things. It is a recognized fact that to graduate from a college is only the beginning of making a life career. Much of the knowledge that the agent had acquired in college will be forgotten or become out of date. His success and his progress in his work depend in a large measure upon how fast he can learn the new things that have been developing around his personal world.

Fifth, a good county agent must possess a sense of humor. The path of life is not always smooth; many times it is tough and rough, especially in dealing with persons. A sense of humor is, therefore, a necessary tonic that an agent must learn to develop if he wants to be a good sportsman and not to be easily discouraged.

Last, but not least, a good county agent must have faith in his people, a sense of mission, and courage to accept a challenge. Faith is an intangible; but Mr. Lillenthal, one of TVA's directors, says that it is the most real thing we could have. Faith is a strong weapon that no extension worker can afford to lose. It is something which enables him to see things beyond his horizon. The agent must realize that the ideas he brings to the farming people are beyond the horizon of the farm people. If he can not see beyond his own horizon, how can he expect his people to do the same?

■ Last year a total of 219 4-H Club members in northern Colorado produced enough sugar beets to provide 61,000 people with their 1945 sugar supply.

Beef club members of Colorado produced more than 2,000,000 pounds of good beef. More than 500,000 pounds of this was sold at two fat-stock sales.

Three thousand girls in 4-H clothing clubs made 5,900 garments.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

A RECENT VISITOR in the Washington Extension office was Mrs. Joselina Y. Irizarry, district home demonstration agent in Puerto Rico. Mrs. Irizarry won a scholarship offered by the University of Puerto Rico and has been spending the past 8 months studying at the Florida State College for Women and getting her master's degree in home economics. She has been a home demonstration agent in Puerto Rico since the work was organized there 10 years ago, in fact was one of the first three agents appointed. The university gives 26 scholarships each year for advanced study on the mainland. Out of 300 applicants this past year, Mrs. Irizarry won one of these scholarships.

ON A BICYCLE, L. C. Cunningham, extension marketing specialist for New York, started out last month for a couple of weeks of taking farm management surveys in Montgomery County. It's war transportation that is guaranteed to save on the gasoline and leave the transported one ready for a good night's sleep.

RECENT STATE RELEASES show that extension agents are going full steam ahead on the production program. Negro county agents in 43 North Carolina counties report that Negro farmers are rapidly increasing the number of chickens on their farms to help solve the meat shortage. All curb markets in North Carolina report large sales of chickens, and this fact increases the production in the areas served by the market. Sales on the Beaufort County market were more than \$1,000 for the 4 Saturdays in May, and chickens were a major part of the sales of the 18 farmers selling on this market.

MORE LITTLE PIGS<sup>4</sup> in Kansas is the outlook, according to C. G. Elling and C. E. Aubel, animal husbandmen. The Kansas goal of 30 percent more farrowings this fall than last fall will probably be reached, they say.

RURAL FAT SALVAGE collection has shown a rapid rise this spring and summer. Since extension agents

accepted the primary responsibility for the campaign in rural areas early in the year, they can take credit for much of the success of this important war activity. The campaign has produced an increase in the amount of fat collected in both rural and urban areas, but the increase in rural collections has been considerably more than in cities.

STUDENTS OF EXTENSION METHODS from other countries recently organized that they might continue to exchange ideas, experiences, and results of their adventures in extension work after they go back to their homes. The president, Alvaro Chaparro, and Secretary Antonio Penate of the new association are both from Colombia. Organization of the society climaxed a year's study by 25 students under scholarships provided by the Department of State and the Office of Inter-American Affairs. These boys have spent several months with extension agents, and they leave many friends among rural people. The countries represented are Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Haiti, Jamaica, and Venezuela.

TO HEAD G.I. UNIVERSITY in Shrivensham, England, J. L. Boatman, chief of the Division of Subject Matter in Washington, was busy last month in and out of the Pentagon building

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and out working up faculty to teach G.I. tioned over there. So are army men with aging, and others are the War Department colleges. This is a passive educational program remaining in the European operations, which in attendance schools, centralized technical Army university study as that at Shrivensham center at Fontainebleau, of these university students have an enrollment of a

THE FLYING FARMER be the high point of Oklahoma and Home Week, August flying farmers, more than plan to attend and talk meet. Post-war planes in and exhibited on the afternoon program will farm aviation and special to speakers high in the Flying farmers and from nearby States are invited. In addition to a war farm and home exhibit being exhibited and featured

ANOTHER RECENT VISITOR office is M. Gerry, in cultural rehabilitation for was here 3 days and months to visit a number county extension offices. interested in the agricultural offered to farmers here mechanization of agriculture wanted to know more about and how they function, about the meat-packing Chicago and Detroit.

NEW SAFETY LEAFLET time for Safety Week, give safety hints for women the farm. It is published by the Farm Division, National Council, 20 N. Wacker Drive

A GARDEN GROWS IN many a 4-H yard. Last were 22 in the 4-H garden in Southwestern Alaska. preservation awards were native Alaskan girls, by Eklutna Vocational School

# Extension Service *Review*

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## Two big jobs ahead

SECRETARY CLINTON P. ANDERSON

■ Every extension worker will agree with me that our immediate job is to whip the Japs. We will do that as thoroughly and as speedily as we know how. Farmers and those called upon to work with farmers in the States and counties appreciate that the job of whipping the Japs is one which presents us with many new food problems. Food cannot be successfully "redeployed," as can men and equipment, from one theater of military operations to another on the opposite side of the globe. The pipe lines to the Pacific are longer. Military needs for food in the Pacific are different than they were in Europe.

I am one who believes in the ability of United States farmers to produce what's needed, provided they have the necessary facts far enough in advance. The Secretary of Agriculture and those working with him should be able to establish those facts. Farmers have a right to expect us to let them know what crops and what foods and fibers are needed in the light of the facts.

In my first report, made over the radio July 16, I pictured the food situation as it stood in midsummer of this year. I called attention to the fact that agriculture is always faced by the uncertainty of weather, although these uncertainties are no greater than others forced on us by war. I outlined a policy of abundant production here at home with a farm price policy to encourage record crops. Further reports will be made. I hope extension workers will find them helpful. We expect to provide facts about food as rapidly as they can be determined accurately.

In the history of agriculture there have been two periods when the country needed—and got—all-out

production on United States farms. The first was during World War I; the second in the years since Pearl Harbor. In each of these periods, agricultural science provided all possible help to increase production. In each of those periods, the Cooperative Extension Service performed its most outstanding service. Farmers have learned to look to it for technical help and information. Extension work is the educational arm of the Department of Agriculture, the State agricultural colleges, and the State agricultural experiment stations. It has served as a great lantern shedding light on farm problems and helping to make record production possible.

County agents, as cooperative employees of the Department of Agri-

Our new Chiefs, Secretary Anderson (right) and Under Secretary Hutson (left).



culture, know that even as forces are building up to give Japan her knockout blow, the problems of peace to face United States farmers are looming up fast. They present challenges as great to farmers as any faced during the war. Extension workers have a real challenge in helping farmers to analyze these problems.

The Nation cannot afford to have its agriculture wrecked after World War II as it did after World War I. The Nation cannot afford to let down its guard against huge losses from soil destruction that accompany a poverty-stricken agriculture. I have confidence that sound policies will continue to come from the grass roots, through farmers and rural people taking intelligent action on the basis of facts. As I have said, farmers have a right to know the facts. I hope that county agents and the entire Cooperative Extension Service will join me and all in the departmental service in finding the facts

and in truthfully getting these to farmers.

I am aware of the great contributions the Extension Service has made in the field of youth leadership and improved living in the farm home. The post-war period offers a real challenge in youth leadership, both among 4-H youth and older youth.

## Keeping the tractor in service

■ The war is mechanizing Arkansas and is making trained machine operators and mechanics out of farmers. Paradoxically, it has all come about as a result of the shortage of machinery—and, of course, the shortage of manpower. This came to light in the series of tractor schools held in Arkansas in January, February, and April, according to Earle K. Rambo of the University of Arkansas College of Agriculture. At 47 schools requested by the county agents in 45 counties having 100 or more tractors, 4,949 tractor owners and operators gathered to learn better operation and preventive maintenance practices.

Before the schools were started, it was known that there had been a great increase in the number of tractors on the farms in the State. The 1940 census showed that there were only about 12,500 tractors in operation that year. In September 1944, more than 28,000 were registered for tractor fuel in the State. As farm machinery companies reported that they had not sold 16,000 tractors in Arkansas since the 1940 census was taken, the apparent discrepancy in the figures proved that increased production goals and a reduced farm labor force had placed back into service machines which had been idle for possibly a year or longer.

During these years, however, there was a loss of more than one-half of the experienced operators and tractor mechanics, forcing the handling of from one-half to three-fourths of the tractors owned by Arkansas farmers upon relatively inexperienced people, the extension agricultural engineer explains. That they took their inexperience into account and realized the importance of safety practices and proper care of their equipment to obtain maximum use is revealed in the increased interest and attendance at

As a member of Congress I had the pleasure of voting for the Bankhead-Flannagan bill which looks toward more of this type of extension work.

We don't know just when the job of whipping the Japs will be over. But we do know that when it ends, some big jobs in agriculture have just begun.

the schools. At 20 similar schools requested in 1944, there was a total attendance of only 1,608.

Not only are there more tractors in Arkansas now than there were in 1940, but there are many other types of farm machinery and equipment. There are about three times as many combines, and the number of tractor mowers has increased considerably. Field ensilage harvesters and pick-up hay presses have been introduced in the State during the last few years, and farmers are buying these machines as fast as dealers can deliver them, Mr. Rambo says. One of the most popular film strips exhibited at

the schools showed various types of labor-saving equipment in operation.

"The increase in power equipment demands increased hours of service of farm tractors," Mr. Rambo explains. "Not many years ago it was not uncommon for tractors to be operated only 400 or 500 hours a year; now some are operated more than 2,000 hours. The average tractor is built to give about 2,000 hours of service before a major overhaul job is needed. Without proper care, an overhaul job may be needed at the end of 1,000 or even 500 hours of service. With proper care, the period between overhauls may be extended to 3,000 or 5,000 hours."

"It is not only on the rich delta land of the State that the mechanization of Arkansas is taking place," the agricultural engineer said. The high number of requests for schools in the hill sections and the large attendances revealed that there, too, farmers are labor saving-conscious. Benton County, in the northwest Ozark Mountain region, was one of the 2 counties in the State where interest was so great that an additional school was requested. A total of 268 people attended the 2 schools.

## Farm fire prevention effective in California

WOODBIDGE METCALF, Extension Forester, California

■ For the third year in a row the 1944 harvest season in California was completed in most places without any periods of bad fire-hazard weather. Fire-prevention efforts paid dividends. For example, by way of contrast, in 1943, 27 harvester fires burned over 9,000 acres in Monterey County causing an \$85,000 damage. One well-attended meeting of grain farmers was held in the San Arde District in March 1944, and emphasis was placed on effective spark arresters for exhaust pipes and the protection of manifolds.

Before harvest season began the State ranger made inspections of every harvesting outfit and discussed with the owner and operator fire safety and installation of hand fire-fighting equipment. The result was that no grain harvester fires occurred in Monterey County in 1944. At the

same time a vigorous campaign of clean-up along highway and railroad rights of way through grain areas reduced damage from these potential danger points to negligible proportions. Similar efforts in Madera and other counties were productive of good results and, aided by favorable weather, most grain and hay crops were harvested with little fire loss.

Two of the worst fires during the year were on watershed areas in San Diego and Santa Barbara Counties, and they were brought under control by Federal and State fire crews with the assistance of military personnel. During the fall there was an outbreak of willful burning of brush and scattered timber areas in northwest Sonoma and southern Mendocino Counties, causing little present damage but giving concern to local fire-suppression forces.



Early rains of moderate intensity and warm weather during November were favorable for growth of annual grasses on the burned areas and will probably minimize erosion during the winter.

Reports by farm advisers indicate that 1,204 farm fire companies with a membership of 13,884 farmers were prepared to give service in volunteer fire suppression during the year. Reports of a number of instances of quick and effective action on fires, coupled with widespread spring emphasis on fire prevention, and similar work during Fire Prevention Week in

October with good use of publicity supplied by the National Fire Protection Association indicate again a large saving of vital resources through the operation of this program. The amount is unknown; but if estimated at half of the saving accomplished during the last 2 war years, the value of property thus saved from destruction would be 2 million dollars. The total contribution to the saving of resources needed in the war effort would thus be estimated at 10 million dollars in California for the 3 war years.

Suitable clothing with a style revue of functional work garments revealed that feminine furbelows have little place in the garb of the field worker. Health and first aid were included in each program. In Brown County, this material was presented by the county health nurse. As Harmon Boyd, Union County agent, pointed out: "If we can prevent one serious accident in Union County by conducting these schools, we shall feel that they have been well worth while."

Timesavers in home management for the farm women spending a short time during peak harvest in field work were discussed, with valuable suggestions coming from the experiences of those women present. The women also enjoyed the recipes for nutritious one-dish meals and appetizing cookies and sandwiches for the field lunch box.

Instructions varied with the local arrangements and the available talents. Helpful hints on homemaking subjects were presented by Mrs. Harriet Martinson, assistant supervisor of labor (WLA) or the county home demonstration agent.

Joe Hill, extension supervisor specializing in labor utilization, and the county agent, or the farm labor assistant discussed motor principles and safety in operation.

"Around the tractor" was presented by commercial engineers.

## South Dakota tractor schools for women, 1945

Safe and efficient tractor operation was stressed at 11 tractor schools for women held in 9 South Dakota counties during March and April 1945. A total of 275 girls and women, many of whom were already operating tractors, attended these schools which were conducted by the South Dakota Extension Service as part of the emergency farm labor program. Local dealers cooperated to furnish equipment and a heated place to meet. Lunch was served by dealers or by civic groups. Instruction was provided by trained field men of implement and oil companies, as well as by extension personnel.

To many of the women who had already operated a tractor for a season or more in a variety of field jobs, these schools by lecture and demonstration gave a new understanding of the "why" and "how" those machines actually worked.

Ignition, carburation, and the cooling system of tractors were explained. Air cleaners and oil filters were actually removed from machines which had seen field use. Greasing, lubrication, and the use of power fuels were discussed.

Safety entered into every phase of the school, with charts to illustrate good and bad driving practices, correct hitches, and the importance of shields on the power take-off and other moving parts.

So that women might learn on the type of tractor they would actually

use there were both hand- and foot-clutch machines at each meeting.

Some girls, as Eleanor Dittus, rural school teacher of Ashton in Spink County, were getting ready to do field work for the first time this season. Eleanor drives a car, but she had never driven the tractor much because there were two brothers at home to help her dad farm the section of land. The last brother was inducted this spring, and Eleanor took over one tractor for the summer.

Under the guidance of instructors girls learn to drive tractors.



# A neighborhood leader becomes President

■ A revealing picture of the early life of President Harry S. Truman is to be found in the records of the first 25 years of extension work in Jackson County, Mo.

These records show that the President, in 1913, helped to organize the Jackson County Farm Bureau and in his own township organized the first boys' and girls' club in western Missouri. He worked that year also with the newly appointed "farm advisor" in forming clubs in other parts of the county and in raising money to support the work. In later years, as a member of the county court, he gave effective support to an ever widening program of extension work and to the building of a county-wide system of hard-surfaced roads.

All of these activities were a natural outgrowth of the President's background and his interests as a farmer, say the old neighbors around Grandview for four generations. The President's nephew is now farming the home place. Present holdings consist of 390 acres, including the original homestead.

## Trumans Love the Land

The neighbors say that the Truman family have always loved the land and have taken care of it. The President's father, John Truman, who died in 1914, had built his farming system around good livestock and a conservative rotation of crops. From 1906 to 1917, when Harry S. Truman was farming the place, he maintained the practices established by his father and adopted a number of newer soil-building measures.

One neighbor, Harry Arington, who grew up with the President and frequently changed work with him, states flatly that young Truman as early as 1912 constructed the county's first sodded grass waterways for erosion control. He increased the frequency of red clover in his crop rotations and used all barnyard manure to enrich the soil and increase its capacity for holding moisture.

Livestock men chuckle over the saying that Harry Truman was the only United States Senator who could look a mule in the mouth and accu-

rately tell the animal's age. Old neighbors say nothing about the other senators, but they do say that the President hasn't forgotten this art, for his father bought and sold mules by the score.

Farm people and extension workers everywhere are happy to know that President Truman has been an ardent supporter of agricultural and home economics extension work since 1913.

That was the year that the Jackson County Farm Bureau was organized. Its first president and its leader for many years thereafter was O. V. Slaughter whose farm, near Grandview, joined the Truman farm. Harry S. Truman, then 29, was chosen chairman of the Washington township group and became at once active in the organization of a boys' and girls' club. He was also the leader of a township community fair at which the club members could match their skill in contests and enter their products in competitive exhibition.

The same procedure was followed in the other six townships of the county, and as a result a railway

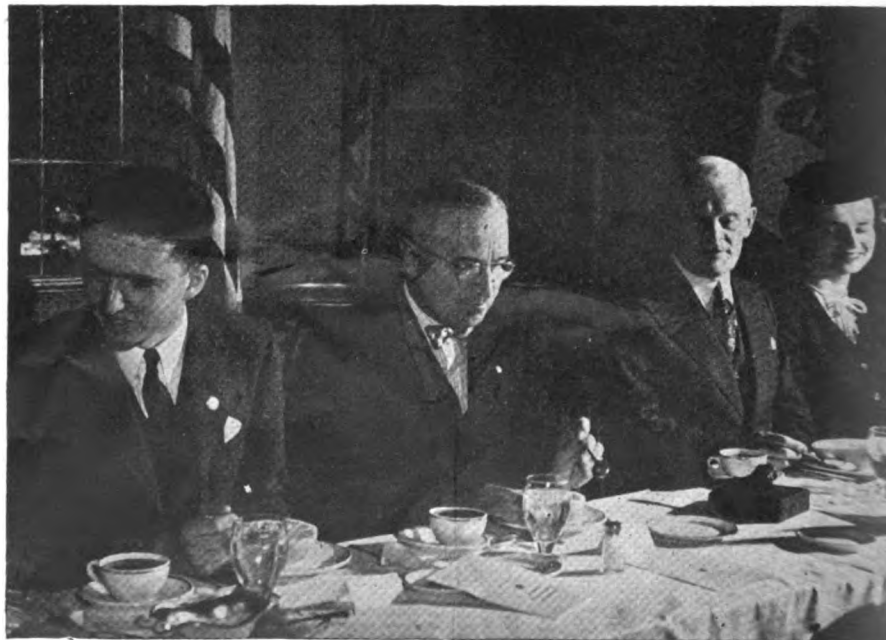
coachful of boys' and girls' club delegates went to Farmers Week, an annual 5-day event at Columbia sponsored at that time by the Missouri College of Agriculture and the State Board of Agriculture.

On May 10, 1913, the College and the Farm Bureau brought into Jackson County the county's first farm advisor, E. A. Eikenberry. With his help, young Truman perfected plans for the Grandview Fair that fall, featuring boys' and girls' club work. Awards were made for exhibits and to winners in judging corn, livestock, and poultry. Profits from the fair and from advertising in the printed premium list were used to help pay the expenses of the club delegation on their 5-day trip to the State college.

Nor has President Truman at any time since 1913 receded from his position as friend and supporter of good country roads, happily organized communities, and the fullest participation of rural people in the programs of the College of Agriculture and the Agricultural Extension Service.

The Jackson County Farm Bureau has been the sponsoring organization for extension work in Jackson County since its beginning. It has been the custom of this organization since 1914 to have a banquet as a part of the annual meeting program. This is :

President Truman converses with Thomas E. Wilson at the National 4-H Goals for Victory Breakfast held in Washington, D. C., March 6. (Left to right Don Sullivan, Potsdam, N. Y., 4-H leadership winner; President Truman; Thomas E. Wilson, chairman, National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work; and Anne Lee Tipton, 4-H Club member, Poolesville, Md.)



popular event attended by 180 to 450 people. All the time that Harry S. Truman was judge of the county court of that county he was an honor guest at the banquet and had a place at the head table. On numerous occasions he was asked to say a word. He always offered encouragement to the organization and expressed sincere appreciation of the work being done.

#### Court Supports Extension Work

At no time during Truman's terms as associate judge and presiding judge were there any strained relations between the various groups that joined their efforts with those of the court in support of extension work. Presiding Judge Truman and the two associate judges approved appropriations for extension work in Jackson County as great as \$15,000 a year. On two occasions when the extension organization in the county voted to put on a county agricultural exhibit at the Missouri State Fair, Judge Truman and his associates appropriated \$1,000 additional to finance the exhibit.

President Truman, even in his earliest years of work with the farm bureau and the boys' and girls' clubs, gave evidence of an inherent instinct for organization, says John Slaughter of the Hickman Mills Bank. John Slaughter grew up on a farm adjoining that of the Trumans, and he later served as a county extension agent in Missouri. He knows the President intimately, and he knows the need and opportunity for high-type community organization work in the open country.

"Truman's natural personal traits and his farm experience fitted him for leadership," says Slaughter. "His farm was clean and orderly and his crops well cared for. The neighbors liked him. They had great confidence in his ability to get things done. He had the ability to get the people of the community to work together. He always saw the bright side—the constructive side. He never assumed any superiority over anyone else. He was at home in any group. He was a gentleman through and through."

The remarks of President Truman's old neighbors are fully confirmed by records in the courthouse at Independence, where the present county extension agent, L. J. Wormington, has his office. He writes that President Truman's father was road over-

seer in the Grandview area of Jackson County until his death and that the President himself was appointed to succeed him in 1915. At that time there were 600 miles of dirt road in the county and slightly less than 200 miles of macadam. In the 2 or 3 years that President Truman served as road overseer prior to his enlistment for service in World War I, he envisioned a system of good roads to reach every rural neighborhood in the county. In later years, during his first term as member of the county court he designed an economical method of road surfacing and a coverage network that made possible the realization of his earlier dreams.

While he was associate judge he planned an inner and an outer belt system with carefully spaced connections. As presiding judge in 1928 he

advocated a 6½-million dollar bond issue to build such a system of permanent roads and is credited with having been the most important single influence in obtaining its approval by popular vote. In his second campaign for presiding judge in 1931 he asked for an additional 3½ million in bonds and was again successful.

When completed in May 1934, this road system placed every farm in the county on a surfaced road—and left no farm farther than 2 miles from a concrete highway. The system included 252 miles of concrete highway and 30 major bridges. The Jackson County system at the time of its completion was second in the United States as a county network of all-weather roads, excelled only by that of Westchester County, N. Y.

## Neighborhood leaders promote home fruit growing

■ North Carolina's "Fruit for Home Use" program is getting more fruit planted on the farms. In 74 neighborhoods or communities in 38 counties 2,933 families took part this spring in the cooperative purchase of fruit trees and berry plants. They planted 114,225 strawberry plants, of which 4,200 were planted by 4-H Club members. Other berry plants now growing on North Carolina farms because of this program are: raspberries, 796; dewberries, 1,741; and grapes, 352. Among the orchard trees set out were: apple, 393; peach, 691; plum, 29; pear, 57; and cherry, 72.

This is the way the program was organized, according to H. R. Niswonger, in charge of horticultural extension.

Farm and home agents held community meetings of local leaders and farm people to discuss needs, kinds of fruits wanted, and prices they could pay. A plan for cooperative purchase of plants was presented. When adopted, orders were pooled. Agents and a committee of leaders contacted nurserymen and arranged for the nursery stock. Neighborhood leaders took orders, collected the

money, made up the pooled order, received the plants, and in most cases delivered them.

Horticultural specialists assisted agents with initial meetings in 48 counties, of which 38 proceeded with the project. The results showed 621 families ordered strawberry plants; 51, raspberries; 51, dewberries; 13, blackberries; 137, grapes; 100, apples; 119, peaches; 19, plums; 38, pears; 34 cherries; 97, pecans; 32, figs; and 19 boysenberries.

The follow-up on the part of the specialists consisted of preparing timely instruction information on cultural practices, which was sent to the farm and home agents, and they in turn mailed it to the families who had planted the various kinds of fruits. Field meetings in those neighborhoods were held in July and August, at which time demonstrations were given in such practices as are needed for the rest of the year.

The specialists and agents as well as the neighborhood leaders are enthusiastic over this project and procedure. They plan to cover the rest of the counties next year, as well as to extend the project to other neighborhoods in counties already included.

## Developing plans from community up

OLIVIA BENFORD, Home Demonstration Agent, Weld County, Colo.

■ A statement made by the chairman of the Weld County Agricultural Council, Charles Plumb, is probably the best way of describing the success of community and neighborhood leaders in the recent hospitalization plan which has been made available to the rural population of Weld County, Colo. That statement is: "We believe that the agricultural program should develop from the community up, not from the national level down."

The program of the county extension office is directed by approximately 150 of the county's leading farmers who constitute the county agricultural council. Members are good farmers or ranchers, recognized leaders in the community, and are willing to give time and thought to the cause of rural education and a better life. At present, membership is limited to 2 or 3 from each of the county's 47 communities, plus representation from each county organization having an agricultural program.

The workers who carry on the program are 1,600 4-H Club members, more than 100 4-H Club leaders, 900 home demonstration club members, and several hundred farmers working individually, in committees, and through cooperatives. The value of united action and cooperation has been taught—a process brought about through many years of work. (I believe this has been developed mainly through the attitude of two former county agents, Harry Simpson and L. V. Toyne, who have made these leaders feel that this is their county and that they should be the ones to direct the work done in the county extension office.)

Many cooperatives and associations have been formed as a direct result of this leadership. In the past year there have been the county health association and the weed eradication association. In former years there have been the grazing districts, seed growers' association, cow testing association, pest districts for prairie dogs, and potato marketing cooperatives.

At the community level, work is being done through cooperative efforts of the schools, PTA groups, community clubs, Granges and Farmers Union. However, the Weld County Agricultural Council has filled a need seen by community leaders. Council members are friendly toward these other organizations but challenge them to match the past accomplishments or future possibilities from the standpoint of community service of the council.

These leaders are not called on to do menial jobs but those that are

## Cornell has a self-appraisal club

■ Cornell has a self-appraisal club—the Cornell Extension Club. On the first Monday of each month, specialists, and the administrative staff, too, meet for a 2-hour session to appraise the effectiveness of extension methods in New York State and to discuss any new procedures, practices, or items of interest to Extension. Sometimes the speaker is a specialist; other times an outsider is invited. An informal presentation is always followed by a frank, open discussion by any or all club members. This year's program deals with the effectiveness of extension information. At one of the first meetings, Gladys Gallup of Washington was asked to discuss the readability of extension bulletins. She explained how to judge bulletins from the standpoint of sentence length, difficult words, and personal references. Authors whose bulletins were cited took a gentle ribbing good naturedly, and the consensus was: "A great diplomat—she could have made us awful mad, but she didn't."

At another meeting, L. P. Ham, of Batten, Barton, Durstine, and Osborne, said: "Extension people are salesmen; if not, they ought to be.

"The general level of acceptance of ideas is pretty low." He cited hog sanitation in the West where a definite system has been urged for 20 years, yet only 5 percent of the farm-

ers practice it. The same was said to be true of treating flaxseed.

Mr. Ham, of course, did not give the solution but inferred that it did point to the need for learning what makes farmers accept ideas. He said, "See how successful you have been, and determine how far you ought to go."

At still another meeting, the place of colored motion pictures in Extension was portrayed both by a showing of the picture and by a discussion of its value as a teaching method.

Each of nine departments prepared an exhibit of its information material for the last meeting. These departments were agronomy, agricultural engineering, floriculture and ornamental horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, agricultural economics, plant pathology, vegetable crops, and poultry husbandry.

On a cardboard were mounted an extension bulletin, a service letter, two news articles, a radio address, a kodachrome slide, and photographs. These were judged by William E. Ward, editor and chief of publications; by Bristow Adams, professor emeritus; and by James S. Knapp, associate professor; who commented on the material presented.

The Cornell Extension Club has been active for 11 years, and much of its success may be attributed to the informal presentation and to the "family circle" tone of the meetings.

# Home demonstration agent takes over

This account of Helen M. Loofbourrow's experience in directing the educational program of the Extension Service in Ellsworth County, Kans., was written by Mrs. Eula Mae Kelly, assistant extension editor, to whom the factual data were supplied.

■ For 10 months I have carried the entire extension program in Ellsworth County, Kans.—“pinch-hitting” in the absence of a county agricultural agent and at the same time taking the full responsibility of the home economics and 4-H Club programs. It has been an exacting and eventful period, one that has taught me volumes—yet an experience that has been thrilling and satisfying because I know I am making a small contribution to the war effort.

I came to Ellsworth County as home demonstration agent in May 1942, so I was fairly well acquainted in the county before I took over the agricultural program in June 1944. Prior to my coming to Ellsworth County, I had been an assistant home demonstration agent and had taught home economics in high school. But, I confess I had never supervised alfalfa variety test plots or given advice on ox warbles!

## Organized for Postwar

My chief aim has been to keep alive an interest in the entire extension program in Ellsworth County. In this ultimate objective, I believe I have succeeded fairly well, well enough at least that my county will go into the post-war period well organized and with an active membership in every phase of the extension program. Necessarily, I have had less time to spend with home demonstration units and individual 4-H members so I could devote at least part of my time to the agricultural projects.

By arranging, publicizing, and attending all meetings of the agricultural specialists in the county, I have made it possible for farmers of the area to continue to receive the latest agricultural information from Kansas State College and the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station. I am proud to say that more news stories on agricultural subjects have been

published since we have been without an agent than before.

Field visits with agricultural specialists are on my calendar. I have arranged for and attended all executive board and other organization meetings including all township community meetings. Questions concerning crops and livestock in both adult and 4-H work come my way and are taken care of. Circular letters containing timely information and other letters announcing specialist meetings are prepared and sent out to the farmers.

## Helped to Harvest Wheat

Last June I supervised and helped harvest the wheat variety test plots and got a summary of the results to the farmers of the county. I also located and supervised the planting of wheat and alfalfa variety test plots for 1945.

I meet with the county war board, call meetings and act as secretary, and work with the soil conservation board when necessary.

In agriculture, Ellsworth County is stressing crop and soil improvement. Next fall, in cooperation with men leaders, we hope to carry out a program of cattle-grub control.

If anything, I have emphasized 4-H work more in the county than formerly. It is enjoyable work and work that pays excellent dividends. I feel that we are building the extension program of tomorrow when we train 4-H Club members. Three new clubs were organized during the year, bringing our membership up to 193. I put out 31 club news-letters during 1944.

One of my biggest jobs was arranging for the 2-day 4-H county fair, which is the largest county-wide event of the year. The 1944 fair had more than 500 entries made by 130 club members. In addition to arranging livestock, home-economics, and poultry exhibits, demonstration contests

had to be directed and scheduled. Along with a parade, a style revue, and best-groomed boys' contest with 4-H music provided a whole evening's entertainment. Of course, this tremendous task of supervision was possible only through the splendid cooperation of 4-H leaders and chamber of commerce members.

Other events for which I assume full responsibility are 4-H festival, 4-H achievement party, 4-H camp, and State fair. Arranging for the transportation to and from and supervising 35 active youngsters at a 3-day camp and 12 boys and girls for a week at the State fair is no small job for a home demonstration agent.

What aspects of the program have I given up temporarily? I do not attend meetings of home demonstration units and 4-H Clubs as I did formerly, nor do I have time for the home visits I should make. However, we have carried forward a strong home-economics program promoting better farm homes and labor-saving devices, and have devoted considerable time to post-war planning. I represent extension on the county nutrition committee.

## Fine Cooperation in County

In carrying out my triple role in Ellsworth County, I must give credit to able 4-H and home demonstration project leaders as well as the county 4-H council, the home economics advisory committee, and the executive board, all of whom have given fine cooperation. Our efficient office secretary, Dorothy Vleck, is a marvelous help. She knows most of the people who come into the office for information, and because she has been in the office a long time and has heard county agents discuss these matters, can usually answer their questions. If she cannot, she can find the proper bulletin or will write to the specialist who can supply the information. Miss Vleck assisted with 65 Federal income tax returns this year and about the same number last year and the year before.

Of course, my biggest difficulty is finding the time to do everything efficiently and still have some time for the personal things I like to do, like make a garden, can fruits and vegetables, and keep up my apartment. But I can triumphantly say that my 1945 victory garden is planted and doing nicely!



## Extension agents join fighting forces

Nineteen 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.

### Luxembourg letter

I have visited Brussels, a beautiful city; and surprising to me was the fact that the shops and stores are so well supplied with stocks, but the prices are very high. The people there live a very gay life, as in Paris.

Sounds like you all are having to tighten your belts another notch and get home a little earlier nights. You've still got us far outclassed on the curfew, but maybe we have an edge on the food situation. We're mighty proud of the quantity and quality of food that arrives daily, and we realize the good work and production output in the States.

We have had beautiful weather here lately, and the boys who have roughed it all winter are basking in the sun, getting warm and dry once more. They certainly deserve all they can absorb, and that goes doubly for credit due them.—*Sgt. R. G. Merryfield, assistant agent, Cloud County, Kans.*

### France in 1945

I have had several opportunities to get a close-up of French agriculture, and I have found it sound in almost every case. The methods are not as modern as ours, but some of the results far exceed anything I have seen in the States. I have traveled from Southern France to north of Paris, and the most outstanding single thing I have observed is the complete lack of erosion. I have yet to see a single gully made by erosion. Every foot of land not in row crops is in heavy sod. Manure is utilized to the fullest and

has been their only fertilizer for the past 4 years. The system of handling manure is a story within itself that must wait until I return. In the meantime I am getting quite a bit of information along other agricultural lines that I am sure can be put to good use in Tennessee after the war.

I am sure you will be interested in knowing about the food situation in relation to the armed forces overseas. Out of all the shortages and delays experienced with materials and equipment necessary to carry on the war, food is the only one not affected. There has always been a large quantity of food, and during the past year there has been a steady improvement in quality. We now get fresh meat four to five times a week and chicken about once a week (cold storage), vegetables of all kinds that have been shipped in cans, dehydrated potatoes, beets, carrots, and some spinach. Among the most beneficial foods are canned fruit and juices, served once or twice a day. These have prevented an epidemic of colds and influenza this past winter. The canned C rations have been improved to the point where they are actually tasty. A year ago, hunger was the only thing that would force a soldier to eat a can of these rations.—*Pfc. Thomas B. Carney, assistant county agent, Claiborne County, Tenn.*

### Adventures in the Pacific

We have been doing the same old things but spending longer periods at sea and increasing the tempo of attack. Censorship regulations have

been lifted to almost nothing now; we can tell all about any operation after it is a month old. Consequently, I could write a book on the activities of the San Diego. We've been in everything that has taken place here.

Since we left the States April 14, 1944, we have participated in raids on Marcus, Wake, the uncaptured Marshalls, the Caroline Islands, Palau, the Marianas, Bonins, Volcanoes, Philippines, Formosa, Hongkong, Canton, Hainan Island, Saigon in French Indo China, Kyushu, and Tokyo. We were in the first raids made on nearly every one of these places. We were close enough to Honshu to see Fujiyama if it had been a clear day, which it was not.

Of course the planes have taken the brunt of the strikes, and all I have in praise for those lads. Imagine landing a plane during a pitch-black night on a spot in the ocean 100 by 500 feet, and you will know what I mean. If there are any better fliers anywhere, I can't think where it would be. But we have had some excitement ourselves. One day our task group shot down seven Japs.—*Lt. (jg.) Oscar W. Norby, Crawford County, Kans., club agent.*

### THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

#### PENNSYLVANIA

John R. Dauberman, assistant agent, Blair and Cambria Counties, Army.

Glenn W. Ely, assistant agent, Center and Lycoming Counties, Army.

Roger M. Harrington, assistant agent, Armstrong and Indiana Counties, Army.

E. B. Tait, editorial assistant, Agricultural Extension Service, State College, Pa.

# Extension expands the boundaries

MABEL MILHAN, Home Demonstration Agent, Rensselaer County, N. Y.

■ Our 216 leaders in 36 organized groups of Rensselaer County feel their responsibility to 1,275 cooperators. They are continually helping neighbors and friends with the various projects for which they have gained skills at training schools. This year in Rensselaer County we asked each leader to select an assistant. Then, immediately after the leader comes from training school she teaches her assistant what she has learned. In this way, she has good help in teaching the groups. Space and time necessitate our having only one leader from each group attend most training schools. We have suggested that the assistant be a new cooperator, a young homemaker who has not yet had the privilege of being a leader. This is one way, we believe, of expanding and developing leadership.

This year we have turned more attention to the many homemakers who naturally do not get in touch with the Extension Service but who have problems with which Extension can help. In our office, in the center of Troy, a city of 72,000, we have had continuous exhibits which frequently are mentioned in the daily paper. At Christmas we exhibited home-made toys; later, soybeans, a fitted sewing basket, a mending basket from a half-bushel peach basket, a spool rack fitted into a cigar box to hold 18 spools of thread, and a covered sewing box with needle book and pin cushion on the cover. Then there was a special week when the county bag kit could be inspected.

A bulletin rack also attracts homemakers. They are likely to tell neighbors and friends that a friendly welcome waits them at the extension office.

Nevertheless, many homemakers never climb the stairs at the post office. But they do have to find their way each month to the Power Company office to pay their gas and light bills. And we have taken advantage of this. Last year, for 14 weeks on Mondays, an information center on canning methods was carried on at the Power Company office with a county leader in charge who could answer questions. An exhibit of

equipment and canned products attracted more than 200 women who stopped for information and who later went to the extension office for bulletins and other helps. Here also anyone can bring a pressure cooker cover to be tested, and every owner is encouraged to have the gauge tested every year.

During the past spring we had clothing information days at the Power Company office. The first information day was given on how to cover a buckle; next, how to sew on a button to stay; then, how to make a pulled-through patch; and, later, how to mend ragged sleeve edges and worn coat collars. Each time a dramatic exhibit was placed on a large display board, window signs announced the event, and an exhibit showed the process step by step. The person in charge had materials so that

anyone who wished could try out for herself. An attractive well-equipped work box completed the exhibit. This idea carried out also in a large village in the county with good results. Soon garden and canning information will be dispensed in the same way once a week.

There is no end to the questions referred to the extension office. For instance, a homemaker wanted to know how to send fried chicken to her son in the South Pacific—it was the one thing he had requested. The agent knew of a tin can sealer in the county, located the owner by telephone, and completed arrangements for its use. Three days later the agent drove the boy's mother, two dressed chickens, and some butter 25 miles to the home where the tin can sealer and a pressure cooker were. The owner of this equipment had never canned meat and was glad to have a chance to learn how.

Now she may prepare more tin cans of home food for service boys because tin carries perishables safely.

## County council of youth agencies

HARRIET B. CLAUSEN, 4-H Club Agent, Rockland County, N. Y.

■ Our county PTA council selected a program topic "Is there a lack of leadership in our communities?" The "board of experts" invited to make up a panel were the executive secretaries of the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and the YMCA, and the 4-H Club agent.

Whether the PTA Council got the answer to its question is not known; for both sides were argued, and discussions from the audience only enlivened the pros and cons. However, in the hall afterwards, we—the members of the panel, some of whom had never met before—realized that a problem common to us' all might be worked out and strengthened if we could get together and talk just among ourselves and not before an audience.

Mr. Condit of the Boy Scouts called the group together and included the county director of vocational guidance, who encouraged us by saying that a similar group, only larger, had been very effective in Jamestown, N. Y., several years ago.

At the first meeting we merely talked, but out of the talk came a few aims such as: to further one

another's knowledge of the aims and programs of the various youth organizations in the county; to endeavor to avoid duplication of effort; to take common action on county-wide questions and to be generally helpful to one another.

Since that first meeting we have chosen the name of Council of Youth Agencies and have invited to join us the district superintendent of schools, representatives of the ministerial association, the Catholic diocese, the PTA, the public health nursing service, State charities aid, the American Legion Junior Auxiliary, and the probation officer. Some of these may not be interested—there may be other groups we have overlooked, but we plan to keep it a group for the professional youth leaders.

We are in a small urban county only 30 miles from New York City where there could be a lot of rivalry among youth group leaders. We believe we can be of real service to the folks of the county if we meet every month or so for luncheon and plan together. Surely we shall know each other if we are invited again to be on a panel.

# Auditorium dedicated to Thomas Jefferson

■ The auditorium in the Department of Agriculture was officially dedicated as the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Auditorium on May 29. This was in line with the recommendations of the National Agricultural Jefferson Bicentenary Committee last year. The dedication was to have been made on April 13 but was postponed because of the period of mourning for the late President Roosevelt. The addresses of Congressman John

W. Flannagan, Jr. of Virginia, and W. A. Lloyd, Washington representative of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, were inserted by Congressman Flannagan in the Congressional Record of June 4.

In the picture are (left to right) Congressman Flannagan; Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, Public Works Administrator; William A. Lloyd; and Under Secretary Grover B. Hill.



## Indiana garden contest

■ Leaders in the victory garden activity throughout the State are eyeing results of a unique contest and educational project conducted in Vanderburgh County, Ind., in which rural young people participated.

The project started after Seed Dealers' Association of Evansville and County Superintendent of Schools Charles Robinson got together with County Agricultural Agent A. M. Bishea and the Purdue University Extension Service to plan something to boost interest in the county victory garden program.

As a result, the seed dealers put

up \$100 for prizes, the school head carried out the activity, and the Extension Service prepared the contest examination in which students in the seventh and eighth grades throughout the county were eligible to participate.

County Superintendent Robinson arranged for the garden information course to be worked into the school teaching program as an extra activity in connection with the grade school health classes throughout the county. The Vanderburgh County garden guide, which had been prepared earlier, was used in all schools

as a text. Participation in the county-wide contest examination was voluntary, but teachers and extension workers were swamped when 1,200 youngsters plied their knowledge in an effort to become county champ and share in the cash awards.

The test included 20 true-false type, 14 completion-type, and 10 selection-type questions.

Enthusiastic garden leaders in the county believe the contest has stimulated extensive interest in the food for freedom garden food production program.

## Doctors' aides

Five hundred Pope County, Ark., home demonstration club women realized early in 1943 that there would be a shortage of doctors and nurses for the duration, so they decided to equip themselves to take care of accidents and sickness in their homes.

Mabel Bussell, county home demonstration agent, says the women included in their club program a study of first-aid treatment for fainting, burns, cuts, severe bleeding, broken bones, and shock. They had a demonstration in giving artificial respiration.

They have studied food for the sick and have seen a demonstration on preparing a tray for an ill person. They learned how to prepare a sick-room, take temperatures, bathe a patient, change the bed, and plan a home medicine cabinet.

Treatment of common emergencies such as boils, blisters, colds, earache; foreign bodies in the ear, eye, nose, and windpipe; insects and poison ivy, and what to do in case of poison were taken up next.

The women devoted last September and October to study of a safe and sanitary home and how to protect family health.

Early this year they acquired skill in applying bandages and dressings by practice.

They were taught by 35 local leaders who had been trained in 3 schools conducted by a trained nurse, the home demonstration agent, and qualified Red Cross teachers.

This summer the women are having five short home-nursing courses of six lessons each, so that there will be courses in reach of each community.



# Recommends radio schools

■ Few conferences, meetings, or "schools" have ever received such universal and enthusiastic words of approval and praise as the 2-day radio school in Oregon. One county agent said the first half day was worth his trip across the Cascade Mountains in a snowstorm, even if he didn't learn another thing.

Following a full morning of preliminaries, plus some pointers on successful broadcasting techniques, the extension workers were given two different sets of fact sheets and their assignments at noon. They were restricted to the general subjects covered by the fact sheets—farm labor and victory gardens. Individual talks were to be 3 minutes, dialogs 4 minutes, and four-man panels 5 minutes in length as their assignments. At 2 o'clock the "students" returned, and cutting of transcriptions began.

Facilities provided by the Oregon State College speech department's radio speech lab enabled playbacks of talks while others were being cut. The fun really began when the "commentators" were turned loose on the playbacks before the entire school. These critics included Kenneth Gapen, C. B. Mitchell, head of the Oregon State speech department; Allan Miller, manager of KOAC, Oregon's State-owned station; Burton Hutton, farm service director for KALE, Portland; Earl

Britton, farm program director for KOAC; and Fred M. Shideler, extension information assistant. They drew no punches, and the more severe they were the better the participants liked it. The extension workers were there to learn how to present better extension radio programs, and they wanted the "works"—which they got.

Workers from the counties prepared a second talk on the final day, which was recorded and played back but not criticized except for a few comments. Those attending judged for themselves any improvement. In most cases this improvement was very noticeable and obvious.

## What Do Stations Want?

Meanwhile, Kenneth Gapen had explained what stations want in farm and home programs, the extension agents' place in radio, how to get and organize farm news, tips to broadcasters, program building, and mike psychology. Other speakers included Mr. Teutsch, who explained why agents should use radio; Mr. Hutton who told what makes a farm and farm home service tick and click; and L. R. Breithaupt, extension agricultural economist, Oregon State College, who reported on a farm program listener survey.—*Fred M. Shideler, information assistant, Oregon.*

## Two new members on staff of National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work

■ The National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work has two new field representatives, Emmie Nelson and G. A. McDonald. Emmie Nelson, who is well known to State 4-H Club workers throughout the Nation, served as assistant State club leader at the University of Georgia for 10 years. She is a former 4-H Club member, was graduated from the University of Georgia with a B. S. degree in home economics, and served as home demonstration agent in Richmond County, Ga., before accepting a position in the State 4-H office.

Miss Nelson has served as a member of the extension subcommittee on 4-H Club work and on important committees relating to the National 4-H Club Congress. Through her many

local, State, and national contacts she has developed a splendid understanding of the 4-H program.

After G. A. McDonald graduated from the South Dakota State College in 1929 with a B. S. degree he taught high school agriculture for several years and then became county agent in Brookings County. He, too, is a former 4-H Club member. In 1937 Mr. McDonald became livestock specialist in South Dakota and during the next 7 years worked closely with the State and county extension agents on 4-H livestock club work. While on the State staff he completed work for his M. S. degree at the University of Minnesota, with a major in animal husbandry and a minor in economics. For the past year Mr. McDonald has

been associated with the Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Livestock Exchange as livestock market news commentator and secretary of the exchange.

When announcing the addition of Miss Nelson and Mr. McDonald to the staff of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, G. L. Noble, managing director, said that the addition of Miss Nelson and Mr. McDonald to the staff will make it possible to maintain closer personal contacts between the Federal and State Extension Services and the National Committee. It will be their purpose to have the field representatives ascertain the State needs and further aid from the National Committee and to bring them first-hand information about various services of the committee.

Dr. Fred H. Leinbach, who was on leave of absence from the University of Maryland while directing the National Livestock Conservation Program, has been called back to his position as head of the animal husbandry department at the university.

## Fat contest yielded 5,000 red points

A half ton of waste fat and the 5,147 point value in red points were part of the display at the Lenawee County, Mich., home economics achievement day, which culminated a 30-day friendly contest when a prize was awarded to the group turning in the largest number of pounds per member.

The Holloway Mothers Club averaged 20.34 pounds for their 22 members, or a total of 447½ pounds, and won a lovely scrapbook as the prize.

The county total fat salvaged brought \$102.94 in money, and the red point value was sufficient to purchase 214 pounds of butter.

The rules of the contest were drawn up in the county as a dramatic way to call attention to the fat salvage campaign, according to Beatrice Frangquist, home demonstration agent in Lenawee County. All 23 clubs in the county were eligible to compete. The home-front chairman in each group was teller for the members in her own club.

As Lenawee groups have members in small-town and rural areas, the contest created much interest throughout the area.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Butter as a source of vitamin A.** Next time you part with all those red ration points for a pound of butter, it may cheer you to think that you are pretty sure to be getting 15,000 International Units of vitamin A in it. If you could eat as much butter as you used to before the war, it alone would furnish about 15 percent of your daily requirement of vitamin A as recommended by the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council. At the request of that board, a study of the vitamin-A value of creamery butter was begun in 1941 by State experiment stations, in cooperation with the Bureau of Dairy Industry and the office of Experiment Stations of the Department. The results have recently been compiled, and the report is now in press.

Besides establishing the average vitamin-A value of a pound of creamery butter at 15,000 units, the study indicates that both vitamin A and carotene (which is converted into vitamin A in the human body) are very stable in butter, so that little if any is lost during ordinary periods of storage. Though there is quite a difference in vitamin-A content between winter butter and summer butter, that produced in summer when green feed is available naturally being richer, it averages up over the year.

This study has demonstrated clearly that the vitamin-A content of butter, as well as that of milk and other dairy products, depends on the quantity of carotene in the cow's diet. Because of the variations in the vitamin-A value of milk under different feeding methods and at different seasons, the conclusion is that much can be done to increase vitamin A in dairy products by attention to choice of feeds.

■ **No mother to guide them.** Baby turkeys that are hatched in incubators are often so slow in learning to eat the feed and water set before

them that they starve to death or have their growth seriously retarded. Baby chicks eat much more readily, and poultrymen who are used to raising chickens sometimes lose turkey poults because they do not understand that the little turkeys must be taught to eat and drink.

Several things can be done to accomplish this: Put out a greater number than usual of water and feed containers; these should be of the open type, as poults do not at first like to put their heads between wires or into holes. Offer extra mash on pie plates or egg-case flats. Sprinkle oatmeal or finely chopped, tender green feed on the mash and on the water. Put bright-colored glass marbles on the feed and in the water to attract the birds' attention. Dip the beak of each poult in the water, then in the mash. Keep the poults where there is plenty of light, and be sure to supply feed and water before they are 48 hours old. It may help to put a few older poults which are already trained in with the younger ones for a few days, but take them only from stock free of disease.

■ **Velva Fruit in the news again.** An attractive folder recently issued by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics tells how to make Velva Fruit at home, in an ice-cream freezer or in a mechanical refrigerator. Each step of the preparation is illustrated and easy to follow. Making Velva Fruit is a fine way to enjoy berries, peaches, grapes, cantaloups—almost any kind of fruit—especially when more is available than can be eaten fresh. Even if you have to buy the fruit for the purpose, however, it may pay; for this delicious frozen dessert is a treat, especially in summer.

Velva Fruit can be stored for several months in a freezer cabinet, but flavor and texture are at their peak soon after freezing. So it is best to make a puree of the fruit, which can

be frozen and stored for some time with less loss of quality, and make it into Velva Fruit when you plan to eat it. Directions for making the puree are also in the folder, which is number AIS-22.

■ **Stretching the tobacco-growing bottleneck.** A new treatment for the tobacco bed where the crop is started promises to insure the production of more and better plants. Tobacco specialists say that the plant bed is the bottleneck in tobacco growing because the tender seedlings growing in a small space are subject to disease attack and to the competition of weeds. This problem has been met in the past in one of three ways: By using new ground for the beds each year; by sterilizing the soil with steam; or by piling and burning brush on the bed ground. All these methods have drawbacks. The new treatment consists in the use of chemicals to kill the weeds and disease organisms in the plant beds. The best results from chemical treatment last year, according to tobacco experts of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, were from the use of 1 pound of urea and one-half pound of calcium cyanamide for each square yard of tobacco bed, stirred into the upper 4 inches of the soil sometime between September 1 and November 1. This treatment has reduced the weed population about 95 percent and controlled the root knot. It gives best results in light sandy soils, cannot be recommended unqualifiedly for heavy soils. The study of chemical control of weeds in tobacco beds has been going on for 6 years in cooperation with the experiment stations of South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, and Georgia, and the Department of Agriculture of North Carolina.

## New circular

Do farm families get and read bulletins, news stories, and circular letters prepared for them by the Extension Service? Do they understand and make use of the information? How can the use of extension written material be improved?

Some of the answers are given in Extension Service Circular No. 424, Findings From Studies of Bulletins, News Stories, and Circular Letters by Lucinda Crile, Federal Extension Service.

# We Study Our Job

## How long is the home agent's week?

On the average, home demonstration agents spend a little more than 52 hours each week on their official duties, according to 1944 spring-summer records of 173 agents from 46 States. If earned annual leave, lunch time, personal, and legal holiday time were included the average home-agent week in the United States would be about 60½ hours.

The actual working time of home agents varies slightly in different regions as follows:

Region	Average length of work week
Central . . . . .	56 hours 43 minutes
Eastern . . . . .	50 " 39 "
Southern . . . . .	50 " 46 "
Western . . . . .	53 " 26 "

To be fair to each region we must explain that the agents in the Central and Western regions kept their records in June rather than May, as in the other two regions, and so had the benefit of longer daylight hours for the week they recorded. Some difference in activities would account, too, for a long work day. June was the time for 4-H Club Camp in some of the Central and Western counties and camp days are notoriously long ones.

In many county offices, the extension workers, like the country doctor, is on call all day and much of the night. Forty-six percent of the home agents said it was difficult to live up to this schedule. As expressed by the agents themselves, the extension schedule was often inconvenient, nerve-racking, a cause of undue fatigue, or the part of the job they disliked.

In answer to a question about their difficulties, 25 percent of the agents reported their main difficulty to be the "irregular, long, busy hours"; 9 percent spoke of "too long schedules"; 18 percent said too many "night meetings"; and about 4 percent reported a problem with home calls in the evenings and on Sundays.

About a third of the agents have retained the Saturday half holiday, at least theoretically. But whether they work a whole day or a half day, home demonstration agents give some extra measure in overtime.

Approximately 61 percent of the agents did no Sunday work, about a fourth worked less than 4 hours on Sunday, but about 12 percent put in a half day or more on extension activities.

Previous progress reports of this Nation-wide study of the home agent's job were given on the "We Study Our Job" page in the January and March 1945 issues of the REVIEW. Winter records of home agents for January and February 1945 are being summarized at present.

## Publications workshop

More readable extension publications seem to be in the offing, judging from reports of the Publications Workshop held at Columbia University, May 21 to June 2. Some 30 extension workers from 17 States, including editors and State and Federal workers, took part in the workshop activities which were carried out under the personal direction of Dr. Irving Lorge of Teachers College, Columbia University. Dr. Lorge is also a consultant with the Federal Extension Service. The activities of the workshop centered around the problems extension workers have in preparing written material for farm people.

How to communicate ideas in most understandable form was the basis of lectures given in the morning and afternoon by top-flight consultants including Lyman Bryson, George Gallup, Ruth Strang, and Harold Clark. The topics discussed included: Psychology of the adult; how people read; problems in communication; pointers on writing; visual aids; and problems in layout, format, and printing related to extension bulletins.

Following the lecture periods the assembly broke up into smaller groups, each working on a specific problem or phase of making publications readable. One group made a

study of formulas to measure readability of written material; also laid plans for developing a special farm word list for use in preparing and analyzing extension publications. Another group discussed the presentation of material—the layout, format, size of type, and use of color and illustrations.

A third group met to develop ways of evaluating our extension publications. Studies were planned to test publications in the office and in the field to find out if and how people get them; if the publications are read and understood; and if they influence readers to make any changes.

## Readability Grass Roots

Some pioneer readability research by J. E. McClintock, Ohio extension editor, was brought to light at the workshop. Mr. McClintock told about making a study in 1929 for his master's degree at the University of Wisconsin on What Makes a Popular Bulletin Popular. Andrew Hopkins of Wisconsin, another workshop participant, had cooperated with Mr. McClintock in sending out questionnaires for this study.

Three bulletins on the same subject, written by different authors, were the basis of this readability project. Copies of the three bulletins, together with questionnaires asking for comments on the bulletins, were sent to 67 selected readers. Those asked to judge the manuscripts included dairy farmers, editors of farm papers, county agricultural agents, and businessmen.

The replies indicated that the simplest bulletin was the favorite. This bulletin averaged shorter sentences than the other two publications. The words used were short and concrete, largely words from the Middle English and Anglo-Saxon that are most familiar.

Based on a careful study of the "favorite publication," Mr. McClintock concluded, "Other things being equal, style of writing makes the popular bulletin popular."

The study has not been duplicated for distribution.

# Among Ourselves

■ MRS. HARRIET F. JOHNSON, who resigned as 4-H girls' club leader for South Carolina on October 1, 1944, is the first woman State representative in South Carolina. Mrs. Johnson worked with the Extension Service for 25 years, first as home demonstration agent in Spartanburg County. During the past 22 years she has given her time to the 4-H Club girls of South Carolina. (Among Ourselves, page 13, January 1945 Extension Service Review.)

When Mrs. Johnson heard of a vacancy on the York County delegation for the legislature, she followed an "intruding idea," as she calls it. Her friends were enthusiastic and encouraged her to register for the campaign, which she did 10 minutes before the books closed. When her name was announced, friends began writing and telephoning all over the county; and they put two advertisements in the paper. She ran ads herself, had radio announcements, and gave two radio talks. The race with the three men opponents was a close one, Mrs. Johnson getting 400 votes and the next highest 395.

The high ideals that prevail in fine leadership such as hers were made evident in the only campaign promises she made: "To help maintain dignity and honor in the hall of the State . . . and to attempt to have the right attitude in thinking so as to have the approval of supporters." The only other woman in the South Carolina Legislature was a senator some years ago.

■ LAWRENCE L. JOHNSON, who headed Extension Service work with Texas 4-H Club boys since 1935, died in a Bryan hospital Monday night, June 11. He was born at Zanesville, Ohio, October 22, 1893, but had made his home in Texas since youth.

"The passing of Mr. Johnson deprived the 4-H Club movement in Texas of an inspired leader," said James D. Prewit, vice director and State agent for the A. and M. College Extension Service. "Under his direction the enrollment of club boys and the number and volume of their demonstrations reached record pro-



portions. In 1943, the enrollment exceeded 40,000, and the value of the major productions of the club boys was more than 2½ million dollars. Although wartime conditions, especially the heavy demands upon boys to take a larger share of regular farm work, brought a slight decline in total membership in 1944, the value of production of food and fiber by Texas 4-H Club boys was more than in 1943.

"During Mr. Johnson's decade of service as State boys' club agent the success of Texas 4-H Club boys in winning national blue ribbon contests increased steadily. In 1943, Texas boys took 5 firsts of these contests, including the coveted achievement award which included a chest of silver presented by the President of the United States. In 1944, Texas club boys took 4 of the blue ribbon awards. Mr. Johnson was a tireless worker, and his death is a grave loss to the Extension Service headquarters staff."

Mr. Johnson served overseas with a machine gun battalion of the Fifth Division during the First World War. Upon his discharge in 1919, he entered Texas A. and M. College and after completing his scholastic work in 1921 joined the Extension Service as agricultural agent in Bosque

County, serving until 1925 when he was transferred to a similar position in Cooke County. In 1935, he joined the Extension Service headquarters at College Station as State boys' club agent, a position previously filled by T. O. Walton, former president of the college, former Director of Extension H. H. Williamson, and Sterling Evans.

During his long career as head of boys' club work, Mr. Johnson conducted many groups of club boys to the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago and to the National 4-H Encampment at Washington. But his activities were climaxed when he headed a group of 24 Texas boys on a tour of Mexico from May 28 until June 7 last. Several years ago he conceived a plan of taking a number of representative Texas 4-H Club boys to the southern republic as a gesture of friendship and to create a closer understanding between the youth of the two nations. Two boys from each of the 12 Texas Extension Service districts were selected on the basis of leadership, production, and character to make up the party. Although in failing health, Mr. Johnson worked untiringly in laying plans for the journey and courageously made the long trip to Mexico City. There he saw his hopes realized when, with the cooperation of Minister of Agriculture Marte Gomez, and Director Hector Lazos of the National School of Agriculture at Chapingo, a corresponding number of students at the school joined with Texas club boys and fraternized with them during the 4 days' stay at the national capital.

■ NEWTON W. GAINES who has been associated with the Agricultural Extension Service at the University of Nebraska for better than a quarter of a century—27 years as a matter of fact—retired as rural community specialist July 1 and turned the work over to T. H. "Ted" Alexander.

Mr. Gaines has been one of the very few Nebraskans who has spoken in every village, hamlet, town, and city in Nebraska—and in thousands of rural communities; in fact he says he has made 7,000 addresses.

Probably he is known personally in

more communities than any other Nebraskan today. He is intimately acquainted with 4-H Club boys and girls, farm men and women, civic club leaders, school teachers, college professors, and blacksmiths.

"In the early days," Gaines said, "there weren't any movies or radio. People turned out to hear speakers at the chautauqua or lyceum. Merchants in small towns closed their business houses during the sessions, and crowds poured into the chautauqua tents and into buildings to hear the imported talent."

Gaines was among that talent. He was with the circuits for 9 straight years. The work took him all over the country.

What did he talk about? Well, he had one speech that was entitled "New Wine and New Bottles." It was a humorous speech and a take-off on youth. His contract called for him to speak about 1 hour and 15 minutes, no less.

"In those days people would listen to speeches for that length of time," he says. "They paid for it and wanted their money's worth."

He recalls working the circuit with Senator Bob LaFollette, father of the present Senator LaFollette. At Scottsbluff, he remembers Senator LaFollette speaking for 5 solid hours on the platform. Young Bob LaFollette was there and carried ice packs to the stage and put them on his father's neck to cool him off. After 5 hours of this oratory, Gaines followed, and the audience still sat for more.

Then, he came to the Nebraska Extension Service—that was 27 years ago. He was in charge of rural community organizations, and he helped reorganize groups in many rural areas. These organizations set up their own educational programs, and this later developed into a widespread work among the older boys and girls—those beyond 4-H Club age and "Rural Youth" groups were organized throughout the State.

Gaines continued his speaking work here. He went into rural areas, cities, and towns; and it was just a few years ago that he could boast of speaking in every village, hamlet, town, and city in Nebraska.

■ T. X. CALNAN, Barnes County, N. Dak., extension agent and one of the oldest county agents in point of

service in the United States, died May 26, ending more than 32 years of educational work, and all, except a few months, in one county.

Mr. Calnan was in Barnes County for 31 years of his connection with the Extension Service and was recognized widely as an agricultural leader. Every farm family in Barnes County knew him personally. The programs he planned and developed for farm people and 4-H members continue as a monument to his memory.

■ L. V. TOYNE, Colorado agricultural extension agent on leave from Weld County to serve as an agricultural officer with the State Department, is assigned to the American consul general's office in Sydney, Australia, instead of Paris as reported in the February issue.

According to Toyne, no United States Government agricultural officer has been assigned to Australia since about 1933. He has been assigned the job of enlarging the agricultural work of the State Department in that country.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture reports that the State Department is appointing farm-trained men to serve in 40 posts abroad similar to the work to which Toyne is being assigned. The staff employed in foreign agricultural relations will eventually number between 75 and 90.

As a result of this policy, the Department of State and the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations in the U. S. Department of Agriculture will receive a much greater quantity and a higher quality of detailed reports involving farm data and statistics, which will be of much value in protecting United States farmers from lack of information, prejudice, and misinformation. Also, this will help in the launching of domestic agricultural programs, because more and better information on the world's agricultural situation will be available.

■ Department of Agriculture employees who have each given a gallon or more blood were recently presented certificates at an impressive ceremony in the Department Auditorium. Judge Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, and W. A. Minor, Assistant to the Secretary, presented certificates to the bureau blood-donor chairmen for their gallon donors. More than 200 employees in the Federal office have given a gallon

or more of blood. Seven Washington employees have given 2 gallons. Those of the Extension Service who have given a gallon or more are Mrs. Nellie Rasmussen, Arthur M. Sowder, Jane F. Maloney, T. G. Hornung, Agnes King, and Harlan F. Shrader. Another member of the Extension family but employed by the Bureau of Dairy Industry, Joseph B. Parker, has given nearly 2 gallons. Agriculture employees in Washington have contributed more than 9,500 pints of blood since the program began in 1942.

## Maine women can boys' favorite foods

City people nowadays are sharing the benefits of many an educational program emanating from the Extension Service, planned primarily for rural folks. Last fall a project was launched in Maine to teach the wives, mothers, and sweethearts of the boys overseas how to can Christmas goodies properly in order that they would reach their destination in good condition.

Mrs. Agnes F. Gibbs, war food production assistant, working in greater Portland, and Mrs. Elizabeth Cobb, Cumberland County home demonstration agent, helped process and pack 3,810 cans to send overseas. Seventy-six varieties of foods were canned and sent to 37 different countries. Packed in the boxes were such foods as fudge, cookies, Maine home-baked beans, steamed brown bread, steamed pudding, spaghetti and meat balls, and lobsters. The lobsters were supplied and cooked by the local fishermen, and the women removed the meat and canned it.

■ Home demonstration clubs in El Paso County, Colo., are making 1945 their Better Health Year.

Each club is studying the needs of its own community in regard to examinations for preschool children, nutritious meals for health, and hot school lunches.

The home demonstration club members will study group health insurance and hospitalization plans and recreational facilities for adults as well as children. Each club has agreed to study safety measures in the home and on the farm and to equip and learn to use a well-equipped medicine chest.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**WHO ADVISES THE FARM ADVISOR?** Two tributes have been paid to the county agricultural agents in the Western Dairy Journal for July. One came from Glenn Kinghorn, the Pacific Northwest representative of the Journal, in a story under the above title; the other from our new USDA Secretary, Clinton P. Anderson, in a box statement with the same article.

**SEEDS SENT BY THE AMERICAN TO THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE** are already doing service in agricultural rehabilitation, according to letters received by Russian War Relief from Y. L. Getmanov, Soviet agronomist, and A. K. Ditlov, Moscow victory gardener. Mr. Getmanov described the aid given as "immense, and highly appreciated by the whole of the Soviet Union." He also said that the seeds are helping a great deal in the quickest possible rehabilitation of the liberated areas of the U.S.S.R.

**FROM ENGLAND COMES J. C. HOTCHKISS** to look over our 4-H Club work. As chief organizer of the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs in England and Wales he has long had experience in working with youth. He is on his way to a new post to be in charge of 4-H Club work for the British West Indies. He said the Young Farmers Clubs were organized in 1921 by Lord Northcliff who had been interested in the work of 4-H Clubs in the United States. The clubs have taken an important part in the war-production program, and the organization has grown rapidly during the war years. At the end of May 1945 there were 1,234 clubs and 65,000 members, about two-thirds of them being boys. Before taking up his new duties, Mr. Hotchkiss plans to visit 4-H Clubs in Ohio, Iowa, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New York. He will attend the Interstate 4-H Club Conference in Sioux City, Iowa, and the annual club week of the 4-H Clubs of Quebec, Canada.

**PRESIDENT TRUMAN WAS PRESENTED** with an honorary 4-H Club pin at Independence, Mo., in June.

The radio carried the program in which a 4-H Club boy representing the county council of leaders of Jackson County, the President's home county, publicly presented the pin. A story, A neighborhood leader becomes President, appears on page 116 of this issue.

**IN RECENT NATIONAL CLOTHING COLLECTION DRIVE** 43,435 families were contacted by Arkansas home demonstration club women, 123,388 articles of clothing and household articles were donated, and 216,077 pounds of clothing, shoes, bedding, and other articles were given or collected by home demonstration club groups.

**FLORIDA FARM AND TOWN FAMILIES** are cooperating in getting their canning done. Farm women are too busy working in the fields to can, and the town women have nothing to put into cans. Home demonstration agents arrange for cooperation, the farmers dropping off vegetables and fruit to be canned as they take loads to market and the town women doing the canning. Under this plan as much as 241,293 quarts have been canned in 21 counties, particularly in the truck-growing areas.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** of the National Association of County Agri-

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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cultural Agents, together with chairmen of other committees of the Association, spent the week of July 9 in USDA meeting with members of the Federal Extension staff and heads of USDA and other government agencies. They had a friendly session with Secretary Clinton P. Anderson. A. F. MacDougall, president of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, after a recent interview with Secretary Anderson, said, "County agents can be proud of the leadership Secretary Anderson is giving the agriculture of this Nation."

**A GIANT CANNING BOOK**, about 3 by 5 feet in size, displayed in a AAA window in Hand County, S. Dak., attracted much attention. On each page were directions for canning vegetables and fruits that were on the market at that time. When new fruits and vegetables came on the market the pages were turned to correspond with the season. There was also a display of bulletins and a stairway of shelves on which three jars of canned food were placed when a new food came into season.

**COMMITTEE ON EXTENSION ORGANIZATION AND POLICY** met in Washington the week of July 9. Among important items discussed were (1) The newly appropriated Bankhead-Flannagan funds and implementation of policies in the States conforming to the language and intent of Congress in making these funds available. (2) The situation with regard to emergency war food funds for 1945-46. (3) The 1946 extension farm labor program, (4) S. 1078, a bill introduced by Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, the purpose of which is declared to be as follows: "A bill to foster the cooperative agricultural educational work of the extension services; to free the extension services from the performance of nongovernmental functions; and to promote economy in the expenditure of public funds for the conduct of cooperative agricultural extension work; and for other purposes . . ."

The Committee had a very satisfactory meeting with Secretary Clinton P. Anderson and had a joint session with the Executive Committee of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## Building the Peace

■ The Charter for World Security has been written by representatives of 50 nations and ratified by the Senate of the United States. The Bretton Woods agreement has also been ratified and our participation in the Food and Agriculture Organization assured. The United States is thus a leading and active member of the United Nations.

These are the instruments for winning the peace and 38 States have already reported efforts to bring to rural people information about them.

The launching of the State Department program to reach all people with the challenging facts involved in building an enduring peace added impetus to extension activities. The four leaflets and the radio series from the Department of State were sent immediately to all extension workers. They were discussed at staff meetings in practically all States, and district meetings were held for local agents in many States. Interesting variations were New Hampshire's State-wide forum and the Nebraska plan of having the staff members themselves dramatize the first conference of the United Nations after the charter became effective.

The interpretation of the facts supplied by the State Department in local terms began throughout the country. New Mexico translated the bulletin, War, How Can We Prevent It? into

### OFF TO WORK

These Oregon emergency farm workers are filing into a truck for a day of work in the fields. The Farm Labor Office is proud of the safety feature which allows the workers to climb into the truck from the front instead of from the rear. Most of the farm labor slack in this harvest month of September is being taken care of by just such groups of local recruits.

Spanish and distributed 550 copies to the Spanish-speaking rural people. The Missouri Farm News Service, containing an item on building international peace, was reprinted and 75,000 copies distributed in rural counties. Press releases went to thousands of country weeklies in every State.

The facts were discussed by extension workers in their regular radio talks. Special 5-minute transcriptions were used on 12 regular radio programs in Oregon. Washington's Golden Gate of Peace series proved popular.

Discussion leaders were trained in both subject matter and the techniques of leading a discussion. Grange lecturers, rural ministers, older youth, leaders in practically all-rural organizations were thus trained in many States. Special kits of materials for these leaders were prepared. Two thousand copies of the discussion guide, Are We Ready for World-wide Cooperation? were used in Wisconsin.

Thirteen hundred kits were distributed in Ohio. A Delaware agent reports: "Every meeting with an adult group had to be arbitrarily closed because of the lateness of the hour."

Rural youth groups have been particularly active in this field. Clubs in Illinois, Ohio, Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Iowa considered building the peace to be one of their main topics for discussion.

The Annual 4-H Club Congress in Mississippi, held late in June with 840 in attendance, featured a series of discussion periods on youth's responsibilities in building and maintaining world peace.

Cooperation with other agencies was illustrated by the panel discussion at the Ohio Rural Minister Summer Camp early in August and the rural-urban forum sponsored by the South Dakota State College and held in Huron May 10. A large number of farm organizations, labor and business groups, as well as religious, civic, and educational groups took part. Those who attended this meeting are holding similar forums in their home communities this fall.



# In the long run

## 25 years of hewing to constant objectives

■ County Agent John H. Wittwer went to Clark County, Nev., in August 1921 from Uintah County, Utah, where he had served as county agent for more than 4 years. He had no more than arrived in Clark County when Lincoln County, to the north, was added to his domain, making more than 12 million acres in which he was to serve.

The territory was large and the country full of extremes. Farm land ranged from approximately 700 feet elevation to 6,000 feet. The temperature varied from 30 degrees to 117 degrees Fahrenheit. The growing season in parts of Lincoln County was less than 90 days, whereas in parts of Clark County there were 250 frost-free days and an all-year-round growing season for the hardier field and vegetable crops.

Except for one main-line railroad that traversed the district and two branch lines that penetrated agricultural and mining potentialities, little else than mere trails provided means of travel by auto and trucks.

He found his two-county district a place where farmers and stockmen had not been handed a rich legacy by Mother Nature but where gains were made only through the hardest toil.

**A range improvement demonstration with the Extension, Soil Conservation, and Grazing Services, as well as local stockmen and farmers, taking part.**

Farm families were often confronted with terrifying floods, unrelenting droughts, and wild market fluctuations.

His theory was that the approach to any problem was by obtaining facts from which action could be determined. The soil first occupied his attention, and local leaders were helped to inaugurate soil surveys in cooperation with the Bureau of Soils and the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. These surveys were followed by more intensive studies through the Nevada University Experiment Station, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and the Soil Conservation Service. From these studies grew a fertilizer program which has led to the shipping in of carlot quantities of commercial fertilizers, especially treble superphosphate, and some nitrogen, and the use of green and barnyard manures where the use of fertilizer had been negligible before.

The study of soils naturally led to a search for facts on over-all watershed. Detailed surveys for flood control and erosion and for prevention of heavy siltation of farms in two of the major farming districts of the area were made.

Even though from the depression

days of 1929 through the years of the big drought and the recent war years, about all the emergency programs cataloged have been laid on the doorstep of the Extension Service, yet the basic features of this first program have been tenaciously adhered to because protection from devastating floods and maintenance of production were keynotes to security of local and national interests.

One event which influenced the development of extension work in the district was the construction of Boulder Dam. This created a superdemand for products of both farm and range. Market milk was in such demand that the county arranged to have the Federal Extension dairyman come to teach the farmers the fundamentals of production of clean milk. Since those days the theme which has been ringing in the ears of dairymen and would-be dairymen is "clean healthy cows, clean healthy milkers, clean utensils, clean practices, and clean surroundings." A mere handful of farmers were encouraged in their business of market milk production, setting up gas engine-driven power for refrigeration, hauling the output in 10-gallon milk cans by truck for distances of from 60 to nearly 100 miles daily to points of consumption.

Through the cooperation of Las Vegas City and Clark County administrative offices, local leadership helped to bring about improved sanitary processing of farm and range meat animals for local consumption. This was done through a cooperative meat packing plant financed by Farm Security Administration. Thus was provided a stabilized market for locally produced livestock and a locally inspected meat supply never before available.

When Boulder Dam power installation was completed practically 95 percent of Clark County farms were electrified through REA, and more farmers added market milk to their farm enterprise.

The war industries brought more people into the area, and the dairy business again expanded. Farm leaders working with the Extension Service set their objectives and worked toward them. Not only individual farms but neighborhood groups of farmers pooled their interests and built cooperative milk barns and milk houses with refrigeration facilities to which 10 or more farmers would bring





their herds for milking, and for cooling and storing milk for daily shipment 70 to 80 miles by truck to processing and distributors' plants.

Market milk output increased nearly 400 percent over that of Boulder Dam construction days and took first place in Clark County's support of the war food-production program. Market milk provided the means of buying war bonds, even though production costs spiraled out of balance with incomes and labor shortage threatened because of the heavy drain of boys away from farms to battle fronts.

A factor in the success of the program was the expansion of 4-H Club work with the part-time help of District Agent John P. Ahern. He gave special attention to dairy production because of the critical need for increased market milk supply. Also, in cooperation with the War Food Administration, a veterinarian was appointed to institute a program of maintaining healthy animals.

It was necessary to wage an unrelenting and costly fight against tuberculosis, Bang's disease, and mastitis. The Bureau of Dairy Industry and the Nevada Veterinary Control Service cooperated with dairymen on this. The area has long since been pronounced tuberculosis-free, is approaching accredited Bang's disease-free status, and is putting on a determined campaign to clean up mastitis—all with the objective of producing good clean wholesome Grade A raw milk, fit for consumption of home folks as well as for the trade.

Playing an important role were the Clark County commissioners, the State and Clark County Health Departments, and the Veterinary Department of the Military Service in the area. Through these agencies, not only did quantity production result but quality changed proportionately. From bacterial standpoint alone the change was from occasional counts by the million bacteria per cc. to counts of under 50,000, with an encouraging number of producers getting down to fewer than 10,000 and a few leaders who are attaining a low of from 2,000 down to 700 bacteria per cc.

#### Dairy Program Brings Improvements

Other features of the dairy program are improved buildings and equipment, cow testing, improved feeding, breeding by artificial insemination,

pasture improvement, and, last but not least, 1,000 percent increased applications of barnyard manure to farms as compared with the old pre-Boulder Dam days.

This last item materially aided the vegetable program and reinforced other soil-building practices to maintain nearly an all-season shipping program. The peak comes during April and May when 40 to 50 million tomato plants, 10 to 15 million celery and other minor field-grown plants are shipped to nearly all Western States and as far east as Ohio.

As the work expanded through the years, an assistant agent, first, Louis A. Gardella, and later, Steven James, assumed a share of the responsibility. In 1936 the assistant agent, with the help of local leaders, took over the full load in Lincoln County; and County Agent Wittwer, with the help of a well-trained leadership, continued in

Clark County. He also keeps an eagle eye on the flood-erosion menace in Lincoln County that directly seriously affected the farming, transportation facilities, and communication lines in Lincoln as well as in Clark County.

What were the methods used? Agent Wittwer himself answers the question: "Conferences, man to man, on the proverbial ditch bank, across barbed-wire fences, or on the old pole fence; conferences in committee rooms, on field trips; group and mass meetings followed up by circular and personal letters; news items, illustrated pictures, demonstration field meetings and trips to neighboring counties and States where result and method demonstrations to show correct principles and sound practices fostered the spirit of seeing is believing. When faith takes hold, 'faith, though as a mustard seed, will move mountains.'"

## Short courses in leadership

■ A short course in leadership was held on the University of Wyoming campus for the members of the State Home Demonstration and 4-H Club Councils, in June, with delegates from 21 counties attending. The theme, Leadership for Community Activities, was discussed at the opening session by T. A. Erickson, formerly State 4-H Club leader in Minnesota.

"Common sense demands that mankind find some other way than war to settle their differences," said Dr. J. L. Morrill, President of the University, in a talk at the Wednesday night banquet. He urged that leaders assume responsibility for the discussion of permanent peace plans in their communities and stated that "modern science has made it necessary for man to live in peace if he is to live at all."

Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Lane were honored guests at the banquet. Mr. Lane has served as county agent leader in Wyoming for the last 27 years and retired from active service July 1.

In an address to the delegates, Director A. E. Bowman of the University Agricultural Extension Service said: "Only he who stands on

higher ground can help others climb up" and pointed out that meetings such as these serve to help leaders gain the vision and insight necessary to cope with community problems.

Ernest Hilton, of the University Training School, pointed out to the group the problems of the rural schools in Wyoming, indicating that the present salary scale was not high enough to attract and hold well-trained teachers.

Dr. Otis Rechard, Dean of Liberal Arts College at the University, discussed the provisions of the GI Bill of Rights, with special emphasis on the educational opportunities provided at the University of Wyoming for the returning veteran.

Recreational features of the meeting included a demonstration of community recreation, led by Marjorie Smithey, home demonstration agent of Park County, and a pageant presented by the homemakers' group of Carbon County, depicting early days in their county. The Green River Homemakers chorus provided special musical numbers, and the conference group participated in community singing under the leadership of Mrs. Glen Rogers.—*Ruth Ryan, assistant extension editor, Wyoming.*

# Learning dressmaking over the air

MARY G. PHILLIPS, Editor, New York State College of Home Economics

■ Teaching dressmaking over the air, a novel experiment in extension education, was successfully conducted by Mrs. Helen Powell Smith, clothing specialist of the College of Home Economics at Cornell last fall. Her program received the highest national award of merit offered this year by the City College of New York "for the most effective radio program developed by a radio station for the purpose of increasing the station's share of the local audience."

Through listening to this program, more than 1,300 women were able to make themselves dresses, even though many of them had had little previous experience in sewing.

The series ran twice a week over the Ithaca station, WHCU, from September through November in 15-minute sessions. This coming fall it will be repeated over WGY in Schenectady.

The course was planned to test the effectiveness of teaching a technical subject by radio and was used as a means of extending information to large numbers of homemakers unable to get to local or county home bureau meetings. The program was publicized last year in only one county, but for the fall broadcasts the course will be promoted in 10 counties adjacent to the radio station.

The lessons are planned to lead the would-be dressmaker step by step, from the very start of deciding upon the fabric and the style to the completion of the garment, each broadcast ending at a natural stopping place so that the work can be continued to a certain point before the next lesson. The directions are so simple and precise that many women who had never made a dress before found themselves at the end of the course with a smart frock that fitted well and that had custom-made details.

The garments made ranged from house dresses to suits, from blouses to suits, from blouses to afternoon dresses; and the materials included almost anything on the market, although wools and rayons predominated.

It was thought wise to conduct this

program first in the form of an experiment and work out detailed plans for it in one county so that there would be some pattern to follow if the radio were to be used for further teaching of this kind.

According to Mrs. Smith, Broome County was selected for the experiment because it is an old county in extension service; because it has a large enrollment with more than 50 organized units, because program requests and demands far exceed the possibilities of extension workers' meeting all of them, because the county is not in the heart of the listening area of the station used and so would demonstrate the value of a planned program; and because the home demonstration agent was receptive to the idea of teaching by radio.

Promotion was carried out through notices in the news letters to members; the training of local leaders who arranged for local publicity; enrollment cards sent by direct mail to members and placed in piece-goods departments of county stores; advertisements in city dailies; news stories in county newspapers; contact with home economics departments of public schools; exhibits in the city libraries and books on sewing made available through the libraries; and advance announcements on the women's hour of WHCU.

## Mimeographed Booklets Sent Out

"Lesson Aids," four mimeographed booklets, were sent at regular intervals to each person who enrolled. These booklets explained details of sewing not included in the broadcasts.

The broadcasts themselves were planned to bring out certain important points and to stimulate the homemakers to activity. Only one important fact or set of facts was emphasized in each lesson, so that no doubts were left in the listeners' minds. Three times during the series, two leaders worked in the studio as Mrs. Smith talked. This tested the effectiveness of attempting to do detailed work under direction by radio.

Of the 1,780 women who enrolled for the course, 780 were in Broome County; 95 persons sent in a sample

of their fabric and a sketch of the pattern to be used; 307 reported listening alone, and 66 listened with a group.

An achievement day was held at the conclusion of the series, to which 200 women came, many of them wearing the dresses they had made. Said Mrs. Smith with regard to the rally: "The things that impressed me most from reading the reports and from individual contacts were the deep interest of every woman in the project, her sincere delight in coming to the rally and meeting others who had taken part, her satisfaction in helping to make the radio school a success, the desire to learn other homemaking skills by radio, the confidence gained through the undertaking, and the excellent job that had been done on the dresses."

## Salvage fat and scrap drive

The junior leader organization of Lagrange County, Ind., put on a salvage fat and scrap drive during the month of May. With the assistance of 4-H boys and girls, they collected 2,012 pounds of waste fat, 2,363 pounds of tin cans, 30,152 pounds of paper, 35,643 pounds of iron, and 2,183 pounds of rags. This makes a total of 72,363 pounds of critical material for the war effort.

Johnson township clubs collected the most fat and paper with a total of 445½ pounds of fat and 7,300 pounds of paper. Greenfield township ran a close second with 410 pounds of fat. Bloomfield township clubs collected the most tin with 1,230 pounds. Van Buren collected the most rags with a total of 519 pounds. Greenfield township clubs were winners for first place for total pounds collected with a total of 25,965 pounds. They also collected the most iron, with a total of 17,928 pounds.

Several of the clubs sent delegates to the county 4-H Club camp at Camp Mack, on Lake Wawbee, with some of the money derived from the sale of their scrap. Most of the clubs are having a party or picnic. In this way they are not only contributing to the winning of the war by gathering up this critical salvage material but helping their club financially.—Mrs. Eva Connelly, Lagrange County, Ind., club agent.

# Off-day in county agent's diary

This is an actual account of a June day in a western county. But some days may be like this in any of the 3,000 counties in the United States.

8:30 a.m. Left office for prison camp, 20 miles away, to work out details with superintendent relative to use of 100 inmates in harvesting 4,000 acres of processing peas. Upon arrival was informed inmates had left 1 hour previously on return trip and reassignment to canneries in the eastern part of the State. Not expected back for local harvest.

10 a. m. Missed my appointment with County AAA Committee to serve as secretary.

10:30 a. m. Met WFA engineer and chairman of labor sponsoring committee and was informed that chairman of Board of County Commissioners had decided it would not be advisable to have Mexican laborers established in this vicinity and would withdraw their previous offer of county fairgrounds for Mexican labor camp.

11 a. m. Phone call received requesting county agent to come immediately to State Training School to meet with prison committee of State Legislature to present to them explanation of critical situation of local pea growers as regards need for labor and urgent need of prison inmates being returned. No assurance of inmates' return was received. Long-distance call also received in regard to advice in moving ornamental trees 20 feet in height.

12 noon. Returned home for lunch to find family was about through with lunch on account of urgent appointments.

1 p. m. Arrived at office and was told the new cow tester taking training in this county had decided to leave unannounced this forenoon, even though his schedule was not half completed.

1:30 p. m. Chairman of AAA came in with important papers for me to sign, but upon examination they were found to be incomplete.

2 p. m. Manager of the bull-stud walked into office and announced one of the bulls was about to bleed to death as a result of dehorning. Also, he could not get enough gas to operate the bull-stud.

2:30 p. m. Government plant pa-

thologist of neighboring State walked in and inquired about disease condition on local processing peas. I said I hadn't visited peafields for some days and if he would come with me, we would inspect the fields. Met field man of one of the processing companies and asked him about prospects of pea situation. He said he never in his life saw it look more discouraging. I remarked to pathologist that we had better be going.

6:15 p. m. Arrived home for dinner and found a friend of the family from a distant town. Settled down in easy chair for a pleasant visit with friend, but telephone rang and speaker asked if I could come down and meet with strawberry growers to help find ways and means of obtaining more pickers for the berry fields. Berries are beginning to ripen, and 400 additional pickers must be found.

11 p. m. Home again but too late for the various news broadcasts. Well, nothing to do now but go to bed. See you in the office tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock. Wonder if I can get started on my overdue monthly report tomorrow.

## Boys learn to keep up farm tractor

Something new was recently added to the 4-H Club program in 14 Central and Western States when 4-H boys and leaders spent a week at the agricultural colleges learning tractor maintenance at "Live Power" tractor short courses or clinics.

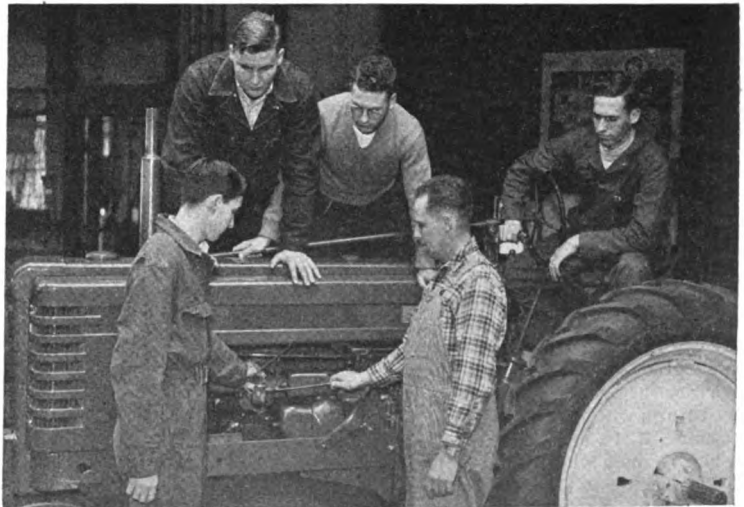
These boys and leaders were brought in to take training in the care and maintenance of farm tractors so that they might help other young people learn tractor maintenance in their 4-H and farm operations.

Attendance was usually limited to one 4-H member or leader per county who operated a tractor on his home

farm. They learned how to adjust parts on a tractor to save fuel and get maximum efficiency, how to correctly lubricate the machine, how to handle tools, the intricacies of ignition and cooling, and how to prevent accidents.

The instruction was provided by the extension agricultural engineers, the teaching staff in the agricultural engineering departments at the colleges, and the automotive engineers of a nationally known oil company. Plans are already under way for developing similar short courses in other sections of the United States.

Colorado boys study the workings of a modern farm tractor.





## Extension agents in the armed forces

Nineteen 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.

### On the Italian Riviera

I think of you these hot sultry days in a sweltering office, and we are here on the Italian Riviera where the climate is even better than California. We had to come up the full length of Italy to find a pleasant place, but finally we landed in one that has the most perfect weather I have experienced. This spot must be what the tourist guides call "Sunny Italy." Palm trees, beautiful flowers, and plenty of sunshine here. Flowers are, or were, grown here commercially; so many of them are going to waste. Director Brokaw, Hoppert, and Maxwell would really enjoy seeing geraniums growing 7 and 8 feet tall.

Under the educational program which the Army is conducting now, I was conducting the agricultural class for the men in this battalion. It was interesting, and I was sorry I had to give up the instructing part. I am now Battalion Executive, and my time is quite well taken up.—*Capt. V. B. McClure, Saunders County agent, Nebraska.*

### Report from Germany

One day recently I ate breakfast in France, dinner in Belgium, and supper in Germany. Am in Germany now and enjoying it very much (May 2). I am working 12 hours of each 24 in the operating room of our hospital. My work is interesting, and I have a swell group of people to work with. We are living in modern German buildings with civilians doing all cleaning, K. P., and the like. I have a nice German white-enameled bed. The country in Germany is beauti-

ful and intensively farmed, but their methods are quite primitive. The cities and bridges are destroyed beyond the wildest dreams of anyone who has not seen them. I passed through the Ardennes Forest where our boys fought the cold weather as well as the Germans last winter.—*Pvt. Russell Klotz, Woodson County Agent, Kans.*

### From China

Our unit is operating an abattoir to supply meat for this base. We butcher cattle, hogs, and poultry when we can get it. We supervise all the work and issue the different mess halls at the base. We supply 18 ounces per day. The past month we have been having difficulty getting enough stock, so we must substitute "C" rations.

We are going to supervise an ice cream plant and a butcher's shop as soon as we get the necessary equipment and personnel. So far we manage to make enough ice cream so we get all we want.

Our little mess hall is under construction at present, and it should be completed in another 2 weeks. We really have a nice set-up.

This is surely a dusty place at present (April 28, 1945), but the rains will start soon, so we shall have mud and mosquitoes; but I guess China isn't any worse than a lot of other countries.—*Sgt. Harlan R. Phillips, DFRA field man, Kansas.*

### Latest from China

More news from Sergeant Phillips, written June 5, has been received at the college at Manhattan. We quote:

"I am very busy as usual. Time goes by quite rapidly. We are getting plenty of meat to supply the demand here at present. Our ice cream plant is in full operation. We turn out 40 gallons per day, and the boys really appreciate it up on the base. We have our own mess hall now, and the tenderloin steaks and ice cream really go good. We could have a worse go. VE Day was really welcome."

### From the Jap hotbed

I've been quite busy and on the move for some time. At present (May 15) I'm in the Ryukyu Islands, on Okinawa. The Japs are causing lots of trouble; and if this is a measuring stick, we've a long, hard road ahead. Artillery, aircraft, and all that makes up total war. It's our first time encountering much artillery.

The civilians on Okinawa are a lower type of Japanese but are quite industrious. They farm in areas of one-half to one acre for the most part. The farm is cared for as we handle gardening at home. Crops are much like home, with sweetpotatoes as their basic crop. The climate is O.K., warm days, cool nights, and an average amount of rain. The soil is red clay-like stuff which doesn't look very productive. Not much livestock and what I have observed is scrub. Lots of goats. The civilian homes are rock for the most part. The roofs are of straw in the rural areas, but there are many red tile-like roofs in the villages.—*Lt. Warren C. Teel, Jefferson County Agent, Kans.*

■ From the food supply ship *W. H. Kendrick* named for the late State 4-H leader in West Virginia comes the report that about 45 4-H boys are on the ship. Robert Crompton, former 4-H member of Centerdale, R. I., supplies the news.

# A 4-H school for young Louisiana trappers and fishermen

■ Louisiana's unique 4-H wildlife and fisheries school, conducted annually among the coastal marshlands, habitat of the famed muskrat—designated by Louisiana law as the "marsh hare"—gives promise of fostering a more successful fur industry, so important to life in that section of the State.

The second annual wildlife and fisheries school was held last spring, with 32 boys of St. Charles Parish 4-H Clubs as students. Instructors were wildlife specialists from the State conservation department and the university. Civic leaders interested in the training of youth in phases of practical life and living went along as guests and observers. Their aim was to give emphasis to the importance of the program launched only last year, designed to stimulate an adequate understanding of the economic aspects of trapping, shrimping, crabbing, and fishing.

The young students pursuing their quest for accurate knowledge of the wildlife of the region are not unfamiliar with the fur-bearing animals of the marshlands. They are the children of trappers, oystermen, and fishermen whose ancestors have followed the calling from the time of Lafitte, the pirate, and who conduct their business today virtually the same as it was done in the time of the pioneers.

Boys of the coastal regions have no acquaintance with the usual 4-H activities. They would be literally "fish out of water" if assigned a program associated with the farm and barnyard. They are more familiar with the waterway than the highway, and as they grow toward maturity it is the wildlife of their native bayous and marshlands that beckons their interest and concern as a vocation.

The shaping and direction of their interest, so that it will produce the highest educational and economical returns, is the underlying reason for the wildlife and fisheries school, sponsored by the Extension Service with the cooperation of public-spirited groups. The school was started a year ago with 2 days of intensive instruction. This year 3 days were al-

lotted to the program, which carried the students directly to the marshes, which are the natural habitat of the Louisiana marsh hare as well as the innumerable feathered denizens which are an integral part of the wildlife of the region.

There are 4 million acres of Louisiana marshland devoted to production of this fur. That is one-eighth of the total area of the State. Approximately one-half of all the muskrats of the country are produced here. The trapping season begins in December and lasts through February, during the most rugged weather this region experiences in a year. The "take" amounts to more than 5 million pelts in a season. It is a commercial asset so valuable that the division of wildlife and fisheries of the State Department of Conservation has been carrying on a scientific program for devel-

oping better methods of management, care, and trapping. Such practices will mean increased revenues for the owners and operators of the muskrat land.

These methods were told to the 4-H boys on the tour, who learned that scientific care and provision of the animals' food supplies will mean more and better muskrat furs in the trapping season and will stimulate the establishment of manufactories at the source of supply.

Study of the muskrat was not the only object of instruction during the 3-day school. Neither is it the only source of revenue for the trapper and his family. There are 9 months of the year when much of the time can be devoted to shrimping, oystering, and crabbing; and these phases, too, were dealt with by the specialists who formed the school's faculty.

One outgrowth of the two schools is the manual for 4-H Muskrat Clubs prepared by County Agent George T. Geiger, Jr. of Jefferson Davis Parish, which will be ready for use by the opening of the next trapping season.

## Minnesota 4-H radio speaking contest

■ In addition to carrying on a full program of wartime activities, Minnesota 4-H'ers have been doing some constructive thinking on planning for permanent peace. In their third annual radio speaking contest more than 500 4-H and rural youth members from Minnesota prepared speeches on "Why I believe education for peaceful living is necessary."

The contestants were encouraged to crystallize their thinking along one of these phases of the subject: Bringing about a better understanding among Americans, regardless of race, creed, or nationality; maintaining our democratic way of life and assuring the rights of minority groups; or prevention of future wars. Thinking on the topic was not limited to contestants, however. To arouse interest, many clubs held discussion meetings at which leaders, parents, and members took part in open forums.

Seventy-eight of Minnesota's 87 counties were represented in the con-

test. The growth of interest in the event is indicated by the fact that this year 4-H'ers and rural youth members participated from 15 more counties than had taken part the first year—the first year of the contest.

Speeches of all 78 county winners were actually broadcast on radio stations in their districts, 15 radio stations providing approximately 15 hours of broadcasting time. Speeches of the champion, Eldon Underdahl of Kenyon, Goodhue County, and the alternate, Gloria Bergan, Alvarado, Marshall County, were broadcast over WCCO, KSTP, and a network of affiliated stations in Minnesota.

Awards totaling \$1,000 were provided by the Minnesota Jewish Council, cosponsors of the event with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. County champions were given \$5 cash awards, district winners \$25 war bonds, and the reserve champion and State champion \$100 and \$200 in bonds.

# Solving the problem of sheep shearers

CHARLES W. PRICE, JR., Assistant Editor, Louisiana

■ During the 1944 shearing season, the office of the Louisiana farm labor supervisor was "snowed under" with phone calls for help from the wool-producing counties, or parishes, as they are called in Louisiana. You would have thought that Louisiana had 10 million head of sheep and not a single sheep shearer.

In 1945—not one call. Not one letter. Not one request.

Does this mean that the farm labor shortage in Louisiana was ended? Does it mean that the wool crop went unharvested or that the sheepmen were all mad at Farm Labor Supervisor Carl Kemmerly? Not at all. It means that the sheep-shearing schools held in Louisiana earlier in the season were a howling—should we say bleating?—success.

Three of the schools were held in the wool-producing areas in the latter part of April. Each lasted 3 days. More than 150 students were taught the rudiments of sheep shearing, and the quickest and most efficient methods of sheep shearing were demonstrated. The proper use and care of clippers and other equipment were demonstrated, and instructors emphasized the importance of shearing at the proper time and removing an undamaged fleece. Lectures on the marketing of wool and disease prevention and sanitation among sheep were features of the sheep shearer's short course. Educational movies were shown in barn "theaters."

Louisiana's wool crop is produced in two widely separated areas in the extreme southeastern and southwestern corners of the State. The first school was held at the farm of M. P. Planche near Covington in St. Tammany Parish in the southeastern part of the State April 19 through April 21.

The other two schools were held in Beauregard Parish in southwestern Louisiana, one on the Willie Welborn farm near De Ridder, April 23 through April 25, and the other at Marcel Bishop's place near Singer, April 26 through April 28. In each of the wool-producing sections there

is much rolling, cut-over land, where fences are a novelty and there is ample open range. Louisiana's wool crop is expected this year to have a value of between \$300,000 and \$500,000. The crop is small compared to that of the major wool States but, needless to say, means a great deal to the farmers concerned.

The schools were planned and held through the cooperation of R. M. Crown, extension livestock specialist; E. S. Bartlett of Chicago, representative of a commercial company, an outstanding expert on sheep shearing and management; and the county agents of the wool-growing parishes, particularly, Agent Sam Smith of St. Tammany and Agent A. D. Fitzgerald of Beauregard. Instructors and lecturers included Dr. A. H. Groth, head

of the LSU veterinary science department; Dr. E. P. Flower, secretary of the State Livestock and Sanitary Board; Dr. W. A. McDonald, representing the Bureau of Animal Industry; and C. L. Flowers, extension marketing specialist.

Press and radio cooperated in advertising the fact that the schools were to be held and why they were to be held, and representatives of each attended the schools to write feature stories and transcribe broadcasts. Minimum expenses of those attending the school were paid as part of the training work of the emergency farm labor program. Leading sheep growers in both sections of the State, including the members of the Southeast Wool Growers' Association, either attended the schools or sent their herdsman.

Two 4-H Club boys who attended the schools at Singer and De Ridder learned the best methods of sheep shearing, bought their own shearing equipment, and contracted to shear enough sheep to return them a neat profit for the season.

## Director gives green thumb award

Having a Green Thumb pays dividends. Rosalee Moravec, age 14, of Waukomus, Okla., receives a silver medal, congratulations, and a \$500 war bond from Shawnee Brown, Oklahoma Extension Director, for having the best garden of any elementary school boy or girl in the United States. This season, hundreds of thousands of boys and girls are competing for the Green Thumb and General MacArthur medal awards as sponsored by the National Victory Garden Institute.



# We Study Our Job

## Radio reaches farm families

Information on farming and home-making can be carried effectively over the radio, according to a survey made by extension agents in Ward County, N. Dak. After more than 5 years of broadcasting by the agricultural and home demonstration agents, some 200 farm families in that county were interviewed to find out whether or not they had listened to the county extension radio program and had made use of the information given.

Every day at 1 o'clock, either the agricultural agent or home demonstration agent had broadcast for 5 minutes from the Minot radio station. Usually they gave straight subject-matter talks on farming and home-making. No music or other entertainment features were used.

It was found that about one-third of all the farm families in the county listened every time the agents went on the air. About 5 percent of the families carried out one or more of the recommendations made in each 5-minute broadcast.

Almost all the farmers interviewed had heard the agricultural agent's radio program; four out of five of the women had heard the home agent's. All but 2 percent of the farm families had radios. Four out of five farm families had radios in working order and could get the county extension program on their sets.

Both men and women listened far more frequently in the winter than in the summer. Seven out of 10 of both farmers and homemakers said 1 o'clock was a convenient time for them to listen in both summer and winter. A few additional said it was convenient in the winter only, or summer only, making a total of 8 out of 10 of both groups who found it convenient most of the time. The preferred time suggested most often by those who did not find 1 o'clock convenient, was 12:30. A few could not listen at any time because they were "too busy" or had "work outside or away from home."

About half of the men and women thought the 5-minute program was just the right length; about a third

wished it were longer. More of the women took notes during the broadcasts than the men. This would indicate the desirability of allowing a reasonable amount of time for note taking on the home program. It is also advisable to tell how additional information can be obtained.

The study brings out the effectiveness of radio in reaching a large number of farm families who had never taken part in any extension activities. However, more of the participating families than of the nonparticipants listened to the county extension radio program and used the information heard. —THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WARD COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, EXTENSION RADIO PROGRAM, by Lucinda Crile, Federal Extension Service, and Stanley D. Morrill and Gladys Nessel, Ward County extension agents. U.S.D.A. Ext. Serv. Circ. 429, 1945.

A detailed account of the Ward County radio study is also given in Extension Service Circular 426, **SOME FINDINGS FROM STUDIES OF FARM AND HOME RADIO PROGRAMS**, by Lucinda Crile.

In addition, other radio studies made since 1938 are reviewed in this circular. Included are: Reading and listening habits of farm folks in 11 northeastern Indiana counties; Extension radio survey of seven Pennsylvania counties; Report of Purdue poultry school of the air; Illinois farm radio survey of the Poultry Publishers' Association; Listening habits of rural Nebraskans; Use of radio in 4-H Club work; Illinois study, Who's listening; and a Montana study, Publicity and radio results.

## Texas schools of the air

"Just one point I got would have saved me 50 chicks had I known it sooner," commented one of the Texans enrolled in the radio short course on Growing Baby Chicks. It was conducted every morning for a week at 6 a.m. on the Farm and Home Program of Texas A. & M. College. In all, 632 persons from 104 Texas counties and from 10 other States enrolled.

A week later the network ran a

short course on Growing a Spring Garden. More than a thousand persons from 117 Texas counties and 9 other States enrolled. Thirty-four percent of those reporting said they would "treat" their garden seed after having heard these programs on gardening. A previous survey showed that only 4 percent of all gardeners normally followed the practice.

"These programs are so encouraging that the work seems easier," reported one of the women enrolled in the garden course. "I would like to have a course on turkey raising, also canning vegetables, and on home interiors renewed," said another.

About four-fifths of the listeners enrolled said they preferred the question-and-answer type of presentation to straight talks. There were a number of requests for more detailed discussion on the method of applying commercial fertilizer; also requests for more information on soil analysis. About three-fourths of the listeners enrolled were women.

The radio schools were similar to previous short courses given at the college that had been discontinued because of travel restrictions.

HOW THEY DID IT was unfolded by a survey of labor problems of 38 families representing various sections of Georgia, taken by Cornelia Daniel, assistant State farm labor supervisor for Georgia. The study was made in 20 counties by personal interview. On these farms there had been a 57-percent decrease in labor available, and among the 38 families there were 42 sons in the armed forces, with 10 more to go in 1945. In spite of these difficulties, 25 of the farmers increased production in the last 3 years. On 25 of these farms, the farm women worked, and nearly half of them were doing farm work for the first time. Younger children helped on 26 of the farms. To save time and labor in the kitchen, some remodeling and changing had been done in 20 of the farm kitchens. Other ways of saving labor practiced by these 38 farm families were exchange of labor, exchange of equipment, and new practices to give more efficient management, of time, labor, and equipment.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Chiggers, beware!** New insect repellents developed by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine have been protecting the allied armies from some of their most annoying, and even dangerous, enemies since 1942. These repellents are not yet available for civilian use; but we at home can look forward to the time, after the war, when we can pick berries, go on a picnic, or wander in the woods without coming home covered with insect bites. At the Bureau's Orlando, Fla., laboratory it was found that dimethyl phthalate was more effective in preventing bites of the malaria mosquito than any other compound tested. As soon as the Food and Drug Administration had pronounced it safe for use on the skin, it was made available to the armed forces. Applied in liquid form to the tops of shoes, inside the cuffs of trousers and sleeves, and to the buttoned surfaces of the shirt, dimethyl phthalate acts as a barrier to chiggers, keeping most of them away and killing those that venture too close. In tests during army maneuvers in Louisiana, one treatment was effective until the clothing was washed, or wet as in wading. Soldiers wearing treated clothes escaped bites, whereas some whose clothing was not treated were so severely bitten they had to go to the hospital. Since then dimethyl phthalate has been used extensively and successfully against chiggers by allied troops in the Pacific area.

■ **Laid in USA**—hatched in England. Turkey eggs—25 of them—laid at the Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md., were recently flown to England, where they have been incubated and hatched. Of the eggs sent, 1 was broken in transit; and 21, or 87.5 percent of those incubated, hatched. The eggs were of Beltsville Small White turkeys, and high hatchability was one of the characteristics sought by the Department scientists

who originated the breed. As the eggs were carefully selected from several blood lines, the 21 poultts provide a basis for a foundation flock of the breed in Great Britain.

■ **Weed killer.** Dandelions, plants, and many other weeds can be killed with little difficulty and small expense by spraying them with a chemical by a new method developed in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering. The chemical is 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid—2,4-D for short. This is a white powder that does not easily dissolve in water; but when mixed with some other substances, such as "Carbowax" or certain salts and oil-like bases, it can be dispersed in water as a spray. It is also used as a plant-growth regulator. Scientists are still trying to determine how 2,4-D affects various plants and soils and are studying the influence of temperature, moisture, and other factors on its effectiveness. Until some of these things are better known, it should be used cautiously and not used at all for killing weeds in vegetable or flower beds. It does not hurt most grasses, which makes it valuable for clearing lawns of weeds. There appears to be no danger of skin irritation or other harmful effect to persons using it, and it is noncorrosive and noninflammable. In tests by the Bureau at some of the State agricultural experiment stations, and by the U. S. Golf Association Green Section, it has been effective in killing 21 species of weed plants. Its effect on poison ivy is still being investigated. The right mixture and the right amounts are important. For an effective spray, 1 part of 2,4-D is dissolved in 6½ parts of melted Carbowax, and this mixture is dissolved in water at the rate of 1 ounce to a gallon. The plants to be eliminated should be wet thoroughly with the spray. For lawns, 4 to 5 gallons are required to treat 1,000 square feet; more is needed in fields. Late spring

or early fall is the best time to treat lawns, and the effects last for 2 to 3 months. Supplies for civilians are limited at present.

■ **New achievement sheets.** The series of Research Achievement Sheets, those brief reports on noteworthy scientific discoveries by Department of Agriculture scientists, is steadily growing. The numbers and topics of the latest 11 are as follows:

- 24 (E) Sodium fluoride for control of poultry lice
- 25 (E) More efficient poison bait for mole cricket control
- 26 (E) Control of celery leaf tier through pyrethrum powder
- 27 (E) Insecticidal aerosols
- 28 (E) Discovery and use of a natural enemy of the citrus blackfly
- 29 (E) Protection against foot-and-mouth disease has scientific basis
- 30 (D) Continuous process for making lactic acid from whey
- 31 (D) Butter from sweet cream has superior keeping quality
- 32 (A) Columbia sheep, a modern made-to-order breed
- 33 (E) Chemists make rotenone insecticides more widely useful
- 34 (E) Control of the alfalfa weevil for better yields

The designation "D" signifies research conducted in the Bureau of Dairy Industry; "A" represents a contribution from the Bureau of Animal Industry; and "E" refers to work of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

■ **Over in Monroe County, Ark.,** 10 homes have been redecorated by the women of the 10 families, members of the Allendale home demonstration club. The women formed a labor pool to help each other and thus make the work easier for all, reports Mrs. Hazel S. Beene, county home demonstration agent. As a result of their combined efforts, 26 rooms have been papered and painted, with a cash outlay of \$74.68 for supplies. In 4 instances, the floors were painted or revarnished, too. One woman assisted her neighbor in papering her house, and the neighbor in turn helped the woman launder 4 quilts.



## 4-H Clubs study child care

Janice Seitz, a West Virginia 4-H Club girl, was puzzled. She didn't know what project to take.

Janice thought she would like to care for her year-old sister, Nancy. Her mother was away from home much of the time working in a beauty shop, and Janice could help by caring for her little sister. When she asked her club agent, Frances Sanders, about it they planned a 4-H child-care project for Janice.

Janice kept a notebook telling what happened when she took care of Nancy. She bathed and dressed her, fed her, played with her, and put her to bed. She made play clothes for Nancy. For toys, she enameled a dried-peach box and stenciled it with decal designs. What she liked best was making the Raggedy Ann doll.

Janice had her own clean-up-toy week when the baby Nancy was away. She took the stuffing out of the stuffed toys, washed the covers, sewed on eyes or ears when needed, and then restuffed the animals.

Janice enjoyed the project so much that she arranged with her club agent to continue with more advanced child training a second year.

The story of this project reached the State girls' club agent, Wilma

Beyer. Did other club members need this kind of project, she wondered. As she visited club meetings she asked members how many cared for younger brothers and sisters. Nearly every hand went up. She asked leaders about the need for this project, who were quick to see the value, especially for members whose parents both worked away from home.

County extension agents read about Janice Seitz and her project in the 4-H Suggestions and heard Miss Beyer discuss the need with club members and leaders. Requests for child care project circulars started coming into the State 4-H office.

Copies of the plan followed by Janice Seitz were sent to the four agents requesting circulars. Mercer County even mimeographed its own booklets. As a result, at least 30 or 40 club members from several different counties enrolled in the project last year.

So interest in a child-care project has grown since Janice Seitz began in October 1943. This year Miss Beyer asked agents for project suggestions. Seventeen of the 20 agents replying asked that a State child-care project be prepared.

The project will be ready for West

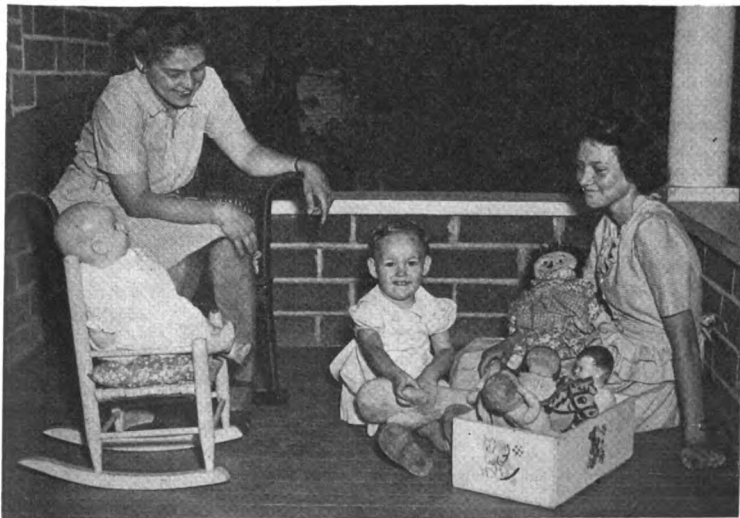
Virginia club members when the new club year starts in October 1945. It has been written by Miss Beyer with the help of Mrs. Lydia Ann Lynde, extension specialist in parent education, of the Federal Extension Service.

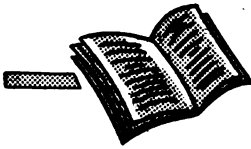
Boys as well as girls more than 12 years old may enroll. They may care for small children from 1 to 6 years old, either their own brothers or sisters or a neighbor's children. The club member will (1) Take care of a child 1 to 6 years old at least 25 waking hours; (2) take part in a group activity for small children, as a story hour, party, or several children playing together; (3) make one or more simple toys, arrange a play corner, or make a garment for a child; (4) help with each of the following jobs at least twice: Give the child a bath and clean up afterwards; dress the child or help him dress himself; prepare food and help him during his meal; assist the child in undressing and going to bed.

COUNTY AGENT H. M. NICHOLS of Iowa declined a higher-paying position because he believed he could do more for the war effort by staying in Hamilton County than he could even in a larger field. A veteran of the First World War, chairman of the post-war planning board of his county, and the father of an army captain still in Europe, County Agent Nichols feels deeply his duty to the 2,300 boys from his county who have gone into the armed services. How his county has been getting ready for some time for the return of the boys is told in a story in the EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW for October 1944. While in Washington the week of July 9 with 16 other county agricultural agents, representing the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, Nichols also made contacts with the Veterans Administration and the American Legion.

TWO NEW DEPARTMENT LEAFLETS of interest to home demonstration agents are Food for Two, telling how a young couple plan their meals, giving menus, shopping list, and nutrition tips, and making Velva Fruit at home, with recipe and complete directions, which gets out in time for frozen-food weather.

Frances Sanders (left), Lewis County, W. Va., Club Agent, helps Janice Seitz (right) with her 4-H problems in child care involving little sister Nancy (center). Janice made the Raggedy Ann doll she is holding and the toy box.





# Have you read

**SMALL FARM AND BIG FARM.** Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 100. Carey McWilliams. 32 pp. Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y.

■ This circular contains several challenging and interesting ideas and can be read very easily at one sitting some evening. You may go to bed with your philosophy of agriculture unchanged, but you are likely to be less sure of the rightness of some of the things you have accepted and perhaps worked for.

One surprise is to find that the author includes the full-time family farm that has a hired man in the small-farm group. You may or may not agree with Carey McWilliams that some of our national agricultural policies are contrary to the interest of this group of farmers, or that our farm organizations fail to represent them in the formulation of those policies. Is the author right in his position that democracy is a process of compromise reached between represented groups? Would Extension be more democratic and serve more farm people effectively if freed from dependence on local sources of support?—*James L. Robinson, extension specialist, Farm Credit Administration, Kansas City, Mo.*

**PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF DEMOCRACY.** George B. de Huszar. Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y., 1945.

■ This little book is a Robertson's Rules of Order on making democracy work. The author conveys in simple language that makes sense an idea of how individuals respond to group action. For democracy to live, we must have do-democracy rather than talk-democracy. Otherwise disintegration of society is bound to take place. Organization of groups, for a purpose, around a central problem that is real, is more likely to bring about do-democracy than is the large, unwieldy meeting, where one or a few people talk down to the crowd and the majority are too timid to take part. Absence of a problem around which to center attention, and failure on the part of members of a group to take action, lead to disintegration of the

group. A disintegrating group of society is the ideal seedbed for dictatorship. I wish it were possible to provide every county agent, teacher, and volunteer leader with a copy of this book. I hope that all will make an effort to read it.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work.*

**THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WORLD AGRICULTURE.** Karl Brandt. 416 pp. W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1945.

■ Agriculture the world over has undergone many changes since the present war began unfolding in earnest during the middle thirties. The aggressor nations recognized the value of science in promoting the productive capacity of the land and in making their economies self-sufficient in food. They have shown that agriculture technology can be used under autarchy as well as in a free society. But agriculture remains the same as always, "the art of closest adaptation of the methods and aims of plant production to the natural and economic environment." Food-getting and its orderly distribution among consuming populations remain the basic economic activities of human society.

This book is the best one I have read so far among publications dealing with post-war agricultural problems. The facts are all there, and accurately presented. Of particular interest to extension workers will be the pages delineating between the pros and cons of the large-structure farm unit and family farming. This section presents, in my opinion, a real argument for the type of education the Cooperative Extension Service is carrying on.

The author, Karl Brandt, is German-born, his promising career having come to an abrupt end with the advent of Hitler in Germany. His democratic views forced him to leave and come to the United States. Here he has distinguished himself on the staff of the Food Research Institute, Stanford University, and has been heard at many agricultural colleges

and meetings of agricultural and economic groups.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work.*

**THE FARMER AND THE REST OF US,** by Arthur Moore, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Mass., 1945.

■ This book is the chronicle of Arthur Moore, of the staff of the Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph, who relates what he has seen and heard about farming in McLean County, Ill., to the industrial world and the Nation's health.

The thesis of the book is that ours is a civilization of the town. Modern industrial society cannot, however, succeed without ample food and a healthy agricultural economy. Standards have always been set by the town, not the country. Food being essential to industry, there should be intelligent cooperation between farm and labor groups. Farm organizations should stop hate-labor campaigns, the author says.

Because saving the Nation's soil fertility is vital if we are to continue industrial leadership, labor should recognize the importance of policies supporting soil conservation and family farms. Sometimes we benefit from seeing ourselves as others see us. One should not read the book from the standpoint of seeking information on agriculture and rural life in all parts of the United States. The book does provide, however, interesting reading on how a considerable portion of urban society looks at agriculture. One need not agree with everything the author says. Not all extension workers will. But all of us will profit from reading it.—*Werner P. Meyer, Division of Extension Information.*

■ **ELMER L. DEO**, county agricultural agent in Leelanau County, Mich., since December 1, 1943, died unexpectedly from a heart attack June 5. He became ill while attending a meeting in Traverse City and was taken to a local hospital where he died.

Agent Deo received his first extension appointments as assistant county agricultural agent for each of the three counties, Cass, St. Joseph, and Calhoun, during the period 1938-41 while the intensive land-use planning program was being conducted in those counties. Later, he served as assistant to D. B. Jewell, agricultural agent for Benzie and Leelanau Counties.

# West Virginia contacts dealers in fungicides and insecticides

Most victory gardeners and truck growers consult their dealers when buying insecticides and fungicides for protecting plants. The clerk who sells these materials has the opportunity to furnish valuable information if he is well posted. Realizing this, the West Virginia Extension Service early in 1944 decided on a "dealer contact program" to reach all dealers and inform them as to the best and most up-to-date insecticides and fungicides recommended by the college of agriculture.

The plan provided that in each county the agricultural agent and other paid agricultural workers visit every store carrying fungicides and insecticides and inform them concerning college recommendations. At the same time they were to make a survey of the material the dealer handled and of the stock on hand. Especially prepared literature was left at the store for their own use and that of their customers. The dealer was put

on a mailing list to receive other information from the college.

The 1944 program broke the ground and laid a foundation of friendly relationship between dealer and agricultural worker. The visits showed that the dealers are interested and are eager to improve their service to the public by stocking and recommending the right materials.

The plan for 1945 continued the work of "dealer-contact" by inviting the dealers to meetings in the various counties and instructing them in detail regarding recommendations, sources of materials, and advertising.

There is apparent a strong desire among the dealers to serve the public well. They seem agreed that they can best perform that service by handling the recommended materials.

In the opinion of the West Virginia Extension staff the "dealer contact program" is proving to be a most helpful and beneficial part of the drive for more food production.

phasis was placed on meeting new people and forming new acquaintances. One only had to look about to note that this new information was being put into actual practice. One little 10-year-old boy, upon arriving at the banquet, marched up to the county agricultural agent who works principally with adults and said "How do you do, Sir?" as he stuck out his hand for a shake. Girls sat by and conversed with boys whom they had not met before, and boys and girls freely and easily conversed with adult sponsors and leaders and members of the chambers of commerce. Many of the youngsters will long remember this as their first banquet, and the social courtesies they learned and put into use will make them better trained for occasions such as this when they become adults.

When the idea of these banquets was first originated, it was estimated that an attendance of 50 boys and girls at each banquet would be the maximum number. However, after considerable work by Mr. Walker and Miss Baker among the 4-H Club members and other rural youth during the month preceding the banquets, great interest was aroused among the club members, and many new members were enrolled in club work. It was a pleasant surprise to all the extension agents when 196 boys, girls, and adult leaders attended the Graham banquet and 123 boys, girls, and adult leaders attended the Olney banquet. Twenty-five boys and 40 girls were enrolled as new 4-H Club members during the month.

Not only has 4-H Club work been brought to the attention of many more persons as a result of these banquets, but they also resulted in new interest in club work among old members, new members were enrolled, and valuable training was given to those members serving on the various committees.

**FIND ACCIDENT HAZARDS AND FIX THEM** was the goal of 1,877 Utah 4-H Club members last year. Believing that home and farm accidents sabotage wartime production, the youthful club members used a check list of common hazards and then set out to eliminate fire and accident hazards on their own and neighboring farms. Utah County was named the outstanding county in the State in 4-H Safety work.

## To celebrate 4-H Club Week

OLLYNE JEFFRIES, County Home Demonstration Agent, and G. R. SCHUMANN, County Agricultural Agent, Young County, Texas

After seeing some of the programs at the National 4-H Club Congress held at Chicago in December, Young County, Tex., extension agents felt that some similar programs on a smaller scale would fill a very definite need in the Young County 4-H program by stimulating greater interest in 4-H work among our boys and girls. After some preliminary discussion among the extension agents, plans were made to conduct two 4-H Club banquets in connection with National 4-H Club Week.

When these preliminary plans had been completed, committees representing the Girls' 4-H Council and Boys' 4-H Clubs and adult sponsors were called together to complete final plans. The boys and girls at this meeting selected various toastmasters and toastmistresses for these banquets and also selected various

committees such as the program committee, foods committee, finance committee, arrangements committee, and building committee to work out the various details of these affairs. Boys and girls served on these committees with an adult sponsor or an extension agent as adviser.

Committees contacted the chambers of commerce at Graham and Olney in order to obtain financial backing for these events. This was readily obtained, other committees functioned splendidly, and soon details for the banquets were completed. Preceding these affairs, training in social courtesy was given by the assistant agents, Chester Walker and Edith Baker. Boys went home and assisted their mothers in being seated at the table as a means of getting practice. Girls studied their etiquette books in order that they might do the right thing at the right time. Em-

# Among Ourselves



■ **FRANK P. LANE**, who has served as county agent leader in the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Wyoming for more than 26 years, was retired July 1. He will continue working on a limited service basis.

Mr. Lane was born on a farm near Burlington, Kans., in 1874. He was graduated from the Kansas Normal School in 1904 and worked for 12 years as principal and superintendent of city schools in Kansas and Oklahoma. In 1913 he was graduated from the Oklahoma Agricultural College and was appointed agricultural agent of Harvey County, Kans., serving there for 4½ years. He was one of the pioneer agents of that State, doing his field work with a horse and buggy.

In 1917 he was appointed assistant leader in Wyoming, and a year later he was promoted to county agent leader, a position he held until his retirement. There, in a State with an area of more than 60 million acres, made up of only 23 counties, 3 of which have areas of well over 5 million acres, it is obvious that Mr. Lane has had a big job. In the early days a field trip was a major undertaking; and even now, with good roads and good automobiles and buses, stretches of 100 miles or more between towns are still hazardous during winter months.

Beginning at a time when extension methods were not definitely formed, Mr. Lane developed plans for using local leaders in extension work, promoted the first farm-to-farm tours to inspect silos, and was one of the first persons to start a community poultry school. His untiring efforts have helped county agricultural agents to systematize their work and maintain high standards of efficiency.

A diligent and persistent scholar, Mr. Lane completed requirements for the degree of Master of Science at the University of Wyoming in 1929.

At a banquet held at Laramie on June 20, attended by State and county extension workers and farm and ranch men and women leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Lane were honored guests. Mr. Lane was presented with a third diamond for his Epsilon Sigma Phi key and a memory book including letters and telegrams of felicitation and good will from extension workers with whom he had been associated. In making the presentation, Dean J. A. Hill of the College of Agriculture praised Mr. Lane as a "loyal, hard-working, understanding extension worker who probably knows more Wyoming people than any other person."

Mr. Lane will be succeeded by W. T. Kirk who, for 11 years, has served as county agent at Casper, Wyo. Mr. Kirk was graduated from the University of Wyoming with a major in agronomy and has done graduate work in education and in wool.

■ **RALPH WAYNE**, former Minnesota county agent and now dairy specialist with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, has been granted a leave of absence to become agricultural adviser to a mission which the Foreign Economic Administration is sending to Denmark for the reconstruction period. He was in Washington for a brief training period before going abroad. In his new capacity he will assist the American Embassy in Denmark on all problems pertaining to food and agriculture. He will confer with Danish agricultural officials on needs for bringing food production up to maximum levels

during the present season and advise the Foreign Economic Administration on supplies of agricultural equipment, fertilizers, seeds, insecticides and fungicides.

■ **WILLIAM B. WARD** was appointed editor and chief of publications at the New York State Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics, at Cornell University, on April 1.

Previous to taking his position at Cornell, Mr. Ward was chief of the current information section of the Marketing Reports Division, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, in Washington. He has had a varied experience in the field of journalism, including newspaper work, government service, and writing for farm publications.

A native of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Mr. Ward received the B.S. degree from Utah State Agricultural College and the M.S. degree the following year from the University of Wisconsin. While in college he was assistant to the extension editor for nearly 3 years, correspondent for the Associated Press and Rocky Mountain newspapers and editor of the college newspaper and of athletic publications for 2 years. He was also in the editorial department of the Post Register, daily paper at Idaho Falls, before graduating from college.

While working for his master's degree Mr. Ward was assistant to the extension editor and graduate instructor in agricultural journalism at the University of Wisconsin. He is author of "Agricultural News in the Daily Press," published in 1941 by that university.

Mr. Ward was employed by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1941 as information specialist in dairy marketing, in charge of public relations on milk marketing agreements and orders. Later he became chief of the information section of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, then of the Food Distribution Administration. He went to Hawaii shortly after Pearl Harbor to report on food production and distribution as a representative of the Administrator.

■ **MRS. ETHEL BOWEN**, assistant State leader of home demonstration work in Nebraska, passed away Wednesday, July 11, at her home in Lincoln. She had been ailing for several months.

Mrs. Bowen was one of the early veterans of extension work in Nebraska, and homemakers know the many contributions she made to their happiness and comfort. She started as home demonstration agent in Scotts Bluff County back in 1917, later was home demonstration agent in Thayer County, and went to the State office in June 1940. She was a tireless worker for the betterment of homes and home life and will be greatly missed.

## Venezuela girls study home-making in United States

Four girls from Venezuela, selected by their government, have come to the United States for a year's study of home economics under the Institute of Inter-American Affairs.

While in the United States these girls are living with farm families and studying extension methods under the guidance of State leaders and county home demonstration agents. Miss Luz Uscatequi is spending part of her time in South Carolina, Miss Elda Marquina in Oklahoma, Miss Ana Carvajal in Washington, and Miss Adela Rodriguez in New Hampshire. They are home demonstration agents in their country and, when they have completed their extension course in the United States, will return to Venezuela to become supervisors there.

## 4-H boy studies soil-conservation work from air

A Minnesota 4-H Club boy, who won national acclaim for his soil-conservation activity, stepped from a plane at University Field near New Brighton, Minn., one day in July with a new appreciation of his native State. Robert Schwartzau of Goodhue County made an airplane tour of this State earned as an award for 4-H achievement.

Piloting the plane which took him off from the Frontenac field in Goodhue County that day was Paul Moore, assistant State leader, who became known as Minnesota's flying county agent through his use of a plane in

his county extension work in Wright County. M. A. Thorfinnson, extension soil conservation specialist, accompanied Schwartzau and Moore on the tour which was planned with the purpose of giving the 4-H boy an opportunity to study erosion damage from the air and also to see results of control work carried out to save Minnesota soil.

## Loveland shoppers' lounge success

When the members of the Loveland Home Demonstration Council decided to try something new last fall—to open a shoppers' lounge in Loveland, Colo., for the use of both town and farm women—they thought they had a good idea.

But even the most optimistic of them didn't expect to have a total of 2,124 visitors register at the lounge the first 53 days it was open—from November 9, 1944, to January 1, 1945. Since that time the lounge has continued its popularity.

In reporting on the success of the project, Mrs. Carmen Johnson, Larimer County home demonstration agent, says many of the visitors are so favorably impressed with the idea of an attractive, clean place where they can stop to rest for a few minutes while they're in town that they take time to write their thanks to the home demonstration council.

And the lounge turned out to be especially helpful to two mothers with their four children. These two women were traveling across country by auto and spent the whole day at the lounge while they were waiting for their car to be repaired.

A committee of three members of the Loveland Home Demonstration Council handles details of management and maintenance for the lounge. Home demonstration clubs and other groups, as well as individuals, volunteer both their money and service to show their appreciation of the service this project offers.

## Delaware County takes care of its own

Delaware County, N. Y., has an Advisory Committee for Returning War Veterans, and the committee is on the job. What is more, the committee has let the Delaware County

servicemen know it. They have sent letters to about 3,000 boys of their county who are in the service asking them to name ways in which the committee can help when the boys return.

Now, the answers are coming in, and they are full of appreciation for the plan. One of the boys made this comment: "It's a committee such as yours that makes the boys know that the folks back home are thinking of them. I am sure proud to know that I'm from Delaware County. It's good to be an American."

And another wrote: "This sort of thing is something that I have heard about but rather expected it to be handled in a stiff way by the Federal agencies. I was surprised and pleased to find the county authorities taking an interest—and I see no reason why it cannot succeed."

And a third one said: "It makes a soldier feel proud and happy to know that you are doing so much to help us when we get home. Thank you for your consideration. We at least feel that we are not forgotten."

## 4-H herb garden

The 3-year-old Ironsides 4-H Club in Charles County, Md., is making an outstanding success of a novel club project—an herb garden, it was revealed by Ernestine Garofalo, Charles County home demonstration agent.

The project was undertaken in 1942 at the suggestion of the former home demonstration agent, Mary Graham, and the local leader of the club, Ruth Rison. The garden was financed with \$11, a club award for entering the most outstanding exhibit in the Southern Maryland Fair. The 4-H members purchased their first plants—sage, thyme, rosemary, mint, parsley, basil, and caraway—from the herb garden at the Washington Cathedral.

The club found an immediate market for the fresh parsley and dried sage and received a prize of \$10 for the most outstanding project in the county in 1943.

The next year citron was added to the garden and sold in the county, accompanied by 4-H tested recipes for preserving and candying the fruit. One of the citrons received first prize at the Charles County Fair; prizes were also awarded to the rosemary, thyme, and dried sage.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

AN OKINAWA 4-H CLUB got under way even when the Japanese were still being flushed from woods and caves, according to an AP dispatch from Vern Haugland. He quotes Lt. (j.g.) Ralph Backstrom, St. Paul, Minn., who is in charge of the activity in the southern third of the island: "We also have organized what you might call a 4-H Club. The children line up, and an Okinawan teacher lectures them on agriculture and gardening. Then they take their hoes and march off to the fields. Later, we plan to give prizes for the best gardens."

SECRETARY ANDERSON, speaking at the Oklahoma Farm and Home Week, said: "So far as I can see, there is only one course for the people of the country to adopt in the years after the war. I should like to see the people of this country produce and distribute things for good living—meat, eggs, milk, automobiles, telephones, radios, air conditioning equipment, television sets—with the same drive they exhibited in producing and using guns and planes and ships to lick the Axis. I should like to see them war on poverty so ceaselessly that within a decade or two malnutrition would be as well controlled as diphtheria and smallpox are today. All this is possible if we have the determination and act upon the motto of the great State of Oklahoma, 'Work Conquers All Things.'"

NATION-WIDE CLOTHING COLLECTION has been a home demonstration activity during the spring and summer in many States. The national goal was 150,000,000 pounds of clothing, and more than that was collected. Reports of home demonstration clubs assuming the responsibility for collecting, mending, and cleaning and packing the clothing came in from many places. Older 4-H Club girls have made an important contribution. Michigan took the lead among the States, with 13,472,174 pounds of clothing collected. Pennsylvania came in second, New York third, and California fourth.

VERMONT HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS took an active part in

the clothing collection. Rhoda Hyde, home demonstration agent in Franklin County, reported: "One of the most interesting points noted during this work was the willingness with which so many people assisted in it and the feeling of personal interest on the part of the women in the people who might eventually receive the clothing." In Caledonia County, the St. Johnsbury home demonstration club was in charge of labeling and tying all clothing from rural areas. They handled approximately 15,000 pounds of clothing.

FRANCES BRUNDIGE, home demonstration agent, Holmes County, Ohio, reports that 40 women volunteered to collect and sort clothing in their community. All clothing was brought to the Agricultural Hall for packing. The chamber of commerce agreed to supply boxes. Twenty-four women sorted, weighed, and packed 8,396 pounds of clothing. Clothing was packed in rough boxes provided by the local undertakers. Two extra days were spent in painting and labeling the boxes.

RURAL FAT COLLECTION continues at a high level as home demonstration clubs get behind it. According to the publishers of county-seat weeklies, there is a regular pick-up service for used fats in 80 percent of their areas. There are facilities for consumers to turn in salvaged fats in 97.7 percent of the places.

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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AN EXAMPLE OF THE CONTRIBUTION of home demonstration clubs to the 75 percent increase in fat collection in rural areas, is given by Sampson County, N. C., which collected 5,883½ pounds in a 2-month drive. A merchant offered a \$50 war bond to the club bringing in the most fat. A theater offered a free pass to the individual student bringing in the largest number of pounds. The next morning the six home demonstration club women who came to collect, weigh, pay, and give red tokens found 900 pounds of fat in containers of every description.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION WEEK is October 7-13. Kits of materials developed in cooperation with the National Fire Protection Association similar to last year's kit are available to help county agents with publicity suggestions.

FARM LABOR PLACEMENTS made by county agricultural agents and farm labor placement officers during the first 6 months of 1945 were 33 percent greater than for the same period in 1944, according to reports to the extension emergency labor office. In filling 1,645,279 farm jobs, assistance was given to 250,000 farmers.

RESEARCH on weeds, grasses, sedges, and rushes is one of the projects of the DeKalb County, Ga., home demonstration clubs. They are trying out various samples collected on the idle acres in their own neighborhood and finding out how they dry and which ones take color well or which ones season with a lovely shade. This is looking forward to a handicraft industry after the war. An exhibit showing some of the results of their work was presented to a group of rural ministers to enlist their help in seeing that those who need an additional income in postwar years know about the work.

EXTENSION PICTURES from 19 States in all parts of the country are being exhibited this month at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. These have been taken by George W. Ackerman during the 28 years he has served as extension photographer traveling in every State in the Union picturing extension activities on all fronts.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## The spirit of Caracas

M. L. WILSON, Director of Cooperative Extension Work  
United States Department of Agriculture

■ The Third Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, held at Caracas, Venezuela, July 24-August 7, brought out three special points of interest to extension workers: (1) Western Hemisphere countries see the great need for close cooperation in agriculture; (2) Cultural differences need be no bar to mutual progress; (3) Latin-American peoples look to the United States for leadership in Extension training.

The friendly and cooperative spirit of the conference is best told in the words of its president, His Excellency Doctor Angel Biaggini, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry of Venezuela. I quote from his inaugural address:

"Amidst the serious conditions created by this war, and with the difficult problems of the post-war period already before us, we deem this an emergency assembly called upon to meet courageously delicate and far-reaching problems which affect all of us in the same measure.

"But besides the study and solution of problems so important and

urgent, this conference must have the further generous and everlasting aim of tightening the bonds of inter-American amity with the noble hope that one day our peoples may constitute an ideal unity where self-worship shall find no altars and where a new spirit fired by unchangeable affection shall make us feel as our very own the joy, the achievement, and the sorrow of each other; where men endeavor to efficiently convert into reality their good thoughts and pure intentions.

At Caracas, I found considerable interest among delegations from the other American republics in expanding the program of training agricultural technicians in United States extension methods. Under projects launched since the ground work was laid at Mexico City in 1942, 88 students from South American republics have already received practical extension training on farms and in

numerous State and county extension offices in the United States. I had a number of sessions with the representatives of different Latin-American republics who praised the work of trainees who had returned and who were interested in sending additional students here.

These leaders are convinced that the first step to agricultural progress among their people is to help people help themselves. They are interested in practical methods, which can be used in the circumstances under which people live. They are interested in methods that will help improve health and living, as well as production technology.

Coming, as it did, just before news of the atomic bomb and the end of the war with Japan, and considering the subject matter covered, we may regard Caracas as the first international meeting on post-war agriculture. We hope that the spirit of friendship and true democracy which prevailed will serve as the pattern for similar conferences on agriculture that will extend beyond the Western Hemisphere.

### PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Buy a bond? ask the 4-H salesmen of Weld County, Colo. More than \$3,700 worth of bonds were sold from this booth. Throughout the country more than \$200,000,000 worth have been bought by 4-H Club members or sold to others in the time since Pearl Harbor. For these achievements Director Wilson accepted an award from the Treasury Department on August 28. 4-H Clubs are now set for the new Victory Loan starting October 29. November 3-11 is National Achievement Week. Be sure your county knows what 4-H Clubs have accomplished.



Extension Service Review for October 1945

145

## Demonstration means the same the world around

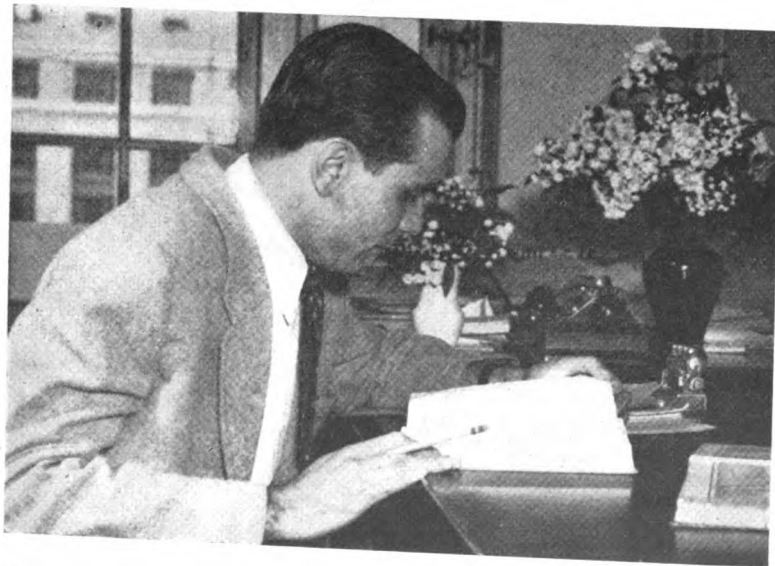
■ "Every farmer in the world must have come from Missouri—because they all have that famous 'show me' complex!"

Gerbert N. Bastos, Brazilian trainee from Minas Geraes, made that observation with a chuckle. But—he was plenty serious when he went on from there to point out that this innate characteristic of *agricolas* made the demonstration farm the most valuable extension teaching technique that could be applied in his own country.

This is Bastos' conclusion after a year's study of farm practices and extension methods made possible through a fellowship provided by the Office of Inter-American Affairs. Most of his training was obtained under the supervision of the cooperative extension services in Texas and New York.

Bastos admits he was "sold" on the idea of a demonstration farm before he ever stepped off the plane at Miami, but the good long look he took at many extension methods during his training here hasn't changed his opinion.

A student of the demonstration method, Mr. Bastos at his desk in Washington, studies about extension experiences in this field.



There is a reason of course, for his devotion to the demonstration farm idea. He helped set up a demonstration farm more than 1,000 miles up the Amazon. This farm, in the village of Caldeirao near the city of Manaus in the State of Amazonas, is one of nine such training units established within the past 3 years by the *Comissao Brasileiro-Americana de Producao de Generos Alimenticios*. In plain English, that long Portuguese phrase means Brazilian-American Food Commission. The BAC, or CBA as the Portuguese call it, is an operating agency of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture financed by the Brazilian Government and the Office of Inter-American Affairs.

Employed by the CBA 27 months ago, after his graduation from the Minas Geraes Agricultural College, Bastos first had the task of selecting a proper location for the demonstration farm. For that purpose he had made a survey of possible sites and transportation facilities up the tributaries of the Amazon. He found, however, that transportation beyond



Gerbert N. Bastos (right) directs a demonstration farm far up the Amazon in his native Brazil.

Manaus was much too slow for satisfactory operation. Returning to Manaus, he arranged with the Colonization Service of the Ministry of Agriculture to provide land for a farm there. Sixteen young sons of farmers were then selected from typical farming areas within the State of Amazonas to be given a year's training on the farm.

Before actual farming operations could get under way, living quarters for the Bastos trainees had to be constructed and the land cleared of trees and underbrush. In designing the farm structures, Bastos followed the thatch-roofed style prevailing in the area but made each of the buildings just a little better than any in the neighborhood. Clearing the forests was done by hand labor. Curved machetes and long-handled straight-bladed knives, and axes, the most typical tools in the region, were used.

In explaining that the land was first broken with oxen-drawn plow, although a tractor was available. Bastos pointed out that one of the objectives was to start with the tools and customs familiar to the natives and gradually introduce improved equipment and new practices. When he left the farm to come to the United States, horses and mules were beginning to be used for farm power. The tractor was still being



used mainly as a source of power for operating the rice mill.

Crops in production on Bastos' departure from Caldeirao included rice, corn, vegetables, and poultry. Some 5,000 citrus seedlings, later to be grafted and transplanted into groves, had also been set out.

At the end of the year, the boys are expected to return home to put the improved production methods into practice on their own farms.

The CBA farm-demonstration training program, Bastos said, is built entirely upon the principle of learning by doing. Each farm, in time, will produce hogs, poultry, cattle, fruits, vegetables, cereals, and the principal crops of the region involved. Methods for the production and care of seeds, milk, eggs, and so forth are stressed. Each trainee is taught the proper care and usage of animals

and machinery. He is also taught how to build inexpensive farm buildings and fences, to dig wells, build small dams, and carry on other farming operations essential to the efficient profitable operation of a farm.

During his stay in the United States, Bastos has been interested in animal husbandry in addition to his study of extension methods. The major part of his training was obtained, at his request, on dairy farms and ranches near the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, as climatic conditions there are similar to those in Brazil. He gave special attention to breeding experiments with the zebu or Brahman as a meat animal. The zebu, because of its ability to thrive in a hot, humid climate, comprises the bulk of Brazil's beef herds, he said.

necessary part of the cropland or pasture. They use a mixture of species adapted to soil and moisture conditions. They promise to plant trees promptly or heel in immediately on arrival and to use extreme care to prevent roots from drying out while planting. The scalp method of planting trees is advised where there is considerable vegetative competition, especially with hardwoods and shrubs.

Plantations are inspected often, and any problems such as disease, crowding, or other damage are reported to the club agent or district staff.

This year 10 boys and girls in Allegany County started on this new, long-time forestry planting project by setting about 25,000 trees and shrubs. Next year they will plant about an equal number and so on through the years. With excellent technical advice and follow-up, these planned forestry enterprises should be valuable demonstrations of proper land use by younger club members as well as profitable and educational projects for the club member co-operators. Furthermore, they give boys and girls a chance to make a real contribution to the county program of soil and moisture conservation.

## 4-H demonstrates farm forests

FRED E. WINCH, JR., Assistant Extension Forester, Cornell University

■ The people of Allegany County, N. Y., are justly proud of the excellent teamwork of their extension workers and of the fine spirit of cooperation existing between their extension service and other agricultural agencies.

Typical of this cooperative spirit are the relations between the 4-H Department and the Allegany County Soil Conservation District. Of course, 4-H Club members have been planting trees for a long time in the county, beginning 'way back in 1929. But when Robert Reed, district soil conservationist, and Laurence Detric, county 4-H Club agent, began checking over these plantations, which total more than a million trees, they found many of the plantations had surprisingly poor survival and were not located in the proper place on the farm. They discovered also that few club members had gone very far toward developing a plantation of significant size. After planting the 1,000 trees that they received free from the conservation department, they didn't go on and purchase trees to enlarge the plantation. Some continuation program was obviously needed.

Bob Reed, who has a way of turn-

ing ideas into action, suggested a plan whereby club members who have done a good job in planting their first 1,000 trees can continue the project over a period of years and develop a plantation that is really worthwhile.

Here's how the plan works. Parents agree to turn over to the club member a specified area of land for his own reforestation project. The club member signs a regular agreement with the Allegany County Soil Conservation District based on a long-time plan to develop a plantation in keeping with the needs of the farm and the age and ability of the club member. It may be 5 acres or even 25, depending on circumstances.

The soil conservation district furnishes approximately 50 percent of all trees planted. More important, the boy or girl receives technical assistance from the district staff in locating the plantation site and selecting the species best adapted, and complete instructions and individual help in the establishment and care of the plantation.

The young folks are advised to use for reforestation only land that is not adapted to farming or is not a

### A plan that works

Richland County, Wis., extension workers always "let their right hand know what their left is doing."

The county has a cooperative schedule in which the county agent, A. V. Miller; the home agent, Glee Hemingway; the food assistant, Leonard Butcher; and the labor assistant, Alfred Cairns, all know each other's plans and take part in them.

"It has been a habit in our office," says Miller, "for each of us to know what the other person is doing and when he is doing it." They often have planning-ahead meetings if they see some big job coming up that will need the full cooperation of the staff. For instance, the home agent may pitch in to help with the dairy program. Or the food assistant may help with the pressure cooker testing.

Like other counties, Richland has a plan of work a year in advance, and frequent informal meetings are held to coordinate their work.

## Scheduling extension speakers

■ When a New York State College of Agriculture Extension specialist visits any one of the counties in the State, his path can be traced backwards right to the office of Mrs. Blanche W. Monroe in Roberts Hall on the Cornell campus.

The big chart on the west wall of her office and the U. S. train schedules, national bus schedules, and local timetables on her desk made the comparison more vivid. Even the specialists coming in to check their schedules had the atmosphere.

The college has 50' to 60 extension specialists to schedule out as speakers at meetings or as demonstrators wherever requests are made. Some are full-time extension men, and others are part-time. In addition, research specialists from the many departments of the college and the Geneva Experiment Station may be called on. This arrangement is part of the service of the college to the people of the State.

A Rotary club, a Kiwanis club, or a farm organization may want a speaker. The club or organization calls on its county agent who makes the request to Mrs. Monroe. 4-H Club agents and home bureaus do likewise.

The Home Economics College Extension Service may also want a speaker from the agricultural college for some program or demonstration requested, and Mrs. Monroe handles these requests with all the others.

With some 50 to 60 specialists and requests from about 150 agents, the attempt is made to satisfy everybody as far as possible and provide good programs for all counties of the State. The counties have to be treated as equally as possible, and the physical strength of the specialists requested must be considered, as well as the time they need to be at the college to write bulletins, attend training schools, have conferences, and check on research.

"The yellow tabs," said Mrs. Monroe, pointing to her chart, "mean that the time must be reserved and the men cannot be scheduled out. The check-marks on the white tabs refer to the subject, time, and place for which they are scheduled."

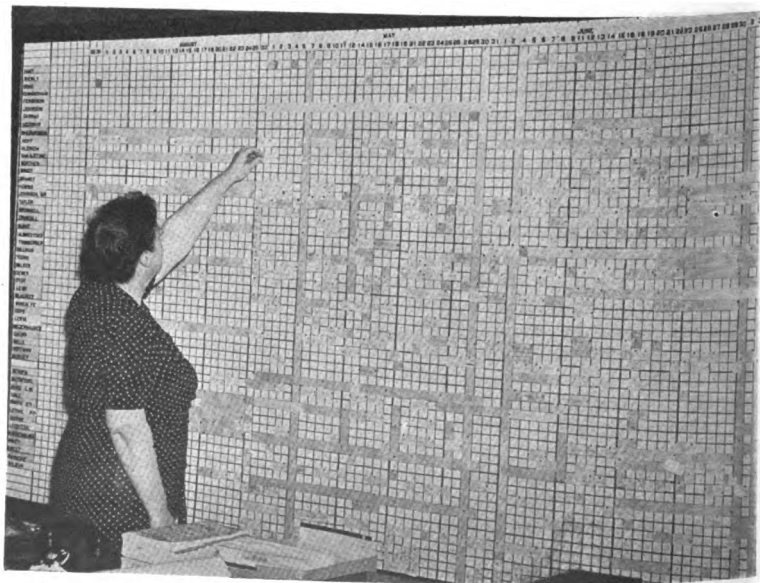
With a large correspondence every day, she can tell by a glance at the chart where each man is to be and whether he can be assigned to a request that has just come.

If he can be assigned, she looks up train and bus schedules from the timetables, which probably are more complete in her office than in any other place in the State; and she plans the route to use as little time as possible. Some of the specialists go by college cars, and one of the three other women in the office handle the details.

"The fun comes in," she said, "when Saturday morning arrives and details have not been completed for the following week's scheduling of a specialist. Telephone calls must be made or telegrams sent. Some dates are fixed far in advance; but others come in as emergencies, where, for instance, a farmer's pigs are dying or weather conditions have affected growing."

Occasionally, a call comes in asking where the speaker is who is supposed to arrive at a meeting. This happened recently, Mrs. Monroe said, when a new specialist didn't realize that the meeting date was definite.

Mrs. Blanche W. Monroe places a tab on her wall chart for another appointment made for an extension speaker.



He was busily working away in his office at the college.

Mrs. Monroe is fond of the poem written by the late Bob Adams, author of "Rude Rural Rhymes," who as an extensioner for many years traveled the State in the interests of the 4-H Clubs. It follows:

My familee I seldom see,  
My face they hardly know;  
The curse that drew the Wandering Jew

Is on me as I go.  
O Robin-son, that heartless one,  
He does not give a hoot.  
Excuse these tears, the train appears,  
I hear the engine toot.  
In broken scraps I take my naps  
and eat my meals enroute.  
The quick lunch place must feed my face

From Beersheba to Dan;  
I grab my pie upon the fly,  
For I'm a 'stension man.

Mrs. Monroe began as a secretary for Professor Robinson; but, as the college grew and the Extension Service with it, she helped "bring up" the scheduling office to what it is today. This "clearing house" or "train dispatching" function ties in with the main responsibilities of Professor Robinson's office—that of integrating and coordinating the extension work.

# Salvage fat is still needed

■ Despite VJ-day, the shortage of fats is still critical and will be for several months to come. Officials of WPB urge that there be no let-up in the effort to salvage all the waste fat. Extension agents have helped rural people better their record in fat salvage during the last few months. How this was done is illustrated in Carroll County, Ind., where most of the population live in rural communities.

The possibilities of greater fat salvage in Carroll County were shown by a test survey made last year which showed that only about half of the rural families were turning in waste fats, although an additional 25 percent of them indicated they were willing to participate in this important service if some complications were cleared up.

County Agent Robert Van Slyke tackled the job of removing existing bottlenecks, chief among which was inadequate collection facilities.

First, in a meeting of key representatives of every available town and rural civic, farm, religious, and youth organization in the county, the existing problems were discussed; and plans were laid for a coordinated program of publicity throughout the county and for the establishment of collection centers in every rural community.

It seems that every organization represented at that meeting caught the spirit of the renewed emphasis on salvaging the waste fats. County newspaper publishers went back to their shops from the meeting and set up streamer headlines announcing the 1945 county goal for waste fat salvage and, in a complete coverage story, outlined details for the campaign. One service club agreed to be responsible for getting the cooperation of all the grocers and meat store managers who, for one reason or another, had either quit or failed to start serving as collection agents for waste fats. Club representatives went from the meeting to report to their clubs and to seek ideas for assisting in the county-wide salvage drive.

As a result, some of the local clubs came up with unique plans for adding to the all-out campaign. For

example, the Rural Youth club drew up plans for an old-fashioned hay ride sometime in July; and they made the program so inviting that all members would want to attend. But the price of admission was a can of waste fat to be turned in before the day of the hay ride.

County Agricultural Agent Van Slyke, who is a thorough organizer, set up jobs for every individual and organization that wanted to help and, through his office organization, sent out a series of informative letters to hundreds of farmers and homemakers in the county explaining the program.

Collection facilities were improved, and the rural people responded with bigger contributions to the waste-fats campaign.

The county war food assistant, Mrs. Reba S. Briggs, conducted a survey of 15 families picked at random several weeks after the fats campaign was renewed. She discovered that nearly 15 percent more families were saving fats than before the campaign.

A further check-up revealed, however, that almost every grocer and meat merchant in the county was



County newspapers cooperated in an excellent manner to help renew the campaign for salvaging waste fats in rural areas.

serving as a collection agent and that the total poundage collected had increased well over 25 percent as a result of the campaign. All told, about 75 percent of the rural people in the county are now participating in the fats-salvage campaign, and the organization is trying to make every rural homemaker a contributor in this important job assigned to the home front.

# Cookies by the truckload

■ Headed by a big truck displaying a large red cross, Beaufort County, N. C., home demonstration club-women took a load of cookies and flowers to the sick and wounded servicemen at Camp Lejeune. Under the direction of the home demonstration agent, Violet Alexander, 29,000 cookies and 70 dozen gladioli, as well as other flowers, were distributed with the help of convalescents.

Did the boys like it? Well, ward 6 sent a letter to Miss Alexander with 93 signatures, telling what it meant to them; and the Red Cross officials on duty said they had never seen anything like it. The 26 women who accompanied the donation to help with the distribution felt well repaid.

The idea started at the county

federation meeting in May. Sugar was a stumbling block, so Miss Alexander appeared before the ration board and got 75 extra pounds of sugar, which was distributed to clubs in 5-pound packages. The Brantley Swamp Club, of Aurora, contributed more than 1,000 cookies and refused extra sugar, saying that they preferred to practice a little self-denial and use their own sugar.

The cookies were assembled at the regular curb market on Saturday. Cookies of many shapes and sizes continued to pour in all day. Some had a red cross or similar designs worked out in the icing. Civic clubs, 4-H Clubs, and individuals brought in cookies and flowers. One of the largest flower donations came from a group of Dutch settlers at Terra Ceia.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Heat-resistant eggs.** Not that you will want to start storing eggs under the stove instead of in the refrigerator, but an interesting new development of poultry research is the production of infertile eggs that retain their eating quality for as long as 2 weeks at 100° F., which is approximately hatching temperature. Most eggs are unfit for table use after 1 week at such a temperature. The hens that lay the heat-resisting eggs are the result of selective breeding by the Department's poultry scientists. Other lines of chickens have been bred that lay eggs superior in other characteristics. For example, the eggs of one line have a larger percentage of thick white than usual, which makes them poach and fry better. Another line lays eggs almost entirely free from blood spots. Other hens have been bred to produce eggs that have thicker, less porous, and stronger shells. The objective of the breeding work is to improve the market quality of eggs, and the principles established can be applied by progressive poultrymen.

■ **New long-lasting cotton.** A process for treating cotton that protects it from rot and mildew has been developed by the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry at the Southern Regional Laboratory. The new material has the strength and appearance of ordinary cotton, plus the ability to resist the attack of rot-producing micro-organisms. The treatment includes partial acetylation. Four "nots" are very important to the usefulness of cotton fabric treated by the new process: It is not discolored, it is not toxic, it does not have an odor, and it is not sticky. The fact that it is non-toxic as well as rot-resistant makes the treated fabric an excellent material for bags for fruits, vegetables,

and other food products. Other uses for the treated cotton cloth, yarn, and thread are for clothing, tents, and awnings that will not mildew or rot in damp climates and for fish nets that can be put away wet without danger of rotting. Tests of the partially acetylated cotton were made by burying it in the ground in soil teeming with micro-organisms that would have rotted ordinary cloth or thread within a week. The treated cotton withstood such conditions for 6 months with very little loss of strength.

■ **What DDT will and will not do.** A knowledge of the practical uses of DDT insecticides in agriculture and around the house is still far from complete in spite of the fact that several million pounds have been used by the Army, Navy, and Public Health Service for war purposes.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, which first developed the potentialities of this material, has conducted extensive tests with DDT during the past 2½ years in cooperation with various State agricultural experiment stations and other agencies. It is carrying on further intensive research to establish its usefulness in peacetime and to determine the best and safest methods of using it.

For example, DDT is suitable for use as an insecticide only when properly prepared. It is insoluble in water but can be dissolved in other solvents for making spray solutions or ground into a fine powder and mixed with other powdered materials for dusting. Only a small quantity of DDT—up to 10 percent as a maximum—is needed in insecticides. It is not effective against all insects and is much slower in action against certain ones than some other materials now in use, such as pyrethrum and rotenone.

It has been shown that DDT is harmful to many beneficial insects such as honeybees, which will limit its use in protecting certain crops. It is toxic to fish, but not to animals except in considerable amounts. Its harmful effects on human beings have not been established but repeated or prolonged exposure to materials containing it should be avoided. Extensive tests are under way to determine possible injurious effects of DDT on plants and effects of residues in the soil on growth of crops.

Despite these precautions and the present uncertainties attending its use, scientists believe that DDT will have an important place in insect control along with other materials already in use. The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine has prepared a mimeographed statement containing these precautions and also giving instructions, so far as they have been formulated, for the use of DDT insecticides against household pests and insects affecting man and animals. The statement, entitled "Suggestions Regarding the Use of DDT by Civilians," is available on application to the Bureau.

## Five districts establish school forests

The Arkansas Extension Service is proud of its school forests located at Pleasant Hill, Laneburg, Cale, Bluff City, and Rosston. These school forests were established in 1940 and 1941 in cooperation with a lumber company, the State Forestry Commission, and the local school boards.

The lumber company gave each of the school districts 5 to 10 acres of land and the pine seedlings to set each area. The planting was done by the pupils under the supervision of the County Extension Service.

Each year the areas are reset where good stands have not been obtained. About 14,000 pine seedlings were planted this past spring. The school forests were judged recently by Harold A. Howell, extension forester. Bluff City was first, Rosston second, and Laneburg third. A total of \$25 was given to these schools by the lumber company.

The older trees have now reached a height of 6 to 8 feet.

# No peaches were wasted

■ The largest southern peach crop on record hit the market during June and July of the past summer. The Extension Service went to work on this problem to prevent food waste at a time food was badly needed in many parts of the world.

In Georgia a conference on peach utilization was called by Lurline Collier, State home demonstration agent, and included food preservation and utilization specialists, editors, and representatives of food chain stores. Following this was a training program for home demonstration agents and the wide use of news and radio releases. A complete canning guide with a natural color cover, the four new 4-H canning manuals, as well as special circulars on freezing, dehydrating, brining, pickling, krauting, and other means of preserving food, were given wide distribution.

Special schools for teaching methods in freezing and canning peaches

were given in Georgia, Kentucky, Arkansas, and other States. A peach fact sheet was sent to all agents in Oklahoma. Instructions for processing by using small amounts of sugar were supplied to all vocational agriculture school community canning centers in Louisiana; 50,000 leaflets, Use Arkansas Peaches, with recipes for canning with and without sugar were sent to county home demonstration agents for distribution and also to directors of extension in peach-consuming States; Arkansas chain stores carried advertisements and printed recipes.

An interesting feature of the Arkansas campaign was the letter that went to the hotel association, restaurant association, retail grocers, chain stores, State presidents of civic clubs, and members of the State Consumer-Nutrition Committee, urging use of Arkansas peaches.

Texas specialized in information on drying peaches because of the

sugar shortage. By radio and press release this idea was brought to the attention of Texas homemakers.

In South Carolina agents aided in a truck service exchange in the peach area, which helped to make the fruit available, and distributed many copies of the printed circulars on canning. Tennessee carried on an extension campaign through press and radio, distributing two attractive leaflets, Peaches, How To Use Them and Working and Canning With Less Sugar. Letters sent to all peach growers explained the program and enclosed publications.

Peach-consuming States such as Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Vermont cooperated by giving wide distribution to peach recipes and directions for canning and preserving peaches over radio and press. When all was said and done, many more cans of peaches graced the home pantry; many families had used and enjoyed the plentiful peach more than ever before; and, best of all, little of the bumper peach crop was wasted in the critical last few months of the war.

# Canning caravans tour New York

■ Seven counties in New York organized canning caravans to help local communities with their canning problems. The caravans were sponsored by the College of Home Economics at Cornell University and the State Emergency Food Commission.

Arrangements were made with the American Red Cross to obtain regular canteen kitchens for use as canning caravans in five counties. In the other two counties, St. Lawrence and Wyoming, trailers belonging to the local extension office were used.

These mobile canning units were manned by home demonstration agents and other food consultants and toured the principal communities in the counties. Each unit seated six or seven people at a time. It was equipped with stove, running water, cupboards, lights, and all types of canning equipment. Gages for testing pressure cookers and a good supply of canning bulletins and leaflets were always on hand.

Anyone could bring in cans of

spoiled food to have them analyzed by nutrition experts to determine the cause of spoilage and its remedy. Advice on how much to can for individual families and any other help needed was freely given. Each caravan served as a canning information

center and a canning clinic as long as it remained in the community.

In addition to St. Lawrence and Wyoming, Broome, Albany and Rockland Counties and the cities of Buffalo and Rochester organized such caravans.



# A trip to West Africa

T. M. CAMPBELL, Field Agent, Extension Service

The first of two articles by Mr. Campbell telling of his experiences in making a survey of education in West Africa.

■ On March 10, 1944, a telegram came from Dr. Jackson Davis, associate director of the General Education Board, New York City, asking me to join a small Anglo-American group in the study of agricultural and rural problems and mass education in certain West African areas, under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland.

The survey was headed by Dr. Davis. Those who were to assist him were: Miss Margaret Wrong, of the International Committee on Christian Literature for Africa, with headquarters in London; Dr. George W. Carpenter and Dr. H. W. Coxill, both educational secretaries of the Congo Protestant Council, stationed at Leopoldville, Belgian Congo; Rev. J. M. Lewars, supervisor of schools, Church of Scotland Mission, Callaba, Nigeria, and myself.

After I had accepted the invitation it gradually dawned upon me that preparation for travel abroad was an extremely complicated affair, especially for a civilian in wartime. The major formalities were obtaining a passport, inoculations, visa, and transportation priorities.

## Getting a Wartime Passport

It frequently takes from 4 to 6 weeks to obtain a passport from the State Department. For this, one has to go to the clerk of a State or Federal Court, "authorized to naturalize aliens," and submit an application. Here one must produce proof of citizenship—a birth certificate, an old passport, or a certificate from the board where one votes, or sign an affidavit before a notary public stating the year and place of birth and giving the names of parents. Now, all this may seem quite simple, but in my care it was not so easy. For instance, I had no birth certificate, and having never been abroad before, I held no old passport. In fact, at one time, it looked as though I did not have any of the requirements neces-

sary to obtain a passport. Two other important items that were new to me were that I had to obtain a release from my local draft board, in spite of the fact that we now have three children serving with the armed forces, and also a letter of recommendation from the local chief of police.

After much swearing of oaths, photographing, and fingerprinting, I received my precious passport. I say precious because it is just that. I soon learned that while abroad one must hold onto this document no matter what happens, or risk dire consequences.

## I Got My Full Quota of "Shots"

Next in importance to passports and visa is an immunization register showing protection against certain communicable diseases; otherwise one cannot leave this country or enter other countries. A letter of presentation from the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the U. S. Public Health Service made this formality quite easy, insofar as authorization goes, but nonetheless painful in taking the "shots" against yellow fever, typhoid, tetanus, smallpox, and cholera.

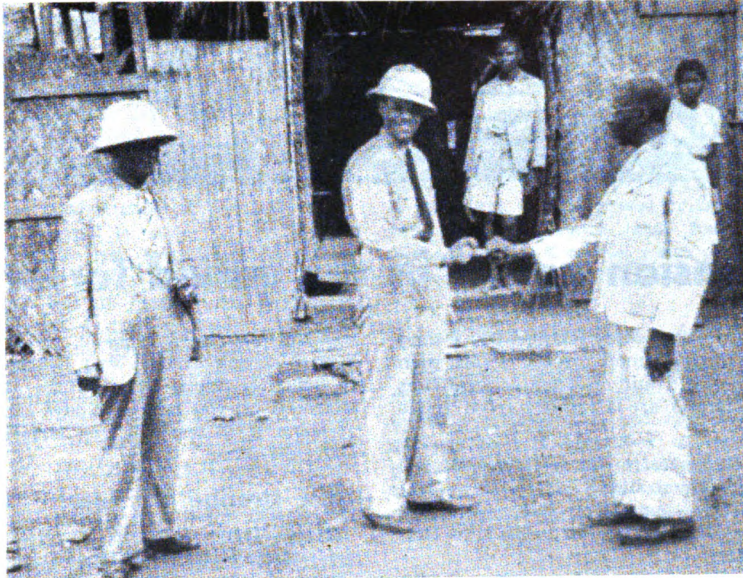
It is surprising, the number of little things that arise in connection with obtaining transportation abroad in wartime. There is the question of priorities to travel by plane or boat and the difficulty in establishing exact places and dates of departure. The amount of baggage one may carry is determined by the mode of travel. If by boat, ample supply for a reasonable length of time can be taken; but if by plane, only 55 pounds is allowed, which calls for careful planning. Fighting in Europe and North Africa was so fierce in 1944 that we were forced to carry on a regular stop-and-go performance from April 15, the day we were originally scheduled to depart, until September 23, when we boarded at Miami, Fla., for Latin America, a Flying Clipper at the Pan-American

International Marine Airport, the largest commercial seaplane base in the world.

We did not board the plane until we were thoroughly gone over by Customs and FBI officials, who examined, minutely, our passports and every piece of our baggage and asked many searching questions. Thus began the first lap of our trip to West Africa.

Our first rest and refueling stop was Antilla, Cuba. We spent the night at Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Leaving there early the morning of the 24th, we refueled at San Juan, P. R. During our 30-minute stop there, I strolled out a few paces from the airport; and, to my surprise, up drove a pick-up truck marked U. S. D. A. In conversation with the driver, I learned that he was a United States Government employee stationed at San Juan and connected with tropical plant-disease control. Late in the afternoon we arrived at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Leaving there early the next day, we rested and refueled at Paramaribo, and the same afternoon arrived at Belem, the capital of the State of Para in Brazil and one of South America's handsomest cities. We had to lie over there for 2 days waiting for plane passage, so I went out to see the city, all the while becoming more conscious that we were getting farther away from home, because the weather was hotter, the people were different, and so was the currency. We had to convert our American money into Brazilian cruzeiros in order to pay our bills. We visited the famous Jungle Park, where many specimens of animal and plant life from the great Amazon River Basin are kept on exhibition for the public. We saw the famous eighteenth century cathedral and the nearby 300-year-old Portuguese fort.

Early on the morning of September 28, we left Belem and landed at Natal, Brazil, in midafternoon the same day. Because of the war situation, priorities, and the like, we were told that our departure for Africa was uncertain. This proved true, for we were grounded there for 17 long days; in fact, we stayed so long the Army threatened to put us in uniform. Upon our arrival, we were given the choice of stopping at a



Charles E. Trout (center) shakes hands with an African rural school teacher in front of a school building in Liberia. Mr. Trout was negro county agent in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., before going to Liberia as agricultural adviser to the Government.

United States Army base or going to a hotel in the city of Natal. We readily chose the base. This decision was influenced by Army transportation, safe drinking water, screened living quarters, food—United States style, laundry service, and English conversation. While Dr. Davis and I were waiting, a United States Army officer took us out into the country near Natal. We inspected the Rockefeller Farms, a huge tract of land named for the philanthropist. This project is patterned somewhat after our FSA agency, except in addition to having individual families it is used as a training center for young men above 21 years of age. They volunteer to spend 1 year on the farm under the tutelage of a trained agriculturist. We visited a typical Brazilian country village. The mode of transportation is by donkey and on foot; much of the produce is carried on the heads of the people.

On October 15, at 5:30 p. m., we took a seaplane at Natal and flew across the Atlantic Ocean in 1 night, arriving at Fisherman's Lake, Liberia, at 9:30 a. m. the next day. The approximate number of miles

fown from Miami to Liberia were 5,147.

Before I go further, I think I should mention one of our former Alabama extension agents in Negro extension work, Charles E. Trout, who gave up his work in Tuscaloosa County in June 1944 to accept a position as agricultural adviser to the Liberian Government at Monrovia, the capital. I spent some time with Mr. Trout and found him doing a good job of introducing extension work among the African farmers.

*(To be concluded)*

### 103 members make 516 garments

Andrew County, Mo., 4-H clothing project members are going to be well dressed for school this winter, according to their 4-H records which show that 102 girls and 1 boy in 14 clubs completed 516 garments valued at \$796. Articles ranged from tea towels and laundry bags made by first-year members to suits, coats, and complete costumes made by advanced clothing project girls.

Feed sacks were utilized by many

4-H'ers in making aprons, pinafores, and tea towels in their first-year clothing project. The largest project group was one of 10 girls in Hackberry club that met once a week and made slips, aprons, and tea towels. Roland Clark, Bolchow club, the only boy enrolled in a clothing project in the county, made a shirt for himself as well as a comfort protector, laundry bag, and tea towel for his home to complete the first-year requirements.

Eva and Fern Titsworth, sister members of the Avenue club, do all the family washing and ironing in connection with the clothing-care phase of their second-year clothing work.

Work dresses were popular garments for the girls in the third-year clothing project where Marilyn Taylor of Dean club used denim for a jumper dress.

A good-looking hat and bag combination was worked out by the county style revue winner, Virginia Worthington of Platte club. Using brown felt, with green and beige applique, she made a fringed drawstring bag and a Dutch hat. Both the hat and bag carried out the four-leaf clover motif. With these she wore the dress she made, a brown wool jersey accented in green and beige.

Made-overs are nothing to be scorned when they turn out as well as the complete fall wardrobe of 13 garments made by Dorothea McCue of Dean club at a total cost of \$4.33.

A skirt of her mother's was converted into a jumper for herself. She ripped up two of her baby dresses and made an attractive blouse to complete the ensemble. A white rayon dress was cut down from a size 40 to a size 14 at no cost except for the thread. Her suit, the basis for her fall wardrobe, was remodeled from an old one, the only expense being new buttons and thread. She remodeled an outdated pink wool dress at no additional cost and made over a blouse to go with her suit and skirts. She made two dresses from feed sacks and obtained remnants for others. She was unable to find wool yarn in the shade she wanted for embroidery on her best dress, so she dyed the yarn.

Betty June Schaber of the Dean club completed seven made-over garments.

—Ruth E. Cochran, home demonstration agent, Andrew County, Mo.



## Extension agents in the armed forces

Nineteen 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.

### Flying Cross for district club agent

High honors have come to a Michigan State College extension staff member serving in the armed forces. Lt. Carl H. Moore of Quincy, on leave of absence as district agent in Cass, Berrien, and Van Buren Counties, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. This is not the first honor to be bestowed on Lieutenant Moore who is a medium bomber navigator. He adds the DFC to the Air Medal and eight oak leaf clusters previously earned.

Lieutenant Moore received the award at a special ceremony held on a former German airfield in France and conducted by Maj. Gen. Samuel E. Anderson, commanding general of the United States Air Force Bombardment Division.

The award was made for bravery in leading a flight of B-26 Marauders through foggy weather to a vital target and back to the air base, although he had been wounded shortly after the bombers dropped their charges.

The citation accompanying the award read in part:

"When unfavorable weather en route to the objective caused a formation of B-26 type aircraft to become separated, Lieutenant Moore led his single flight into the target and successfully released his bombs. Shortly thereafter he was wounded by a burst from enemy aircraft fire. Despite his injury he continued directing evasive action until the flight was safely out of firing range. The professional skill and courage demonstrated by Lieutenant Moore on this occasion reflect

the highest credit upon himself and his organization."

Lieutenant Moore had participated in 47 missions prior to his DFC citation.

Further tribute is paid the 4-H Club agent in a letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Moore of Quincy. It came from Major Seebalt of Rochester, Mich., who was in Lieutenant Moore's squadron. The following is one of his statements:

"Carl has gained a respect in his group that is not shared by any other navigator. We have always followed him with the utmost confidence and, needless to say, have never been let down."

### Engineering overseas

Lt. Jesse W. Skinner, Harlan County agent, Nebraska, wrote from "around France in a staging area." He described the country there as semiarid with only olive trees and grapes growing in the higher, rocky sections. The flat lowland is irrigated and produces vegetables, grain, and hay. Livestock is limited to sheep, goats, and some substitutes for dairy cattle. The days were hot but the nights were cool. The lieutenant says that central France and east of the Rhine were the most productive areas he saw. Even there, though, farming is done with cattle and with crude implements. His engineering outfit built roads in Normandy and railroads and bridges in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. Their headquarters were within 55 miles of Berlin. Their longest stretch of new track was 4½ miles of new American rail in Holland. Their toughest going, he said,

was the Roer River crossing. Their biggest accomplishment was helping to build the Rhine River bridge at Duisberg. It was built in 6 days and 15 hours, 2,815 feet long and 36 feet above the water.

### How strange this war!

Some of his mates in the Navy made regular trips to the Blood Donor Center while they were stationed here in Washington. So he went, too, then forgot about it for there were more important things to think about—things like Tarawa that August in 1944. The sounds of battle echoed all around him as he lay on the hot, bleached sands of the beach and tried desperately to stop the blood gushing from a shrapnel wound in his leg. He was cursing the fate that had put him out of action so soon, when two corporals came dashing over to him. Working quickly and without a word, one of them ripped the donor tag from a bottle of blood plasma, threw the tag to him, and set up the bottle for a transfusion while the other powdered the wound with sulfa.

Eternities later, when his mind was quiet again, he looked at the tag that was still clutched in his hand. The name engraved on it was his own—Harry F. Starner, USN, Washington, D. C.

Harry F. Starner has been an employee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture since he received an honorable discharge from the Navy.

### THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last Month)

#### WISCONSIN

Ens. Bryant Kearn, assistant extension editor, U.S.N.R.

Ens. Catherine Kerr, Navy.

#### NEBRASKA

Pvt. Marvin L. Vaughn, Nuckolls County agent, Army.



# Georgia boys study farm machinery

■ When the Extension Service held a machinery short course for urban and rural boys in Georgia during June, the reactions were so favorable that they bear quotation. Here's what some of the folks concerned had to say:

"Boys that had never driven a tractor quickly learned . . . Boys that had no idea of the difference between a deep well and a shallow well pump now speak of them like an expert . . . This method of training compares favorably with the rapid method used by our Army and Navy in training young men for war."—*W. A. Sutton, State 4-H Club leader.*

"If all the boys came home with the same enthusiasm Jack did, this course will be of much benefit in keeping our boys on the farm and thereby make it possible for them to earn a better living by using the proper kind of machinery . . ."—*B. T. Whelchel, father of boy who attended course.*

"All of us were agreeably surprised at the apparent success. At first we were hesitant about getting the cooperation of the companies . . . food points . . . boys being able to leave farms. However, all these difficulties were worked out . . . and we had about 500 enrolled. We must have turned down at least 100."—*G. I. Johnson, extension agricultural engineer.*

## 4-H Club Camp Utilized

How was the course set up? Why were the teaching methods so successful? In what way did the course prove valuable to the farm labor program?

It is apparent that experiences with 4-H Club camps were a big help to those who planned the short course. In the first place, it was held at Camp Fulton 4-H Club camp near College Park, Ga. The 4-H Club staff was responsible for operating the camp. The camp manager was a school teacher and the dietitian a home economics teacher. There were, in addition, a kitchen supervisor and five cooks. Four farm labor assistants were on hand to help with recreation and supervision.

The course was held over four different 1-week periods and was open to both town and farm boys; 258 out of 481 enrolled came from farms. Boys, who had to be at least 14 years old, were approved by their county agents. Farm labor funds financed the short course, which cost approximately \$6,000, Sutton reports.

## Good Teachers Get Good Results

Extension engineers G. I. Johnson and H. S. Glenn supervised the teaching program and had able assistance in representatives of machinery, tire, and oil firms. Good teachers may have been one reason for the success of the subject matter

teaching. As Johnson points out, "All the companies sent some very good men."

The boys were soon putting into practice the knowledge gained at the course. In Hall County, most of the 24 boys who attended were working on tractors or grain combines after they returned home. That has been a help where farm labor has been so critically short. As Sutton explains, "These 481 boys will help produce and harvest crops this year in sufficient quantity to repay many times the funds spent in training them."

He thinks the program will reach much further than relief for labor shortage. It will also help these boys to be better farmers.

# Representing the rural youth of Cuba

Dr. Enrique Bello, chief of the 5-C Clubs of Cuba (left) shows Ray Turner of the Federal 4-H Club staff the program for the Eighth Annual 5-C Exposition held in the Cuban Capitol Building at Havana. In the center is Ramon Lorenzo, 14 years old, the champion 5-C member and best young gardener in all Cuba. His winnings at Havana won Ramon a trip to the United States. Dr. Bello and young Ramon are visiting 4-H Clubs in the Eastern States. The 5-C Clubs, based on the organization of the 4-H Clubs, now have 12,000 members enrolled.



# For veteran county agents only

Some thoughts by K. F. Warner, extension meat specialist, who entered the service as an assistant county agent in Nebraska in 1915.

■ John Smith, veteran county agent, peered over his glasses at his brand new assistant agent and sagged perceptibly. John shook hands mechanically, and sank into the friendly arms of his office chair. He glanced toward the open window as if to see that the sun still shone, then forced his eyes back across the desk toward his new assistant.

Yes, it was true. His first glance had not deceived him. Help came in strange packages these days. Wonder if this man could tell oats from wheat. Have to be careful not to let him sunburn.

Smith listened with half attention, as the new man told about himself. District agents, the veteran mused, had a hard time finding men; but he wondered if they worked as hard to find them as he did to train them.

## Gray Heads Predominate

He reveled a moment longer in this self-pity. This was a fine mess to hand him. He was John Smith. Sergeant John Smith, sir! Veteran of the Argonne—veteran county agent. Some of his past problems and achievements crowded before his eyes. He measured his recruit more carefully, then squared his jaw. His back stiffened to military posture in the office chair. Sergeant Smith could handle this detail.

John Smith is fictitious, of course; but his counterpart and his situation exist in many extension offices through all the States. Extension is 31 years old, and gray hairs predominate in many places. Old-timers, some say. Old fogies is the term that's often used. Time for new blood! Need somebody with pep and vigor! That's true, but those gray heads must not be replaced too soon. They are making, now, one of their greatest contributions. They are training the hands that are to carry on, and those hands have much to learn.

Do you old-timers remember the first night meetings you held in your county, where you parroted your college lecture notes on fertilizers or

seed selection, hog feeding or disease control? Your face gets red when you recall your amateurish, bookish efforts to advise practical farm people. You wonder why they came to hear you or let you stay.

The main reason that the farmers let you stay was because your attitude was right. You were trying to be of service. You were reaching out, almost frantically, for ways to make the science of the laboratory useful to this, your new community. You were modest, energetic, cooperative. You obeyed instinctively the first unwritten rule of all county agents, "Don't take yourself too seriously."

The wise farm people understood. They called you a green kid but a nice one. They forgave you much because they knew you wanted to be one of them. They figured they could make a useful man of you because you had the proper attitude. And they were right.

## Good Times and Bad

Build that same attitude in your new helper. It is your most important job today. Inoculate him with that same feeling toward his job, his people, and himself. You and you alone can do this properly.

It is 31 years since 1914. Those years cover good times and bad; drought and flood; peace and war; hunger, hardship, and prosperity. You, Mr. Veteran, have seen it all. Paul Revere rode his horse but once. Your saddle has rarely cooled. Feed and stock cars for drought-stricken cattle, mixing and distribution of grasshopper bait, catch crop campaigns after late or early freezes, rush calls for hog cholera serum, storage facilities for surplus crops, salvage drives, farm labor—whatever the immediate problem of your farm people, that has been your job.

Tell that to your new assistant, too. Big plans, good plans, practical plans are a constructive foundation for extension work; but the wires that hum along the fence rows bring you the current problems of the folks you serve. Lend this new man

your set of ear phones, and teach him to understand the signals that flow through them.

Do you remember the first time you showed a group of farmers how to prune trees? You could prune trees, of course. But your first demonstration was a fizzle. The orchardmen who came saw you jump from branch to branch, cutting and snipping as you went. They lent you a saw because yours was dull. They picked up your pruning shears several times when you let them fall. But the principles of pruning you left to their imagination. Remember?

## Set a Good Example

You cannot make an expert demonstrator out of your new assistant all at once, but you can help him practice. Let him watch you a time or two beforehand. Don't forget to have all your equipment ready. Arrange things so everyone can see. Put some punch into your opening and carry through clearly to a snappy finish. Set him the best example you can.

School your successor in other extension methods, too. How to teach by merely asking questions. How to find good ideas on every farm you visit. How to make every contact a "get" as well as "give" affair.

Show him the effectiveness of brevity, of talking and writing clearly, but not too much. Go back through the years and show him how you have leaned on the specialists. Agents, like farmers, have many skills to learn.

Teach your successor the great names and great achievements that are the proud possession of the Extension Service. Inspire him with the traditions you old-time extensioners have helped to create.

You can't teach the new man all you have learned, but you can steer him past many of the rough places. You can instill him with the proper attitude; kindle the same fire in his heart that burns in yours.

Help comes in strange packages these days, it's true, even as it did when you and I first became county agents. But the sun still shines, Mr. Veteran. The future, like the past, is in your hands.

Sergeant! Take charge of the detail.

# We Study Our Job

## Extension has a reconversion problem

The war caused many major adjustments in the extension workers' program. Peace will call for many more changes.

In 1944 county extension workers reported that nearly one-third of their time was devoted directly to the war effort, primarily to increasing food supplies and critical war materials. Two-thirds of the agents' time was spent indirectly on the agricultural war objectives. Since the war started and through 1943, the agents' effort to increase war food supplies through victory gardens and food preservation activities brought about more extension work with nonfarm families than ever before.

By 1944, however, the statistical reports show a marked drop from 1943 in the number of both farm and nonfarm families influenced. This decrease raises the question as to whether extension workers did not have too large a load in working with farm, rural nonfarm, and urban people.

From time to time we shall present in this column an analysis of county extension reports. These analyses we hope will give guidance in improving Extension's service to rural people in the future.

## Will servicemen turn to dairying?

How many returning veterans and other young people will want to dairy farm? What can they expect from dairy farms? How many dairy farmers will retire? These are some of the questions raised in a study made in the Myrtle Point Community of Coos County, Oreg., where dairying is the major agricultural enterprise. The study is an illustration of a procedure that might be used in other counties.

The names and addresses of youth over 18 years of age who had lived or worked on a dairy farm or were

interested in dairy farming were obtained in a survey of 50 dairy farmers. A questionnaire and a form letter were mailed to 70 of these young men who were in the armed forces; 11 still living in the community were personally interviewed.

Of the 70 servicemen, 40 were overseas and 30 were in the United States at the time the letters were mailed; 32 answered the questionnaire and 15 of the answers came from servicemen overseas. Two-thirds of the servicemen indicated they would be interested in dairying to make a living in the next 10 years. Over half of them expected to go into partnership with their parents or take over the home farm.

Further details on the service and nonservice youth and the dairy farmers surveyed are given in a 32-page printed thesis, *DAIRY FARM OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MYRTLE POINT COMMUNITY, COOS COUNTY, OREGON*, by Ted T. Kirsch, National 4-H Club Fellowship Student, Oregon State College, June 1945.

## Channeling research into education

In his book of this title, John E. Ivey, Jr., calls attention to the "huge reservoir of research findings" of various institutions in the Southern States. He feels we have not made use of these research findings because we have not had effective methods of translating them.

A section of the book is given to the problems of translating research facts for educational use and another to getting such facts to the people through public agencies. Several going experiments are described and evaluated, including the Cooperative Research Translation in the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Kentucky-Sloan Fund Experiment in Applied Economics, the Georgia Citizens' Fact-Finding Movement, and the cooperation between the Arkansas State Planning Commission, State Board of Education, and State University.

"One of the most comprehensively organized attacks on the problems of southern rural life is that guided by the Agricultural Extension Service—a rural educational agency that is outranked only by the family and the school," the author points out.

In a discussion of the Extension Service as a "research translator," some of the improved extension methods used in distributing facts to rural people are commended—such methods of communication as simplified written materials, radio programs, and extension columns in newspapers and magazines.

A 60-page appendix includes an extensive classified bibliography of source materials on southern resources and problems. Listed under 26 headings, the subjects range from minerals and land to such things as health and nutrition and folk culture. There is also an appendix of 8 pages on movies, including many from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Channeling Research Into Education, by John Ivey, Jr., is published by the American Council on Education, Washington, D. C.

## 4-H Club statistics

The organization of 4-H Club work has expanded ever since its origin, even in the recent war years. This steady 4-H growth is brought out in Extension Service Circular No. 427, entitled *STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF 4-H CLUB WORK, 1914-43, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON 1943*, recently completed by Mrs. Laurel K. Sabrosky of the Federal Extension Office.

This circular brings up to date Extension Service Circulars 312, 345, and 377, which cover statistically the development and growth of 4-H Club work from its beginning in 1914 through 1940.

Statistical reports of 48 States and Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico covering a 30-year period provide the source material for Circular 427.

## Peach picking plus

■ Something new in training work for 4-H Club members was tried out this year in Georgia, and from all reports it was so successful that the pattern may be followed in future years.

For the past 17 years, Negro 4-H Club members have been holding an educational short course at Savannah for training 4-H Club leaders, deciding contest winners, working on the organization of 4-H Clubs and community councils, and other phases of 4-H Club work.

This year, when it became apparent that peach growers in Pike County would not be able to obtain enough labor to harvest the bumper crop, it was decided to hold the annual short course in the county.

The short course was planned to continue for 1 month, or through the peach harvest period, instead of the usual intensive 1-week course held in previous years. Boys were selected by their agents on the same basis as they would have been selected for the regular State short course. The camp was under the direction of Alexander Hurse, Negro State Club agent, and P. H. Stone, Negro State agent in extension work.

The camp program was organized so that the club members could pick peaches during the day and carry out regular 4-H Club activities during the nights and on days when they were unable to work in the orchards.

The Negro club members picked 30,745 bushels of peaches for 18 growers and received \$7,267 for their services. In addition, they received \$609 for working for growers in packing houses and in canning plants.

Before starting work in the orchard, club members were given special training in picking peaches for canning and shipping. A daily record of the peaches picked was kept by each supervisor, and this enabled each boy to know by the end of the day how many bushels he had picked and how much money he had made.

Relations between the growers and the camp personnel were handled by the emergency farm labor assistant.

A supervisor was provided for each group of 15 boys.

At night when the boys returned from the orchards, they would take part in programs outlined by the 4-H Club leaders. Some of these programs included discussions on 4-H Club work, awarding of prizes to the three highest pickers of the day, stunts, movies, singing, talent nights, and discussions on health. On Sunday, ministers led discussions on how to live a wholesome life.

Growers were so well pleased with the services rendered by 4-H Club members that they gave them a barbecue after the harvesting season was over and asked that they return to the county next year for their State short course. The boys were housed in Army tents on the campus of the Negro school at Zebulon.

## Water safety course

A water safety course for boys and girls in Harris County, Ga., organized by Home Demonstration Agent Mrs. Clyde C. Sprayberry, was conducted during June at Blue Springs on the 28,000-acre Harris County estate of Cason J. Callaway, retired industrialist. Instruction was given by Harry J. Lyons, a Red Cross water safety instructor, and a group of assistants.

School busses made their regular rounds each day to carry the boys and girls to Blue Springs, and more than 200 participated in the training course. Certificates were given to 156 at the end of the course.

Classes were held for beginners, intermediates, junior lifesaving, senior lifesaving, and instructors. Two classes were held each day for each group; and Mrs. Sprayberry assisted the instructors with the beginners and junior and senior lifesaving groups. She also took instruction with the various groups.

## Silver anniversary

July marked 25 years of active organization for the Sunshine Workers of Blue Grass Township in Scott County, Iowa. So 96 members, former members, and leaders attended an anniversary celebration at the home of the present leader, Velma Illian.

There were 7 girls in the original

club; today there are 13. Throughout the years there have been 109 members, 7 leaders, and 4 assistant leaders. Thirty girls have been graduated at the age of 21. Twenty-nine of the former members are married and living on farms; 31 have established homes in cities.

## Furniture repair clinics

Furniture repair clinics held in 23 South Dakota counties proved profitable both in conservation and morale building, reports Mrs. Florence McLaron, assistant State home management specialist.

New comfort, style, and beauty were given to 133 chairs of all kinds, 119 davenport and 40 chair cushions, 21 footstools, and 12 davenports. Many of these articles were torn down to the framework and rebuilt with new materials. Because of the scarcity of upholstery yardage, some of the old coverings were replaced; but the furniture is basically now in repair so that the new cover can be added when materials are available.

Although webbing, spring tying twine, and spring sewing twine were rationed to the counties by the upholstery supply firms, an adequate supply was made available to those persons attending. Usually two or three persons worked together to make progress with awkward and heavy jobs during the short time given to the workshop.

Home agents in Minnehaha, Turner, Lake, Clay, and Brookings Counties reported 13 additional clinics which had been conducted as follow-up of the original workshop.

## Trees for servicemen

Eighteen thousand members of Michigan home economics clubs will be asked to plant at least one tree apiece during the next 12 months in honor of men in the armed services. Clubs are located in virtually all counties in the State.

The tree planting will be part of a new project to beautify farm homesteads in Michigan. Plans were drawn up by the Home Economics Council, composed of State officers and directors of the home economics clubs, which are sponsored by the Michigan Extension Service.

# Among Ourselves

■ PAUL E. BROWNE, county agent in Hampden County, Mass., takes his secretary along to certain subject-matter meetings and then sends the notes in mimeographed form to those attending the meeting. This seems to clinch the matter and makes the meetings more effective.

■ H. H. BARNUM, Ingham County, Mich., agricultural agent for the past 16 years, died unexpectedly at his home in East Lansing, April 29.

Mr. Barnum was generally recognized by farmers in the local area as having contributed much to the advancement of farming. He had built up a strong 4-H Club program and had succeeded in erecting a building for the club members at the Mason fairgrounds. Recently he had organized a soil conservation district for his area. He had always succeeded in maintaining a well-balanced program for his county. He was first employed by the Extension Service in 1925, when he assumed the duties of county agricultural agent in Kent County. His second and last appointment was in Ingham County in 1929.

County Agent Barnum owned a 100-acre farm in Barry County and was a graduate of Michigan Agricultural College in 1912. He was born in Woodland, Barry County, June 17, 1886.

■ CLARA R. BRIAN, home demonstration agent in McLean County, Ill., for 25 years, retired September 1 but is still making her home in Bloomington. Miss Brian is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University, with a master's degree in dietetics and nutrition from Columbia University. She came to McLean County in 1918 and organized home demonstration work there. She has been in the county ever since, with the exception of 2 years which she spent at the University of Minnesota on a Laura Spellman Rockefeller memorial fellowship to further education in child development and parent education.

Miss Brian has built up an organization in McLean County which has 1,700 members and 28 units. No part of the county is untouched by her influence; if she didn't reach the

women of her county one way, she did another. This was her goal, and she was able to instill a desire for service into women with whom she worked so that they in turn became disciples of her philosophy of home-making. Over a period of about 18 years she has provided menus and recipes for the Bloomington Pantagraph, and those who know, say that women in the county have an unusual appreciation and knowledge of well-balanced family meals because of the newspaper column. She has also carried a weekly radio program, with some of her broadcasts planned for children.

She was one of the first in the State to conduct a survey of the eating habits of school children, and when that survey showed a lack of milk she set in motion a program to correct the situation. She established a demonstration kitchen and at regular intervals has held demonstrations of popular appeal open to the public.

■ HUBERT E. COSBY, head of the Oregon State College Poultry Department, died July 14. He was personally known to almost every poultry and turkey producer in the State and was a man who had taken a leading part in all progressive developments in the industry for the past 25 years.

Under his leadership, first as extension poultryman from 1920 to 1937 and later as head of the poultry department and research work, Oregon's poultry and turkey industry grew from a valuation of less than \$10,000,000 to its present position where it yields an income of more than \$30,000,000 annually from farm marketings of poultry, including turkeys and chickens, plus an additional \$10,000,000 from hatchery products.

A native of Indiana, Cosby attended college at Indiana State Normal and Purdue University. He was extension poultryman for the United States Department of Agriculture and for 2 years poultryman for the University of Missouri Experiment Station before going to Oregon. He was 57 years old.

Cosby is credited with much of the success of a sound poultry marketing program through the organization of producer cooperatives and close working relations with independent packers, feed manufacturers, and produce dealers throughout the State. The long-time poultry program worked out under his guidance more than 20 years ago has continued to the present with few changes, indicating the solid foundation on which it was built.

■ PEARL MACDONALD, extension nutritionist in Delaware since 1929, recently retired from active duty. She was one of the first women to be appointed after the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, when she was put in charge of the home economics extension work in Pennsylvania in 1914, and she developed the work there during the years of World War I. For her work in Delaware she was recently awarded the certificate of recognition by Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity.

"Mine has been a long term of service," says Miss MacDonald. "Back in the days when I taught at Michigan State College I did farmers' institute work, and that type of educational work greatly appealed to me. At the Milwaukee County School of Agriculture from 1912 to 1914 I had the opportunity to do the new type of extension service. When the Smith-Lever law was passed in 1914 I knew that was my field of service. The opportunity for service for so many years is cause for real satisfaction."

■ COL. F. S. HARTMAN, formerly county agent in Montrose and Weld Counties, Colo., gave the members of the Young Farmers Clubs, meeting at Huntingdon, England, a graphic account of what the boys and girls of America do in 4-H Clubs, according to J. C. Hotchkiss, formerly chief organizer of the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs, now visiting 4-H Clubs in America before taking his new assignment as director of 4-H Clubs in the British West Indies.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**YOUNG FARMERS AND HOME-MAKERS** have a program of their own in Colorado under the leadership of Lester L. Osborn, just returned from foreign service with the Army but an old-timer in work with youth groups. El Paso County was the first to organize, with the cooperation of the Young Adult Subcommittee of the County Agricultural Planning Committee. Members of the State and county extension staff are contributing their efforts to make this a program which will meet the needs of young people.

**LET'S BE GOOD NEIGHBORS** was the theme of the annual youth institute held at the University of New Hampshire August 13-18. More than 200 boys and girls and leaders heard speakers from the United States and other countries discuss the problems of international peace.

**4-H LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** have been given to more than 2,500 rural men and women with service records of 5 years or more. According to the records from 44 States, 74 leaders have received the diamond clover for more than 20 years as a leader of a 4-H Club. During the fall achievement days, several thousand more from among the 175,000 local 4-H leaders will get one of these certificates and pins. The first award is the silver clover for 5 years, the second the gold clover for 10 years, the third the pearl clover for 15 years, and highest of all the diamond clover. The certificates are provided by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the pins are purchased by the States.

**ILLINOIS 4-H CLUBS** have selected a State camp as their proposed war memorial to 4-H Club members who will have served in World War II. County organizations are setting their goals for contributions to the memorial fund—\$100,000 to be raised over a period of 2 years.

**THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE** on agriculture discussed on page 145 by Director Wilson is the third in a series dating back 15 years.

The first one was held in Washington, D. C., September 8-20, 1930. The second was held in Mexico City, July 6-16, 1942. The first dealt with problems centering around the depression. The second centered on expanded wartime production. The agenda at Caracas dealt with putting into actual practice plans and objectives to improve the standards of living and general well-being of farmers and farm workers.

**4-H CONGRESS IN COLOR**, a series of kodachrome slides telling the story of the National 4-H Club Congress, can now be bought from the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work.

**NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR** went back on the air over the National Broadcasting Company network September 15 with a talk by Secretary Anderson. Revived as a 30-minute program originating in Chicago but picking up Washington programs, it will follow the general pattern of the National Farm and Home Hour programs developed during 17 years of broadcasting but discontinued last February.

**RURAL MEDICAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES** are giving farmers concern, according to a survey of farmers' opinions on post-war problems made recently by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The

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answers indicated that farmers generally are conscious of the fact that farm youth 18 and 19 years old showed the highest rejection rate in the Selective Service for physical, mental, and educational defects of any occupational groups—41 percent compared with an average of 25 percent for other groups. More than four-fifths of the farmers interviewed said they favored more public clinics in rural areas. More than three-fourths said they would like to subscribe to some flat-rate prepayment plan to cover possible hospital bills and the cost of doctors and nurses for themselves and their families.

**FIRE-PREVENTION WEEK**, October 7-13, is receiving the attention of county agents. It is a good time to call to the attention of prospective builders the need for fire-resistant construction. The National Fire Protection Association estimates that the fire losses in farm homes could be cut in half if the building had a sound, efficient heating equipment, properly installed and with adequate safeguards, a properly constructed chimney, sound and adequate wiring, a fire-resistant roof, and lightning rods.

**COUNTY AGENT TROUT** shown in the picture illustrating the article, A trip to West Africa, in this issue, writes to Mr. Campbell: "In many ways I feel that this has been a very successful year—but we have still a long ways to go—and I do mean long. I decided to start a dry-season garden on the old swamp down near the cemetery. This brought about more favorable reaction than anything I have done here. It also gave me a chance to study the local conditions, soil, diseases, and insects." The Liberian extension program emphasizes rice production as the number one problem this year, and agents are setting up Tribal Farms as demonstration farms. Their theme this year is "Neina Blah" (we need rice).

**FROM SHRIVENHAM, ENGLAND**, the Army University Center, J. L. Boatman writes that more students enrolled in agriculture than were expected. Four hundred students chose courses in agriculture, and many more were turned away because of the shortage of teachers.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## 4-H clubs measure results

### National Achievement Week, November 3-11, highlights young people's contribution to victory

■ The close of the war and the easing up of wartime restrictions have made 4-H achievement celebrations gala occasions this year. Community exhibits, fairs, rallies, and achievement days have rounded up the results of a year's work for mothers, fathers, and neighbors to inspect; and newspaper articles, window exhibits, and local broadcasts told the story to the general public.

County fairs have flourished this year, some of them for the first time since 1941. The 4-H fair of Middlesex County, Conn., was one of these; and, though the time for preparation was short, everyone agreed it was good to have a county fair again. Club members were determined to have an even better fair in 1946. The San Fernando Valley, Calif., 4-H Fair held in Horton's barn with senior members in charge of the departments got some enthusiastic help from four 4-H veterans just returned from overseas.

State 4-H shows, besides selecting the State champions and reviewing 4-H achievements, are in many places honoring 4-H leaders. In Michigan, for example, 311 leaders who have served from 10 to 20 years will receive awards. The diamond clover pin for 20 years or more of service will go to 17 faithful leaders.

Add up these achievements for the whole United States, and you find that the total contribution of 4-H members is astounding. Imagine 1 million acres in victory gardens, or a flock of 43 million birds, or a colossal pantry with 74 million 4-H canned quarts of food on the shelves! Yet this is just

what 4-H Club members did through the war years since Pearl Harbor.

War demands called for all the scrap throughout the country. 4-H Club members responded with more than 400 million pounds collected. The country needed money to finance the war. 4-H Club members bought for themselves or sold to others more than 200 million dollars worth of bonds and stamps. For this last achievement, the Treasury presented a certificate of award to 4-H Clubs, which Director Wilson accepted on behalf of 1,700,000 4-H Club members.

This year, the 4-H Achievement Week marks the first national 4-H event since the end of the war. In this hour of victory every 4-H Club member should be proud of his own contribution during the war and should regard world peace as a heri-

tage to be cherished in the years ahead.

The keynote for National Achievement Week was sounded by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson in an open letter to 4-H Club members. He wrote: "A job well done is but a better job begun. On this occasion of National 4-H Achievement Week, 1945, the cumulative effort of 4-H Club members emerges as a significant contribution to victory on the food front. Unity and loyal devotion to a common wartime aim have brought achievements that can be the basis for even greater accomplishments in the future.

"As we emerge from this war, we stand on the threshold of an entirely new era in which the future of civilization depends on how well the youth of today learns to cultivate the virtues of cooperativeness, justice, tolerance, and wisdom. These virtues, so necessary to democracy, are one of the great values resulting from 4-H Club work for young people interested in developing their talents for maximum usefulness."

## Use these Victory Loan films

■ The finest series of 16-millimeter educational sound films ever offered county agents for free showings is being made available by the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury to run concurrently with the Victory Loan drive. Three of the films are U. S. Army Signal Corps pictures: *Diary of a Sergeant*, 22 minutes; *Stillwell Road*, 50 minutes; *It's Your America*, 35 minutes. Two are Army Air Forces pictures: *Target Invisible*, 15 minutes, revealing the role played in the war by radar; *Army Air Forces—Pacific*, 18 minutes, showing development of air power to the time of the atomic annihilation of Nagasaki.

Three are produced by the Navy: *Voyage to Recovery*, 10 minutes; *The Fleet that Came to Stay*, 22 minutes; *Conquest of the Night*, 10 minutes. *Peace Comes To America*, produced by the Treasury Department, shows President Truman, Secretary Vinson, and others, and deals with the man-sized job ahead. One or more of these films will be special attractions at any extension or farm organization meeting. Write your State Extension Service for a copy, naming several choices. Your county war finance chairman will be able to help you locate a 16-millimeter sound projector.

# Wyoming postwar houses

ELLEN L. BRAMBLETT, Specialist in Home Management, Wyoming

■ Wyoming families anticipating peace started making plans for their postwar houses early this year. In some cases the plans are still in the dream stage, but in many others the houses have been drawn to scale.

homemakers' club programs last spring has been justified.

In Albany County, Mrs. Ruth Yarling, home demonstration agent, gave a demonstration concerning "The postwar house" in the clubs.



Careful planning and the use of native materials feature the Wyoming postwar housing program.

Lincoln County, where native materials for building are abundant, has evidenced a building boom among the dairy farmers ever since VE-day. Driving down the highway in the Star Valley area, near Afton, one may see basements already excavated, new structures started, and a few new houses completed.

Persons in other areas of Wyoming, not so fortunate from the standpoint of native lumber, have confined their efforts to making minor changes in their present houses and to the preparation of house plans for which they have been saving and planning during war years.

Now that peace is an actuality, the members of the homemakers' clubs in Laramie, Albany, and Big Horn Counties can feel that their study of house improvements made in their

The local leaders in Laramie and Big Horn Counties were trained to teach the same material in their own groups. In presenting this demonstration, an effort was made to en-



courage families to discern their housing needs by filling out a questionnaire. Help was given women in the techniques of making house plans.

The main aims of housing demonstrations is to lead the homemakers' clubs toward long-time housing programs and to suggest the possibilities of forming family groups who would study their own housing problems. Those families desiring either to remodel or build houses are encouraged to meet in groups under the direction of the Extension Service to make their detailed plans for improvements. The families study in groups such problems as kitchen planning, planning for storage space, and provisions for heating and insulation.

The Wyoming Extension Service has prepared bulletins to guide families in the development of better rural houses in the State. Those bulletins include How to Make a Kitchen Cabinet, a reprint from an article in The American Builder; Our Clothes Closets; Our Kitchen Plans; Space Savers for Your Kitchen; and Our House Plans. For the drawing-up of house plans, dotted form sheets have been printed.

■ A health and sanitation campaign has been started in the homes of 5-V Club girls of Venezuela to emphasize the importance of cleanliness. In addition, girls are being taught to make utensils and other conveniences from materials at hand. By working with the girls in their homes, the home demonstration agent can come better acquainted with home conditions and is able to enlist the interest of mothers in the girls' activities.



# Connecticut demonstrates sheep dipping

D. C. GAYLORD, Animal Husbandman, Connecticut Extension Service

■ Connecticut is not a commercial sheep State. Its sheep industry consists of numerous small farm flocks ranging in size from 20 to 30 head. But, whether the flocks are large or small, sheep need to be dipped to control external parasites. Until 1944 very few of Connecticut's sheep-owning farmers bothered to dip their animals. Perhaps they did not appreciate its importance, or perhaps they felt their flocks were too small a part of their farming operation to justify the necessary equipment and time.

On the assumption that the latter was the reason, the Connecticut Agricultural Extension Service and the Connecticut Sheep Breeders' Association last year cooperated on a program that enabled the extension animal husbandman to stage a sheep-dipping demonstration.

A metal dipping tank was mounted on a rubber-tired farm wagon to provide a portable outfit that could be used as a trailer on an automobile. The ramps and draining platform were made demountable. The draining platform was constructed to serve as a lid on the tank while it was traveling from farm to farm. A gate at one end of the discharge ramp keeps the sheep on the ramp for a few minutes to permit the solution to drain back into the tank. As neighboring farmers sometimes brought their sheep to the demonstrating farm, the discharge ramp was constructed so that the sheep could be loaded directly into a truck.

Rotenone was used as the dipping solution, with entirely satisfactory results. Flocks that were heavily infested with ticks in 1944 were free

of them this year with two exceptions. On one farm the owner had added undipped sheep to his flock, and on the other the flock was re-infected by a ewe that escaped from the dipping crew last year. In addition to its effectiveness, requiring but one dipping, the inexpensiveness of rotenone is another factor much in its favor.

Dipping demonstrations were given on 28 Connecticut farms in 1944. The cost to the farmer was 15 cents a head for 50 or more sheep, with a minimum charge of \$10 if fewer than 50 sheep were dipped. This year's experience indicated that the minimum charge is too high to encourage owners of particularly small flocks to use the dipping service. Flock owners were encouraged to bring in their sheep to a central farm to reduce the number of set-ups and the cost to the individual.

Whether the Extension Service will continue this demonstration work will depend upon the demand from flock owners and the extent that they are encouraged by the demonstrations to do their own dipping.

# School leaflets appeal to children

■ Cornell has a publication especially for rural school children, which reaches 65,000 of them. The Cornell Rural School Leaflet, now in its fiftieth year, carries the nature-study idea, in its broadest form, to about 22,000 teachers and their students in communities smaller than 4,500 throughout New York State. Several thousand additional leaflets go elsewhere—many of them to extension agents.

## For Children and Teachers

Four leaflets are published during each school year—3 for children and 1 for teachers. The teachers' number—a 64-page issue—gives suggestions on methods of teaching the year's program in nature study. The 32-page leaflets for children deal with biological and other subjects. Typical titles are *Waterways in Fall*, and *Creeping, Sprawling, Climbing Plants*. Since the war, the timely topic of how to live safely and healthfully under all sorts of conditions has characterized such leaflets as *Fibers*, *Pounding and*

*Cutting Tools*, *Let's Play Safe*, and *Mystery and Mastery of the Air*.

Language that is simple and informal is a prime requirement for the leaflets. "Picture-words" are preferred, and technical terms are always translated into some everyday equivalent.

Attractive appearance and a wealth of illustrations help to make the Rural School Leaflets appeal to children. Covers are usually designed by the college artists, and the emphasis is on beauty and simplicity. Unusually striking photographs of outdoor scenery, with harmoniously designed lettering superimposed, are favorites, judging by popular comment. The leaflets are in bulletin size, and the text is 10-point type generously leaded, which makes for easy reading.

Accompanying the teachers' number of the leaflet, issued at the opening of school in the fall, is a question sheet on which the teachers indicate the number of copies of the children's leaflets they will need. Distribution to teachers is based on lists of names

supplied by district superintendents or centralized-school principals.

Last year marked a half century of uninterrupted service by Cornell University to rural schools in the form of regularly issued publications for teachers and pupils. The present-day Rural School Leaflets are prepared under the supervision of Prof. E. Lawrence Palmer of the Department of Rural Education. Although most leaflets are written by Professor Palmer, many are written by other members of the Cornell staff or by persons outside the institution. The current number of the leaflet, *Cover*, which deals with the cultivation of wildlife on the farm, has some delightful cartoon illustrations drawn by a conservation-education expert. A recent leaflet that ran into an edition of 80,000 dealt with the wartime subject of collecting and cooking wild foods; it was written by Eva Gordon, instructor in rural education.—*Fatanitzza L. Schmidt*, assistant editor, *New York State College of Agriculture*.

# The farmers' part in industrialization

MORDECAI EZEKIEL, Economic Adviser  
and

A. J. BLUMBERG, Agricultural Economist  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

■ Full peacetime employment is not just around the corner. Yet full employment is necessary for farm prosperity. It means prices of farm products around parity levels and markets capable of absorbing a production somewhat above prewar levels. We have no assurance that full employment after the war will just happen. Thus, there is a need for providing new jobs in almost every village, town, and city. Most of these jobs must be in industry to prevent a post-war back-to-the-land movement which would be a real threat to satisfactory standards of living for both farmers and industrial workers. This business of providing nonfarm jobs is industrialization. It is what leads to full employment.

How can we provide the industrial jobs necessary for full employment? And what can farmers do? Part of the answer to these questions may be to apply the same methods farmers have already used in solving their own agricultural problems.

During the 1930's, in addition to emergency measures to combat depression, long-range steps were taken to achieve efficient use of the land. These steps and others were so successful that American agriculture was fully prepared to meet the test of the great war just ended. Now the problem is to prevent expanded production from becoming a troublesome surplus—surplus only in the sense that production in industries other than agriculture may not keep pace and provide the necessary markets.

How was efficient use of the land achieved? It was achieved with the technical help and guidance from the colleges, from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and, close at hand, from the county agents. Technology played its part. So did farmers through soil conservation districts and as members of county and community committees handling local administration of crop programs.

Now, new kinds of long-range steps are needed to provide for efficient use not only of land but also of all the people who want to work. There is an analogy between achieving the efficient use of land and achieving the efficient use of manpower. We can find answers in agricultural experience to the question, "How can efficient use of manpower be achieved?"

Three basic ideas underlay the agricultural programs which were developed during the depression. First, the spearhead groups were local committees of farmers. Other people working in agriculture were trying to help these local groups of farmers. Second, the farmers needed facts. They required the most up-to-date technical advice from our scientific laboratories. They also needed men in their county or in their State to explain and demonstrate these facts clearly. Third, they needed appropriate underlying national policies and programs because every county is an important part of one great nation, and all counties must work together for common objectives.

## Put Businessmen on Committees

Industrialization to use efficiently all the people who want to work also can be tackled by local committees who lead the way. These committees would not be composed exclusively of farmers. To accomplish this program, farmers must work together with the local businessman with whom they deal every day, with labor leaders, and with government officials. The benefits of full employment are for all, and achieving full employment requires the cooperation of all. Of course, getting together with neighbors to work out common problems is nothing new to our farmers. In addition to the many times our farmers have worked together with other farmers, they have worked with most of the local people on such dif-

icult problems as drafting young men for the armed services, rationing, and the local government itself.

Technical help and advice are needed. The facilities of our colleges and universities, of State organizations such as the planning boards, of Federal agencies as well as private organizations, can be brought to bear on this problem of postwar employment. These groups must help the local people find answers to these questions: "How many jobs should the community provide? What industries are suited to the local community? How much money is needed to start them? How can they be run efficiently so they can earn a profit for the owner?"

This technical help can be successful only if capital is available to start new industries and only if there is the necessary good management to run them. Frequently, it is true that there are already enough wartime savings in a given area to provide the investment needed for new local industries. If not, ways can be found to see that capital is made available at reasonably low interest rates. This is one place where a national policy and program can help.

## Get Effective Managers

Of course, it is most important to find effective managers or owners for the new industries, the establishment of which is stimulated by the local committees. In many cases, local men and women will themselves be able and willing to set up and run new enterprises. Many men with outstanding management ability have been forced out of business through wartime shortages. They will be available for business after the war. In addition, there is talent in the younger generation. The war has demonstrated that our youth, with the proper training, can do man-sized jobs. Boys hardly out of their teens have managed crews of 10 to 12 men on flights of Fortresses and Superfortresses, each worth about half a million dollars. And we know they did it effectively. Their buddies on the ground managed the maneuvers of companies and troops in complex operations. Others managed the intricate flow of war supplies from the factories to the battle fronts. Regular educational institutions deserve

much credit for starting and helping to develop these management skills. Now that the war is over, these same institutions can provide effective training for peacetime jobs.

What does this add up to? It adds up to a recognition that (1) farmers have a stake in creating jobs in their communities through industrialization; (2) they can help by participating in direct measures to create rural industries; (3) it is possible for local action to stimulate efficient use of

## Models show how labor can be saved

■ Sore backs and strained muscles are getting fewer and less painful in and around Bay County, Mich., because of the work that Albert Festerling, emergency farm labor assistant, and W. E. McCarthy, county agricultural agent, are doing to encourage use of labor-saving devices.

To more effectively show what home-made equipment can accomplish about the farmstead, an elaborate project of building and demonstrating models of labor-saving devices was set up last winter.

Says Mr. McCarthy: "The project seems to have awakened the people of the county to the fact that they, with a little initiative and perseverance, can construct right on their farms many things that will save them much time and labor in the future. Their imagination has been stimulated and is resulting in action. Two farmers have built improved potato seed cutters; another is adapting his potato digger for picking up beets from the windrow; others are building baled-hay elevators and other machines.

The project was Mr. McCarthy's idea. Says Mr. Festerling: "He called me into his office one morning early in December. I could tell by the twinkle in his eye that he had something up his sleeve. 'Albert, do you think you could make some models of the grain elevators and the buck rake that we have been telling folks about?'"

Mr. Festerling thought he could and went to work. The first few models aroused so much interest that others were made. Many hours of work have gone into a total of 10 working

manpower in much the same way that farmers organized to get efficient use of the land.

What does it add up to? It adds up to a realization that big businesses have the technical help they need whereas most of the people in or contemplating small businesses do not. It adds up to a homely recollection that a feed mill or broom factory back home may be as important to the local folks as the automobile plants are to Detroit.

models. They are: Inclined grain elevator, vertical grain elevator, transport sweep rake and power lift, rat trap, chick brooder, pig brooder, power saw, gutter cleaner, grain bag holder, and drill press. The elevators were built full size except for length.

These labor-saving devices have been demonstrated at 18 meetings in various parts of Bay County before a total audience of 1,497. They were also shown at 4 meetings outside of Bay County with 815 attending.

Mr. Festerling is realistic when he puts on his demonstrations. He shows each machine in operation and even goes so far as to actually catch a rat in the rat trap. (Where he procures the rat each time at the right moment, he doesn't explain.) Details of each machine and its construction are pointed out, and interested farmers are told where they can get materials and how much they cost. Models have also been displayed in store windows, and considerable work has been done with Future Farmers of America chapters in the county.

■ Sheep flock improvement work in Griggs County, N. Dak., is getting a big boost through the operations of Gordon Hanson, former 4-H Club member.

Hanson became interested in sheep in connection with his club activities. Now he is running a traveling sheep-dipping tank and doing custom dipping for tick control throughout the county, according to George Simons, county extension agent. He expected to dip more than 5,000 head for sheep owners of the county.

## Teacher-agent association active

■ Much is being done to promote a unified and cooperative farm program in Polk County, Wis., through the Agricultural Teachers-County Agents Association.

This association is composed of the agricultural teachers of the county, the county agent, the county home demonstration agent, and the secretary of the extension office.

The members meet at a dinner once a month and talk over administrative problems of vocational education and extension and then enjoy a social hour. Wives and husbands of members also attend. The monthly dinners are rotated from place to place where the association has members. Dinners of this kind have been held each month, beginning in 1935.

County Agent Earle Sanford says the organization and monthly dinners serve to tie together the whole county farm program. For instance, when the labor-saving machinery and safety caravan visited the county earlier this year, the agricultural teachers helped obtain local exhibits. They also helped in the sheep-dipping project.

Sanford says that when there is an over-all agricultural job to do, it has been found that if everyone joins in united effort more can be done than through individual efforts. For example, if the county agent wants something done at Milltown, he calls the agricultural teacher there, and he helps out.

The association dinners also provide a means for an exchange of information and new bulletins on agricultural matters. They serve to keep the members posted on what is going on. At times, speakers are invited to address the association on topics of current interest such as soil conservation and Bang's disease control and laws.

The association expects to have the county agricultural committee attend one of its dinners this year. It will also have a dinner for high school principals and local officials of Government agencies such as land bank, Farm Security Administration, and production credit association.

# Education offers hope for West Africa

T. M. CAMPBELL, Field Agent, Extension Service

"Mr. Campbell's long experience with Negro farmers in the South gave him an insight into the problems of African life, especially those relating to the production of food crops," wrote Dr. Jackson Davis of the General Education Board to Director Wilson after Mr. Campbell's return. This, the second of two articles, gives his impressions of the Africans and their needs.

■ During our 6 months' stay in Africa, we traveled more than 10,000 miles by plane, train, automobile, truck, boat, hammock, and on foot. The time was divided among Liberia, Belgian Congo, French Cameroun, Nigeria, Gold Coast, and Sierra Leone. We covered much space in a short time because we traveled from one territory to another by plane.

My part in the survey dealt mainly with trying to find out what progress was being made by the African people in food production as fostered by the Colonial Governments and the various missionary societies; to study methods used by the African farmers in preparing their soil, planting and cultivating their crops; to visit research centers and experiment stations and get information on how solutions to farm problems are being passed on to the native African; and, without sampling too much of the native diet, to learn something of African food habits in regard to health and nutrition.

## Visits Thousands of Workers

We saw thousands of Africans at work on highways, railroads, docks, in cotton factories, lumber mills, communication lines, on small farms, large rubber, palm oil, cocoa, and coffee plantations, and in coal and tin mines. In fact, practically all the work in trades—semi-skilled and skilled, civil service and common labor—is done by the African under Colonial and native Government control.

We went into hospitals where male nurses and medical assistants were being trained for civil and military duties. We visited many schools where students are being taught vocational and literary subjects, also agri-

culture and a little home economics. Because of the scarcity of girls attending schools in all West Africa home economics was minimized. We visited classes in native music and art. We saw the development of crafts—weaving, dyeing, pottery, brick making, wood carving, canoe building and work in leather, iron, gold, and silver. We also visited many churches. In all these endeavors—religious, social, and economic, we found enough being done to prove conclusively that it is possible to lift these people out of their present low state of civilization.

## Disease Declimates Population

The high death rate is making fearful inroads on the African population caused by diseases such as malaria, typhoid, yellow fever, tropical ulcers, yaws, syphilis, leprosy, and sleeping sickness. Mosquitoes, carriers both of malaria and yellow fever, are still West Africa's public enemy No. 1. The great variety of food products, wild and cultivatable, in Africa, if properly grown and used, would go a long way toward making a stronger and more vigorous people. One limiting factor in the African's food production, however, is his wholesale use of primitive tools. Practically all of his farming is done with the short-handled hoe, the machete, and the ax. This practice is sometimes referred to as "hand-head" farming, because he rarely grows larger quantities than he can carry on his head; or perhaps I should say "she" because the women do so much of the subsistence farming.

The Christian missions have done, and are doing, an excellent job in Africa, although their work has been primarily concerned with religious education. If the missions would bal-



Traveling in a "unicycle" in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo.

ance this with a stronger course in agriculture and home economics, as we know and practice it here in Extension Service, their program would be essentially complete, except to add sufficient personnel for operation. Apparently the time is ripe in some of the territories for integrating trained American Negro workers among missions and government staffs.

There is also a crying need for trained African leadership in the fields of agriculture, home economics, medicine, nursing, and country or village school teaching. These agricultural leaders should teach the people to raise enough food for family or village use and a surplus for sale. The home economics group should teach the people how, what, and when to eat—in other words, a balanced diet. The services of doctors and nurses should be available to all the people in towns, villages, and in the "bush." Of course all of these agencies will need the strong support of government and church in order to do their best work.

## African Eager for Education

Some of the principal farm products of West Africa are bananas, cassava, citrus, cocoa, coffee, copra, cotton, kola-nut, ginger, ground nuts (peanuts), maize (corn), peas, beans, palm oil, sweetpotatoes, rice, sugarcane, wheat, gum arabic, kapoc, piassava, raffia, rubber, sesame, lumber, beeswax and honey, bacon, cat-

tle, dairy products, sheep and goats, hides and skins, and fish. Some of the minerals are bauxite, chrome, coal, columbite, diamonds, gold, iron ore, manganese, platinum, tin, and tungsten.

Cattle can be raised only in certain areas because of the prevalence of the tsetse fly which spreads the dreaded sleeping sickness disease, killing both cattle and human beings. This condition prevents large groups of Africans, living in infested areas, from getting any milk to drink.

The African's interest in education has been greatly increased. Large numbers of colonial soldiers who have been in other countries have seen the progress that is being made by other people. Upon their return they not only are unwilling to settle down into their old humdrum way of living, but they are literally clamoring for higher standards. Thus the colonial and native governments and also the mission boards are faced with problems of providing better houses, food, clothing, health, employment, education, and recreation for the native population.

I have come to the conclusion that the only hope for Africa and its people is education along broad lines.

T. M. Campbell crossing a stream in Liberia on a raft.



This was evidenced in a statement made by Sir Hubert Stevenson, Governor of Sierra Leone, in his address before a large group of Africans composed of students, soldiers, and civilians celebrating "Empire Day" at Freetown, February 23, 1945, when he said: "When the war is won all must play their part in trying to improve the lot of their fellow men and women. In your schools you have the opportunity of preparing yourselves to play your part by learning how to conquer ignorance, disease, and oppression, and how to serve others."

#### Completes 30,000-mile Trip

We completed our work in West Africa, flew from Sierra Leone to England, and made verbal reports of our findings to the mission boards in London and Edinburgh. (While in London I was fortunate, thanks to the U. S. Army, in seeing two of our children then serving in the armed forces in England and France.) We sailed from Liverpool by boat to New York, landing there March 30, and made a similar report to the North American Mission Board. And so ended the trip of more than 30,000 miles to West Africa.

## 4-H corn-borer scouts

Five 4-H Club members represented 4-H Clubs of their counties in the corn-borer training schools conducted in Iowa by Harold Gunderson, extension entomologist. The boys were trained in recognizing the European corn borer so they could act as 4-H corn-borer scouts. During the year, they will make three surveys in one field on their farms. The first was made September 15 to determine the population going into the winter. The second will be made in December after corn picking to find out the percentage of borers killed by mechanical pickers, by pasturing with livestock, and by birds. The final one will be made in April of next year to determine the winter mortality. Four farmers in each county took the same training as the boys, and they will survey the corn-borer infestation in each of several hybrids planted in five observation plots on their farms to get data on the relative resistance or tolerance of these varieties to attack by corn borers.

## Livestock conservation day

Livestock conservation days throughout Iowa during March and April wound up the 1944-45 4-H cattle grub control program. Tabulations of the 7 district meetings show that nearly 100,000 cattle have been treated for cattle grubs through the 4-H boys' campaign work.

Reports also show that the cattle grub control work was widespread. More than 2,000 club members were active in the campaign, and at least 500 demonstrations were given. Nearly 25,000 pounds of rotenone dust were sold in Iowa for cattle grub control use.

Iowa packing companies cooperated with the Iowa Extension Service and the State 4-H Clubs in sponsoring the livestock conservation program.

Awards within each district were made to the club in each county with the best cattle grub control program, to the counties within each district showing outstanding accomplishments in cattle grub work, and to the best individual or team demonstrating in each district.

# What is the community made of?

J. DOUGLAS ENSMINGER, In Charge, Rural Sociology Extension Work,  
Federal Extension Service

■ What should you know about the rural community to understand how it works and how to adapt an educational program to its interests and needs?

When working with rural communities you can generally depend on the fact that people are already organized to do what they think needs to be done. Their organization may not be entirely effective, but it is there.

The way people are organized will vary greatly. In some communities the best way to get acceptance of programs is through the informal patterns which are present in every community. In others the church, as it functions in a Spanish-American community, or the local town meeting, as found in New England, may be the medium through which people reach decisions on matters of concern to themselves.

A safe warning would be: Wherever possible, use—do not compete with, these established organizations if you want community cooperation.

## Community Must "Accept" Leaders

Most communities also have a status system. In working with rural communities it is necessary to know what groups there are and the relative importance of each. Frequently the dominant group has no name, no set of officers, no official meetings. The community has its own labels for its groups, such as "the four hundred," "the village people," "the old families," "landowners," "tenants," and the like. In communities where these groupings are present, one's social status is determined by such things as sex, race or nationality, economic dependence, occupation, length of residence, and family background.

If the cooperation of a given group is to be obtained, then positions of local responsibility must fall upon individuals whom the others in the community "accept."

To illustrate, in the usual Pennsylvania community there is little heredi-

tary class structure. In a New England community economic factors, family descent, and long residence make for group differences.

There are accepted ways of obtaining the cooperation of people.

From the point of view of an educator who is seeking to change or influence the thinking and behavior of people toward a new program one must know what pressures the people of the community customarily bring to bear to promote conformity and to lessen nonconformity. In some communities, people resort to gossip, gestures of disapproval or condemnation of nonconforming individuals, and for rewards offer praise, public recognition, and election to office.

## Use Existing Social Controls

In evaluating the importance of social pressure, remember that almost any new organizational effort or program will excite some opposition. By knowing what positive controls operate within the community, you can often counteract or nullify certain negative pressures. Social control is not undemocratic but rather is necessary in every form of social organization.

Your challenge is to recognize and use the desirable means of social control in gaining acceptance for your educational program.

Qualities desired in leaders vary from community to community and even from activity to activity.

Much talk about leadership misses the mark because it assumes that an individual possesses certain so-called "leadership traits" and will automatically function as a leader wherever he may be placed. Our observations in hundreds of communities support the fact that there are no leadership traits that hold good in all communities or in all situations within any one community.

To gain community acceptance, leaders hold the key. Know and work closely with leaders who can obtain acceptance of the people in the educational program.

Every community has its social values. If you know what the people in a given community consider the most important things in life, then you know their social values.

What does this have to do with educational programs? People are going to evaluate educational programs in keeping with their own scale of values. If you represent something the community considers important, then all the weight of tradition and group sentiment will be behind you. If, on the other hand, your educational program has little connection with what they consider important, then you are in for a difficult time. The successful way to approach the community would be to so define your educational program that it would tie in directly with the primary social values of the area.

The values of a certain North Dakota community are security, family status, home relations, religion, neighborliness, education for living, good citizenship, and personal industry. For a certain Idaho community, they are religion, large families, ownership of land, and desire for security.

Be sure in your approach that your educational program is associated with some of the outstanding values of the community in which you wish to work.

## Test plots valuable

Cooperative test plots to check yields and adaptability of forage and grain crops have been established in 60 Iowa counties. Sponsored by the local county extension agent and the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, these plots not only provide valuable data for the station but give farmers an opportunity to observe the characteristics of the crops included in the plots.

These demonstration plots are the site of meetings once or twice during the year. This summer, twilight sessions have been popular. Farmers are invited to assemble at 7:30. The county agent, and frequently an agronomist, is present to discuss the characteristics, breeding, and culture of the crops included in the plot and to answer other agronomic questions that arise.

# We Study Our Job

## What is the function of the result demonstration?

Extension field studies have indicated that approximately 20 percent of the county agricultural agents' time is spent on result demonstrations, and that the direct influence of adult result demonstrations bears a negative rather than a positive relationship to total extension accomplishments.

The county statistical reports present another angle. In 1944, over 29 percent of the counties reporting county agricultural extension work showed no result demonstrations; 13 percent showed result demonstrations but no meetings at such demonstrations; 57 percent showed that they held such meetings; but only 25 percent of the result demonstrations established were used for meeting purposes.

A comparison of figures for the last 3 years with those of the previous 3 years show that the number of counties reporting result demonstrations decreased 25 percent and the percentage reporting meetings at result demonstrations decreased from 74 percent to 57 percent.

The above findings raise the following questions:

1. *When are result demonstrations necessary to the carrying out of the extension program?*
2. *Where result demonstrations are established how should they be used?*
3. *What percentage of the county agricultural agent's time should be devoted to result demonstrations.*

## Handbook for Extension secretaries

This publication was intended especially for secretaries in county agents' offices but now is regarded as an exceptionally practical handbook for the use of secretaries in all extension offices and other USDA offices as well.

It was developed as a result of a nationwide study of the home demon-

stration agents' use of time, conducted by Mary L. Collings and reported in the January, March, and July issues of the REVIEW. The study brings out the office management problems of home agents. There has been a frequent turn-over among office workers and the agents need assistance in training secretaries to understand the extension job. It was thought that some help could be given through an office manual.

Credit for the authorship of this secretaries' handbook goes jointly to the USDA Office of Personnel and the Extension Service. To get well-rounded information, Mrs. Audrey Johndreau of the Division of Training, Office of Personnel, visited both State and county professional and clerical staffs. Based on their suggestions, Mrs. Johndreau prepared this manual in cooperation with Miss Collings of the Extension Service.

You will find it interesting and readable. It is as easy to read as, for example, the Farm Journal or the Saturday Evening Post.

## Readability

Some extension publications from nearly every State have been tested for readability in the Federal Extension office. In all, more than 2,000 random samples have been analyzed by a readability formula. Half of the samples checked out high school and college levels. About 40 percent were on a reading level that seventh and eighth graders can understand. Less than 10 percent of the samples were readable for people with less than seven grades of schooling.

The type of subject matter seems to influence reading difficulty. Most of the home economics material analyzed checked out easier than the agricultural material. Two-thirds of the samples analyzed in economic publications from 24 States were above the eighth grade level. A study of gardening information from 32 States showed more than half the samples below the eighth grade level.

Five garden publications that checked out from sixth to seventh grade levels are: Connecticut Garden

Primer, Maryland 4-H Garden Primer, Nevada 4-H Club Garden Book, Mississippi Year-Round Home Garden, and North Carolina Garden Guide.

Some other extension publications that checked out very easy are: Raising poultry the 4-H Way, Wisconsin Circular 47; Spot the Loafers in Your Flock—different versions put out by Minnesota, North Carolina and Wisconsin; Mr. Farmer, Can You Use This Boy? Illinois Circular 571; Wartime Shoes, Alabama Circular 278; Making Movements Count in Picking Tomatoes, Indiana Leaflet 258; Suggestions to Peach Pickers, Washington Circular 66; and How to Block and Thin Sugar Beets, Michigan Extension Folder F-82, which was put out in English, Spanish and German editions.

Other States putting out extension publications in different languages are Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, New Mexico, Ohio, and South Dakota.

## Lay leadership research

Federal and State extension workers have made many studies of the organization, functions, and effectiveness of local or project leaders and neighborhood leaders in all parts of the country. The most important findings in 57 of these studies have been brought together in Extension Service Circular 428, LAY LEADERSHIP IN THE EXTENSION SERVICE, by Lucinda Crile, Federal Extension Service. Data from the annual statistical reports of county extension workers are also included.

## 4-H demonstration plots

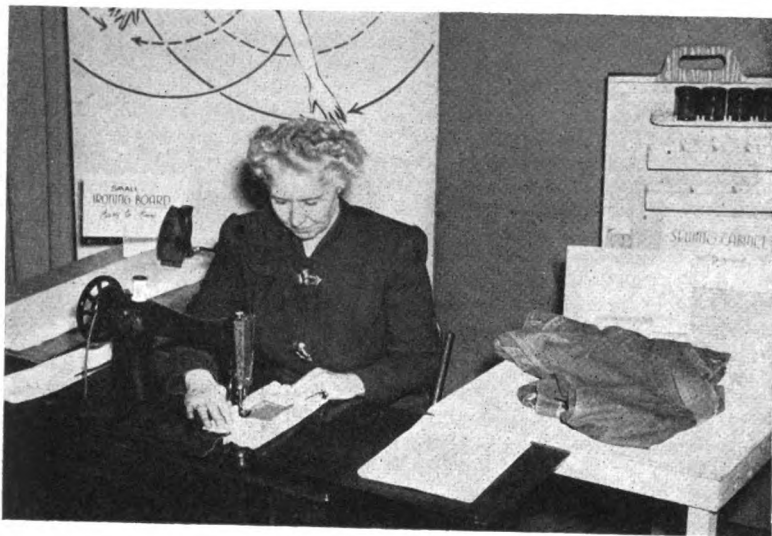
Four crop variety demonstrations in widely separated parts of Burleigh County, N. Dak., have been planted by 4-H Club members, says Martin Altenburg, county extension agent. The Bismarck Lions Club is cooperating with the 4-H'ers.

Eighteen different varieties of small grains were planted side by side, in 10-foot drill widths, in all the 4-H demonstration plots, according to County Agent Altenburg.

# Labor-saving caravan shows to 60,000 people

■ "My husband just barely waited to get back home before starting to build a labor-saving device he had seen at the labor-saving caravan show."

The exhibits were assembled at Madison by members of the Extension Service under the direction of Arlie Mucks, State supervisor of emergency farm labor. The display was in-



A continuous demonstration of the "One-minute" patch made the homemakers' exhibit a center of interest for both men and women.

This incident reported by a farmer's wife occurred when the family visited the farm and home labor-saving caravan which toured 53 Wisconsin counties early last spring. The caravan of labor-saving devices was employed by the Extension Service as a means of demonstrating ways in which farmers and their wives could save hours of time and back-breaking work.

Every piece of equipment shown in the caravan was a device that could be made at home with materials at hand or with the help of the local blacksmith. Extension specialists accompanied the caravan on its entire tour, giving demonstrations and answering questions.

The interest aroused by the caravan and the benefit derived from the exhibits may be measured to some extent by the fact that 45 Wisconsin counties featured home-made labor-saving devices at their county fairs.

creased at most places by local farmers and their wives who had other handy devices to add to the list. The tour was started with about 100 separate items showing improved devices for such jobs as haying, handling grain, poultry raising, livestock feeding, kitchen and laundry improvements and hints for installation of building improvements. The exhibits were hauled from county to county on trailers and trucks.

The displays in the 53 counties were viewed by more than 60,000 visitors. Local county and home demonstration agents made all local arrangements, planned publicity, assisted with setting up exhibits, arranged for lunch service, provided local leaders to assist with loading and unloading exhibits, putting on demonstrations, answering questions, and getting the participation of farmers and homemakers.

Extension representatives were on

hand to answer questions regarding the labor-saving or safety features of the machinery or devices.

In the heavy machinery section, interest seemed to center around the tractor mounted buck rake, the wood-splitting machine, hay hoist, and barn cleaner.

Among the simpler labor-saving devices which brought many comments were a steel barrel split lengthwise used as a dipping tank, a sack filler using a pail with the bottom cut out, a two-wheeled cart to help in hanging out clothes, a feed cart, a milk can carrier, a sack carrier made out of an old lawn mower, and a home-made lime spreader.

The quick milking demonstration was observed by thousands of enthusiastic farmers from 10 a. m. until afternoon chore time.

Big machines and little gadgets were shown by farmers themselves in every county the caravan visited. Exhibits showing ingenuity of farmers included a home-made wood splitter which split wood any standard stove length just as fast as a man could pile it, a hand saw and sender, a tree cutter that cut 20 trees per hour, an open-end hay wagon rack that would crank half a load of hay to the front after the loader filled the back half, a device for rolling wire on a stone boat, lime and fertilizer sower, electric cellar pump, fence post puller, electric post-hole digger, sheep-dipping tank, stock feeder, and a garden cultivator.

A special section of the exhibit was devoted to ways in which women can save time in the farm home. Exhibits were designed to suggest easier ways of doing four big jobs—laundering, meal preparation, sewing, and caring for children.

A model of a kitchen cabinet showed a good organization of materials for mixing and baking. A work table on wheels, handy for setting or clearing the table, canning or other kitchen tasks, had a top covered with linoleum.

On the theory that good posture makes work easier, a device for checking proper working heights was demonstrated. Other exhibits included ways of adjusting ironing boards for height and width and of correcting heights of tables and other working surfaces.



Homemakers crowded the sewing center all day where continuous demonstrations were given of methods for putting on a patch by using the sewing machine. Another interesting display for women showed convenient grouping of sewing machine, cutting table, pressing board, and sewing cabinet to bring everything needed within easy reach.

#### Safety Quiz Added Entertainment

A safety quiz program created interest and excitement during different periods throughout the day at every exhibit. Attendants who answered questions correctly received a silver dollar as a prize.

The large number of requests for plans and blueprints for the equipment shown on the caravan indicated the interest in the models displayed. More than 7,000 signed requests for designs, and plans were mailed. About 340 plans for buck rakes were sent out, 316 for hay hoists, 250 for

silage carts, 230 for orchard ladders, and instructions for making laundry carts and other equipment displayed in the homemaking section were sent out.

There were no long speeches and nothing to buy or sell. Farmers were permitted to study equipment at their leisure with the help of extension specialists, homemakers, 4-H Club leaders, Farm Security personnel, vocational agricultural and home economics instructors.

In an editorial entitled "Professors, Take a Bow" a leading State paper made the following comments: . . . "the university's demonstration of labor and time savers . . . ought to remind both town and city folks of the debt they owe to the colleges of agriculture all over America and to the professors and research assistants and field demonstration men. Because of their constant search . . . the depleted manpower on America's farms has been able to keep the Nation's larder from exhaustion."

## Jewell, Lurkins, and Walker retire

■ A total of 76 years of service to Michigan agriculture is represented in the combined careers of three county agricultural agents whose retirements were effective October 1. They are Donald B. Jewell, Benzie County; Harry J. Lurkins, Berrien County; and Lee Roy Walker, Marquette County.

Mr. Jewell has been a county agent for 24 years, having served in Cheboygan, Antrim, Tuscola, Benzie, and Leelanau Counties. He is a graduate of Michigan State College, class of 1901. Before his appointment to the extension staff in 1921, he had taught in an agricultural school in Minnesota and had been a field man for a canning company. Perhaps no other person in the Michigan Extension Service is a greater lover of the out-of-doors, particularly of hunting and fishing. His level-headed ability to appraise a situation objectively and realistically was recently praised by Dr. Floyd Reeves of the University of Chicago, also Michigan State College consultant.

Mr. Lurkins joined the extension staff in 1916 as county agent in Ber-

rien County and served continuously in that county, with the exception of 7 years when he was manager of a Benton Harbor canning company and a St. Joseph fruit cooperative. In commenting on the news of his retirement, an editorial writer of the St. Joseph Herald-Press said: ". . . there are few, if any, agricultural agents in the United States who have a greater understanding and knowledge of farming in all its aspects . . . To Harry Lurkins must go a great share of the credit for Berrien County's position as one of the richest and most productive agricultural areas in the world today." Because of the great storehouse of facts regarding Berrien County that Mr. Lurkin carries in his mind, he has never failed to astonish his friends with his almost uncanny ability to visualize every nook and cranny of the county—even the details of hundreds of farms.

Mr. Walker has the distinction of being the only county agent in Marquette County since the beginning of extension work in the State. His 30 years of continuous service to that county is unique, according to C. V.

Ballard, county agricultural agent leader. Such a record has never been equaled in the history of the Michigan Extension Service. His appointment as county agricultural agent was effective July 1, 1915, just after he had been graduated from Michigan State College. Prior to entering college he taught school for several years and also taught while completing his college work.

To quote Director R. J. Baldwin: ". . . these individuals made 'extension' their life work. They gave many of their active years to the advancement of rural living.

"The occasion brings to mind the early years when the effort was first made to inspire young men and women to embark on extension work as a career. At first many looked upon the new service as a stepping stone to other positions. Some used it as such, later going into teaching, business, farming, homemaking, or other vocations. The average term of service is still relatively short when all records are taken into account.

"However, the histories of these agents who have reached the age of retirement prove that extension work can be made a career and a profession. They have said that their work brought to them great and enduring satisfactions. They have expressed the belief that extension is a profession offering opportunities to know many people intimately and to influence their growth and development. While the first responsibility is to agriculture, they feel that no profession offers greater opportunity to contribute to the advancement of the general welfare.

"The Extension Service extends congratulations to these members who are retiring from official duties. High achievement marks the record of each one throughout many years of faithful, conscientious effort. All who have worked with them will echo the verdict, 'Well done.'"

■ Officers of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors elected to serve during the coming year are: President, L. L. Longsdorf, Kansas; vice president, C. R. Elder, Iowa; secretary-treasurer and editor of the ACE, T. W. Gildersleeve; executive committee members, Marjorie Arbour, Louisiana, and E. H. Rohrbeck, Pennsylvania.



## Extension agents in the armed forces

Nineteen 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.

### Extension in southwest Pacific

Last spring, Sgt. Evans Banbury and Lt. John B. Hanna, county agents in Sherman and Butler Counties, Kans., respectively, were meeting twice weekly for evening classes somewhere in the Netherlands East Indies.

Sergeant Banbury wrote, May 27, as follows: "John and I go to a couple of classes to have something to do in the evenings. Otherwise, nothing but a few shows and the usual card games are available for amusement. Although both meetings have been interesting, one especially has turned out to be very much worth while. It consists of panel discussions, or more nearly round-table discussions, on various agricultural topics. Some of the topics to which we have devoted a 2-hour discussion are: Livestock production, feeds and the feeding of livestock, crop production, crop rotations, soil conservation practices, farm management, poultry raising and management, forestry land available for homestead, land reclamation, farm insurance, and several others. . .

"John usually acts as chairman, and both of us have taken the main discussion on the panel for several of the topics. Don't get me wrong and think that we furnish the bulk of the information presented, for we have specialists in nearly every line attending. There are SCS men, vocational agriculture teachers, horticulturists, real estate men, insurance salesmen, and many others with practical farm experience who have contributed their

part to the discussions. . . To be able to talk about things in which we are particularly interested and to get away from the regular routine gives us a lot of relaxation."

### Co-ops in France

Recently I had an opportunity to visit and study the operations of a cooperative organization of farmers who produce grapes for wine production. It was of considerable interest to me because of our association with farm cooperatives over a long period of years. LaCave Cooperative de Gaillac, at Gaillac, Tarn Department, was founded in 1903 by the monks of the Abbaye St. Michel and has been operating successfully ever since. This wine cooperative now has 850 members. The juice is pressed from the grapes by Kach members at home and brought to the plant for processing into wine and for cooperative sale of the finished product which is bottled into both natural and sparkling wine. The producer is paid a substantial advance at time of delivery of his juice. The profits from the sale of the crop are eventually divided among the members in proportion to deliveries.

The affairs of the cooperative are administered by a board of 12 members who are elected annually. Of course this board employs a director to handle the plant and the business. To qualify for membership one must own or operate a vineyard and purchase at least one share of stock, with the stock requirement depending on the size of the individual's vineyard.

The Co-op now has 2,800,000 francs of capital stock (50 francs to the dollar) which furnishes adequate money reserves to carry wine stocks for several years for proper aging. The stock usually pays the members 3 percent to 4 percent dividends a year. In order to retain membership in the organization each member is required to deliver a minimum amount of grape juice, depending on the size of his vineyard. The annual capacity of the plant is 100,000 hectoliters, which is some "Oh be joyful."—*Capt. Claude W. Davis, formerly district agent, Louisiana.*

### Calling all clothing specialists

Ens. Paul H. Sindt, York County agent, Nebraska, has written from the Southwest Pacific that he left the States early in November, passed by Pearl Harbor without stopping, past the Johnson Islands, through the Marshalls to Eniwetok, on to the Carolines to Ulithi, and then on to Kossol in the Palau group. He said: "Our port now isn't bad—fairly large and a good beach to go onto. They have an officers' club that is along the beach. . . . We should have some of the clothing specialists come down here and attempt to hold a style show among the natives. We don't see them very often, but they come by the ship occasionally in their sail rigs. Their attire runs all the way from nothing up to a full regalia of a big felt hat, GI shirt, and maybe a red skirt, which of course the men wear. The women apparently stay at home most of the time. They really get their money's worth out of a cigarette. One day a bunch came by with what was apparently a community cigarette, for they passed it down the line, each one taking a few drags off it until it had gone to about six or seven of them."

## Grain schools

Seven grain schools conducted in North Dakota the last week in June gave special attention to barley problems, says L. A. Jensen, State agronomist. Grading factors of hard and durum wheats also were taken up.

Cooperating with the Extension Service in conducting the schools were the Northwest Crop Improvement Association and the Federal Grain Supervision Office, Minneapolis. Agronomist Jensen and Dr. F. Gray Butcher, entomologist and plant pathologist, were in charge for the Extension Service, together with local county agents.

Varieties, market grading, diseases, insects, and other problems were discussed and demonstrated. About 50 elevator managers and farmers were in attendance at each school.

## Payment made on postwar house

The Antioch home demonstration club members of Johnson County, Ark., have made another payment on their clubhouse—the one they are going to build after the war, reports Jessie M. Mitchell, county home demonstration agent.

They started their money-making campaign with a "floating bazaar." They donated staple groceries and canned food to fill a basket. This basket was passed from neighbor to neighbor for 2 weeks. Each woman who received the basket took out whatever she wanted, paid for it, and added something from her pantry shelves to the basket. Through these donations, the basket was kept filled, and the housewife who had an extra supply of some food shared with her neighbors. A tin can labeled with a picture of a war bond cut from the cover of a magazine was the money pot in the basket. All items left in the basket were sold at a club meeting for \$2.28. When the can was opened, it contained \$29.18, making a total of \$31.46.

To supplement this amount, the club sponsored a community box supper. Mrs. Robert Stumbaugh auctioned the boxes and set a ceiling price of \$1.50 on them. But the last box became involved in the black market and sold for \$4. The 20 boxes brought \$32.50. After the sale, the box lunches were spread together

for a picnic. Cold drinks sold at the picnic brought \$2.20, and a bingo stand yielded \$5.

The money from the box supper and picnic and the \$31.46 from the floating bazaar made enough, with a slight addition, for the purchase of a \$100 bond.

## 4-H Club stages war bond show

The Shikoma #33 4-H boys and girls of Ramsey County, Minn., staged a radio war bond show at their school. The admission was "Buy a War Stamp"; and everybody—Grandpa and little sister and all the neighbors—came out to see the "radio" folks perform. 4-H'ers played the parts of well-known radio characters; and they did the best show the 4-H Club has ever given, so the old-timers say. Enough war stamps were bought to exchange for a \$25 war bond which the club is adding to its post-war treasury. This treasury already includes several bonds obtained through club benefit programs.

Mrs. Victor Fitch is chairman of the 4-H leaders' committee. She has been leader at Shikoma for 19 years, having previously been a 4-H leader at Gladstone. Other 4-H leaders are Mrs. J. Tucci, Mrs. A. J. Linda, Mrs. Harry Belchere, Mrs. R. O. Holmberg, and Mrs. Peter Buesing.

The Shikoma 4-H Club has never been reorganized in 19 years and boasts a very large alumni 4-H group, with a large number of 4-H'ers in the armed forces. Such things as the war bond show and the numerous programs of service to the community and to themselves have kept the Shikoma 4-H Club way out in front.

Mrs. Fitch was recently proclaimed "The Woman of the Week" on the Star Spangled Action Radio Program on WMIN in recognition of her devoted service to youth and to the community.

## 4-H Clubs study forest acre

"You can eat your cake and have it, too," said J. J. Carruth, of Summit, Pike County, Miss., when 200 4-H Club boys and girls attended a timber-cutting demonstration on his woodland. Mr. Carruth "ate the cake" when he selectively cut his

timber and got more cash for it than he had been offered for all the trees together. But the cash gain is only part of the story. Instead of the destroyed forest he would have had by clear-cutting his woodland, he has a fine growing stand of timber left after the selective cutting. Sixty percent of the trees are still standing and are growing better because the ax was laid to 40 percent. Mr. Carruth left an acre on the highway as a demonstration plot, and 4-H Club boys and girls of Pike and Lincoln Counties were invited there for a lesson in good cutting practices, under the direction of County Agent James H. Price.

## What farmers want to buy

About one farmer in four is looking forward to the time when he can buy a tractor or some other piece of farm machinery, according to answers of representative farmers in a recent survey made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Almost as many expect to buy automobiles or trucks with some of their war-time savings.

Next to new machinery, the farmers said they want new home furnishings, improvements to the farm home and other buildings, and electric current and equipment. Some who do not own farms said they intend to buy land.

## Leaders' council takes charge

The Los Angeles County 4-H Club Camp last summer, in the San Bernardino Mountains, was in charge of the County 4-H Leaders' Council, which took actual control of all activities. With 280 boys and girls and their leaders there, it was a big job, reports Arthur Barton, in charge of 4-H Club work in the county; but it has proved of great value in developing ability in leadership. Recreation activities were built around a phase of the club program that is a part of every club meeting throughout the year. The practical training given can readily be used by the leader in his own club. Instruction is also given in forestry, nature study, swimming, farm safety, and handicraft.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Rewards for scientists.** Many scientists toil unrewarded in their laboratories year after year; and it is heartening to know that once in a while public recognition, and even cash prizes, come their way. The City of Philadelphia has awarded the John Scott Medal to Lyle D. Goodhue, chemist in the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, and William N. Sullivan, former bureau entomologist, now Captain, U. S. Army. The joint award, consisting of a copper medal and a premium of \$1,000, was in recognition of their work in developing insecticidal aerosols.

John Scott, a chemist of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1816, bequeathed to the City of Philadelphia the sum of \$4,000, the income of which was to be "laid out in premiums to be distributed among ingenious men and women who make useful inventions." This is the eighty-ninth award made since 1920 for inventions in the development of chemical, medical, or other science or of industry, the test being that it may add to the comfort, welfare, and happiness of mankind. Recipients include Mme. Marie Curie (1921) for the discovery of radium, Orville Wright (1925) for the development of flying machines, Thomas A. Edison (1929) for numerous inventions, and Sir Alexander Fleming (1944) for the discovery of penicillin. This is the first time the award has been made for an invention relating to insect control. It indicates both the value of the discovery and the wide interest in insect-control problems.

The aerosol "bomb", now well known as a dispenser of insecticides in liquefied gas that becomes a fine mist or fog when released, has been of great value in protecting allied troops from annoying insect pests and in reducing the incidence of insect-borne diseases. By the close of the war, more than 35 million aerosol bombs had been supplied to the armed

forces. Improvements are still being made, and the aerosol method of applying insecticides is expected eventually to become available for some civilian uses.

■ **Rogues' gallery of parasites.** Would you like to know what parasite is making your livestock or your pet animal sick? You can find everything but its telephone number in the directory of 100,000 kinds of animal parasites known as the Index-Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology. This is a card catalog kept at the Bureau of Animal Industry's zoological laboratory at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md. It was started more than 50 years ago and is still growing as science learns more about parasites and methods to control them. The catalog now includes more than 1,047,600 entries in 3 main sections, one for the parasites themselves, one for the host animals, and one for the scientists who reported their observations.

A person wishing to identify a parasite from any part of the world and knowing the host goes to the host section of the catalog to see what parasites have been reported for that host. He then searches the parasite section for descriptions and illustrations to help him identify the parasite in question. In this section will be found: Name of parasite, name of host, location within host, locality in which host was found, name of author of paper reporting parasite, date of publication, and pages where the account appears. The combined references are based partly on reports appearing in about 8,000 publications printed in 33 languages and partly on information and specimens obtained by correspondence or original research.

The catalog is a good working tool that saves many hours of labor by

showing quickly what is known in this branch of science.

■ **Victories in another war.** The battle against leaf and stem rust of wheat has been going on continuously for more than 40 years. Some important victories have been won along the way. New wheat varieties have been developed, largely by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the State agricultural experiment stations, that are in varying degrees resistant to leaf and stem rust. The 1944 crop of hard red spring wheat was about 100 million bushels larger because of the distribution of these varieties to farmers since World War I. During the 4 years of World War II, about 300 million additional bushels of wheat were produced owing to use of the new varieties. To this increase may be added the equivalent of 25 million bushels, the estimated additional amount of flour obtained from the new varieties because of their higher average test weight.

The first notable contribution to wheat improvement was the introduction from Canada of the variety Marquis and its extensive use by farmers. Marquis wheat is not significantly resistant to the rusts, but it ripened early as compared with the varieties it displaced, and thereby escaped much of the damage from rust. The distribution of Ceres in 1924, of Thatcher in 1934, and of Rival and Pilot in 1939 were all important advances, as these wheats not only were early but were also resistant to one or more of the rusts. In 1941 Thatcher was grown on about 12 million acres, but because of its susceptibility to leaf rust it has been mostly replaced by Rival, Pilot, and other varieties. At the present time less than 2 million of the 17 million acres in hard red spring wheat areas are planted to the old susceptible varieties. Three new varieties, Mida, Newthatch, and Henry, were released in 1944 for distribution to farmers and are expected to further reduce losses from these diseases.

■ **Sweater girl.** A very fetching one adorns the cover of a new publication of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. The title is "Knitwear Make-Overs," and the number is U. S. Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous Publication 575.

# Among Ourselves

■ **MRS. THEODOSIA D. PLOWDEN**, South Carolina district home demonstration agent, resigned August 1, 1945, after 27 years of service.

She began work during World War I as an emergency agent in Clarendon County where she later served as home agent. In 1921 Mrs. Plowden became district agent for the Pee Dee section of South Carolina. In this position she made many valuable contributions to the rural life of South Carolina.

In addition to carrying on her regular duties of supervising 15 counties, Mrs. Plowden developed the home demonstration, 4-H, and community music project. She is a firm advocate of good music in the home, church and community. As a result, every home demonstration and 4-H Club in South Carolina includes music in all programs. Her music plans have had far-reaching results, not only in South Carolina, but numbers of other States have used these plans.

Mrs. Plowden is living with her husband and mother at their ancestral country home, "Marston," in the old Statesburg community, Sumter, S. C., R. F. D. 3, where she is continuing a busy life filled with home and community activities.

■ **O. M. PLUMMER**, manager of the Pacific International Livestock Exposition for 36 years and an enthusiastic supporter of 4-H Club work during practically all that time, died August 5. Older members who exhibited at the Pacific International and attended 4-H Camp Plummer knew him to be always rooting for the under dog. He would be found talking to the boys or girls whose animals were at the bottom of the class, giving them bits of advice and encouragement. He was a man with a great respect for 4-H Club members and their work, and he will be missed in 4-H Club circles.

■ **MARY LOUISE RYE**, former home demonstration agent and acting district agent in northwest Arkansas, on leave of absence from Arkansas to take advantage of a General Education Board fellowship, visited the

Washington office between summer and fall terms at Columbia University where she is studying. Miss Rye spent a couple of weeks in September helping with a study of home demonstration work in Massachusetts. Her work at Teachers College, Columbia University, is in the fields of rural social organization and adult education. The fellowship, available to extension supervisors or prospective supervisory agents in the South, was held last year by Lucy Blake, now home demonstration agent-at-large in Virginia, and Lois Scantland, district home demonstration agent in Arkansas.

■ **JULIA STEBBINS**, the popular and beloved home demonstration agent of Greenville County, S. C., retired from service August 15, 1945, due to the injury and illness of her mother.

Miss Stebbins has a long, valuable record of public service. She taught school in her native State of Virginia; served as home demonstration agent in Virginia and Arkansas; government clerk in Washington during World War I; agent in Colleton County, S. C.; assistant extension marketing specialist; operator of a tea room in Gastonia, N. C.; and agent in Greenville County, S. C.

She was home demonstration agent in Greenville County from 1925 to the date of her retirement, thus completing 20 years of unselfish and valuable service as a county public agent. Her love for people and her sympathetic understanding of their problems endeared her to both the rural and urban population of the county.

During Miss Stebbins' last 12 years in Greenville County, she assisted in training eight assistant agents, a number of whom are holding county home demonstration agent positions in the State. There again she demonstrated her love of young people and her sympathetic understanding of difficulties confronting them in assuming new duties.

■ **WILKIE L. HARPER**, secretary of the Iowa State College Agricultural Extension Service since 1920, and an employee of Iowa State College since



Wilkie L. Harper

1911, has resigned, effective August 25, to retire to a farm near Green Forest, Ark.

Harper's first job with the Extension Service was as property man, chart maker, and mimeograph operator. In 1913, he was put in charge of the college printing room. In 1916, he went to the Mexican border with the Iowa National Guard, and within a month of his return he was back in the service, this time to see duty in World War I. He was discharged June 21, 1919, with the rating of master sergeant.

Returning to Iowa State College, he became acting secretary and soon thereafter secretary of the Extension Service. His work included supervision of the stenographic force, the booking of the extension staff, and the dispatching of departmental cars.

Since 1928, the year when the Iowa Extension Service acquired its first car, it has owned 98 vehicles. Keeping these cars on the road became Harper's chief headache during the last few years. Wartime demand for specialist help, reluctance of individuals to drive their personal cars, tire shortages, and mounting miles, added to the difficulty.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

THE NATIONAL OUTLOOK CONFERENCE, scheduled for December 3 to 7, will bring to Washington about 135 farm and home management specialists from almost all States and Puerto Rico. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics are assembling all available facts on the outlook for agriculture and farm family living for the coming year to present to the State representatives. Speakers will include prominent officials from the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, the Federal Reserve Board, and other Government agencies, as well as high-ranking economists and officials of the Department of Agriculture.

ANOTHER DECEMBER MEETING is the 4-H Club Congress, scheduled for December 2 to 6. One feature will be consideration of the 10 guideposts for expansion of the 4-H Club program in the future. This platform was worked out by a committee of State and Federal 4-H Club leaders, who have met from time to time since the last Congress. If the 10 points are adopted by the leaders in Chicago, they will serve as a basis for developing 4-H Club programs in the coming year.

A DRIVE FOR BETTER HOUSING gets under way. News of training meetings for extension workers has come in from Alabama, Arkansas, Minnesota, Montana, and North Carolina. A feature of the North Carolina meetings was the use of room and equipment cut-outs on a master plan, taught by D. S. Weaver, the agricultural engineer. He said this was a substitute for the drawing board, T square, pencil, and eraser of the architect. Both county agents and home demonstration agents thought the device would be useful to farm families.

FARM AND HOME WEEKS in Indiana and North Dakota are featuring a housing session. A housing workshop for couples definitely planning to build houses is being held in Arkansas. Couples come in for 2½

days and learn construction principles, the laying of native stone and logs, as well as the planning of a home to suit their own needs. A 2-day short course for couples planning to build is also planned in Indiana.

A REMODELING CONFERENCE for New England State extension workers, including agricultural engineers and home management specialists, met in Boston October 31 to November 3. The economics of the rural housing situation, new materials and methods, heating systems, installing bathrooms and rural electrification problems were some of the subjects discussed.

SPECIAL AGENT FOR DEAF FARMERS in North Carolina. O. W. Underhill recently arranged a demonstration program on food preservation in Buncombe County put on by the county agent and the home demonstration agent. An interpreter was found in an Army man stationed nearby whose parents were deaf. The women were so much interested that they asked for a home demonstration club. There proved to be 20 deaf homemakers in the county to join the new club, and they themselves found a woman who will join as interpreter.

THE FIRST SESSION of the conference of the Food and Agriculture

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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Organization of the United Nations opened at Quebec, Canada, October 16. The delegation was headed by Secretary Anderson with Director M. L. Wilson advising on the assistance extension work can give in the development of better agriculture and a better food supply.

21 CHINESE STUDENTS are getting their first taste of the life of a county agent's assistant in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, Wisconsin, and Texas. After 3 months of practical experience in local extension offices, they will reassemble at Ames, Iowa, for some more formal classes on extension methods and philosophy.

A PROGRAM FOR SOUTHERN AGRICULTURE, including the fitting of cotton into balanced farming in the postwar world, has been developing for some time and was further crystallized at the recent meetings of southern directors in Atlanta. In line with the Land-Grant College Committee on postwar plans and the presentation made by Under Secretary J. B. Hutson at the meeting, the directors agreed on an educational program to give all the facts on the economic situation, as well as continuing education for efficient production. The directors wrote: "We believe that it is only on the basis of a well-informed rural citizenry that sound agricultural policies evolve." A seven-step program for more efficient production will be a part of the broader program.

THE 8-POINT DAIRY PROGRAM is taking on new steam this fall. A national multilithed circular has been prepared for the use of the States and is being made available in limited quantities. Among the interesting new materials to be ready sometime this month is a series of eight radio transcriptions of 15 minutes each for release to radio stations by the State extension editor.

THE EXCELLENT COOPERATION between Indiana veterinarians and extension workers was featured in an article by a veterinarian, Dr. York, in the Bio-Chemic Review. He cites the example of County Agent Emerson of White County.

# Extension Service *Review*

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## Equality for Agriculture

Excerpts from a talk by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson before the National Association of Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture

■ If ever there was a time for some hard, clear thinking about the shape of agriculture to come and what we want to do about its basic problems, that time is right now. For we are moving, and swiftly, into a new era. The question is whether or not we are going to be ready for the spectacular changes that are now in the making, whether or not we are going to have our plans and our policies thought out. Are we going to use to the full this chance to build a modern agriculture? Or, are we going to muddle through, allowing the magnificent opportunities of today and tomorrow to slip through our fingers, leaving us with most of the problems and few of the rewards?

There are many fundamental decisions to be made as the whole world surges forward to new technological accomplishments. In agriculture, as in industry, the dynamic pressures of war have resulted in vast increases in the potentials of production. We have to decide how we are going to direct that production. Many—in fact, most—of the decisions are overdue. And I want to emphasize that these decisions cannot be left entirely to Washington, D. C. The policies that are formed now, the plans that are made, will affect the lives and the fortunes of all of us, wherever we live and whatever we do, and we all should have a voice—an informed, articulate voice—in forming the judgments. The Federal Government cannot, and should not, do everything. What it does do should be the distillate of careful judgment all over the Nation; it should be coordinated with plans and policies going forward in communities, counties, States, and re-

gions as they survey their postwar situation.

The question that is foremost in my mind today is one that requires much solid grass-roots consideration before we can get the final answer. That is the question of economic equality for agriculture. That question must be answered before we can plan ahead; the goal we set for agriculture's economic equality becomes the foundation on which all policies and programs will be based.

Now I know that all of us here, and probably every person in any line of work in the United States, agrees with and approves the general idea that farmers are entitled to economic equality with other sectors of our population. Like virtue, everybody is in favor of it.

But, when we seek to define "economic equality," when we try to nail down this plank in concrete terms of dollars and cents, percentages and shares, we find that the term means different things to different men and different groups. Many farmers would say: "It means that farmers should receive parity prices" . . . or . . . "It means that farmers should receive a fair share of the national income."

Those are good answers; they have been the standard answers of agriculture for a number of years. The only trouble is, just what do we mean by "parity"? Just what constitutes a "fair share of the national income"? You can get into many-sided, fruitless arguments over the current meanings of those terms that lie behind economic equality for agriculture.

Thus, before we can get definite goals and aims for agriculture in the exciting, changing years ahead, it seems to me that we must first conscientiously re-examine and redefine our basic terms to give them clear, accurate, and modern meaning. We need to get our formulas straight, so that we are all talking the same language. Only then can we do an intelligent, forward-looking job of bringing our old methods up to date and devising new ones, to reach "economic equality" . . . whatever it may be.

There seems little, if any, doubt that the time is here to see beyond the statistical complexities and make parity actually mean something; to base it on enduring human values; to recognize that our expanding economy, industrially and agriculturally, is dynamic and not static; that we must have goals that clearly recognize the need for constant shifting in the price position between different agricultural commodities to adjust for changed conditions; and that these goals facilitate—not obstruct—desirable agricultural adjustments.

How are we going to do it? That is what I am asking you, and all others who are interested in agriculture—individual farmers, county groups of farmers, State farm leaders, national farm groups. Action on legal definitions of parity is the responsibility of Congress, but Congress cannot be expected to write a modern parity policy unless some unity is developed in the thinking of all of us who are concerned with that important subject.

We can't waste any time; we can't drift along until the problems now ahead overwhelm and panic us with their urgency. Now—right now—is the time to dig up facts, to appraise them honestly, to develop needed unity in our thinking, and to make sound plans for the future of a strong and prosperous modern agriculture.

# Building for tomorrow

## Story County, Iowa, Planning Council pools energy and skill of all to build well for the future

DR. W. H. STACY, Extension Sociologist, Iowa

■ Success in war has depended on our ability to produce and destroy. Success in peace will depend on our ability to produce and build. In war we seek materialistic power. In peace we must promote spiritual human and social values. Results in promoting these things are not easy to achieve and not easy to measure. But on them depends an expansion of programs which provide jobs and satisfactions. New methods, new leadership, and a new spirit are all needed to promote cooperative effort toward this end.

Ways of cooperating in a democracy are legion. The Story County, Iowa, Planning Council has tried some of them and found them good. The council got its start back in 1944 when 30 county and community leaders who attended a Story County Council of Defense meeting agreed to establish a county veterans information service and referral center and to organize a county postwar planning council.

### Steering Committee Outlines Plans

Original plans were outlined by a steering committee composed of two officers of the county council of defense and the county agent. Soon after it was organized it received substantial financial support from the county bankers association and the county farm bureau. County board of supervisors gave some supplies.

The council has tried to do three things: promote community action on postwar problems, correlate county-wide problems and relate postwar planning in Story County to State, regional, and national programs.

In promoting community action, coordinating councils have already been established in three towns. In addition, an adult education class in community planning met regularly for 11 weeks at Story City. Out of this developed a city planning commission. The county planning council meetings have been rotated to different towns with local groups cooperating as co-sponsors and this arrangement has helped to promote community action.

One way in which county-wide pro-

grams are correlated is by representation on the planning council of 16 different county-wide programs. These are all listed on the letterhead and include such organizations as the American Legion, ministerial association, bankers association, school masters club, board of supervisors, federated women's clubs, and farm bureau. Meeting together on the first Thursday night of each month, these men and women are coming to have a better understanding of established lines of work and at the same time promoting new interests.

How this works out was illustrated in the plans for returning veterans. Plans were proposed in November for sending inquiries and Christmas greetings to men and women in military services. These suggestions were used by community committees in 10 communities. Summaries of replies were published in the local papers. Joint meetings were held with the Story County veterans service information and referral center committee.

A statement on Education for Returning Veterans was prepared in May and mailed to 140 farm bureau and extension cooperators, 30 ministers, 12 women's club leaders, 12 bankers, all mayors and city clerks, all school superintendents and Ames war dads. This presented a summary of postwar plans of the schools in the county written by the president of the county school masters club and a digest of GI educational and training programs.

### Survey of Job Opportunities Made

A report was also prepared on the immediate postwar employment opportunities in Story County. This statement was signed by a committee including the county agent, the United States Employment Service representative and the county engineer. It reported six lines of work where more men were needed and presented a chart of major types of services for veterans. This was given wide circulation through newspaper publicity and letters to 400 leaders.

A survey of postwar building plans

of churches was made in cooperation with the county ministerial association. According to this information, the churches planned to spend approximately \$500,000 on postwar improvements.

A county health committee was established at the July meeting of the council. These 5 county leaders are working with the State department of health in a study of the local situation and in developing plans for an adequate health program.

At an early meeting of the county council it was agreed that postwar works programs should be geared in with and not compete with industrial development. The city manager of Ames, the largest town in the county, has accepted the chairmanship of the county public works program committee. Problems in developing sewage disposal systems in small towns were considered at the July council meeting.

Another activity was started at a joint meeting with the county conservation committee in August when action was taken to promote a parkway providing picnic areas, fishing spots, and scenic drives.

An effort has been made to relate county action to State, regional, and national programs by bringing a speaker from outside the county to eight of the monthly council meetings. These speakers are active in regional and national planning and have brought their judgments and recommendations to bear on local planning.

### Tree-planting contests

Wyoming reports 24 entries in the W. C. Deming farm shelterbelt planting contest and 15 entries in the farm or ranch home beautification and improvement contest, according to W. O. Edmondson, agricultural extension specialist in horticulture and forestry.

Most of the tree plantings made in 1945 and entered in the contests were carefully cultivated and cared for.

Improvements such as the remodeling of farm dwellings, painting of buildings, lawn plantings and care, fence building, and the planting of trees, shrubs, and flowers have been entered in the home beautification and improvement contest.

The contests began in 1945, when W. C. Deming of Cheyenne presented \$6,000 to the University of Wyoming for annual awards to be made during the next 17 years.



## Texas agents learn welding

■ Initial steps to promote more extensive home maintenance of farm equipment were taken at a 3-day short course in arc and gas welding at Texas A. and M. College in August. The course was for county agricultural agents and was the first of its kind held in Texas. The purpose was to familiarize county agricultural agents with the principles of welding in order to qualify them to demonstrate it at farm shops in their counties. From the experience of such demonstrations it was believed farmers would be able to save time and expense by making many necessary repairs in their own shops or in the field.

The agents who took the full course were: W. K. Cottingham of Carson County; C. O. Reed of Donley; A. P. Bralley of Potter; H. G. Wills of Ochiltree; V. E. Hafner of Childress; J. P. Smith of Gray; J. A. Spence of Hartley; Fred C. Elliott of Victoria; U. L. Thompson of Hunt; J. H. Survik of Parker; L. A. Weiss of Refugio, and J. O. Stovall of Jackson. The first seven were from the Panhandle area, the largest grain-growing region of Texas.

The sessions were held in the mechanical engineering shops of A. and M. College under the direction of Prof. C. W. Crawford, head of the mechanical engineering department, and Assistant Professor D. W. Fleming. The short course was arranged by a committee consisting of Knox

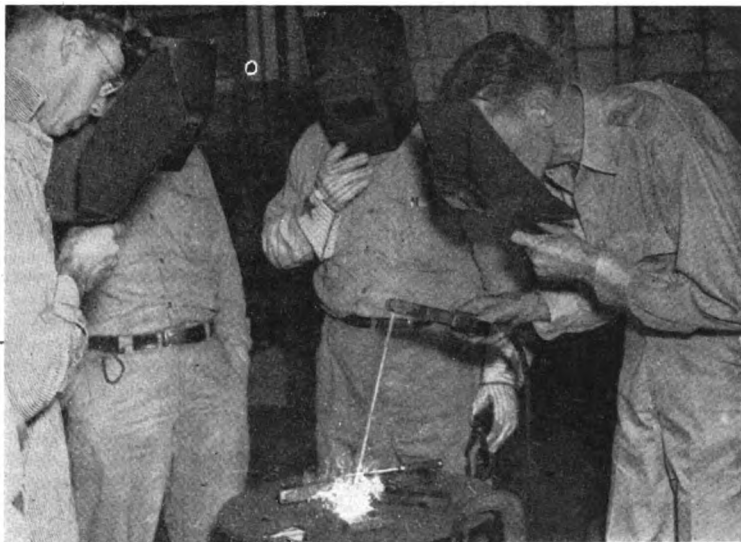
Parr, district agent for extension district one; Extension Service Agricultural Engineer M. R. Bentley, and R. B. Hickerson of the Extension Service farm labor staff.

The course consisted of practice periods daily with welding and cutting equipment, talks by representatives of equipment companies and members of the staff of the mechanical engineering department, and showing of

moving pictures portraying details of welding techniques.

The demonstrations which county agricultural agents plan to give will have the twofold objective of instructing farmers and ranchmen in the problems involved in the use of welding equipment and broadening their knowledge and techniques in employing it to repair and maintain farm machinery. In this work the county agents will have the assistance of experts from regional farm equipment houses.

Texas county agents had a chance to practice welding at a 3-day short course.



## Welcome home for Christmas

■ Christmas is here again—the first Christmas since VJ-day. The holly wreath is hung out. The homes of the country resound with excitement and good cheer in a very special way for the men who are coming home from the war.

Husbands, sons, and brothers join the family circle for the first time in years. Peace has come again, reunited families throughout the land celebrate the birthday of the Prince of Peace.

This is also the season of extension conferences; and at every one familiar faces reappear—men back from Europe, the Pacific islands, the

far corners of the earth—men glad to be home, anxious to make up for lost time, to find out what has happened while they were gone. Their homecoming infuses new life into the hard-pressed agents who were left behind, agents trying to do two men's work to keep things going. Some will not return, and their absence presses upon us the cause for which they gave their lives.

We pause at this Christmas season to rejoice that we are together again. Together we vow to make good the sacrifice of those who do not return. Together we shall extend the spirit of Christmas into a lasting peace for

the world. The good fellowship of Christmas time will strengthen the soul for the pressing problems ahead.

THE SECOND CLOTHING COLLECTION scheduled for next month is sorely needed for the destitute peoples in war-torn sections of the world. Many rural people are getting more pleasure out of their gift by planning to include a letter of good will to the new user of their coat, suit, or dress. These letters may bring almost as much warmth to the heart of a suffering people as the clothing brings warmth to their bodies.

# Home-grown on Saipan

1st LT. HARLAN R. KOCH, USMC  
and  
S. SGT. SANFORD OPOROWSKY, USMC

Lieutenant Koch was a county agent in Marshall and Mitchell Counties, Iowa, before the war.

■ On the concrete floor of an open-air pavilion on Saipan, a group of Japanese and Chamorro civilians sit cross-legged listening to an American Civil Affairs officer. When he finishes, some of the men get up to speak. An interpreter listens carefully.

"Not enough tools . . ." one man says. "The bugs," another complains. "We need a remedy." "That supervisor doesn't get along with our people," a vehement little man protests. "Can't we have someone else?"

The men are foremen on one of the most unusual farms in the world—a 300-acre tract from which the people of Saipan are getting home-grown vegetables and home-grown democracy for the first time in their history.

The officer, Lt. (j.g.) John Z. Williams of New York City, is a stubby little man, not as tall as most of his charges. He wipes a perspiring face and grins. It is not easy—getting these people used to the idea of self-government. One of our primary objectives in occupied Pacific areas is to keep the natives occupied and productive, and in so doing to wean them away from an authoritarian habit of government. They take it seriously. The unpopular supervisor is an example. He was appointed temporarily by American authorities. He is, himself, Japanese.

Lieutenant Williams promises his foremen an election in which they can choose their own supervisor. The result is a man who is doing a good and efficient job.

Saipan was the first of our Pacific conquests where a sizable civilian population was encountered. About 15,000 of the Saipan natives are Japanese; the remaining 5,000 are Chamorros, a mixture of Spanish and Polynesian stock.

Self-sufficiency is the first objective, for the United States has enough to do feeding its millions of soldiers and sailors in the Pacific. The Saipan farm has proved that a people who never before grew a balanced diet sufficient for their own needs can be taught scientific agriculture. In doing

the internees now get the technical advice and help of experts from leading American agricultural experiment stations. We furnish seeds, fertilizer, a few tools (most of the farming is by hand). The natives do all the work. We don't pamper them. Men, women, children, grandma all spend their days



The ox-pulled plow is the only implement not worked by hand on the Japanese and Chamorro farms on Saipan.

this, democracy has become a valuable byproduct. From planting the seed to selling the produce, natives run the show.

When U. S. marines and soldiers conquered the island, Saipan had a one-crop economy—sugarcane. Most food was imported from the homeland. The few vegetable gardens on the island were scrubby and unproductive.

Civil Affairs has changed this, and

in the fields. Now drainage, crop rotation, and fertilization are ultrascientific. Produce is brought daily to a market place where United States officials buy it at a standard price, paying in American currency.

There is no black market on Saipan. Here is what the natives are paid for their food: Peanuts (the highest-paid crop on the island) are worth 5 cents a pound. Tomatoes, beans, cantaloup,

Produce is brought daily to the market place on Saipan.



and corn bring 3 cents a pound. Pine-apple, lettuce, radishes, onions, water-melon, and spinach are priced at 2 cents; and pumpkin, bananas, squash, and eggplant can be bought for a cent a pound.

Only a fraction of the internees work on the farm, but our authorities plan to increase the acreage when the military situation permits. And from the labor of this group all civilians on the island are fed.

The most desirable prospects were chosen for the experiment,—families who had the best farms before we came. Ninety-four plots are allotted to the Japanese and 24 to the Cha-

morros. Native tools, such as the plows and hoes, were gathered and repaired by the farmers themselves. Each family also has an ox from the island herd for use as a draft animal.

A field kitchen prepares the noonday meal; and a representative from each family, often a child, queues up in the "chow line" with a makeshift container. When the food is dished out he takes it to the family plot, where it is supplemented with fruits and vegetables grown on the spot.

"These people are keeping their own culture while learning the American way of doing things," Lieutenant Williams says. "We treat them firmly but fairly."

## Guam agricultural school

Lt. Ralph Gross of Kansas, formerly Rooks County agent, wrote the following agricultural story September 10 in a letter from Guam.

■ Today we started a school in the battalion. I am supervisor of the agricultural school, and we have about 35 enrollments. I am instructing the course in beef production. The boys all seem very much interested, and I think that I shall have a lot of fun teaching it. I miss having a library on which to rely for supplementary information. I have been away from agricultural work for so long that I am a bit rusty. At the same time, my other duties are a bit heavy also.

It would be nice if we had some good farms and some good livestock on which to work here. They do have an FEA farm on the island, which raises vegetables. They fertilize rather heavily. They do no contour farming; neither do they carry out any soil conservation practices.

They do have a herd of 65 Holstein cows, 5 Brown Swiss, and a Holstein and a Brahma bull. They are all imported from Stateside, and they intend to cross the Brahma, which is supposed to be a milking strain, with the cows to see what results they obtain. The Holsteins do not seem to be standing the heat very well and are pretty thin, but the Swiss seem to do all right. These cows are kept in a dry lot. I don't know what they use for grain, but they have Napier grass which is run through an ensilage cutter and fed to them. Napier grass has a carrying capacity of about 10 cows per acre, and looks much like

Johnson grass. The milk, about 1,500 pounds daily, is all used in the hospital on the island.

On this farm they also have about 800 hogs which were brought in here last spring as weaning pigs. They get nothing but garbage, but they look like pretty good hogs. I understand that this number of hogs is only about one-twentieth enough to take care of all the garbage produced on the island. The gilts will be bred and put out with native farmers who will return 3 or 4 pigs in exchange. The Japs pretty well cleaned out all the livestock on the island, so in this way it is hoped to get some reestablished. There is also a poultry farm on the island, but I have not had opportunity to visit it.

It is still as hot as ever . . . The prospects for getting home seem to be getting slimmer all the time. Now it looks as if we will be moving on before long and become a part of the occupation forces. In that case it is hard to tell when we will be getting home. This is an old outfit with lots of points; but if they do go home, I may have to stay here as I have only 66 points.

### 4-H Club square dance

When 700 persons entered the Akron, Colo., high school gymnasium last summer to attend and participate in the 4-H Club-sponsored square dance contest, a newcomer asked:

"What's back of all this? Things like this just don't happen."

The newcomer was right; this history-making evening didn't just happen. It was the culmination of a series of community meetings held throughout Washington County. Jean Watt, home demonstration agent, and Albert Kniese, county agent, had an idea!

Working with their county 4-H Club Council, they divided the county into nine communities in which two to seven 4-H Clubs were represented. Then they invited the whole community to meet to see 4-H Club work in action, to become acquainted and to play together.

Three meetings were held during the winter in each community, usually in centrally located school gymnasiums with crowds varying from 100 to 225.

Each series of meetings was sufficiently varied in nature to keep an audience interested. A typical meeting consisted of two 4-H demonstrations given by two outstanding 4-H boys and two girls. Short informative talks concerning 4-H were given by the county agent and home demonstration agent; group singing was enjoyed, and several short movies were shown on various topics of interest to all ages. Square dancing and a lunch were enjoyed by all attending.

### Nebraska 4-H baby beef served in Chicago schools

L. I. Frisbie, Nebraska State 4-H Club leader, recently received the following letter from F. O. Washam, director of lunchrooms of the Chicago public schools:

"I assure you that it was a pleasure to participate in the sale of 4-H Club cattle at the Nebraska State Fair. We, in the city, know that in a large measure America's future security lies in our ability to successfully encourage our country cousins to stay on the farm and raise an adequate food supply for our urban centers.

"We give the purchase of these 4-H Club cattle wide publicity in our public school lunchrooms through photographs of the cattle and their feeders, blown up and displayed in our lunchrooms, and through stories published in our school papers. We believe the 4-H Club is doing a great work. We want to encourage it.

# Reconversion in Extension

BENJAMIN F. CREECH, Extension Animal Husbandman, West Virginia

At the annual conference of West Virginia extension agents at Jackson's Mill, October 15-18, Benjamin F. Creech, extension animal husbandman, presented problems that extension workers will have during the reconversion period. A portion of his address is given here.

■ The sudden end of the world conflict has brought the Agricultural Extension Service and its program to another cross road. We find ourselves no better prepared for the reconversion than many other government agencies. To do its full share in helping to win the war, agriculture expanded its activities tremendously. The Extension Service took on additional jobs and responsibilities and extended its efforts in production and related activities.

Now we are faced with the problem of adjustments, reconversion, and the retooling of our organization so that we may make our maximum contribution to a peacetime economy in promoting agriculture just as we did so effectively in war.

The Extension Service has the job and responsibility of pointing the way for the reconversion of agriculture and rural living. This is a job of planning, administration, and teaching that should challenge each one of us to the full limits of our abilities.

## Must Make Adjustments

We must put our house in order for a peacetime program in agriculture that will challenge rural people. To do this effectively, each extension worker will first have to make some personal adjustments in his thinking, planning, work habits, attitudes, and relationships with other agricultural agencies. The personal equation may be the most difficult part of the reconversion program for us to overcome and attain. If we are to be successful in our job, we must give it our full time and not have business or commercial activities on the side.

After we have reconditioned ourselves, how are we going to do the big job of helping rural people to achieve their goals and ambitions of life? Extension agents work with farm families on the farm and in the home, and they need to think in terms of the welfare of the entire family rather than of any individual or seg-

ment of the family. We cannot get our job done by sitting in our offices, for we must know first-hand the problems that farm families are tussling with if we are to give them assistance and guidance. If Extension is to hold its high place in the educational field, we must go forward as leaders and teachers of rural people, and not just as followers and trouble shooters.

In our reconversion there are some tools and programs that probably should be salvaged from the war effort and retained as a fundamental part of our peacetime extension program.

## The Three "J" Techniques

Among the greatest teaching devices applied to agriculture during the war were the three "J" techniques:

**Job Instruction Training**—How to teach a person to do a thing.

**Job Methods Training**—How to improve the way to do a job, finding shorter, easier, and quicker ways.

**Job Relations Training**—How to work with people on a job.

A number of our extension workers have taken one or more of these courses. If an extension worker feels the need for improving his teaching methods, such as demonstrations, talks, farm and home visits, or preparation of news letters, then he should take the course in Job Instruction Training. To obtain the highest standard of professional efficiency he should take at least the appreciation course in each of the three "J's."

The war has been won, but the struggle for safe living—safer working conditions—has not been won; and nowhere is the problem of safety more important than on the farm. An analysis of the accidents reported in West Virginia for this year indicates rather clearly that at least 75 percent of them were caused by carelessness. With 25 percent of accidental deaths occurring in agriculture and 25 percent of all home accidental deaths occurring in farm homes, it is crystal clear that somebody should get busy.

There is no educational agency so well qualified to promote a farm and home safety program with rural people as is the Extension Service, and extension workers should be willing to tackle this humane job in an organized way. A well-executed program under the guidance of the extension agricultural engineer offers the opportunity to serve our fellow men.

The value of good organization and coordination in agriculture, with wise leadership, was demonstrated during the war period. A well-organized community with intelligent leadership is the first essential of a successful extension program. Extension workers need to work more with organized groups; the county workers helping farm people to set up community organizations and to build a program that meets the needs of the community.

The community meeting can be made the most effective place for the extension worker to do his teaching and sell his program. County extension workers should attend and participate in an average of two or more community meetings each week.

I believe that the best extension teaching is still done with a well-planned and well-executed demonstration. What an opportunity a community meeting offers an extension worker to put on a good demonstration, using visual aids, for a good enthusiastic community meeting is the best place in the world to sell the extension program.

## Visits to Teach Practices

Farm and home visits also offer an excellent opportunity, and too many of them are not well planned and executed. Each visit should result in teaching a good practice or the exchange of information and ideas. With an organized plan such visits are an effective means of developing leadership with farm people.

The major portion of county extension workers' time should be spent in field work, probably 2 days each week being sufficient to keep up with office routine. The county extension staff should hold weekly conferences so as to keep all members well informed on the county program, and monthly or quarterly meetings of all agricultural agencies should be held.

A good secretary, if properly trained and given responsibility, can handle many details in the county extension office and will give the professional

worker more time to do important jobs. With a little guidance she can answer miscellaneous correspondence, requests for publications, and the like. If she is kept informed, she can take care of many office calls when agents are out of the office. County extension offices should be handled in a businesslike way and with efficiency, and the secretaries should be given instructions in managing the office. Supervisors should work out a uniform plan and system with county extension workers for the training and supervision of office secretaries.

The challenge to us today is—we are willing to make the reconversions necessary so as to equip ourselves to help farm people make the inevitable adjustments that must follow if they are to have the good things of life and to enjoy a standard of living that is comparable to other segments of society.

### Quick spot radio checks

Spot surveys are used to determine the usefulness of the daily agricultural radio program of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell. This program is presented from 12:15 to 1 p. m. over the Cornell University station.

Questionnaires were sent recently to 750 farmers in Tompkins and 5 surrounding counties. The survey was conducted by the county agricultural agents, and questionnaires were sent to every fifth or sixth name on their mailing list. Of the 222 who answered, 115 or more than 50 percent listened regularly to the program. One hundred and twelve wanted more short agricultural news items; 70 wanted more home-economics information on the program. Only a small percentage wanted more entertainment features on the agricultural program. These folks did not want household information given on the same program and wanted all the crop, market, and weather reports they needed given on this one program. Of those answering, 100 said they sometimes wrote for bulletins and pamphlets.

The replies are not necessarily representative of the farm group as a whole, but the Cornell staff feel that it does give some idea of what the farmer wants to listen to, and they plan to make such spot surveys every once in a while among different groups of farmers.



# Have you read

**A CHINESE VILLAGE.** *Martin C. Yang.* 263 pp. Columbia University Press.

■ One cannot fully understand China by reading books about it. Yet, in *A Chinese Village*, Dr. Yang has succeeded in writing a work which, if studied, read, and reread by the conscientious student, serves the practical purpose of conveying to the occidental mind a picture of rural China, its past, its problems, and its possibilities. I have been in China, but I have never felt that I understood Chinese rural culture as I do since getting acquainted, in Dr. Yang's book, with the village of Taitou; the P'an, Ch'eng, Yang, and Liu clans; and the importance of ancestors and one's responsibility to them in China.

I am one of those who is confident that great good will come to the Chinese people through the introduction of agricultural and homemaking extension work. At the same time, I am aware that, unless the cultural factors that have served as a basis

for Chinese rural living for many centuries are kept in mind in the development of Chinese extension programs, extension work there could not accomplish what it did for us here. Dr. Yang has performed a great service for the future development of our democratic type of extension work in Asia.

He has intimately acquainted us with the ways of life that have preserved the ancient Chinese civilization. But he has not held back in criticizing those phases of Chinese traditionalism which have been a stumbling block to its progress and advancement along modern lines.

*A Chinese Village* is one of the truly great works which every agriculturist, educator, and professional worker in government and related fields will want to have in his postwar library. I recommend it to every extension worker.—*M. L. Wilson, Director, Cooperative Extension Service.*

## Successful rural youth program

■ The Cheyenne County, Nebr. Rural Youth group was organized in January 1944 when nine young people met and discussed the need for such an organization. About half the group were former 4-H members; the remainder had had no contact with 4-H work and had never been enrolled in 4-H Clubs.

Soon after organization, the officers met with the county agent and the home demonstration agent and planned the program for the year. The first year's program consisted of talks on highway safety by members of the Highway Patrol; OPA and its place in wartime economy; panel discussion, local government; roller-skating parties; a steak fry and picnics.

In 1945, with 39 members, the program plans included motion pictures by the USES, showing wartime jobs in essential industries; a Christmas party; Jap relocation problems, which were discussed by the wife of the commanding officer at the Sioux

Ordnance Depot; chemurgy; farm topics; Federal Bureau of Investigation, its organization and duties, discussed by a representative of the FBI; a waffle supper, bowling, and picnics for the summer months.

The community service project chosen for the year consisted of taking over the North Platte Canteen for one day in cooperation with the Perkins County Rural Youth group. Money was raised to finance this project by a box social at which 21 boxes were sold for \$129.25.

■ MRS. HELEN D. CRANDALL resigned from her position as State home demonstration agent in New Mexico, after 8 years on the extension staff, to devote her full time to her own home. Elsie Cunningham, a former county home demonstration agent in Texas, was appointed to the position as State home demonstration agent September 1. Several years ago Miss Cunningham was a farm security supervisor in New Mexico.

## Texas women buy pineapples cooperatively



More than 28,000 Texas farm women took part in the cooperative buying of pineapples this last year. About two-thirds of the women were members of home demonstration clubs and the others were friends who heard about it and wanted to take part. The activity is carried out by county home demonstration council marketing committees working with county home demonstration agents and under the supervision of Myrtle Murray, specialist in home industries.

The pooling of orders for pineapples was begun 2 years ago and has proved so popular that the same procedure is being carried out for the buying of peaches and other seasonal fruits and vegetables.

### Committee Lists Orders

When there is enough interest in community home demonstration clubs, the county marketing committees contact local dealers and importers to find out the price. Orders for pineapples are listed by the local club marketing chairman and money and order sent to the county committee.

This year most of the council marketing committees sent trucks to Laredo, Texas, for their pineapples. Two county commissioners in Coman-

che went after the pineapples, charging the actual cost of operating the truck and their own expenses. In Motley County, a local businessman made the trip for a nominal sum. In Austin County the vocational agricultural teacher drove the truck. Sometimes a trucker from Laredo delivered the pineapples.

The pineapples are grown in Mexico. Probably 90 percent of those brought into Texas come through the port of entry at Laredo. There they are inspected for insects and disease, then by the pure food and drug officials for bruise, over-ripeness and black heart. After passing inspection at the border, the pineapples are ready to be shipped out according to orders on file by the various council marketing committees.

As soon as the word is received the club marketing chairman is notified so that buyers can be on hand to receive their pineapples. Sometimes they fail to arrive because of confusion in handling orders at the border, or the pineapple trains are delayed in Mexico. In Orange County, buyers waited three separate days for the pineapples to arrive. In Jones County, the number of pounds bought was delivered, and the marketing committee had ordered by the dozen. They found themselves several dozens short.

Only four hours were needed to unload and count the 325 dozen pineapples ordered in Erath County. Collingsworth County chose a cooperative gin as a delivery point using the different runways for various clubs. The pineapples were stacked and ready for distribution. An assembly line was formed and the pineapples counted out to the clubs. In two and a half hours the truck was unloaded and by mid-afternoon some of the pineapples were already in cans.

In spite of the problems involved the distribution method worked out by these local marketing committees is an accomplishment of which they can be proud. They proved to be good managers and also they have profited by their mistakes and developed a better system the next year.

In all of the communities taking part, an intensive informational campaign is put on through the press, the radio, the home demonstration clubs on how to can pineapple and pineapple juice, and how to use the product to vary the menu.

The same method of pooling orders was used for peaches this year, 7,333 bushels having been delivered in 29 counties. Several council marketing committees have bought a few hundred lugs of apricots and cherries, and many planned to buy apples this fall.

While not all the reports paint a rosy picture they do indicate that the distribution systems arranged by the marketing committees have proved their value.

## Iowa girls set bond goals

The Iowa 4-H girls this year say they're going to sell enough bonds to pay for a C-54 Skymaster. That means \$310,000 in bonds by the close of the Victory Loan Drive.

This past year they topped their goal of \$1,054,000 in bonds by more than \$200,000. Now they're out to do it again.

The C-54 they expect to finance is a huge evacuation plane to carry the wounded from war theaters and hospitals overseas to hospitals in this country. It's a worthy goal that all clubs are proud to strive for.

National recognition has been given to the successful results of the Iowa 4-H girls' bond campaign last year—Bonds Buy Mercy. Now they've set up another challenging goal.

# Young leaders trained

■ A community where young people like to live is one where they can work and play together. The ability and the facilities for both playing and working together are being cultivated by Maryland young people. It has been found true that leaders trained in directing recreation can carry over their skill into the field of working together.

The 4-H leaders' training schools have proved both popular and an effective way of training leaders. Started during the war years to meet an immediate need, they were sponsored by the senior 4-H council and State 4-H leaders.

## Kent County Plays Games

During the winter of 1943, a "learn by playing" program was followed by a group of 30 older Kent County 4-H members who met one night each week under the direction of Assistant County Agent Stanley B. Sutton to learn to play and conduct group games. This group became the foundation of other groups throughout the county. During the spring and summer of 1944, about 3,000 persons attended the 4-H play parties and recreation hours of other groups which asked 4-H leaders to help. Beginning in November, recreation schools were offered for all organizations of the county. All 4-H Clubs, eight churches, parent-teacher organizations, minute-men, five Scout troops, and home-makers' clubs were represented in three schools.

Following these schools, a county-wide Senior 4-H Club was organized with Theodore Redman as president, Martha Lumpkin as vice president, and Joyce Dill as secretary-treasurer. The purpose of this group is to continue to learn new games and improve their leadership ability.

At present, the scope of the work is being enlarged and carried out on an inter-county scale. So far, three inter-county schools for recreation leaders have been held.

The school held at Easton, began on February 19 and continued for 4 successive Monday nights for representatives from four Eastern Shore counties—Queen Annes, Talbot, Caroline, and Dorchester. Group recrea-

tion of the "play party" type was considered at the school. Half of the time was devoted to learning folk games and dances, the other half to discussions of "how" and "why" in leading games.

The idea of the school was developed by Stanley B. Sutton, following a visit a year ago to a 1½-day meeting of the recreation leaders' training school held at Westminster for the Western Shore counties. That school also was sponsored by the senior 4-H council and the Maryland Extension Service.

The result of this contact was the leaders' training school at Easton, which was attended by 54 persons, 7 of whom were extension agents. The 4 participating counties were limited to 12 4-H representatives apiece.

A registration fee of \$1.25 per person provided a Handy Play Party Book, cost \$1, and a small book, All Join Hands, at 15 cents; and the remaining 10 cents was paid for janitor service. The school was held in the auditorium of the county building at Easton.

The first session was devoted to get-acquainted games. The discussion of leadership fundamentals, especially those pertaining to leading recreation, was demonstrated at later meetings, as "ice breakers" or "mixers" were learned and used.

On the second Monday night, the school considered the circle type of folk game and discussed the technique of leadership and the social value of the "circles." The third night, the leadership group learned reel or "longways" formations, and the last night, was "square" night.

## Leaders Improve Skill

When the school itself ended, the group of 4-H leaders attending it made plans to continue the work which they began there. Members of the school met as teams in their respective counties, to learn by doing the games introduced at the school, in order to be prepared to conduct games when the opportunity came and to teach other county groups as they were ready. They planned to take advantage of every chance to broaden their knowledge and improve their skill in leading group recreation, and to become so competent as 4-H groups that other community organizations could be helped in county-wide schools this winter.

Finally, to encourage a spirit of 4-H fellowship, it was decided to hold during the year four "five counties" activities, which will include Kent County as well as the four counties represented at the school. The first of these, a spring play party, was held at the Easton High School on March 27.

A county-wide picnic and vesper service were held in the summer and a campfire around Labor Day. Preparations are now under way for a Christmas party.



# Local leaders can do the job

MADGE J. REESE, Field Agent, Western States

■ Who knew that the timid farm woman when persuaded 6 years ago to act as clothing project leader of a 4-H Club or the food project leader of the home demonstration group in her community, would now represent her community at meetings considering important problems of great concern to the rural and urban population of her county and State? Yet in many cases that is just what a home demonstration agent sees happen. Perhaps in the heart and mind of the timid woman herself was a spark of ambition that made her want to learn how to guide her family in such a way that they would call her blessed. Perhaps she had a desire to learn how to serve her community well and win the commendation of friends and neighbors, and perhaps the encouragement and faith of a home demonstration agent helped.

## 11 Western States Studied

A study of leadership developed through home demonstration work in the 11 Western States brought out some interesting facts. This study was made from 21 selected counties. The information was taken from annual reports, with additional information from the State home demonstration leaders.

The average number of regular home demonstration groups in these counties was 25, and the average number of girls 4-H Clubs was 27. The home demonstration agents met 5 times with home demonstration groups and 3 times with girls' 4-H Clubs during the year. All other meetings of these groups were conducted by local leaders without the presence of the home demonstration agent. In addition, local leaders gave instructions on victory gardening; and food-preservation meetings conducted by local women leaders averaged in the 21 counties 160 for adults and 248 for 4-H Club girls in the war year of 1944. The total attendance at these meetings per county averaged 3,154 women and 2,437 4-H Club girls.

The carefully planned training meetings for local leaders by home economics specialists and county home

demonstration agents and the special individual training by agents in the home and at the office brought results in developing competent leadership. The number of meetings and individual training had a direct relation to the number on the staff. In counties with assistant home demonstration agents, more local-leader training meetings were held. The average during the year was 16 training meetings for local leaders in home demonstration work and 9 for 4-H Club leaders in each county. Some training was of course also done in home visits.

An impression gained from the study is that leadership for officers of groups who preside at meetings and make general arrangements is usually available, but that project leadership involving considerably more time, study, and work on the part of leaders is more difficult to obtain.

Practically nothing in the reports indicated that special recognition is given local leaders in one way or another. Perhaps agents take this as a matter of course as far as reporting is concerned. In a few county reports,

statistics indicate a good number of local leaders, yet the narrative reports in no way featured the work or activities of the local leaders. Perhaps more recognition would help.

The 21 counties in the Western States checked for leadership development were: Pima County, Ariz.; Merced and Stanislaus Counties, Calif.; Jefferson and Weld Counties, Colo.; Cascade and Yellowstone Counties, Mont.; Churchill and Washoe Counties, Nev.; Coos and Josephine Counties, Oreg.; Cache and Utah Counties, Utah; Spokane and Thurston Counties, Wash.; Goshen and Park Counties, Wyo.; Canyon and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho; Eddy and Roosevelt Counties, N. Mex.

Such situations incident to the war as rural women doing more farm work, devoting more time to food production and food preservation, lack of transportation facilities, and family anxiety have not noticeably lessened the amount of time and effort so generously given by the local leaders in the above counties. They and local leaders throughout the country might well be awarded a citation. They have served their communities, their counties, their States, and their nation well.

## New oat varieties grown

T. R. STANTON, Agronomist

Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering

■ During recent years, great progress has been made in the breeding and distribution of new oat varieties with resistance to disease and lodging and with higher yield and better grain quality. The development of these varieties has made oats generally a much more satisfactory crop, especially in the North Central States where four-fifths of the oats of the United States are produced. The Federal and State Extension Services have done much to facilitate the rapid distribution of these new varieties through the publication of extension circulars, radio broadcasts, and county agent contacts. The efficiency of Extension publication channels is shown by the estimate that the group of similar new disease-resistant varieties, including Boone, Cedar, Control, Tama, Vicland, and Vikota,

were grown on 15 million acres in 1944 and on 25 million acres in 1945, whereas Boone, the first of the varieties, was first released to Iowa farmers in 1940.

Never before in the history of American agriculture have new improved varieties of a small grain crop so rapidly replaced inferior older varieties.

Commercial seed companies have also done much to promote the distribution of seed of the new varieties. Likewise, various farmer cooperatives have played a part in their distribution, especially in introducing them to farmers in areas somewhat remote from the North Central States, for example, Pennsylvania and New York. One cereal manufacturing company has issued leaflets and information on the new varieties and has been exchanging



seed of the new varieties for seed of the old varieties, bushel for bushel.

Throughout the States in which oats are grown, including the winter oats States of the South, county agents have become familiar with the revolution in oat production brought about by the breeding of improved disease-resistant varieties.

Various forms of extension work thus have played a vital role in increasing production of this feed crop during the war period by getting farmers to grow the new varieties to the advantage of themselves as well as the Nation. During the past 3 years, when additional feeding units were essential for the maximum production of all classes of livestock,

this extension work has paid real dividends.

A bumper oat crop was produced in 1945. This was indicated by federal and private reporting agencies. Yields of 60 to 75 bushels per acre of oats weighing as high as 40 to 42 pounds to the measured bushel are common.

The work of improving oat varieties continues as varieties resistant to other diseases than rust and smut and to new races of these diseases must be developed to safeguard and advance the gains already made. The continued close cooperation between the research and extension will be needed to make the fullest use of new developments.

Showing what beginners can do, Mrs. T. E. Massey of Calhoun County displayed her pantry stores during the week. The Massey family had never raised a garden or canned food until this year when they realized grocery stores could not supply all the food needed by war plant workers in their section. Mrs. Massey obtained Extension Service bulletins on canning and planned her home-preserved food supply according to the food budget recommended by the Extension Service.

In addition to canned vegetables and fruits, Mrs. Massey included an assortment of sweet spreads, pickles, and relishes, brined beans, and dried peas.

## Pantry stores went on parade

Arkansas homemakers were given an opportunity to view adequate, high-quality, well-balanced food supplies during Parade of the Pantry Stores Week, sponsored by the Extension Service of the University of Arkansas College of Agriculture, October 15 to 20.

County activities during this week included tours to home demonstration club members' homes, displays in store windows, study of food supplies based on the "basic 7" food groups, and observation of proper storage facilities.

In Greene County, 11 stores had food-preservation displays prepared by the home demonstration clubs. Subjects for the displays included vitamins from the pantry shelf, a day's food supply from the pantry shelf, fall gardens, modern canning equipment, and a year's canning budget for one person.

One day of the week, Greene County club members gave demonstrations on canning tomato juice, testing jar lids and pressure cooker gauges, making kraut and brining pickles, and canning fruits and vegetables in a local theater. These demonstrations were given in one store window.

4-H Club members in this county also had a display. Each member was asked to bring two jars of canned food for a store window.

A 16-year-old 4-H Club member in Grant County made certain her family would not worry about a shortage of

food next winter. She followed a food-preservation budget which included not only canning, but brining, drying, and the making of jelly and preserves. This 4-H'er has carried a demonstration in food preservation since 1942 and, during this time, has canned 1,081 quarts of food. Her pantry stores were "on parade" during the week.

Ashley County homemakers had a store window exhibit of canned food. This food was sent to the Arkansas Children's Home and Hospital. Also emphasized in Ashley County was proper storage space. This included a visit to a newly built sweetpotato storage house.

Members of Logan County home demonstration clubs brought to their October club meetings one jar of canned food with a recipe for using this food. Canned foods were spotlighted during the week, and also emphasized in meetings and activities throughout the year.

A food preservation booth at the Farmer's Curb Market during the summer was sponsored by the Pulaski County home demonstration agents. They gave demonstrations on testing pressure cooker gauges, canning fruits and tomatoes, making sauerkraut, and preparing vegetables and fruits for drying. An exhibit of fruit, vegetables, and meats, along with a recommended canning budget, was also on display in the booth.

## 4-H forest tracts

4-H Club groups in Oregon have acquired a considerable number of timber tracts which throughout the years will serve a duplicate purpose of providing educational opportunities and recreational facilities, reports Dan D. Robinson, State extension forester. More than 500 4-H Club boys and girls attended forestry classes and field demonstrations at club summer schools and several county gatherings last summer.

The Oregon State Board of Forestry and several county courts have leased, sold, or designated tracts of timberlands to county 4-H Club leaders associations for use by clubs and other youth groups. These areas are administered by the leaders associations which are responsible for their use and development as outlined in advance agreements.

In selecting such areas, primary consideration is given to a good water supply, suitability for tree-planting sites and forest-management demonstration projects. As they are used also for recreational purposes, arrangements are usually made for adequate swimming facilities. Buildings are added and improved as time and funds permit with much improvement work contributed by parents and 4-H Club leaders.

Some of these areas will be developed for 4-H summer camps. The tracts are also used for overnight camping sites and week-end hikes by various other youth organizations in the neighborhood.



# 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 Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Exploding atoms that work for science.** One of the interesting demonstrations put on at Beltsville for Extension people in the quarterly tour in October involved the explosion of atoms, a subject in the forefront of everyone's thoughts today. True, the explosions we heard in the small Beltsville laboratory were no louder than the tick of a grandfather's clock, and this in itself is a happy confirmation of the hope that atomic power will have other than destructive uses. This particular use dates back further than 1941. The purpose is to determine the course of a mineral plant nutrient, such as phosphorus, from the soil through the plant, to find out in what part—stem, leaves, or fruit—the mineral is utilized, and if possible for what purpose.

Phosphorus is made radioactive by bombardment in the cyclotron at the Carnegie Institution of Washington. The material is bombarded by ions of heavy hydrogen, deuterons, until several atoms in each 100,000 have been changed into what is known as the "radioactive isotope." This change consists in the entrance of a neutron into the nucleus of a phosphorus atom, which increases the atomic weight from the normal value of 31 to 32. Such atoms are known as phosphorus 32. Their chemical and physical properties are unchanged, but the addition of a neutral particle makes the atom unstable and eventually causes the nucleus to "blow up" and eject a negative electron. Upon the ejection of this electron, the atom becomes a stable, nonradioactive atom of sulfur.

It is the radioactivity caused by the ejection of charged electrons that has been taken advantage of by soil and plant scientists to trace the course of phosphorus and other minerals through plants. A machine that registers the discharge of the electrons from the phosphorus 32 atoms is used to detect the presence of phosphorus containing such atoms. In this way, the passage of the irradiated phos-

phorus or other chemical can be traced through a plant which has taken it up from a soil or a solution to which it has been added, with far greater sensitivity than can be attained by the use of chemical methods. Frequent clicking of the machine indicates the presence of the charged atoms in the part of the plant held near the detector.

This is a much simplified explanation of a very technical subject, but it will serve to illustrate the possibilities of using for peaceful ends our new power to change the structure of atoms.

■ **"Bomb" now available for civilians' use.** The celebrated aerosol bomb, which has been so helpful in protecting the armed forces from certain insect pests and insect-borne diseases, is now available for purchase by civilians.

The standard 1-pound dispenser, which looks like a small bomb, contains an insecticide dissolved in a liquefied gas under pressure. When a valve is opened, the released material disperses into the air in the form of a fog or fine mist, which floats for some time in all parts of a room which has been treated. Because of this, aerosols are more effective against flying insects, such as houseflies, mosquitoes, and moths, which are killed on contact with the floating particles of insecticide, than they are in controlling crawling insects. In quantities sufficient to kill insects, aerosols are not poisonous or especially objectionable to man or most animals, but it may be well to close rooms and stay out of them for 15 to 20 minutes after treatment.

The production of insecticidal aerosols is covered by patents assigned to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Department licenses producers to make the aerosol according to prescribed standards. One standard formula that was used very effectively by the armed forces during the latter part of the war contains 3 percent of DDT and a suitable amount of purified

pyrethrum extract, and this combination is being used by some commercial producers.

■ **Science can increase profits for turkey raisers.** Department poultry specialists declare that the cost of producing turkeys can be reduced by at least a fourth by developing strains that excel in egg production and the fertility and hatchability of eggs. By selecting superior breeding stock, growers can produce birds that are ready for market a month earlier than has been thought possible.

Fairly extensive breeding and egg-production records are necessary to make the improvement of turkey flocks most successful. This is because selection by physical appearance alone has definite limitations. A breeder can judge or measure weight, conformation, feathering, and fattening, but to make selections on the basis of egg production, fertility, and hatchability, he must keep careful records.

Through the mating of superior birds, selected on their records, uniformly better birds can readily be produced, replacing in the markets turkeys of varying shapes, sizes, ages, colors, and quality.

■ **Making red apples redder.** In the 40-acre apple orchard at the Plant Industry Station at Beltsville, Md., all the important commercial varieties occupy up to an acre each, and most other varieties that will grow in this region are represented by one to three trees each. In one 9-acre section of the orchard fruit specialists are testing out new red strains of the important varieties with a view to supplying the public with more red apples. Certainly a shiny, bright-red apple makes the mouth water more readily and pleases the teacher better than one that shades off to a brownish green.

■ **How to freeze.** A new circular, No. 709, Freezing to Preserve Home-Grown Foods, tells how to prepare vegetables, fruits, and meats for freezing. The effects of freezing on food products, requirements for effective packaging, storage temperature, handling foods taken from the freezer, cooking frozen foods, and detailed instructions for preparing meats, poultry, fish, all the common vegetables and fruits, eggs, and even butter are subjects covered in detail in the circular. Excellent illustrations of many of the steps described will help in following the directions.

# Talking it over gives clearer understanding

D. C. DVORACEK, Extension Economist, Minnesota

■ Extension meetings mean more to Minnesota farm folks because they have learned to take an active part in them—to ask questions, to express their own ideas. By talking things over with their neighbors, they exchange ideas on problems of immediate mutual interest. They get a more complete picture of the situation and a clearer understanding of how they are affected and what they can do about it.

Discussion is an effective device for extension education and one that could be used more generally. Minnesota farm folks have been encouraged to express themselves through discussion meetings held in nearly 90 percent of the 87 counties of the State since 1935. That farm people like these meetings is indicated by practically a 100-percent approval of them in answer to recent questionnaires.

## Experiment Proves Popular

The discussion meetings were begun in Minnesota in 1934-35 in 6 experimental counties, in each of which 6 topics were discussed. Because they were so successful, similar meetings were requested by and held in 42 counties the next year, with 1,150 local leaders taking part. Two State specialists trained these local leaders at county-wide meetings. Leaders who conducted local meetings reported a total attendance of 9,750 at 325 of their meetings that year. Among subjects discussed were: Foreign Trade and the Farmer, Principles of a Good Tax System, How Farm Prices Are Made, and Marketing Costs.

Because of the large number of requests for the meetings the following year, it was obvious that the one specialist available to conduct training meetings could not take care of all counties on the single county basis. For that reason, only 19 counties were accepted to hold meetings, and an experimental district training group serving five counties at each meeting was tried out. Each county sent four local leaders and the agricultural and home demonstration agents to the

meeting. This group was responsible for training local leaders in the county immediately following the district meeting.

One of the first counties to hold discussion meetings was Faribault County. By 1941, 46 men and women were taking part as local leaders in the county, leading meetings for 21 different rural groups. More than 500 farm families were participating in these meetings, discussing such topics as Inflation, Relations of Labor and Agriculture, Marketing Costs, and Reciprocal Trade Agreements.

## Leaders Must Be Trained

The Minnesota plan has proved that people can be encouraged to take part in meetings—to ask questions and express their ideas informally—through the help of trained leaders. The most workable plan is to meet in small groups of 15 to 30 at first, using a topic on which the group has been informed. The aim is to get everyone in the group into the discussion.

Some discussion leaders are born, but most of them must be trained. Knowing how to lead a discussion is a big help. The way to start is by their taking part in a small discussion group in charge of an experienced leader. Such a group used for training discussion leaders becomes a demonstration by means of which the members learn the technique of discussion as well as get the practice.

## Leaders Gain Confidence

After some experience in a discussion group, the next step is to try out discussion methods in casual conversation with a few friends to develop confidence in leading discussion. Having gained confidence and experience, the novice leader should try a small local meeting arranged for him by his county agent. The agent should supply or, better still, develop with the leader a list of questions on the topic. If possible, a set of answers should be prepared by the county agent or a State specialist as a source of reliable information.

Effective local-leader organization can go a long way toward fulfilling the aim of the Extension Service—to reach a large proportion of people effectively with information. Neighborhood leaders may well become trained discussion leaders to render this service and thus reach the last farmer down the road with current extension information, at the same time developing community unity and cooperation. First, however, leaders must be trained to use such information effectively. They must do more than just pass it on. They must help to develop an understanding and appreciation of that information that will result in action. For although people get much information promptly by radio and in daily papers, they can best obtain full understanding, appreciation, and application of such information by talking it over with others in similar circumstances—their neighbors.

Eventually, all individuals may become possible discussion leaders capable of taking their turn in leading discussions. This is not an idle dream. In some counties of Minnesota, groups have developed spontaneously in which the individual members take turns in leading meetings held every 3 weeks during 5 or 6 months of the year.

Members of discussion groups develop confidence, ability, and interest by active participation, not only in small groups but in larger meetings as well. Clearer understanding from "talking it over" is resulting in more things getting beyond the talking stage into the field of actual accomplishment.

## A unique community

Among approximately 1,000 communities in Louisiana, participating in the "organized community" program sponsored by the Louisiana Agricultural Extension Service under direction of Mary Mims, extension sociologist, perhaps the most unique is the project undertaken by the girls of the State Industrial School. The girls organized a community for cooperative effort in May of this year.

One of the first projects of the group is the production of a publication known as *The Weekly Chatter*, devoted to the interests of the school, with editors and reporters recruited from among the girls themselves.

# We Study Our Job

## Farmers' almanac studied

More than 200 farmers and farm homemakers, living in four Louisiana parishes, were recently interviewed to find out if they read, understood, and made use of the Farmers' Almanac put out by the Louisiana Extension Service. The object of the survey was to determine the value of the 40-page booklet to the farm people and get some pointers for desirable changes for the 1946 edition.

The study brings out the importance of presenting information clearly and simply, avoiding phraseology which may be above the heads of average farm readers.

These conclusions were not gleaned by academic deductions. Earmarked sentences were lifted from the almanac and tried on the persons interviewed. They were stumped by such phrases as:

1. "... reduce grain ration ...
2. ... for succulent grazing ...
3. Rotate poultry yards ...
4. ... for fall renovation.
5. Supplement permanent pastures ...

It became apparent during the survey that the method of distribution was as important a factor in determining the use of the almanac as the way it was written. Most of the county agents participating in the study were interested on having the almanac issued another year and having it distributed in a different way.

The study was made under the direction of Marjorie B. Arbour, Louisiana extension editor, and Fred Williamson, associate editor, in cooperation with other staff members, and Ida Mason and Mrs. Laurel Sabrosky of the Federal Extension office.

The final report of this study has not yet been completed. Further information will be given in a later issue of the REVIEW.

## How county extension agents use their time

The use of time by county extension workers has been approached from many points of view.

- A. Some extension people are concerned with the amount of time spent in the field compared to the amount spent in the office.
- B. Some want to know how much time is given to 4-H Club work, and how much to adult work.
- C. Some, how much time to planning and how much to getting action.
- D. Others, how much time to the use of various extension methods.

A. The county extension workers' reports indicate that approximately 60 percent of the working time is spent in the field and 40 percent in the office. Most extension workers seem to feel that time spent in the field is more effective than time spent in the office. This seems to be a matter of judgment only. There are very few facts available to substantiate this judgment.

B. The time devoted to 4-H Club work according to reports of county extension workers varies. The county agricultural agents spent about one-fifth of their time on this activity, home demonstration agents about one-third, and county club agents about seven-eighths. Taking the nation as a whole, as we have more county agricultural agents than home demonstration agents, the aggregate approximates the same number of days working with youth for both agents.

C. In recent years, about one-sixth of the time of extension workers is reported as used in extension organization and planning and five-sixths in getting action on what is planned. There is no evidence to show how the increased use of time during the past 10 years in extension organization and planning has influenced the effectiveness of extension work and the ability of farm people to analyze their local situation.

D. The amount of time devoted by county extension workers to the use of various extension methods is not accurately known. It is evident, however, that the demonstrations and demonstration meetings consumed the largest amount of time. The county agricultural agents devote more time to result demonstrations and result demonstration meetings than home

demonstration agents do. On the other hand, the home demonstration agents give three or four times as many hours a year to method demonstration meetings as the county agricultural agents do. The county agricultural agents give relatively more time to farm and home visits, news stories, telephone, and office calls. The home demonstration agents exceed the county agricultural agents in the time spent at leader-training meetings. The agricultural agents' time appears to be spent more extensively in dealing with farm people as individuals while home demonstration agents' time is spent in meeting them in groups.

The above national averages should be considered with three cautions. First, averages do not represent the best or most efficient use of time. An average year of a county extension worker's time results in the enrollment of 750 4-H Club members; but one-fourth of the States average more than 1,000 members or more, and another one-fourth, 600 members or less.

Second, the effective use of the various methods has to be adapted to the subject matter being taught. This has already been illustrated above in contrasting the amount of time devoted to various methods used in agriculture and home economics. Similarly time devoted to methods used in poultry counties would be quite different from time devoted to methods used in counties where production was predominately wheat or cotton.

Third, the amount of time devoted to an activity is not a complete measure of its effectiveness or the extent of the changes in human behavior that might result. Every extension method has its strong and weak points. One extension meeting may be primarily entertainment with very meager educational results, while another meeting may be devoted to arriving at a plan for action with very positive results.

■ One hundred and fifty-five 4-H boys in eastern Iowa are acting as corn-borer scouts this year and next. The scouts are making three surveys to check the corn-borer population.



■ SGT. RICHARD F. MAYO, now of the U. S. Signal Corps, formerly of the Division of Information, AAA, U. S. Department of Agriculture, worked at the Okinawa Agricultural Experiment Station, established before the island was fully wrested from the Japanese. He has seen wide action in the Pacific and is now engaged in photographing a documentary film

about a "glorified gasoline pipe line." In a recent letter to his wife, Mrs. Margaret Mayo, of the Extension Service, he says he has not seen a county agent, a home demonstration agent, or a club agent in the Pacific war area, and the experiment station sign looks just right to him. Sergeant Mayo was wounded and decorated, but is back on the job now.

## When buying new furniture

■ Many rural families are in the market for new furniture just as soon as more of it is available. Getting ready to help these families on their buying problems, 31 State home furnishings specialists, or some other member of the staff who works with furnishings, answered a questionnaire on what is needed to improve upholstered furniture, especially in the medium- and low-priced brackets.

Thus pooling their experiences, they found that there was a need for pieces which were not so bulky and were better suited to the scale of the ordinary living room. Wooden arms were suggested instead of upholstered arms which homemakers had found a cleaning problem. The need for good proportion in the arms, seats and backs of upholstered furniture was brought out. Seats and backs could

be better shaped and slanted to fit the average body proportions. The specialists asked for more good structural design and less applied design in the low- and medium-priced furniture. They wanted sturdy framework and inner construction and would like to see the use of upholstered fabrics that are "treated" to make them easier to clean especially on moderately priced furniture.

Having agreed on these few simple points in which low-priced furniture could be improved, the specialists got in touch with the National Association of Furniture Manufacturers and some mail order houses to tell them what some of the average housewives were thinking about when they went to buy upholstered furniture. Many individual specialists also discussed the matter with furniture manufacturers

in their State. As more furniture is made and appears on the market, they hope that it will be better suited to the needs of the homemaker.

The study was directed by a committee of five home furnishings extension specialists from various sections of the nation, appointed at the home furnishings and home management extension specialists' session at the 1944 national home-economics meeting in Chicago. The committee included the following home furnishings specialists: Anne Biebricher, of Ohio, chairman; Florence E. Wright, of New York; Ruth Jamison, of Virginia; Lois A. Lutz, of Oregon; and Blanche Zaring, of Indiana.

■ HERBERT SHARP NICHOLS, assistant director of the Agricultural Extension Service and pioneer Tennessee extension worker, died at Knoxville, October 22, at 2:30 a.m.

Born at Starkville, Miss., in 1885 and a graduate of Mississippi A. and M., he came to Tennessee on December 10, 1910 as the second employee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture under the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, which became the Cooperative Agricultural Extension Service under the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914. Thus he was the oldest extension worker in point of service in the State, lacking only a few months of giving 35 years of distinguished service to the cause of Betterment of rural life, an interest that was always closest to his heart.

He served as district agent in west Tennessee until 1934 when he became State field agent with headquarters at Knoxville. In 1936, he became assistant director in charge of county agent work, a position he held until his death.

No extension worker in the State was more widely known or better liked by both extension workers and farm people generally. He left his imprint for "better homes on better farms" in every community of the State. He was equally at home in a cabin by the side of a cottonfield as in a palatial home of a plantation owner. Both counseled with him—called him friend and adviser.

In 1935 he was honored with a dinner by his fellow extension workers.

In 1937 he was awarded a certificate of recognition by Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Honorary Extension Fraternity, for outstanding service as an extension worker.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

"BUILDING THE PEACE" is the theme of a reading program adopted by the home demonstration clubs of North Dakota at their county council meetings last month. Leader-training schools were held early in the fall at four points in the State in cooperation with the Free Library Commission. The commission also prepares a book list and maintains a reserve book section for the use of home demonstration leaders. So as to appreciate the problems in building the peace the women will study to understand the background, culture, and history of some other country. They will hold discussions on Russia and China and devote time at one club meeting to children's books. The music program of the year will supplement this with a study of "Harmony around the world."

A CONCERN FOR THE PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE was well marked at the annual meeting of the National Home Demonstration Council in Columbus, Ohio, last month. The report of the resolutions committee read: "Although we have won a great victory on the battlefields, we still have peace to win on the home front during this reconversion period. We present the following resolutions for the establishment of a lasting peace and the further development of the American home as a part of the world home." The resolutions called for emphasis on wise expenditure of savings, more education in nutrition, a definite plan for recreation in the home, study of other countries to promote better understanding between nations, more study of the United Nations Charter to understand the effect it will have on our way of living. There were about 250 women attending, representing 22 States. The largest delegation was from the hostess State of Ohio, though Kentucky across the line brought more than 50 delegates. New officers are Mrs. J. Wayne Reiner of West Virginia, president; Mrs. W. M. Byrnes of Ethel, La., vice president; Mrs. Roland Campbell of Muncie, Kans., secretary; and Mrs. Gray of Michigan, treasurer.

CHARLES L. CHAMBERS, agriculturist of the Federal Extension Service, died Saturday, November 24. Mr. Chambers had been with the Federal Extension Service for 28 years. A more complete account will be published in the January issue.

THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD, United States Liaison Committee met in Columbus, Ohio, following the meeting of the National Home Demonstration Council, with the chairman, Mrs. Spencer Ewing of Bloomington, Ill., presiding. The program was built around the theme, "The world is a community." An interesting report was that of the gift of tea towels which the women of America are sending to the women of England. With the scarcity of fabric in England, tea towels are hard to get and are included in the clothing ration. As a small gesture of friendship, a great many tea towels were made from feed sacks and other material by American women and sent to their sisters in England.

REMODELING THE NEW ENGLAND HOME was the topic of discussion at a conference called in Boston early in November. Agricultural engineers, home management specialists, and State home demonstration agents attended to discuss

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problems in remodeling rural homes. Consultants from the New England Industrial Council reported on the latest in insulation, new building materials, electrification, heating, and cooperatives. Research workers from the Department of Agriculture reported on studies under way there. The conferences recommended the establishment of State college housing committees in the New England States and agreed to continue their cooperative program for New England as a whole during the coming year.

THE NATIONAL OUTLOOK CONFERENCE held early this month brought to Washington more than 100 agricultural economists and about 50 home economists, with practically all the States represented. The first 3 days were devoted to the general outlook for agriculture and family living in the United States. Experts from the Federal Reserve Board, the Reconversion Administration, and other government agencies took part in the conference. The last 2 days were devoted to a more detailed outlook for family living for the home economists, farm management for the agricultural economists, and a joint session on extension methods.

A THOUSAND THANKS came to County Agent M. U. (Red) Mounts of Palm Beach County, Fla., from the farmers in the Everglades region. They presented him with a check for \$1,000 as an expression of appreciation for his services in helping them develop agriculture there during the past 20 years.

THE WIVES OF SERVICEMEN establishing new homes in North Dakota are getting special attention in the State's home demonstration clubs, reports Grace DeLong, State home demonstration leader. A stamped card is given out to each local leader. She fills it out whenever she hears of a serviceman setting up a home in her neighborhood. The card is sent to the home demonstration agent who arranges a visit to the home as early as possible to find out if the homemaker has any special problems and to tell her of the help the home demonstration clubs can give.

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